

Community Studies Archives
Dickinson College
Carlisle, PA

COLLECTION REGISTER

Name: **Oral History Freshman Seminar** **OH.1997**
The People's History (Fall 1997)

Material: Student Reports

Volume: 17 folders, 14 cassette tapes.

Donation: Gift of Kim Lacy Rogers.

Usage: Please consult with the Community Studies Center staff regarding restrictions.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Oral History Freshman Seminar explored the past through what is known as oral history. The seminar topic involved listening to the life stories that everyone has, but seldom gets the opportunity to share. Throughout the course, students worked toward the preparation of their own oral history project involving elderly residents at local retirement communities. First, they discussed some of the key questions that evidence gathered from oral sources tends to raise. What do we make of an oral account of an event or era that does not mesh with what we think we already know? How does one use an oral history account of the past? Can we really take a person's version at face value? If not, then what do we make of the stories that people tell about their lives? And what, in the end, are the ethics involved in having people reveal their personal memories in the first place?

Class texts included *Portraits in Steel* by Michael Frisch and Milton Rogovin, *From Sundown to Sunup: The Making of the Black Community* by George Rawick, *Number Our Days* by Barbara Myerhoff, as well as the pamphlets *Using Oral History in Community History Projects* by Laurie Mercier and Madeline Buckendorf and *Oral History Evaluation Guidelines*. The course required two short papers (3-5 pages) and one longer final paper (8-10 pages).

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The collection is divided into 3 series. Series 1 consists of 15 interview reports, typed projects by students based on their research and interviews. Reports are organized alphabetically according to subject's last name. Series 2 consists of 2 folders of course materials, including a course syllabus and completed consent forms. Series 3 consists of 14 audio cassette tapes.

COLLECTION INVENTORY
SERIES 1 – INTERVIEW REPORTS
SERIES INVENTORY

1.1 "Dora Addams" – Meghan McVeigh and Jeff Sturgeon. Nov. 17, 1997

- 1.2 “Mary E. Arthur” – Kseniya Thomas and Meghan Withington. Nov. 11, 1997 [Tape CTX00811]
- 1.3 “Shirley Erickson” – Jackie Johnston and Kristen Rose. Nov. 13, 1997 [Tape CTX00812]
- 1.4 “Priscilla Gardner” – Zachary Leverenz and John Andreadakis II. Nov. 13, 1997 [Tape CTX00813]
- 1.5 “Edward Hering” – Jeff Sturgeon and Megan McVeigh. Nov. 12, 1997 [Tape CTX00814]
- 1.6 “Robert Johnston” – Patrick Stevenson and Jessica VanReenan. Nov. 18, 1997 [Tape CTX00815]
- 1.7 “Jerome and Grace King” – Russ Ogburn and Ryan Boop. Nov. 13, 1997 [Tape CTX00816-817]
- 1.8 “Pearl Mellinger” – Kristen Rose and Jaclyn Johnston. Nov. 17, 1997 [Tape CTX00818]
- 1.9 “Robert and Erma Nell” – Jessica VanReenan and Patrick Stevenson. Nov. 13, 1997 [Tape CTX00819]
- 1.10 “Mary Noggle” – Kate Amaral and Lisa Beamer. Nov. 13, 1997 [Tape CTX00820]
- 1.11 “Evea Plummer” – Meghan Withington and Kseniya Thomas. Nov. 13, 1997 (submitted Nov. 18) [Tape CTX00821]
Includes: Two poems by Evea Plummer—*God’s Voices* and *We’re Different!*
- 1.12 “Florence Stone” – Kate Amaral and Lisa Beamer. Nov. 11, 1997 [Tape CTX00822]
- 1.13 “Helen E. Thomas” – Karen Buss and Mary Mullane. Nov. 13, 1997 (submitted Nov. 18) [Tape CTX00823]
- 1.14 “Lester Wallace” – Karen Buss and Mary Mullane. Nov. 11, 1997 (submitted Nov. 18) [Tape CTX00824, 825]
- 1.15 “Val Weldon” – Zachary Leverenz and John Andreadakis II. Nov. 11, 1997 [Tape CTX00813]

SERIES 2 – COURSE MATERIALS
SERIES INVENTORY

- 2.1 Course Syllabus; Instructions for Final Project
- 2.2 Completed Consent Forms

SERIES 3 – MEDIA
SERIES INVENTORY

AUDIO CASSETTE TAPES

CTX00811: Mary E. Arthur – Nov. 11, 1997
CTX00812: Shirley Erickson – Nov. 13, 1997
CTX00813: Priscilla Gardner – Nov. 13, 1997; Val Weldon – Nov. 11, 1997
CTX00814: Edward Hering – Nov. 12, 1997
CTX00815: Robert Johnston – Nov. 11, 1997
CTX00816: Jerome and Grace King – Nov. 13, 1997 [Tape 1]
CTX00817: Jerome and Grace King – Nov. 13, 1997 [Tape 2]
CTX00818: Pearl Mellinger – Nov. 11, 1997
CTX00819: Mr. and Mrs. Nell – Nov. 13, 1997
CTX00820: Mary Noggle – Nov. 13, 1997
CTX00821: Evea Plummer – Nov. 13, 1997
CTX00822: Florence Stone – Nov. 11, 1997
CTX00823: Helen Thomas – Nov. 13, 1997
CTX00824: Lester Wallace – Nov. 11, 1997