TUALATIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Transcription of tape #12 of interview with Mike Schmokel and Irene Schmokel Erickson

Interviewers were Loyce Martinazzi and Karen Lafky Nygaard

Transcribed by Toni Martinazzi Sept and Oct. 1999

Transcriber notes: this tape is not dated, nor is the place of the interview identified so I called my sister, Loyce, and she estimated the year as 1989 because on the tape a child comes in and asks Loyce if she knows where Erica is. Loyce identified the place as her old home at 6050 SW. Borland Road in Tualatin and placed the date by the fact that her son Craig's child was mentioned and Craig and his family lived at her farm about that time. Loyce said that the interview was done to gather material for the history of Tualatin that she and Karen Lafky Nygaard were planning to write.

I recognized the voices of Loyce and Karen. There were two other voices who identified themselves. One said he was Melvin "Mike" Schmokel and the other said she was Irene Schmokel Erickson. Irene said she was 89 years old at the time of the interview and that she was born in 1900 (so that corroborates the year) and Mike did not state his age. Loyce told me that Irene was Mike's sister.

Joyer, I thought you megal to interested in this. I will send a final copy so you can beep this one, or throw it laway - torn TUALATIN HISTOICAL SOCIETY

TRANSCRIPTION OF TAPE OF INTERVIEW OF
MIKE SCHMOKEL

BY Loyce Martinazzi and Karen Nygaard 1989

Transcribed by Toni Martinazzi Sept/Oct. 1999

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Side B:

[No introduction on side 2. Loyce is cut off and only part of her question is heard]

Loyce: ... Sweek House?

Mike: Not at the Sweek house, but in that area. I think it was across the street, there. I think it was where Hannegan's Service Station is now.

Loyce: Ah, o.k.

Mike: [aside] Isn't that where the Post Office was? I think it was somewhere down there. Anyway, he used to take the mail ovcer there every afternoon about the time school was out and, uh, a lot of us fellows, used to get in front of this little push cart and so slow and he used to grumble, "Get out of the way! U.S. Mail!

Loyce: [Laughs]

Mike: That's all he ever said that I know of. [telephone rings in background and Mikes voice is heard in unintelligible musings.] Mike: His son, uh - he had a son [aside] what was his name? Vi? Joe? Joe Schamoni was that the old man or was it his son?

Irene: I think Joe was the only one I knew.

Mike: Yeah, I think it was the son.

Karen: Now, where did the Schamoni's live?

Mike: Well, I am not sure.

Irene: I think they lived over close to the Coles. Didn't the Coles live right down in the middle of town?

What used to be the town?

Loyce: Didn't Schamoni live across the street freom Coles?

Irene: Something like that, right in there, right in there somewhere but I can't remember exactly where.

Loyce: Did you remember Janey Galbreath?

Irene: Janey? No, I knew many Galbreaths. Janey? No, I don't remember a Janey Galbreath. Nettie Galbreath and Robert Galbreath.

Mike: Barbara was the mother.

Irene: Barbara was the mother of many and they...

Karen: Now, who was the daughter of John L. Smith? Was that Nettie Galbreath?

Irene: No, that doesn't sound right.

Karen: The daughter of John L. Smith [-----] married a Galbreath, married John Galbreath.

Irene: Maybe that was Janey.

Karen: I guess she was a very vibrant, colorful woman. I think and she, <u>any</u> child of John L. Smith [chuckles] would be a colorful, dynamic person, I guess.

Irene: I can't remember.

Karen: Now, there were two depots. You mentioned the depots. Um, the depot that I remember from Oregon Electric was right across from the, uh, well, um, the Hauxhurst and the..

Mike: Robinson's store.

Irene: Across from(hert.) Grace Robinson's daughter lived across...

Karen: Can you remember taking the train from there?

Mike: Oh, yeah!

Irene: I came home from there every day from Meier & Frank. My father would come in the Ford and pick us up after work.

Karen: Oh, you worked in Portland at Meier & Frank's?

Irene: Yes, in 1917 when the war was started, all the boys left for the service and the girls, we were all left home and we'd have to get out to work. We didn't go to High School at that time, we went to work.

Karen: Oh, I see.

Irene: The Geiberger girls and the ..whole bunch of those gals and we all got on the train. I got on at the Nesoma Station and then the rest of them got on at Tualatin, some of them got on at, uh..

Loyce: Durham?

Irene: Yeah, Durhan. They came down from Durham, I think that's where it started from.

Loyce: So there was an actual depot at Nesoma?

[all four start to chatter excitedly at once and the result is unintelligible]

Irene continues: It was a nice station, one of those big stations. We waited for a train to come by and pick us up. We all worked at Meier & Frank or someplace like that.

Karen: What did you do at Meier & Frank?

Irene: I started out as a Center Aisle and they all started out at that. The Nybergs, the Blanks, Thompsons, Blanch Thompson, she worked at a beauty.., in a woman's shop, down there in the old Portland Hotel.

Loyce: OH!

Irene [emoting]: That beautiful old hotel, when they tore that down I couldn't believe it! They should have kept that for posterity!

Karen: Now they would, but that was just a time when they didn't have any feelings for history.

Loyce [to Karen] Do you remember it?

Karen: Yes, I do!

Irene: There was a women's dress shop there, and that's where Blanch Thompson worked. And Mary, I knew her, she didn't work, she married that Johnny Junor so she didn't work. She married very young and he worked over there at the golf course, manager over there and Johnny Juror, that's when Mary Thompson married him. Marge Thompson married the chocolate man from California. Holtler, it used to be Holtler Chocolates. Oh, Boy, Holtler Chocolates sold chocolates all up and down..all sorts of.. That's who Marge Thompson married.

And then Laura was already married. She lived by tyhe old Thompson place. All those places are gone now.

Karen: Yes, they are.

Irene: The vens used to live there on the corner area, right across from where the school is now. They did have a farm out there someplace.

Mike: By the Robbins place.

Irene: Yes, by the Tualatin School, across from the High School. That little corner area there, that used to be the old Vien place. Charlie, Ed, Frank and uh, Marge Clark [?] lived there in that place.

Karen: Is the house still standing?

Irene: No, its gone. So many of the places that I used to know are gone. All the Geigbergers places back there all gone. Used to be back of the school, then.

Karen: Did you have our calendar last year, this year's calendar?

