

Fullerton Community History Oral History Project

COPH OHP_081



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Descriptive Summary

Title

Fullerton Community History [OHP 081]

Dates

1968-1999

Creator

Center for Oral and Public History

Extent

53 oral histories. 51 narrators.

Collateral

Repository

Lawrence de Graaf Center for Oral and Public History
California State University, Fullerton

Project Abstract

Fullerton Community History Project

Narrators:

Ames, Elma
Ames, Evin A.
Arnold, Florence Millner
Bacon, James
Blackmore, Robert
Borst, Richard W.
Bowen, Helen
Campbell, Mary Laura
Carlson, Elsie W.
Carmichael, Nancy Lee
Chapman, C. Stanley
Clark, Robert L.
Clarke, Charles
Coffman, Hanny
Crooke, Howard W.
Des Granges, Julia
Des Granges, Paul
Easton, W. Ray
Ferraris, Juanita
Ferraris, Vera
Ferry, Hubert C.
Gowen, Constance
Harner, Ruth Knowlton
Hawkins, Juanita I.
Hetebrink, Albert
Hiltscher, Herman
Holt, Raymond
Hughes, Reuben Paul
Jencks, Orla H.
Kammerer, Archer William
Kelly, Arletta
Leach, Lola
Montoya, Jessie Corona de
Myers, Larry
Nautory, Marguerite
Newton, Dorothy Z.
O'Hanlon, Margaret A.
Odom, Dona
Ondaro, Anthony
Plegal, Ed
Plummer, Lorain R.
Porter, R. Stanley
Reasoner Arns, Eldona
Reyes, Jennie
Semans, Winifred

Slocum, Roger
Snyder, Charlotte Polly G.
Strauss, Fred
Thompson, Raymond R.
Welton, Edna
Wright, Elizabeth

OH 1237

Narrator: ELMA AMES (1890-1979)

Interviewer: Shirley E. Stephenson

Date: May 22, 1972

Language: English

Location: Fullerton, California

Project: Fullerton Community History

Length: 01:42:19

Status: Completed 1976, 24pp., index

Abstract:

An Oral history with Elma Ames, a retired reference librarian from Fullerton Public Library who details information about the library and local history including earthquakes and the flood of 1938. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Ames' experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Ames' childhood upbringing growing up in Oregon before moving to early Fullerton at 19 years old where she found her passion for reading and working in the library; remembers joining a group of different authors and writer in Los Angeles where different keynote speakers came and made book reviews; describes the construction and buildings of the Fullerton Junior College and its foundation of board members and presidents planned by city hall; recalls her dad's time living in Orangethorpe Ave. and her recollections of orange groves and trees everywhere that reminded her of simple and fun times with her neighbors; depicts the 1933 earthquake as a terrifying experience where she felt the building was exploding and people running out of the falling structures; discusses when the dam broke in 1938 and caused a flood in the Santa Ana River where numerous people drowned and destroyed many properties where people had to swim to escape; recalls the very little to no impact from the Great Depression; describes her retirement and getting invited to attend the United Nations anniversary as charter members of the Business and Professional Women's Club.

OH 0053

Narrator: ELVIN AMES (1898-1976)
Interviewer: Karol Keith Richard
Date: May 16, 1968
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 01:29:22
Status: Completed 1976, 24pp., index

Abstract:

An Oral history with Elvin Ames, a former principal and school superintendent in the early Fullerton High School District who shares his impressions of the Depression and World War II. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Ames' experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Ames' experience getting hired as a supervisor of maintenance and eventually a teacher at Fullerton Union High School where he met Louis Plummer and the politics around the school board with its budget, contracts, and tenure; mentions his move from Oregon to California in 1913 where he remembers Fullerton looking dirty but was memorable for its remarkable school system thanks to Plummer and his dedication to education; recalls the enforced religious restrictions such as dancing in the school and drinking that was offered among children during prohibition; expresses the consequences for smoking on campus for both the faculty and the students before the teacher's lounge was created; remember when the teachers contributed the fund to pay for lunch for kids who could not afford food during the Great Depression along with hiring some students to do tentative work outside the class such as mowing a lawn or washing a car; reveals when the school finally earned federal money to support the district and spend on its students after paying out of pocket to fund their education; reflects on Plummer's dedication towards his passion for education and teaching.

OH 1777

Narrator: FLORENCE MILLNER ARNOLD (1900-1994)
Interviewer: Gloria G. Schlaepfer
Date: October 2, August 6, September 4, and July 17, 1986
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Status: Completed, 1987, 190pp., index, photos, documents

Abstract:

An Oral history with Florence Arnold, a noted artist, teacher, and community leader in Fullerton, California that recounts her recollections in early Orange County. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Arnold's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Arnold's childhood upbringing in Reno, Nevada in 1900 to her father as a miner and mother from the Women's suffrage movement; recalls retaining her music degree and taking on a job teaching music in Sacramento where she eventually married her husband and moved to Fullerton; remembers teaching music in Placentia in the 1920s during a time where Catholicism was a requirement for job positions and schools were segregated by ethnicity; reinforces her goal of inspiring her children and students through striving for ambition in life with taking opportunities; remembers having her daughter and seeking a nanny while she worked where she found Ida Irwin, an African American woman who was neglected from the housing situation in Fullerton where minorities were discrimination by racist housing covenants; remembers when a fellow teacher had her sit in for her art class and being amazed and discovered her new passion for painting where she then joined groups of local artists; discusses having art trips where they travelled around Orange County and sketch out places, exhibits, and buildings and showcasing them in galleries and museums around California; discusses her mission to bring arts and culture into Orange country which was empty by organizing the Orange County Art Association in the early 1950s and helped founded the "Night in Fullerton" event to promote and showcase local art and culture; mentions her help building the CSUF Art Alliance and involvement in city organization and raising money through her passion.

