

# Post World War II Fullerton

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## **OH 5116**

**Narrator:** Sebastian Torrez (b.1919)  
**Interviewer:** Janet Tanner  
**Title:** An Oral History with Sebastian Torrez  
**Date:** December 21, 2012  
**Language:** English  
**Location:** Fullerton, California  
**Project:** Post-World War II Fullerton  
**Tape length:** 1 hr. 26 min.  
**Status:** Not transcribed

This oral history spans 1919-2012

Bulk dates: 1939-1960

An oral history with Sebastian Torrez of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Torrez' experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview, Torrez discusses his early life growing up in Jerome, Arizona, during the Great Depression; talks about working in the copper mines in Jerome; gives an account of his travels throughout the United States, Mexico, and Europe after retirement; recalls being drafted into the Army during World War II; remembers the December 7, 1941, bombing of Pearl Harbor; discusses military training; describes his job in the Army stationed in the Philippines during World War II; shares memories of meeting and marrying wife; recalls moving to Compton, California; explains rationale for moving to Fullerton in 1955; recalls buying home in Fullerton; describes physical landscape of Fullerton in 1955; comments on German community in Anaheim and issues of race; remembers social functions at the Elks Club in Fullerton and picnics at Green River Park and Lemon Park; recalls attending movies in Spanish at the Fox Fullerton; discusses working for Mr. Mendez paving various streets in Fullerton and doing construction; remembers sons attending Maple Elementary School in Fullerton; comments on involvement at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Fullerton; remembers family trips to Disneyland; discusses how the City of Fullerton insisted he tear down the add on room he built on to his home over fifty years ago because it did not meet code; reflects on changes in Fullerton since he first arrived in 1955 including demographics, culture, and local businesses; and finally, shares memories of Orange County and its agricultural landscape.

## **OH 5117**

**Narrator:** Aileen Hollowell (b.1926)  
**Interviewer:** Janet Tanner  
**Title:** An Oral History with Aileen Hollowell  
**Date:** December 21, 2012  
**Language:** English  
**Location:** Fullerton, California

**Project:** Post-World War II Fullerton  
**Tape length:** 1 hr. 8 min.  
**Status:** Not transcribed

This oral history spans 1926-2012                      Bulk dates: 1938-1960

An oral history with Aileen Hollowell of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Hollowell's experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview, Hollowell discusses her early childhood in Woodland, California, and the effects of the Great Depression on her family; remembers moving to Newport Beach prior to moving to Fullerton, California in 1936; recalls playing on the beach in Newport; talks about mother's educational background and employment at Douglas Aircraft in Fullerton, California, during World War II; remembers the 1933 earthquake in Long Beach, California; describes educational background: Wilshire Jr. High School in Fullerton, Fullerton High School, and University of California, Berkeley; talks about the challenges of being the only woman in the engineering program at UC Berkeley; explains change in major from engineering to liberal studies; shares memories of December 7, 1941, bombing of Pearl Harbor; describes downtown Fullerton in 1938; remembers first house she lived in on Malvern Avenue after moving to Fullerton in 1938; shares memories of Fullerton High School in the early 1940s and ethnic breakdown; recalls Japanese-American classmates at Fullerton High School being sent to internment camps during World War II; discusses working at Wilkinson's Drug, Moore's Ice Cream Plant, and Randolph Packing House in Fullerton; remembers dating servicemen from the Santa Ana Airbase; talks about meeting future husband at Moore's Ice Cream Plant; describes husband's military service as a tank gunner and civilian career working for Union Oil in Brea, California; explains move to Yorba Linda, California, and decision to move back to Fullerton in 1950; talks about medical care in Fullerton during the 1950s including experiences at Cottage Hospital in Fullerton; recalls local businesses: Lakeman's Market, Stedman's Jewelry, Stein & Strauss, The Pillowry, Montgomery Ward; discusses membership in Fullerton Republican Women's Association; comments on changes in population, demographics, and political leanings of Fullerton since the 1930s; talks about employment as a math aide at Troy High School in Fullerton; compares educational opportunities in Fullerton to other cities in Orange County; comments on recent Fox Fullerton renovation, local city politics, and the beating of Kelly Thomas by Fullerton Police; and finally, reflects on current life in Fullerton.

#### **OH 5118**

**Narrator:** Richard Foster (b.1935)  
**Interviewer:** Angela Liou  
**Title:** "An Oral History with "Cynthia Foster"  
**Date:** January 2, 2013  
**Language:** English  
**Location:** Fullerton, California  
**Project:** Post-World War II Fullerton  
**Tape length:** 1 hr. 26 min.  
**Status:** Transcribed