Irene: Yes, I got last year's calendar, but I didn't get one this year.

Karen: That features the old.. They called it the Tualatin Street of Dreams 1900 and it had all the old houses that were standing about the turn of the century, so you'd enjoy that.

Irene: Oh, yeah, I should have got one of those!

Karen: I think Loyce has some.

Loyce [to Karen] Shall we give them each one?

Karen: I think so.

[Excited chatter from Mike, Irene, Loyce and Karen as they seem to be looking at the calendars.]

Irene: That's the old Hedges House!

Karen: No, thats the Saum Mansion, the Saum Castle down the road.

Mike: That's right down here, [aside to Irene: Remember Saum had the house,

Irene: Oh, How Great! This is Saum's old Castle. Yes. [Irene to her brother, Mike: Remember that? The big dome?

Mike: [in a mimicking voice] "What's your name?" "My name is Jackie Saum [unintelligible].

Irene: [to Loyce & Karen] Thank you SO much!

Loyce & Karen: Oh, you are welcome!

Irene: 1900! That's when I was born!

Loyce: You are in wonderful shape, you look wonderful!

Karen: Well, did you know Jane Ibach?

Irene: I didn't know who the Ibach's were at all.

Mike: I knew John Ibach. John Ibach went to high school with me for a couple of years, anyway.

Karen: What about his brothers?

Mike: I don't know. John was the only one I knew. I never knew they had...

Irene: [obviously still looking at the calendar of 1900 houses, interrupts] Oh, my gosh! there's other houses in here, too!

Karen: [to Irene] Jane Ibach is just your age and she just lives down here now.

Irene: [still commenting on the calendar] Oh, here's the Robinsons, Newt Robinson's house?

Loyce: No, that's Geiberger's house up by the school.

Irene: Oh, for goodness sakes! There is Mae Geiberger! Is she still living?

Karen: Yes, she lives in Salem, I think, and she has come up for the school reunions.

Irene: Oh, really? Her sisters Edna and Ann are both dead, I think.

Loyce: Well, there's two girls still living.

Irene: There is?

Loyce: There's Edna then - one lives in California and the other lives in Salem. So Edna lives in California and Mae lives in Salem. SAnd Edna and Anne come up to look at the house.

Irene: Oh, this is good! [still looking at the calendar? then all talking about a photo of a house]

Loyce: Oh, it's where Fredericks lived, right down here below the hospital.

Irene: I knew this one, I don't know that one, Oh, here's the Hedges House!

Mike: Yes!

Irene: They had a white picket fence around it!

Karen: Oh, you remember that fence? Part of it is still standing!

Loyce: [to Mike] Now, what is that you've got there?

Mike: That's the second grade. I was in the second grade class there.

Loyce: Oh, that's a big second tgrade.

Mike: Yeah, well first and second grade together there. There is young Johnny Jurgens, Clarence Itel, here I am, this is a guy named David Brennen. There's Johnny Cimino there.

Loyce: You say that's Johnny Jurgens?

Mike: Yes, this guy right here.

Karen: Now, where are you in this picture?

Mike: Right here. Bill Barngrover is right down here. I think Harriet Barngrover ..who is it now? Married to Andrews right in there someplace. Miss Coleman, I remember her.

Karen: This would be what year about?

Mike: Let's see now. About 1919, I imagine, maybe 1918.

[woman in background softly (Irene?): There's [Penny or Benny] and John, and Elsie and Jessie.

Mike: Walter, maybe.

Irene: Jessie Cimino married..Och, Helen Wager. That's John Cimino and Elsie and Jessie, Nettie..

Mike: Oh, that's Jessie's uh, Jessie's daughter, the one down at the ottom here.

Loyce: Oh, Helen Koch.

Mike: Yeah, Helen,

Irene: Oh, for goodness sake!

Mike: These are great!

Irene: Oh, is that the one that raised the .. Is that the Pohl house?

Loyce: Do you remember Asa Mack? That's Asa - Asa Mack House.

Irene: Oh, Yes. That house has been torn down, tho?

Karen: No, its a veterinarian has his office there now. But there is a Poh [unintelligible] connection. Asa Mack was Leonard Pohl's step father and the Pohl daughters, the girls, the three of them.

Irene: Oh. [unintelligible] Martha Blank. That was Gladys Byrom's daughter so she was the one that grew up in the Zeke Eddy house.

Mike: Oh, look! an uncancelled one cent stamp!

Loyce & Karen: Oh!

Mike: You don't find those very often anymore.

Karen: We found two uncancelled one's

[background voices looking at photos and musing]

Mike: Oh?

Karen: Yes, when they took the Hedges House apart, it is amazing, a house that hadn't been lived in for ten years or so, and had been a little bit trashed, you know, people would come thru and, altho it wasn't badly vandalized, but, it's amazing the things they found in the walls, and under boards and things. They found, like a snuff box and a little thing wrapped in the two uncancelled one cent stamps and it was wrapped in a little tiny bit of newspaper that had an 1892 date on it and a very shiny penny that hadn't been used hardly!

Loyce: What year was it?

Karen: 1900, I think.

Irene: Um, 1900!

Karen: Or 1899, in there. And a few garments, lot of old smelly socks, but one was a cravat tie that had its knot built in it where it slipped thru and a hook where you pulled it up and hooked it in place. And it had a little stamp in it "1893" and some old letters, old letters that were torn up and I think they had the same time, about 1890's?

Irene: Square nails?

Karen: Yes, here you can each have one of these that we made up. A Certificate and a square nail that was taken from the house.

Irene: Oh, for..[obviously pleased with the Hedges House memorabilia]

Mike: I have one so I'll give you this one back.

Loyce: Do you remember Reverand Blake, they called him, Father Blake?

Irene: Was he one of the ministers?

Loyce: Yeah. He was a minister and he lived close to the Byroms.

Irene: No. Did I tell you about Mark Veriwell [?]

Loyce: No.

Irene: Well he wasn't adopted but he was taken in by the Byrom's at one time and he lived with them for many years and he opened a restaurant or something over in [Milwaukee?]. He married one of the high school gals, there, I can't remember her name, maybe it will come to me - but she lived..

Karen: Back to the Byroms. Have you been in the old Byrom house?

Irene: Yes!

Karen: Do you remember old Mrs Byrom..Joe Byrom's wife?