OH 1872

Narrator: JAMES BACON (1909-)
Interviewer: Dennis A. Swift
Date: December 10, 1986
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Status: Not transcribed

Abstract:

An Oral history with James Bacon, A longtime agricultural grower, and resident of Fullerton, California that explains his development of the hearty Bacon avocado. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Bacon's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Bacon's experiments with other varieties of avocados in the varying climates, temperatures, and even the soil conditions; mentions the various scales, fungi, and other diseases that attack and affect some of the two hundred varieties of avocados; describes the impact and significance of the avocados not only as a huge food source but also the demand in major labor sources.

OH 2323

Narrator: ROBERT BLAKEMORE (1894-1989)
Interviewer: Kathleen Heil
Date: March 27, 1973
Language: English
Location: Yorba Linda, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 02:00:00
Status: Final, 63 Pages

Abstract:

An Oral history with Robert Blakemore, a longtime resident of Fullerton who discusses the redevelopment of Orange County and experience of agriculture, commerce, geography, and transportation. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Blakemore's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Blakemore's childhood upbringing from Texas raised by a father from Arkansas before settling out in the city of Fullerton; remembers the water line and irrigation ditch that ran through town and his father's contract with packinghouses to haul oranges and then dump them in the sand wash; recalls the flood in 1938 when the Santa Ana River washed away all the bridges which forced the shipments of oranges onto small boats into Newport because the freeways were submerged underwater; mentions his times of recreation after a long day of work by going to the hills and shoot rabbits with his greyhound dogs and cook them; expresses his joy serving as a deliveryman of milk by wagon all over town in Fullerton and getting to know his customers; reminisces on all the families, neighbors, and business he got close to because of his father's relations with them whom was praised in the community.

OH 0018a

Narrator: RICHARD W. BORST (1885-1978)
Interviewer: Annette Moon
Date: April 10 & 17, 1968
Language: English
Location: Unknown
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 01:46:13
Status: Edited, 37 pp.

Abstract:

An Oral history with Richard Borst, a former history teacher/professor of Fullerton Union High School and Fullerton Junior College from 1921-1952 who discusses the redevelopment of Orange County. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Borst's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Borst's experience as an English instructor, journalism advisor, and chairman of the Humanities department; mentions his childhood upbringing in Iowa in 1885 where he attended district schools filled with ignorant teachers that were not inspiring; recalls his passion for poetry and writing novels and poems through his own publishing of books; remembers when he had the chance to organize the English department in the high school; describes the impact he made on several students including his son who has devoted his life after his father's retirement to serving in the councils, department heads, and dean of the college itself; mentions his experiences and passion for writing his novels and books; reflects on the impact of how far Fullerton College and California State University, Fullerton had some its long ways with the help of the city and its residents.

OH 2325

Narrator: HELEN BROWN (1887-1985)
Interviewer: Kay Heil
Date: October 28, 1973
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Status: Unedited, 54 pp.

Abstract:

An Oral history with Helen Gilman Brown, the daughter of Richard Hall Gilman, a pioneer citrus grower who first came to the Placentia area in 1872. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Brown's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 19th and 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Brown's family background and childhood upbringing whose father was born in New Hampshire and moved to California by sea in the 1860s; mentions her father's involvement with bringing and starting the irrigation system of water to the area of Orange County and introducing the Valencia Orange and later on grew persimmons; recalls when Chinese laborers arrived in the communities and began finding work on the ranches and settling on the land; discusses her father's business expenses investing in the mines in Mexico alongside partnership with A.S Bradford; shares the family history with her grandfather, Amos Wright and his journey crossing the desert in California by wagon back in 1869 and goes over the history of some of the other pioneer families that lived off in the Placentia area such as the McFaddens', Crowther's', and Tuffrees'; remembers the family's brief move to Northern California in the 1890s; recounts her earliest memories of the early settlements of Fullerton, specifically with the St. George Hotel; reflects with her daughter on the memories of Fullerton and Orange County from its expansion and efforts to grow as the years have gone by.

OH 1240

Narrator: MARY LAURA CAMPBELL (1896-1981)
Interviewer: Shirley E. Stephenson
Date: May 16, 1972
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 00:43:20
Status: Completed, 17 pp., index, photos

Abstract:

An Oral history with Mary Laura Campbell, the first children's librarian of Fullerton Public Library who provides information on the various activities developed to interest children in using the library during her career spanning forty-four years. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Campbell's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 19th and 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Campbell's childhood upbringing in South Dakota raised by a native family who thought California was a perfect place to live; shares her early passion for books and visiting the local library and her realization for the opportunity of resources as well as an escape to read to the point where when she was in junior college, she finally earned herself a job; expresses her experience working the library stocking shelves with shipment, working with kids who had a passion for reading, and getting others interested in literature and reading books by helping them pick out books; recounts her educational background attending Fullerton Junior college, transferring to Chapman College, and studying abroad in Russia; discusses her experience travelling all around the world from Germany to Alaska and learning the different cultures; recalls her involvement as a charter member of the women's club.

