



What Did Job Carr See And Do When He Arrived in Puget Sound?

Introduction

This lesson is designed for 4th grade students. It encourages students to consider what the Puget Sound area looked like when American settlers first began to arrive in the area. Then, students compare and contrast primary and secondary source materials to learn about what Job Carr did when he came to Puget Sound. This lesson includes a brainstorming activity, art project, and two close reading activities. We recommend completing it over the course of 3-5 days.

Vocabulary

Canoe: A light boat pointed at both ends and moved with a paddle.

Postmaster: A person in charge of a post office.

Terminus: The final stop at either end of a transportation line.

Materials

This lesson includes:

- Job Carr's Account
- Primary Source Graphic Organizer
- Carr Made Tracks to Railroad's Terminus
- Secondary Source Graphic Organizer
- Historic Photos

You will need:

- Paper for drawing or construction paper
- Color pencils, crayons or markers
- A pen
- A highlighter

Extension activities:

- Job Carr Word Scramble
- Job Carr Crossword

Background Information

Job Carr and other American settlers were not the first people to live in the Puget Sound area. The area where the city of Tacoma now stands is the traditional lands of the Puyallup people, where they make their home and speak the Lushootseed language. The Puyallup Tribe of Indians have lived along the shores of Puget Sound, near the Puyallup River, and in the foothills of Mt. Tacoma (Rainier) for thousands of years. Native American tribes used the waterways and land as resources for their basic needs including food, shelter, clothing, and transportation.

Creating a Landscape

Can you imagine what the Puget Sound area looked like before American settlers arrived?

What natural features existed in the landscape?

You can use the photo on the next page to help you think about what the landscape looked like.

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This is a photograph of Job Carr standing by his log cabin in 1865. Job built the cabin near a lagoon above the saltwater shoreline of Commencement Bay. The beachfront provided habitat for clams, oysters, shorebirds and fish. The cabin was near a fresh water creek filled with fish and frogs. The forest included fir, hemlock, cedar, spruce, maple, and alder trees. The trees were so thick that it was usually easier to travel by canoe than walking across the land. The terrain had many hills and deep gulches that were home to a variety of wildlife including deer, wolves, coyotes, raccoons, bats, and beavers. In the distance, Mt Rainier and the Olympic Mountains watched over everything.



Brainstorm – What Would You See?

In addition to Mt Rainier, can you brainstorm 8 more ideas about what you would see if you were here before settlers began to build cities and roads in the Puget Sound area? Write your ideas in the ovals below.

Mt Rainier		

Next, use your art materials to create a picture that shows the ideas that you brainstormed about what you would see. You can draw a picture. Or if you prefer, you can cut out shapes and glue them to your paper to make a collage.

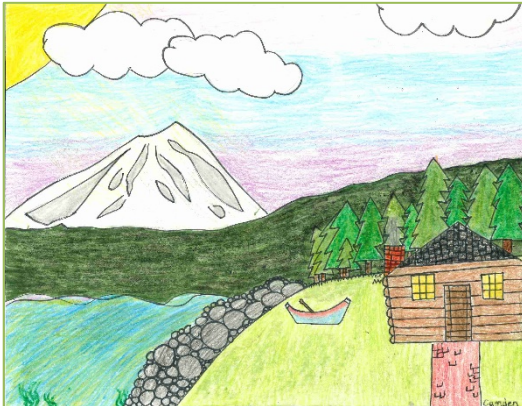
On the next page, you can see some examples that other students have imagined about the landscape.

You can share a photo of your landscape artwork on social media with the hashtag #JobCarrEureka.

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Using Primary and Secondary Source Materials

Now that you have an idea of what the area looked like when Job Carr first arrived in Puget Sound, let's find out what happened next. Think about what you would do if you were one of the first settlers to arrive in the area. Would you start exploring? Would you study local maps to learn more about the land? Would you build a home? Would you try to make new friends?

We can find out what Job Carr did when he first came here by looking at two types of documents – primary sources and secondary sources.