This oral history spans 1935-2013                      Bulk dates: 1947-1960

An oral history with Richard Foster of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Foster's experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview; Foster discusses his childhood in Fullerton; California; playing baseball as a child and in high school; attending school dances; serving as valedictorian for Fullerton High School; hanging out at the Hillside Inn (a burger and milkshake restaurant); singing in an A cappella club (A cappella music is specifically group, or solo, singing without instrumental sound); watching movies at the Fox Fullerton movie theatre; recalls Pacific Electric Street Cars (the Red Car system was a privately owned mass transit system in Southern California consisting of electrically powered streetcars) in Fullerton; his mother driving down Manchester Avenue to go to Los Angeles; the polo field near his house (where Golden Hills Elementary would later be located); his experience spending time at Hillcrest Park; he talks about childhood friends, studying engineering at Stanford University, going to the beach with friends, and bodysurfing at Huntington Beach and Corona Del Mar; he recalls friends who were drafted for the Korean War; he recollects his father fighting in World War II, working for his brother's company, Foster's Sand and Gravel, after the war; he remembers working for the defense industry at Interstate Electronics Corporation; he talks about living and working in Cape Canaveral, Florida and Washington DC; he discusses his interest in the American Civil War and watching missile launches; he recalls how his wife worked for Pacific Telesis and the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company managing phone operators; he talks about youth sports in Fullerton; he recalls Amerige Park and John Francis "Pep" Lemon; he describes the opening of Disneyland and his wife worked there during the summer, summer jobs at Disneyland, the City of Fullerton picking up trash and weeding gardens, and orange packing houses; he recollects watching Joe DiMaggio play baseball in a military baseball league, driving cross country and visiting baseball games and national parks; he comments on race relations in Fullerton; he discusses the few Asian-Americans or black Americans growing up in Fullerton; he details the changes in Fullerton after WWII, the housing boom, citrus industry, and Valencia Oranges brought from the Chapman Family, and the citrus packing houses along Santa Fe Railroad; his experiences at Knott's Berry Farm and Mrs. Cordelia Knott, childhood neighbors, playing childhood games such as canasta, Monopoly, and hide and seek with fellow residents at Morningside of Fullerton; he recalls air raids in school, Bastanchury Lake, and fishing at Huntington Beach; and he talks about the differences between Fullerton when he was growing up versus the present day.

#### **OH 5119**

**Narrator:** Cynthia Foster (b.1934)  
**Interviewer:** Angela Liou  
**Title:** An Oral History with Cynthia Foster  
**Date:** January 3, 2013  
**Language:** English  
**Location:** Fullerton, California  
**Project:** Post-World War II Fullerton  
**Tape length:** 1 hr. 7 min.  
**Status:** Transcribed

This oral history spans 1934-2013

Bulk dates: 1947-1960

An oral history with Cynthia Foster of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Foster's experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview, Foster discusses her childhood in Fullerton, California; she discusses her father's motor parts store in Downtown Fullerton, her mother's job there, and what her father did; she talks about attending Maple Elementary School, then Chapman, then Wilshire and Fullerton High School; she remembers her father being on the Board of Trustees for the Fullerton School District, her favorite school subjects, playing sports, participating in the YWCA and Y teens [Young Women's Christian Association]; recalls friends she made from YWCA and skits and bonfires at camp; she describes childhood activities, spending the day at Hillcrest Park; she talks about her old neighborhood and the orange groves; she recalls her memories of how Fullerton has changed since her younger days; she explains the ethnic relations in Fullerton and the Bracero Program for migrant workers; she describes shopping with her parents in Downtown Los Angeles and going to theater shows; she remembers fashion from high school, school dances and dancing in the old city hall, babysitting, and working at Disneyland and at her father's automotive parts store; recalls the Brea Plunge [local swimming pool], the kids from other local cities at Fullerton High School; she talks about her experiences while going to the beach, swimming and tanning; she discusses her swimming competitions at school, horseback riding, and Disneyland rides; she recalls having her child after high school, working while her husband went to Stanford as a waitress, and taking classes at San Jose State; she explains how she graduated from Cal State Fullerton; her experiences visiting Knott's Berry Farm and the Fox Fullerton Theater; she recalls air raid drills in school; the Korean War, the draft, the civil rights movement, and segregation her family saw when they moved to Florida; she talks about Japanese internment in high school, the city government and politics, and the housing boom; she discusses the traffic on Manchester Avenue and her neighbors in Fullerton.

#### **OH 5120**

**Narrator:** Kendall Neisess (b.1920)  
**Interviewer:** Sarah Brown  
**Title:** "An Oral History with "Kendall Neisess"  
**Date:** January 11, 2013  
**Language:** English  
**Location:** Fullerton, California  
**Project:** Post-World War II Fullerton  
**Tape length:** 1 hr. 28 min.  
**Status:** Not transcribed

This oral history spans 1920-2013

Bulk dates: 1929-1960

An oral history with Kendall Neisess of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Neisess's experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview, Neisess recalls his childhood in Minnesota, living on his grandfather's farm, the various animals that lived there; recalls how cold it was during the winter time, the running water on the farm and the closeness of Rabbit River; remembers moving to Anaheim, California in 1925 then moving to Fullerton, California in 1931; describes the neighborhood he lived in West Anaheim, his mother's job as a doctor's assistant; briefly talks about his educational background, his

elementary school and junior high school, then his attendance at Anaheim High School from 1934 to 1938, his enrollment in Fullerton Junior College while working full time; recalls the jobs he had while in high school and college; his experience going to Fullerton College for four years then transferring to UCLA; talks about how he signed up for the Navy and when he was on active duty during World War II; remembers how his teaching career got started, getting his teaching credential at USC, and attaining his full time position at Orange High School in 1945 teaching auto shop and History; comments on getting his master's degree in Education from USC; recalls his first impression of Fullerton, the landscape, and streets; recalls his experiences during the Great Depression while living in Fullerton; talks about experiences in the Navy and how he felt when he came back from active duty and when the war ended; comments on his reaction to the attack on Pearl Harbor; his feelings about the Japanese internment camps on the West Coast of California; describes Fullerton after World War II ended, the amount of servicemen in the area, the increase of people in Fullerton during the late 1940's and early 1950's; remembers working at Fox Fullerton Theatre for two years, his memories from working during the Saturday matinee's, the seats in the theatre, and air conditioning; remembers Hillcrest park, the additions it's made, and the first reservoir; recalls the Waste Water Disposal Company, when he worked there during high school, and how the company ran; talks about the Citrus industry during the late 1930's to the early 1940's; talks about how the orange industry made the city unique; and he explains that Fullerton should be remembered for its diversity, family and church life.