Irene: Yes, she was a beautiful woman.

Karen: She was a beautiful woman from the pictures.

Irene: Oh, my! She was a wonderful person and Joe Byrom was a wonderful man. They were an ideal family, and ideal family!

Loyce: I've always heard nice things about them. And the pictures, they just look like a really handsome framily.

Irene: And Mrs Byrom, you couldn'f find a nicer person and she was such a beautiful woman!

Karen: Fortunately, she had a camera, or cameras, and she just loved to go around and take pictures. That's why her granddaughter Barbara has so many of her pictures now, and she kept everything!

Mike: They were the "Hill Gang" and the Nybergs were the "Swamp gang"!

Irene: Oh, yes! The Nybergs were the "Swamp Gang" and we always belonged to the hill gang.

Mike: A little rivalry there!

Irene: Sometimes, the Swamp Gang would invite us down for skating, or so on, on the pond down there but they were always kept separated from each other.

Mike: A little bit of friction there.

Irene: But we played basketball together.

Mike: The Nybergs and the Byroms and the whole bunch of us played together and we got along fine in that old gym, didn't we? [this to his sister, Irene?] We had a big gymnasium.

Irene: Do you remember that great big gy mnasium we had there?

Karen: Oh, Yes, I went to school there. Oh, you bet, you bet!

Irene: We played Basketball there at one time.

Karen: There was an old pot bellied stove there, maybe not pot bellied, but a big stove with a screen guard around it. You mentioned skating, that would be the pond by the Nyberg's?

Mike: By the river there, it's still there, that was there for a long time. Back in the woods alongside the road. You can still see it when you drive the freeway [I-5] there.

Karen: And it got cold enough to freeze occasionally?

Irene & Mike: Oh, yeah!

Mike: It's a real shallow pond in there and it would freeze right away quick.

Irene: Nobody ever mentioned anything about the old mailman they used to have.

[All musing aloud but unintelligible on this tape] Adams, Toose, Henry Owens..

Irene: They had a son.. Evan Owen.. and Dan Christianson. Dan Christianson! Now, Dan Christenson has a marker over there in our cemetery and they were - the Christiansons lived over in Cipole and these two boys were working in the Hedges swamp at one time and there son, the old man's son, Evan Owen, and Dan Christenson were eating and they took a notion to go over to the Tualatin River to go swimming and they run right from the onion patch and jumped into the river and they both drowned.

And that was a BIG funeral over in Sherwood. Everybody knew Evan Owens because he was our mailman's son.

Loyce: And what was the other kids name?

Irene: Dan Christianson. Now he has a little marker and it makes me sick because nobody pays any attention to it.

Karen: In the Winona Cemetery?

Irene: Yes. In the cemetery down there.

Loyce: You know, I.. - Where is it? I was down there a couple of times and someone said, "There should be a stone there, this guy drowned in the river!"

Mike: When you go down to the cemetery, go in from the Martin's side of the house there, and behind the full length - and it makes a turn there where you go out, it's right by where you turn there. Made out of steel. Somebody with a welding torch or a cutting torch, they -

Irene: Dan Christianson was going to be my first.. My first date out on a date. He was going to take me to a dance and show me how to dance and that next night he was drowned, and I.. My goodness, I thought I'd never learn how to dance because he was going to teach me how to dance up at Sherwood.

Loyce: Isn't it odd that they both jumped in and drowned!

Irene: They both jumped in the river and they both tried to help the other and they both drowned.

Loyce: They didn't know how to swim and they just jumped in?

Irene: Well, they were too hot, they were working in that heat and they run all the way down to the river.

Loyce: What part of the river did they go to?

Irene and Mike together: Jurgens Park!

Mike: I still remember that very vividly because my dad went over there and took me along, and I sat in the car and I happened to glance over to another car and here was on of those poor guys in the car with a blanket over him sitting in the back seat. And I thought, "Holy Smoke!" That's kind of..and I'll always remember that.

Loyce: You were there when they took him out of the river?

Mike: No, not when they took him out of the river. But he was in the car there valtin' to take him someplace.

Loyce: Well, tell me about what year was that approximately?

Mike: Oh, 19--, Oh, the marker over there, does it say 1918?

Loyce: I don't know.

Irene: Does it say anything on the marker? Maybe we can look at it. It made me feel real bad to think that somebody's family don't come there cause he had quite a big family there at Cipole at one time.

Loyce: Where about did they live?

Irene: Right in Cipole. Right where you make the turn there about the turn there where Rasmussens and so on lived. I used to go to Sunday School there always. And they had a little church on there and that's where the Christiansons used to live. Right on the railroad. The Ellers..

Karen: About three houses kind of close together there.

Mike: Ellers house is right across the street.

Irene: They had quite a big family and I can't figure out why they didn't pay any attention to this!

Karen: Now, where is the Ownes boy buried, in Sherwood?

Irene: The one boy ..up on the hill.

Mike: Pleasant Hill Cemetery.

Karen: What was his name?

Irene: Evan.

Karen: Evan Owens.

Irene: Yes.

Mike: Johnny Owens, he was the Dad. He was the mail carrier.

Loyce: Well, who was Henry Owens?

Mike: He could be.. At least we called him Johnny all the time. He drove in a horse and buggy.

Karen: Well, we have a picture that Mrs Joe Byrom would have taken from , I think from, our front door looking down on the picket fence and there is this little horse and carriage and that was..mail carrier.

Mike: See that road there by the Nesoma Station comes off from your right, was a little dirt road and they had mud there that deep in the wintertime and in the summertime we had dust. We used to throw it up in the air and watch it. [chuckles]

Karen: Not very many people traveled that road. That little stretch was called "Nesoma Road" and now they've changed it to Avery Road.

Irene: Why did they call it Avery Road? The Avery's didn't have anything to do with it!

Karen: Well, Avery's had that same name on the other side where it crosses.

Loyce: Well, I wondered how "Nesoma" got it's name.

Mike: It's an Indian name.

Loyce: Did they just pick a name?

Mike: There are others. Tonquin. Tonquin/Mulloy - the station.

Loyce: Oh, was there a station at Mulloy there?

Mike: Yes.

Karen: Of course, Mulloy was a family name.

Mike: Every two or three miles they had a station. A lot of stations! A lot of trains every half hour there was a train during the day.

Loyce: It sure makes good sense to have trains where everybody can use them.

