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Nicci Bowman's
Interview with
Fred Rydholm

ME: When ~~were you born?~~ and where were you born?

Mr. R: I was born at street 22 east Huwet avenue Marquette, Michigan.

ME: What are the names of your parents?

Mr. R: My father was a Ebert Furdenand Rydholm and my mother was Louis Harwood Rydholm. My father was born in Marquette and my mother was born in Republic.

ME: What did your parents do for a living?

MR. R: My mother had taught school, she'd been a nurse ^{children} she worked for the Michigan Aid Society. She taught school up in ~~DYRITE~~ NORTH of Ishpeming, Oh!
MR. R: and my dad was a traveling salesman for Carpenter Cook Company.

MR.R: He a solda Groceries to the stores,
From one ~~end~~^{Penninsula} to the other and
then for a long time just Marquette
and Baraga county.

ME: What are the names of your
Brothers and sisters?

MR.R: I had one brother, his name was
Ebert Harwood RYDHOLM, We always
called him harwood.

ME: Are you currently married? If so,
what is your spouse's name?

MR.R: Yeah I'm married and a We've
been married 40 years and a my
wife's name is June Elsie Beltromy
But we call her June RYDHOLM.

ME: What are the names of your
children?

(3)

MR.R: I had two boys, The oldest one is
Fredrick Kem Rydholm and the
Youngest one Daniel Charles
Rydholm,

ME: Who made up the William Burt
Expedition?

MR.R: Well the William Burt expedition wasn't
really an expedition he was surveying
and they surveyed for about five years,
They started right after, Well in 1839
and they surveyed up till about 1846 But
the time they discovered Iron Ore started
down in lower Michigan first right on
surveying and a when they discovered
Iron Ore they were they surveyed to
a line ^{up to} Sands township by the rockcut then
over to Teal Lake and they camped
on Teal Lake the night before they
discovered Iron Ore. The people that
made up the Expedition was Richard
Taylor and Micheal Donner they were
Indians.

MR. R: They ~~carried~~ ^{were} packers, They carried the stuff and cooked and all that. Then there was William Austin Burt, and two of his sons, one was John Burt and I don't remember the other guys name. Then there was Jacob Houghton the younger brother much younger brother of Douglas Houghton But those were the six people on the party on the survey party.

ME: When did they make their expedition?

MR. R: Well they were at it for years they started in 1838 they brought the line across the straits of Mackinac in 1841. And it went all the way, that was the Prime Meridian it went to the end of Meridian Street in St Marie. And then they ~~st~~ surveyed the townships the outside line of the townships and then later other surveyers came in and surveyed the miles 36 miles Inside the township.

ME: What was the original purpose of the Burt Expedition?

Mr. R: Well as I said it wasn't an expedition it was a surveying party. The purpose was to survey the lineal lines the lines of the townships. About halfway through the survey they changed it to take on a geologic and lineal survey. So while they were running lines they were supposed to look ~~for~~ at the geology of the country they were looking for mineral specimens.

ME: In as much detail as possible, describe "how William Burt discovered there was iron ore in this area?"

Mr. R: Well they on the eighteenth of September 1844 they had come out to Lake Superior right here at the rock cut. Do you know where the Rock cut is?

ME: Yeah

MR. R; There's a little point of land down that valley that man that lives in that valley ^{Joe Morris} lives ^{on} in Sands township. And right at the rock cut is Chocolay Township and right on the other side of him is the city of Marquette, So he's in the little corner of Sands township and that corner is right down on the water Lake Superior. so they couldn't go any farther so they had to go west then and they turned west ~~then~~ and they ~~turned west~~ and they went for 2 sections 2 townships that's 12 miles They came out right on Teal lake right where the pumping station is and they set a point there and there's a historic marker. that tells where that point is they set that point on the night of September 18 1844. And they next day they started on that line west using two solar compasses and two magnetic compasses and the magnetic compasses would not work. And they couldn't imagine ~~why~~ what was the matter And he said ~~spread out~~ ~~scatter out~~ to his men scatter out and see what you can find, and every single one of them came back with a chunk of Iron ore.

MR. R: And they had ~~o~~ there pockets full of Iron ore. But t. was all excited because they couldn't have done ~~it~~ that survey unless they had ^{his} solar compass. ~~But t had invented~~ And he had invented the solar compass in 1835, so he was very proud of that. And may I add that But t had also invented the first typewriter patent on the first typewriter 1829. which he called the writing machine and it never made much imprint or ~~he never made any money on it~~ because the next developement wasn't till 1872. Then the typewriter became, A real important, and it wasn't until 1930's that it was in every office in the country in World War II they were still writing in books with pen ^{and} ink up until just before World War II.

Mrs. R: What did that first Typewriter look like?

