The Southern Utah Oral History Project was started in July of 1998. It began with an interest in preserving the cultural history of small towns in southern Utah that border the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The project was managed by Kent Powell, from the Utah Division of State History, who oversaw the collection of oral histories conducted in Boulder, Escalante, Bryce Valley, Long Valley, Kanab, the Kaibab Paiute Reservation, and Big Water, by Jay Haymond, Suzi Montgomery, Marsha Holland and other volunteers. Also in cooperation with the state was the Bureau of Land Management and the people of Garfield and Kane counties, with support from the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The goals of the project were first to interview long-time local residents and collect information about the people and the land during the first half of the twentieth century. In addition, the interviews were to be transcribed and copies of the transcripts were to be made available to the public at the Utah State Historical Society and at local repositories. Lastly, to build a relationship with state agencies and the local communities and provide a medium for the local communities to express their interest in preserving their own history and culture in the areas that are now included in the GSENM.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to care and share their memories and stories.
SM: To start off this interview I just want some information about the family into which you were born and what it was like as a little girl in Kanab.

NG: Well, we’re Mormons and our grandparents moved here as a church. The Prophet sent us down here and it was my great grandfather, I guess, that came to St. George first and then his son, George, came to Kanab and he’s my great great grandfather.

SM: George Mace?

NG: Uh huh. There was nothing here but sagebrush and our grandparents helped build the dam that brought the water into town.

SM: Do you know how that comes into town?

NG: It comes right down, you come around the dam up here about four or five miles, around that big rock ledge, and there’s a pond out there. They built that dam and it dams off all the water that comes down from the north and then it came in just open ditches, but it has been put underground just in the last, oh, maybe ten years.

SM: Really? Just open ditches?
NG: Unh uh. It was open ditches until then. But there wasn’t anything, the soil was good. We grew everything we ate. Well, we had sugar brought in, but from over in St. George, or somewhere over there and then we brought it over here. But you asked about the soap. We made our own lye soap, we called it. Mother would save- we had our own meat because we raised pigs and calves and so we had pork and beef and then we hunted, our dad hunted and killed deer, so we had venison in the fall and when we’d render the lard out of the fat from the pig, then we’d save the cracklings and then we used the grease in there to make the soap and it was a combination of the grease and the lye and the water that made the soap. You had to combine them all in a big number two tub, we called ‘em, and cook ‘em outside and stir it so long, cook it so long. I remember my mother stirring that combination. And then she had an old piece of wire screen that she’d put over the tub and when this combination was cooked long enough then she would put a screen over another tub and pour that. There were ten girls and we helped her. We would, you know, wrap our hands, put the cloth on there and pour it out while it was hot and then we’d pour off the soap into this tub and then she’d let it sit overnight and it would set up, harden, then she’d cut it up with a sharp butcher knife into bars. I remember, I’ve heard people say that their mothers sometimes put different things in it. I can’t remember what it was they put in to make the different smell, but we always just had the old lye soap smell and that’s what we used for hands and for dishes.

SM: Do you still remember that smell?

NG: I still remember that smell. The thing I really remember is trying to wash dishes in our home, we had a big home. Grandpa built the big home when he first moved here and my dad was the oldest of seven or eight children, I’m not sure. And as they got married they built their own homes and we lived in a little house for a while and then like I say, mother had twelve children, so when they started getting big
and all the other boys had homes, then he built a little house for himself over on the west side of town...

SM: Your grandfather?

NG: Uh huh. Grandpa was a carpenter, which was his trade. And so he built him and grandma a smaller home just next door and gave dad the big house.

SM: What’s your father’s full name?

NG: Wendell Henry Mace. Well, I’d better finish about the soap. So we had so many children that he moved us into the big house and he and grandma live in the little house, so we had a big house and an upstairs...

SM: You were doing dishes and you remember?

NG: Yeah, and I still remember, the stove had a big tank on the side and we heated it and that was all the hot water we had, it probably was a total of ten gallons, twelve maybe. Sometimes, in the summer especially, if you let the fire go out then you didn’t have hot water, but we still had to eat and wash dishes and I still remember how greasy the water would get because that soap was made out of grease and that’s one of the horrors I remember.

SM: Not being able to clean the dishes because of the grease.

NG: (Laughter) Yeah, and our dad, he was in the cattle business, him and another man, and then they went broke, so he went to work for the Forest Service as a ranger and they had him fighting fires and everything and when I was eight he was out fighting a fire out on the Kaibab and got his brain overheated and he died with a stroke.
SM:  When you were eight years old?

NG:  And ten kids for mother to tend. But we had a big lot over there. We grew everything we ate. We had fruit trees, we raised our own pig with the fruit from the trees in the summer, then we had a cow, we always had our own milk cow and all the girls learned to milk cows, but I didn’t get to, and I didn’t feel a bit bad. (Laughter) Mother had to give up the cow finally cause we had a big lot and we’d raise our own hay and corn and all that stuff to feed the cow, but...