- A primary source gives us first-hand information directly from the people that we want to learn more about. A primary source can be a photograph like the one of Job standing in front of his cabin. Other examples include diaries, letters, interviews, and statistical data.
- A secondary source gives us second-hand information, often after the original events took place. Secondary sources can analyze and explain what happened in primary sources. This could be a newspaper article or a research report.

Take a look at the two sources provided for you about Job Carr.

- *Job Carr's Account* is a primary source. These are Job Carr's own words about what happened when he came to Tacoma.
- The newspaper article *Carr Made Tracks to Railroad's Terminus* is a secondary source. It was written by a journalist at The News Tribune over 100 years after Job Carr came to Tacoma.

Both of these documents can give you valuable information about what happened in history. A good researcher uses both primary and secondary sources to create their own analysis and opinions.

Using the Primary Source Graphic Organizer

Take a look at *Job Carr's Account* and the Primary Source Graphic Organizer. Read through *Job Carr's Account*. Since it was written a long time ago, some of the words might be unfamiliar to you. If you are unsure about an unusual word or phrase, ask a teacher or another grown-up to help you understand what it might mean.

Now that you've read through *Job Carr's Account*, your next task is to do a close reading of this text. Read through one paragraph at a time and use a highlighter pen to identify key words or phrases about what Job Carr did when he came to Tacoma.

- Can you find the actions that Job Carr took when he arrived in Puget Sound? Where did you see this information in the text?

Next, use the Primary Source Graphic Organizer to record your findings. Let's practice filling in the graphic organizer using the information that you have highlighted in *Job Carr's Account*.

- Did you find an piece of important information on Page 1, Paragraph 4, Line 19. It says that Job Carr arrived in Olympia on the 13th day of November, 1864. Can you write this key information on the first line of the graphic organizer?
- In the next paragraph, did you find another important piece of information? It says that Job thought Olympia was not the right spot for the terminus of the railroad, so he went to the land office to examine maps and charts of Puget Sound. Can you add this to your graphic organizer?

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Now that you have uncovered these important pieces of information, can you find out what Job Carr did next? Keep going until you have found all the clues to complete the graphic organizer.

Using the Secondary Source Graphic Organizer

Take a look at the newspaper article *Carr Made Tracks to Railroad's Terminus* and the Secondary Source Graphic Organizer. Read through the newspaper article. It was written by a historian many years after the events happened.

Now that you've read through the newspaper article, your next task is to do a close reading of this text. Read through one paragraph at a time and use a highlighter pen to identify key words or phrases about what Job Carr did when he came to Tacoma.

- Can you find the actions that Job Carr took when he arrived in Puget Sound? Where did you see these in the account?

Next, use the Secondary Source Graphic Organizer to record your findings. Let's practice filling in the graphic organizer using the information that you have highlighted in *Carr Made Tracks to Railroad's Terminus*.

- Did you find an piece of important information on Page 1, Paragraph 8, Line 3. It says that Job Carr was on a fishing trip on Christmas Day, 1864 when he spotted a sheltered cover and yelled "Eureka! Eureka!" This was the right place.
- Can you write this key information on the first line of the graphic organizer?

Now that you've uncovered the first piece of information, can you find out what Job Carr did next to complete the graphic organizer?

Comparing Primary and Secondary Sources

Now that you've read through two different sources about what Job Carr did when he arrived in Puget Sound, think about differences in the information.

- How are the two sources similar? How are they different?
- What is the most important thing you learned from each source about Job's experience? Why is it significant? Can you show evidence from the texts to support your answer?
- If you were a pioneer traveling to Puget Sound would you have done the same things as Job did? If not, what would you do instead?
- Do you think Job Carr and Mr. McCarver were friends? Why or why not? Can you find evidence in the texts to support your answer?
- Why do you think it is important to use primary and secondary sources to learn about things that happened in history?

For bonus activities, complete the Job Carr Word Scramble and Job Carr Crossword.

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Want to Learn More:

Watch a video about Job Carr and the Museum, <https://video.kbtc.org/video/kbtc-profiles-job-carr-museum-ymcsbd/>

Find out more about Job Carr's family, <https://www.jobcarmuseum.org/blog/the-carr-family-separate-lives-and-tacoma-reunion>



Job Carr's Account, 1885

(possibly dictated to his daughter-in-law Jane Bradley)

Having been requested a number of times within the last three or four years, and by several different persons, to write out a correct statement of the first settlement and subsequent development of Tacoma, and some of the leading incidents connected therewith, I have at length concluded to do, not with a view to reap any great honor to myself, but that so much praise may not be lavished where so little is due.

