

## UPPER PENINSULA ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

INTERVIEWER CONTENTSNARRATOR'S NAME: August KorvelaTAPE NO: 1

TIME	SUBJECTS
<u>0</u> to <u>5</u>	1- <u>August's birthplace May 6, 1899</u>
<u>5</u> to <u>10</u>	2- <u>Childhood - Palmer</u>
<u>10</u> to <u>15</u>	3- <u>Mines - work + family + draft</u>
<u>15</u> to <u>20</u>	4- <u><del>WWI</del> <del>draft</del> Food + Transportation</u>
<u>20</u> to <u>25</u>	5- <u><del>Flagpole incident</del> Finnish Church</u>
<u>25</u> to <u>30</u>	6- <u>school + Father<sup>II</sup></u>
<u>30</u> to <u>35</u>	7- <u>Sauna + crippled woman</u>
<u>35</u> to <u>40</u>	8- <u>Stores, Depression, WPA</u>
<u>40</u> to <u>45</u>	9- <u>Work as a Plumber, Mines</u>
<u>45</u> to <u>50</u>	10- <u>Empire Mine - Old</u>
<u>50</u> to <u>55</u>	11- <u>slacktime of mines</u>
<u>55</u> to <u>60</u>	12- <u>listing of mines where <sup>he</sup> worked</u>

The interview took place at August Korvela's house on 406 Kirkpatrick St in Palmer Michigan. Mr Korvela is a man of average height and is very thin. He wears glasses and is losing his hair. He is talkative and remembers the past quite well, but does not remember exact dates - he said so himself. August Korvela's father died in 1948 at the age of 77. His mother died in 1927 of a heart attack. ~~He~~ got married ~~in~~ on Nov 9, 1941

His Father came to Palmer in 1889 and met his mother while she was working at a boarding house in Palmer. His father worked as a chautter driving horses for Joseph Kirkpatrick.

August Korvela's partner in the mine, by the name of Jack Ranta, died in an accident during midnight shift in 1941. A large chunk of dirt fell on him and hurt Jack Ranta badly and he died in the hospital shortly afterward. Men in the old days used to go to work on cross-country skis.

August married on November 9, 1941 to Hanna his wife. They have 4 children:

June Peterson - Born Oct 14, 1942

Lives in Negaunee, Mi

Married - Has 4 children

Claude Korvela - Born June 14, 1945

Lives in Holland - The Netherlands

Married - has 2 children

~~↳~~ Anita Battjes - Born Nov 13, 1946

Lives in Heartland, Mi

Married - has 2 children

Lois Ghiardi - Born June 20, 1949

Lives in Portland, Mi

Married - has 2 children

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INTERVIEWER'S NOTES AND WORD  
LIST

Instructions to the interviewer:

To assist the transcriptionist, please identify:

- 1- Passages which may be difficult to understand because of outside noise, other people in the room, problems with the tape recorder, etc.
- 2- Passages which are confidential and therefore should not be typed.
- 3- Passages which need to be treated in a special way.
- 4- List words or phrases which might be difficult to understand, all proper names, and unfamiliar terms. If there is more than one tape, note where the second and succeeding ones begin.

side 1

Volunteer Location

Joseph Kirkpatrick  
Varpuuriranta  
~~Varpuuriranta~~ - Finnish for Willow brush  
or Sagebrush

Palmer Lake - Mine

Cliff Hill - Location

Dry house

blue surge suit

IWW

constabularies

Capt T.J. Nichols

Tom Nichols

Honkavaara

Harry Davidson

Rib Boiling (short ribs)

Mee Pas Torin ja tuo viis pauna  
(Go to the store and bring home 5 lbs of boilingia  
short ribs)

Finnish Church - Concordia Lutheran

Pastori Tolonen - First Minister

Founding Members  
Tappani Heikkila - (August Korvela's  
godfather)

Olli Aitola  
Nestor Seppala  
Henry Juntunen  
Matti Latola  
Matti Linne  
John Huhtala  
Antti Pietila  
John Pietila  
Alfred  
~~Esther~~ Williamson

Mrs Elizabeth Makela  
Mrs Kettu

Mr + Mrs Erik Korvela - August Korvela's parents

side 2

Poor House in Marquette

Joseph Kirkpatrick

John Honkavaara

Mr Harry Davidson

Herman Maki

Harry Davidson

WPA - Works Progress Administration

— Visitors came in (sister + brother in law)  
Mr + Mrs Rautio

[Haven't seen you for a while. How are you] - disregard

Mary Charlotte Mine

Blueberry Mine

Empire Mine 1907-1927

New Empire Mine 1967

Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company

Ogelbee Norton - M.A. Hanna Company

Volunteer + Maitland Mines - became CCI property

Mary Charlotte

Palmer Iron Co

Maitland

Bennet

said Heck with the mines and went  
to work on my own.