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INTERVIEWER: Marsha Holland
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Warren Foote Interview, Kanab Utah

WF: I have some histories, some will tell more about things than what we will talk about at this point. This is a CD of the Barracks Range, the Foote' own what is called the Barracks range. It is over below the Mt. Carmel junction- about three miles below there.

MH: Oh, interesting. Is that where, ah, Parunaweap is?

WF: That is Parunaweap Canyon. That is the eastern end of Parunaweap Canyon.

MH: I drove in there a few years ago, but then there were gates and I could not go very far. And the river that rolls through there?

WF: That is the East Fork of the Virgin River. It has some interesting history. Long Valley, which is the little valley where Glendale and Orderville and Mt. Carmel are located, was settled primarily because of the location for grazing livestock and so forth.

MH Now this CD is a document that we can have...

WF: It is only a few pages. We have got, not so much in here, some interviews with my siblings talking about the ranch. It is family stuff, maybe about things most people are not interested in.

MH: Well, I am very interested in collecting it and I believe it is very important down the road, as history.

WF: It is my dad's history, just a few pages, but he talked about that. It is all in the CD. The parent book.

MH: Thank you Warren, this is very valuable to our project.

Let us start off, it is August 24th today 2016, and I am in Kanab, Utah with Warren Foote. Warren would you please introduce yourself, with your full name, date of birth, and where please.

WF: Warren C. Foote, born October the 6, 1927 in Orderville, Utah.

MH: Did you ever hear of any details of the time you were born, who was there?

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WF: Oh, yes, Aunt Lettie, Lettie Cox was the mid-wife. I did not know her personally except about her. The house I was born in is no longer there. I know the area where I was born in Orderville, an area where our family has a lot of history, where I spent the first part of my life.

MH: Please tell me about your parents, your parent's names.

WF: My father's name was David Leonard Foote and my mother's name was Elizabeth Allen Heaton Bowers Foote. She was married first to Williams Bowers, he died of influenza in that Flu Epidemic in 1918-1920, he died then and later she married my father.

MH: That was World War 1 time. So, she was a Heaton.

WF: Yes, she was a Heaton. I have to be careful to get into the family history, William Heaton was my Great Grandfather and he had five sons. Five of them actually produced the Heatons in the area, then in a broader area here. My Grandfather, Christopher Billby Heaton, was involved in the United Order, in Orderville, as were the other Heatons. Later on he went to Moccasin and he left and took...this was the time when the Church was involved with polygamy, plural marriage, he took his plural wives and moved to Mexico. He was killed down there by Mexicans later, seven years later. There is interesting history with him ranching here and down there.

MH: Are there any things that you remember hearing, being told about Christopher and the United Order? I know it was short period of time, and actually vast area of Utah.

WF: He had leadership in the United Order, I think a director was the term was for a period of time. One of his assignments was at Moccasin, was to raise the produce there for the United Order, vegetables and fruit. It was a natural place for it to be produced. Other things I know about him, when he moved to Mexico and that takes it out of this area.

MH: Born in 1927, a few years before the Depression hit, were you aware of it from that growing up time?

WF: For our family and many families, times were lean, money was short. We did not deal much with money, we dealt most with produce. The Depression, I didn't know much else besides that. We never went without, we always had food, we always had the things we needed. I recognized that my folks were having a hard time providing. My father in his history mentions that during the Depression they lost about a third of their property. Because of taxes, I assume. He did not say. He was a small rancher, a farmer. His father, Davis Foote homesteaded up at the head of Lydia's Canyon, north of Glendale. My father had property there also and that is the property he lost during the Depression. The ranch where I grew up and where they homesteaded, they were able to keep that, down in the Barracks.

MH: I have never talked to anyone who had a connection to Lydia's Canyon.

WF: I am not sure where the name came from. I know two or three Lydia's, but not sure which one it is connected with. We have been to the old homestead where my Grandfather homesteaded in Lydia's Canyon. Part of the old log cabin is still there, the roof has caved in but the big old logs there were holding up against deterioration. You can drive up six or so miles, but there is a gate that is locked up at the main part of the canyon. Private Property. Our homestead was up above that about a mile or two.

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MH: As a young boy, you are growing up in Orderville, what are some of your memories of Orderville?

