

SELWAY HOMESTEADS

Shearer Homestead

Phil Shearer

1. family background
 - a. son of Confederate officer that was quite active in 1877 Indian War at Ft. Idaho
 - b. Virginia Shearer of Lewiston is sister (Delbert Cox/ Letter to M. E. Ackerman/ 7-17-70)
 - c. related to Vollmers (sp.?) in Lewiston who were associated with grain milling industry (Esther Case/ Letter to M.E. Ackerman/ 5-20-70)
2. during 30's very good attitude between the U.S.F.S. and public
 - a. Phil sold airstrip to U.S.F.S. in 1932 (?)
 - b. U.S.F.S. bought a beef from him
 1. could pick out any one they wanted
 2. when sold them, drove them to Darby via Bear Cr. and up ridge to Paradise
3. raised cattle
 - a. kept all year around
 1. 25-30 head
 2. raised enough hay to take care of that
 - b. sell: take out up Bear Cr. over Paradise and down Rock Cr. to Darby (Jack Parsell/ Taped Interview/ 7-17-70)
 - c. in fall take cattle out to Darby and sell them out through Bear Cr. and Spruce Cr. (Elna Renshaw/ Taped Interview)
4. trapped
 - a. in younger days, but not after the Renshaws knew him in 1932 (Elna Renshaw/ Taped Interview)
 - b.
5. moonshine
 - a. lots of moonshine during prohibition days
 1. take his liquor to Darby and sell it for \$10 a gal.
 2. buy it back at \$6 a pint as he celebrated (Esther Case/ Letter to M.E. Ackerman/ 5-20-70)

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(Phil Shearer, con'td)

- b. always had beer cooling in his "water" barrel
(Elna Renshaw/ Taped Interview)
 - c. anecdotes
 - 1. made early spring trip up river and always stopped at Paradise Station
(Tom Smith/ Taped Interview/ 7-31-70)
 - 2. Supervisor Jefferson and 440 proof
(Jack Parsell/ Taped Interview/ 7-17-70)
6. character sketch
- a. never gave up: tomorrow would always be better
(Jack Parsell/ Taped Interview/ 7-17-70)
 - b. death June 3, 1945
 - 1. Virginia Shearer came in
 - 2. estate sold to Renshaw and Ole Wolfenbarger
(Sid Poppe's Diary, June 30 through July 6)

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Selway Lodge Homestead
formerly called the Pettibone Place

Henry Pettibone

1. family

a. Rufus, who was mentally retarded, lived with Henry

- 1. worked all right at Henry's side or command if told what to do
(Jack Parsell/ Taped Interview/ 7-17-70)
2. simple minded fellow - Henry use to holler at and tell what to do
(Ed Gilroy/ Taped Interview)

b. many Pettibones around Grangeville

1. Nate Pettibone was state senator and ran Elk City stage line
2. Shearers, Shisslers, and Pettibones pretty much related through marriage
(Jack Parsell/ Taped Interview/ 7-1-70)

2. cattle Ranch

a. Pettibone and Shissler set up a cattle ranch

1. did well until winter of 1917

a. had really dry summer

1. didn't raise much hay and grass was short

2. alot of fire in there that summer

b. had a hard, long winter, deep snow

c. came out in March or April

1. ran out of feed: cattle starved to death

2. snow was deep: couldn't get them out to the hills

2. ended enterprise as cattle ranch

(Bill Samsel/ Taped Interview/ 7-30-70)

b. took cattle out via Selway river trail to Hooikia
(Ed Gilroy/ Taped Interview)

c. Nov. 30, 1913 through April 21, 1915: references to winter range and cattle
(Henry Pettibone's Diary)

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(Henry Pettibone, cont'd)