And in order to make some of the incidents fully understood, I am compelled to go back to a little personal history, for which I hope to be excused.

After having been honorably discharged as a private from the Union Army during the late rebellion (a copy of which discharge is on record with the Auditor of Pierce County) I, in the spring of 1864, heard of the passage of the N.P.R.R. [*Northern Pacific Railroad*] Charter and immediately resolved to go to Puget Sound and locate at the western terminus of said road.

I arrived in Olympia on the 13th day of Nov. of that year, never having heard of any other place on the Sound before my arrival and supposed of course that would be the terminus.

On seeing the place (then in a very dilapidated condition) I was convinced that no sane company would ever locate the terminus of a Trans-Continental R.R. there if there was any other place to go to. On making enquiry, I learned the extent of Puget Sound and examining maps and charts at the land office, I concluded I would explore the country a little. After traveling round, about a week, I reached the Puyallup Indian Reservation. Keeping my own counsel as to my ultimate designs, but telling those whom I met that I wanted a place near the water for a fruit farm etc. etc. On Christmas day of 1864 in company with Mr. Billings (then farmer on the Indian Reservation, and now Sheriff of Thurston County) and three or four others, I went over to Gig Harbor fishing Mr. Billings telling me there were several nice places along the shore of the Bay, as we went along in our canoe, when we came opposite where Tacoma now stands, I raised on my feet and exclaimed **Eureka, Eureka** and told my companions there was my claim.

However before making a permanent settlement I procured a canoe and spent five months in exploring up and down the sound every bay and nook from Olympia to the Snohomish river, the shore lines, facilities for wharfage, anchorage, protection of harbors, inlets and outlets etc. Then would go ashore and climb through the brush and examine the land approaches and surroundings etc. etc. When becoming fully satisfied that Commencement Bay was the best Harbor on the Sound, had the best supply of freshwater, and by far the best approaches and



surroundings, and from twenty to twenty five miles the best Geographical position, I felt certain it must become the terminus of the R.R.

Made my location accordingly and held it as a squatter till Oct [18]66, when I succeeded in getting the fractional township surveyed by furnishing two men and boarding at my own cost the entire company while they were doing the work. I then filed my preemption claim and tried for over a year to get some prominent man of wealth and influence interested in the scheme, but did not succeed till April 1868 when an old gentleman (at least I took him to be such) called to see me, and introduced himself as (General) M. M. McCarver. (Though how he came by the title he did not say, neither have I ever been able to learn, only from hearsay, that he was Commissary for the Oregon Volunteers during the Indian war, and bought horses and provisions etc. with Government funds, at a large profit to himself for which noble self sacrifice his family dubbed him General) and represented himself as one of a very wealthy firm, that he as business manager was sent over here to look out a site for a large saw mill, that he had been looking over the maps and thought on this bay would be a good location and wanted to buy me out.

I told him if they wanted to put up a mill there was a good site just below me on Govt [Government] land, but he insisted they must have my land and said they wished to buy up large quantity besides.

I then told him what I was holding my claim for, and that I would not sell all out on any terms he could offer me but that if they were a wealthy firm, and would come here and build a mill and wharf, open roads etc. and use their money and influence to bring the R.R. here I would sell them all but ten acres, finding he could not wheedle me out of my views he finally acknowledged that, that was their object and pledged me his honor (which I afterwards learned the full value of) that if I would let them have all but five acres they would within the twelve months expend one hundred thousand dollars here in building a mill, wharves, roads etc. etc. and I finally on the most solemn pledges and promises from him sold 163 acres. (reserving five) for a mere nominal price telling him at the time that I was fully aware of the bargain I was giving him, but that I expected through their money and influence to realize something from what I reserved, and hoped we would all make money out of it and that I could at least say that I was the first settler at the Terminus.