WF: That is interesting to contemplate. When we homesteaded the ranch, my folks did, until the older children grew up, I was in the middle of the family, the younger end, until the children grew up and were old enough to go to school, we stayed on the ranch year round, winter and summer. When the children got old enough to go to school, our folks had a house in Orderville. My dad would move the family up to Orderville during the winter for school. He would stay down on the ranch and take care of the livestock. He would ride a horse home to Orderville about once a week, maybe stay overnight, but then go right back because he had cows to milk, chores to do. We had just a few cows, maybe ten head.

MH: That's plenty!

WF: Of course it was all by hand. Then after we went to school in the winter, summer came and the day school was out we moved to the ranch. The day before school started, we moved to Orderville. We loved the ranch as a family. We were isolated down there. Mt. Carmel Junction was the nearest place, about three miles from where our house was. In Mineral to the north, is where several families had homesteaded and lived; the Sorensens and the Jorgensens, and some Heatons and Kellers, I think. Mineral is up on top, on highway 9 which goes from Mt. Carmel Junction to Zion Canyon goes to Mineral. Our ranch was in Parunaweap Canyon, it ledges up several hundred feet and back to the north of that, which is across Hwy 9, and on north up towards Cedar Mountain, is where I call Mineral. The family that is more prominent, that I remember was the two Sorenson brothers, David and Benny Sorenson. I grew up with their children, same ages of my siblings and I.

MH: How would you get together?

WF: We got together at school. As I was saying we were isolated on the ranch, no time to go visit other people very much. It would take a day to go and get there. We did very little of that, we were pretty much self-sufficient. We knew how to work, we enjoyed the working. It was a way of life. It had been one of the best things that happened to me. I knew how to work and enjoyed the work.

We were self-sufficient. If we broke a tongue out of the wagon, we went out and found a tree the right size, cut it down, shaped it and made it into a wagon tongue. If we broke the double tree or the single trees that we pulled the plow or wagon with, we went out to an oak grove and cut an oak, trimmed it and shaped it, put the hardware on it and went on with work. Maybe it would take a half a day to do it. Oak was strong.

MH: Let's talk about your siblings. You said you enjoyed your family life, and there were other kids.

WF: Yes, there were six of us. One girl and five boys. My older sister, and my oldest brother were from the first marriage. We were raised as a family and we didn't know any different. We would have been offended, still would be offended if people would make us into two families, we were one family. My oldest brother Sperry never did really like or was interested in farming and ranching.

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He wanted to do something else and he went to work at the first service station at Mt. Carmel Junction. From there he went on into a trucking business and did very well. His interests were different but still a part of the family. We got together at least once a year. Then I had an older full brother, Leonard who was four years older. Then myself and my two younger brothers. We were only less than four years difference in age between the three of us, so we grew up as kind of a unit.

MH: (laughter) Scary!

WF: We were pretty close. We did things together at the ranch. The first thing we learned to do is herd cows. We had the canyon which was a narrow canyon, only a quarter of a mile wide. We had a small field and raised alfalfa, corn for feed for the cattle in the winter. Our job was to herd the cows that we would milk, herd them around in the canyon so they would not get in the alfalfa or the corn. That was our job. I would climb ledges, we would build boats on the irrigation ditch and play while we were watching the cows.

MH: Now that is an all day job, right?

WF: Yes, we would take them out after breakfast in the morning, bring them in at lunch. We had a big tall cedar post on the gate at the house and we could see up the canyon always. When it was time to come in our mother would hang a white flag on the post and we would bring the cows down and have lunch. Then take them back out and bring them back down in the evening.

MH: So, she had a flag she would send up?

WF: I can't remember how she got it to the top of the post now.

MH: It sounds like you were part of an ingenious family. May I get your siblings names?

WF: The oldest was Sperry Bowers, then Mildred Bowers, then Leonard H. Foote, then me, Warren Foote, then my next youngest brother was Robert H. Foote. My youngest brother is W. Darrell. My younger brother Robert, Bob was not really interested in ranching. He helped with the ranch, grew up there but was more interested in construction. He was studying to be an engineer. He was killed in an automobile accident back in 1957, in California. The three that kept and inherited the ranch actually were my older brother Leonard, myself and Darrell. Darrell and I are the only two left in the family.

One thing that our father emphasized to us was the importance of an education. He really encouraged us to do that. Leonard, Darrell and I went ahead on and got an advanced education. Leonard became an MD. Darrell and I were in graduate school together. We got a Bachelors degree at Utah State and went to Wisconsin and got a Masters and a PhD degree in Animal Physiology and Genetics. We were interested in animals, interested in livestock.

MH: In the big picture then, what was the call, what was going on in the world that brought you to that field of study and made a living for you? What was going on then?

