The Ashley (Asselin) Family part 2
In the Pacific Northwest by 1818
By Chalk Courchane

WILLIAM ASHLEY and MAGGIE FINLEY

William Ashley would marry Margaret "Maggie" Finley, the daughter of Jocko Finley, prior to 1843, and their son was named Pierre. Pierre Ashley was born in 1843 and probably baptized, on 23 Nov 1843 at Porte d'Enfer (Hellgate) Montana at Finley Camp. He is called Po-lot-kau, Polotkin and Parlock sometimes in tribal records. There was a Polotkau in the Spokane tribe and I wonder if there is a connection.

"From Sacred Heart Mission in Idaho church registers:

"die 23. 7b. 1843 (a la porte denfer -----) patron
Joseph Finley - metis.....Louis Brown
Pierre Asselin - " ..... Genevieve Finley
Jean Baptiste Finley ..... Louis Brown
Alexis Asselin - metis.....Alexander Dumont
Dominique Finley " ..... "
William Asselin " ..... "
Rosalie veuve Asselin .....Marguerette Finley
Catherine Finley metis.....Philomene Finley
Victoire Nez Perce " ..... Emelie Asselin

(the symbol for wife was used between the first and last names of the above two sponsors)

---Eleonore Martin Louis Brown ----------Josette Finley
1843

N. Point, S.J."

Their son:
PIERRE (PERRISH) ASHLEY aka: Po-lot-kau and Parlock or Peter Ashley

Pierre Ashley was born in 1843 and probably bt. 23 Nov 1843 at Porte d'Enfer (Hellgate) Montana at Finley Camp. His father was William Ashley and his mother was Margaret Finley (at least 1/2 Spokane Indian).

Pierre's early life is unknown. It is doubtful that he had a formal education. He was well educated in the things that were necessary for making a living in the wilds (the present state of Montana). He trapped, hunted, and understood woods-lore. Later, as civilization dominated, he farmed and ranched. He knew horses and taught his sons about them.

Pierre may have been the only child of William and Margaret Ashley. But he could have had a full brother named William:

His mother Margaret married again, to Angus Pierre McLeod, about 1855. He may have had brothers and sisters from that union. Pierre Ashley sometimes used the surname Mcleod or McCloud? See: St. Ignatius Baptism Book, p.88, baptism of Octave Gingras, 1863, it shows "Peter Ashley McCloud."

Pierre raised a large family in hard, rugged, dangerous times on the Flathead Reservation and surrounding territory. The Flathead was very dangerous in those days. His children were considered good people. A photograph shows Pierre Ashley as a stern looking man with a Charlie Chaplin-style mustache and deep, penetrating eyes.

Somewhere in his travels, he met Mary Ermatinger. They were married by the priests at St. Ignatius Mission, Missoula County, Montana Territory on 23 Jan 1863.

St. Ignatius Mission -- 1863 Marriages

Die 23 Jan. Pierrish son of William and Marguerite with Maria daughter of
Pierrish Francis and Maria--witnesses: Xilkuitza (sic ?) and Maria &
Fulesia (sic ?)

There was a Josephine "Aslin" bt. 10 Jul 1869; St. Ignatius; dau of Pierre "Aslin" and Margarita; godmother was: Maria wife of Patrick Finley. This is probably a child of this couple.

From St. Peter's Mission, Baptismal Register [Settlers] 1855-1879 translated and transcribed by Rev. Dale McFarland (Summer 1981):

Rosalie Asselin
Born: 24 December 1867
Baptized: 25 December 1867 at St. Peter's Mission, Montana by Rev. Father Francis Xavier Kuppens, S.J.
Daughter of Peter Asselin and Marie
Sponsors: Louis & Adele page 51, # 1217

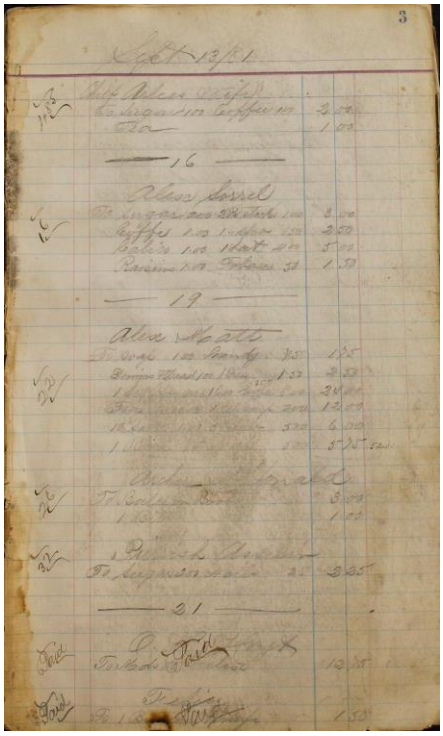
He is shown on the following Flathead Indian Censuses:

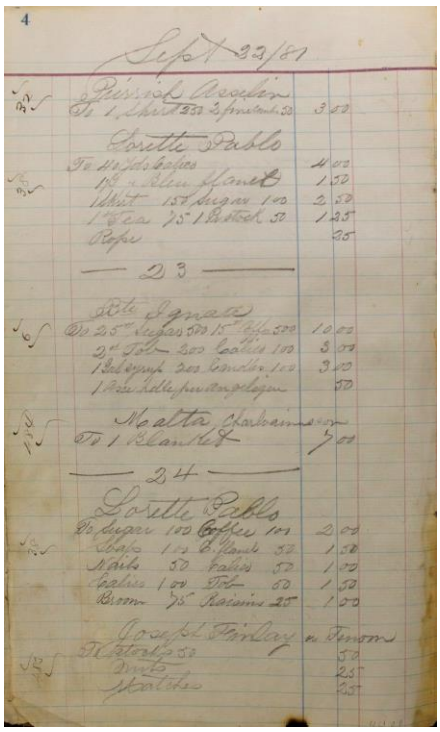
1886:	#1322	age 45	1895:	
1887:	#1334	44	1896:	
1888:	#1329	49	1897:	
1889:	#1176	50	1900:	#1431 age 58
1890:			1900:	US; MT; Flathead Reservation
1891:				Family #96; #30; Sheet #2
1892:			1901:	#137 age 59
1893:			1902:	#1244 age 60
1894:				

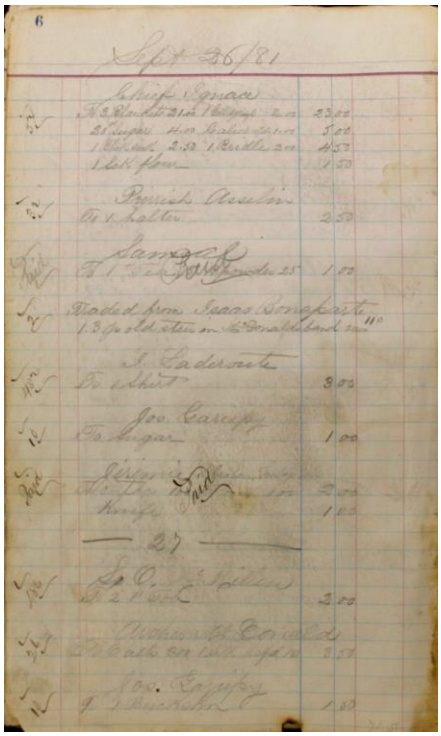
And although he was dead at this time:

1903: #790 age 60
1904: #551 age 62

In the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library at the University of Montana in Missoula is the Demers Mercantile Company Ledger 1881-1883 following are pages from it that mention Pierre Ashley:







6

Sept 26/81

Schuff Ignace
To 3 Blankets 21.00 1 Blanket 2.00 23.00
25 Sugar 1.00 Calico 2.00 5.00
1 Blanket 2.50 1 Bridle 2.00 4.50
1 Salt pork 1.50

Pierrish Asselin
To 1 halter 2.50

Samson
To 1 Scalp Dance 25 1.00

Traded from Isaac Bonaparte
13 gold stars on McDonald land 1.10

J. Cadieux
To shirt 3.00

Jos. Carieby
To Sugar 1.00

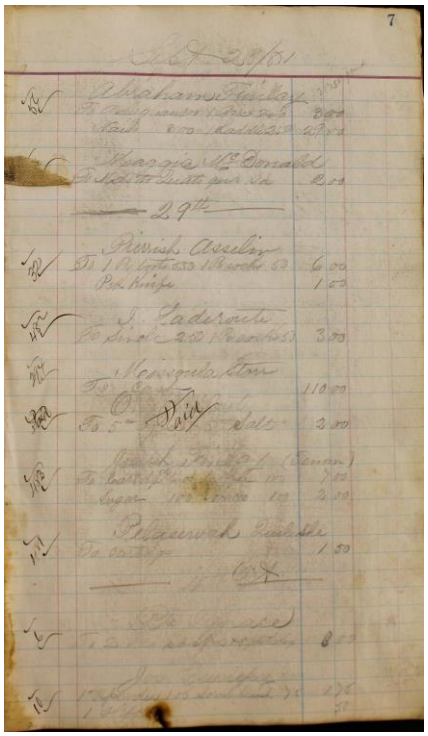
Pierrish Asselin
To 1 Blanket 2.00
Blanket 1.00
Knife 1.00

— 27 —

S. O. McMillan
To 2 Pr Sock 2.00

Andrew McDonald
To Calf 2.00 Calf skin 2.50

Jos. Carieby
To 1 Buckskin 1.50



7

Sept 29/81

Abraham Finley
To 1 Pr boots 3.00
Hack 2.00 Saddle 2.00 7.00

Marie McDonald
To Nails & Lumber per Ac 2.00

— 29th —

Pierrish Asselin
To 1 Pr boots 5.50 1 Pr socks .50 6.00
Pr Knife 1.50

J. Cadieux
To Sugar 2.00 1 Pr socks .50 3.00

Marguerite Stone
To Blanket 11.00

O. [illegible]
To 5 [illegible] Paid Salt 3.00

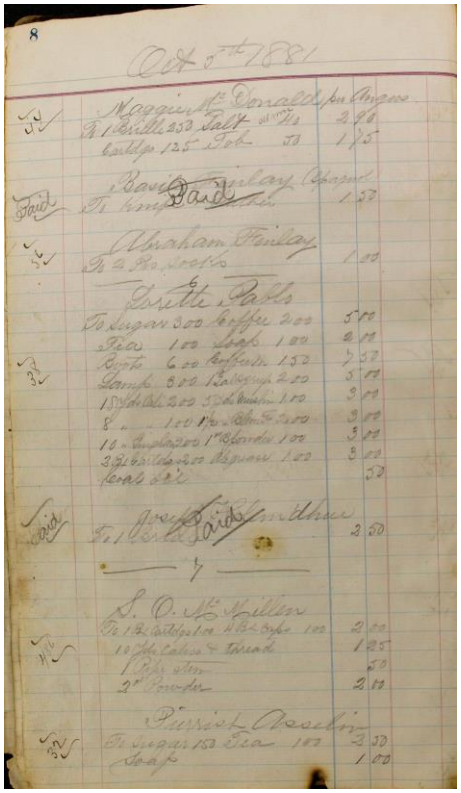
Patrick Finlay (Cman)
To boots [illegible] 1.00
Sugar 1.00 [illegible] 1.00 2.00

Pelagie Pichette
To cartridge 1.50

— 30 —

[illegible]
To 2 [illegible] 8.00

Jos. Carieby
To [illegible] 2.25
[illegible] .50



8

Oct 5th 1881

Maggie McDonald per Angus
To 1 Bridle 2.50 Salt per lb .02 2.90
Cartridge 1.25 Tobacco .50 1.75

David Finlay (Cmman)
To hinge Paid Paid 1.50

Abraham Finlay
To 2 Pr socks 1.00

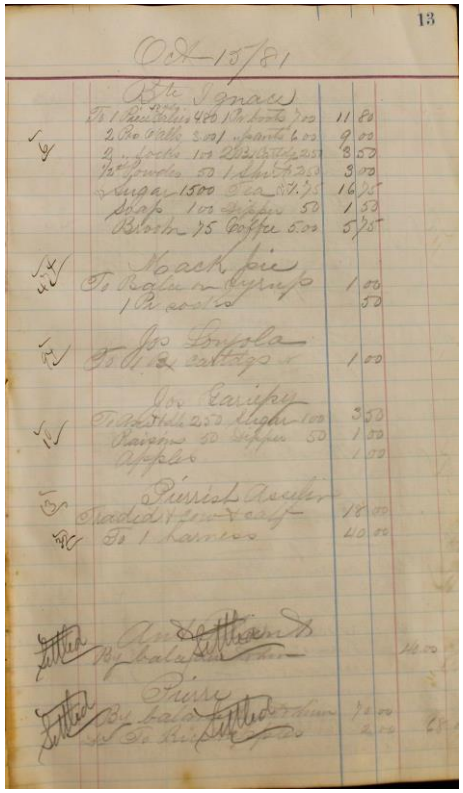
Pierrite Pablo
To Sugar 3.00 Coffee 2.00 5.00
Tea 1.00 Soap 1.00 2.00
Boots 6.00 Cartridge 1.50 7.50
Lamp 3.00 Cartridge 2.00 5.00
15 Yds Calico 2.00 5 Yds Muslin 1.00 3.00
8 " " 1.00 1 Pr Blanket 2.00 3.00
10 " Duffel 2.00 1 Blanket 1.00 3.00
3 Pr Cards 2.00 Repairing 1.00 3.00
Tobacco .50

Joseph Paid Smithers
To 1 Coat 2.50

— 7 —

S. O. McMillan
To 1 Pr Cartridges 1 Pr Caps 1.00 2.00
10 Yds Calico & Thread 1.25
Pr Gloves .50
2 Pr Socks 2.00

Pierrish Asselin
To Sugar 1.50 Tea 1.00 2.50
Soap 1.00



13

Oct 15/81

Bte Ignace
To 1 Rifle 4.00 1 Pr boots 7.00 11.00
2 Pr Socks 3.00 1 pants 6.00 9.00
9 Yds Jeans 1.00 2 Pr Cartridges 2.50 3.50
12 Yds Jeans .50 1 Shirt 2.50 3.00
Sugar 15.00 Tea .75 16.75
Soap 1.00 Diapers .50 1.50
Blanket .75 Coffee 5.00 5.75

Noach Jie
To Rolled Syrup 1.00
1 Pr socks .50

Jos. Lonpola
To 1 Pr cartridges 1.00

Jos. Carieby
To 1 Pr Stills 2.50 Flour 1.00 3.50
Raisins .50 Diapers .50 1.00
Apples 1.00

Pierrish Asselin
Traded 1 Fox & calf 18.00
To 1 harness 40.00

Settled Andrew McDonald
By balance [illegible] 40.00

Pierre
Settled By balance [illegible] 70.00
To Bridle [illegible] 2.00

46

Dec 23/87

Pierrish Aroelin

To hat 2.00 Flannel 3.50 — 5.50
Mustard — .25

Joe Loyola

To hat — 3.50

Angus McDonald

To 10# sugar 2.00 & Tea 5.00 — 7.00

Francois Lanctot

To candy — .75

Mr Bezeau

By 20 [illegible] at 65 — 13.00
To [illegible] — 3.00
Tob — 2.00

Felise

Traded 1 2 gold [illegible] — 15.00

Jean Eingras

Traded 3 Cows [illegible] — 45.00
1 Leaking pipe — 10.00
By cattle as above — 55.00

Thos McDonald

To coat — .50

Francois Lanctot

To Child's shoes — 1.75

Joe Lariviere

To 1 Quart bottle 1.00 hat 1.50 — 19.50
Lamp 3.00 Drawers 1.00 — 4.00

47

Dec 24

Pierrish Aroelin

By oats 850# — 17.25

Father Menetre

To 1049# oats 2# — 20.98

Jean Eingras per Cot

To 2 Shirts 2.50 Stocks .75 — 3.25
Breastpin 2.50 Calico 1.00 — 3.50
Needles — .25
20# Coffee himself — 6.00

Alex. Poirier

To shoes — 3.00

Augustin Finlay

To 1 Shirt — 2.50

Leo Moulman

To shoes 3.75 Tob 1.00 — 4.75
Over pipe 3.00

Angus McLeod

To coat 5.00 Tea 1.00 — 6.00

Malta Charlebois

To candy .25 hat 1.50 — 1.75
Ribbon .75 3 Pr Gloves 6.00 — 6.75

Joe Lariviere

To Moderto la half pint — 3.00
2 Shirts 2.00 Shoes 3.00 — 5.00
Stocks — .50

Francois Lanctot

Blacking .50 — .50

53

Jan 5/88

Leo Plante

By cart — 1.00
To 1 Hatter — 2.50

Pierrish Aroelin

To 1 Blanket 5.00, sugar 2.00 — 7.00

Rhit Irvine

To candy — .50

John Andre

To [illegible] — .50

Paul Andre

Traded 1 Cow [illegible] — 16.00

Angus McDonald

To drawers 2.00 sugar 2.00 — 4.00

Antoine

To Bal [illegible] — .50

7

Angus McDonald

To shoes 3.50 2 Prs socks 1.00 — 4.50
200# flour — 6.00

Felix

To [illegible] — .75

Alex Matt

To 1 Rope sent — 10.00

55

Jan 11/88

Joe Loyola

To oats — 1.50

T. Miles

To 60# oats 2# — 1.50

Joe Lariviere

To [illegible] — 10.00
Mats .25 Gloves 1.75 — 2.00

Rhit Irvine

To Gloves — 1.50

Alex Morgan

To Glasses — 1.50

Ed Lamoureux

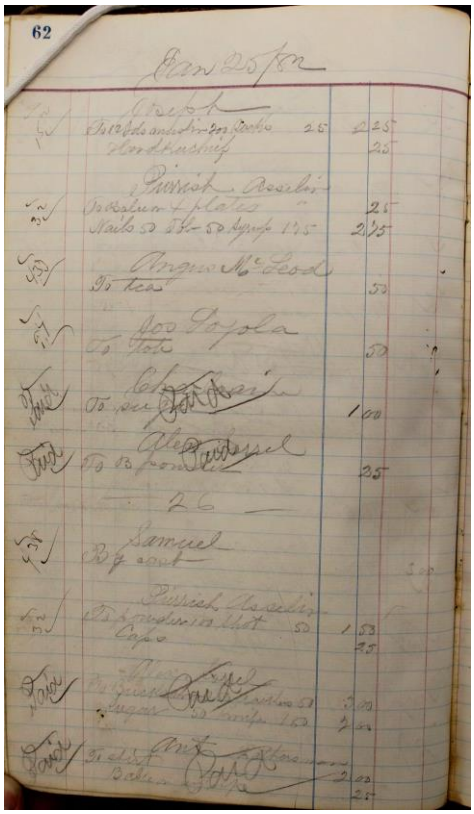
To Coat 2.00 Shoes 3.00 — 5.00
Axe 2.50 Tob 2.00 — 4.50
Coffee 1.00 Cotton flannel 1.00 — 2.00
Pipes 2 Up 1 wooden — .75
Stalks — .35
By cash — 10.00