Mr. R: I have ~~no~~ no idea. He called it a writing machine. I think it had keys and it stamped a letter. But in 1872 ~~some~~ some other man came along and re did the typewriter and made it fast so you could punch keys like that.

(8)

MR. R: But that was a long time before anybody really they were using them back before the turn of the century but they became standard equipment during World War I. Everybody used them. I mean World War II excuse me.

ME: Other than the discovery of iron ore, was there anything else noteworthy from this expedition?

MR. R: Anything else besides the discovery of Iron ore. Well yeah there was the fact that they surveyed the land and up to that time nobody could get a mineral claim they were just getting 3 year claims or 6 year claims but once the land was surveyed then people could buy the land because they would know what they were buying and they could gain mineral claims. So that was another result of it. And that opened up the mining industry. And that was about 1845, that the mining industry opened up.

ME: Who formed the Jackson Mining Company?

MR. R: The Jackson Mining Company was founded by a group of men ~~from~~ from Jackson Michigan.

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MR. R: And the head of it at first the man who established it was Philo Everett. But he had another man Ariel Barney. And there was another fella named Kerklin and eventually a man ~~named~~ called Zar Jones became the president of it. But I don't know all the officers of that company. But you could look them up in the Historical Society or in that book my book I don't think the president Oh! the secretary is there to but we'll look that up.

ME: Why did they call him Zar Jones?

MR. R: Well he was real strict and real mean and the Zar of Russia had that reputation so they called him Zar Jones and eventually every body quite on him. And that company folded up. And it was eventually sold to the Cleveland Mining Company and that company was called the Marquette Forge and Iron mining company.

ME: Could you describe anything about the background of Philo Everett?

(10)

MR. B: Well he was a very, equisitive man and he was energetic and he lived in Jackson Michigan. He had taken a trip to Detroit and ~~talked~~ talked to a man who had a piece of Iron down there and he was really interested in opening minerals and he was going to go up and look for copper. But he thought he would investigate to see where the mineral claim was on the way. And he had stopped in on the ~~Soo~~ Soo. Su., And he talked to some ~~to~~ Indian people there and Madosh Chief Madosh was down there at the Su. And he sold ~~to~~ him a boat to go up the lake with a canoe and also Madosh's nephew or niece had just come from Teal Lake where another Uncle Marjigesik had a camp sight there on the end of Teal Lake. So she told him to go up there but he couldn't get anything from her instructions. I mean he had never been here before, so he hired a guide up at the Su. A man named Louie Nolan, Another Indian man.

(11)

MR'R: He was a Cree Indian. And Louie Nolan worked on Grand Island as a Clerk for the Northwest fur company. So he knew all the Indians but in those days at that time after the treaty of 1820 a lot of the Indians that lived along the shore here went back and forth from the su and some of ~~them~~ them stayed down in the su for three four years at a time, so they were lotta of them were down at the su but he knew them and he was down at the su too. But he know Margegesic didn't go to the su. He was up here. And so he said he know where the hunting ground was so that was where the Iron was. On Margegesic's hunting ground. So Louie Nolan but Margegesic was camped at the mouth of the Carp River. But he wasn't there then he was up at the mouth of the Pine River.

MR. B; that year in 1845. And he was
 camped up there it was just
 a short trip up to Launce, so
 he was up at Launce. And so
 when Philo Guerett when up
 the Carp River with he
 had a man called T. S. Car. with
 him that was another of ficer. And
 this other fella and they had gone up
 to find the Iron and Louie Nolan brought
 them up to Teal Lake in Neguanne
 but he couldn't find the Iron they
 wanted to see Iron and they couldn't
 show it to them, he couldn't show
 it to him he didn't know what they
 were looking for but he did know where
 it was but he was looking all over and
 looking they got discouraged with it
 and so they came back down and
 they started up ~~from~~ for the
 country when they got up by
 Huron River they met Marjestic
 Launce and they told him
 there and he said I
 am is that's my hunting

MR. B: He said we knew ~~to~~ that stuff was there
 we didn't know it was valuable, And he
 said I'll take you there but Philo
 Everett didn't believe him I guess
 so he said he was going to go on.
 But he sent this T.S. Car and
 another fella back with Marjagesik
 Marjagesik took them up there. See
 this was in the summer time and he
 lived there in the fall but he wasn't
 up there at the time so he took them
 and he showed them a big pine tree
 that had blown down and there was
 all Iron Ore under there and that's
 the sight of the Jackson Mine, ~~that's~~
~~where~~ That's where they built the Jackson
 Mine. Right where they discovered where
~~the Iron Ore was discovered the~~
 he showed them where the Iron Ore was,
 Marjagesic also took another guy
 up to show them the Iron. And that
 was J. Long Castle And he was with
 another company called The Dead
 River Copper something Exploratory
 company. Copper Lead I guess it was.