WF: First of all it was an interest that I had. My brothers and I were biologists. Interested in Biology. The opportunities at that time, looking back when I was in graduate school, how little we knew and how important the things we knew were to us and how we were trying to put them all

together. These are things that are common knowledge now, but were just being learned at that time. We were in graduate school in the 1950s, a long time ago now. There has been so many advances. Many of the advances that came to medicine were actually, initially done with livestock, as experimental animals. I worked with sheep, primarily with sheep all through my years. I taught consistently but my work was primarily with research in physiology and eccrinology reproduction, and genetics as so forth. A lot of the work being done was being adapted to birth control, the reproductive process in humans. There was a worldwide problem with food, rice that had a worldwide impact. There was a real opportunity there for the advances in ways of increasing production in livestock. Sheep and goats are unique throughout the world because they're small units because a farmer in any third world country can have 5 or 6 sheep or goats or 1 cow. If it was one cow [and you lose it], you're out whereas if you have 5 or 6 sheep or goats and you lose 1 or 2 of them you still have the others. There was a real opportunity to work internationally and I took it. For almost forty years I worked both through the University research and development program I put together. I also did private consulting for about thirty years.

MH: What was the name of that company, Warren?

WF: It was Sheep Inter-AAD. I had two different organizations, one was formed at the University and it was International Sheep and Goat Institute. The one we had for consulting, Sheep Inter-AAD, I can't remember what the acronym stood for.

MH: That's really interesting work. When people ask me about my work and we talk about the over-grazing that took place, it is important to understand the science available then. The science in the 30's, 40's and 50's was different than what we know now about taking care of animals and taking care of the land. It's much different. Wouldn't you say that the advances in the science were exponential starting in the 50's?

WF: Yes. I don't want to take anything away from the old livestock producers. Some of them managed their property for the current year. They did everything they could and then the next year they got everything they could which was usually less. I look at the way my dad managed our little ranch and the others around him and they were concerned. They recognized that if they didn't take care of it they would lose it and that they would have a hard time gaining back in terms of production and many of them were really careful and they were good stewards of the land I think. Some weren't I suppose but I'm slow to be critical because they didn't have a lot of the ways that we had.

We were married for a year or two and I was teaching school here and doing some things on my way through education. For one winter I and a brother-in-law, and a younger brother went out into what was called the Elephant Cove and cut cedar posts for a living. With a double-bladed ax you would cut posts all day long. You would get 35 cents for a 6-foot post and 45 cents for a seven-foot post and was delivered! Times were tough then. We didn't have chainsaws, we didn't have four-wheel drive vehicles. We had a team and wagon and we had double-bladed axes.

MH: What was the time period?

WF: About 1950.

MH: I was wondering how that related to when the Taylor Grazing Act came in and all the sudden there are parcels that need to be fenced. But 1950s, that is much later.

WF: My dad went through that, I remember something about it.

MH: What do you remember?

WF: Let me tell you just a little bit about our ranch. It was a very small operation. My dad had thirty, or a few more, cattle. That's what he managed. We had cattle and we irrigated and farmed up to about eighty acres. He plowed with a hand plow. Whenever it was time to take it out of alfalfa and put into corn he would plow maybe thirty or forty acres per year. That's a lot of plowing with a hand plow, a walking plow. He raised alfalfa hay and corn and we put the cows on the range down below the ranch- southwest of the ranch in the summer time and grazed them there and then brought them up on the ranch property in the winter time. Dad carved out a place under the ledge where there's a barn and we would store hay and corn there. We hauled the hay loose. We didn't have bailers or anything like that. We would cut it with a team and wagon, rake it with a team and haul and stack it by hand with a pitchfork and put the corn on top of the hay and then head shuck the corn, take the ears out of the corn and feed it to the pigs and the cows as he wanted to and then feed them the corn fodder and hay. We had cattle and pigs, we had a small herd of sheep and we would fence them off in different places on top of the ledge and around where the cattle didn't graze. That would be our source of meat. We would eat the sheep and save the cows to sell. We would eat the pigs and sell them also. It was a way of life and a good way of life.

MH: It sounds like it. There was diversity which is important for a good farming operation.

