

## A through B

OH126

**Arroues, Jean Pierre**

**Arroues, Leonie**

"An oral history with Jean Pierre and Leonie Arroues"

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Date: May 25, 1966

Language: English

Ephemera : genealogy survey

Project: La Habra Valley , Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 80 pp., bound in *La Habra Pioneers* , vol. 3

**Abstract** : Jean and Leonie Arroues give their family backgrounds, including siblings and descendants, and how they came from France to California . Jean recalls dry farming on land leased from W. J. Hole, then raising oranges. Gives detailed description of raising sheep, including shearing, herding, breeding, and camp life. Recalls learning Spanish and attending Bastanchury parties. Recalls first residences in area, rustic lifestyle, methods of obtaining water, land prices, and prominent families.

OH2356

**Ball, Dexter Taber**

"An oral history with Dexter Ball"

Interviewed by William Gulley

Date: April 12, 1984

Language: English

Ephemera : photos, genealogy charts, newspaper clips

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 15 pp.

**Abstract** : Narrator's family came to Orange County in 1887. Paternal grandfather, Charles Dexter "C. D." Ball, was a founding member of the Orange County Medical Association and of the Orange County Historical Society; his book *Orange County Medical History* (1920) describes diseases and treatments from diphtheria to snake bites. Father, uncles and sons have all been in the medical field and narrator outlines family history through his own children.

OH2248

**Barnes, Robert Samuel**

"An oral history with Sam Barnes"

Interviewed by Karen Hervey Reese

Date: July 9 and 10, 1992

Language: English

Ephemera : photos, documents

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 45 pp.

**Abstract** : Narrator's grandfather, George Edgar, helped determine the county seat of the new Orange County , ran a grocery/china store, and was on city council when Chinatown burned in Santa Ana . Barnes compares Santa Ana with Anaheim , Newport with Corona del

Mar, Anaheim Landing with Balboa; relates mother's fox hunting in Orange County Park , and family traditions at Christmas. Describes 1930s run on an Anaheim bank quelled by a deposit of Sam Kraemer of Placentia ; recalls military experience during WWII , witnessing Overell murder trial, establishing his law practice in Santa Ana in late 1940s, and courting his wife. Gives assessment of changes in the legal profession and brief genealogical notes on Vanderlip, Barnes, Edgar, and Horton families.

OH123

**Bauer, Lewis**

"An oral history with Lewis Bauer"

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Date: September 28, 1965

Language: English

Ephemera : none

Project: La Habra Valley , Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 44 pp., bound in *La Habra Pioneers* , vol. 2

**Abstract** : Bauer discusses his work for Standard Oil back East, which led to a transfer to Whittier . Describes working for various oil companies, the Bastanchury lawsuit, wages, getting water, and lodgings. Recalls Murphy Oil being bought out. Describes process of building and drilling first well. Explains where oil was taken after it was pumped and dealing with water that sometimes came up with oil. Discusses Plott and Bacon, two prominent figures in Murphy Oil Company. Recalls local wildlife. Discusses Murphy's concern about his connections to Standard Oil. Gives his family 's background.

OH149

**Baxter, Gavin H.**

"An oral history with Gavin Baxter"

Interviewed by Jim Sleeper

Date: March 20, 1970

Language: English

Ephemera : photos, floor plan

Project: Irvine/EI Toro Community, Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 40 pp.

**Abstract** : Baxter, carpenter for the Irvine ranch from 1916 to 1957, describes the furnishings and design of the main house while walking through it after a fire and points out changes made by successive generations of Irvine brides. Gives brief glimpses into the lives of Irvine family members and employees on the ranch.

OH142

**Beck, Ethel and Edward**

"An oral history with Ethel and Edward Beck"

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Date: November 1, 1965

Language: English

Ephemera : photo, genealogy survey

Project: La Habra Valley , Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 72 pp., bound in *La Habra Pioneers* , vol. 5

**Abstract** : Son and daughter of George Beck, pioneer grower of avocados , discuss the avocado industry in La Habra , origins and life cycles of several varieties of avocados, methods of picking and marketing the fruit in Los Angeles and to wider markets, various virus and fungus that attack the plants, wind machines, and water shares needed for early groves. Recall their childhood jobs picking nuts, early residential development in La Habra Heights , and various other tropical crops grown by their father. Includes history of the Calavo Growers association and the California Avocado Advisory Board.

