

Newport Beach Community History

BEEK, Carroll B. (1899—1981)

O.H. 1491b

Interviewer: Robyn S. Maltby

Date: June 28, 1978

Status: Completed 1979, 64 pp., index, photos

Tape length: 2 hrs. 45 min.

See also Carroll B. Beek, O.H. 1491a, Environmental Studies

A resident of Balboa Island, California since 1918 discusses the development of Newport Beach and Balboa Island including her husband's business, Joseph Beek's Ferry Service; Hoag Hospital; the Tournament of Lights which is an annual event in Newport Beach, and the Balboa Island Yacht Club. Comments on her feelings about the future of the community.

FORGIT, Al (1900—1980)

O.H. 65

Interviewer: Roberta E. Deahl

Date: May 15, 1968

Status: Transcribed, 32 pp.

Tape length: 1 hr. 30 min.

A former city councilman for Newport Beach, California and operator of a sport and commercial fishing fleet comments on the Newport Beach fishing industry. Owner of Forgit's Hardware Store on Balboa Boulevard from 1953 until his death.

GRUBER, Paul J. (1902—)

O.H. 162

Interviewer: Richard Clover

Date: May 2, 1969

Status: Transcribed, 24 pp.

Tape length: 60 min.

Former city councilman and mayor of Newport Beach, California from 1964 to 1968, explains the innovations in police techniques, such as the electronic police surveillance; the emergence of Newport Beach as a city including development of the back bay area and parks.

HILL, Art (1903—1972)

O.H. 100

Interviewer: Charmaine Tichenor

Date: December 17, 1968
Status: Edited, 36 pp.
Tape length: 1 hr. 15 min.

A native of the Midwest who arrived in California in 1912 discusses the early commercial fishing industry in San Pedro and Newport Beach, California.

JAY, T. Weston (1908—1980)
O.H. 1587
Interviewer: Robyn S. Maltby
Date: August 15, 1978
Status: Completed 1979, 47 pp., index, photos
Tape length: 1 hr. 30 min.

Son of the second harbor master in Newport Beach, California and longtime resident of the community discusses the history of Newport Beach; Boy Scout Troop 1; tourism; and the Amigos Viejos [Old Friends] club which was formed primarily to razz politicians.

MC FADDEN, Arthur J. (1881—1976)
O.H. 154a
Interviewer: Jim Sleeper
Date: July 6, November 1, 1967; May 23, 1968
Status: Transcribed, 61 pp.
Tape length: 3 hrs. 30 min.
See also Arthur J. McFadden, O.H. 154b, Community History (Santa Ana)

Native Californian who grew up in the Santa Ana and Newport Beach, California areas discusses the development of Newport Beach, McFadden's Landing, and early residents; shipping and fishing at Newport pier; and his family's lumber company. Comments on old hotels built in Santa Ana and Tustin, California; dealings with James Irvine on the Irvine ranch.

RICHARD, O. W. "Dick" (1906—1979) and Jennie (ca. 1906—)
O.H. 1588
Interviewer: Robyn S. Maltby
Date: August 23, 1978
Status: Completed 1979, 50 pp., index, photos
Tape length: 2 hrs.

A native of Wisconsin, Richard came to California in 1933 and began his career in the grocery business. As developer and manager of Richard's Lido Market, he discusses his business philosophy, the history of Richard's Lido Market, his role in World War II, development of the Gooffer's Club for lonely husbands with nothing to do, the People—to—People program after World War II, and general history of Newport Beach, California.

ROBINSON, Thomas (ca. 1930—)
O.H. 92

Interviewer: Sharlene L. Van Brunt
Date: December 24, 1968
Status: Edited, 26 pp.
Tape length: 1 hr. 15 min.

A medical doctor residing in Newport Beach, California describes his education and participation in various nonprofit community organizations including those funded by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

SHEELY, Dorothea (1916—)
O.H. 1698

Interviewer: Shirley E. Stephenson
Date: July 20, August 3, 10, 17, 24, September 14, 21, and October 19, 1982
Status: Transcribed, 292 pp. Tape length: 8 hrs.

A longtime resident of Newport Beach, California and the city librarian for over thirty years details events, problems, issues, and changes that occurred within the city's library system while under her direction from 1947 to 1976. Narrator was one of four librarians in the United States selected at the conclusion of World War II to go to Japan and Korea for the purpose of establishing libraries which would be used by the United States Occupation Forces and their dependents.

THOMAS, T. A. (1907—1973)
O.H. 75

Interviewer: Charmaine Tichenor
Date: November 30, December 3 and 10, 1968
Status: Completed 1970, 113 pp., index, photos, bibliography
Tape length: 3 hrs.

Commercial fishing and allied canning industry in southern California, primarily the Newport Beach area are discussed by an associate of Western Cannery Company. Comments on the rise and decline of fishing and of the fish cannery industry in Newport Beach, California.

VOGEL, John (1896—)
O.11. 159

Interviewer: Ivy Macia—Stevens
Date: August 8, 1978
Status: Completed 1979, 45 pp., index, photos
Tape length: 1 hr. 45 min.

Real estate agent and developer discusses his business endeavors beginning in southern California in the 1920s, history of some local structures in Newport Beach, a general history of Newport Beach and surrounding communities, and developments in Palm Springs and Yucca Valley, California.

RELATED MATERIALS

Publications:

MALTBY, Robyn S., ed. South Coast Soundings: An Oral History of Newport Beach, 1979, 204 pp.

The following transcripts are included in this volume: Carroll B. Beek; T. Weston Jay; John Vogel; O. W. "Dick" and Jennie Richard.