Irene: And the Electric down where the Walgraeves are. There was lots of transportation back and forth to Portland at that time.

Karen: Now the East and West Southern Pacific now. SP&S it was originally, that went, it went in to Portland eventually, but it went by way of Lake Oswego and cross the river, I guess.

Irene: Is that still there?

Mike: The track is still there.

Loyce: Well, what can you tell me about Jurgens Park?

Mike: We used to play ball there.

Irene: That used to be a popular place in the summertime, very popular.

Loyce: Are you talking about down on the river or up on the highway?

Irene: Jurgens Park up on the highway and Roamers Rest was down by the river across the street. That used to be popular, too. They had a ball park in there. That didn't last very long.

Mike: That was nothing but a woods and they carved out a ball park and, of course, they didn't make it very big. I used to play on the Jurgens Park Ball Team and every Sunday we had an attraction.

Loyce: Now, where was the ball park again?

Mike: Right down behind..give me a pen. Here..here is the road that goes by the cemetery and goes by here. Here's the main highway and of course the Jurgens Park consession stand was by here. Ball park was in here, right back here.

Loyce: Where were the cabins?

Mike: They were somewhere along here. Anyhow, it wasn't very big and a good fly ball would be a home run. So we used to play people and, uh, the rule was: get as many bases as you could regardless of where you hit it. The only difference was, our guys, we'd have an extra ball in our back pocket, see, knock around the brush and rush around, throw "the ball" in and we'd get a home run every time when we did that! [laughter]

Loyce: So there was a Jurgens Park Team. What other teams were there?

Mike: Oh, boy! every little town had a ball park and a ball team.

Karen: And the Tualatin ball field, where was that?

Mike: I remember it pretty well, it's about where it is now.

Karen: In Tualatin Park?

Mike: Yeah, right where it is now but the home plate was out on the road.

Karen: Didn't there used to be a ball field where Hervin Cat and Dog Food factory place was?

Mike: Yeah, umhum, that was later.

Loyce: So the first ball park was over by the saw mill?

Mike: No, you know where Asa Mack's house is, right? Well, over by where the park is now, home plate was right where you make the turn into the park and in those days they didn't have the bags nailed down like they do now and Clyde Hedges was...No, Skimer Blank wasn't it that played first base?

Karen: Would that be Ed Blank?

Irene: No, Mel Blank.

Mike: No, not Mel Blank, I don't think, but anyway, he got his spikes tangled up in the bag and somebody came along and pulled the bag three or four feet up..and he..

Loyce: Now these teams, were they kids or were they grownups?

Mike: Mixed. Some were in their 20's and some were older.

Loyce: Was it what was called the Town Team?

Mike: Yeah, Art [Martinazzi, Loyce's Dad] played on some of those teams.

Loyce: Yeah, I remember him playing.

Mike: That and Tigard had a team, and they had a good.. Tualatin.. Sherwood had a good one.

Karen: Later on, back in the 40's I guess, they had town basketball teams.

Karen again: Another thing I wanted to ask you about, I've heard references to a kind of "Red" activity in the 30's. Pinkos or Communist.

Mike: In the 30's yeah.

Karen: Did you hear of anything like that?

Mike: Was it Communists or Nazi's? or we'd call 'em "Brown Shirts?"

Karen: I hadn't heard about that, but I'd just heard casual references to the...

Mike: I'm thinking of IWW'S .. Wobblies?

Karen: I guess so, yes!

Mike: I didn't know of any activity here, but of course they were very active all over the place -- the Wobblies were, of course, that's where they had the big shoot out up in Seattle.

Irene: Klu Klux Klan, that's what they had a lot of here.

Mike: Oh, yeah, they had a lot of that around here. Yeah, they were real big.

Loyce & Karen together [astonished]: Really? Here in Tualatin even?

Mike: Oh, yeah!

Irene: Yes, yes!

Karen: Now that I never heard of!

Mike: The minister up there was one of the leaders.

Irene: They were out to get the Catholics or one thing and another. Everybody who was a Catholic was an "anarchs [sic]. The Catholics were on one side and the Protestants on the other.

Karen: What minister was that, did you say?

Mike: Blankinship.

Loyce: From Sherwood.

Mike: Yeah.

Karen: He was a Ku Klux Klan member, you think?

Mike: Yeah.

Karen: Isn't there still a Blankinship family over there?

Mike: Uh huh.

Loyce: Same family?

Mike: I think so, they had a son. I don't know whether he's still alive or not.

Karen: It's Ken Blankinship.

Mike: Yeah, that's the one, a pretty little son. [sounds as if he means small at the time.]

Irene: Is that Kenneth Blankinship?

Karen: Yeah, was it he or was it his father?

Mike: His father was there, uh huh.

Irene: It was his brother!

Mike: [voice sounds annoyed at his sister] No, it was his father!

Loyce: Well, do you remember a dance hall down by where the park is now?

Mike: Down there? Oh, yeah! Uh huh, sure do!

Karen: Where was that?

Mike: It was right on the river, down where that little covered picnic area is down there.

'Karen: Oh, it was a dance hall.

Loyce: Well now, I heard that it was run by the Communists.

Mike: Oh, is that right?

Karen: Yeah, I had heard that, too. They also had some doings there.

Mike: In those days, of course, one of the things that the objective was was to get as many people in there as you could so they made their dough, so they had a dance floor there, and they had one over at Roamers Rest and over at Connie Frederick's place over across the river there - Avalon- and all of 'em had dance floors, and of course all of 'em in session. Right down there at the base of the, uh, where you go into the park now, and you have the ramp.

[End of Side B of the tape]

Side A

[It appears that a question was asked as to what Mike and Irene knew about the Martinazzi family, but the question is not on this tape.]

Irene: ...very well. They came here when Art was in school. I think Art was in the third grade, fourth grade or something like that. Seems to me like. [If , indeed, she is talking about Art Martinazzi and his parents, she is in error because my father, Art Martinazzi, was born in Tualatin in 1902 and lived there until his death in 1984.]

Mike: I never recognized him.

Irene: They came from way off, I don't know where it was they came from.

Loyce: Way off? Well..

Irene: We called them Marti nan zi.

Loyce: When I was a kid they called them# Mar Tin' zie.

Irene: Then we got to call them Martin az e, I don't know how.

Loyce: That's correct!