WF: It was very small scale but it worked well. We never wasted anything. We would raise a lot of watermelons for example, and in the fall we would harvest the watermelons and those that were too small to sell or do anything with we would take around and pile them by the pigpen and feed them to pigs. We would pull weeds out of the garden and feed the weeds to the pigs. Red roots, big old tall things, the pigs loved them. Part of the milk we didn't use we would feed to the pigs and so we didn't waste anything. That was the way our father operated. But when the three brothers took over the ranch we were still going to school and still trying to develop our own way of making a living because the ranch was nowhere big enough to do that for more than any one of us then. What we did then was change it so we grazed in the winter and then in the summer we just had irrigated pasture. We would put the cattle on the pasture in the summer, just the reverse of what our father did. And then for quite a long time we rented it out to others to use.

MH: So that was enough irrigated pasture to graze thirty head. Did you keep it at around thirty?

WF: Yes, that was about all we ever had.

MH: Were you using permitted, leased land?

WF: Yes. In the forties is when they started to go into the Taylor grazing.

MH: I was wondering how long it took. 1934 was when the Taylor Grazing Act was passed but I know it took a long time to implement, especially places like this.

WF: What they did with the ranchers that had been grazing down there was get them together and divided it up, decided how much each one should have and so forth. My father took the canyon, Parunaweap Canyon, on down for several miles and the section out on the edge of Elephant Cove. He fenced that. That's what he wanted to do. He wanted to be able to control his part so he could graze it the way he thought was best to get the most from it. There were side canyons and so forth, that he grazed also, that emptied into the Parunaweap Canyon. I think he fenced that in 1949. I was gone by then and my younger brother Darrell who is still alive, helped fence that. I think that was about the year he graduated from high school.

MH: So some of you were gone but it sounds like you dad had the operation pretty streamlined by then.

WF: He decided to get some equipment so things went a little better that way. He retired from the ranch in the early fifties probably. He was still there when I was in graduate school. Anyway, that was kind of how the ranch developed and was used.

MH: Do have any recollections of the issues around the Taylor Grazing Act and how that went for your father and for some of his neighbors, in particular?

WF: It required them to change some of their management plans. I think there was a little bit among them about dividing it up. Each one of them, I'm sure... I don't know anything specific but I'm quite sure each one of them had those areas where they liked to graze, that was most convenient or they thought was the most advantageous to them. I expect being human they would like to have those areas that suit them best. Whether those areas were the same for more than one producer, I'm sure there was a little bit of friction. I don't remember any big issues in the dividing of the grazing areas.

MH: There was a time when sheep and cattle were grazing and there was some kind of split with that after WW II, the sheep diminished.

WF: In Long Valley and especially in Cedar City was a very large sheep production area. My dad in his history very briefly mentions about herding sheep for different people and there were some big sheep producers. They had thousands and thousands of sheep. An area just before you drop into Dixie off the Hurricane fault, there's a place over there called Gould's Ranch and in that area they must have sheared one hundred thousand head of sheep per year. I may be way off on that but there were very large numbers.

MH: I've heard forty to fifty thousand head.

WF: That may have been more close to what it was but it seemed, I'm trying to remember the numbers and they were very large. It was just because sheep were produced on the Arizona Strip, everywhere. Sheep had their problems. They required a lot of intensive labor to care for them and so forth and so they gave way to cattle. But a lot of areas that were grazed by cattle were actually better for sheep. My dad tried to raise sheep down in the ranch for one or two

years but it was just too labor intensive. You can't take care of sheep and farm at the same time. The same person can't do both, you have to be there all the time pretty much.

MH: I think that's why the loss of manpower during the war meant that there was not enough people to tend them.

WF: The war changed people. They became more metropolitan or cosmopolitan, whatever the word is. In other words they weren't so parochial. They saw the big wide world, they saw the opportunities so they weren't willing to come back and do what they had been doing before, and they wanted something different. They saw things that were different and were of greater interest to them. So the labor wasn't available after the war – the same as it was before the war. All of those things I think must have had an influence.

MH: We'll go back to you growing up, working on the farm, living in Orderville for school and then you graduate from high school and you went up to Logan. Is that where you went?