#### **OH 5121**

**Narrator:** Charles Kohlenberger (b.1926)  
**Interviewer:** Andrew Liou  
**Title:** "An Oral History with "Charles Kohlenberger"  
**Date:** February 9, 2013  
**Language:** English  
**Location:** Fullerton, California  
**Project:** Post-World War II Fullerton  
**Tape length:** 3 hrs. 36 min.

**Status:** Not transcribed

This oral history spans 1926-2013

Bulk dates: 1926-1970

An oral history with Charles Kohlenberger of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Kohlenberger's experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview, Kohlenberger recalls his father's birthplace in Santa Barbara in 1878 and his move to Orange County, his father's educational background, and his family's move to Fullerton in 1931; recalls his father's business as a doctor and how his father worked with his patients; talks about growing up with his mother's cooking and gardening; he explains how his father studied to become a specialist in endocrinology in Fullerton and La Habra, California; describes Sunday afternoon outings he had with his family in Tustin, California and Olinda, California; talks about his memories living in Bisbee, Arizona, the fires that took place there, and the mines that existed there; recollects the gas prices in 1935, how gas was rationed during war time, and how the

prices rose during World War I; talks about his uncle's help with building various structures in Fullerton like the police department and public library; describes his experience and interests in primary school, how his family members tried to be active in the community; recalls the 1933 earthquake [it was the 1933 Long Beach earthquake that he is referring to], how Ford Avenue Elementary School was closed, and the other consequences of building damage the area took; he talks about rumors that spread about his father during World War II, how the FBI searched his basement in 1940, and his feelings towards the FBI [Federal Bureau of Investigation] officer; comments on the KFI radio station and other stations that spread the news; explains his passion for Astronomy, Geology, and other sciences; comments on his love and work with radios while growing up in elementary and high school with his boss, Leo Fender; talks about his relationship with Fender, and Fender's personality; recalls his time spent at Fullerton High School during the early 1940's, how he signed up for the Navy before he turned 18 years old; describes his time spent in the Navy, boot camp, and how he got into radio work; talks about his interest in electronics while enrolled in Fullerton High School, the size of his classes, and the types of classes that were offered there; explains the black outs that occurred during the 1940's and how the streets looked; talks about families in Fullerton that went to Japanese internment camps, the loss of their farms, and how he felt about the camps; he comments on the mood of the people in Fullerton when World War II ended; remembers the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, how he heard about it, and the effects that the event spurred; describes the military presence in and around Fullerton during World War II, the flight tests, and overall help the city gave agriculturally to the war effort; his reaction to the bombing of Hiroshima, Japan, and how the bombs had an effect on the war; recalls the time when the Japanese internees were released from the camps, and how the camp affected the internees; explains his involvement in the Boy Scouts organization and how the scouts spent much time during the Second World War helping the war effort; describes his experiences checking out books and spending time at the Fullerton Public Library; explains the importance of radio technology and computers, the transformation of science and technology over the years, and how telescopes and science progressed over his time span; remembers the first presidential ballot he voted for, the movie theater; remembers steam locomotives and the progression of trains and railroad cars; recalls the agricultural society of Orange County, Anglo race relations with Mexican workers in 1943; explains the effects from the Depression in the 1930's, how Orange County was affected, and how kids from Arkansas and Oklahoma lived in Fullerton and North Orange County; recollects the mixed race relations in Fullerton while growing up and his family's position with other races; recalls living in a single tract home, the rooms they had, a father's role in a family, tract housing during the mid-1950's in Fullerton, and the expansion of the housing areas; explains the Stanley Steam Car, driving around Fullerton; recalls the differences in Fullerton before and after World War II, the agriculture companies, population, and how Disneyland affected the Orange County area; remembers the growth of the freeway system, the building and transformation, the feelings Fullerton residents had about the newly built freeways; describes the family owned businesses in Downtown Fullerton, drugstores, and pharmacies in the late 1940's; talks about community gatherings with various churches in Fullerton, the prominent churches in the area, the Muckenthaler Center, and the meeting rooms in the library; describes festivals and parades that occurred in Fullerton, the Armistice Day parade in the 1930's; remembers his experiences going to Knott's Berry Farm Theme Park and Berry Farm in the 1930's and the jobs they provided to residents in Orange County during the Depression; talks about Disneyland, the entertainment, and his memories with his children and grandchildren there; describes the transformation of Cal

State Fullerton and the loss of the orange groves; recalls the civil rights movement, watching discrimination against Black Americans in the Navy during the 1940's and the prejudice he saw in Charleston, South Carolina; his recollections of the Polio epidemic, his friends who had it, his father's patients who were treated for it, and the inoculations his children took to suppress the virus; talks about his job at the North American Aviation Aerospace Company, the projects he worked on, and the technological parts of his professional career; he details his parents, siblings, and children's names, their occupations, and places they have lived in California; talks about how he thinks Fullerton should be remembered, the evolution of technology, and the growth of resources that Fullerton residents have received over the years.

