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OH117

Randall, Homer

"An oral history with Homer Randall"

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Date: April 20, 1963

Language: English

Ephemera : none

Project: La Habra Valley , Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 19 pp., bound in *La Habra Pioneers* , vol. 1

Abstract : Gives his background and explains how he came to live in Whittier . Discusses raising citrus in his nursery business, how he learned to raise fruit trees, and why he chose to raise them in La Habra . Explains Citrus Association's regulations to keep fruit from spoiling during shipping . Recalls gum tree groves, and names members of his family . Discusses reasons for La Habra 's growth, and his community involvement, including helping found the local Kiwanis club . Describes an excavation for Indian relics, and helping start the Bastanchury citrus grove.

OH 99

Redfern, Delpha Ridgeway Allen

Thuet, Lila Keeler

"An oral history with Lila Thuet and Delpha Redfern"

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

March 24, 1963

Language: English

Ephemera : photos

Project: La Habra Valley , Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 25 pp. , bound in *La Habra Pioneers* , vol. 1

Abstract : Thuet discusses her parents' choice to move to La Habra and their farm there. Describes hauling water in barrels, her education , division of father's property, and marriage to William Thuet. Redfern explains how her family came to La Habra . Discusses her family. Thuet and Redfern recall early mail system, stores in La Habra , transportation and roads, railroad excursions, local clubs , and growth of a local church . Describe fuel sources, sharing food and labor with neighbors, old landmarks, recreation , groceries, and peddlers. Discuss several women who were active in the community.

OH1887

Rasmussen, Annabel McFadden

"An oral history with Annabel Rasmussen"

Interviewed by Ann Spencer

Date: July 16, 1985

Language: English

Ephemera : none

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 25 pp.

Abstract : Granddaughter of Robert McFadden and cousin of Flora Worden recalls living on a ranch in Irvine before moving into grandmother's house in Santa Ana . Father raised walnuts on the ranch; mother had an Indian girl from Riverside to help her during the summers. Discusses clothing, childhood games , going to school on horseback, family celebrations and trips to the mountains, church picnic and circus acts, stores in Santa Ana that delivered, and compares grandfather's funeral with that of grandmother's. Remembers smashing a penny under wheels of "Liberty Train," watching city fires from the rooftop of their home, and hunting, killing and eating rattlesnakes.

OH125a,b

Ridgway, Claude and Ida.

"An oral history with Claude and Ida Ridgway"

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Dates: February 15, 1963, January 19, 1965

Language: English

Ephemera : photos, documents

Project: La Habra Valley , Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 123 pp.

Abstract : Discussion of life in La Habra since the early 1900s. Claude held a variety of occupations including road worker, Orange County tree appraiser, and fruit picker in the citrus industry. He became affiliated with Farm Bureau activity which guided farmers in irrigation and fertilization. He discusses the avocado and citrus industry in detail, particularly the maintenance, fertilization, and growing season associated with the citrus farms. From 1930-1933 Mr. Ridgway served on the La Habra School Board. He served as co-founder of the Storm Water Protection District with William Espolt and A. J. Sweeney and the La Habra Citrus Association . Ida discusses her experience in the La Habra Kiwanis Club and Velada Club. She recalls an early childhood accident while working as a fruit picker. She was also an active member of the Ladies Aid Society.

OH2539

Rischar, Maureen McClintock

"An oral history with Maureen McClintock Rischar"

Interviewed by Gail Gutierrez

May 21, May 28, and June 4, 1997

Language: English

Ephemera : photos, documents

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Transcript, 121 pp.

Abstract : Discusses growth and development of the city of Santa Ana since the early 1920s. Family owned the Villa La Costa, a shopping center founded in 1957. Rischard, a graduate of the University of Southern California , discusses work history including a position with Kay Finch Ceramics. Formerly an active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and President of the Ebell Association, Rischard lists other members of the groups and their contributions. Rischard's literary accomplishments include the compendium, *McClintock Ancestors and Descendants*, and *Centennial History of Tustin* .