SM:  Could you best describe your mother for me?

NG:  My mother was about as big as I am, except she weighed around 200, 220 pounds, but she was a muscular woman. She raised the garden. All my life I remember her raising a garden and we’d have corn, potatoes, carrots. I even remember one time she tried to raise peanuts cause she thought they’d be a good treat for the kids. And we grew celery.

SM:  Did you actually get peanuts?

NG:  Yeah. But it was kind of a different thing and she decided it want worth all the bother and she just was busy. She was always busy. She worked hard. But we all had to work hard. We had to do our share. We made our own clothes. We made our own coats and everything.

SM:  So she was a real sturdy, strong woman.

NG:  Real strong, real strong, and a strong will. We were talking downstairs a while ago about that. When we got old enough and the older girls were dating, going to dances, and where her girls went she went. This one man, he’d ask the older girls to dance with him and his
wife had died after their second baby and mother thought he was holding her girls too close. I can just see her. I can see it in my mind’s eye how he was holding her too tight, I can just see her looking at that man, scowling at him and talking to him with her eyes and saying, “Don’t you hold that girl so tight.”

SM: She was protective.

NG: She was, but she wanted us to be involved with everything. She didn’t want to shield us, only from the bad things, but she’d go to the dance with all of us and stay ‘til the last, until we’d all danced enough-she was involved with everything. Course our church, we were involved with everything. And growing up in this town we made our own entertainment.

SM: Talk about that. What was your favorite form of entertainment?

NG: Oh, well dancing was my favorite entertainment.

SM: What kind of dancing did you do?

NG: Ballroom dancing, just the waltz and we did some round dances and that, but it was just mostly, I remember the music. I loved to sing and I loved music and all the beautiful songs and we had teachers up at the school who’d put on operas. I remember the year that they put on the Mikado. Three of my sisters were in it. We all sang. That was our entertainment at home. We had a piano and all of us had a chance to learn to play the piano. One sister was really good and she’d play the piano and then we’d all sing and we had all four parts. We could sing anything and that was our entertainment, music and song. But as I look back and think about the operas that we put on at our high school, they were wonderful.
SM: Were they good?

NG: Yeah, they were really good. And we had a wonderful music teacher. He taught us all the music.

SM: What was his name?

NG: Oh, I can’t think back to this one. I’m thinking about that one who put on all the operas, but he was raised up around Orangeville, that’s kind of in the northeast side of the State up there. We had good music teachers. Leroy Judd was a good music teacher. Do you know him?

SM: Oh yes, I’ve heard of him.

NG: He was one of the younger ones. He was really a good music teacher we had and he’s about the only one that’s stayed around here, but we’ve always, well in the town they still put on operas in the school. That was our entertainment, what we could do in school and the church.

SM: So basically that was the culture. So far we’ve covered singing and dances and gardening?

NG: Yeah, gardening was a way of life. We had to garden if we ate. When my mother talks of when they first came here when they were first married, I don’t know that they even had a little grocery store. My grandmother had the first post office here in town. And then I think later on they had a little store. People would bring their milk in and their eggs and if they had produce they would trade back and forth. We’d give it away more than we’d sell stuff.
It was more of a barter system?

Or just helping each other. I remember people would call mother and say, "We've got apples going to waste and if you can use 'em, come and get some". And we had a little red wagon that we kids would take and go and pick up the apples off the ground and bring them home and mother would dry them. We dried apples and we bottled applesauce. We dried everything we could dry. Always grew enough onions and potatoes for the winter and squash and...

Did you ever feel isolated out here in this rugged, isolated land?

You know, even after I grew up, well I never did go anywhere out of Kanab. I don't believe we even got to go to Orderville, because we never did have a car. After dad died we didn't have transportation because we had to give up the horses and the buggy.

Did you ever feel isolated out here?

Oh, the first time I went to Salt Lake I went up with some friends of ours that moved up there and they helped me buy a graduation dress.

That was your first time to Salt Lake? How old were you?

Oh, I graduated from high school when I was seventeen. My birthday's in March so I would've graduated when I was eighteen.

What year were you born?

1917.
In March?

SM: Uh huh, uh huh. So I hadn’t been hardly anywhere out of Kanab. There were hardly any cars in Kanab back in those days. (Laughter)

NG: Yeah but the isolation, even though you didn’t leave Kanab you never...