But he had not had the deed in his hand fifteen minutes before he told me he was going to write a long piece for the Portland papers and tell the world that he had discovered the pint (as he always designated it) for the terminus of the R.R.

I looked at him in astonishment and finally said "Well Mr. McCarver if you do just add to it that at same time you discovered a man by the name of Job Carr living there who had been holding



81 that same pint for that same purpose for two years and a half before you ever saw it, if you
82 don't I will tell them in such a way as you may not like."

83
84 I have never learned that he ever published anything though I could frequently hear of his
85 telling strangers that he discovered the place.

86
87 Soon after selling to him I had learned that the firm consisted of L.M. Starr, James Steel & M.
88 M. McCarver all of Portland who soon after employed four young men to preempt surrounding
89 lands but failed entirely to build a mill or wharf and instead of expending a hundred thousand
90 dollars I had the hardest work to get them to put in sixty dollars in Greenbacks (then worth 60
91 cents to the dollar) for the purpose of opening the present road to the prairie although my two
92 sons and myself gave 20 days work each month of the time three dollars per day, each of us
93 donating as much as all three of the very wealthy firm whose honor was pledged to expend a
94 hundred thousand dollars and when I afterwards told Mr. McCarver of it and accused him of
95 misrepresenting he laughed at me and said that was only sharp practice, and I could recite
96 pages of just sharp practice on his part.

97
98 Learning from him that Mr. Ackerson was then in the Land Office at Olympia examining maps, I
99 succeeded in having them both visit our place which they were pleased with fearing more sharp
100 practice, as they required some land belonging to my son, before giving them a deed. I
101 suggested that a bond be given to build a mill Mr. Ackerson laughed and replied "all right- my
102 boy will give you a dozen if you want it, to build a mill or give you your land back again, we
103 mean business no nonsense no explanation we want lumber."

104
105 Papers were signed, and work immediately commenced resulting in the present fine mill and
106 large business now carried on by the firm of Hanson Ackerson & Co.

107
108 At the time of locating the mill the place was called Tacoma. With the building of the mill, other
109 things followed Post Office, Telegraph, steamers and ships coming and going, and the place
110 growing and all working and looking for the R.R. In July 18 came the welcome news that
111 Tacoma was chosen for the Terminus.

112
113 - Job Carr



Close Reading Graphic Organizer
Job Carr's Account, 1885 – Primary Source

What did Job do?					
Page		Paragraph		Line	



What did Job do?					
Page		Paragraph		Line	



What did Job do?					
Page		Paragraph		Line	



What did Job do?					
Page		Paragraph		Line	



What did Job do?					
Page		Paragraph		Line	



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What did Job do?					
Page		Paragraph		Line	



What did Job do?					
Page		Paragraph		Line	



What did Job do?					
Page		Paragraph		Line	



What did Job do?					
Page		Paragraph		Line	



What did Job do?					
Page		Paragraph		Line	



What did Job do?					
Page		Paragraph		Line	



Job Carr was Tacoma's first permanent settler.

Carr made tracks to railroad's terminus

Harmonious, easy-going Job Carr, first permanent settler of Old Tacoma, was a remarkable man. Alone, and 51-years-old, he headed west from Iowa in search of a sheltered place.

Carr had married in 1840. He and his wife Rebecca, both Quakers, raised four children — Anthony, Margaret, Howard and Marietta.

When the Civil War broke out in 1861, the 47-year-old peaceful man and his two sons enlisted. Three years later, a series of events directed Carr to the Puget Sound area.

On July 2, 1864, President Lincoln signed a monumental bill which authorized construction of a transcontinental railroad to Puget Sound. About the same time, Carr's injuries in battle led to his discharge from the service.

He returned to Indiana, then moved on to Iowa. When his wife refused to join him in Iowa, Carr caught the first wagon train headed west.

The government promised him land for his patriotic wartime duty. He hoped to file his claim on land in a place suitable for the railroad's terminus.

Perhaps, it was Carr's clairvoyant wife who suggested he settle on Commencement Bay. "Many others had the same idea as Job," wrote Ray D. Penney relating the story, "the only difference was, no one knew where the terminus would be. But in 1873, when the Northern Pacific Railway Co. chose Tacoma as its western headquarters, they found Carr there in his cabin, waiting for them."