Mike: Anyway, I know where they lived and we had a speaking acquaintance. I don't know if we did very much with them, I don't remember that at all. They lived over there by Sagerts. Do you remember Sagerts? They had the threshing machines and they used to go around and they used to thresh all of our grain for us. [Martinazzi's or Sagerts?]

Loyce: Do you remember Lou Sagert?

Mike: Oh, yeah, uh huh.

Karen: Do you remember the Munniksmas?

Loyce: That was probably after, they came in the 30's. What was the name of their dairy? Valley?

Loyce, continuing: Well, in your time, was there much of a town at Middleton?

Mike: Yes. There was a school there and a dance hall, or Grange Hall, and I'm sure there was a store there, too.

Irene: At that time?

Mike: Oh, yeah, sure was!

Irene: There's nothing there now but a name by the roadside.

Mike: Now, there's nothing there now, but there was a school there.

Karen: Now, what was your earliest memory of stores in Tualatin? There was the corner brick store in Tualatin.

Irene: Newt Robinson.

Karen: That was a grocery store.

Irene: That was a grocery store. And then the other Robinson, Grace Robinson and Ed had a store, meat

market in there.

Karen: And next to that was.. Now there were no more shops in what they called "Old Town" where the Sp&S railroad went thru, close to the railroad tracks.

Irene: Oh, that's where the old Potts [?] grocery store was.

Karen: Can you remember when there was a grocery store there?

Irene: Oh, Yes!

Loyce: Was it open at the same time Newt and Lizzie was?

Irene: I think Potts store was before Newt Robinson's store was, or I guess about at the same time.

Loyce: Were they open at the same time?

Mike: Oh, yeah, I guess.

Karen: So they had three stores open at the same time.

Irene: It was just a little old...

Mike: They had a Hall there, too, right there on the corner.

Loyce: Yes! Odd Fellows Hall.

Irene: And they had the church, too, ***, on the corner by where the grocery store was.

Karen: Now you were.. we talked to Bea Cole. She remembers a millinery shop there.

Irene: No.. Bea Cole, is she still around?

Karen: Yes she is!

Irene: Oh, where is she living? In Multnomah? Karen: No..

Loyce: Valley View Manor, uh, no, Willamette View Manor.

Karen: On the East side of .. you know where it is.

Loyce: She's not very well, she 's got Leukemia so she needs a lot of care.

Irene: See, I used to go to work with her sister, Clara.

Loyce: Gladys?

Irene: Isn't that Bea Cole's sister's name? I thought it was Clara.

Loyce: No, Gladys. Then there was a boy. What was his name, Buddy or something like that? He died in 1917.

Karen: Well now, her father had the big horse barn where the John L. Smith Enterprises was. He was a Teamster, I guess. Do you remember that big barn back there where the sawmill was? Back there where

the city park is now?

Mike: I thought it was a swamp..

Loyce: Remember the brickyard?

Mike: Yeah!

Irene: I can't remember a brickyard.

Mike: \widehat{D} was right there where the lumber yard is now, right in there.

Karen: Yes.

Mike: They made all the bricks for that store.

Loyce: The Newt Robinson's store?

Mike: Um hum.

Irene: That's going to last forever, I think. We all..

Mike: Yeah, yeah.

Irene: That used to be such a popular place. [chuckles]

Karen: Now, where was the Post Office, when you remembered it?

Mike: I think it was right there, by Hannegan's Service Station. I wouldn't swear to it, but it was in that area

someplace.

Irene: We got all our mail by Johnny Owens.

Loyce: Do you remember a jail?

Irene: A jail? No.

Mike: Charlie Roberts. Charlie Roberts was the guy that had a .. He was the constable for years and years.

Irene: Their place was right where Sheerwood Road connects with, uh...

Loyce: Boones Ferry?

Irene: Uh huh. That used to be the old Roberts place. I don't remember where the jail was. No, I can't

remember if they had a jail, did they? [aside to her brother, Mike (?)

Mike: No..

Karen: There are references to a jail right across from the Mack house.

Mike: There could have been, but I wouldn't swear to it.

Loyce: It must have been before your time.

Irene: It must have been.

Mike: OK .[as if he wants to end the interview]

Irene: We lived a long time. [laughter]

Loyce: It is wonderful that you can remember so much. You know, a lot of people just can't remember

much.

Irene: Sometimes, I can remember a lot of things, then all of a sudden you..

Loyce: Sure! Sure! Well, now that I see these things again, I hate to have you take 'em.

Irene: Oh, we have to take 'em now! We just [unintelligible]..come in here.

Mike: If you want to borrow them or something, that's fine. We'd rather keep them here.

Loyce: Well, when..

Karen: Of course, of course.

Loyce: And when we go to put our book together then we'd like to come and..

Karen: It's just nice to know that material is here when the time comes to quote from it, or...

Mike: Yeah..

Karen: But this, I would like to have this and have you folks come when we have our Heritage Sunday.

What a precious, precious.. Oh!

Irene: We'll go to church that day, Mike. Might do you good!

[Unintelligible chatter]

Mike: It's too late to start! [laughter]

Irene: Could I go to the restroom?

Loyce: Sure, sure.

Karen: Well, this is so.. A lot of people clean house and just throw away old stuff and it doesn't..

Irene: And that's the trouble, when you keep all these things and then somebody don't enjoy them at

home.

Karen: Yes, that can happen.

Mike: In the old days, too, on almost every occasion, they used to, uh, they used to send cards, uh, I've

got a lot of those.

Karen: You have a lot of those?

Mike: Oh, yeah! A bunch of those things.

Karen: My Dad saves those. My mother had a nice scrapbook of old cards.

Loyce: What?

Karen: Old cards.

Loyce: Oh.

[Tape clicks a couple of times, probably when Irene goes to the bathroom]

Karen: Let's turn this on.

Loyce: Let's wait til she gets back .

Karen: That's right, too. [click sound]

Mike: Tell her who you are. [evidently Loyce and/or Karen asked Irene and Mike to identify themselves.

Loyce: Could you give us your name?

Irene: Oh, I'm Irene Schmokel Erickson. I'm 89 years old and I used to live here in Tualatin all my life.

Mike: I'm, my, in high school, I mean in grade school, I'm Melvin Henry Schmokel, but the name Mike, my nickname was Mike Schmokel for obvious reasons[?] and I haven't lived all my life <u>yet</u> in Oregon.