OH60

**Bishop, Frank Drake**

"An oral history with Frank Bishop"

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Date: March 8, 1963

Language: English

Ephemera : photo, news clipping, and produce labels

Project: La Habra Valley , Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 17 pp., bound in *La Habra Pioneers* , vol. 1

**Abstract** : Narrator explains how family came to California . Describes their experiences in Kaweah, then La Habra . Recalls lack of doctors, local schools, and transportation . Discusses his involvement in the tomato and avocado industries, development of avocado varieties, conditions of Mexican laborers, and challenges of harvesting. Describes Farmers' Club and Woman's Improvement Club, local events, and recreation . Recalls first stores and tract homes in La Habra . Discusses origin of Brea , the Reynolds ranch, reasons for La Habra 's growth, and property prices through the years. Lists affiliations

OH2160

**Blower, Margaret Finley**

"An oral history with Margaret Blower"

Interviewed by Bonnie Pendleton

Date: November 13, 1990

Language: English

Ephemera : photos

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 24 pp.

**Abstract** : Includes letters between family members that describe the communities of Tustin, Santa Ana and Olive in the 1880s and 1890s. Margaret recalls antics of her pony; hoboos, and boarders at the family home; family/community traditions for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter; and elocution lessons and recitations. She reads newspaper accounts of her parents' wedding. She also comments on the difficult decision to sell the family homestead.

OH1868

**Bradley, Richard**

"An oral history with Richard Bradley"

Interviewed by Larry Lincoln

Date: October 17 and November 7, 1986

Language: English  
Ephemera : photos, genealogy notes, clippings  
Project: Santa Ana Community History, Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 60 pp.

**Abstract** : Orange County native relates experiences during his thirty-seven years as a police officer in Santa Ana ; discusses crime scene investigations, police equipment, changes in police work over the years; recalls 1933 earthquake and photography work he did afterward, watching over customers at the Pavillion and Rendezvous Ballroom, and characteristics of early communities of Santa Ana, Costa Mesa, Newport, and Irvine.

OH130

**Brittain, Evelyn**

"An oral history with Evelyn Brittain"

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Date: February 25, 1964

Language: English

Ephemera : genealogy survey

Project: La Habra Valley , Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 22 pp., bound in *La Habra Pioneers* , vol. 4

**Abstract** : Describes the environmental features of the valley when she arrived there as a child from Colorado in 1911. Lists various crops raised on the family ranch before settling on citrus, different water sources, and livestock. Gives picture of social activities and businesses in La Habra including informal horse racing, road construction and name changes, early avocado planting and markets, camps for Mexican laborers, and role of the La Habra Citrus Association . Varney and Robinson family histories.

OH2543

**Brown, Ernest J.**

"An oral history with Ernie Brown"

Interviewed by Maureen Rischard

Date: May 24 and 31, and June 12, 1997

Language: English

Ephemera : photos, church directory, local history manuscripts, eulogy, genealogy, maps

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 30 pp.

**Abstract** : Much of the interview traces Williams and Brown family roots in 1844 Orange County through to grandfather's pool halls and death in 1971; mentions some personal experiences working on fishing boats, in sugar factory, and for Excelsior Creamery; Korean War activity. Rich appendices with texts on Gospel Swamp and Chiles/Walker Party of 1843.

OH2769

**Brown, Mildred Rohrs**

"An oral history with Mildred Brown"

Interviewed by Maureen Rischard

Date: April 16, 1999  
Language: English  
Ephemera : photos, newspaper article, genealogy  
Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 22 pp.

**Abstract** : Abundant family genealogy for the Rohrs and Lutz families as well as some on the Grobruegge and Stolte families. Describes a close family where many siblings raised their families in the same neighborhood; Rohrs was a family of ranchers who raised grapes, walnuts, and oranges; some information on schools and businesses in Santa Ana ; description of 4 th of July celebrations near the beach.

OH2198  
Burrows, Gates Wilson  
"An oral history with Gates Burrows"  
Interviewed by Bettie Webber  
Date: March 20, 1991  
Language: English  
Ephemera : photos, certificate  
Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 12 pp.

**Abstract** : Brief summary of Burrows and Wilson family histories; father worked for oilfields while mother oversaw maintenance of the family grove. In 1913 narrator was a cabin boy and had chance to walk through Panama Canal; trained as architect and lists buildings he designed, including homes and church in Laguna Beach, the Orange County law library, and garden crypts at Fairhaven Cemetery. Humorous account of Prohibition activity on Stanford University campus.