## **OH 5122**

**Narrator:** Cedric Thompson (b.1940)  
**Interviewer:** Sarah Brown  
**Title:** "An Oral History with "Cedric Thompson"  
**Date:** January 29, 2013  
**Language:** English  
**Location:** Fullerton, California  
**Project:** Post-World War II Fullerton  
**Tape length:** 1 hr. 35 min.  
**Status:** Not transcribed

This oral history spans 1940-2013

Bulk dates: 1940-1970

An oral history with Cedric Thompson of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Thompson's experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview, Thompson recalls his childhood in Fullerton, California, his family's background living in Fullerton, and playing outside in the orange, lemon, and avocado groves; describes the radio programs he listened to as child, the east and west sides of Fullerton; talks about his educational background starting at Ford Avenue Elementary School, then spending fifth and sixth grade at Chapman Avenue School, then he went to Wilshire Junior High School, then spent his teenage years at Fullerton High School, and ended his academic career at Fullerton College; he recalls braceros [Mexican laborers who were allowed into the US for a limited time as a seasonal agricultural worker] who picked oranges and lemons in the south part of Fullerton; he describes his teachers in primary, secondary, and college years; talks about how he was adopted, his family, and his family's mutual love for cars; he comments on Disneyland, his memories there; describes his parent's history in Fullerton, their educational backgrounds, his father's position as a city attorney then as a superior court judge in Fullerton in 1944; he comments on his parent's philosophy on life and mentions his sister and two brothers; recalls his first job as a school bus driver for Fullerton High School in 1958, his second job as an owner and operator of a charter school bus transportation company for Fullerton College in 1966, then his last job as a fire fighter and instructor until he retired in 2012; he remembers the ending of World War II and the blackouts during the war; talks about the polio epidemic, and receiving polio inoculations; recalls racial discrimination on a bus while stationed in Georgia in 1963; he describes the houses he lived in while growing up in Fullerton; talks about the churches that were located in Fullerton; recalls Downtown Fullerton and the streetcars in 1955; describes the local family markets and

different shops that used to exist when he grew up in Fullerton; recalls the Fox Fullerton Theater, how much it was to attend, and the movies they showed there; remembers Hillcrest Park, the activities he did, and the transformations the park has had; talks about the renovations to and people who were part of the Fullerton Fire Department; describes the local events in Fullerton, fairs, and parades; describes the changes that occurred after World War II, televisions, and the building of new schools in the 1950s; describes the differences before and after World War II in Fullerton; and he comments on the friendliness of the Fullerton area.

### **OH 5123**

**Narrator:** Margaret Martin (b.1926)  
**Interviewer:** Janet Tanner  
**Title:** “An Oral History with “Margaret Martin”  
**Date:** February 1, 2013  
**Language:** English  
**Location:** Fullerton, California  
**Project:** Post-World War II Fullerton  
**Tape length:** 1 hr. 19 min.  
**Status:** Not transcribed

This oral history spans 1926-2013

Bulk dates: 1929-1975

An oral history with Margaret Martin of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Martin’s experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview, Martin recalls her childhood in Los Angeles, California, family camping trips, and traveling to the family vacation home in Newport Beach, California; talks about her family’s economic status during the Great Depression; describes the atmosphere in Los Angeles and Newport Beach during World War II, including rationing, blackout curtains, restricted nighttime activities, and Japanese internment; speaks about attending Stanford University during World War II; discusses teaching high school business administration courses in Bakersfield, California; talks about meeting husband and wedding; discusses move to Anaheim, California in 1953; recalls involvement with the Fullerton chapter of the American Association of University Women (A.A.W.); describes activities of Fullerton A.A. W. chapter; recalls purchasing home in Fullerton located on Brookdale Street in 1959; describes downtown Fullerton in the late 1950s; recalls walking to local shops, restaurants, and theaters in Fullerton; remembers children attending day camp at Fullerton Dam and activities at the YWCA; talks about teaching position at La Vista Continuation School in Fullerton; discusses participation in plan to integrate Maple Elementary School in Fullerton during the early 1970s; recalls impetus for the League of Women Voters chapter in Orange County and participation in this organization; and finally, comments on current politics in Fullerton, including the election of Jan Flory to Fullerton City Council and the beating of Kelly Thomas by Fullerton Police.