SM: ...felt isolated, no. We had cousins up north and they’d come once in a while, but we had quite a well-rounded life I felt like. Well, the thing with my mother, we got a show house in town before I graduated so we were having picture shows here and mother let us save our money and let us go to the picture shows. Oh, and when they built Zion’s Tunnel down here I remember we had one man in Kanab that had, oh probably two ton truck, or a one ton truck, and he had a bed on it that was enclosed and so he took us all down to Zion. We’d have to pay him a quarter or something. The classes at school would go down and I went down to see that. That was a real treat. But if there was anything like that special going on, our mother, she could always squeeze out a little money. Well dad being employed with the government when he died, he got a little pension. That was the thing that really helped my mother.

SM: He hadn’t been working there all that long though had he?

NG: No, no, but it seems like mother said at first he got around $60 a month or something with all these kids, so that made it so we had a little money. Well when we got old enough to work we were cleaning house for somebody who had a baby and they’d pay you like twenty fives cents a day or something. (Laughter)

SM: Big money! (Laughter)
NG: (Laughter) Well it was money, you know, and we really couldn't buy much here and we had relatives in Salt Lake who'd send us kids their cast off clothes, you know, and oh, we got really good at making over clothes, and then as we got older we always had a job. My older sisters worked out at Grand Canyon when they started that resort out there and that man that run it, it was Mr. Rogers, and he was so good to my mother. He'd make sure that all our girls worked out there and had a job.

SM: Did you work out there?

NG: Uh huh, and had more fun...

SM: What is the resort called out there?

NG: Grand Canyon Lodge is where we worked and the bus just came out of Cedar with tourists. The bus would bring them out there and then we'd go out and clean the cabins. They had this motel set up out there and so we all worked out there and earned enough money to buy our clothes to get us into school. Buy the material. Like I say, we made our own clothes. I'll never forget the first coat that I was able to buy and that was after I was out of high school and I'd saved enough money to buy my own coat. And some shoes that fit.

SM: (Laughter) That fit huh?

NG: (Laughter) Well I've always had a narrow foot and there was just one store here where we bought our shoes and they weren't narrow.

SM: Was that Kanab Equitable that you bought your shoes at?
NG: No, when I was growing up it wasn’t the Kanab Equitable. It was Stockmen’s Store and Glaziers owned that when I remember. I don’t know when that they started it but it was Claude’s grandpa that was running it when we used to buy our shoes there. I remember when I started school in the first grade and my dad took me to the Stockmen’s Store and bought me a new pair of shoes and they buttoned all the way up and they came up to here.

SM: Oh my gosh. (Laughter)

NG: They were black.

SM: Did you love them?

NG: I loved them and then he bought me an all day sucker, the first one I’d ever had. It was about that big around on a stick and ever once in a while I see one- some companies put out but kind of big, but just the best stuff, I still remember how good that tasted. (Laughter)

NG: But I always had to hide my feet. I have a big foot and then it was narrow and to put a pair of shoe on me was something else.

SM: Really?

NG: I couldn’t run and jump in them, they were so wide. (Laughter) So I remember my first shoes I bought when I went to Salt Lake. Just before I graduated. Maybe it was right after and I was able to buy a pair of shoes that were narrow and fit and oh how wonderful that was.

SM: The small pleasures of life.
NG: (Laughter) Yeah, yeah. But we had to work hard. Our house was just spotless. My mother wouldn’t stand for anything to be unclean and we cleaned it. She was a good mother.

SM: Are a lot of the traditions that you did when you were a child, do you still do them?

NG: I still do. I mean you gotta get in the corners. You gotta clean stuff out. I’m really fussy about my clothes. Like I say, we made our own and I was a homely little soul and, I don’t know, too much pride maybe, but when I got older and we could buy our material and then we got so we could buy Vogue patterns and I loved to make pretty clothes for me and my two girls.

SM: So you made the best.

NG: Yeah, and both of them sew well, but they don’t make their own clothes anymore- some of them they make but their old enough now that they can like what they buy in the store.

SM: Now a days it’s almost as cheap to buy them in the store.

NG: It is. By the time you buy the material you can spend too much money on the material. You watch sales. We’ve always had to do that. Buy on sale and watch what you buy and make sure it’ll last.

SM: Do you still do a lot of canning and things?

NG: Not any more, but just the last two years. I’ve always canned everything, just like my mother did. Peaches, pairs, made jam and jelly. I always made my own bread until last year, now my daughter still makes bread. She’s the oldest child, lives here. Just a couple
of days ago she brought me two loaves of bread she had made and it doesn’t matter to Claude if his bread isn’t homemade so I just don’t make bread.

SM: Do your daughters know how to do all those things?

NG: Yeah, Yeah.

SM: Baking bread and canning?

NG: Yeah, but they don’t, they’re older now. Nanelle is 57, see. And she does can a lot and her kids come home. They grow a big garden. Up till last year Grandpa grew the garden down there, and her string beans and corn, they’d come home and can those. And she does a lot, but my other daughter- her children, her last one’s out of college, she just had four children, but she doesn’t can anything anymore. You can’t afford to can really. If you don’t grow your own produce you can’t afford to can. When you can buy two cans of Western Family string beans for a dollar and they’re as good as any you can bottle, it isn’t worth it. Unless you live out in the country and grow it and we’ve always grown our own string beans and I’ve always bottled them, but I haven’t for a couple of years. I’ve quit doing all that. It’s too much.