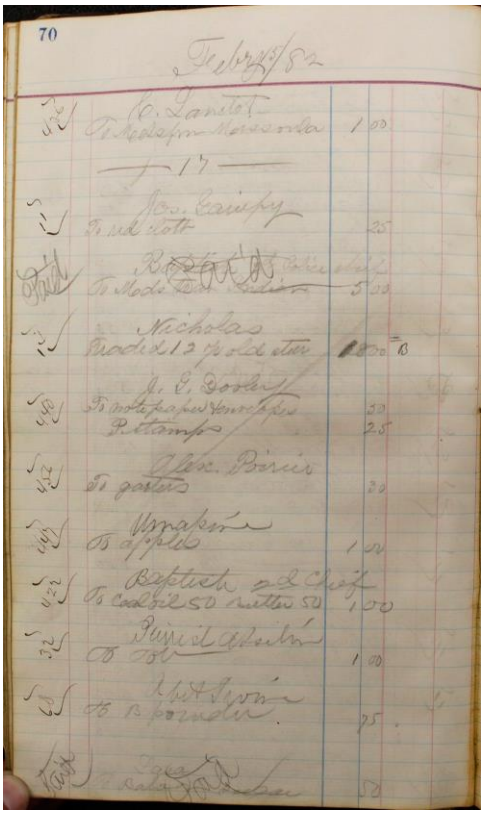
Alex Matt

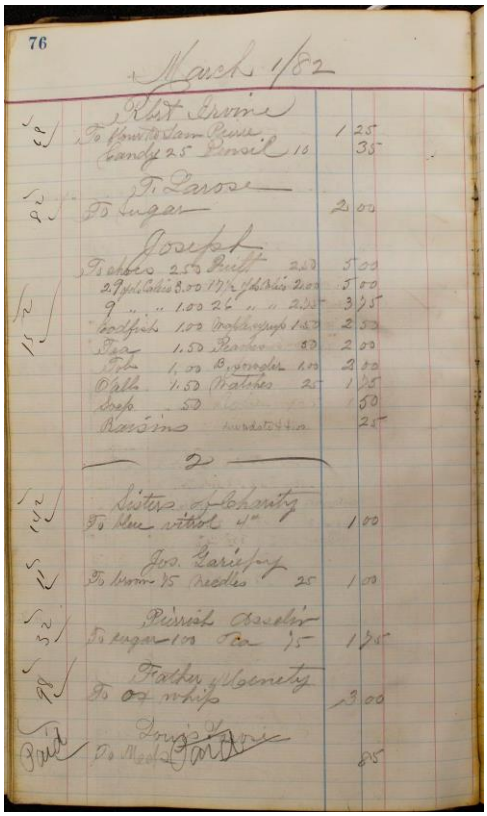
By cart — 40.00

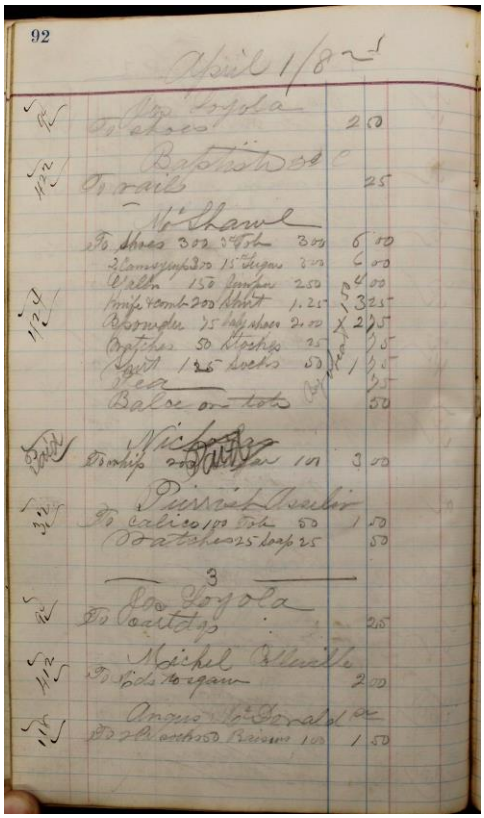
Pierrish Aroelin

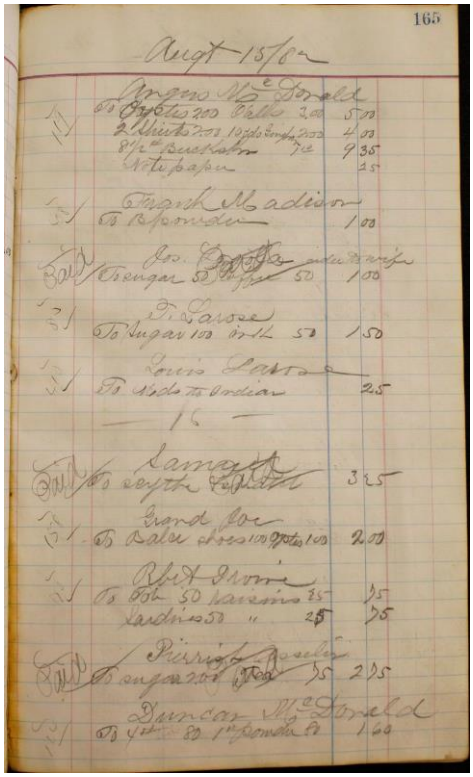
By hay — 15.00











165

Augt 15/82

Angus McDonald
To Oysters 200 Pills 200 5 00
2 Whisks 200 10 lbs Soap 200 4 00
8 yd Jeans 7c 9 35
Note paper 25

Frank Madison
To Powder 1 00

Jos. [illegible]
To Sugar 50 Coffee 50 1 00

T. Larose
To Sugar 100 Salt 50 1 50

Louis Larose
To 1 lb to Duncan 25

— 16 —

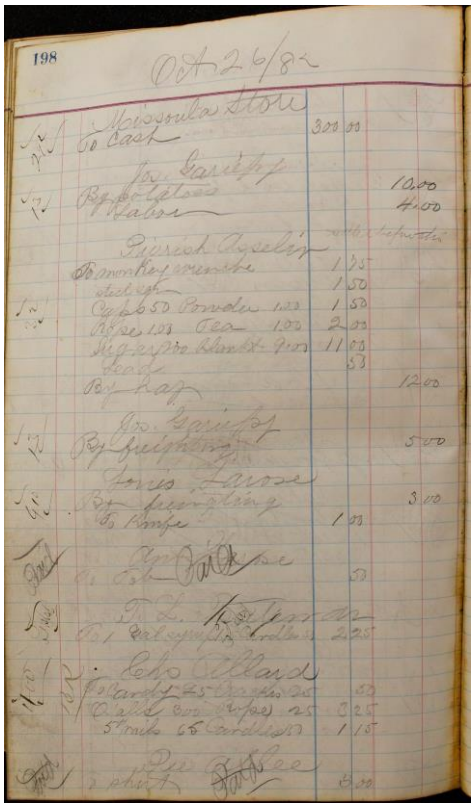
Samuel
To Leather [illegible] 3 25

Grand Joe
To Bale shoes 100 [illegible] 100 2 00

Robt Morris
To Pork 50 Sardines 35 85
Sardines 50 " 25 75

Pierre Asselin
To Sugar 200 Tea 75 2 75

Duncan McDonald
To 4 lbs 80 1 lb Powder 80 1 60



198

Oct 26/82

Missoula Store
To Cash 300 00

Jos. Laviolette
By Potatoes 10 00
Labor 4 00

Pierre Asselin
To Mon Repentance 1 75
Steel yoke 1 50
Cap 50 Powder 100 1 50
Coffee 100 Tea 100 2 00
Sugar 200 Blanket 900 11 00
Lock 50
By hay 12 00

Geo. Laviolette
By freighting 5 00

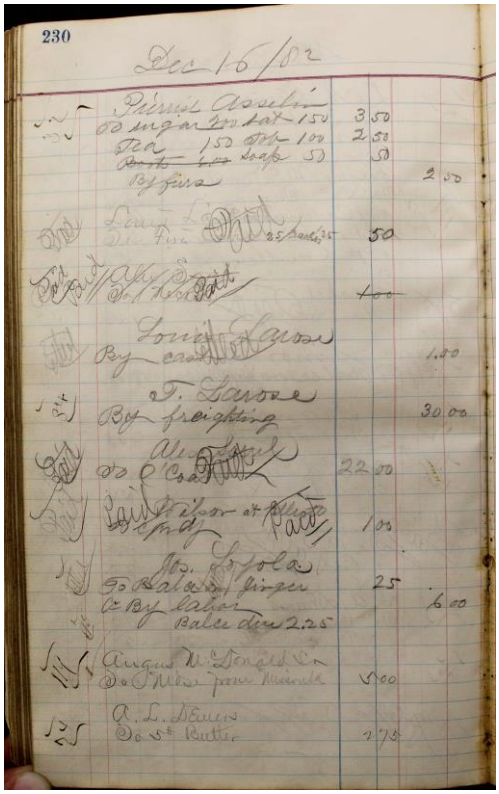
Louis Larose
By freighting 3 00
To Pipe 1 00

Angus McDonald
To Cash 50

T. L. Kerr
To 1 Saloon Bar Order 2 25

Leo Allard
To Cards 25 Crackers 25 50
To Bells Cow 2 pcs 25 3 25
5 packs 65 Cards 50 1 15

Pierre Asselin
To 2 shirts 8 00



230

Dec 16/82

Pierre Asselin
To Sugar 200 Hat 150 3 50
Tea 150 Pork 100 2 50
~~Pork 100~~ Soap 50 50
By furs 2 50

Louis Larose
To Fur [illegible] 25 Pants 35 50

[illegible]
To 1 [illegible] 100

Louis Larose
By cash 1 00

T. Larose
By freighting 30 00

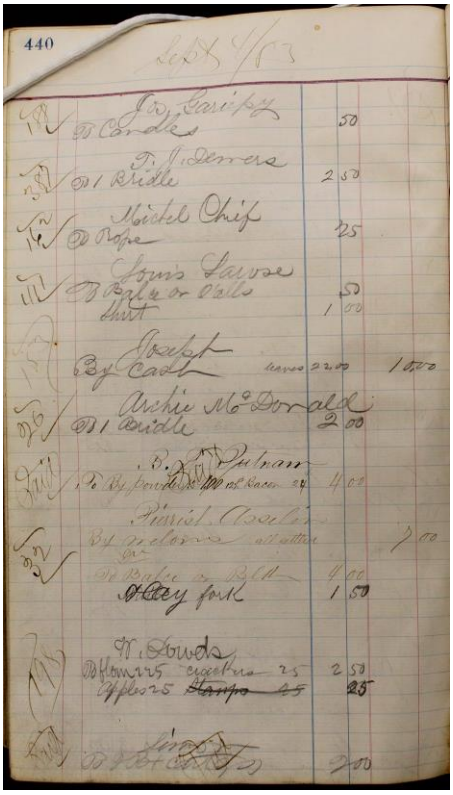
Au[illegible]
To 1 Coat 22 00

[illegible]
To [illegible] 1 00

Mr. Lepola
To Salve & finger 25
By labor 6 00
Balance due 2.25

Angus McDonald Jr
To Mess pork Missoula 5 00

A. L. Dennis
To 1 lb Butter 2 70



440

Feb 1/83

Jos. Laviolette
To Candle 50

T. Demers
To 1 Bridle 2 50

Nickel Chief
To Rope 25

Louis Larose
To Bale or Bells 50
Shirt 1 00

[illegible]
By Cash 2 00 10 00

Archie McDonald
To 1 Bridle 2 00

B. [illegible] Putnam
To By [illegible] 4 00

Pierre Asselin
By [illegible] 1 00

To Bale or Bell 4 00
Hay fork 1 50

M. Lowe
To Flour 25 eggs 25 2 50
Apples 25 ~~Stamps 25~~ 25

[illegible]
To Hat [illegible] 2 00

Eugene Felsman explained to me some time ago that sometimes the Indian Agents were lazy and just submitted last year's census and update the age's and etcetera.

From a Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 1887, pg. 138-139, Montana Agency, Government Document, I.20.1887: (sent to me by Gene Felsman)

"Reports of Agents in Montana - 1887

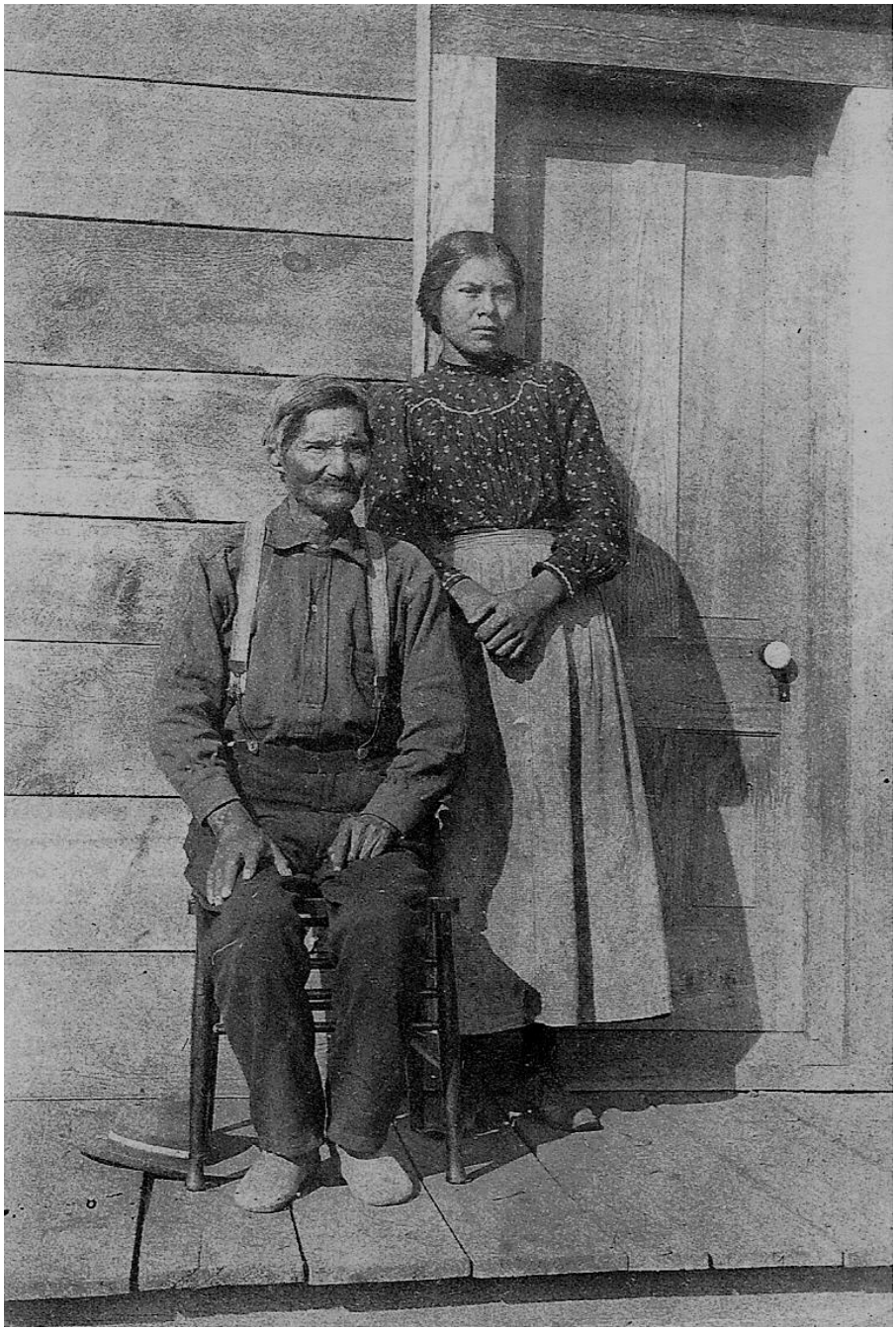
Planting of Orchards
In my last annual report I stated that sixteen heads of families had been induced to purchase from the Geneva, N.Y., nursery, at their own expense and cost of transportation to this agency, young fruit trees, such as plum, apple, and cherry, which were planted out into orchards. Such was the thrift and growth of the trees that other families followed the example this year, and an agent from the house of L.L. Mann & Co., nurserymen of Saint Paul, Minn., arrived here this spring with a shipment of trees for delivery to the following named Indian residents of this reservation:

Name.	Amount of Order.	Location.
Joe Gardipe	$44.50	3 miles north of St. Ignatius mission
C. Matt	25.00	6 miles north of St. Ignatius mission
C.B. Vitell	15.00	at mission
Peter Pain	50.00	Do.
Louis Finley	5.00	16 miles north of St. Ignatius mission
Parish Aslin	25.00	2 miles northeast
Frank Elmic	10.00	at mission
Alex Sarel	25.00	4 miles east of mission
Gideon Gangras	35.00	16 miles north of mission
Isaac Bonapart	27.50	Do.
Isaac Koodnai	5.00	Do.
Kieedlie Moses	25.00	30 miles northwest mission
Salowan Malta	50.00	3 miles northwest mission
Andre Spokane	17.00	10 miles west of mission
Alex Pairier	32.00	8 miles south of mission
Bob Irwin	115.00	16 miles north of mission
Michel, chief of Pend d'Oreiles	31.00	Do.
Louis Sac Sac	50.00	Do.
J. Larose	25.00	3 miles north of mission
Louis Camille	15.00	4 miles north of mission
Joe Finley	10.00	10 miles east of mission
Baptiste Michell	25.00	16 miles east of mission
Antoin Marse	35.00	17 miles east of mission
John Lumphrey	35.00	16 miles east of mission
Joe Barnaby	30.00	Do.
Wm. King	15.00	15 miles east of mission

Frank Secund	30.00	18 miles east of mission
Adolph Finley	25.00	9 miles east of mission
Isadore Ladaroot	50.00	Do.
Alex Finley	50.00	6 miles east of mission