Karen: Just so far!

Mike: Just, yeah, so far!

Karen: OK!

Loyce: Oh, Thank you!

End

Tape 12-Side 1 to counter 149

Other side of tape

Side to to 149 of Tape

[It appears that a question was asked as to what Mike and Irene knew about the Martinazzi family, but the question is cut off on this copy of the tape.]

Irene: ...very well. They came here when Art was in school. I think Art was in the third grade, fourth grade or something like that. Seems to me like. [If , indeed, she is talking about Art Martinazzi and his parents, she is in error because my father, Art Martinazzi, was born in Tualatin in 1902 and lived there until his death in 1984.]

Mike: I never recognized him.

Irene: They came from way off, I don't know where it was they came from.

Loyce: Way off? Well..

Irene: We called them Marti nan zi.

Loyce: When I was a kid they called them Mar Tin' zie.

Irene: Then we got to call them Martin az e, I don't know how.

Loyce: That's correct!

Mike: Anyway, I know where they lived and we had a speaking acquaintance. I don't know if we did very much with them, I don't remember that at all. They lived over there by Sagerts. Do you remember Sagerts? They had the threshing machines and they used to go around and they used to thresh all of our grain for us. [Martinazer's or Sagerts?]

Loyce: Do you remember Lou Sagert?

12-14

Mike: Oh, yeah, uh huh.

Karen: Do you remember the Munniksmas?

Loyce: That was probably after, they came in the 30's. What was the name of their dairy? Valley?

Loyce, continuing: Well, in your time, was there much of a town at Middleton?

Mike: Yes. There was a school there and a dance hall, or Grange Hall, and I'm sure there was a store there,

too.

Irene: At that time?

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Karen: That was a grocery store.

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Mike: Oh, yeah, I guess.

Karen: So they had three stores open at the same time.

Irene: It was just a little old...

Mike: They had a Hall there, too, right there on the corner.

Loyce: Yes! Odd Fellows Hall.

12-2 1

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Irene: And they had the church, too, there on the corner by where the grocery store was.

Karen: Now you were.. we talked to Bea Cole. She remembers a millinery shop there.

Irene: No..Bea Cole, is she still around?

Karen: Yes she is!

Irene: Oh, where is she living? In Multnomah? Karen: No..

Loyce: Valley View Manor, uh, no, Willamette View Manor.

Karen: On the East side of .. you know where it is.

Loyce: She's not very well, she 's got Leukemia so she needs a lot of care.

Irene: See, I used to go to work with her sister, Clara.

Loyce: Gladys?

Irene: Isn't that Bea Cole's sister's name? I thought it was Clara.

Loyce: No, Gladys. Then there was a boy. What was his name, Buddy or something like that? He died in

1917.

Karen: Well now, her father had the big horse barn where the John L. Smith Enterprises was. He was a Teamster, I guess. Do you remember that big barn back there where the sawmill was? Back there where

the city park is now?

Mike: I thought it was a swamp..

Loyce: Remember the brickyard?

Mike: Yeah!

Irene: I can't remember a brickyard.

Mike: It was right there where the lumber yard is now, right in there.

Karen: Yes.

Mike: They made all the bricks for that store.

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Mike: Um hum.

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Mike: Yeah, yeah.

Irene: That used to be such a popular place. [chuckles]

Karen: Now, where was the Post Office, when you remembered it?

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Mike: I think it was right there, by Hannegan's Service Station. I wouldn't swear to it, but it was in that area someplace.

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Mike: No ..

Karen: There are references to a jail right across from the Mack house.

Mike: There could have been, but I wouldn't swear to it.

Loyce: It must have been before your time.

Irene: It must have been.

Mike: OK .[as if he wants to end the interview]

Irene: We lived a long time. [laughter]

Loyce: It is wonderful that you can remember so much. You know, a lot of people just can't remember

much.

Irene: Sometimes, I can remember a lot of things, then all of a sudden you..

Loyce: Sure! Sure! Well, now that I see these things again, I hate to have you take 'em.

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Mike: Yeah...

Karen: But this, I would like to have this and have you folks come when we have our Heritage Sunday.

What a precious, precious.. Oh!

Irene: We'll go to church that day, Mike. Might do you good!

[Unintelligible chatter]

Mike: It's too late to start! [laughter]

Irene: Could I go to the restroom?

Loyce: Sure, sure.

Karen: Well, this is so .. A lot of people clean house and just throw away old stuff and it doesn't ..

Irene: And that's the trouble, when you keep all these things and then somebody don't enjoy them at \mathcal{L}

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got a lot of those.

Karen: You have a lot of those?

Mike: Oh, yeah! A bunch of those things.

Karen: My Dad saves those. My mother had a nice scrapbook of old cards.

Loyce: What? Karen: Old cards. Loyce: Oh.

[Tape clicks a couple of times, probably when Irene goes to the bathroom]

Karen: Let's turn this on.

Loyce: Let's wait til she gets back .

Karen: That's right, too. [click sound]

Mike: Tell her who you are. [evidently Loyce and/or Karen asked Irene and Mike to identify themselves.

Loyce: Could you give us your name?

Irene: Oh, I'm Irene Schmokel Erickson. I'm 89 years old and I used to live here in Tualatin all my life.

Mike: I'm, my, in high school, I mean in grade school, I'm Melvin menry Schmokel, but the name Mike, my

nickname was Mike Schmokel for obvious reasons[?] and I haven't lived all my life yet in Oregon.

Karen: Just so far!

Mike: Just, yeah, so far!

Karen: OK! Loyce: Oh, Thank you!

The End of Side 1 - Counter 149

12-58

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Something with

[Beginning:]

[No introduction. Loyce is cut off and only part of her question is heard]

Loyce: ... Sweek House?

Mike: Not at the Sweek house, but in that area. I think it was across the street, there. I think it was where Hannegan's Service Station is now.

Loyce: Ah, o.k.

Mike: [aside] Isn't that where the Post Office was? I think it was somewhere down there. Anyway, he used to take the mail over there every afternoon about the time school was out and, uh, a lot of us fellows, used to get in front of this little push cart and go slow and he used to grumble, "Get out of the way! U.S. Mail!