WF: Well, I graduated from high school and went into the service for a short period of time and then I came back and my older brother Leonard was in pre-med, getting ready to go to medical school so he invited me to come up and go to school at the University of Utah. I went up there for one quarter and then I decided I wanted to be a veterinarian. I changed my mind later, but I went back to Cedar City. There was a small school there, what is now Southern Utah University, it was part of Utah State. I went there for two years. I taught veterans programs and other things for a couple of years and tried to farm for a couple of years and then I went back to Cedar [City] and taught and managed the farm and livestock there and went to school part-time for a couple of years and then I went to Logan and finished up. I went from there to graduate school. I tell people that complain about getting an education that it took me eight years to get a BS degree but in between I did all these other thing

I have a tremendous respect for my parents in the things they did and accomplished. My mother played an incredible role in terms of living the way she did on the ranch without any conveniences and taking care of things; raising a large garden, preserving it all through what ever means she had, taking care of us in the winter and worrying about her husband at the ranch alone in the winter. My dad, in his history, mentions that he and my mother decided they could homestead at the ranch and that was a place they could raise their family and that is what they wanted to do. They wanted to have their family where they could work with them and raise them the way they wanted them and they did. And they taught us a lot of very important things. They taught us how to work, how to get along with each other, they taught us respect for everything. That's done well for us, all of our lives. We learned how to get along with people, how to work and do our part. We did it all not knowing it was an imposition. It was a way of life and we learned to enjoy it. We learned to enjoy each other. We enjoyed the simple things. Some nights we might build a fire and roast corn. In school we would have a potato roast, go up on a hill somewhere and build a fire, put the potatoes in the fire and they would be halfway burned but we would take off the burned part. If we had salt, if we had butter, we'd be even more lucky.

MH: I was going to ask you about that. You had milk cows and that can be a lucrative economy on a farm. How did that work for you?

WF: I think it did well. We would sell the cream is what we would do, and Dad would take it up to Mt. Carmel Junction and it would be picked up there and be taken to Panguitch I think, where they had a creamery. It was very tiring. You had to be there twice each day to milk them so that was something that had to be accepted and worked with.

There were several people, a few people at least, that tried to ranch down on our ranch before Dad and Mother went there and it didn't work. There were two old bachelors living down there and Dad bought them out and then homesteaded the area. Their names were Bump and Boyle, how about that?

He went down there, and getting the water out of the river [was difficult], sandy soil down there, and a deep riverbed. And then in the summer in July and August it flooded, multiple floods, dozens of floods in a season. And getting the water out and keeping it out in the ditches - making the ditches work -all he had to work with was a team and a scraper and a pick and shovel. He knew how to use dynamite. He ended up blasting a hole, a tunnel, through a ledge and taking water out. I remember when we used to put logs across, like Ponderosa pine logs. We tied two of them together and put them across the river and cut brush to put behind them to get the water backed up in order to divert it from the river into the ditch. A flood would come and pull those poles around and then you would have to start all over again. You may do that a dozen times in one summer or more. We finally found a permanent place to build a river and you had to build a ditch, a diversion. He had to dig the ditch 10 or 12 feet deep. All he had was a spirit level to engineer it with, but he did it! How he knew how to dig that tunnel and so forth, it is amazing now to me, I look at that and I wonder, and I have a lot of respect. He built that ditch as high as he could, he had one on both sides of the river. The main ditch was on the north side and he built that for two miles, two miles of ditch to irrigate that land. He had to maintain against gophers and floods off the ledges that would wash it out. It was incredible.

MH: Would you mind telling me about this ledge and the dynamite in a bit more detail? So it can be better visualized.

WF: It is not a high ledge. It is like a point that comes out and the river goes past it, a low ledge that is about ten feet high, made of sand rock, sandstone. It was a permanent place to establish something that would not wash out. He determined the right level to get the water out of the river and blasted a tunnel through there, not very long- we have measured it, there is a pipe that goes through there now-I went in and dug some of it out when we put the pipe through. He had old metal in there, like old springs from cars, stuff he had put in there to support the top of the tunnel. He concreted the front end of it, a frame, and a wooden head gate in to let the water through. We have a long concrete dam now, I can still look at parts of that and remember helping to pour it and remembering the steps that Dad took. Some of the steps was when I came along. He homesteaded in 1922, I was born in 1927, so I wasn't there during a very important time, that I would not have remembered when most of this was first developed. I look at that old ditch line and what he did to do it in the first place, to have the vision that it could be done. He never wanted to get a lot of land, just what he thought he needed and make it work. He did!

MH: Awesome. Back to the dairy economy. Your family sold cream, milk used for your own consumption, butter?

WF: We fed the whey, skimmed milk part, to the pigs. Along with all the other material we had that would have gone to waste otherwise.

MH: I understood there was trade and barter going on, but there was still a need for cash. If your family had cash what would they use it for?