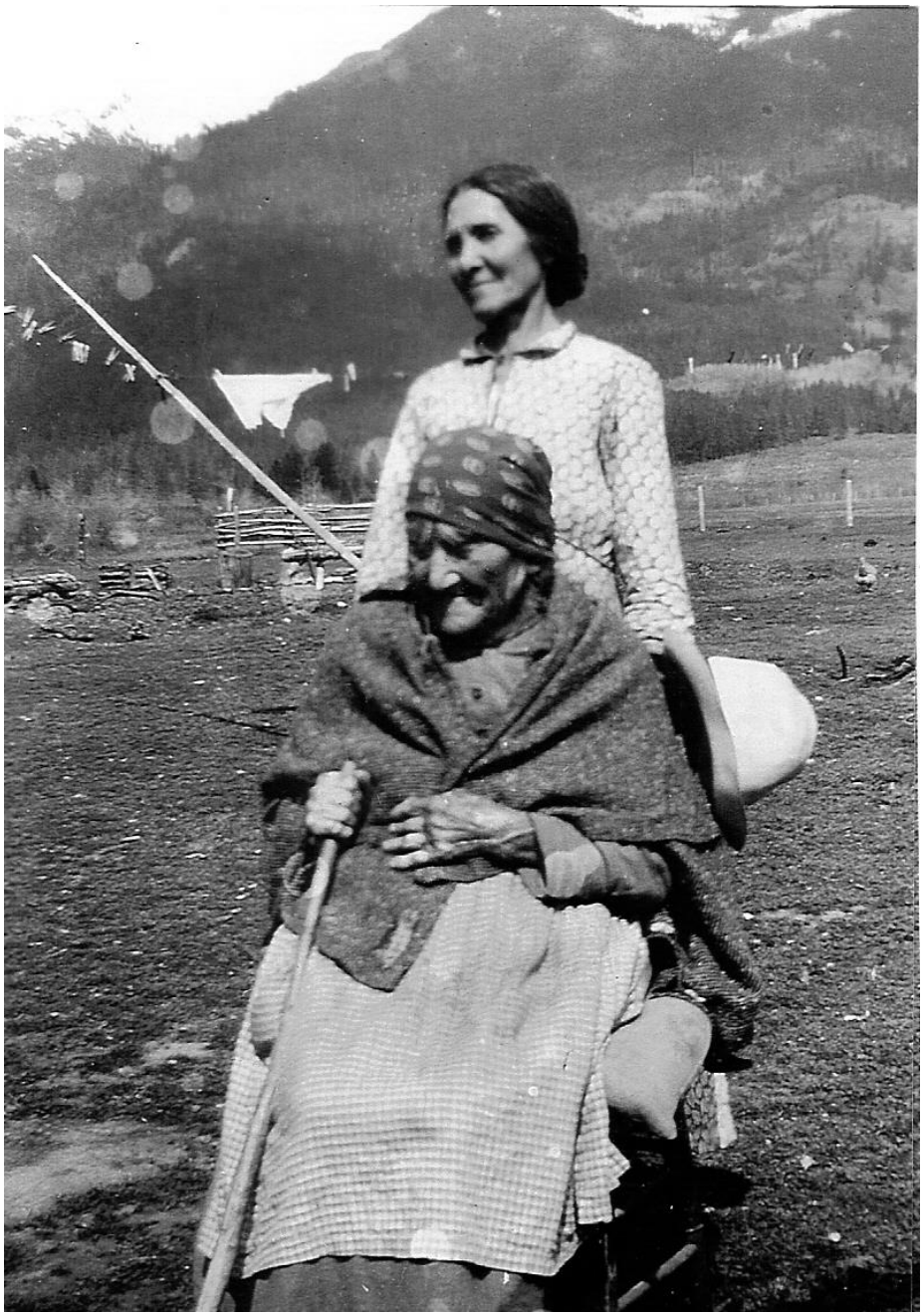
These large orders were sold to the Indians with the understanding that they were to be cash on delivery, and as the trees were delivered this spring by an agent of the nursery and planted into orchards by the Indians, it is presumable that both parties were satisfied. As fruit trees already planted have yielded abundantly on this reservation and at maturity, it will be readily seen that in a few years the raising and selling of fruit will be a marked industry on the Flathead Indian reservation."

Pierre died on 23 November 1902 and was buried in St. Ignatius Mission Cemetery. Later a marker, which included the names of his children: Rose, Agnes, Octave, and Josephine, was put over his grave.


Pierre Ashley and his daughter, Mary Augustine Ashley

Dear Chalk, I am sending you copies from the original portrait photos that I found cleaning out a drawer in my mother's home. I did not know that she had these old photo portraitsThey are in very bad condtion and most names were written on the backs of each photo written in pencil over the years. I am wondering who the young man is, he was not identified and " the one identified as " old man Ashley" . Could that be Pierre? I hope at least one you might not have. Your Cuz, Arlene

Original labeled "Old Man Ashley." A picture very similar to this was loaned (or given) to Annabeth Felsman Savik by Frank Allison years ago.



Mary Ermatinger Ashley and her daughter, Elizabeth "Auntie" Ashley
This was taken at the Old Ashley Place, near St. Ignatius, Montana. In the background on the right looks to be a duck, or chicken. On the left (and across the photo is a clothes line supported by a long pole. Under the pole is an axe on a chopping block and a long on supports to be saw into chunks of firewood. Behind them is some kind of fence or corral. Snow is on the mountains. Grandma Ashley does not have her wedding ring on, she has a walking stick, shawl, apron and bandana on. Ashley has a hat in her left hand.

Pierre Ashley Charlie Molman in upper right

Taken by Chalk Courchane in June of 2010.

St. Ignatius Catholic Cemetery on the out skirts of St. Ignatius, Montana
Taken by Chalk Courchane in the 1990s.

Burial Register of St. Ignatius Mission; page 6; #33: "Peter Ashley buried Nov. 25, 1902, Petrus Asselin (Pierrish) maritus Mariae Senex residence: St.Ignatius. Buried in Ashley plot."
His tombstone at St.Ignatius Cemetery states: "Pierre Ashley - aged 57 years - died Nov. 23, 1902". Taken by Chalk Courchane

TWELFTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES.

SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION.

INDIAN POPULATION.

State: Montana — County: Missoula + Flathead

Township or other division of county: Flathead Reservation

Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division:

Enumerated by me on the 7th day of June, 1900. George S Fisher, Enumerator.

Supervisor's District No. 128 — Montana B

Enumeration District No. 213. B. — Sheet No. 3

Name of Institution:

Ward of city:

Line	Dwelling	Family	Name	Relation	Sex	Color	Month	Year	Age	Place of birth of this person	Place of birth of father	Place of birth of mother	Citizenship	Occupation	Attended school	Can read	Can write	Can speak English	Owned or rented	Owned free or mortgaged	Farm or home	Number of farm schedule
21	86	96	Front Josephine	Head	F	W	Feb	1860	40	Montana	Oregon	Montana			Yes	Yes	Yes					
22			John	Son	M	W		1890	2	Montana	Canada	Montana			No	No	No					
23			Alice	Daughter	F	W		1898	2	Montana	Canada	Montana			No	No	No					
24	87	97	Bucharme Frank	Head	M	W		1854	46	Oregon	Canada	Oregon		Farmer	Yes	Yes	Yes		O	F	F	8
25			Josephine	Wife	F	W		1857	43	Montana	Canada	Montana			Yes	Yes	Yes					
26			Frank	Son	M	W		1884	16	Montana	Oregon	Montana		At school	Yes	Yes	Yes					
27			Arminie	Son	M	W		1887	13	Montana	Oregon	Montana			Yes	Yes	Yes					
28			Joseph	Son	M	W		1894	6	Montana	Oregon	Montana			No	No	No					
29			Peter	Son	M	W		1897	3	Montana	Oregon	Montana			No	No	No					
30	88	98	Ashley Peter	Head	M	W		1858	42	Montana	Canada	Montana		Farmer	No	No	No		O	F	F	9
31			Mary	Wife	F	W		1860	40	Montana	Canada	Montana			No	No	No					
32			Antoine	Son	M	W		1888	12	Montana	Montana	Montana			No	No	No					
33			Elizabeth	Daughter	F	W		1876	24	Montana	Montana	Montana			No	No	Yes					
34			Charley	Son	M	W		1881	19	Montana	Montana	Montana			Yes	Yes	Yes					
35			William	Son	M	W		1883	17	Montana	Montana	Montana			Yes	Yes	Yes					
36			Mary	Daughter	F	W		1886	14	Montana	Montana	Montana			No	No	No					
37	89	99	Sarrelle Alphonse	Head	M	W		1866	34	Montana	Montana	Washington			Yes	Yes	Yes		O	F	H	
38			Alphonse	Wife	F	W		1868	32	Montana	Canada	Washington			Yes	Yes	Yes					
39			Frank	Son	M	W		1893	7	Montana	Montana	Montana			No	No	No					
40			Julia	Daughter	F	W		1895	5	Montana	Montana	Montana			No	No	No					

SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION—Continued.

SPECIAL INQUIRIES RELATING TO INDIANS.

Line	Other name, if any	Nativity: Tribe of this Indian	Nativity: Tribe of Father of this Indian	Nativity: Tribe of Mother of this Indian	Mixed Blood: Give the Indian and white blood, from each, in fractions, as 1/2, 3/4, or 7/8	Civilized Condition: Is this Indian, if married, living as husband?	Citizenship: Is this Indian taxed? (See instructions.)	Citizenship: Year of acquiring citizenship	Citizenship: Was citizenship acquired by allotment?	Dwellings: Is this Indian living in a fixed or in a movable dwelling?
21	Front Josephine	Kalispell	White	Kalispell	1/2	No				Movable
22	John	Kalispell	White	Kalispell	3/4					
23	Alice	Kalispell	White	Kalispell	3/4					
24	Bucharme Frank	Kalispell	White	Kalispell	1/2	No	No			Fixed
25	Josephine	Pend d'Oreille	White	Pend d'Oreille	1/2	No				
26	Frank	Kalispell	Kalispell	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
27	Arminie	Kalispell	Kalispell	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
28	Joseph	Kalispell	Kalispell	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
29	Peter	Kalispell	Kalispell	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
30	Owlot kun	Spokane	White	Spokane	1/2	No				Fixed
31	Chaghdri nok	Pend d'Oreille	White	Pend d'Oreille	1/2	No				
32	Ashley Antoine	Spokane	Spokane	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
33	Elizabeth	Spokane	Spokane	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
34	Charley	Spokane	Spokane	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
35	William	Spokane	Spokane	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
36	Mary	Spokane	Spokane	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
37	Tsal al to	Snake	Snake	Flathead	1/4	No				Fixed
38	Sarrelle Alphonse	Spokane	White	Spokane	1/2	No				
39	Frank	Snake	Snake	Spokane	1/2					
40	Julia	Snake	Snake	Spokane	1/2					

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING THIS SCHEDULE

(CONTINUED FROM "A" SIDE OF SHEET.)

The following instructions apply to columns 29 to 38:

COLUMN 29.—Write the Indian name, if the person has one, in addition to the English name given in column 2. If the Indian has only one name, Indian or English, repeat the same in this column.

COLUMNS 30, 31, AND 32.—If the Indian was born in this country answers should be obtained, if possible, to inquiries 13, 14, and 15, relating to the state of birth of the person and of his or her parents. In any event secure the name of the tribe with which the person is connected and the name of the tribe of his or her parents, and enter the same in columns 30, 31, and 32.

COLUMN 33.—If the Indian has no white blood, write 0. If he or she has white blood, write 1/2, 1/4, whichever fraction is nearest the truth.

COLUMN 34.—If the Indian man is living with more than one wife, or if the Indian woman is a plural wife or has more than one husband, write "Yes." If not, write "No." If the Indian is single, leave the column blank.

CITIZENSHIP.—If the Indian was born in this country, no entry can be made in columns 16, 17, or 18; but for columns 35, 36, and 37 answers must be obtained. If the Indian was born in another country, answers will be made both in columns 16, 17, and 18, and in columns 35, 36, and 37, in accordance with the facts.

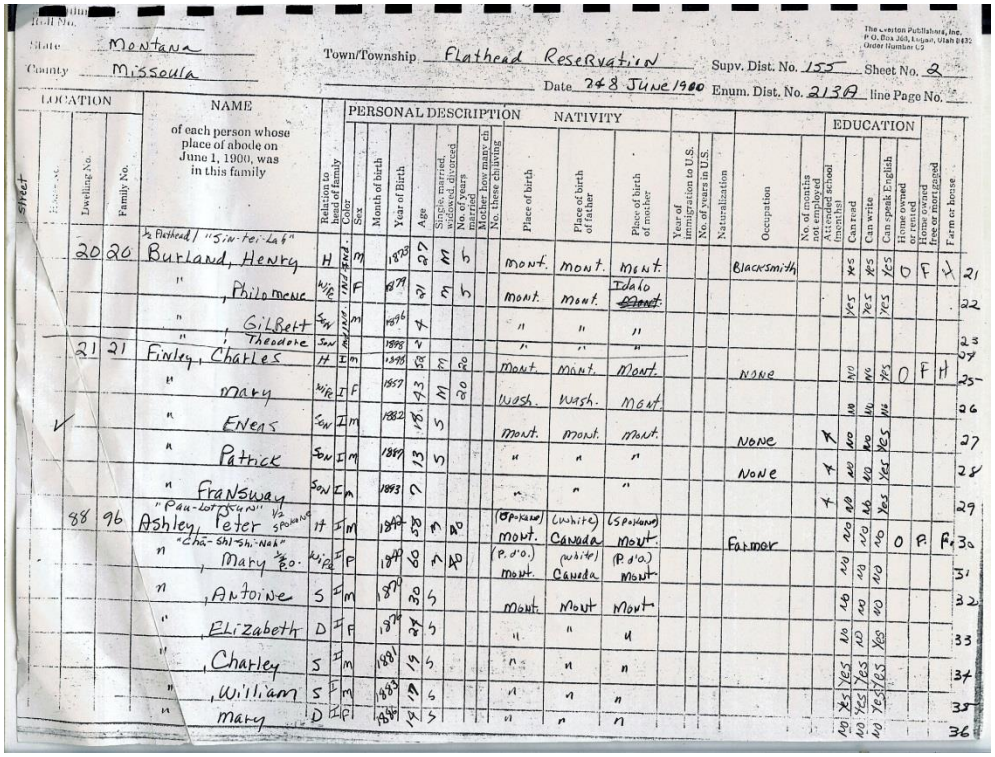
COLUMN 35.—An Indian is to be considered "taxed" if he or she is detached from his or her tribe and living among white people as an individual, and as such subject to taxation, whether he or she actually pays taxes or not; also if he or she is living with his or her tribe but has received an allotment of land, and thereby has acquired citizenship; in either of these two cases the answer to this inquiry is "Yes."

An Indian on a reservation, without an allotment, or roaming over unsettled territory, is considered "not taxed," and for such Indians the answer to this inquiry is "No."

COLUMN 36.—If the Indian was born in tribal relations, but has acquired American citizenship, write the year in which it was acquired. If he or she has not acquired citizenship, leave the column blank.

COLUMN 37.—If the Indian acquired citizenship by receiving an allotment of land from the Government, write "Yes." If he or she acquired citizenship by other means, write "No." If he or she has not acquired American citizenship, leave the column blank.

COLUMN 38.—If the Indian is living in a tent, tepee, or other temporary structure, write "movable". If he or she is living in a permanent dwelling of any kind, write "fixed."


State: Montana
County: Missoula
Town/Township: Flathead Reservation
Date: 2 & 8 June 1900
Supv. Dist. No. 155 Sheet No. 2
Enum. Dist. No. 213A line Page No.

Street	House No.	Dwelling No.	Family No.	NAME of each person whose place of abode on June 1, 1900, was in this family	Relation to head of family	Color	Sex	Month of birth	Year of birth	Age	Single, married, widowed, divorced	No. of years married	Mother how many ch.	No. these ch. living	Place of birth	Place of birth of father	Place of birth of mother	Year of immigration to U.S.	No. of years in U.S.	Naturalization	Occupation	No. of months not employed	Attended school (months)	Can read	Can write	Can speak English	Home owned or rented	Home owned free or mortgaged	Farm or house	
				½ Flathead / "Sin-tei-La"																										
		20	20	Burland, Henry	H	Ind	M		1878	27	M	5			Mont.	Mont.	Mont.				Blacksmith			Yes	Yes	Yes	O	F	H	21
				" , Philomene	Wife	Ind	F		1879	21	M	5			Mont.	Mont.	Idaho ~~Mont.~~							Yes	Yes	Yes				22
				" , Gilbert	Son	Ind	M		1896	4					"	"	"													23
				" , Theodore	Son	Ind			1898	2					"	"	"													24
		21	21	Finley, Charles	H	I	M		1875	58	M	20			Mont.	Mont.	Mont.				None			No	No	Yes	O	F	H	25
				" , Mary	Wife	I	F		1857	43	M	20			Wash.	Wash.	Mont.							No	No	No				26
				" , Enens	Son	I	M		1882	18	S				Mont.	Mont.	Mont.				None		X	No	No	No				27
				" , Patrick	Son	I	M		1887	13	S				"	"	"				None		X	No	No	Yes				28
				" , Fransway	Son	I	M		1893	7					"	"	"						X	No	No	Yes				29
		88	96	"Pau-lot-qu-ns" ½ Spokane Ashley, Peter	H	I	M		1842	58	M	20			(Spokane) Mont.	(White) Canada	(Spokane) Mont.				Farmer			No	No	No	O	F	F	30
				"Chu-shi-shi-nah" , Mary ½ Spo.	Wife	I	F		1849	50	M	20			(P. d'O.) Mont.	(White) Canada	(P. d'O.) Mont.							No	No	No				31
				" , Antoine	S	I	M		1879	30	S				Mont.	Mont.	Mont.							No	No	No				32
				" , Elizabeth	D	I	F		1884	25	S				"	"	"							No	No	Yes				33
				" , Charley	S	I	M		1881	19	S				"	"	"							Yes	Yes	Yes				34
				" , William	S	I	M		1883	17	S				"	"	"							No	Yes	Yes				35
				" , Mary	D	I	F		1884	16	S				"	"	"							No	No	No				36

MARY ERMATINGER

Mary Ermatinger was born in Montana at an encampment in Tobacco Plains according to her own testimony. She was a member of the Upper Pend d'Oreille, or QÍispé (Kalispel), those of the Mission Valley being the Slqtkwmscint, (and) the people living along the shore of the Flathead Lake. The Pend d'Oreille is the closest Salish tribe to the Salish proper, or Flatheads, in language and customs. Because her father was a chief trader with the Hudson Bay Company, her people may have been on a winter buffalo hunt when she was born.

Mary's grandparents:

Grandfather was Che-les-qua, a Pend d'Oreille warrior, and the father of Mary Three Dresses, and husband of Matilda.

From a letter by Clarence Woodcock to David Courchane, Feb. 3,1983:

"I feel safe to say after consulting with my Mother, Dolly, and Agnes, and Tony that Che-les-qua does mean Three Hats. The children of Matilda are names that I have heard before. If Matilda is the same one, then I have heard her referred to by the old people as Malee Agate. She lived on the west end of Camas Prairie up near the tree line. Her old cabin still stands there. The only child I am familiar with is Abel Telcostair. His son married Bernice Pichette. They use the name Abel as a last name. His name was Steve (Telcostair) Abel. They have two living children--living on the Fort Belknap Reservation --Judy Abel Grey and Delores Abel Plummage. The name Telcostair of course is mis-spelled ...Telqweste is the more correct spelling. Translated the name means one who

runs away from something. The name came from Abel Telcostair's father who was in a battle and ran from the battle site for some reason. After that he was named Telcostair."

Clarence Woodcock states that: Che-les-qua, means:"Che-les in the Salish language refers to the number three. Qua could be a shortened way of saying Quacqen which means hat. The name Che-les-qua could then possibly mean Three Hats."

Her sister:
Ann Quitoo was the daughter of Che-les-qua (Three Hats) and Matilda of the Pend d'Oreille Tribe of Montana. She was called Che-la-sil-shin-nah, and was commonly referred to as Two Leggings. According to the Flathead Register of Indian Families (1904-1907) which stated her age as 78 years, she was born about the years 1826 to 1829.