OH 0047

Narrator: ELSIE W. CARLSON (1900-1977)
Interviewer: Beverly E. Schmidt
Date: May 15, 1968
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 00:55:49
Status: Final, 24 pp., index, photos

Abstract:

An Oral history with Elsie W. Carlson, a longtime resident of Fullerton who shares her recollections and reminiscences on her experiences as a former schoolteacher at Bastanchury Ranch School from 1927-1933. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Carlson's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Carlson's childhood growing up in Illinois before moving to California in 1917 because her brother who had arrived earlier was drafted into the World War; recalls meant to leave in September, leaving Illinois and settling on a small farm where they sold household furnishings in order to afford a living and the train ride to Orange County, California; remembers the construction of the school established for the children of Mexican employees and laborers working on the ranches describes her experiences teaching Americanization classes in Fullerton to kids with primarily Hispanic backgrounds; recalls her first experience with teaching in 1920 to her first school in Anaheim before working at the Ranch School in 1927 because there was a vacancy; highlights the importance of the school to serve as a convince for kids who no longer have to take the buses and now focus on maintaining a school on the ranch; mentions the conditions the children's were living under with meager houses, walking through mud and orchards to get to class, and speak English all fluently which impressed her; reminisces on the early life in Fullerton with the playground all the children hung around and the school life for the children on the ranch.

OH 0741

Narrator: NANCY-LEE CARMICHAEL (1903-)
Interviewer: Anne M. Riley
Date: July 26, 1971
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 00:48:13
Status: Not transcribed

Abstract:

An Oral history with Nancy-Lee Carmichael, A retired librarian discusses the growth of the city of Fullerton, California and Fullerton Junior College. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Carmichael's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Carmichael's childhood upbringing moving from Ohio to Fullerton, California in 1923 as a teenager raised by a local merchant, orange rancher, and city council member for a father; mentions her educational background graduating from Fullerton Union High School in 1925, attending Mills College and USC where she earned degrees in library science; recalls her first involvement working at the Los Angeles Public Library where she was hired as the assistant librarian at Fullerton Union High School soon after; expresses her time servicing as an assistant librarian when Fullerton College decided to build its own library apart from the high school where it took place in the girls gym; remembers being hired as the head librarian of Fullerton college in 1941 until the war took over the United States and served as an Army librarian stationed at Camp Anza for 29 months; discusses being transferred overseas to the Third Army where she drove a bookmobile and serviced all units every day until she returned to Fullerton College in 1946 and eventually retired in 1962; and reflects on her long journey and passion for reading and encouraging others to read as well.

OH 0052b

Narrator: C. STANLEY CHAPMAN (1889-1994)
Interviewer: Nita June
Date: November 18, 1975
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Status: Completed 1976, 39 pages, index, photos

Abstract:

An Oral history with C. Stanley Chapman, son of Charles C. Chapman, the first mayor of Fullerton and the namesake of Chapman University. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Campbell's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 19th and 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Chapman's recollections of the Bastanchury Ranch and its cultural significance where people met to have dinner alongside the farm animals and how it transcended Fullerton's direction of travel and expansion; describes the harsh effects of the Great Depression and how it aimed at their citrus business but its community helped each other out; describes the Chapman-Wicket before the Depression which was far too developed for its time with a line of goods not quite ready for its residents; reminisces when he built the theater for the city which was also ahead of the town's development and identity; discusses the terrible flood when the Santa Ana River broke over the bank and destroyed the Mexican village of La Jolla where the American Legion got actively involved in disaster relief to help them calling for aid; mentions his enlistment in the army during the World War and training in the Presidio Training Camp before servicing in France in 1917 a first lieutenant with Battery B of the 5th Field Artillery assigned to the 1st Infantry Division of the American Expeditionary Force; and reflects on his involvement after being discharged and working with the Royal Arch Masons and the Shriners.

OH 0161

Narrator: ROBERT L. CLARK (1915-1973)
Interviewer: Beverly E. Schmidt
Date: August 5, 1970; January 13, 2971
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 04:21:18
Status: Edited, 125 pages

Abstract:

An Oral history with Robert L. Clark, a former member responsible for the industrial development for the city of Fullerton, member of the Orange County Water District, and longtime resident. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Clark's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Clark's move to Fullerton when he got married with a native's daughter who was part of the pioneering families near Anaheim and the building of a new schoolhouse during a time when he was ranching; mentions the annexation and subdivision problems with the city, especially during the 1940s when people wanted to force the issues; recalls the difficulty of expansion in the city and looking for the space to grow; details the engines made and swapped for the machinery in the city during the city's development in the warehouses and for the railroads; shares his connections and relationships with some of the members of boards, council, and native pioneering families of cities in Orange County; recollects the efforts to help other cities further develop, upgrade, and improve their spaces; remembers the involvement with Disneyland's sightseeing and blueprinting where in Orange County would be located to which Fullerton was highly considered for a while; and reflects on his long last impact and influential changes to the Fullerton and Orange County over the years.

OH 1025**Narrator:** CHARLES CLARKE (1891-1981)**Interviewer:** Anne M. Riley**Date:** August 16 and 23, 1971**Language:** English**Location:** Fullerton, California**Project:** Fullerton Community History**Length:** 00:51:10**Transcript:** Not transcribed**Abstract:**

An Oral history with Charles Clarke, a former Fullerton, California postmaster who discusses the history of the Fullerton area, fire department, and effects from World War I. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Clarke's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 19th and 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Clarke's arrival to Fullerton in 1908 where he began working with the post office in 1911; reveals his family background and move to Los Angeles where he saw thousands of carloads of oranges shipped along with walnuts picked by the Mexican population; remembers the flu epidemic of 1918 where many people died and coffins were constantly being requested and transferred up and down Fullerton and had to serve as pallbearers four times; recalls fingerprinting Germans during WWI since there were few who had never been naturalized and witness their fearful experiences; mentions pressuring people to buy war bonds to support the war effort and witnessing a German citizen who refused and so everyone else refused to do business with him; expresses the active engagement with the KKK and the constant invitations he would earn to their events; discusses the recreation for fun entertainment which consisted of pigeon racing; and remembers the Chinese delivering the vegetables and produce for the whole city.