WF: Cash was used to buy clothes and necessities that Mother couldn't make. Shoes and flour. Mother made cottage cheese, never made the regular brick cheese. I remember buying cheese. We never had bread from the store, it was something you heard about. (chuckling) I look back now I realize now how lucky we were to have good homemade bread.

MH: No kidding, it is a treat now.

WF: We bought the necessities, cash was used to buy the things we couldn't raise or make.

MH: If you don't mind, can we talk a bit about your SUU days. What was it called then?

WF: It was the Branch Agricultural College then. The BAC. I didn't teach there, I went to school two years. They had the Veterans from World War II [coming] back, some were on the Forest and some were ranching. They were the next generation from those that my Dad worked with. They had their ranches, and they could not leave them to go to school. They hired them for what they called *Veterans On the Farm Training*. I had been in school two years and they came to me and hired me to teach them for two years.

MH: Oh, so this is field work?

WF: Yes, I went out to visit them on their farms and ranches, I learned probably more from them than I taught them, to be right honest. I taught them some things, important to them. Then we had regular formal classes at the high school in Orderville. Then I tried to ranch for a couple of years with my brother-in-law, I knew it wouldn't work but I wanted the experience. I am glad I had that experience. Then I went back to Cedar City and managed the college farm. They still have the farm out there in Cedar Valley. We lived out there for two years and went to school part-time and managed the farm part-time. I didn't do teaching although I would substitute once in a while.

MH: You said we, were you married by then?

WF: Yes, I was married by then, got married in Orderville. It was 1949. I married a girl from Kanab, her name is Blanche Haycock. I lived and worked at the farm, filled in what classes I could there then I went to Logan for one year and finished up.

MH: How was your experience at Logan?

WF: It was good, excellent. There were research programs going on, and where Cedar Branch College was a part of Utah State Agricultural College, we owned the property down there and there was a herd of experimental sheep. I worked with them a lot while I was over there managing the farm. They [professors from Logan] would come down to do research and I would work with them. I got acquainted with them and when we moved to Logan, I had a job up there working for them, it was an excellent year. I finished my bachelor's degree in Animal Science. During that year was when I made the plans to go to graduate school. One of the faculty members was

incredible, he did everything he could to help me. He helped me a bunch. I applied to a lot of different places for graduate school. When I was accepted at University of Wisconsin, he said, "Okay, that's it." He knew that. I went there and then my younger brother Darrell, he was a year behind me, and when he got out of the service and came to Wisconsin. We had the same major professor, and we went to school together for a year in Wisconsin. That is where I received my Masters and Doctorate. It was a wonderful place to go to school, wonderful opportunities. My major professor was one of the best, L.E. Casida, world renown.

MH: I do not know much about Wisconsin, but I have an image of it. Just being in that environment, so different than the desert.

WF: It was very different. It was cold and humid, very different. But, oh, I had wonderful opportunities from that. From there I had an opportunity to go back to Utah State University- 1954 was when I got my BS degree, 1958 I went back. It was still Utah State Agricultural College then. When we came back it was the University. We went right from Madison, Wisconsin to Logan. I stayed all throughout my career there. I had opportunities to go to other places. I went to BYU and looked at them, and to Arizona and other places. But I had a program in Logan, I had everything I needed. I was able to go back to Cedar City and more or less have responsibility for the research going on there for years. Before it closed down. I had opportunities for grad students. I worked in something like fifty different countries.

I had research programs in several of those countries; in South America I had a consulting program, in Portugal that lasted six or seven years. I had opportunities to travel to Russia during the Cold War, when it was just thawing. They selected four scientists with sheep research background to go there. I was one of those, that was in 1975. In 1979 they had a similar program, with a larger group, about a dozen of us that went in the same way to China. I had those opportunities and I formed an organization called the International Goat Association in 1982. Still operating. In 2002, they had the twentieth anniversary of it and I was invited to go to Egypt to give the keynote address. All of these things just developed. I and another fellow went to Iran in 1972 and through introductions we developed a contract with the government of Iran which went for about six years. It was large at that time, over a million dollars in 1972. Five years later we developed another program that was three times that big, then with the Shah, the politics changed and we were kicked out.

MH: I feel like I am talking with a celebrity here, a rock star really. I am so happy to be speaking with you. Tell me, when you would go into a country what were you trying to accomplish?

