

SUMMARY OF TAPE P108 INTERVIEW WITH CECIL POWERS

November 20, 1987

Interviewers: Sandy Crain and Minnie Schneider

Cecil Powers was born in a sod house in Nebraska. His father had several crop failures and moved to Golden. After several unsuccessful employment ventures, Cecil's father started a produce sales and delivery business. Cecil took over the business after his father's death and successfully delivered groceries to customers all over the area from Midway to South Park and Pine Grove as well as Evergreen. His success seemed to come from a strong work ethic; because he talks about having two paper routes as a boy, and "practically took care of myself since I was eight years old."

The success of the business allowed him to build a home. He was married to Rosalie Hopper's younger sister. They had five children, three boys and two girls. There are stories and memories of the customers he served over the years. He talks of Evergreen before and after the dam was put in to form the lake. There are stories about going to Manhattan Beach (now Sloan's Lake), and helping with a fire at Mrs. Granger's. Reminiscences include the Bendermeer Hotel, a dance hall in Idledale, Troutdale, Hidden Valley fox farm, the Brook Forest Inn, and other familiar former area businesses. Many of the owners of businesses in the area were his long-term customers.