### **OH 5124**

**Narrator:** Violet Johnson (b.1919)  
**Interviewer:** Janet Tanner

**Title:** "An Oral History with "Violet Johnson"  
**Date:** February 2, 2013  
**Language:** English  
**Location:** Fullerton, California  
**Project:** Post-World War II Fullerton  
**Tape length:** 45 min.  
**Status:** Not transcribed

This oral history spans 1919-2013                      Bulk dates: 1950-1970

An oral history with Violet Johnson of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Johnson's experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview, Johnson talks about her early childhood in Redlands, California, playing games with her sister and Sunday drives with the family; discusses father's career with the Bank of America; recalls teaching first and third grade at an elementary school in Victorville, California; speaks about husband's military service at the Santa Ana Airbase, California; remembers purchasing lot and building home on Marion Boulevard in Fullerton, 1952; describes neighborhood on Marion Boulevard; recalls shopping at Lakeman's Market and Edna McMasters in Fullerton; speaks about teaching at Raymond, Acacia, and Commonwealth Elementary Schools; comments on the quality of education in Fullerton; shares the challenges of teaching in a bilingual classroom; describes her work with the Friends of the Library in Fullerton; talks about son's employment at Boege and Bean Sporting Goods; mentions frequenting Fullerton businesses: Brother's Chuckhouse, The Pillowry, Elite Cleaners, Judy Lynn Bakery, and Fox Fullerton; and finally, comments on the loss of orange groves in Fullerton.

#### **OH 5125**

**Narrator:** Joyce Sullivan (b.1927)  
**Interviewer:** Andrew Liou  
**Title:** "An Oral History with "Joyce Sullivan"  
**Date:** March 2, 2013  
**Language:** English  
**Location:** Fullerton, California  
**Project:** Post-World War II Fullerton  
**Tape length:** 1 hr. 34 min.  
**Status:** Not transcribed

This oral history spans 1927-2013                      Bulk dates: 1927-1970

An oral history with Joyce Sullivan of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Sullivan's experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview, Sullivan recalls her childhood in Fullerton, swimming at the beaches, and playing badminton in her backyard; she remembers the 1933 earthquake [it was a 6.4 earthquake centered in Long Beach], and how she was affected by it; talks about her life during the Great Depression, her

father's job during the 1930's, and how others were affected; recalls rationing for food and gas during the Second World War, the drafting of young men, and the beginnings of women working for the war effort in Fullerton; talks about her work at an aircraft factory while attending high school, how the community posted the deaths of men who were killed in combat; comments on the military presence in Fullerton during the war; the transformation from the rural area of Fullerton to the urban setting it became; recalls the activities she did with friends while in high school, dating, and the Fox Fullerton Theater; her experiences driving to Los Angeles, California, the freeway system, and the amount of the time it took to drive there in the 1950's; she comments on all the weddings that occurred once the war was over, the make-shift apartments the newlyweds moved into, and the orange groves; talks about the creation of the Interstate 5 freeway and televisions; describes her feelings on the people who settled in Orange County after World War II ended, how people in Fullerton felt once the war was over; she comments how people felt in Fullerton once the atomic bombs were dropped in Japan; she describes her educational background starting at Ford Avenue Elementary School, her experiences and lessons while attending, her experience while going to Junior High School, and her courses while attending Fullerton High School; she talks about the sports she played in high school and the ethnic diversity of her high school; remembers visiting the Fullerton public library, studying, checking out books, and the transformation of the library from her younger days; describes the neighborhood she grew up in, Downtown Fullerton, the drug stores, and markets that existed; recalls the various jobs she had and her educational background; she talks about Hillcrest Park, the activities she did there; briefly mentions the hospitals and churches located in Fullerton; describes her father and mother's job title and educational background; her recollections about the packing houses that were located in Placentia, California; she recalls the high school events she attended, dances, and voluntary picking that students did; talks about the advent of the television in the 1950's, television stations; she remembers bomb raids that occurred during World War II, her feelings about the loss of her fellow friends and students who went overseas, and the funerals she attended; she comments on the friendliness of Fullerton; talks about the transformation of Fullerton after the war, technology, population, cars, housing, and freeways; and she talks about the emergence of the housing boom, tract houses, and her neighbors feelings about the boom during the 1950's.

**O.H. 5126**

<b>Narrator:</b>	Alyce Leverich (b.1916)
<b>Interviewer:</b>	Janet Tanner
<b>Title:</b>	"An Oral History with "Alyce Leverich"
<b>Date:</b>	March 8, 2013
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Location:</b>	Fullerton, California
<b>Project:</b>	Post-World War II Fullerton
<b>Tape length:</b>	1 hr. 6 min.
<b>Status:</b>	Not transcribed

This oral history spans 1916-2013

Bulk dates: 1935-1960

An oral history with Alyce Leverich of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Leverich's experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview, Leverich discusses her childhood growing up on a farm in Rutland, South Dakota; remembers meeting her first husband at a restaurant in Los Angeles, California; talks about husband's military service in the Air Force during World War II and his death while training; speaks about father-in-law's residence and business in Yorba Linda, California, and Fullerton; remembers businesses and restaurants in downtown Fullerton in the late 1930s; talks about job as secretary to the Community Chest in Fullerton; comments on race relations in Fullerton in the 1940s including restrictions for blacks and Japanese internment; recalls Japanese gardener employed at the Muckenthaler home accused of sending information to Japanese military off the California coast during World War II; talks about second marriage; describes neighborhood on Yale Street in Fullerton during the late 1940s; talks about stigma of living south of the railroad tracks in Fullerton; remembers a number of orange packing houses in Fullerton; describes neighborhood and demographics of "new" subdivision on Lindendale Street in Fullerton; speaks about helping to establish YMCA in Fullerton; talks about shopping at Edna McMasters, the Pillowry, and Madame Lingo's; comments on the medical facilities in Fullerton including the transition of Cottage Hospital to Florence Crittenton maternity home; describes job as accounts payable clerk for the Fullerton Public School District; comments on Fullerton city politics; talks about founding P.E.O. [Philanthropic Educational Organization] chapter in Fullerton and its activities; comments on the educational opportunities in Fullerton; and finally, discusses family connections with Richard Nixon before his election to the presidency.