Loyce: [Laughs]

Mike: That's all he ever said that I know of. [telephone rings in background and Mikes voice is heard in unintelligible musings.] Mike: His son, uh - he had a son [aside] what was his name? Vi? Joe? Joe Schamoni was that the old man or was it his son?

Irene: I think Joe was the only one I knew.

Mike: Yeah, I think it was the son.

Karen: Now, where did the Schamoni's live?

Mike: Well, I am not sure.

Irene: I think they lived over close to the Coles. Didn't the Coles live right down in the middle of town? What used to be the town?

Loyce: Didn't Schamoni live across the street from Coles?

Irene: Something like that, right in there, right in there somewhere but I can't remember exactly where.

Loyce: Did you remember Janey Galbreath?

Irene: Janey? No, I knew many Galbreaths. Janey? No, I don't remember a Janey Galbreath. Nettie Galbreath and Robert Galbreath.

Mike: Barbara was the mother.

Irene: Barbara was the mother of many and they...

Karen: Now, who was the daughter of John L. Smith? Was that Nettie Galbreath?

Irene: No, that doesn't sound right.

Karen: The daughter of John L. Smith married a Galbreath, married John Galbreath.

Irene: Maybe that was Janey.

Karen: I guess she was a very vibrant, colorful woman. I think and she, <u>any</u> child of John L. Smith [chuckles] would be a colorful, dynamic person, I guess.

Irene: I can't remember.

Karen: Now, there were two depots. You mentioned the depots. Um, the depot that I remember from Oregon Electric was right across from the Hauxhurst and the..

Mike: Robinson s store.

Irene: Across from there.. Grace Robinson's daughter lived across..

Karen: Can you remember taking the train from there?

Mike: Oh, yeah!

Irene: I came home from there every day from Meier & Frank. My father would come in the Ford and pick us up after work.

Karen: Oh, you worked in Portland at Meier & Frank's?

Irene: Yes, in 1917 when the war was started, all the boys left for the service and the girls, we were all left home and we'd have to get out to work. We didn't go to High School at that time, we went to work.

Karen: Oh, I see.

Irene: The Geiberger girls and the ...whole bunch of those gals and we all got on the train. I got on at the Nesoma Station and then the rest of them got on at Tualatin, some of them got on at, uh...

Loyce: Durham?

Irene: Yeah, Durhan They came down from Durham, I think that's where it started from.

Loyce: So there was an actual depot at Nesoma?

[all four start to chatter excitedly at once and the result is unintelligible]

Irene continues: It was a nice station, one of those big stations. We waited for a train to come by and pick us up. We all worked at Meier & Frank or someplace like that.

Karen: What did you do at Meier & Frank?

Irene: I started out as a Center Aisle and they all started out at that. The Nybergs, the Blanks, Thompsons, 9 1 H S Blanch Thompson, she worked at a beauty..., in a woman's shop, down there in the old Portland Hotel.

Loyce: OH!

Irene [emoting]: That beautiful old hotel, when they tore that down I couldn't believe it! They should have kept that for posterity!

Karen: Now they would, but that was just a time when they didn't have any feelings for history.

Loyce [to Karen] Do you remember it?

Karen: Yes, I do!

Irene: There was a women's dress shop there, and that's where Blanch Thompson worked. And Mary, I knew her, she didn't work, she married that Johnny Junor so she didn't work. She married very young and he worked over there at the golf course, manager over there and Johnny Juror, that's when Mary Thompson married him. Marge Thompson married the chocolate man from California. Holtler, it used to be Holtler Chocolates. Oh, Boy, Holtler Chocolates sold chocolates all up and down..all sorts of.. That's who Marge Thompson married.

And then Laura was already married. She lived by the old Thompson place. All those places are gone now.

Karen: Yes, they are.

Irene: The viens used to live there on the corner area, right across from where the school is now. They did have a farm out there someplace.

Mike: By the Robbins place.

Irene: Yes, by the Tualatin School, across from the High School. That little corner area there, that used to be the old Vien place. Charlie, Ed, Frank and uh, Marge Clark [?] lived there in that place.

Viane Karen: Is the house still standing?

Irene: No, its gone. So many of the places that I used to know are gone. All the Geigbergers places back there all gone. Used to be back of the school, then.

Karen: Did you have our calendar last year, this year's calendar?

Irene: Yes, I got last year's calendar, but I didn't get one this year.

Karen: That features the old.. They called it the Tualatin Street of Dreams 1900 and it had all the old houses that were standing about the turn of the century, so you'd enjoy that.

Irene: Oh, yeah, I should have got one of those!

Karen: I think Loyce has some.

Loyce [to Karen] Shall we give them each one?

Karen: I think so.

[Excited chatter from Mike, Irene, Loyce and Karen as they seem to be looking at the calendars.]

Irene: That's the old Hedges House!

Karen: No, thats the Saum Mansion, the Saum Castle down the road.

Mike: That's right down here, [aside to Irene:] Remember Saum had the house...

Irene: Oh, How <u>Great!</u> This is Saum's old Castle. Yes. [Irene to her brother, Mike:] Remember that? The big dome?

Mike: [in a mimicking voice] "What's your name?" "My name is Jackie Saum [unintelligible].

Irene: [to Loyce & Karen] Thank you SO much!

Loyce & Karen: Oh, you are welcome!

Irene: 1900! That's when I was born!

Loyce: You are in wonderful shape, you look wonderful!

Karen: Well, did you know Jane Ibach?

Irene: I didn't know who the Ibach's were at all.

Mike: I knew John Ibach. John Ibach went to high school with me for a couple of years, anyway.

Karen: What about his brothers?

Mike: I don't know. John was the only one I knew. I never knew they had..

Irene: [obviously still looking at the calendar of 1900 houses, interrupts] Oh, my gosh! There's other

houses in here, too!

Karen: [to Irene] Jane Ibach is just your age and she just lives down here now.

Irene: [still commenting on the calendar] Oh, here's the Robinsons, Newt Robinson's house?

Loyce: No, that's Geiberger's house up by the school.

Irene: Oh, for goodness sakes! There is Mae Geiberger! Is she still living?

Karen: Yes, she lives in Salem, I think, and she has come up for the school reunions.

Irene: Oh, really? Her sisters Edna and Ann are both dead, I think.

Loyce: Well, there's two girls still living.

Irene: There is?