The wagon trip to Washington Territory took four rigorous months. On Christmas Day, 1864, while returning from a fishing trip with employees of the Puyallup Indian Reservation, Carr spotted a sheltered cove and yelled, "Eureka! Eureka!" This was the right place.

With only a cat for company, Carr began constructing a log cabin not far from the shore of Com-

mencement Bay. A temporary cedar bark shelter kept him out of the winter weather while he worked on the cabin.

By the time winter rolled around in 1867, Anthony, Howard, and Marietta had made the long journey west and joined their father. Both men filed claims on land adjacent to Carr's land. Murray Morgan notes in his book, *Puget's Sound*, Carr's home was named Shubahlup, "the sheltered place."

Town builder, Morton McCarver found his way to Shubahlup (or Chebahlup, as his family wrote of it) in April, 1868. McCarver broadcast with fervor, "This is the right place."

Carr sold his land to McCarver, saving only five acres and the cabin for himself. And, before long, the Carr's had neighbors, a sawmill on their shore, and a 24-room hotel across the street. Carr became the first postmaster, a justice of the peace, and Old Tacoma's first mayor.

Anthony was the first to file a plat for the town. The map referred to the town as Tacoma, named for the lofty mountain nearby. Anthony was also the first in town to marry, taking Josephine Byrd as his wife in May, 1869.

Howard married into a pioneer family too. In 1872, he married John Bradley's daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

The railroad had been making tracks to Tacoma for several years when Carr's former wife, Rebecca came west to Tacoma in the 1880s. She had remarried, took the name of Staley, and was sought after for her clairvoyant abilities. Carr had remarried, too.

The train over the Cascades reached Tacoma from St. Paul in 1887. Carr died that year. Tacoma's founding father left a legend, several grandchildren, and his cabin in the sheltered place.

Historian Judith Kipp writes this weekly column for *The News Tribune*.

Kipp, Judith (1987, June 21). Carr made tracks to railroad's terminus. *The News Tribune*, p. E6



Close Reading Graphic Organizer
Carr Made Tracks to Railroad's Terminus – Secondary Source