#### **O.H. 5127**

**Narrator:** Margaret Padrick (b.1924)  
**Interviewer:** Janet Tanner  
**Title:** "An Oral History with "Margaret Padrick"  
**Date:** March 18, 2013  
**Language:** English  
**Location:** Fullerton, California  
**Project:** Post-World War II Fullerton  
**Tape length:** 40 min.  
**Status:** Not transcribed

This oral history spans 1924-2013

Bulk dates: 1940-1960

An oral history with Margaret Padrick of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Padrick's experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview, Padrick talks about growing up in South Pasadena with her parents and two siblings; remembers playing in open fields near their home and attending school in Pasadena, California, graduating from Pasadena High School, Pasadena City College, and University of California Santa Barbara; talks about the Great Depression and her father's inability to find work as a painter; recalls

December 7, 1941, the day Pearl Harbor was bombed; discusses atmosphere in South Pasadena during World War II, including black-out curtains, rationing, disaster drills, and war bonds; speaks about the Japanese Internment and Japanese classmates leaving high school; talks about husband's military career in the Naval Airforce during World War II and the Korean War; remembers moving to Fullerton in 1954 in order to be closer to husbands work at Firestone in south Los Angeles; describes neighborhood in West Fullerton; recalls teaching first and second grade at Orangethorpe Elementary School in Fullerton; speaks about being a charter member of the Methodist Church in West Fullerton; describes downtown Fullerton in the mid-1950s; comments on the increase in the number of elementary schools being built in Fullerton during the 1950s; remembers minority children at Sunset Lane Elementary School in Fullerton; discusses medical care in Fullerton including St. Jude Hospital; and finally, explains volunteer work as a Friend of the Fullerton Public Library.

### **O.H. 5128**

**Narrator:** Warren Bowen (b.1924)  
**Interviewer:** Andrew Liou  
**Title:** "An Oral History with "Warren Bowen"  
**Date:** March 28, 2013  
**Language:** English  
**Location:** Fullerton, California  
**Project:** Post-World War II Fullerton  
**Tape length:** 2 hr. 34 min.  
**Status:** Not transcribed

This oral history spans 1924-2013

Bulk dates: 1930-1960

An oral history with Warren Bowen of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Bowen's experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview, Bowen discusses his early childhood in Bairoil, Wyoming and his experience living in the country; describes the beginning of his primary school education in Bairoil; he explains how his father worked for an oil company, why they moved to Fullerton, California, and his first impressions of Fullerton; talks about participating in the Boy Scouts of America during the 1930's, the places he had been in Southern California; recalls the neighborhood he lived in when growing up in Fullerton during the Great Depression, the amenities the city had; he remembers the 1933 earthquake in Southern California[it was a 6.4 earthquake centered in Long Beach], how his family reacted to it, and the structural damage it had created; his recollections of the radio, how his family would gather around it, radio comedians, and the Fox Fullerton Theatre; he talks about sports and what sports he played; comments of the differences between the Fox Fullerton Theatre and Wilshire Theatre, the various movies they played; recalls his music education in primary school, singing in some vocal groups; he mentions Downtown Fullerton, the street names, the music scene, and many local and retail businesses that were located around there; briefly comments on the local restaurants and coffee shops that opened and closed in Downtown Fullerton; talks about doctor care, how doctors made house calls, his experience being at the

Orange County Hospital when he had polio disease; he describes the Fullerton Public Library, his experience going there after school; talks about the social dances that occurred in Downtown Fullerton, formal high school and after-game dances; discusses the modes of transportation his family utilized, buses, and car; he comments on his membership with the Saint Andrews Episcopal Church in Fullerton; recollects his memories of the Great Depression; recalls rationing during World War II with sugar, gasoline, coupons, tires, and coffee; talks about his memories of working in the orange groves during the summer when in high school, the immensity of the groves, and the effects the groves had on resident's income in Fullerton; explains the residents who would work at packing houses, what kind of jobs they would perform, and the effects it had on the community; briefly comments on the other agricultural packing houses that existed in Fullerton; recalls his grandparent's, how they moved to Fullerton, and his grandfather's personality; briefly mentions a Mexican labor camp in Fullerton; he remembers WPA [Works Progress Administration] projects where buildings and parks were made in Fullerton, the jobs the WPA gave to residents; recalls his memory of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, his enlistment in the Navy when he was 19, the mood of the community when the U.S. entered the war; he talks about the Japanese families he knew of before they were put in internment camps, his feelings on the camps; discusses how he served in the Pacific, being a gunner in an aircraft carrier; the employment of Fullerton residents in wartime plants; talks about his memory of the bombing of Hiroshima, Japan, his experience seeing kamikaze aircrafts trying to hit Navy ships; remembers how he felt once World War II was over, adjusting back to civilian life and going back to college; he comments on the housing boom and why servicemen settled down in Southern California after the war; and he describes the importance of education in Fullerton.