OH 1647

Narrator: HANNY COFFMAN
Interviewer: Peggy Staggs
Date: November 14, 1985
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 00:38:19
Transcript: Not transcribed

Abstract:

An Oral history with Hanny Coffman, a local high school civics teacher who discusses his recollections and memory of the early life in Fullerton and Orange County. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Clarke's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 19th and 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Coffman's family move to California from Oklahoma after getting involved into the Civilian Conservation Corps where he served his terms around Los Angeles and Orange County before settling in Fullerton by train; recalls relieving support for his family by mentoring them into different kinds of trade work around the industry field and getting them on their feet for a fresh start in Fullerton; remembers his father growing up as a cattleman with ambition and raising his family up through a high paying job and not being poor until the Great Depression affected their finance and morality; mentions the various jobs they underwent with General Motors, Douglas Aircraft, and the U.S. Air Force from the 1930s to the 1960s; comments on social pressure faced by Fullerton teenagers during World War II because of troops stationed nearby; compares present day high school in Orange County to those of the past in the county; and reflects on the transition and changes for the city of Fullerton and the direction that the city is heading towards with the younger generations that will take over.

OH 1451**Narrator:** HOWARD W. CROOKE (1905-1977)**Interviewer:** Eillis Delameter**Date:** October 27 and November 15, 1975**Language:** English**Location:** Fullerton, California**Project:** Fullerton Community History**Length:** 01:19:14**Status:** Completed 1976, 46 pp., index, photos**Abstract:**

An Oral history with Howard W. Crooke, a longtime Fullerton resident who describes the management of a prisoner of war camp in Orange County. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Crooke's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Crooke's family background born in Odon, Indiana in 1905 where he moved to Fullerton with his two brothers around 1921; recalls graduation from Fullerton High School in 1923 and attending Fullerton Junior College before transferring to USC to study electrical engineering; remembers working a number of various jobs such as the Southern California Edison's Big Creek project, and for the Griffith Paving Company; mentions his vivid recollections of the Flood of 1938 where water from the Santa Ana River carries water over with a debris built up on the upper portion of the Santa Ana Canyon and then the cutting loose causing the water to rush down and plummet through the lowlands which caused oil to seep in the orange orchards; describes the impact of the floods causing trees to be dug out, causing many deaths in the 40's and destroyed his brother's house that was water three feet deep into the house; discusses his experience as a manager of the German Prisoner of War Camp in Garden Grove to help with the farmers demand and manpower for the citrus producing counties in all of the state and making prisoners work at a citrus packing house associated with the Chamber of Commerce in Orange County; recalls his presidency of the Chamber and working with local leaders to develop a countywide sanitation system to improve the County's flood control system; remembers becoming manager of the Orange county Water District during its growth of urbanization and industrialization as well as its decline of agricultures and increasing revenue by establishing a "pump" tax.

OH 0015a

Narrator: PAUL DES GRANGES (1891-1977)
Interviewer: Beverley E. Schmidt
Date: April 2, 1968
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 01:28:19
Status: Edited, 45 pp.

Abstract:

An Oral history with Paul Des Granges, a longtime Fullerton resident who describes the early life in Fullerton and Orange County. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Des Granges experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 19th and 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Des Granges' family background as natives of Prussia, Germany where his dad fled France and into California and purchased 80 acres of land in Orange County; remembers the property being devoted to the general farming families responsible for the walnut and orange productions until his family built their own homes; recalls the "Stearns" Ranch owning Fullerton Land before the Amerige Brothers through an old Spanish land grant since they were married to Spanish women; showcases his experience working at the Brea Olinda Oil Fields where he worked twelve-hour shifts everyday of the year without hardly any days off; describes his relations with Charles C. Chapman who built the Christian church and became the first mayor for Fullerton; remembers the 1933 earthquake causing the water from the tank at the stallion barn coming down which caused people with no water to head over to Mexican towns that were segregated and borrow some; shares his concerns for the rise in counterculture specifically with the increasing hippie population that is joining the city which the city does not have enough money to pay for their rent; reflects on the progress of the urbanization of Fullerton at the cost of the declining citrus industry since the tax bills got too big and no longer relying on oranges to save the city from flourishing.

OH 0015b**Narrator:** PAUL DES GRANGES (1891-1977)**Interviewer:** Beverley E. Schmidt**Date:** August 11, 1971**Language:** English**Location:** Fullerton, California**Project:** Fullerton Community History**Length:** 01:48:03**Status:** Completed, 57 pp.**Abstract:**

An Oral history with Paul Des Granges, a longtime Fullerton resident who describes the early life in Fullerton, California on the Bixby Ranch. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Des Granges experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 19th and 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Des Granges' background in the city of Fullerton as his family settled in the area that would later be known as Fullerton; remembers his parents earning land that today is College Blvd, Acacia Ave., on the east and west respectively near Chapman Ave., and Commonwealth Ave. on the north and south; discuss his family building what was once known as the oldest house in Fullerton; mentions when his father passed away when he was nine years old in 1981 and mother in 1914; reflects on his instrumental influence on setting up Anaheim's modern electric light system, and setting up a grist mill in the town; remembers the first mayor for the city of Fullerton owning a private driveway and closing it off for his benefit before he influenced people to vote for him in office; shares the impact of the Bixby Ranch in Rancho Santa Ana which raised cattle and sheep on the rolling hills or Orange County near the river; appreciates the efforts by the people and for the people to turn the city of Fullerton into the direction its heading with its urbanization and need to flourish outside its agricultural background.