MR. B: But then they ended up ~~the~~ opening making an Iron Claim to. And that became the Cleveland ~~Iron~~ Iron claim And the other one became the Jackson Iron ~~Company~~ Company Claim, And the Jackson Company built a forge down the Carp River. Right where the Michigan Mining Museum across the River from that Mining Museum. So they had ~~to~~ two sights they had the Forge sight where they were processing the ~~ore~~ Iron and where the people lived and then they had another sight up where they were mining up by Negaunee.

ME: What was the goal of the Jackson Mining Company Expedition 1845?

MR. B: Well they had hoped to build a forge and mine ~~the~~ Iron and process it. And get all the Iron down they were going to take the Iron

MR. B: Down State and sell it. But it was such a wilderness up here, it was difficult to do and that Forge went out of business in 2 or 3 years too.

ME: Who was Tippo Keso and what role did she play in assisting the Everett Expedition?

MR. B: Tippo Keso was a the Daughter of Monosick I guess his name was he was a brother of Modosh and Marjagesick and they were chiefs by birth and I don't know ~~where~~ who their father was but he must of ~~been~~ been a Great Chippawa Chief although these people were decendants of the Nuka tribe but there's ~~no~~ no way of saying Nokas there's no way of knowing but they lived here and that's where the Nokas lived, And they were down at the Suc. a lot after 1820 a treaty of Louis Cass. ~~The Treaty of Louis Cass.~~ The Cass treaty which established Fort Brady.

MR. R: That treaty was with the Chippawa's
 And the Nokas were subtribe of the Chippawa's.
 So they just called themselves Chippawa's
 From that time on ~~on~~ and you never
 hear the name Nokas used ever And
 those Indians all call themselves Chippawas.

ME: ~~In as much detail as possible please give~~
 what role did she play assisting the Everett
 Expedition?

MR. R: What Role?

ME: Tipoko'so

MR. R: Well she kind of encouraged them
 to go up to the other dad knew that
 that was her father's I mean her
 Uncle's hunting ground. There. And she
 had been there many times and she told
 them how to get there and where it
 was and everything and she got her
 Uncle to sell them a boat that was
 Madosh. She thought that they
 would go right there, but they hired
 a guide to take them there because they
 didn't think they could find it.

MR.R: The Guide couldn't find it but the guide didn't know what he was looking¹⁷ for but he knew where it was he knew all these people here from when he was working in the at Grand Island they all used to go down there at the trading post there was a trading post on Grand Island.

Phone Call

ME: In as much detail as possible, please give some background information on Marji-Gesick.

MR.A: Background information of Marji-Gesick
Marji-Gesick was a very kind and understanding man and very religious and superstitious he was a didn't know what to think of that magnetic quality of Iron and they ~~said~~ say that he when they brought him when he brought them to the Iron he walked around it a couple of times and then backed into it and that he was And he had a little prayer houses all through the wood

MR. R. Where he was. Near his summer camp (18)
Ground he lived right at the mouth of the
Carp River here. And he lived he lived down
by the Dead River and he lived up by Pine
River and he I never hear anything
about him going to the Sac. But they did
say that he'd go up to Lawance but is
anything he would go down to Munising quite often
He had a group of people of about 40 people that
lived with him. And he was in some Indian tribes
They have a big Chief above everybody
but these were all small bands of people
because there wasn't much food and they
were like Chieftens, but they were called
Chiefs. And he Marjgesick and Madosh and
a Monosid where chiefs they were all
brothers. So their father must have been
a Chief I've looked up their family tree
and everything and I can't find who that man
was but they were all chiefs by birth.
So they had and Marjgesick was around town
here and a they claim that Mrs. Rankin
knew him. A Great Grandma Rankin and
that he brought her a little fawn one time
and he used to go to her house they lived
right by the harbor.

understand the instructions and didn't know the area
heard where they were and
came to help them. He showed
them to the hunting ground, there
the men asked, where they were
going. He took out a compass but
it wouldn't work. so he took out
his magnetic compass it showed
the right way. He sent the
men out to look around. They
all came back with pockets
full of Iron Ore, That meant
his compass worked!

There many more things that
Fred told me about the first
Iron mining and the men who
started the mining. All of
the stories we really interesting
Fred had information

Many years later the company went bankrupt and lost the forge on the Carp river. Soon The Jackson Mining Company was no more.

But another place was discovered because of a survey party who were up by Teal Lake. Marjgesik's brother was also a chief he had a daughter named Topika. She had just come back from a berry picking and let them know where some Iron ore was.

She gave them instructions and they left to find what they were looking for. But they found that they couldn't understand what the ~~the~~ instructions were saying so they hired an Indian guide from Lawrence to take them there, but he couldn't