As with her sister, Cha-teel-she-nah, she was born in a Pend d'Oreille camp somewhere in their tribal lands. Her training was cultural as was it was for all Indian women of her time. When the Catholic Jesuits arrived she converted. She also had a sister named Felicite.

She married Moses Quitoo and together they had at least two children, Celestine and Lucy. She had a least two other children: Isaac and Abel Telcostair. Abel Telcostair was born in about 1853? and died in 1914. Abel Telcostair's descendants used Abel as their surname. Ann's daughter, Lucy married Grizzly Bear Stand Up, or Grizzly Standing Bear, or Joseph Standing Bear, and when he became one of the tribal judges, Judge Joseph. Joseph and his first wife, Adelaide, helped guide the first Sisters of Charity to St. Ignatius Mission in 1864.

Ann Quitoo died in St. Ignatius, Montana on September 14, 1906.

At the time of Mary’s birth, her father, Francis Ermatinger, was trading with the Flatheads and Pend d'Oreilles from a base at Flathead House. Francis and Mary Three-Dresses probably met each other about 1835 or earlier. They had two other children, both were boys who had died in infancy.

It is not known what type of education Mary Ermatinger received. Surely she was well taught in the culture of her people. Indian medicine was considered a specialty of hers.

The Pend d’Oreille customs of young women was not doubt similar to the Flatheads. "Before babies were born to the Flatheads and Pend d'Oreilles, the mothers and fathers had to be very careful to observe a long list of taboos. This was done in order to protect the child from prenatal and postnatal harm. When the time came, the mother was assisted by midwives as she squatted on a robe and grasped a mounted wooden bar. If labor was prolonged or unusually difficult the medicine man, or shaman, was called for." This is how Mary Ermatinger must have been born. "When going away from the lodge the mothers took their babies along on their backs in birch bark cradle boards, baby bags of skin, or cradleboards of wood, called im-pol-aih. The Flatheads loved their children without restraint and pampered them as much as was practical. Young Flathead were not weaned

until they were several years old, and went naked even longer than that, except in severely cold weather. The Pend d'Oreilles' children played as all children do, little girls played with toy dishes, tiny lodges, and dolls. They often used puppies as their "babies"; carrying them on their backs in cradleboards. To keep the children in line a child policeman was used, and to frighten them into minding a camp-child-scarer called Spotted Face was used."

In a four-day period of instruction on maturation and old and wise women of the tribe was picked to be her lifelong mentor and teacher. She was to copy her teacher in chastity, industry, skill, capacity, and in childbirth and fecundity. "The girl lived in the old woman's tepee, "and each day her face was painted as she was told moral advice. She was kept busy all day with tasks and chores that she was required to execute immediately.

"Upon the girl's return to the family's lodge, the father and mother followed through: "from this time onward the parents exercised every precaution to see that their daughter remained chaste, while the young men used every means open to them to see that they failed."[1]

[1] "A Shining From the Mountains" Sister Providencia, S.P., Jasper Printing & Sisters of Providence, 1980, pp. 4-5.

Ross Cox of the North West Company said of the Flatheads (Pend d'Oreille as well) that "With exception of the cruel treatment of their prisoners (which, as it is general among all savages, must not be imputed to them as a peculiar vice), the Flatheads have fewer failings than any of the tribes I ever met with. They are honest in their dealings, brave in the field, quiet and amenable to their chiefs, fond of cleanliness, and decided enemies of falsehood of every description. The women are excellent wives and mothers, and their character for fidelity is so well established, that we never heard of an instance of one of them proving unfaithful to her husband .. laziness is a stranger among them." Of course as time passed and more contact with other people this would alter very much!

Young girls were required to make a spiritual quest for sumesh just like the boys did. That is to be sent out alone for the time it took for a guardian spirit made its appearance as an animal that would protect and assist the young girl all her life. It was usually a bird or animal. Many in our family seemed to have used the elk or grizzly bear as a totem.

When Mary was about four months old, her father was escorting a party of missionaries (including a Swiss gentleman named John Sutter) from the Rendezvous at Popo Agie River to Fort Hall. The four women of the party were the second group of white women to cross over the Continental Divide. This was July 15, 1838. Whether Mary or her mother was with him is not known.

In the Pend d'Oreille tongue Mary was called Malee Sa-ma-mae, or Seme, meaning a person of French descent, according to Clarence Woodcock and the Flathead Culture Committee. She was also known as Mary the Younger, to distinguish her from her mother, Mary the Elder. Both Mary's were also referred to as Three-Dresses, Cha-teel-she-nah or Mary Chattishna in church records.

On Jan. 23, 1863 Mary Ermatinger married the young 1/2 Spokane Indian, Perrish (or Pierre) Ashley, the son of William Ashley (Asselin) and Margaret "Maggie" Finley. By her own words on September 25, 1913, she states that they were married by the Catholic

Fathers at St. Ignatius Mission. Mary and Pierre would have twelve children: Frank, Agnes, Antoine, August, Angelica, Elizabeth, Josephine, Octave, Charles, Rosalie, William, and Mary Augustine.

In the St. Ignatius Mission, Montana Marriage Book 1856-1873 we find:
1863
"Die 23 Jan. - Pierrish - Junxi in matrimonio Pierrish filium Willelmi & Marguerite cum Maria filia Francisis & Maria - -- banns - testes Kilkuitzo (sp) & Maria & Eulesia(sp?)"

Mary and Pierre Ashley lived in the Mission Valley, probably near St. Ignatius Mission. Later they moved to a place near Kalispell, Montana, where some of their older children were born. Pierre's Uncle Joe Ashley ran a sort of Hudson's Bay Company post on Ashley Creek nearby. This may be the reason the Ashley's made the move. When the 1886 census of the Flathead, Pend d'Oreille, and Kootenai Indians was made, (the first official census made of these people), Pierre and Mary Ashley and their family were living at St. Ignatius Mission. When they returned isn't known.

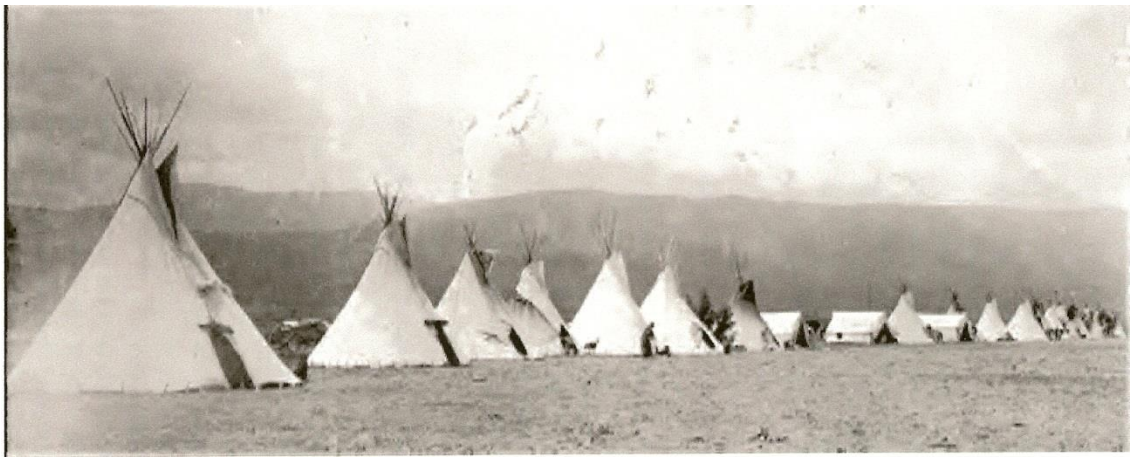
Besides Mary Ermatinger's two Pend d'Oreille brothers, she had four half-brothers and sisters: Lawrence, Frances Marie, an Okanogan sister, and a Cree sister (who later married a James Bird).

Mary is shown on the following Flathead censuses as:

1886	#1323	age	43
1887	#1335	"	43
1888	#1330	"	46
1889	#1177	"	47
1890	#1221	"	48
1891	#1226	"	49
1892	#1268	"	50
1893	#1277	"	51
1895	#1332	"	59
1896	#1342	"	60
1897	#1368	"	61
1900	#1432	"	62
1900	# 31	"	US Census; MT; Flathead Reservation Sheet #2
1901	# 138	"	61
1902	#1245	"	62
1903	# 791	"	63
1904	# 552	"	64
1905	# 543	"	65

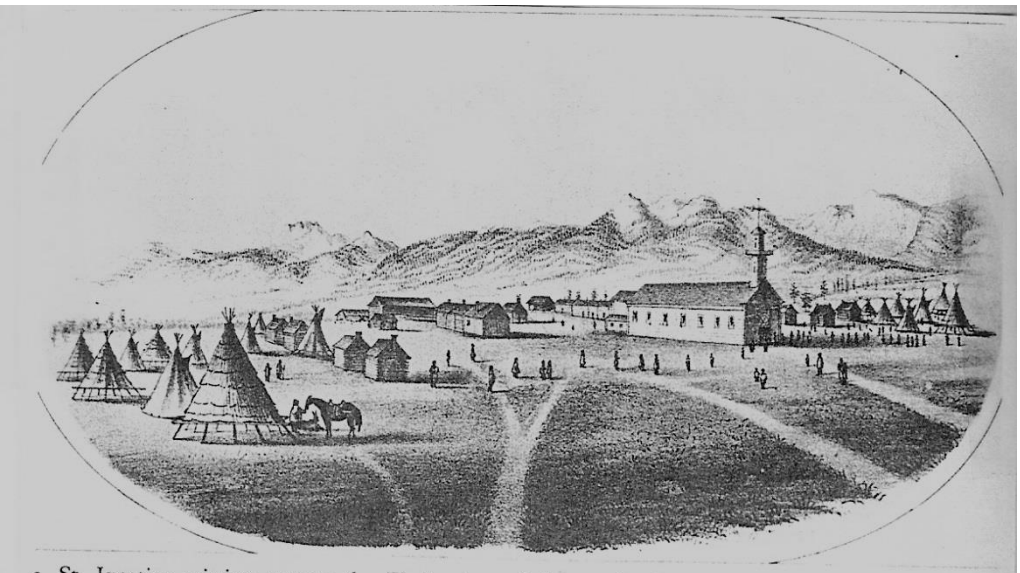
Grandma Ashley a lost year in 1887, but gained 2 years in 1888 and then eight years in 1895 and then lost years in 1901 & 1902! When the Flathead Reservation was allotted, she was given #89, an allotment of 80 acres, described as S1/2,NW1/4 Section 9, T.

18N., R.19W. Montana. I still own part of this land as well as Mary Augustine Ashley's Allotment #92. (Chalk)



Tepees in a line near Dixon, Montana

This is from the Frances Gilbert Hamblen Collection,
http://content.lib.washington.edu/aipnw/copyrights.html



3. St. Ignatius mission among the Flathead confederates, in the upper or Mission Valley, 1862. Artist: Gustavus Sohon. *Source:* MULLAN ROAD REPORT, 1863.

27

Allotment No. 89

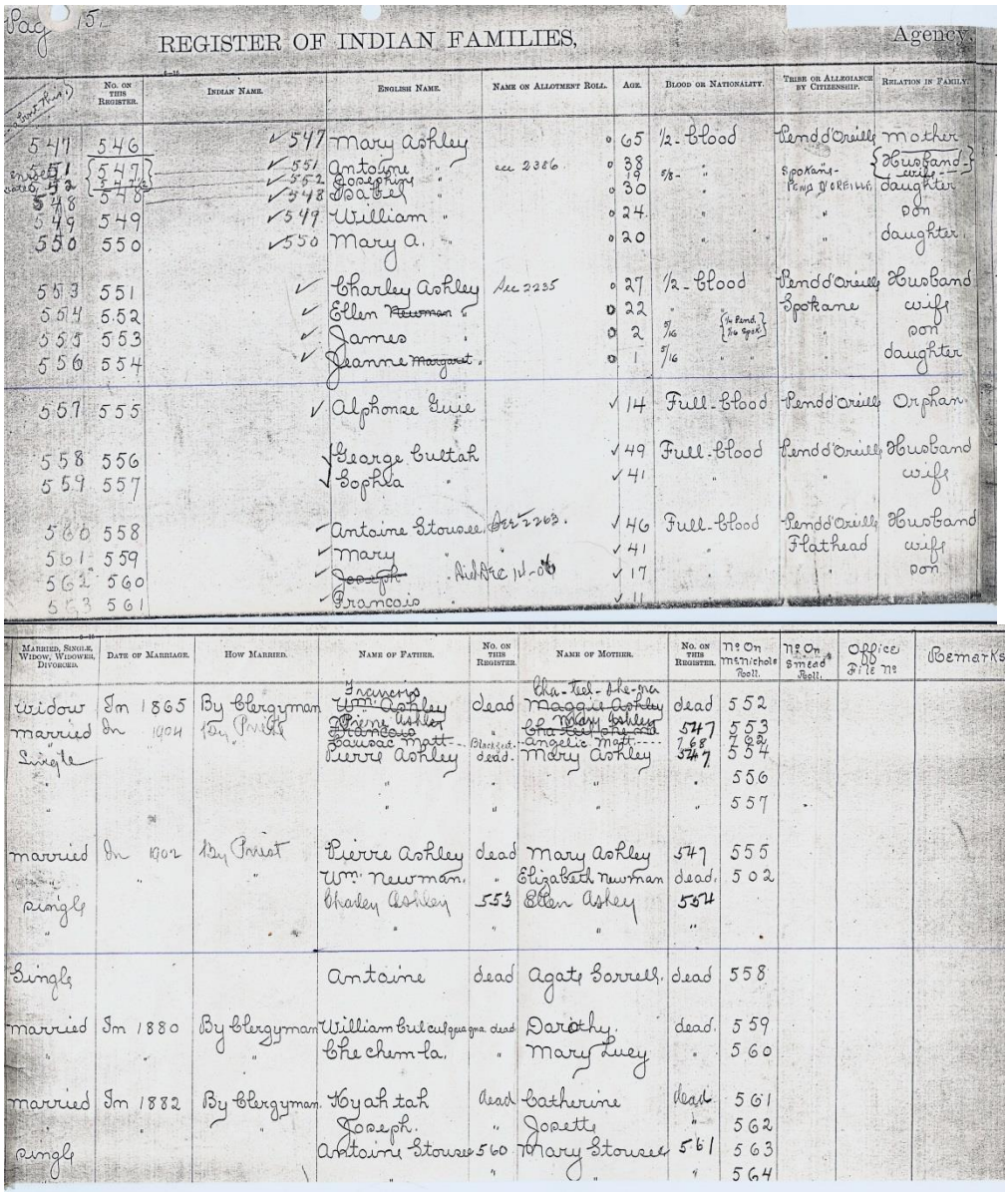
	Indian Name.	English Name.	
HEAD OF FAMILY:		Pierre Ashley, not allotted	Age, dead
FATHER:	Living?	MOTHER:	Living?
Brothers:		Uncles:	
Sisters:		Aunts:	

	Indian Name.	English Name.	
WIFE:		#89 Mary Ashley	Age, 68
FATHER:	Francois Amatinga, white Living? dead	MOTHER:	Mary Chateleshedah Living? dead
Brothers:		Uncles:	
Sisters:		Aunts:	m.s. Ann Guitou #187

Living Children and Deceased Children who have left issue.

Allot. No.	Sex.	Age.	Names.	Remarks.
101	M	46	Frank Ashley ✓	Has family.
93	M	41	Antoine Ashley	" "
5	M	37	August Ashley	" "
659	F	35	Angelic Peon	" "
90	F	33	Elizabeth Ashley ✓	No "
96	M	30	Charles Ashley	Has "
91	M	27	William Ashley ✓	No "
92	F	23	Mary A. Ashley	" "

This page is from the Flathead Agency Roll Book, 1903-05, which is a gigantic book and an adventure to photocopy, four sheets of paper were needed to copy one page out of the huge tome.



Pag 15

REGISTER OF INDIAN FAMILIES, Agency.

Roll No.	No. on this Register.	Indian Name.	English Name.	Name on Allotment Roll.	Age.	Blood or Nationality.	Tribe or Allegiance by Citizenship.	Relation in Family.
547	546	✓547	Mary Ashley		65	1/2-Blood	Pend d'Oreille	Mother
551	{547}	✓551	Antoine "	see 2386	38			{Husband}
552	{548}	✓552	Josephine "		19	5/8- "	Spokane-Pend d'Oreille	wife
548	548	✓548	Babe "		30	"	"	daughter
549	549	✓549	William "		24	"	"	son
550	550	✓550	Mary A. "		20	"	"	daughter
553	551	✓	Charley Ashley	Sec 2235	27	1/2-Blood	Pend d'Oreille	Husband
554	552	✓	Ellen ~~Newman~~ "		22	"	Spokane	wife
555	553	✓	James "		2	5/16 {1/4 Pend. 1/4 Spok}	"	son
556	554	✓	Jeanne ~~Margaret~~ "		1	5/16 "	"	daughter
557	555	✓	Alphonse Guie		✓14	Full-Blood	Pend d'Oreille	Orphan
558	556	✓	George Cultah		✓49	Full-Blood	Pend d'Oreille	Husband
559	557	✓	Sophia "		✓41	"	"	wife
560	558	✓	Antoine Stouzee	Sec 2263.	✓46	Full-Blood	Pend d'Oreille	Husband
561	559	✓	Mary "		✓41	"	Flathead	wife
562	560	✓	~~Joseph~~	Not Rec 1905	✓17	"	"	son
563	561	✓	Francois "		✓11			

Married, Single, Widow, Widower, Divorced.	Date of Marriage.	How Married.	Name of Father.	No. on this Register.	Name of Mother.	No. on this Register.	No. on Mss. Nichols Roll.	No. on Sinead Roll.	Office File No.	Remarks
Widow	In 1865	By Clergyman	Yrancois ~~Wm Ashley~~	dead	Cha-tel-the-gra ~~Maggie Ashley~~	dead	552			
married	In 1904	By Priest	~~Pierre Ashley~~	"	~~Mary Ashley~~	547	553			
"			~~Francois~~		~~Cha-tel-the-gra~~	768	768			
Single			Sauvage Matt	Blackfeet	Angelic Matt					
"			Pierre Ashley	dead	Mary Ashley	547	554			
"			"	"	"	"	556			
"			"	"	"	"	557			
married	In 1902	By Priest	Pierre Ashley	dead	Mary Ashley	547	555			
"	"	"	Wm. Newman	"	Elizabeth Newman	dead	502			
single			Charley Ashley	553	Ellen Ashley	554				
"			"	"	"	"				
Single			Antoine	dead	Agate Sorrell	dead	558			
married	In 1880	By Clergyman	William Culculquagna	dead	Dorothy	dead	559			
"	"	"	Che chem-la	"	Mary Lucy	"	560			
married	In 1882	By Clergyman	Koyah tah	dead	Catherine	dead	561			
"	"	"	Joseph	"	Josette	"	562			
single			Antoine Stouzee	560	Mary Stouzee	561	563			
			"	"	"	"	564			

The Flathead Agency 1905 Register of Indian Families is another huge book and is ledger like so the two sheets upon make one sheet side by side. One can see that the clerk mistaken entered Pierre Ashley's parents instead of Mary Ashley's but corrected it. At least this documents his parent's names.