### **O.H. 5129**

**Narrator:** Irene Budde (b.1927)  
**Interviewer:** Andrew Liou  
**Title:** "An Oral History with "Irene Budde"  
**Date:** March 28, 2013  
**Language:** English  
**Location:** Fullerton, California  
**Project:** Post-World War II Fullerton  
**Tape length:** 2 hr. 43 min.  
**Status:** Not transcribed

This oral history spans 1927-2013

Bulk dates: 1930-1980

An oral history with Irene Budde of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Budde's experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview, Budde discusses her early childhood in Fullerton, California, her birth in Ontario, Canada, the family dynamics with her parents and siblings; she describes her earliest recollections spending time with her grandfather; talks about why her family moved to Fullerton, how her family camped across the United States; mentions the 1933 Long Beach earthquake [it was a 6.4 earthquake

centered in Long Beach], and the damage that it caused on buildings; recalls her move to Whittier, California then back to Fullerton, the primary school she attended, The Ford Avenue Elementary School; she discusses class sizes in her primary and secondary schools, her high school teachers at Fullerton High School, the classes she took, and how she felt about school; explains her love for reading, the time she spent at the Fullerton Public Library as a child, how children spent their time in the library, and the books she liked to read; describes her family's trips to the beach, driving in Southern California, and picnics they had at the Orange County Park; she talks about the neighborhood she lived in as a child, her relationship with her neighbors, and the activities they would perform; she recalls listening to the radio in the 1930's; she remembers the Great Depression and how her family spent their money; recollects the times she spent with her father when they visited Downtown Fullerton, the changes that have occurred in Fullerton over the years; describes the many retail and local stores that existed in Downtown Fullerton; mentions working at different packing houses for peaches and oranges, how she got a job as a server at Knott's Berry Farm; she talks about working while attending two years of college at UCLA [The University of California, Los Angeles]; speaks about Knott's Berry Farm, the historical aspect of the farm, and the atmosphere of the theme park once she had children; she remembers special drives her family took into Los Angeles, California for clothes and Olvera Street; mentions her parent's origins, their names, occupations, and educational backgrounds; she mentions the rise of orange groves and decline of walnut groves, the reasons why the rise and decline occurred; talks about the rise of tract homes during the 1950's; remembers high school dances, dances with servicemen, and other activities that were provided by the school; she discusses Hillcrest Park, the games and activities there; she remembers the polio epidemic and how she felt about the spread of it; she talks about the rationing that occurred during World War II, the lack of sugar, butter, gasoline, and meat, and how people gathered for the war effort; she recollects receiving her driver's license, cars she owned, and driving; she recalls local gatherings in Fullerton, parades, and barbecues; talks about the WPA [The Works Progress Administration] projects that occurred in Fullerton; recalls finding out about the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the families in her neighborhood who had sons who fought and died during the Second World War; she remembers the draft during World War II and the Vietnam War, how she felt about the draft and the death of fallen soldiers, the war industry needs; talks about her life during the war, the worry of bomb threats, and blackouts; speaks about her feelings on the Japanese internment camps, the bombing of Hiroshima, Japan; her description of Fullerton after the Second World War, the growth of art, utilities, housing, school buildings, freeways, overall activeness of the community, and the deterioration of orange groves and bean fields; and she discusses the growth of Fullerton due to the freeways, and Cal State Fullerton's traffic and parking problems.

**OH 5130**

**Narrator:** Joseph Juarez (b.1923)  
**Interviewer:** Andrew Liou  
**Title:** "An Oral History with "Joseph Juarez"  
**Date:** March 29, 2013

**Language:** English  
**Location:** Fullerton, California  
**Project:** Post-World War II Fullerton  
**Tape length:** 1 hr. 45 min.  
**Status:** Not transcribed

This oral history spans 1923-2013

Bulk dates: 1923-1980

An oral history with Joseph Juarez of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Juarez's experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview, Juarez recalls his childhood in Fullerton, living on El Dorado Ranch, how being of Mexican descent affected his life in town and in high school; talks about the sports he played while in high school in the early 1940's; talks about growing up and working on the 100 acre ranch, the difficult work he performed, and his decision to stay in school; he discusses his favorite subjects in high school, how sports played an important role in his life; he describes how his father found Fullerton while emigrating from Mexico, how his father asked for the ranch and built the house on the land; he briefly comments on the 1933 Long Beach earthquake [it was a 6.4 earthquake centered in Long Beach]; discusses the help his sibling's provided him while he attended Chapman Elementary School, and Fullerton High School; he talks about the dynamics of his family, what his family harvested, and where they sold them; he describes how he was drafted into the Army during World War II in 1943, how he felt about it, and the seventeen weeks of basic training he went through at Camp Roberts in California; he discusses his military training after basic training, how he was shipped off to the Pacific, and his feelings on his deployment; reflects on getting dropped off in the Southern Pacific Ocean to fight during World War II, the devastation, and how he felt; he describes the time he was in the Philippines, seeing General Douglas MacArthur, the invasion of Leyte Island [Leyte is an island in the Philippines], how he was wounded during the Battle of Leyte; he speaks about the hospitals he went to once he was back in the United States, how he felt about the war, his re-adjustment to civilian life; he recalls the relationships he had with his unit and friends in the Army, how his brother was killed in Europe while serving in the military; he remembers the atomic bomb being dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, his feelings about it; describes the feelings he had once the war was over; he comments on the veterans who settled in Orange County, the changes of economy and lifestyle, and the housing boom after World War II; he speaks about his own personal experiences dealing with discrimination when looking for housing, when at school, Downtown Fullerton, and work; he talks about his neighbors, the music, clothing styles, and how he met his wife; speaks on the decrease of the orange groves, developers, and the growth of tract houses; he discusses the growth of the interstate freeway system, his feelings about the interstates, and the advancement of Orange County; talks about his time at Fullerton College, the courses he took, the jobs he had, and where he retired at the Orange County Sanitation District; discusses learning and playing the violin in junior high and high school; remembers where he was when John F. Kennedy was assassinated and how he felt when it occurred in 1963; recalls the bracero workers [from the Bracero Program, a program that