3. garden and crops
 - a. vegetable and fruit garden: berry patch, potato pit, spinach, lettuce, onions, beets, carrots, parsnips, rutabagas, carrots, radishes, beans, peas, turnips, cabbage and tomatoes.
 - b. cut timothy, oats, and hay for stock (Pettibone's diary)
4. cooperation with the U.S.F.S.
 - a. put a door in U.S. cabin (Pettibone's diary, Oct. 6, 1915)
 - b. dinner guests
5. hunting
 - a. numerous references to bear hunting (Pettibone diary, example: July 24, 1914)
 - b. killed lynx (Pettibone Diary, example: Oct. 17, 1915)
 - c. Killed deer (Pettibone Diary, example: Dec. 4, 1915)
 - d. killed bobcat (Pettibone Diary, example: Feb. 11, 1915)
 - e. hunted cougar (Pettibone Diary, numerous references to Nov. 28, 1913 through Jan. 5, 1915)
6. trapline (Pettibone Diary)
 - a. trapped marten, bear, mink, coyote, fox
 - b. traplines: Ditch Cr., Mink Cr., up Selway River, Bear Cr., Goat Cr., Elk Cr., Shearer Cr., Crow Cr., Indian Cr., Cow Cr., and Weasel Cr.
7. construction
 - a. worked on smokehouse (Pettibone Diary, Dec. 8, 1914-)
 - b. sawmill (Pettibone Diary, Jan. 29, 1915)
 - c. worked on road between Phil's place and Pettibone's place (Pettibone Diary, April 17, 1915)
 - d. helped on Indian Cr. bridge (Pettibone Diary, July 20, 1915)
 - e. worked on fence on Elk Cr (July 31, 1915) and Crow Cr. (Oct. 13, 1915) and built fence on own place (Oct. 25, 1914) (Pettibone Diary)

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(Henry Pettibone, cont'd)

8. character sketch: anecdote about how old timers like Pettibone never give up
(Jack Parsell/ Taped Interview/ 7-17-70)
9. death
 - a. had diabetes and getting old; couldn't live by himself anymore
 - b. sold out to Renshaw, but wanted to put up a tent and stay there on the place
 1. first to go to brother and relations in Grangeville for a while
 2. after visit with relatives, go back in
 - c. got as far as Bear Cr. and passed away
(Mrs. Elna Renshaw/ Taped Interview)
 - d. Sid Poppe knew where Pettibone wanted to be buried: on a little knoll overlooking his house and orchard.
(Mrs. Elna Renshaw/ Taped Interview)
 - e. Pettibone took Ferguson to barn to show him lumber for a coffin that he would like Ferguson to make for him upon his death
(Ray Ferguson/ Letter to M. E. Ackerman/ 7-10-70)
 - f. part of Sid Poppe's river trail crew carried Pettibone 37 miles down river trail to end of road
(Caption from back of photo)

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Alvin Renshaw

1. bought Pettibone Place
2. lifestyle as an outfitter
 - a. first winter
 1. difficult because they were told you'd never have to feed your stock in the winter
 2. but winter - snowed and very cold; ran out of hay
 3. Phil Shearer and Horrader boys helped out
 4. lost quite a few cattle
 - b. hard times first few years
 1. after a few years, had the cabins finished for hunters
 - a. everything had to be packed in
 - b. difficult to save enough money to buy windows
 2. had a garden, milk cow, and chickens
 3. lived there year around first two years because the youngsters weren't old enough for school
 - a. children never went whole year to school
 - b. except younger one Allen who went a full year
3. neighbors
 - a. Phil Shearer
 - b. Frank and Bill Horrace at Running Cr.
 - c. people at Bear Cr. R.S.
 1. Stanley McKinsey, Asst. Ranger
 2. Charley Gallagher, Dispatcher
4. circumstances of buying the homestead
 - a. all banks went broke
 1. Renshaws made payment, but had to start all over again
 2. had to pay what already paid
 - b. decided to buy place to live where they worked

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(Alvin Renshaw, cont'd)

1. use to live at Tahoe(?) and hauled hunters from Selway Falls
 2. more convenient to live inside
5. Outfitter setup
- a. most of packers from Kooskia or Darby side
 1. Jess McPherson, worked for several years
 2. Rick Bowman, worked for several years
 3. Wally Donaldson from Montana worked for about ten years
 - b. hunters
 1. from all over: New York, Florida, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, Virginia, but mostly from California
 2. drive as far as they could
 - a. to Selway Falls in earlier years
 - b. later to Darby or Paradise
 3. later years practically all were flying in: saved two days by flying
 - c. provisions
 1. first setup: paid so much a day for stock, packer and guide
 2. later: flat rate; furnished everything except their beds and guns and personal stuff.
 - d. game
 1. no guaranteed hunt
 2. plenty game then; few were disappointed when they went out
6. 1948 decided to sell and move out: Carl Coon (sp.?) bought place.
7. two years after sold the place, Alvin was accidentally killed in a hunting accident
8. son has place on Fish Lake and also in Moose Cr.
- (all the above information: Mrs. Elna Renshaw/ Taped Interview)

