

DIKE DISTRICT NO. 17

SKAGIT COUNTY

ROUTE 4 — BOX 15

MOUNT VERNON, WASHINGTON

February 8, 1961

History of Dike District number 17.

The year 1907, the farmers of the area North of Mount Vernon, to Riverside Ferry and from the hill East of Great Northern Railway to the Avon bend, formed this dike district to hold the Skagit River within bounds.

There were a number of floods prior to 1915, that did break the dike, since that time there has been but two floods in the area, those in the year of 1917 and also 1921.

The first of these two the break in the dike was on the Finstad place, located one mile West of bridge, this in turn caused the water to overflow the dike near Mount Vernon, washing out a large section of dike as it returned to the river. The cost of dike repair bring \$31,399.00.

December 13, 1921, the high river broke through on the Cornish place $\frac{1}{4}$ mile West of bridge, with the water returning to the river in the same way as the previous flood. The cost of dike repair was \$32,040.00.

The high water of 1934 caused a dike repair in the amount of \$4,232.00.

Ten years ago this week the river was at flood stage, and the water topped our dike on the C.A. Hanson farm. With sand bags and the help of many people from near and far the dike was saved.

This high river prompted a survey of the dike system, resulting in the raising the dike to a uniform height, which is some 18 inches above the 1951 level. The expenditures in this ten years being \$109,764.00.

Earl Hanson, Secretary

Exhibit 15