What did Job do?					
Page		Paragraph		Line	



What did Job do?					
Page		Paragraph		Line	



What did Job do?					
Page		Paragraph		Line	



What did Job do?					
Page		Paragraph		Line	



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Page		Paragraph		Line	

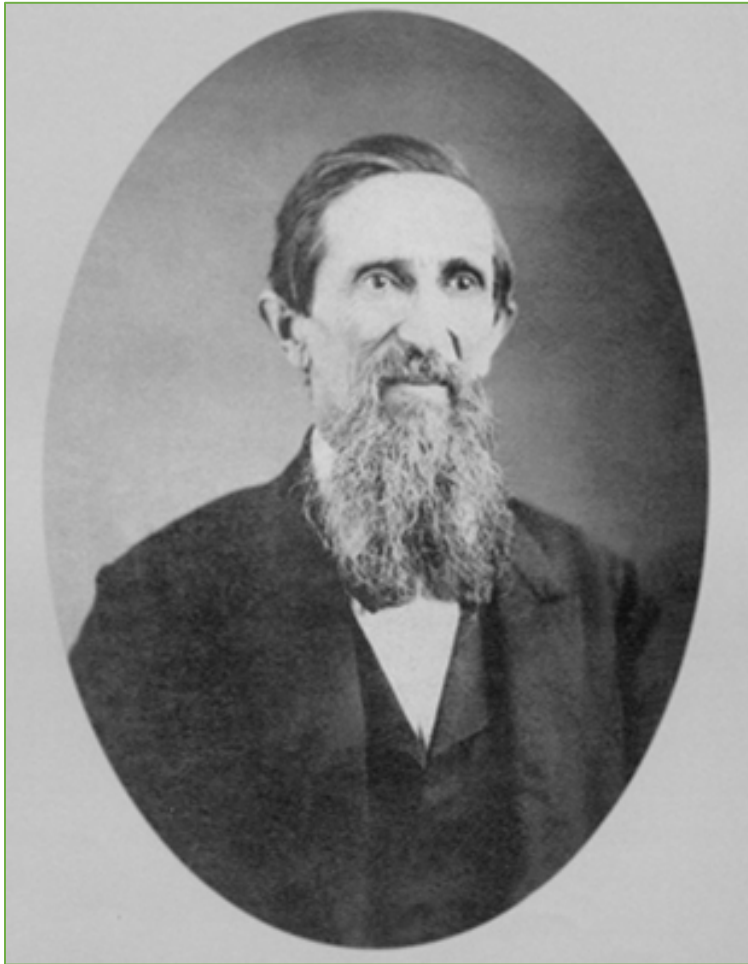


What did Job do?					
Page		Paragraph		Line	

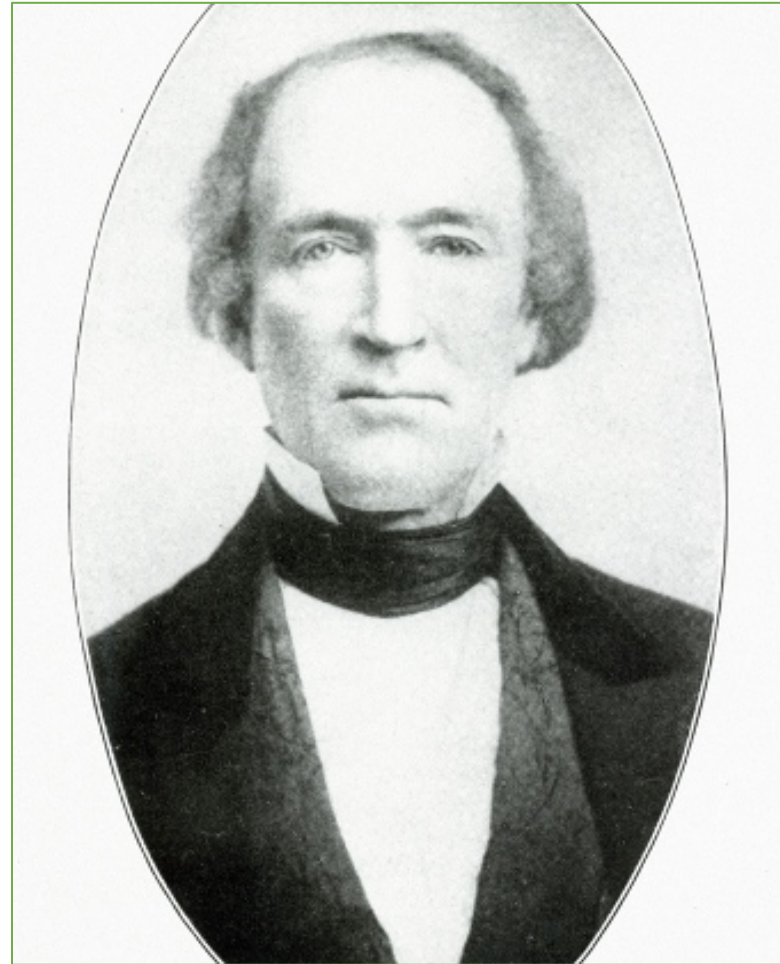
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Job Carr, Source: Carr Family Archives



Morton Matthew McCarver, Source: Hunt's History of Tacoma

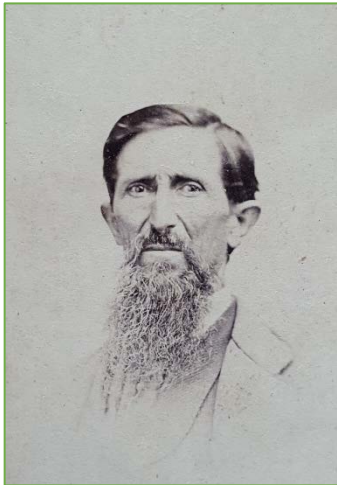
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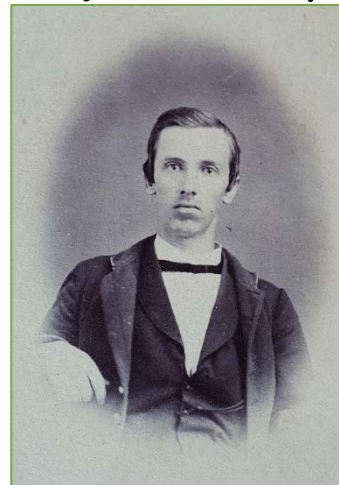
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Job Carr's Family