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RUNNING CREEK HOMESTEAD

Tom Running

1. lived at Running Cr.
 - a. went blind in there
 - b. taken out to Bitterroot side
2. in old cemetery in Darby
(John Warren/ Letter to M.E. Ackerman/ 8-18-70)

Martin Moe

1. original homesteader on Running Cr.
 - a. made original entry
 - b. after he had spent some time working on it, he found that he couldn't prove up because he wasn't a citizen
(Jack Parsell/ Taped Interview/ 7-17-70)
2. bachelor, lived by himself
3. bought supplies at Mooskia
(Ed Gilroy/ Taped Interview)

Horrace Brothers

1. came after Martin Moe
2. finished on it and Parsell made report for final proof
 - a. they were gone when Parsell came to measure it up and write it up
 - b. they had to have 13, or something, (to quote Parsell) and he gave them 10 acres.
 - c. land office turned them down
 - d. Frank was enraged and demanded Parsell remeasure
 1. got compass and chain to accurately measure
 2. only 7 acres
 3. Parsell did not rewrite report
 - e. Horraced brothers finally got enough clearing
(Jack Parsell/ Taped Interview/ 7-17-70)
3. In 1935 three brothers were there then: John, Jim and ? but only 2 stayed in there all the time
(Ed Gilroy/ Taped Interview)

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(Horrace Brothers, cont'd)

4. character sketch

a. "The Horrace brothers did as little as they could and still breathe. Real characters them guys. They raised some hay, a little garden, and had some fruit trees."

(Jack Parsell/ Taped Interview/ 7-17-70)

b. very co-operative with the U.S.F.S. Frank would be the one to do the phoning from Phil Shearer's place at Bear Cr.

(Webster Weld/ Interview not on tape)

c. Horrace brothers would trade their fresh produce for U.S.F.S. canned goods

1. both sides eager to trade to vary provisions

2. frowned on by the U.S.F.S: it was illegal
(Tom Smith/ Taped Interview)

5. had a cabin on Grouse Ridge where they would winter stock

(Carolyn Wolfinbarger/ Taped Interview)

NORTH STAR HOMESTEAD

Bill Reap

1. Bill Reap homesteaded North Star
(Jack Parsell/ Taped Interview/ 7-17-70)
2. Bill Reap was best horse shoer: before he homesteaded,
he shod racing horses.
(Ray Ferguson/ Letter to E. E. Ackerman/ 7-10-70)

Ole Wolfinbarger

Kenneth (Bunk) and Carolyn Wolfinbarger

1. lived at Running Cr. for a few years, about three
2. then moved in with Ole at North Star at Ole's invitation
 - a. no bridge at that time
 - b. difficult getting in and out at winter time
 - c. that winter - March - Kenneth and Carolyn snowshoed
fifty miles out
 1. used phone at top of divide (Bitterroot)
 2. stayed at Sheephead cabin all night; cabin
is no longer there

Hopwood

1. homesteaded right across from Selway Lodge on the flat
2. never had final proof
(Jack Parsell/ Taped Interview./ 7-17-70)

Gray's Harbor

1. construction right across from North Star: Parsell never knew who made the entry there or who tried to homestead it.
(Jack Parsell/ Taped Interview/ 7-17-70)
2. supposedly a homesteader came in with wheel barrel full of stuff, a milk cow, his wife, and kids. They lasted about a summer
(Jane Holman quoting Mrs. A. Ranshaw: recorded on tape with Jack Parsell interview/ 7-17-70)

Tom Binoy (sp.?)

1. homesteaded where original Bear Cr. Station was
2. relinquished land
 - a. government took over as administrative site
 - b. also included Hopwood's place