OH2087b

Robertson, Grace

"An oral history with Grace Robertson"

Interviewed by Phyllis Schildmeyer

Date: February 6, 1991

Language: English

Ephemera : photos, documents

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 24 pp.

Abstract : Discusses early childhood in Santa Ana , corner drug stores (Penny's, Kelly's, Edgar's), and pony and wagon as the primary method of transportation . Recalls the flu epidemic of 1918 and flooding in the Orange County area in the late 1930s. She discusses religion, daily social functions, and her experience living near army camps at the start of the First World War.

OH2065

Ross, Lorna. See **Widolf, Eleanor** and **Lorna Ross**

OH2399

Ross, Raymond Jr. M.D.

"An oral history with Raymond Ross Jr. M.D."

Interviewed by Barbara Oldewage

Date: August 10, 1995

Language: English

Ephemera : photos, documents, genealogy

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 58 pp.

Abstract : Discusses family migration from Illinois to Santa Ana , California . Grandfather Uriah Jacob dealt with land grant of Castroville, a settlement of land grants on Bolsa Nueva and Moro Cojo that belonged to Simeon Castro. He discusses rancho history and development of business in the Santa Ana area. Ross Street was named for his ancestors and was located on family property. Dr. Ross explains his family's medical background and education . Dr. Ross ran his own medical practice in Santa Ana from 1957 until his retirement in 1992.

OH2041

Rowland, Ruth Lillian

"An oral history with Ruth Lillian Rowland"

Interviewed by Bettie Webber

Date: October 9, 1990

Language: English

Ephemera : photos, documents

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 22 pp.

Abstract : Mrs. Rowland discusses her childhood and urban development in the city of Tustin . She recalls early life before the advent of running water, plumbing, and electricity. She served a brief stint as a medical aide. When her mother died, she took over as head of the household. She discusses traveling abroad, economics, and the effect of radio in Tustin .

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OH141

Salveson, Sigvald A.

"An oral history with Sigvald Salveson"

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Date: October 21, 1964

Language: English

Ephemera : photo, genealogy survey

Project: La Habra Valley, Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 44 pp., bound in *La Habra Pioneers* , vol. 4

Abstract : Salveson's family lived in Fullerton and he worked for the Stern and Goodman company that supplied groceries and much more to area residents and oil field workers. Gives a clear idea of the business operations, delivery methods and routes, and personalities of the owners. Some amusing incidents during his work, e.g. the horse that was literally scared to death by an ostrich. Bastanchury, Sansenina, and Eseverri family information. Road alignment, various oil companies, rough oil town of Brea are discussed as well as a listing of valley residents and a description of his own grocery business in La Habra that later competed with Fullerton's Stern and Goodman.

OH2313

Schildmeyer, Robert and Phyllis Luther

"An oral history with Robert and Phyllis Schildmeyer"

Interviewed by Maureen McClintock Rischard

Date: September 9, 19, 1993

Language: English

Ephemera : photos

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 51 pp.

Abstract : Son of a German immigrant who came to Orange County in 1893 recalls service in World War II as a marine pilot flying PV2s to intercept German submarines in the Atlantic Channel and his experiences during the Depression in the chicken ranching and orange grove business. Phyllis recalls her working conditions in the packinghouses of the citrus industry during the Depression. Discusses the 1933 earthquake and the 1938 flood that severely damaged Santa Ana .

OH1888

Schmid, Walter R.

"An oral history with Walter R. Schmid"

Interviewed by Molly Harvey

Date: 1984

Language: English

Ephemera : none

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 15 pp.

Abstract : Son of a German immigrant who came to Garden Grove in the early 1900s discusses family 's venture in the sugar beet and citrus industries. When Schmid was sixteen years old he quit school altogether to take over the family business. He recalls anti-German sentiments involving his father's citizenship hearings in 1917. Schmid concludes with a brief discussion of his childhood and travels from the Midwest via the Southern Pacific Railroad.