OH 1318

Narrator: W. RAY EASTON (1891-1977)
Interviewer: Vivian Allen
Date: October 27, 1974
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 01:04:54
Transcript: Final, 20 pages
Status: Edited, 27 pp., photos

Abstract:

An Oral history with W. Ray Easton, a longtime Fullerton resident and native of Southern California who began working in the citrus industry as early as 1913. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Easton's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 19th and 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Easton's background born in 1898 in San Bernardino County and began working in packinghouses after school hours where there was a major freeze that caused considerable damage over the whole citrus belt of Southern California; remembers the opportunity to transfer into citrus activity in Orange County through the Bastanchury Ranch which consisted of 2,500 acres of lemons, navel, and oranges owned by the family and eventually becoming manager of the packinghouse operation which extend over 4,000 acres through Buena Park and Olinda; describes the operation of the packinghouses, the growth and development of the citrus area, and some of the major problems involved; shares his involvement with the Bradford organization of the packinghouses; remembers when the Brea Dam was built but a flow of water carried right down through the Fullerton Drainage system onto the ranch and overflowed and caused oil deposits; and reflects on the immense changes that has transitioned Fullerton away from just being associated with oranges and instead its rising urbanization.

OH 0020

Narrator: JUANITA FERRARIS
Interviewer: William H. Lofstrom
Date: April 24 and May 6, 1968
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 02:09:31
Status: Completed, 45 pp.

Abstract:

An Oral history with Juanita Ferraris, a member of the Bastanchury family who retells the stories of her grandparents coming to America from France in the 1800's. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Ferraris' experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 19th and 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Ferraris' family background knowledge of Domingo Bastanchury who is the original family settled in the northern part of orange county as a Basque rancher; recalls her grandfather deciding life in Europe was not what he wanted so he travelled to the United States because he had heard of the abundance of wealth; describes the Bastanchury Ranch as one of the largest orange groves in the world; shares when he landed in San Francisco and being introduced to a Basque clan which influenced him as an ideal place for him to prosper in Southern California; recalls the problems developed with the native Indians that scared her because she came a country that did not have a different skin color while they grew fond of her grandfather for feeding and trading with them; discusses her father born in Anaheim and being sent to the school made by he grandfather until he passed away; remembers the shift away from sheep herding and transitioning to citrus groves because of geological effect of the ground and terrain and the climatic conditions towards the livestock; and reflects on the transitional changes the city of Fullerton have come across to urbanize the way it has.

OH 0511

Narrator: VERA FERRARIS
Interviewer: David L. Miller
Date: June 4, 1970
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 00:42:39
Status: Edited, 25 pages

Abstract:

An Oral history with Vera Ferraris, a member of the Bastanchury family who retells the stories of her grandparents coming to America from France in the 1800's. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Ferraris' experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 19th and 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Ferraris' family background as part of being related with the pioneer families in the city of Fullerton and founder of the Bastanchury family with the ranch; mentions her experience as a school teacher for Fullerton Union High School and serving the mission of the school by honoring the history; recalls her experience attending school as a student at the junior high and seeing kids take language courses; recalls women being discriminated for both wanting to learn as well as wanting to become a teacher or instructor.

OH 1453

Narrator: HUBERT FERRY (1895-1983)
Interviewer: Jane Mueller
Date: May 20, 1976
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 02:06:21
Status: Completed, 31 pages, index, photos

Abstract:

An Oral history with Hubert Ferry, a lawyer and past national director of the American Association of Engineers to discuss his recollections of Orange County. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Ferry's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 19th and 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Ferry's involvements with the Union Oil Company beginning in 1918; recalls his memory of the California oil spill over at Santa Barbara that destroyed a lot; describes the energy and oil industry and its importance for running in California; mentions the significance of the Metropolitan Water District among California; remembers his civic and political involvement for the city of Fullerton and help out to urbanize Orange County in general; reflects on the transitional changes and urbanization California and Orange County has made to adapt to what is now become a power center for the country.

OH 2315**Narrator:** CONSTANCE GOWEN (1921-2010)**Interviewer:** Geraldine Buckley**Date:** December 14, 1991**Language:** English**Location:** Fullerton, California**Project:** Fullerton Community History**Length:** 01:33:12**Status:** Verbatim, 46 pages**Abstract:**

An Oral history with Constance Gowen, a long-time resident of Fullerton. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Gowen's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 20th and 21th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Gowen's family upbringing growing up in Michigan before moving to Long Beach when she was very young; remembers finishing high school and attending college in Arkansas where she met her future husband and returned to California in 1941; discusses her settlements in Fullerton where she was legal secretary until her marriage; recalls her husband working as a cattle and citrus ranchers in Fullerton and Yuma, Arizona; shares her rejoicing experience living in a fresh community she was not use to; resident provides insight on the city from the early 1940s agrarian-based economy to that of 1991; describes development of the Raymond Hills section of the city; remembers the urbanization and growth of prominent businesses settling in the city; mentions the educational institutions available for the children and the expansion for more schools as populations increased, especially California State University, Fullerton and Fullerton College; and reflects on the growth and urbanization for the city of Fullerton and its ability to live through its changes with efforts made by the people.

OH 0038**Narrator:** RUTH KNOWLTON HARNER**Interviewer:** Beverley E. Schmidt**Date:** April 30, May 6, and 13, 1968**Language:** English**Location:** Fullerton, California**Project:** Fullerton Community History**Length:** 04:12:09**Status:** Edited, 100 pages**Abstract:**

An Oral history with Ruth Knowlton Harner, a long-time resident of Fullerton. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Harner's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 20th and 21th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Harner's childhood upbringing growing up in the city of Fullerton in 194 raised by her father, Orson Valentine Knowlton, and her mother Julia Alsera Huntington; remembers how she met and got married with Don Franklin Harner in September of 1968; recounts her first job opportunities working as a school teacher for the kids of the whole Irvine Ranch where laborers worked on; mentions her journey travelling to New York City, New York in 1948 where she settles to teach; remembers when a blacksmith named, Johnny Gardens looked for an innovative use of transportation for kids to go to school so he invented a school bus; remembers the volunteer fire department in Fullerton where residents were night watchmen and answered fire calls; recollect her experiences as a teacher in the United States and overseas as an exchange teacher; includes discussion of citrus and other agricultural industries in southern California.