WF: I mentioned to you before that during this time, and World War II had its affect too, but there was so much being learned about reproduction and things related to that. And that was the basis for increasing production in livestock and what I did was apply that to the different circumstances around the world. We imported some sheep in some places we went and studied their breeds of sheep and their reproductive rates, and helped them develop a base of information on which they could work, and the way to do it. While I was at the University I trained forty-something graduate students in Masters or PhD programs. I think something like nineteen of those were from sixteen foreign countries. The arrangement was that when they finished with me they went back to their country. That was their purpose, to go back and apply it in their country. There were about three exceptions. One was from China where he came over

and they wanted him to go back and he refused to go back. And so he didn't dare go back. The same with someone that came from Ethiopia that couldn't go back because of the war situation. And another one came from South America, he went back and worked for several years and then he was working in several places and he started working on a program that I was working on in Brazil and he ended up coming back and working with me at Utah State.

MH: That's an honor. May I ask, of all the places you've been, China, Russia, Iran, and many other countries – of all those places what was your biggest challenge? Or, the most unique challenge to applying your knowledge?

WF: The challenge was to work with the people and have them accept you. Let me come back to something, it's me more than anything else. I told you earlier that working with my family on the ranch we learned to work together and I learned to work and enjoy work. I found that when I went to Iran or to many of the other countries the professor or the veterinarian, or the government official would point and go tell them what to do, "Catch that sheep." I always had a pair of coveralls and when I went to work with animals I put those coveralls on and if I wanted to catch a sheep I went in and caught it. And that did a great deal for me in being able to get other people's confidence. Wherever I went it came natural because I loved what I was doing, I loved the people, I was interested in them, I really wanted to help them and I knew I had something I could help them with. If I could just get them to use it. In Portugal where we had this consulting program we'd go over that and we'd have short courses, set up experiments, research programs and I went over there for a two-week period just to help them appraise their livestock. I went over there and I looked at what they had and they didn't have anything. They couldn't tell me anything about production really. So I spent two weeks. I got somebody that knew English and we just went out in the county and we'd see a flock of sheep and we would go talk the people about their production. "How do you do this? How do you do that?" I went home and put all this stuff together and I wrote up a program and I said here's what your production is based on this and here's what it can be based on what I know can be done there. And they bought the program and for the next six or seven years we just went over there and applied it and we made friends. We brought over a dozen of their people over to the United States and some of them I trained and some we sent where ever in the United States they'd get the best training. It's hard to measure just how much good we did. Their politics and their way of doing things you know...

MH: It sounds like you were reaching where the production happened, which was, in some cases, not the government but the farmer and you're out there and they can learn.

WF: But the government has certain control on what can be done.

MH: Being in those countries and seeing and learning the controls and conditions that people have to work under... I think we are very lucky in this country.

WF: Oh yes, I'll say. You go to some of these countries and you wonder how in the world they get along. I've been in places in South America you just want to sit down and cry for them. Yet they don't know anything different. They do now. Things have changed a lot but back then they just didn't know there was anything else. What I was trying to show them was that there was something else and that they could do it. They could take what they had and they could do it.

MH: Anyone else you're in touch with?

WF: A few, a very few. It has been a long time now. There's a couple men from Iran that I worked very closely with that came to the United States. One of them still goes back, he spends a lot of time there. Two or three times a year they'd call me and we would visit about it. We have this thing about the Islamic Religion and so forth. I worked with some really good people in Iran. Wonderful people. And in all the countries, there are just good people everywhere. Everywhere there's good people. Everywhere there's a few rotten apples too.

MH: Ok. When did you leave Logan?

WF: I retired from Logan in 1990. I had a project – we got into embryo transfer and this sort of thing and were doing quite a lot of work with that and I was telling people, "Here's what you can do. If you use these techniques, here's what the capabilities are." I got a call from a fellow in the USDA that was interested in controlling this disease called Scrapie in sheep, which is the same as mad cow disease. This guy called me up and asked if I had any suggestions about what they could do to study the transmission of Scrapie. And see if we can find a way to import germ _____? from other countries without bringing the disease in. In half an hour on the phone I developed a program with him (in 1979) that I continued after I came down here, I kept my hand in that until 2006. We did a lot of interesting work, I think, made some contributions to it.

MH: For sure! And tell me how many children did you have?

WF: We had six.

MH: So you did not move to these countries? Or you're visiting and returning so your wife is in Logan and raising the family.

WF: That's right.

MH: Well of course you're there too and I know they got all the same lessons you did about being a hard worker. Did you have property up there that you farmed?

WF: In Logan? No we didn't. We kept the contact here, moved down here several times a year doing what we needed to do here. Once I got started with my program in Logan there was just no way I could leave.