OH1886

Schwartzbach, Lillie Dunlap

"An oral history with Lillie Dunlap Schwartzbach"

Interviewed by Anne L. Spencer

Date: July 18, 1985

Language: English

Ephemera : none

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 25 pp.

Abstract : Recalls early childhood living in the Anaheim area. Discusses her role in the household, education , and social activities . Reminisces about early transportation from the horse and buggy to the advent of the Pacific Electric railcars. She also recalls her experiences working at the La Paz Ranch hauling food and assisting the cattle hands.

OH67a

Schuepbach, Esther Aldrich

"An oral history with Esther Schuepbach"

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Date: March 9, 1963

Language: English

Ephemera : genealogy survey

Project: La Habra Valley, Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 10 pp., bound in *La Habra Pioneers* , vol. 5

Abstract : Brief comments on childhood and ancestors, water in the valley, social community activities , and her own spouse and employment . Some description of the Pacific Electric promotional ride to Huntington Beach circa 1907.

OH67b

Schuepbach, Chester and Esther Aldrich

"An oral history with Chester and Esther Schuepbach"

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Date: 1963

Language: English

Ephemera : photos, manuscript

Project: La Habra Valley, Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 24 pp., bound in *La Habra Pioneers* , vol. 5

Abstract : Discussion of the life of Frederick Randolph Aldrich, Esther's father, including his extensive land holdings in the La Habra Valley and later development of this property, his hobby of collecting that focused on historical documents, Native American artifacts, seashells, and finally gemstones. Seashell collection filled the family Bay Island home before being given to Bowers Museum in Santa Ana . Lists later owners of town property and early settlers in the valley. Recalls swimming in the San Gabriel River and seaside tent houses.

OH158

Scott, Edith Waterman

"An oral history with Edith Waterman Scott"

Interviewed by Jim Sleeper

Date: July 24, 1968

Language: English

Ephemera : photos, documents

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

Status: Complete transcript , 37 pp.

Abstract : Recalls irrigation and landscaping development in the city of Tustin . Discusses daily social life, education , and her participation in the El Toro Woman's Club. Edith worked at an apricot farm pitting and boxing at ten to fifteen cents per fifty pound box and ran the El Toro depot from 1932 to 1936. She also discusses the lack of city government and crime in early Tustin particularly the exploits of the Tomato Springs Bandit.

OH116

Scott, Otis Laird

Scott, Alta May Walker

"An oral history with Otis and Alta May Scott"

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Date: March 25, 1963

Language: English

Ephemera : genealogical survey

Project: La Habra Valley, Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 32 pp., bound in *La Habra Pioneers* , vol. 1

Abstract : Otis Scott discusses family 's arrival in California, obtaining water for their farm, local schools, and his employment with his father and later with Standard Oil. Notes relatives' involvement in community, and gives family names. Alta Scott gives her family background. Discusses how they came to California, father's farming, and various places they lived in the area. Recalls local doctors, education , grocery delivery, and stores. Both discuss local oil development, and conditions for Mexican citrus workers. Describe recreation , well-known hotels , transportation , church involvement, and where early residents lived.

OH3065

Segerstrom, Henry Thomas

"An oral history with Henry Thomas Segerstrom"

Interviewed by Karen Harvey Reese

Date: September 16, 17, and November 11, 2003

Language: English

Ephemera : photos

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 75 pp.

Abstract : Traces family history from the arrival in New York from Sweden to their eventual settlement in Santa Ana , California. Discusses establishment and development of agricultural land. Segerstrom vividly describes his service in the 103 rd Infantry Division in Germany during World War II . He received numerous medals for his participation including the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. During the '40s and '50s C. J. Segerstrom and Sons became the largest producer of lima beans in the nation. This success led to the leasing and zoning of property in what became known as the Segerstrom Industrial District in Santa Ana. C. J. Segerstrom and Sons leased property used in the development of South Coast Plaza and the Segerstrom Hall in Costa Mesa. Segerstrom discusses the family's business ventures in detail.

