

AFFIDAVIT

The State of Montana

County of Yellowstone

I, Gayla Z. Bradberry of Yellowstone, Montana,
(name) (county) (state)

MAKE OATH AND SAY THAT:

statement attached

STATE OF MT

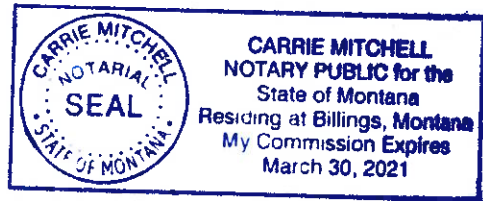
COUNTY OF Yellowstone

[Redacted Signature]
(Signature of person making the statement)

SUBSCRIBED TO AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME,

on the 11th day of Jan, ~~2020~~ 2021

Signature [Redacted] (Seal)
Notary Public
My Commission expires: March 31, 2021



Ray and Virginia Zumwalt's cabin on Nogal Creek, in Lincoln County, NM, was only one room. My dad, Ray, was one of 3 partners in a cattle operation in the locality along with his father and brother, Mert. My family stayed in the cabin whenever the partners and their families worked the cattle. We spent lots of time in the canyon riding horses for roundup, time on the ground fencing, time with the stock at the corrals sorting, doctoring, loading or branding. Our cabin was built approximately 1936 and was used until our family bought a different property, Rancho Pobre, nearby in 1953. Three wooden steps lead to the front door of the simple cabin. There was also a "backdoor" on the right wall. A bucket hung outside the backdoor with water for washing, also a bar of Lifebuoy soap. There were no partitions within, no insulation or drywall, no electricity. A rock-lined path led to an outhouse slightly above on the left. Nogal Creek ran just 10-20 feet away. One would take a bucket and draw water from the creek for washing, cooking, and drinking. I remember lying on my stomach with my face in the creek to get a drink. The livestock drank from creeks or springs. Across the road, about 50 yards away, was Uncle Mert's (Murray Zumwalt) and Aunt Leora's permanent residence. Their water source was a spring located slightly above the house. A 1" pipe was laid horizontally into a small, open pond fed by the spring. The pipe simply ran on top of the ground until it reached a connection to their kitchen faucet, which was the only faucet in the house. Their household water supply had no inspection, filtration or chemical treatment. All water flowing from the sink drained into a pipe whose outlet was back to the creek below the house. Their home had no bathroom, no commode, no bathtub. A pitcher of water from the kitchen would be taken to bedroom areas for sponge bathing. Uncle Mert and two of his sons, Ted and Glen died of cancers. Mert's daughter survived breast cancer.

Our house at Rancho Pobre (about 4 miles from the village of Nogal, in Lincoln County, NM) had a cistern for its water source. Rain ran off the tin roof into gutters. The nearest gutter spout had a butterfly switch, so water could be directed into the cistern or away onto the ground. The concrete cistern was built and used by previous owners. My family owned the property from 1953 to 1975. We hauled drinking/cooking water from our primary residence in Eddy County, NM, or the store (with a well) at Nogal. The hand pump in the ranch kitchen delivered water from the cistern, but we used it only for dishwashing, mopping, or cleaning surfaces since the cistern sometimes had unwanted debris. The house had no plumbing, no bathroom. An outhouse was @40 yards away to the east. A well was drilled in @1960, but the water was heavy with minerals, therefore, not usable at the house. Both my parents, Ray and Virginia, died of cancers in 1963 and 1968 respectively. Several other of my dad's siblings and their families lived in Lincoln County in similar conditions/times. 22 relatives total have either died from cancers or still suffer cancers.

By Gayla Z. Bradberry
January 9, 2021
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