From the Federal Archives and Records Center:

89

No. 89 [Head of family.]

Mary Ashley

OFFICE St Ignatius Montana

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and other information relative to family to be kept inside.

Federal Archives & Records Center, Seattle

5-152.

SEE FILES ..... [Any reference file.]

HUSBAND.

Pierre Ashley Allotment No. Dead

Father Unknown No. .....

Mother " No. .....

WIFE.

Mary Ashley No. 89

Father François Armitage White No. Dead

Mother Ehu-tul-she-na. No. .....

Married, when 1865

If divorced, date of decree .....

CHILDREN.

Elizabeth Ashley	Born 1875	No. 90	
Philiemen "	Born 1881	No. 91	
Mary A "	Born 1885	No. 92	
Frank "	Born 1862	No. 101	
Antoine "	Born 1867	No. 93	
August "	Born 1871	No. 5	
Adaline Peon	Born 1875	No. 659	
Charles Ashley	Born 1878	No. 96	
	Born	No.	
	Born	No.	

DEATHS.

	Died	No.
	Died	No.
	Died	No.
	Died	No.
	Died	No.
	Died	No.
	Died	No.

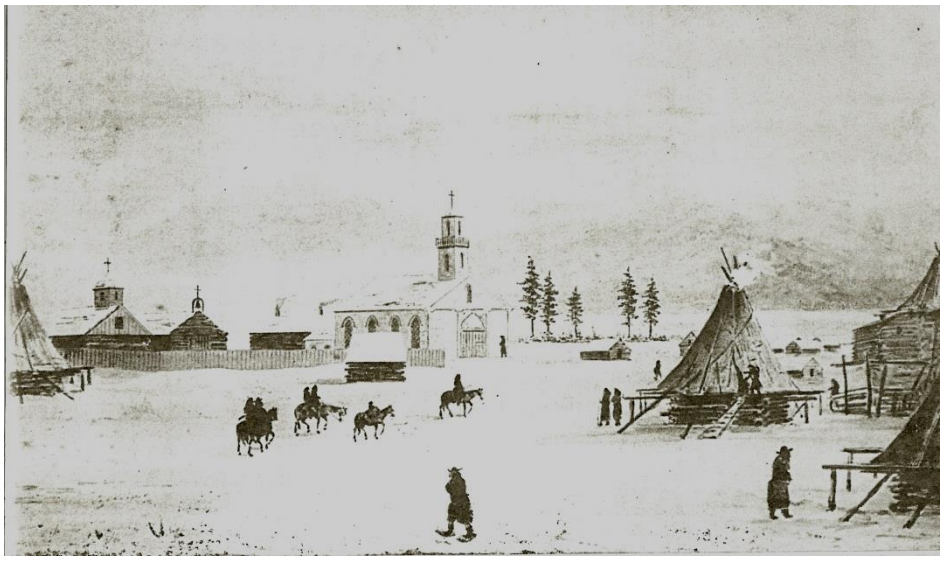
For additional or plural marriages use card form to be kept inside.

Flathead Agency, Mt. Record

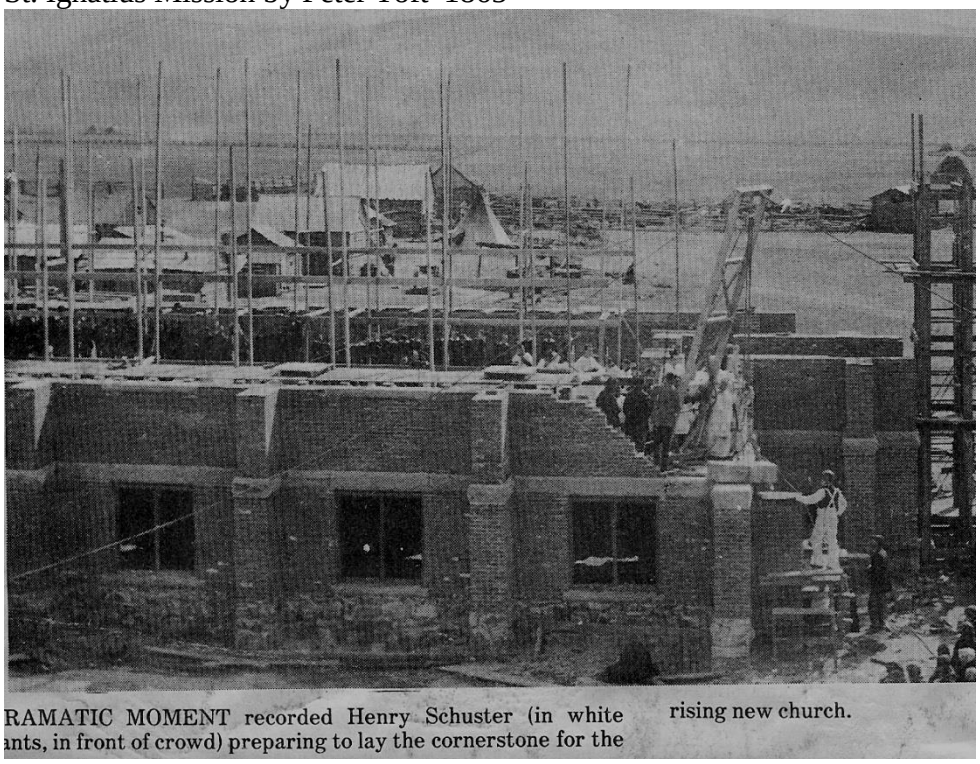
100 89

Name of Indian #547	Mrs Mary Ashley 587
Name of Father	Francis Osmotiy Ashley
Name of Father's Brothers 1	0 no
2	
Name of Father's Sisters 1	0 no
2	0
Name of Mother	Mary Indian from Chootl-ahe-nah
Name of Mother's Brothers 1	0 no
2	
Name of Mother's Sisters 1	Ann Chootl-ahe-nah 302 age 78 # 187
2	
Name of Previous Wife	
Name of Present Wife	
Present Wife's Father	
Her Father's Brothers 1	
2	
Her Father's Sisters 1	
2	
Present Wife's Mother	
Her Mother's Brothers 1	
2	
Her Mother's Sisters 1	
2	
His Own Brothers 1	
2	
3	
His Own Sisters 1	
2	
3	
Present Wife's Brothers 1	None alive
2	
3	
Present Wife's Sisters 1	1/2 all white know nothing of her
2	
3	
Their Sons 1	Frank Ashley 614 – 101
2	Antoine " 551 93
3	August 693 5
4	Charley 553 96 (William 547 no family) 91
Their Daughters 1	Angeline Peon 35 659
2	~~Ditted~~ Elizabeth 30 548 90
3	Mary Augustine – 21 553 qr
4	

COPY
Seattle Federal Archives and Records Center, GSA
6125 Sand Point Way, NE
Record Group No. 75
Additional Information BIA
Flathead Agency Box 348
Reading File ca 1905



St. Ignatius Mission by Peter Toft 1865



RAMATIC MOMENT recorded Henry Schuster (in white ants, in front of crowd) preparing to lay the cornerstone for the rising new church.

My grand parents, Charles and Helen Ashley and my parents, Louis and Viola Courchane were all married in this church, as were countless other relatives.

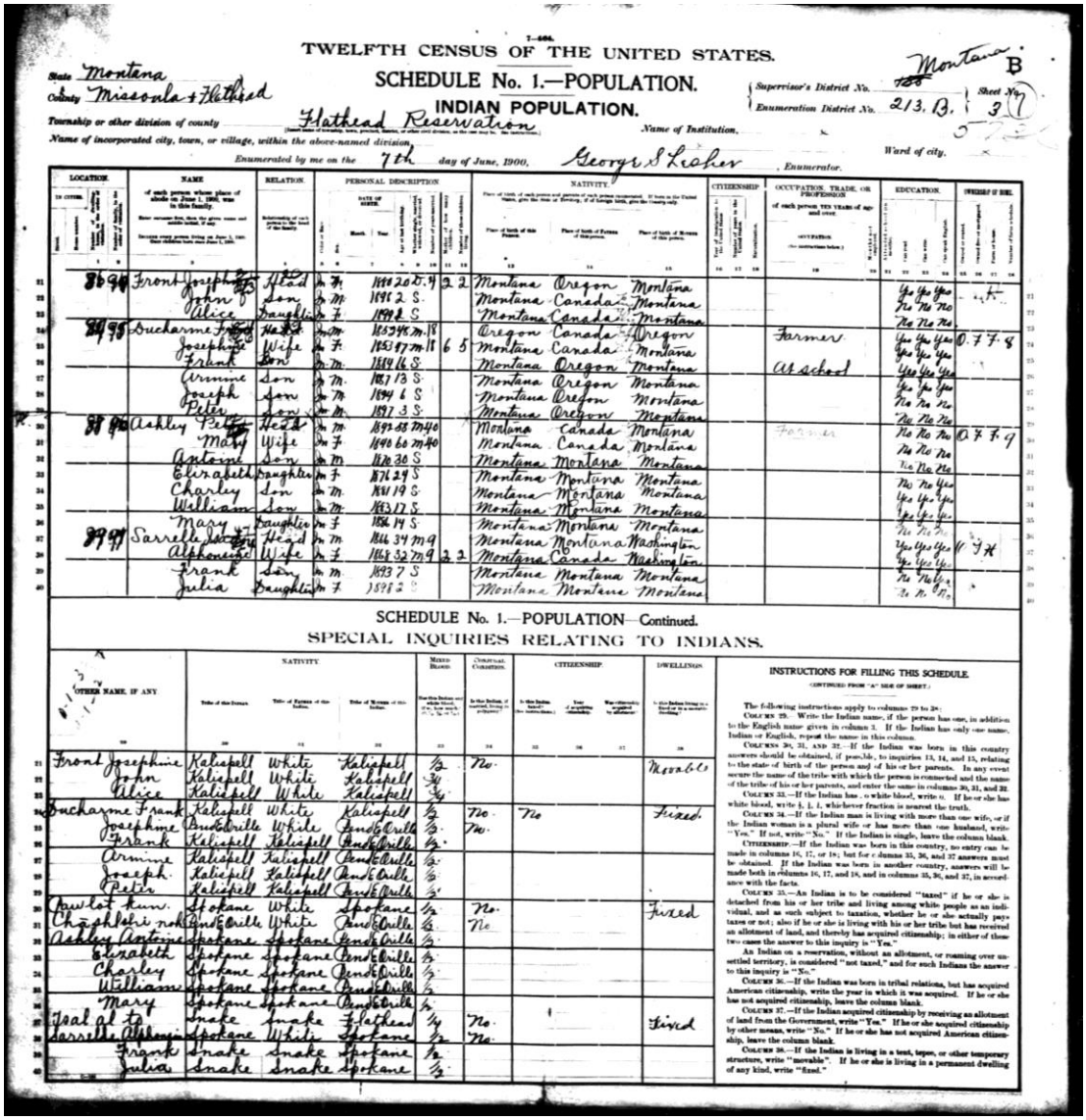
During Mary and Pierre Ashley's time on the Flathead Reservation before 1890, the Salish tribe was split in two some in the Bitterroot Valley under Chief Charlo and the rest with Chief Arlee at the Jocko Agency or in St. Ignatius. Those on the reservation fared better than Charlo's people because of three points: their population was greater at about 1300, they were on a government recognized reservation and the whites were kept away, and the Jesuit Mission at St. Ignatius (which at this time was a "large and bustling

establishment") served them in the capacities of schools and mechanical shops, with the government probably helping a little. Plus "the white and mixed-blood farmers and ranchers (like the Ashley's) who married into the tribe played an important role in spreading knowledge about ranching and farming. Most important, however was the astuteness of the reservation leadership." The Pend d'Oreilles and Kootenai worked to develop new economic resources like ranching and farming to replace the hunting of buffalo and other big game. Before the time of the allotments they were not poor but economically sound and only after the white took the homestead lands did they decline in wealth. "Letters from the Rocky Mountain Indian Missions – Father Philip Rappagliosi" edited by Robert Bigart, University of Nebraska Press,2003, pp. xxix-xxx. This is shown with the Ashley family ranches through the photo albums of family members, and decline in prosperity can be seen.

"In the 1870s a village of Indian cabins and tepees surrounded the mission complex. Rev. James O'Connor, bishop of Omaha, visited St. Ignatius in June 1877 and left the following description of the village surrounding the mission:

St. Ignatius is not laid out in streets, owing, I was told, to the fact that the Indians insist on locating their cabins so that they may be able to see the church from their doors. They visit it frequently during the day for private prayer, but when not in it they take great pleasure in being able to look at it. "Where a man's treasure is there also is his heart." The cabins as a general rule are about fifteen feet square, well built of pine logs from the neighboring mountains, and are both clean and comfortable. With the exception of one or two bedsteads, I saw nothing that could be called furniture in any of them. The inmates sit or rather squat on the ground or recline on the robes or skins that serve them as beds. Sacred pictures and crucifixes are fastened to the walls, and kettles and other cooking utensils stand on the open hearths or hang from hooks or andirons. The tepees are furnished or unfurnished in like manner only that in them the fire is in the centre of the floor and the smoke escapes through an opening above it. Outside one of the cabins, women were drying beef or buffalo meat over a slow fire. The meat was boned, cut into long strips and laid on an arch of wooden bars about two feet above the fire. Every cabin and tent had its contingent of savage dogs, who recognizing the habit of the Fathers, allowed us to pass if not graciously, at least unchallenged." . "Letters from the Rocky Mountain Indian Missions – Father Philip Rappagliosi" edited by Robert Bigart, University of Nebraska Press,2003, pp. xxxi.

According to a letter written by Father Philip Rappagliosi, S. J. on January 18, 1875 from St. Ignatius Mission to his parents 1876 was a hard winter. Water froze in the houses near the stove and ink froze while he was writing the letter in mid word. People were freezing to death! This might have had something to do with the death of the new born son, Octave, who was born in November 30, 1876 and died December 15, 1876 .



TWELFTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES.

SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION.

INDIAN POPULATION.

State Montana. County Missoula + Flathead. Township or other division of county Flathead Reservation. Name of Institution. Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division. Ward of city.

Supervisor's District No. 128. Enumeration District No. 213 B. Sheet No. 3 (7). Montana B.

Enumerated by me on the 7th day of June, 1900. George S Lesher, Enumerator.

Line	Name	Relation	Sex	Race	Date of birth	Age	Mother's children	Mother's children living	Place of birth of this person	Place of birth of father	Place of birth of mother	Citizenship	Occupation	Education	Ownership of home
21	Front Josephine	Head	F	M	1881 20 S	19	2	2	Montana	Oregon	Montana			Yes Yes Yes	
22	John	Son	M	M	1891 2 S				Montana	Canada	Montana			No No No	
23	Alice	Daughter	F	M	1892 8 S				Montana	Canada	Montana			No No No	
24	Bucharme Frank	Head	M	M	1853 46 M 18				Oregon	Canada	Oregon		Farmer	Yes Yes Yes	O. F. F. S
25	Josephine	Wife	F	M	1863 37 M 18	6	5		Montana	Canada	Montana			Yes Yes Yes	
26	Frank	Son	M	M	1884 16 S				Montana	Oregon	Montana		At school	Yes Yes Yes	
27	Armine	Son	M	M	1887 13 S				Montana	Oregon	Montana			Yes Yes Yes	
28	Joseph	Son	M	M	1894 6 S				Montana	Oregon	Montana			No No No	
29	Peter	Son	M	M	1897 3 S				Montana	Oregon	Montana			No No No	
30	Ashley Peter	Head	M	M	1792 68 M 40				Montana	Canada	Montana		Farmer	No No No	O. F. F. S
31	Mary	Wife	F	M	1860 60 M 40				Montana	Canada	Montana			No No No	
32	Antoine	Son	M	M	1888 30 S				Montana	Montana	Montana			No No No	
33	Elizabeth	Daughter	F	M	1871 29 S				Montana	Montana	Montana			No No No	
34	Charley	Son	M	M	1881 19 S				Montana	Montana	Montana			Yes Yes Yes	
35	William	Son	M	M	1883 17 S				Montana	Montana	Montana			Yes Yes Yes	
36	Mary	Daughter	F	M	1886 14 S				Montana	Montana	Montana			No No No	
37	Sarrelle Antoine	Head	M	M	1866 34 M 9				Montana	Montana	Washington			Yes Yes Yes	U. F. F. H
38	Alphonsine	Wife	F	M	1868 32 M 9	2	2		Montana	Canada	Washington			Yes Yes Yes	
39	Frank	Son	M	M	1893 7 S				Montana	Montana	Montana			No No No	
40	Julia	Daughter	F	M	1898 2 S				Montana	Montana	Montana			No No No	

SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION—Continued.

SPECIAL INQUIRIES RELATING TO INDIANS.

Line	Other name, if any	Nativity: Tribe of this Indian	Nativity: Tribe of Father of this Indian	Nativity: Tribe of Mother of this Indian	Mixed Blood	Original Allotment	Citizenship: Is this Indian taxed?	Citizenship: Year of acquiring citizenship	Citizenship: Was citizenship acquired by allotment?	Dwellings
21	Front Josephine	Kalispell	White	Kalispell	1/2	No				Movables
22	John	Kalispell	White	Kalispell	3/4					
23	Alice	Kalispell	White	Kalispell	3/4					
24	Bucharme Frank	Kalispell	White	Kalispell	1/2	No	No			Fixed
25	Josephine	Pend d'Oreille	White	Pend d'Oreille	1/2	No				
26	Frank	Kalispell	Kalispell	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
27	Armine	Kalispell	Kalispell	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
28	Joseph	Kalispell	Kalispell	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
29	Peter	Kalispell	Kalispell	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
30	Coulet Kum	Spokane	White	Spokane	1/2	No				Fixed
31	Chaphetsi nok	Pend d'Oreille	White	Pend d'Oreille	1/2	No				
32	Ashley Antoine	Spokane	Spokane	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
33	Elizabeth	Spokane	Spokane	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
34	Charley	Spokane	Spokane	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
35	William	Spokane	Spokane	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
36	Mary	Spokane	Spokane	Pend d'Oreille	1/2					
37	Seal al ty	Snake	Snake	Flathead	1/4	No				Fixed
38	Sarrelle Alphonsine	Spokane	White	Spokane	1/2	No				
39	Frank	Snake	Snake	Spokane	1/2					
40	Julia	Snake	Snake	Spokane	1/2					

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING THIS SCHEDULE.

(CONTINUED FROM "A" SIDE OF SHEET.)

The following instructions apply to columns 29 to 38:

COLUMN 29.—Write the Indian name, if the person has one, in addition to the English name given in column 3. If the Indian has only one name, Indian or English, repeat the name in this column.

