

G. George Harvey Andrews.

L What is the significance of your first and second names?

G George is for my dad's father and Harvey is for my mom's father.

L Named for both grandfathers. That's nice. Tell us about your family.

G There were 10 of us kids. Seven girls and three boys.

L Did you work as a teenager?

G Work, yes I always worked.

L Did you work on the Mulloy swamp?

G Yes, I worked for several farmers. Weeded onions. I got 25 cents an hour and the men got 75 cents.

L What do you remember about the swamp?

G Seely ramrodded the draining of the swamp. The farmers dug by hand a ditch. Square wooden boxes would collect the water and it drained into the ditch. It was always called "Seely's Ditch." The ditch was about 10 feet wide and 8 feet deep. It had to be cleaned out often. I worked on the ditch myself.

L Who were some of the other men who farmed the swamp besides Seeley?

G Here is the list of farmers that dug and maintained the Seely ditch: Clampee, Radke, Wheaton, Selander, Young, Yager, Bishop, Mulloy, Fuller, Day. The ditch was put in about the year 1900, and it drained into the Willamette. The swamp was around 50 acres. It was a peatmoss bog.

L Are crops still grown on the swamp?

G No, the area is flooded.

L How did that happen?

G Morris Brothers set up a gravel pit, there are several gravel pits in the area.

Y All from the Missoula Floods, the water scoured out the soil, making it a scabland.

G The gravel pit was full of water and deep and so they pumped the water out. Then they dumped 1.2 million gallons a day into the ditch, the prison also dumps storm water. All that water flooded the swamp.

L Isn't that illegal?

L When did this happen?

G About 15 years ago.

L Do you own land in the swamp?

G Yes, I purchased about 25 acres from Alice McDermott and her husband. They had already established ProGro, the company I now own.

L Are you able to farm your land?

G No, most of it is now a swamp. Part of the land is in Washington County, part in Clackamas County. They have it zoned residential.

Y Wasn't the swamp called Black Marsh?

G It was a peatmoss bog. Peat is brown. But we cannot harvest the peat.

G. I don't know where the name Coffee Creek came from. It didn't connect to Morris Brothers creek. If it's designated as a creek, Fish and Wildlife, Corp of Engineers will get involved.

Y What is your recommendation of a name for the proposed extension of 124th?

G 124th. It's the same road, so the name should stay the same.

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