MH: Right. But you were lucky to come down here and spend a little time.

WF: Yes. I could come down for a week or a few days and do what needed to be done this way.

MH: What is the status of your ranch now? The Foote Ranch? Or, The Barracks? Which do you call it?

WF: We call it The Barracks. There's three brothers that had it, I mentioned that before. We got too big, our families, you know. We divided it. We each took a certain part of it and then my younger brother, his family had more interest in some parts of the ranch so they bought part of my share from me and part of my other brother's share. But it still stayed within the family. Each of the three families have homes down there now. One of my younger brother's children has a very large home down there. It's a hobby now. An expensive hobby but it's just a place we go.

We lease out our BLM permits and we have State land for grazing and we lease that out to local producers.

MH: So you still have the same permits but you're leasing them out now?

WF: Yes.

MH: Let's see I had one more question... You said something that caught my attention again about it's more of a hobby. For so many people I talk to now, ranching, especially with permits and to some degree farming, because you have to own property to lease land, is kind of the way it is now. People have other jobs and I've hear that word, "hobby" used more frequently now. Is that because it's not sustainable or not economically feasible to be a rancher around here now?

WF: Many of the people that own property don't own enough property. Their holdings are not large enough to develop a business that will sustain them that they make a living from. There's a few. There's several that do that, that have large enough holdings.

MH: Around here, who is that?

WF: Calvin Johnson was one but he's gone now. Norris Brown is another and his brother Worth also.

MH: We have Worth's interview.

WF: It would be interesting for you to interview Norris.

MH: I'll do that.

WH: We worked together some. Right now we're leasing our rights to him.

MH: In twenty years since the Monument was designated, some things have changed, and some things have not changed. Which is why I am out doing these interviews, to get an understanding of how things were done, and how things are being done now. The changes. And pass the knowledge on to the next generation of land managers.

WF: The Monument had been a real challenge to some livestock producers.

MH: Can you tell me in what ways?

WF: I am not one of them. I have only heard it, it has affected the ways they can use the property- the permits that they have. They have considered it restrictive. I think it is real in many cases, where it has restricted their way of management. I don't think that the restrictions have necessarily improved the way of management. Although I don't know that for certain, it is what I have heard.

MH: And it was bad timing when the Monument was established, in the middle of a nasty drought, long term.

WF: Not to be critical, not my point to be either, the way the Monument was formed was very bad public relations. If they had tried to do it worse, they would have had a very hard time making it worse than they did. That did not set well with people in this area. We do get used to things, and overall, I am sure it has been good in some ways. It has brought more people to be more

acquainted with the environment, increased recreational opportunities and so forth, but at a price.

We have had the same thing down on our property, that is a wilderness study area, the Parunaweap Wilderness Study Area, and a Study area, I don't know if it will ever be established as a wilderness, but the people that wanted it that way have won because it is treated the same way as if it were a Wilderness Area. I am not sure when that took place, but it seemed like it happened without me realizing it was happening. I was not here right on the spot then. Maybe in the seventies or the eighties.

MH: Well, that would make it near thirty or forty years ago! That sort of puts it in suspension.

WF: People have just figured that it is the way it is going to be. They brought up this issue with roads, which brought a lot of conflict. It has brought a lot more travel down through our ranch, since it is a county road down through our ranch. There is a section down there that the BLM will not admit is county, county on that end, county on this end. I am writing a history now of that area, the **trails used to** settle Long Valley and so forth. You just can't question it, it was a road.

MH: Yes, the road origin history is key right now. Keep up the good work. I would like to thank you.

WF: Well, we got off on some things that were not pertinent probably.

MH: I have had you for a long time, and such an interesting life, I appreciate that you shared it with me. Oh, when did you move back here?

WF: We moved back in 1990 when we retired. I retired but kept on about a third-time, continued to work with consulting and continued to work with the University some until 2006.

MH: How has life been for you down here now?

WF: It has been very good. People in Logan could not understand why we would leave Logan and come back here, to Kanab, to Kane County. I finally gave up and said you just don't understand. There are things in Kane County that you cannot appreciate; we grew up here, we love the people, I love the people in this area. The people I grew up with are descendants, over in Long Valley.

MH: Besides it is very cold in Logan in the winter time!

WF: Yes, it's very cold. We were glad to get away from that. We adjusted to that cold from our time in Wisconsin you see. Boy, they had cold winters back there.

MH: Warren, again, thank you for your time, and sharing your story with me.

End of Interview- Time 1:27:42