Job Carr



Anthony Carr



Howard Carr



Rebecca Pitman Carr Staley



Marietta Carr Mahon



Margaret Carr Wentworth Conklin

Source: Carr Family Archives

Job Carr Cabin Museum

Job Carr Word Scramble

Pioneers on Puget Sound

When Job Carr arrived in Puget Sound, he purchased a canoe and started exploring. After searching all around, he decided to build his home on Commencement Bay. Soon, other people decided to join him in starting a town. Job Carr became the first mayor and his log cabin became the first post office in Tacoma City.

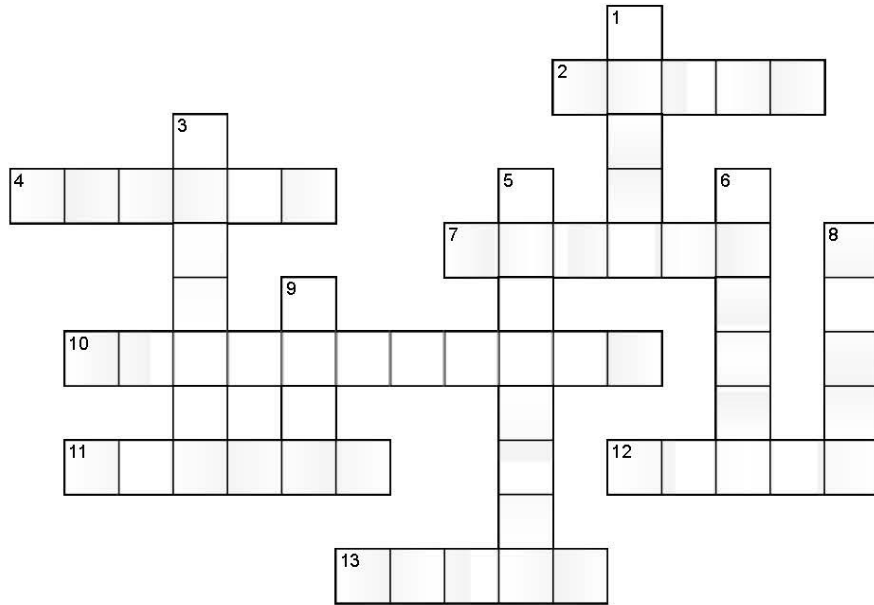
Can you unscramble these Tacoma pioneer words?

1. auppluly rbeti _____
2. rotsef _____
3. fernrtoi _____
4. iabcn _____
5. oheetsdma _____
6. alsmiwl _____
7. eaujkrclmb _____
8. ecnmneemtco aby _____
9. urkeea _____
10. aceon _____
11. pmoacss _____
12. csloimotae _____
13. ryoam _____
14. ptos efofic _____

Answers: Puyallup Tribe, Forest, Frontier, Cabin, Homestead, Sawmill, Lumberjack, Commencement Bay, Eureka, Canoe, Compass, Stevedoom, Mayor, Post Office

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Job Carr Crossword



ACROSS

- 2 People used this vehicle to move things across country before trains and cars
- 4 Walking a long way on trails
- 7 What Job shouted out when he found the place to build his home
- 10 The path Job traveled on to get to the West
- 11 A place with a lot of trees
- 12 Job wanted to move to Puget Sound because he knew this was coming
- 13 Large vessels that carried people and cargo by water to other parts of the world

DOWN

- 1 The Puyallup Tribe used this to travel on the water
- 3 Someone who is one of the first to do something new
- 5 People who lived on Commencement Bay before Job arrived
- 6 The Puyallup Tribe's of the large mountain AND the name of the town Job helped to found
- 8 Job built this to live in
- 9 Job's home was built out of these