OH 1319

Narrator: JAUNITA I. HAWKINS
Interviewer: Kamillia Hardy
Date: May 1, 1973
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 01:33:40
Status: Transcribed, 37 pages

Abstract:

An Oral history with Juanita Hawkins, a longtime resident for the city of Fullerton who discusses the redevelopment of Orange County. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Hawkins' experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Hawkins' experience as a resident in Fullerton, California since her family's first move in 1920; recalls a lot of her childhood upbringing remembering fun memories as kids such as the childhood games she played, the schooling that was engaging, and the chores and farming tasks around the ranch house; mentions the increasing move of resident in Fullerton and their eventual neighbors next door; discusses the commercial center of town as a cultural importance for all the residents to get together and explore the town; compares the growth and urbanization for the city of Fullerton compared to the neighboring cities around it like Anaheim, Buena Park, and the rest of Orange County; goes over the serious effect of the Great Depression and the increasing scarcity of job opportunities and position openings and unemployment rates rise; remembers the 1932 earthquake and shook up the town and caused serious destruction of properties and businesses; mentions the flood of 1938 when the Santa Ana River overflowed, broke the dam and submerged lots of houses underwater destroying lots of buildings.

OH 2779

Narrator: ALBERT HETEBRINK (1900-2001)

Interviewer: Tracy Smith

Date: August 7 and 13, 1999

Language: English

Project: Fullerton Community History

Length: 01:33:40

Status: Final, 53 pages

Abstract:

An Oral history with Albert Hetebrink, a longtime resident for the city of Fullerton and member of one of the pioneering ranching families who discusses the redevelopment of Orange County. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Hetebrink's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Hetebrink's experience living in Fullerton, California born in 1900 raised by a Norwegian immigrant for a father from San Francisco who was a successful tomato citrus rancher; mentions building a large mission-style house that stands on Fullerton College Campus surrounded by tomato fields as part of the other two 40 acre ranches he owned; recalls moving from the small house because the railroad track to Placentia had been constructed which gave them the opportunity to move closer; remembers spending his youth helping his father on the ranch, hunting, and fishing, while attending Fullerton Union High School and Fullerton Junior College; shares his concerns on eventually selling off the land as its value for real estate development outpaced agriculture usage; recounts managing his father's ranch transition to citrus when oranges became a profitable local crop; goes over the significance and history of the Hetebrink House describes the Mexican labor he had help with on his ranch before the citrus industry began declining and the Southern California real estate boom after World War II.

OH 0037**Narrator:** HERMAN HILTSCHER (1901-1973)**Interviewer:** Beverley E. Schmidt**Date:** May 15, 1968; March 12, April 16, November 5,12,19, and 25, 1969**Language:** English**Location:** Fullerton, California**Project:** Fullerton Community History**Length:** 04:12:09**Status:** Final, 38 pages [May 15, 1968 and March 12, 1969]**Abstract:**

An Oral history with Herman Hiltcher, a retired Fullerton, California city administrator who describes early life Fullerton, its development, and the beginning of his career with the city including industrial development and land use in the area. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Hiltcher's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Hiltcher's childhood upbringing born in 1901 in a family home near Fullerton City Hall where she grew up delivering meat for his dad who was on the city council from 1908-1918; remembers swimming in irrigation ditches since Fullerton was mostly agricultural and had to avoid the water police; mentions his time of recreation with fishing for trout in the Trabuco and Silverado canyons and hunting rabbits or attending church socials and Sunday drives for pure entertainment; recalls the controversy of saloons posing as a targets towards the Women's Christian Temperance Union by questioning how drunk driving was a problem; mentions the urbanization of Orange County; remembers the boom of the oil industry and the declining citrus industry; recollects the Great Depression as the worst thing to witness as Long Beach caused the immense amount of homeless in public places; expresses trying to find solutions to concerns when he became City Engineer and worked on WPA projects to get as many people back to work as possible.

OH 0471

Narrator: RAYMOND HOLT
Interviewer: Richard D. Curtiss
Date: November 27, 1970
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 02:09:22
Status: Edited, 47 pages

Abstract:

An Oral history with Raymond Holt, a public library administrator for the city of Fullerton who describes his career as a librarian and the problems of trying to interest the public in the use of their libraries. This interview was conducted for the Fullerton Community History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Holt's experience in Fullerton's transformation and expansion during the 20th century. Specifically, this interview covers topics such as Holt's emphasis on demonstrating the importance of the Pomona Public Library from 1950-1970 as a cultural center for the community; discusses his family background living in early California working on orchard fields as part of the land he owned until 1946 before going to library school at the University of Southern California; remembers his passion for library science and working as an associate librarian for Fullerton.

OH 81

Narrator: HUGHES, REUBEN PAUL (ca 1910-)
Interviewer: Mrs. Dorman Commons and Gary L. Shumway
Date: December 4, 1968
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 01:09:14
Status: Edited, 26 pp.

Abstract:

An oral history with Reuben Paul Hughes, president of Hawaiian Punch in Fullerton for 30 years until its acquisition by R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company. Hughes talks about the invention of Hawaiian Punch, by A.W. Leo; the development of Pacific Hawaiian Products, known as Hawaiian Punch, in Fullerton from 1936-1968; and the growth of the company from a garage operation to its national position.

OH 743

Narrator: JENCKS, ORLA H. (1885-1979)
Interviewer: Anne M. Riley
Date: July 6, 1971
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 60 minutes
Status: Edited, 26 pp.