COLUMNS 30, 31, AND 32.—If the Indian was born in this country answers should be obtained, if possible, to inquiries 13, 14, and 15, relating to the state of birth of the person and of his or her parents. In any event secure the name of the tribe with which the person is connected and the name of the tribe of his or her parents, and enter the same in columns 30, 31, and 32.

COLUMN 33.—If the Indian has a white blood, write w. If he or she has white blood, write f, l, i, who hever fraction is nearest the truth.

COLUMN 34.—If the Indian man is living with more than one wife, or if the Indian woman is a plural wife or has more than one husband, write "Yes." If not, write "No." If the Indian is single, leave the column blank.

CITIZENSHIP.—If the Indian was born in this country, no entry can be made in columns 16, 17, or 18; but for c dumns 35, 36, and 37 answers must be obtained. If the Indian was born in another country, answers will be made both in columns 16, 17, and 18, and in columns 35, 36, and 37, in accordance with the facts.

COLUMN 35.—An Indian is to be considered "taxed" if he or she is detached from his or her tribe and living among white people as an individual, and as such subject to taxation, whether he or she actually pays taxes or not; also if he or she is living with his or her tribe but has received an allotment of land, and thereby has acquired citizenship; in either of these two cases the answer to this inquiry is "Yes."

An Indian on a reservation, without an allotment, or roaming over unsettled territory, is considered "not taxed," and for such Indians the answer to this inquiry is "No."

COLUMN 36.—If the Indian was born in tribal relations, but has acquired American citizenship, write the year in which it was acquired. If he or she has not acquired citizenship, leave the column blank.

COLUMN 37.—If the Indian acquired citizenship by receiving an allotment of land from the Government, write "Yes." If he or she acquired citizenship by other means, write "No." If he or she has not acquired American citizenship, leave the column blank.

COLUMN 38.—If the Indian is living in a tent, tepee, or other temporary structure, write "movable". If he or she is living in a permanent dwelling of any kind, write "fixed."

Following is an article from a newspaper, the name and year is unknown, it was found in Mary's house many years after she had passed away by a great-granddaughter, Mrs. Dorothy Ellen (Wheeler) Clinkenbeard. It states:

"INDIANS OLD AND YOUNG TO BE AT RONAN FESTIVAL: Will Gather from All Parts of Reservation for Fourth of July—

"Ronan, June 15. - (Special) - Indians old and young, in their brilliant robes, with be here from all parts of the reservation for the Indian festival July 2, 3 and 4. Even oldest members of the tribe are arranging to be in attendance at the festival, a novel Fourth of July celebration feature that Ronan will put on.

"Mrs. Peter Ashley, aged 108 years, will be found sitting at the entrance of her tepee within the circular Indian village and relate vivid and exciting incidents of the early days and of her life on the plains.

"Although very feeble she has been able to tell lucid stories of happenings during the eventful span of her life--colorful years during which the tribe was moved from the Bitter Root valley to the Flathead area. Onward through all this pushed the endless line of white settlers seeking gold, new homes, more fertile lands and greater abundance of wild game.

"She was born at Tobacco Plains, then a grazing country for huge herds of buffalo, and was christened "Chawhelschnaw" meaning "Three Dresses".

"At the age of 24 "Chawhelschnaw" married Peter Ashley, a Spokane Indian, to them 12 children were born.

"After her marriage Mrs. Ashley, with her husband, made frequent hunting trips back to the plains. It was during one of the expeditions her people were attacked by a band of Blackfeet. "Chawahelschnaw", who had always been an excellent rider, escaped with her baby son on an Indian race horse. Of her children only two are left, William, 56, and Elizabeth, 63.

"Still very active at the age of 100 years Mrs. Ashley planted her own garden. Only until the last two or three years has she been unable to care for herself. Her record for longevity is not her only attraction; she is considered one of the most interesting members of her community."

The fact that the family erroneously referred to her as 112 years when she died, puts the date of the above article at about 1936.

Another article about her appeared in Sam John's ten volume Pioneers, on pages 183 to 184. One page of the article is missing.

"MARY ASHLEY, OLDEST WOMAN OF FLATHEAD INDIAN TRIBE by Ellen Nye

"There is a grand old lady who is now over 100 years of age and of the Flathead Indian tribe, whose story should be recorded. In the rich lower Flathead valley of western Montana lays a 40 acre piece of virgin soil which if plowed and seeded to wheat would produce in one year a crop which would bring in enough to pay for the tract. It is situated at the base of the McDonald Peak area in the Mission mountains, and is owned by this venerable woman, Mary Ashley, without doubt the oldest woman of the tribe. She steadfastly refused to allow the sod turned on this land, so it lies there untouched and virgin serving to keep her Indian soul spiritually in tune with nature and the past.

"This was the best she could do when the inroads of civilization compelled the ending of the roving mode of Indian life she understood and loved so well. She represents in her humble yet efficient way the forces which gave meaning and dignity to the Indian. She is the old-fashioned kind who has ever been respected by the white civilization. She strove faithfully to fulfill the requirements of her people and their code. She is the true Indian

help-mate with all that implies of patience, forbearance and uncomplainingly shouldering most of the manual labor that was the lot of her kind.

"Doctored Her Family

"As a mother she attended not only her own children but her grandchildren as well, who grew up and had allotments round about her homestead. These same grandchildren now hasten their offspring to the agency doctor or hospital for medical aid where in the past Mother Ashley had been doctor and nurse, for she excelled in the knowledge now fast disappearing, of recognizing and concocting for use the various healing herbs nature had deposited in these parts. She knew the Husk-Kus with its several medicinal uses. It was also used for chewing and smoking as was also the Kinnickinick. As a blood purifier, she used the tiny Princess pines.

"Another evidence of Grandma Ashley's efficiency was her well-stocked larder. She followed the chase in season, going with others of the tribe who were energetic and well-horsed, to the buffalo grounds to the eastward, and her parfleches on return were always well filled with the fruits of the hunt."

"With other women she gathered in May the bitterroot, known as "Spetlem". This served as a vegetable in the diet of the natives and provided a starchy element to the food. In June the "slokem" or wild carrot was collected. Very important was the "elwa" or camas and often cooked with this root as a condiment was a parasitic pine moss called "skautemikan". "Pstcheiu", a white root, was another vegetable. The service berry, found everywhere, was gathered in great quantities and dried for winter use, as were many other berries. A sweet addition to the native diet in the spring was found by eating the inner part of the stem on the sunflowers everywhere evident on sunny hillsides.

"Duncan McDonald has also quite often emphasized this practice among the Indians, to the writer. While demonstrating how the outer stem must be turned down to reach the sweet juicy inner edible portion he would recount the delights of lolling through sunny days in spring time mid a field of sunflowers on a hilly slope partaking of the "sweets" everywhere abundant."

(Part of the article missing at this point.)

"Mary Ashley would not even meet her visitor face to face, much less allow her picture to be taken, so people in Canada were never to see what Mary was like--the beauty of the Flatheads who were her kin.

"In later years a cousin of the Ermatinger, Charley, settled in the Flathead near Polson, making a living by teaching. Among his pupils were some of the Angus MacDonald children. He was a bachelor. When he came he brought with him and presented to Mary a large framed portrait of her father and this hangs now in honor, on her living room wall when the writer visited there. The years had mellowed her attitude and in its place was rather a gesture of pride in her ancestor.

"As she sat there in a rocking chair under the father's picture, the likeness between the two was startling, especially the prominent nose that dominated the face of both, the broad forehead and firm chin. Today Mary's glorious hair is sparse and gray but her face is almost without wrinkles and but for some large liver spots, her skin is unusually white and soft. She is able to be up and around and finds her way among familiar paths near her home place in spite of her blindness. The place is comfortable and adequate and she has an unmarried son and daughter living with her. Her daughter excels in all kinds of native needlework.

"Sometimes we wonder if the men of our civilization do not yearn wistfully now and then for the qualities of blind devotion as exemplified in such a helpmate. They would probably become so spoiled the modern woman could not live with them."

In a letter from Lois McDonald, author of The Fur Trade Letters of Francis Ermatinger, to David Courchane, dated August 25, 1980, she says:

"Dear Mr. Courchane,

"I was pleased to receive your letter and to know that you found the story of your ancestor interesting and informative. I became quite fond of old Francis as I trailed him around the Northwest.

"It was exciting to find some of Mary Ermatinger Ashley's descendants living in Montana and to talk to them about the stories handed down from Mary. The Liberty's had a faint recollection of the old lady and her great dignity, even in extreme old age. I believe one of the Liberty family mentioned a branch of the Ashley's in Washington.....

"I had written the last chapter of my book about Mary Ermatinger Ashley and the stories told about her. She was interviewed by the local oral history buff before she died, and the write up is in the Montana Historical Library in Helena. Mary refused to speak English or to recognize the presence of a white person in the room. She answered questions through her daughter, Elizabeth. She reportedly "hated" the white people who exploited her people, and refusing to speak their language was one way of showing her contempt. A great-great granddaughter in Butte, Montana, told me of being assigned to sit with the old lady and see that she had what she needed (for she was nearly blind). Mary asked for articles in Saleesh, and the child was always confused by the language of her ancestors. Finally, Mary spoke in English, and in exasperation ordered "Bring me a shawl, you dumbbell!"
"The last chapter as I had written it was not acceptable by the publisher since it deported from the main character of the book.

"Thank you for your letter. Sincerely, Lois McDonald"

In a hearing to determine the heirs of Mary Augustine Ashley, September 25, 1913, Mary was called to testify. Here is what she said:

Q. What is your name, age, and where do you live?
A. Mary Ashley, age about 70, living with my son Charles, about 4 miles from St. Ignatius, Montana, on Dry Creek.
Q. What was your husband's name and when did he die?
A. Pierre Ashley. He died about 10 years ago. We lived together about 40 years.
Q. Where and how were you and Pierre married?
A. Married here at St. Ignatius Mission by the Fathers.
Q. Name all the children of yourself and Pierre?
A. Frank, Octave, Antoine, Rosalie, Josephine, Angelic, Agnes, August, Charles, William, and Elizabeth, here. Also, Mary Augusta.
Q. When did Mary Augusta die and how old was she?
A. She died about four years ago, and was 25 years old.
Q. Did she ever marry or have children?
A. No, she never married or had children.
Q. Give the names of your father and mother?
A. Mary and Francois Ermintinga. They died many years ago.
Q. Can you name your husband's father and mother?
A. Yes, William Ashley, a white man, and Margaret Finley Ashley. They died a long time ago.

Mary Ashley signed the testimony with her thumb-print.

She died on her allotment near St. Ignatius, Lake County, Montana on October 14, 1940 at the age of 102 years, at 5:30 p.m.

Her estate was as follows:

original allotment appraised at	$2,000.00
inherited lands appraised at	2,000.00
cash, securities, or personal property appraised at	81.99
total at	$4,081.99

Mary Ashley's obituary was in "The Daily Missoulian", Thursday morning, October 17, 1940. It read:

"MRS. MARY ASHLEY, PIONEER OF FLATHEAD, DIES AT AGE OF 102

"St. Ignatius, Oct.16 -- Mrs. Mary Ashley, pioneer figure of the Mission valley, died at her home near here last night at the age of 102.

"Known for many years as "Grandmother" Ashley, she was the daughter of a British nobleman who came from England in the 1780's as a Hudson Bay company fur trader, and a full-blooded Flathead Indian known as Mary Three Dresses.

"She was born in an Indian teepee in the Mission valley, and grew up in the Indian way of life, learning to ride, fish and hunt and to follow the tribe on their semi-annual buffalo hunts.

"Mrs. Ashley had said she couldn't remember the exact date of her birth, but knew it was in the month of April of 1838, making her approximately 102 years and 8 months old.

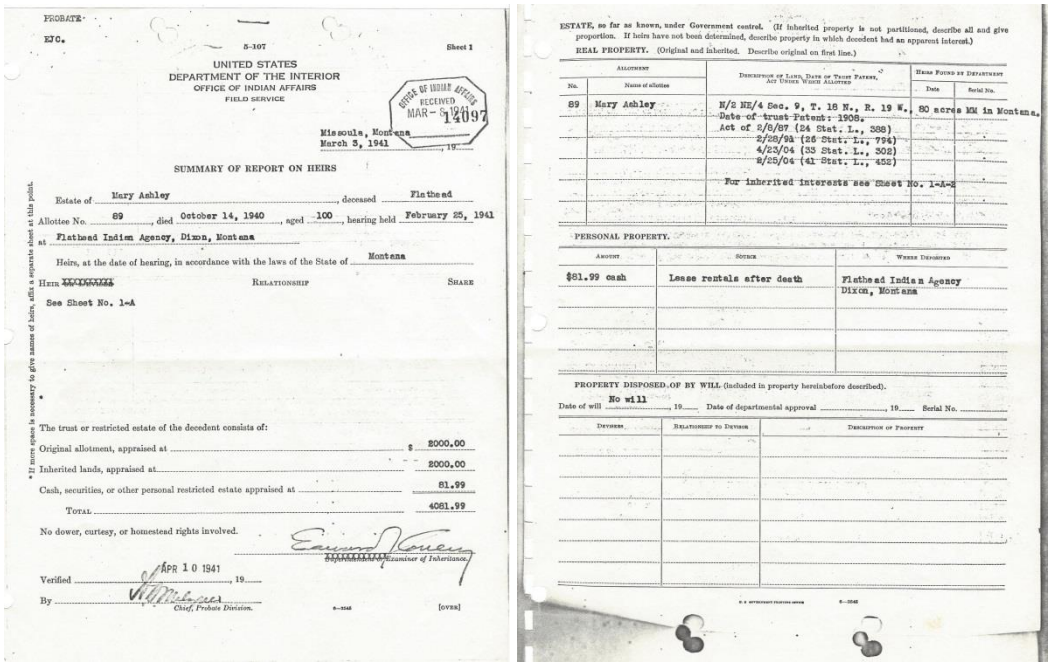
"She enjoyed sitting in her favorite rocking chair and recalling days long gone, when thousands of buffalo roamed the plains and fur trappers were numerous.

"Her husband, Peter Ashley, died 38 years ago. They had 12 children, 10 of whom are now dead. Mrs. Ashley is survived by a son, William, and a daughter, Elizabeth, with whom she had lived since the death of her husband.

"She is also survived by 17 grandchildren, 59 great-grandchildren, and 12 great-great-grandchildren.

"Funeral service for the matriarch will be Thursday morning at 10 o'clock at the Holy Catholic church with Rev. Father Meninger officiating. Burial will be in the local Catholic cemetery.

"Pallbearers include Thomas McDonald, Stephen Peone, Robert McClure, Ray Doyle and Frank Houseman. The Twichell mortuary is in charge of arrangements."



PROBATE
ETC.

5-107 Sheet 1

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
FIELD SERVICE

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS RECEIVED MAR - 6 1941 14097

Missoula, Montana
March 3, 1941, 19

SUMMARY OF REPORT ON HEIRS

Estate of Mary Ashley, deceased Flathead
Allottee No. 89, died October 14, 1940, aged 100, hearing held February 25, 1941
at Flathead Indian Agency, Dixon, Montana

Heirs, at the date of hearing, in accordance with the laws of the State of Montana

Heir	Relationship	Share
See Sheet No. 1-A		

* If more space is necessary to give names of heirs, affix a separate sheet at this point.

The trust or restricted estate of the decedent consists of:

Original allotment, appraised at	$ 2000.00
Inherited lands, appraised at	2000.00
Cash, securities, or other personal restricted estate appraised at	81.99
Total	4081.99

No dower, curtesy, or homestead rights involved.

Superintendent or Examiner of Inheritance

Verified APR 10 1941, 19

By Chief, Probate Division.

6—3548 [over]

ESTATE, so far as known, under Government control. (If inherited property is not partitioned, describe all and give proportion. If heirs have not been determined, describe property in which decedent had an apparent interest.)

REAL PROPERTY. (Original and inherited. Describe original on first line.)

Allotment No.	Allotment Name of allottee	Description of Land, Date of Trust Patent, Act Under Which Allotted	Heirs Found by Department Date	Heirs Found by Department Serial No.
89	Mary Ashley	N/2 NE/4 Sec. 9, T. 18 N., R. 19 W., 80 acres MM in Montana. Date of trust Patent: 1908. Act of 2/8/87 (24 Stat. L., 388) 2/28/91 (26 Stat. L., 794) 4/23/04 (33 Stat. L., 302) 2/25/04 (41 Stat. L., 452) For inherited interests see Sheet No. 1-A-2		

PERSONAL PROPERTY.

Amount	Source	Where Deposited
$81.99 cash	Lease rentals after death	Flathead Indian Agency Dixon, Montana

PROPERTY DISPOSED OF BY WILL (included in property hereinbefore described).

Date of will No will, 19 Date of departmental approval, 19 Serial No.

Devisee	Relationship to Devisor	Description of Property

U. S. INTERIOR PRINTING OFFICE 8—2040

Sheet No. 1-A

William Ashley		Son	140/980
Elizabeth Ashley		Daughter	140/980
Agnes Ashley Madsen	Daughter of prior deceased son, Frank Ashley		140/980
Steven Peone	Adopted Son of prior deceased daughter, Angelic Ashley		140/980
Joseph Ashley	Son of prior deceased son, Antoine Ashley		28/980
Michel Ashley	do		28/980
Mary Augustine Ashley Blood	Dau. of	do	28/980
Thomas Ashley	Son of	do	28/980
Mary Angela Ashley Pluffe	Dau. of	do	28/980
Florence Ashley Liberty	Dau. of prior deceased son, August Ahsley		35/980
Robert Ashley	Son of	do	35/980
Alice Ashley Glover	Dau. of	do	35/980
Annie Ashley Fellsman	Dau. of	do	35/980
Jennie Ashley Allison	Daughter of prior dec. son, Charles Ashley		20/980
Rosie Ashley Boldan		do	20/980
Violet Ashley Courchene		do	20/980
Lucy Ashley Glover		do	20/980
Lettie Ashley		do	20/980
Phillip Ashley	Son of	do	20/980
Louise Ashley Wheeler	Daughter of	do	20/980

The claim of The State Department of Public Welfare of the State of Montana, and The United States, Helena, Montana, in the amount of $190.00 for old age assistance, is transmitted herewith and recommended for allowance, the same to be paid after payment of the probate fee has been made.

The Claim of Twichel Funeral Home, St. Ignatius, Montana, in the unpaid balance of $164.00, for funeral expenses of the decedent, is recommended for payment from any funds accruing to the credit of this estate after payment of probate fee and old age assistance claim has been paid.

, and refund made to the Tribal Fund.

*The claim of the tribal fund in the amount of $90 for advancement of said amount for funeral expenses of the decedent from Interest on proceeds of Labor, Flathead Indians, Montana (Support), is hereby recommended for repayment from any funds coming to the credit of this estate immediately after payment of the probate fee has been made.

Re Case of Foundagun (Woodpecker) 6445-40, and Solicitor's memo dated June 7, 1941 as to inclusion of Steven Peone, adopted son of a prior deceased daughter, as an heir to the estate.

5-107 Sheet 2

FAMILY OF DECEASED. (Extra sheets may be used for family of deceased heirs, but the word "heir" and his name must appear after the words "Family of Deceased.")