OH2669

Shaw, Harvey

"An oral history with Harvey Shaw"

Interviewed by Eileen DeCair

Date: April 13, 1998

Language: English

Ephemera : photos, manuscripts

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 32 pp.

Abstract : Shaw and Alsbach families arrived in late 1800s; father was born in Trabuco Canyon and mother was born in Silverado Canyon. Describes activities of early canyon residents, how they earned a living and dealt with local wild life. Family raised bees and to

protect hives uncle trapped the last marauding bear in the Santa Ana mountains. Family farmed on the Trabuco mesa, raising lima beans, walnuts, and eventually citrus. Gives detailed description of harvesting beans on the mesa and origins of Jack Cook's pub that became famous as Cook's Corner, mentions construction of Pacific Coast Highway. Attended school in Laguna Beach, flew with Eddie Martin at the age of 8, then went on to military career in the air force . Recounts hitching plane rides between camps during the war and developing nose art for the planes. Recalls courting his wife and later family outings on the mountain property that belonged to his grandfather.

OH2853

Shaw, Robert "Bob" Arthur

"An oral history with Robert Shaw"

Interviewed by Maureen McClintock Richard

Dates: March 21, April 6, 11, 21, 2000

Language: English

Ephemera : photos, documents

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 93 pp.

Abstract : The son of German immigrants discusses his early childhood including active participation in youth camps, social life, and his family 's extensive educational background. He served as a sea scout aboard the *Stranger* , a merchant ship that was used as part of an expedition to the South Seas in 1934 to search for new specimens and horticulture for the San Diego Zoo and San Francisco Aquarium. Mr. Shaw describes his duties, interaction with natives and crew, and the geography of the Caribbean. He also discusses his hobby as a Pigeon Racer and the opening of Disneyland in 1956 where he used the pigeons for the inaugural ceremony. Includes letters that give account of 1906 earthquake in San Francisco.

OH119

Smith, Guy

Smith, Maryellen

McMaster, Matilda Smith

"An oral history with Guy and Maryellen Smith and Matilda McMaster"

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Date: March 31, 1963

Language: English

Ephemera : none

Project: La Habra Valley, Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 26 pp., bound in *La Habra Pioneers* , vol. 2

Abstract : The Smiths relate their family background and how their families came to live in La Habra . Guy describes his father's walnut farm. They discuss education , recreation , local wildlife, and shopping. Recall neighbors from early days, including the Sansinenas. Discuss early roads, fuel sources, and beginning of oil industry .

OH2495

Spurgeon IV, William Henry

"An oral history with William Henry Spurgeon IV"

Interviewed by Bill Gulley

Date: August 27, 1996

Language: English

Ephemera : photos, documents, illustrations

Project: Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 24 pp.

Abstract : History of the Spurgeon family as told by his great-grandson, William Henry Spurgeon IV. Discusses the founding and development of Santa Ana in 1869. Spurgeon explains his great-grandfather's wealth in the California Gold Rush in 1852, death of his wife, the purchase and layout of land in Santa Ana, and the introduction of the Southern Pacific Railroad and stagecoach into the city. Recounts his father's career as a Navy Lieutenant in World War II , politician, educator, and as vice-president of the Irvine Company. Spurgeon IV recalls his childhood , upbringing, experience in the U.S. Navy mapping the sea floor for submarines, career as an educator, as well as details of Boy Scout Jamboree in 1953.

OH118a

Sutton, Ada Ware

"An oral history with Ada Sutton"

Interviewed by Esther Cramer

Date: April 22, 1963

Language: English

Ephemera : genealogy survey

Project: La Habra Valley, Orange County Pioneer Council

Status: Complete transcript , 18 pp., bound in *La Habra Pioneers* , vol. 1

Abstract : Relates family background, why they came to California, and family's connection to local Quakers and Milhous relatives. Discusses her education , early married life, her children, and husband's involvement with citrus. Gives husband's family background. Describes La Habra 's early terrain, eucalyptus groves, growth, early residents, shopping, utilities, and land values. Describes church activities and organizations, and her husband's community involvement.