Loyce: There's Edna then - one lives in California and the other lives in Salem. So Edna lives in California

and Mae lives in Salem. And Edna and Anne come up to look at the house.

Irene: Oh, this is good! [still looking at the calendar? then all talking about a photo of a house]

Loyce: Oh, it's where Fredericks lived, right down here below the hospital.

Irene: I knew this one, I don't know that one, Oh, here's the Hedges House!

Mike: Yes!

Irene: They had a white picket fence around it!

Karen: Oh, you remember that fence? Part of it is still standing!

Loyce: [to Mike] Now, what is that you've got there?

12-5

Mike: That's the second grade. I was in the second grade class there.

Loyce: Oh, that's a big second grade.

Mike: Yeah, well first and second grade together there. There is young Johnny Jurgens, Clarence Itel, here I am, this is a guy named David Brennen. There's Johnny Cimino there.

nere ram, this is a guy hamed David Diermen. There's Johnny Cimino there

Loyce: You say that's Johnny Jurgens?

Mike: Yes, this guy right here.

Karen: Now, where are you in this picture?

Mike: Right here. Bill Barngrover is right down here. I think Harriet Barngrover ..who is it now? Married to Andrews right in there someplace. Miss Coleman, I remember her.

Karen: This would be what year about?

Mike: Let's see now. About 1919, I imagine, maybe 1918.

[woman in background softly (Irene?): There's [Penny or Benny] and John, and Elsie and Jessie.

Mike: Walter, maybe.

Irene: Jessie Cimino married..Och, Helen Wager. That's John Cimino and Elsie and Jessie, Nettie..

Mike: Oh, that's Jessie's uh, Jessie's daughter, the one down at the other.

Loyce: Oh, Helen Koch.

Mike: Yeah, Helen.

Irene: Oh, for goodness sake!

Mike: These are great!

Irene: Oh, is that the one that raised the .. Is that the Pohl house?

Loyce: Do you remember Asa Mack? That's Asa - Asa Mack House.

Irene: Oh, Yes. That house has been torn down, tho?

Karen: No, a veterinarian has his office there now. But there is a Pohl connection. Asa Mack was Leonard Pohl's step father and the Pohl daughters, the girls, the three of them.

Irene: Oh. Martha Blank. That was Gladys Byrom's daughter so she was the one that grew up in the Zeke Eddy house.

Mike: Oh, look! an uncancelled one cent stamp!

Loyce & Karen: Oh!

Mike: You don't find those very often anymore.

Karen: We found two uncancelled one's

[background voices looking at photos and musing]

Mike: Oh?

Karen: Yes, when they took the Hedges House apart, it is amazing, a house that hadn't been lived in for ten years or so, and had been a little bit trashed, you know, people would come thru and, altho it wasn't badly vandalized, but, it's amazing the things they found in the walls, and under boards and things. They found, like a snuff box and a little thing wrapped in the two uncancelled one cent stamps and it was wrapped in a little tiny bit of newspaper that had an 1892 date on it and a very shiny penny that hadn't been used hardly!

Loyce: What year was it?

Karen: 1900, I think.

Irene: Um, 1900!

Karen: Or 1899, in there. And a few garments, lots of old smelly socks, but one was a cravat tie that had its knot built in it where it slipped thru and a hook where you pulled it up and hooked it in place. And it had a little stamp in it "1893" and some old letters, old letters that were torn up and I think they had the same time, about 1890's?

Irene: Square nails?

Karen: Yes, here you can each have one of these that we made up. A Certificate and a square nail that was taken from the house.

Irene: Oh, for.. [obviously pleased with the Hedges House memorabilia]

Mike: I have one so I'll give you this one back.

Loyce: Do you remember Reverand Blake, they called him, Father Blake?

Irene: Was he one of the ministers?

Loyce: Yeah. He was a minister and he lived close to the Byroms.

Irene: No. Did I tell you about Mark Veriwell [?]

Loyce: No.

Irene: Well he wasn't adopted but he was taken in by the Byrom's at one time and he lived with them for many years and he opened a restaurant or something over in [Milwaukee?]. He married one of the high school gals, there, I can't remember her name, maybe it will come to me - but she lived..

Karen: Back to the Byroms. Have you been in the old Byrom house?

Irene: Yes!

Karen: Do you remember old Mrs Byrom..Joe Byrom's wife?

Irene: Yes, she was a beautiful woman.

Karen: She was a beautiful woman from the pictures.

Irene: Oh, myl She was a wonderful person and Joe Byrom was a wonderful man. They were an ideal family and ideal family!

family, and ideal family!

Loyce: I've always heard nice things about them. And the pictures, they just look like a really handsome framily.

Irene: And Mrs Byrom, you couldn'f find a nicer person and she was such a beautiful woman!

Karen: Fortunately, she had a camera, or cameras, and she just loved to go around and take pictures. That's why her granddaughter Barbara has so many of her pictures now, and she kept everything!

Mike: They were the "Hill Gang" and the Nybergs were the "Swamp gang"!

Irene: Oh, yes! The Nybergs were the "Swamp Gang" and we always belonged to the hill gang.

Mike: A little rivalry there!

Irene: Sometimes, the Swamp Gang would invite us down for skating, or so on, on the pond down there but they were always kept separated from each other.

Mike: A little bit of friction there.

Irene: But we played basketball together.

Mike: The Nybergs and the Byroms and the whole bunch of us played together and we got along fine in that old gym, didn't we? [this to his sister, Irene?] We had a big gymnasium.

Irene: Do you remember that great big gymnasium we had there?

Karen: Oh, Yes, I went to school there. Oh, you bet, you bet!

Irene: We played Basketball there at one time.

Karen: There was an old pot bellied stove there, maybe not pot bellied, but a big stove with a screen guard around it. You mentioned skating, that would be the pond by the Nyberg's?

Mike: By the river there, it's still there, that was there for a long time. Back in the woods alongside the road. You can still see it when you drive the freeway [I-5] there.

Karen: And it got cold enough to freeze occasionally?

Irene & Mike: Oh, yeah!

Mike: It's a real shallow pond in there and it would freeze right away quick.

Irene: Nobody ever mentioned anything about the old mailman they used to have.

[All musing aloud but unintelligible on this tape] Adams, Toose, Henry Owens...

Irene: They had a son.. Evan Owen.. and Dan Christianson. Dan Christianson! Now, Dan Christenson has