Abstract:

An oral history with Orla Jencks, a member of the first graduating class at Fullerton Junior College in Fullerton, California. Jencks discusses his college days and what friends from that time are doing.

OH 1449

Narrator: KAMMERER, ARCHER WILLIAM (1897-)
Interviewer: Dixie C. Hicks
Date: October 15 and November 19, 1976
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 01:15:39
Status: Completed, 58 pages, index, photos

Abstract:

An oral history with Archer Kammerer, longtime resident of Fullerton. Kammerer reminisces about Fullerton and Orange County, California; discusses World War I, Pancho Villa, and the oil industry in Olinda, California. Narrator is an inventor of oil drilling equipment.

OH 48a

Narrator: KELLY, ARLETTA I. (1896-)
Interviewer: Beverly E. Schmidt
Date: May 22, 1968
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 1 hour, 30 minutes
Status: Edited, 44 pages

Abstract:

An oral history with Arletta Kelly, a former resident of Michigan who arrived in California in 1919 in time to begin her high school days in San Pedro and then Fullerton. After graduating from Stanford, she taught at Fullerton High School from 1920-1954. Interview includes discussion of her experiences teaching English at the Bastanchury Ranch school to children who were dependents of the braceros working on the ranch. She also talks about teaching night school to men who were Basque, French, and Japanese; and teaching classes for women that were held in their homes, as part of the Americanization program. Includes biographical data.

OH 2221

Narrator: LEACH, LOLA
Interviewer: Dale Swartout
Date: December 14, 1991
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 1 hour, 4 minutes
Status: Not transcribed.

Abstract:

An oral history with Lola Leach. Leach talks about her experience migrating from Missouri to Orange, California at the age of four. She recalls her childhood memories living in the region; talks about raising and educating her children in Fullerton, and describes her first home in the city, uniquely constructed by the Fullerton Lions Club of Philippine mahogany.

OH 1469

Narrator: MONTOYA, JESSIE CORONA DE (ca. 1900-)
Interviewer: Esther Katz
Date: October 27, 1975
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 01:28:37
Status: Completed, 34 pages, index, photos

Abstract:

An oral history with Jessie Corona de Montoya, a descendant of the Bernardo Yorba family. Montoya discusses early life in Fullerton, California; family experiences; problems in Mexican communities; and pioneer families.

OH 512

Narrator: MYERS, LARRY (ca. 1910-)
Interviewer: David L. Miller
Date: June 2, 1970
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 2 hours
Status: Not Transcribed

Abstract:

An oral history with Larry Myers. Myers details his career as a teacher from the mid 1930s and some of the problems involved; and discusses the history of Fullerton Union High School during the 1930s and 1940s.

OH 2217

Narrator: NAUTORY, MARGUERITE (ca 1905- 2011)
Interviewer: Dale Swartout
Date: November 18, 1991
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: **00:58:04**
Status: Not transcribed

Abstract:

An oral history with Fullerton native, Marguerite Nautory. Nautory describes her childhood through late adult years in the city, as well as her career as a World War II military nurse.

OH 183

Narrator: NEWTON, DOROTHY Z.
Interviewer: David L. Miller
Date: May 21, 1970
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: **00:45:00**
Status: Final, 9 pages

Abstract:

An oral history with schoolteacher, Dorothy Newton. Newton gives a history of Fullerton Union High School during the 1930s and 1940s.

OH 742

Narrator: O'HANLON, MARGARET A. (1884-1972)
Interviewer: Anne. M. Riley
Date: August 13 and 20, 1971
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 00:60:00
Status: Final, 40 pages

Abstract:

An oral history with Margaret O'Hanlon. O'Hanlon provides historical information on Fullerton, California in the 1920s and 1930s, including the Ku-Klux Klan in the town in 1923, and the flood of 1938. She discusses O'Hanlon family members who have long been in real estate sales in the area.

OH 172

Narrator: ODOM, DONA
Interviewer: Kathleen Heil
Date: May 19, 1970
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 00:60:00
Status: Edited, 19 pp.

Abstract:

An oral history with Dona Odom, who shares information about the Saint George Hotel in Fullerton, California, later called the Shay, which was owned by the Amerige brothers and operated by her mother. It was torn down in 1918.

OH 1111

Narrator: ONDARO, ANTHONY (1897-1978)
Interviewer: Sonia Eagle Diaz
Date: October 14, 1971; May 29, 1973
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Status: Transcribed, 105 pages

Abstract:

An oral history with Anthony Ondaro, former foreman on the Bastanchury Ranch. Ondaro recalls his own family history and Basque customs; describes working on the Bastanchury Ranch, a lawsuit with Standard Oil Company, and personal views of the Bastanchury family. Second interview includes personal recollections of Basque dairy farms in Hollywood, California; turkey farming in Mecca, California; Indians living in Coachella Valley, California; and family members who lived in Basque provinces of France.

OH 3879

Narrator: PLEGAL, ED (1943-)
Interviewer: Sharon Pellegrino
Date: October 19, 2006
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 1 hours, 31 minutes
Status: Verbatim, 40 pages

Abstract:

An oral history with retired farmer, Ed Plegal. Plegal provides an East Fullerton agricultural history encompassing the mid to late twentieth century; describes the growth of farming and the variety of crops over time, and the eventual decline of the industry. He discusses the business practices of the Santa Fe Railroad in the acquisition and divestiture of rail-access property; and talks about Japanese American growers and their contributions to the region's agriculture.

OH 61

Narrator: PLUMMER, LORAIN R. (ca. 1900-)
Interviewer: Karol Keith Richard
Date: June 12, 1968
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 01:21:19
Status: Edited, 23 pages

Abstract:

An oral history with Lorain Plummer, businesswoman and wife of former superintendent of the Fullerton High School and Fullerton Junior College, Louis Plummer. Plummer provides history and observations on the growth of Fullerton, California.