MARRIAGES.

Name of Each Spouse of Decedent	Married: Date	Married: Indian custom or by ceremony	Date of Death	Divorced: Date	Divorced: Indian custom or by court	Tribe and Allotment No. (If white, so state)
Peter Ashley	Long ago	Ceremony	1902	Not divorced		Flathead Unal.
Previous marriage of any spouse of decedent—name						

CHILDREN.

Names	Sex and Age	Name of Other Parent* (If adopted or illegitimate, so state)	If Child is Dead, Give Date
Elizabeth Ashley	F-54	Peter Ashley	Living
William Ashley	M-58	do	Living
Frank Ashley	M-79	do	Died in 1931
Rosie and Octave Ashley died in infancy over 60 years ago, they being from the union of the decedent and above named Peter Ashley.			
Antoine Ashley	M-51	do	Died in 1922
Josephine Ashley	F-9	do	Died in 1900
Angelic Ashley	F-38	do	Died in 1910
August Ashley	M-54	do	Died in 1929
Agnes Ashley	F-10	do	Died in 1895
Charles Ashley	M-51	do	Died in 1929
Mary A. Ashley	F-54	do	Died in 1911

*Under "Additional information" show facts with regard to fathers of illegitimate children and concerning adoptions.

CHILDREN OF DECEASED CHILDREN.

Names of Grandchildren	Sex and Age	Names of Both Parents, How Married—Indian Custom or Ceremony (If one is white, so state)		If Grandchild is Dead, Give Date
Six children from the union of Frank Ashley and Cecile Saxa died in infancy long years back, unmarried and without issue.				
Agnes Ashley Madsen	F-47	do	by ceremony	Living
Two children from the union of Antoine Ashley and Josephine Matt died in infancy long ago				
Joseph Ashley	M-35	do	by ceremony	Living
Michel Ashley	M-30	do	do	Living
Mary A. Ashley Blood	F-25	do	do	Living
Thomas Ashley	M-23	do	do	Living
Mary Angela Pluffe	F-20	do	do	Living

Continued Sheet No. 2-A

8—2040a

U. S. INTERIOR PRINTING OFFICE 8—2040a

Sheet No. 2-A

Florence Ashley Liberty	F-46	August Ashley-F	Emily Newman-M by ceremony	Living
Robert Ashley	M-44		do	Living
Alice Ashley Glover	F-42		do	Living
Annie Ashley Fellsman	F-40		do	Living
Jennie Ashley Allison	F-36	Charles Ashley-F	Helen Newman-M by ceremony	Living
Rosie Ashley Boldan	F-34		do	Living
Violet Ashley Courchene	F-30		do	Living
Lucy Ashley Glover	F-28		do	Living
Lettie Ashley	F-27		do	Living
Phillip Ashley	M-26		do	Living
Louise Ashley Wheeler	F-21		do	Living
Four children from the union of Charles Ashley and Helen Newman died in infancy long years ago.				
Steven Peone	M-47	Peone-adopted father	Angelic Ashley-adoptive mother	Living

Elizabeth
WILLIAM Ashley, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

Q. What is your name, age, tribe, and residence?
A. Elizabeth Ashley, aged 64 years, Flathead Tribe, and I live at St. Ignatius, Montana.

Q. Did you know Mary Ahsley, Flathead No. 89, of the Flathead Reservation in Montana?
A. Yes sir, she was my mother, and she died on October 14, 1940, being one of the oldest persons on the reservation, her age, according to the records, being 100 years. She was a resident of Montana all of her life and at the time of her death.

Q. How many times was Mary Ashley married and what issue did she have?
A. She was married only once, and then many years ago to my father, Peter Ashley, many years ago, and they lived together as husband and wife until his death in 1902. After this Mary Ashley lived unmarried until her death; and from this marriage she had her only issue, being 12 children all told.

Q. Can you give me the names of these children.
A. Yes sir. They were myself, Elizabeth Ashley, and my brother, William Ashley, who is here with me today, and is 58 years of age; we are the only living children today. The other children were Frank Ashley, who died in 1931, at the age of 79 years; Rosie and Octave Ahsley, who died in infancy, over 60 years ago; Antoine Ashley, who died in 1922, at the age of 51 years; Josephine Ashley, who diedabout 1900, at the age of 9 years; Angelic Ashley, who died in 1910, at the age of 38 years, having had no issue, but having been married to Joseph Peone; August Ashley, who died in 1929 at the age of 54 years; Agnes Ashley, who died in about 1895 at the age of 10 years; Charles Ashley, who died in 1929 at the age of 51 years; and Mary A. Ashley, who died unmarried and without issue in 1911 at the age of 24 years.

Q. Did Frank Ashley, the son of the decedent, ever marry or did he have children?
A. Frank Ashley was married twice, and first to Cecille Saxa, long ago, by ceremony, living with her until she died in 1902, and by her having had 6 children, all but one of whom died in early childhood, unmarried and without issue; the one who lived is Agnes Ashley Madsen, who is now living at Lapwai, Idaho, and is about 47 years of age.

Then, about 2 years after the death of his first wife, Frank Ashley married Lucy Pluffe, living with her until she died in XXXX 1931, she surviving him and dying in 1934, but from this marriage there was no issue.

Q. Did Antoine Ashley, the son of the decedent, ever marry or have issue?
A. Antoine Ashley was married but once, and then to Josephine Matt, by ceremony about 40 years ago. They lived together until he died, she surviving him and living today, and from this marriage he had 7 children, of whom 5 are living today, being Joseph Ashley, aged 35; Michel Ashley, aged 30; Mary Augustine Ashley, now Mrs. Louis Blood, aged 25; Thomas Ashley, aged 23; and Mary Angela, now Mrs. Thomas Pluffe, aged 20; the other two children were Francis Alogsius Ashley, and George Ashley, both of whom died in early childhood many years ago.

Q. Did August Ashley, the son of the decedent ever marry or have issue?
A. August Ashley was married once, and then to Emily Newman, with w om he lived until his death, she surviving and dying about 1931; and from this marriage he had his only issue, four children, being Florence Ashley Liberty, aged 46; Robert Ashley, aged 44; Alice Ashley Glover, aged 42, and Annie Ashley Fullsman, aged 40, all of whom are living today.

Q. Was Charles Ashley, the son of the decedent ever married or did he have issue?
A. Charles Ashley was married only once, and then in 1903, to Helen Newman Ashley, living with her as her husband until she died in 1918, after which he remained unmarried until his death; and from this marriage the decedent had his only issue, 11 children, of whom 7 are living today, being, Jennie Ashley Allison, aged 36; Rosie Ashley Holden, aged 34; Violet Ashley Gourchene, aged 30; Lucy Ashley Glover, aged 28; Lettie Ashley, aged 27; Phillip Ashley, aged 25; and Louise Ashley, now Mrs. Joe Wheeler, aged 21; the other four children were James Ashley, who died in 1903, at the age of 30 years, unmarried and without issue; and Peter, Charles, and Mary Ashley, all of whom died in infancy many years ago.

Q. Did the decedent ever adopt any children or make any will?
A. No sir, she never did either.

Q. There are filed in this estate, claims as follows: Public Welfare for Old Age Assistance, $130.00; a claim of the Tribal Revolving Fund for $90.00 advanced at the time of the funeral of the decedent; and a balance of $164.00 on the burial expenses by the Twichel Funeral Home; the total bill for the funeral being $414.00, of which $250 has already been paid by the decedent's estate and the above mentioned sum of $90. from the Tribal Fund. What have you to say about these bills?
A. I know about them all and they are alright and I wish that they be allowed.

Q. Did any of the issue of the decedent whom I mentioned above ever adopt any children?
A. No sir, none of them except Angelic, who adopted Steven, we do not know his last name, and raised him as her child, although she never signed any papers. He is living, aged about 47 years, and is now known as Steven Peone.

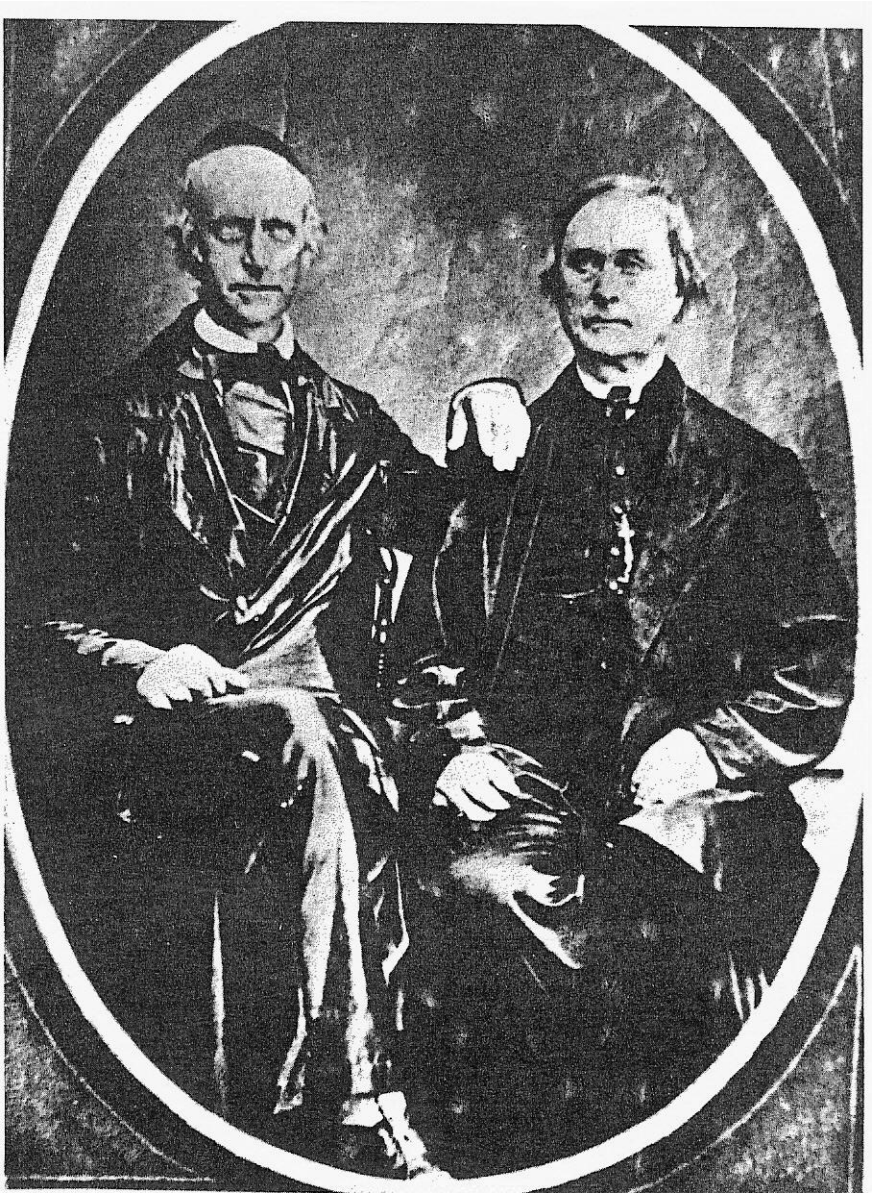
Q. Is there anything further that you wish to add to the above testimony?
A. No sir, that is all that I have to say.

Elizabeth Williams

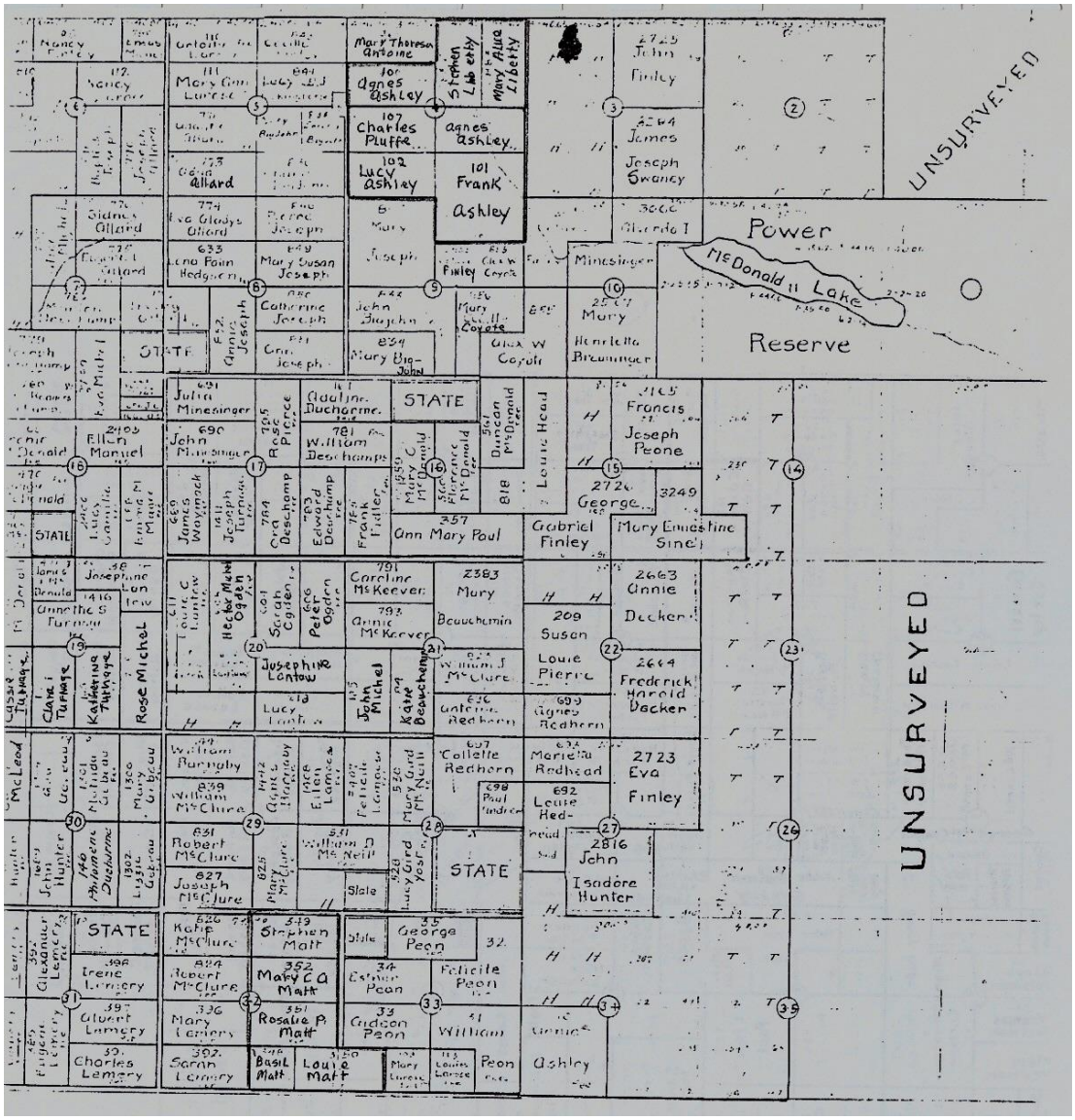
William Ashley, Joseph Ashley, Michel Ashley, Jennie Ashley Allison, Violet Ashley, Lettie Ashley, being first duly sworn, depose and state; that they are the afore-mentioned child and grandchildren of the decedent; that they have heard the testimony given this day and that the same is true and correct and they have nothing whatsoever to add to it, except that they wish the bills filed against the estate to be paid.

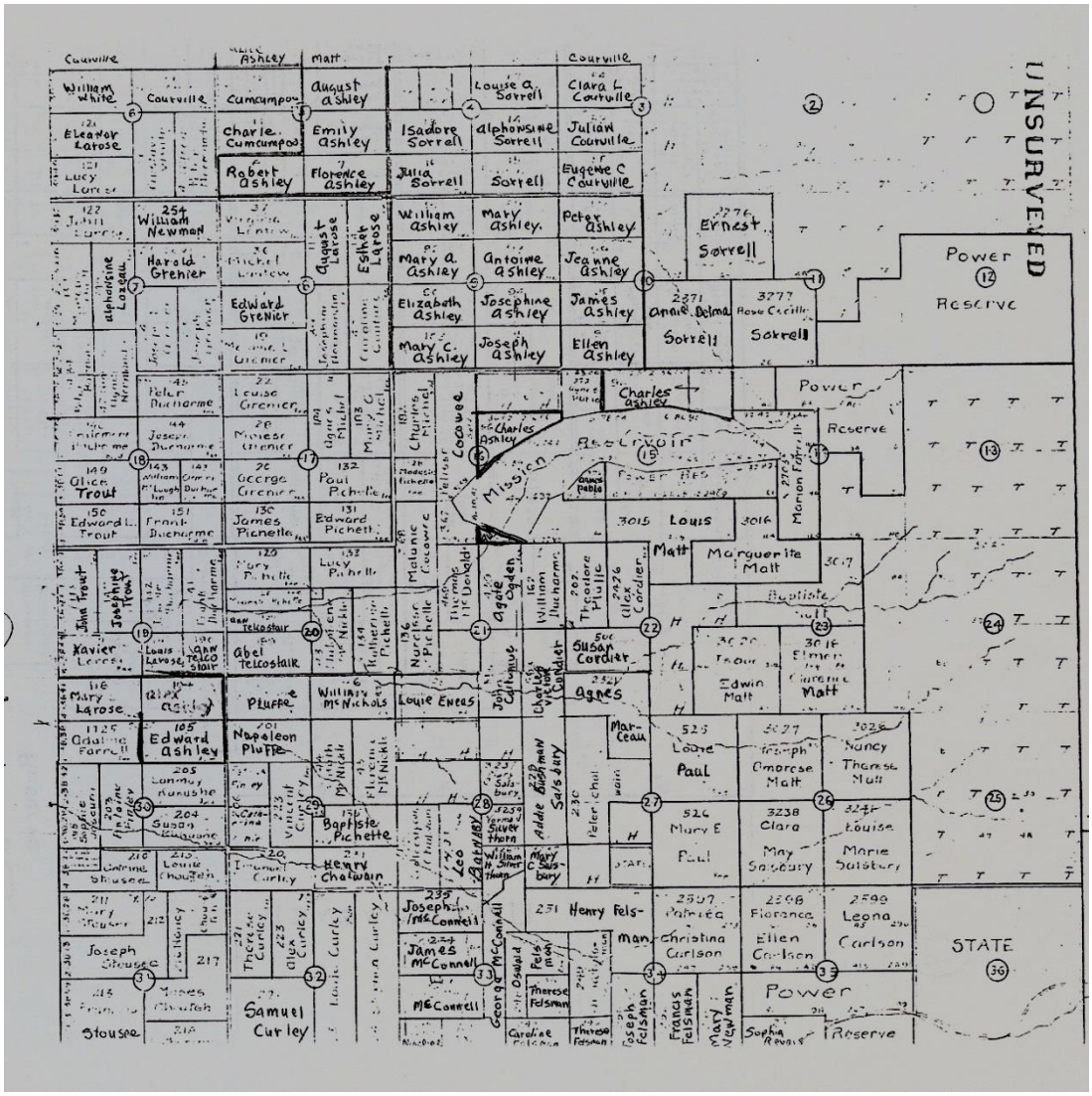
Joseph Ashley
Wm Ashley
Michel Ashley
Jennie Ashley Allison
Lettie Ashley

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 20th day of February, 1941, by Elizabeth, Williams, Joseph, Michel, Jennie, Violet, and Lettie Ashley.
Examiner of Inheritance.