allowed the importation of temporary contract laborers from Mexico to the United States] from the orange groves, and his brother interpreting for and helping the braceros perform daily activities in Fullerton.

**O.H. 5203**

**Narrator:** Jane Yarbrough (b.1928)  
**Interviewer:** Janet Tanner  
**Title:** “An Oral History with “Jane Yarbrough”  
**Date:** March 8, 2013  
**Language:** English  
**Location:** Fullerton, California  
**Project:** Post-World War II Fullerton  
**Tape length:** 1 hr. 18 min.  
**Status:** Not transcribed

This oral history spans 1928-2013

Bulk dates: 1950-1970

An oral history with Jane Yarbrough of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Yarbrough’s experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview, Yarbrough discusses her early childhood in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, visiting relatives, dancing lessons, and summers at the family cottage at Lake Pewaukee; talks about father’s furniture business in Milwaukee; remembers mother and grandmother feeding people during the Depression; describes her reaction to the news Pearl Harbor had been bombed; recalls air raid sirens, black-out curtains, and writing to servicemen during World War II; talks about moving to Long Beach, California, to accept a teaching position; speaks about in-laws who lived in Fullerton since 1930; recalls visiting Fullerton and other locations in Orange County during the 1940s and 1950s; describes first home in Fullerton on Brookdale Street; remembers shopping at various businesses in downtown Fullerton during the 1950s; explains move to current home on Hillcrest Drive; talks about husband’s contracting business in Fullerton and various areas in Fullerton he helped to develop; describes demographics and neighborhood activities on Hillcrest Drive; shares memories of mother-in-law’s career as a real estate agent in Fullerton; speaks about involvement in the planned integration of in Fullerton schools during the 1960s; comments on the unintended consequences of integration on children, parents, and teachers in Fullerton schools; talks about teaching position at Hermosa Elementary school in Fullerton; remembers move the Fullerton School District office as a media specialist; talks about work at St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Fullerton; comments on the growth of California State University, Fullerton, increased traffic, and changes in downtown Fullerton; remembers medical facilities in Fullerton, Cottage Hospital, St. Jude Medical Center; discusses involvement with Republican women’s groups both locally and nationally; expresses opinion on current political climate in Washington D.C.; comments on Fullerton politics; and finally, discusses the stability and atmosphere in Fullerton.

**O.H. 5204**

**Narrator:** Anne Riley (b.1925)  
**Interviewer:** Janet Tanner  
**Title:** "An Oral History with "Anne Riley"  
**Date:** April 1, 2013  
**Language:** English  
**Location:** Fullerton, California  
**Project:** Post-World War II Fullerton  
**Tape Length:** 59 min.  
**Status:** Not transcribed

This oral history spans 1925-2013

Bulk dates: 1950-1970

An oral history with Anne Riley of Fullerton, California, for the Post-World War II Fullerton Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to gather personal information about Riley's experience living in Fullerton, California, post-World War II. In this interview, Riley discusses her childhood in San Pedro, California, and Seattle, Washington; provides biographical information on her parents, including their immigration from Scotland; details her educational background; remembers mother feeding the homeless during the Depression; recalls December 7, 1941 and father telling her Pearl Harbor had been bombed; describes the atmosphere in Seattle during World War II including Japanese internment; talks about time spent at Stanford University as a political science major; discusses husband's military career as an Army pilot during World War II; discusses rationale for moving to Fullerton in 1956 and husband's job as stockbroker; describes home in Fullerton on Maertin Lane; remembers a number of neighbors who worked for Kimberly-Clark in Fullerton; speaks about membership and activities associated with membership in the Fullerton chapter of the American Association of University Women and the Ebell Club; recalls shopping in downtown Fullerton: The Pillowry, Mooney-Andrews, Edna McMasters, Giffords, and Roy's Photo; talks about the availability of medical care in Fullerton; explains move to Alto Lane in Fullerton; describes neighborhood on Alto Lane including Atherton family ostrich farm; comments on lack of restaurants in Fullerton during the 1950s and 1960s; speaks about leisure activities during the 1960s; recalls taking library science classes at Fullerton College and California State University, Fullerton; describes job at Fullerton College as reference librarian; recounts story she was told regarding the Klu Klux Klan in Fullerton; talks about race relations in Fullerton including integration of Maple Elementary School; comments on the small town atmosphere in Fullerton; reflects on the changes in downtown Fullerton; talks about moving to the retirement community of Morningside in Fullerton; and finally, discusses volunteer work at the First Presbyterian Church and the Friends of Fullerton Public Library.