OH 1873

Narrator: PORTER, R. STANLEY (1917-)
Interviewer: Delores Larson
Date: December 11, 1986
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Status: Edited, 45 pages

Abstract:

An oral history with Stanley Porter, artist and businessman of Fullerton, California. Porter recalls his early family history, dating from the 1870s; the rural community setting where walnuts and oranges dominated agriculture; businesses in the small town, including the theaters and hardware store; and the arrival of electric lighting in the area. He dicusses his childhood, education, profession, Works Progress Administration project in Fullerton, early property owners, and changes brought about by World War II.

OH 2826

Narrator: REASONER ARNS, ELDONA (ca. 1931-)
Interviewer: Timothy Young
Date: November 29, 1999
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 1 hour, 44 minutes
Status: Not transcribed

Abstract:

An oral history with Eldona Reasoner Arns. Arns, a charter member of the Fullerton Recreation Riders, recalls the establishment of Fullerton horse, biking, and hiking trail; discusses the Juanita Cooke Greenbelt, a trail in a former Pacific Electric right-of-way. She also talks about Arabian horse breeding, rural Fullerton, and horse culture. Timeframe addressed: 1950s – 1970s.

OH 1468

Narrator: REYES, JENNIE (ca. 1915-)
Interviewer: LaVonne Virbila
Date: October 27, 1975
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 02:58:42
Status: Final, 55 pages, index, photos

Abstract:

An oral history with Jennie Reyes. Reyes shares memories of the family enterprise, the La Perla Restaurant, which was the town's oldest restaurant before being torn down in 1975. She discusses problems in the Mexican community in Fullerton, California, and Mexican customs and traditions.

OH 1861

Narrator: SEMANS, WINIFRED (ca. 1900-1991)
Interviewer: Delores Larson
Date: November 10,1986
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 01:05:28
Status: Not transcribed

Abstract:

An oral history with longtime Fullerton, California, resident, Winifred Semans. Semans recalls her family's operation of the Rialto Theater in the 1920s; Armistice Day celebrations; her teaching experiences in Marin County of Northern California, and later in Fullerton; the 1933 earthquake; the 1938 flood; and landmarks of the downtown area of Fullerton. Semans comments on prominent Chapman family, including her sister's marriage to C. Stanley Chapman.

OH 513

Narrator: SLOCUM, ROGER (ca. 1900-)
Interviewer: David L. Miller
Date: May 20, 1970
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 00:46:57
Status: Not Transcribed

Abstract:

An oral history with science teacher, Roger Slocum. Slocum talks about introducing geology to the Fullerton Union High School District in 1954 and details the history of the campus. Discusses his experiences as a teacher, coach, principal, superintendent, and dean, who also served as a director for the American Red Cross during World War II.

OH 2218

Narrator: SNYDER, CHARLOTTE POLLY G. (ca. 1903-)
Interviewer: Dale Swartout
Date: December 10, 1991
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Length: 01:11:21
Status: Not Transcribed

Abstract:

An oral history with Charlotte Polly Snyder. Snyder, an early resident of Fullerton, reads from her book, *Fullerton History and Landmarks*, and tells of her family's involvement in the Fullerton Presbyterian Church. She shares personal recollections of her family life and background; her career working for the city through the mid-twentieth century; and memories of early Basque settlers.

OH 1485

Narrator: STRAUSS, FRED (1888-1981)
Interviewer: Esther Katz
Date: June 10 and 14, 1976
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Status: Final, 26 pages, index, photos

Abstract:

An oral history with Fred Strauss. Strauss gives a brief history of the Stern and Goodman store, discusses city politics, and recalls family experiences.

OH 33a

Narrator: THOMPSON, RAYMOND R. (1905-1985)
Interviewer: Gerald M. Welt
Date: May 23, 1968
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Status: Final; bound as one volume, O.H. 33a and O.H. 33b; 32 pages, index

Abstract:

An oral history with Raymond Thompson. Thompson comments on his general law practice and the types of cases being handled as a city attorney, and then as a California Superior Court judge appointed by Governor Earl Warren in 1944. He recalls prohibition days and bootlegging in Orange County; discusses problems on the Bastanchury Ranch with Murphy Oil Company; effects of the Depression on the Southern California communities; Ku-Klux Klan activities in the 1920s; effects of the 1933 earthquakes; and raising sheep on the Bastanchury and Irvine ranches.

OH 33b

Narrator: THOMPSON, RAYMOND R. (1905-1985)
Interviewer: Paul Archipley
Date: October 14, 1975
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Status: Final; bound as one volume, O.H. 33a and O.H. 33b; 32 pages, index

Abstract:

Second session of an oral history with Raymond Thompson. Thompson shares recollections of his family activities in the early 1900s and his school days in Fullerton. He recalls memories of early Fullerton, California, and the Stein and Strauss store; and discusses his philosophy of the Ku-Klux Klan.

OH 1467

Narrator: WELTON, EDNA (1891-)
Interviewer: Marcia Bastian
Date: November 16, 1975
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Status: Completed, 23 pages, index

Abstract:

An oral history with Edna Welton, secretary of the Placentia Orange Growers Association. Welton recalls life in early Fullerton, California, and the Mexican American community.

OH 648

Narrator: WRIGHT, ELIZABETH (ca. 1906-)
Interviewer: Marcia Bastian
Date: Anne M. Riley
Language: English
Project: Fullerton Community History
Status: Not Transcribed

Abstract:

An oral history of Elizabeth Wright. Wright discusses the history of Fullerton Junior College, Fullerton, California, and talks about her teaching career in the field of health education.