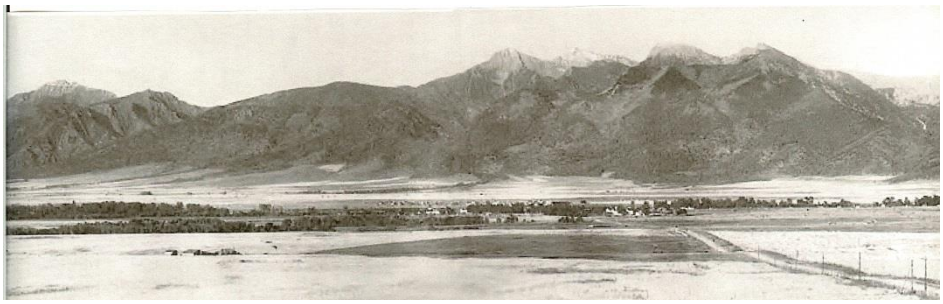
Fathers Adrian Hoecken, S.J. and Pierre Jean DeSmet, S.J. (courtesy of Gonzaga University) Both these men were known to the early Ashleys and Finleys of our family.


UNSURVEYED
Power
McDonald Lake
Reserve
UNSURVEYED
Mary Theresa Antoine
Stephen Liberty
Mary Alice Liberty
Agnes Ashley
Charles Pluffe
Agnes Ashley
Lucy Ashley
Frank Ashley
Alfard
Sidney Allard
Lena Fonn Hedgson
Mary Susan Joseph
Catherine Joseph
Mary Big-John
Julia Minesinger
Adaline Ducharme
STATE
Ellen Manuel
John Minesinger
William Deschamps
Ann Mary Paul
Gabriel Finley
Mary Ernestine Sine
Francis Joseph Peone
Henrietta Brummer
Louis Head
Josephine Lon
Annetta S Turnage
Clara I Turnage
Katherine Turnage
Rose Michel
Carline McKeever
Mary Beauchamin
Annie McKeever
Susan Louie Pierre
Annie Decker
Frederick Harold Decker
Josephine Lontow
Lucy Lontow
John Michel
William J McClure
Antoine Redhern
Agnes Redhern
William Burnaby
William McClure
Collette Redhern
Marietta Redhead
Louise Hed-
Eva Finley
Robert McClure
William D McNeill
Joseph McClure
Isadore Hunter
Alexander Lemery
Irene Lemery
Robert McClure
Simphen Matt
Mary C A Matt
Rosalie P Matt
Basil Matt
Louie Matt
George Peon
Felicite Peon
Gideon Peon
William Peon
Mary Lemery
Alvert Lemery
Charles Lemery
Sarah Lemery
Ashley

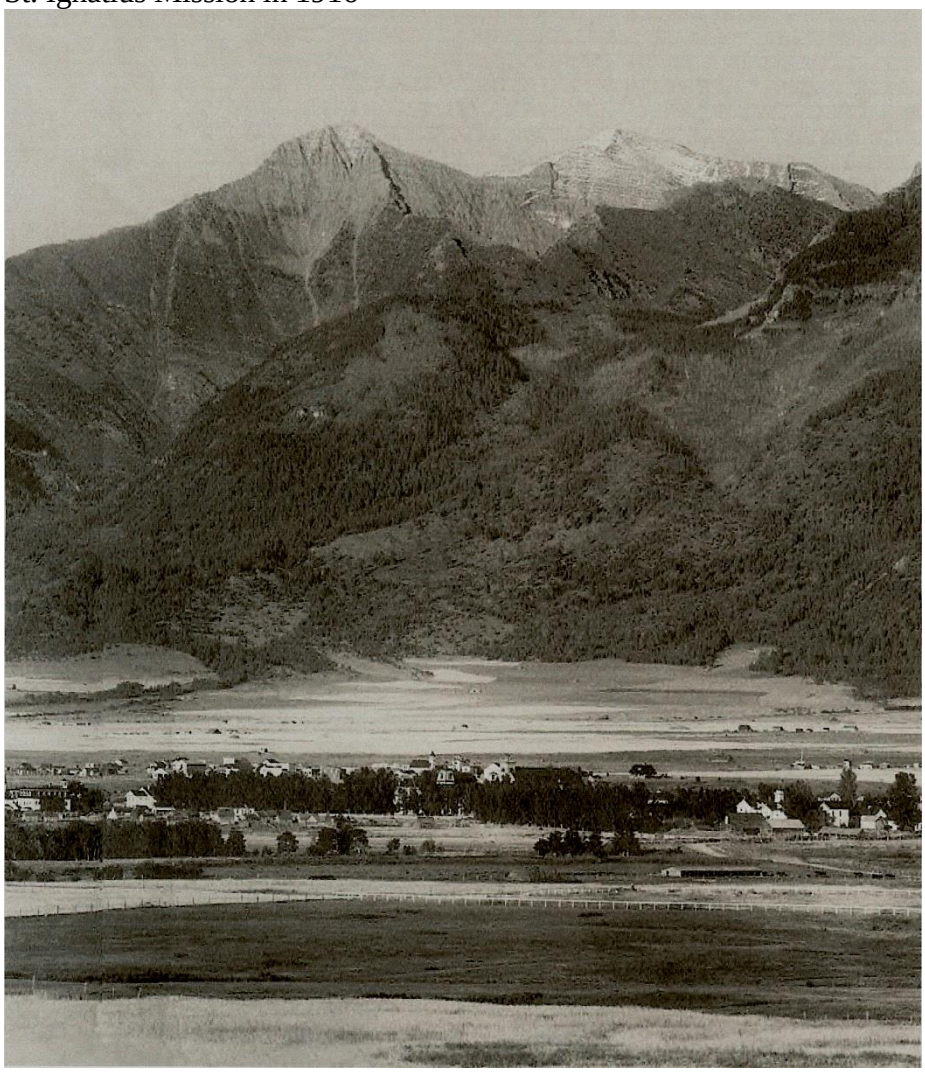


These two pages are from the Flathead Agency Allotment Book, another big book, it was in possession of Louis "Sonny" Matt when he brought to me to look at. After he died I told Clarence Woodcock about the book, and Mrs. Matt kindly allowed him to photocopy the entire book, Clarence made me a copy too.

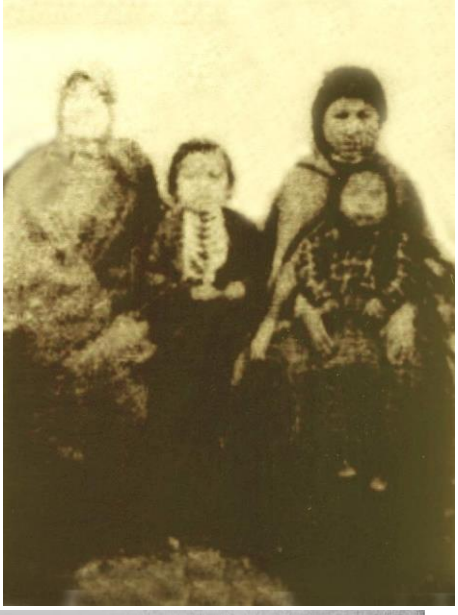
Photographs from family member's photo albums and boxes have been contributed to this book. Some outright gifts and others loaned to make copies from. The collections of Viola Ashley Courchane, Jenny Ashley Allison (Gunny Allison), Rose Ashley Williams (Leonard Williams), Lucy Ashley Courville (Chuck Courville), JoAnn Blood Roullier, Charles Blood, David Charles Courchane, James Courchane, Lilly Jones, and many others were used.



St. Ignatius Mission in 1916



St. Ignatius Mission, Flathead Reservation, Montana in 1916



This old tin type belongs to Charlie Blood of St. Ignatius, Montana and according to the Flathead Culture Committee years ago it is probably taken of Ashley women. It could very well be Mary Ermatinger Ashley (my great-grandmother) and two of her kids and her grandmother Matilda. Mary Ermatinger Ashley (1838-1940).

This photo was identified by the Flathead Culture Committee as Mary Ermatinger Ashley (Although it has been questioned as such by Aunt Louise Ashley Wheeler and Arlene Wheeler Groepper). As Grandma Ashley seems to usually curl up her braids this is probably not her. But we keep it here as it is a good picture and this is a good place to keep it.

Grandma Mary Ermatinger Ashley (about 100 in this photo) and her son, William Ashley

Mary Ermatinger Ashley, this portrait hung from the wall of Aunt Jenny and Uncle Frank Allison's log house near St. Ignatius, Montana. Received from Arlene Wheeler Groepper.

Margaret Cordelia "Muggs" Madsen Tilden, Mary Cecille Madsen McClure, Lucy Peone Ashley, Mary Ermatinger Ashley - Flathead – (ID from Cecille Tellier Brown Facebook) The original date is shown as 1909 but this can't be correct as the first two were not born then.

This picture was taken by Jimmy Courchane. His son, Dick is standing on the old porch. See the old lilac bush to the right? And the hollyhocks in seed on the left.

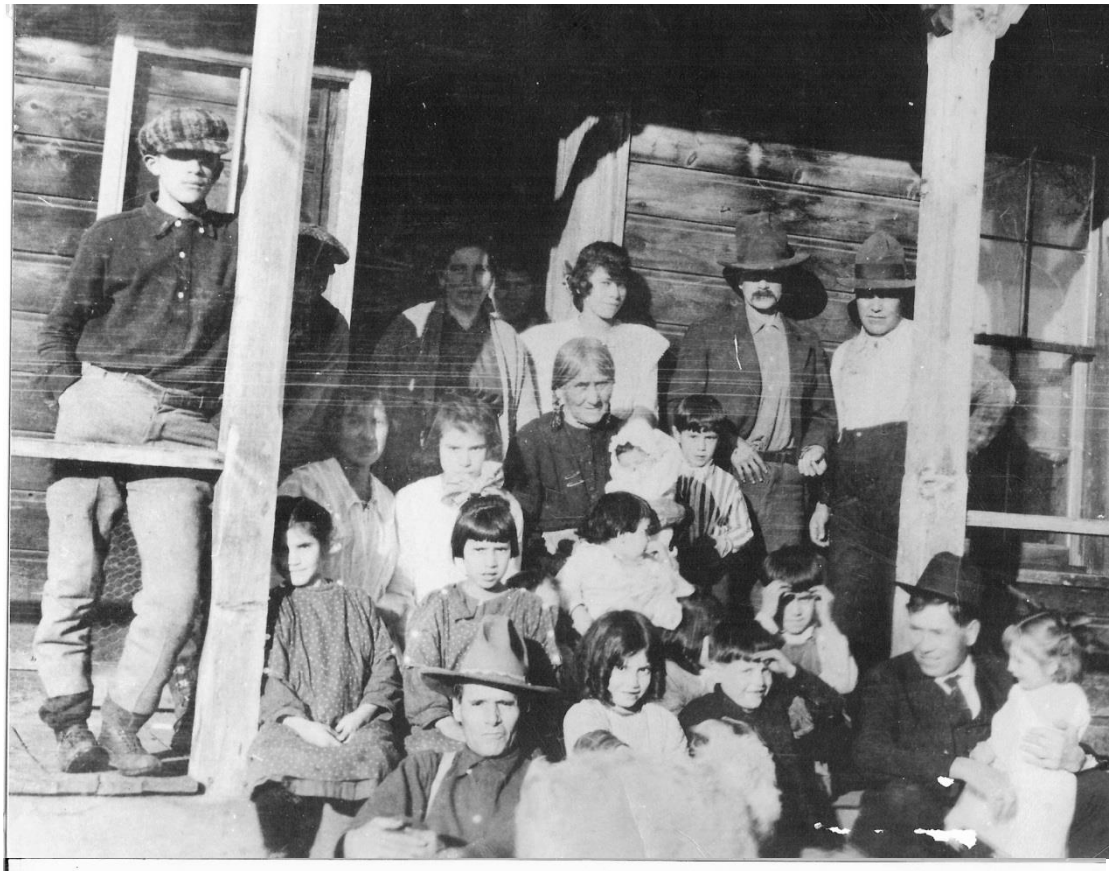
My sister, Darlene, and I visited the old Ashley place and took these pictures in the 1980s

Grandma Ashley holding Margaret Louise Ashley (Wheeler)

Darlene Matt standing by the old log house part of the Ashley place, the kitchen.

The front of the house minus the front porch.

I took these of the old Ashley place in 1ate 1970s



THE ASHLEY FAMILY
about 1919-20

Foreground: the family pet, a goat
1st Row: Antoine Ashley, Letta Ashley, Phillip Ashley, Frank Ashley, & Cecile Madsen

2nd Row: Lucy Ashley, Viola Ashley, Mary "Girlie" Ashley, (Mona Bland Ashley?) unknown little girl, & Mitch Ashley

3rd Row: Agnes Madsen, Rosalie Ashley, unknown little boy, Mary Ermatinger Ashley holding baby girl who is probably Margaret Louise Ashley, & George Ashley.

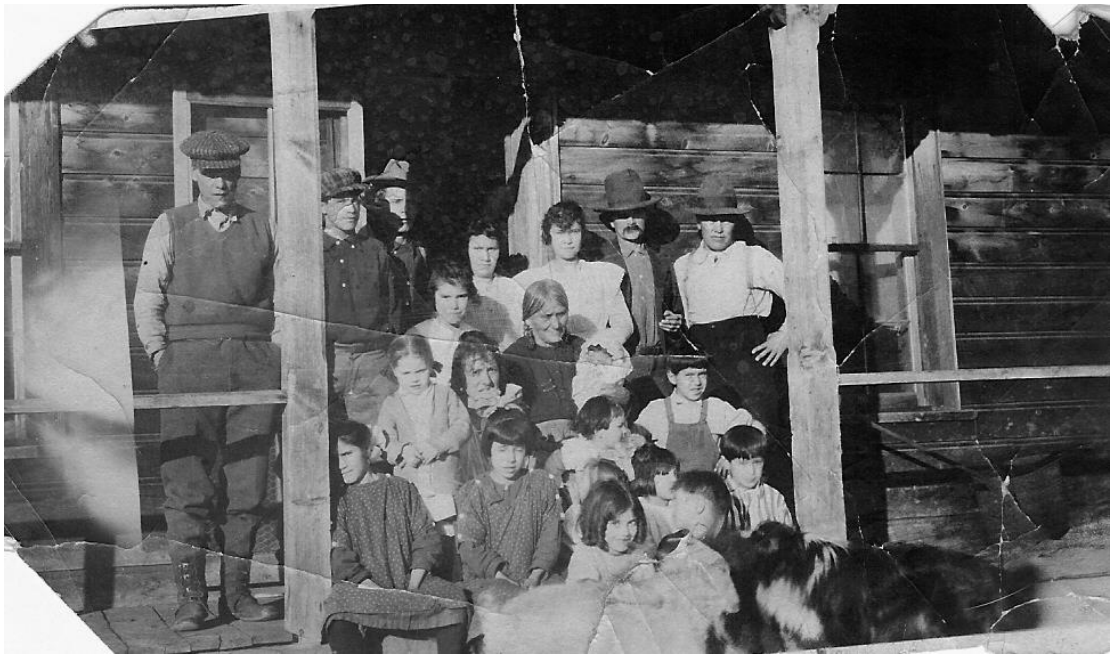
4th Row: Joseph H. Ashley, Charlie Ashley, Emily Newman Ashley, Helen Newman Ashley in doorway next to Emily, Jeanne Ashley, August Ashley, & William Ashley.

Photograph probably taken by Elizabeth Ashley.

Pierre and Mary Ashley built this house sometime after 1863, the original building was a log house and later according to Joe Ashley, a grandson, it was called the "kitchen." Then a two-story frame building, that become the main house, was built and attached to it. Not far from the back door of the log house part and to the left towards Dry creek was a root cellar. Joann Blood Roullier remembers being sent to the cellar to get jars of fruit, and one time it was black cherries, she did not like the job as she was afraid of the spiders and more afraid of dropping the jars and breaking them. She remembers that it was well stocked with canned fruits and vegetables and had potatoes, onions and carrots there also. Also out that door and located in Dry Creek was a square wooden tin-lined box in which milk, butter, eggs and other items that needed to be kept cold was stored. Also nearby

was a chicken coop in which there was a couple dozen chickens of all varieties. These were for eggs and Sunday dinner. They had an apple orchard of 12 or more trees by the house and it was located out from the main house's front door to the right a good distance. Joann Rouiller thinks they may have been MacIntosh apples. Lilly "Sassy" Jones remembers that besides apples they had plums, Bartlett pears, and crab apples. Sassy said she made jelly out of the crab apples, which both Auntie Ashley and Uncle Lem liked and Uncle Lem would smack his lips in anticipation. Viola Courchane would make pies out of the apples to go with a dinner of fried chicken, mashed potatoes and milk gravy, bread and tomatoes (scalloped tomatoes) and fresh made bread. There were old-fashioned lavender lilac bushes directly in front of the main house and Uncle Lem's big vegetable garden spot in front to the left a good distance towards the Mission Mountains bordering the gardens was the driveway. He grew potatoes, carrots, corn, green beans, peas, onions, watermelon and muskmelons. Beyond the chicken coop was the outhouse that was cleaned with lye monthly. A granary was a on the property too. Horses were across the lane Uncle Lem's garden. They had pigs. A big barn and another building that the wagon and farm equipment was kept.

Through the kitchen door was a huge table that could seat 12 people and to the left was cupboard for dishes that was ceiling to floor, two stoves, big one and smaller one that was used to bake, the wood stove being at the end of the building, a stack of fire wood and kindling, pots and pans but we aren't sure where they were, and in the dark corner to the left was a place for coats and shoes & overshoes. There was wood stove for heating in the middle of the big room. A sink but it was hook up to plumbing. Batter crock and round granite tub for the flour with a lid.



Same people as above but some of them changed positions

Grandma Mary E. Ashley at camp on Lake Placid in the Mission Mountains.
Antoine Ashley. Grandma Ashley is placing plates and other dishes on a blanket or tarp on the ground near a tepee. Behind her nearer to the lake is the cook fire and it looks like Auntie is busy there. This is the same camp site as the two photographs below but taken on a different day, or even season.

Grandmother Ashley at camp on Lake Placid in the Mission Mountains.
There is at least five people in the background & two with Grandma Ashley.

Tom Ashley, Grandma Ashley, Girlie Ashley, Mrs. Pablo, Regina Ashley & Herman Ducharme. From three different collections.

(from Arlene Wheeler Groepper – Red Allison Collection)

Auntie and Grandma Mary Ashley

Grandma Ashley 100 years old

Actually it should have been 1838-1940 Taken by Chalk Courchane