SM: Right. Tell me about festivities. When you were growing up how did you celebrate holidays? Do you remember certain customs and things?

NG: Yeah, I remember Christmas. We’d go out across the creek and cut us a pinion pine and bring it home because my dad died when I was eight so we just had to, and my brothers were younger. My brother, he was a full six years younger than I was.

SM: Right, you were closer to the younger ones than the middle?
NG: Well I'm about, let's see, there's three younger than I. So anyway we'd go over up on the hill somewhere and cut a little pinion pine and bring it home and decorate it. We'd make chains with paper, colored paper like you have at school, you know, art paper.

SM: Yes, construction paper?

NG: Construction, you're right. And then we'd string popcorn and make a long string and drape it around the tree and just stuff we could make like that. Finally, in our older years, we had electric lights. But I remember when we had the first power, electric lights in our house. In each room we had one string that came down, one cord with a bulb on the end of it and you'll never know how thrilled we were for that because we had coal oil lamps. We had to clean them. Every day we'd have to wash the shade on the lamp and fill it with kerosene.

SM: The coal oil would smoke up the...

NG: It's kerosene.

SM: Yeah, coal oil. (Laughter)

NG: (Laughter) Coal oil. Yeah. We'd have to keep those clean and while I'm thinking about it, we never had an indoor bathroom. Let see, just a year or two before I graduated, probably two years, my oldest sister married and her husband died so she moved back home and she had a bathroom put in our house.

SM: And that was something else?

NG: Oh, that was luxury I tell you. We had to empty those slop jars, we called them, every day and wash them out and stick them back under the bed.
SM: In the out house?

NG: That’s what you had in the house. We had pots and then we had slop jars we called them ‘cause we had so many kids you know, and then we’d slide them under the bed. You didn’t want to run out to the outhouse in the middle of the night or early in the morning, you know, or late at night, so.

SM: Did each room have a slop jar?

NG: Mother had one in her room. We had one upstairs. Our house was two-leveled and then we had two bedrooms on the main floor so we had three we had to keep clean and tend.

SM: Wow. And so then you just dumped it out in the outhouse?

NG: Yeah, took it out to the privy we called it. And we had the old Sears catalog out there. They made softer pages than the do now days. Didn’t have toilet paper. We really roughed it!

SM: So you used the catalog?

NG: Yeah, the pages, that was you toilet paper.

SM: Oh, that’s interesting. These memories are great. I mean, things like this get forgotten, like how you used Sears catalog.

NG: Yeah, it was just, well it was a real experience. Well most of our neighbors had bathrooms in their house but we could never afford to have one put in.
SM: So remembering those kinds of things like using Sears catalog, do you think that the quality of life is better now? I mean that's a loaded question.

NG: Well, you know I think the quality of life back then, we had more time. We worked all the time. When we put a quilt on all the neighbors would come. We had to make our own clothes, but we were home all the time. We weren't allowed to go, like kids run wild now days. The parents never know where they are. Our mother always knew where we were. We were never allowed to just go out and do nothing. We had to work hard in the summer to live through the winter, but it wasn't a chore. I mean, in the evenings we always had apples, we always had popcorn and in the evening mother would read us stories if we were bored and we had a fireplace, in the later years we had the "Heaterola". But when I was a little girl, probably up to the sixth grade, we had a fireplace and when the wood would get burned down the coals were just right then, she'd get out the popcorn and the old screen popper and we'd pop corn and if we'd had good luck and got some honey then she'd let us make some honey candy and put on it or we'd just butter it and have popcorn. My mother was a real storyteller. And there were all Bible stories. We didn't know anything about buying a book back then but we had the Bible and she was a studier of the Bible and she'd tell us all the stories in the New Testament. I remember especially the one about Moses and the bull rushes. How he was born and they didn't want the king to find him so the woman took him and made a basket and...

SM: Put him on the river...

NG: Yeah, and that was one of them. That was the kind of stories we grew up hearing from our mother, but she just kept us all right home. I mean if there was something to do like church or school, that's all we had, and if there was something going on we were always
included. We went to church every week on Sunday. But just to go out and be gone and her not know where we were, we weren’t allowed to do that. But we used to have fun in the evenings in our neighborhood down there. We’d get out in the street and build a bonfire, with the girls and the boys and we’d play games; Kick the Can, and one we used to call ‘Leave All’. I keep wondering why we did that.

SM: (Laughter)

NG: Yeah, ‘Leave All’ we’d leave one person by the fire and all the rest of them would go hide and then the one at the fire was supposed to find them. But she had to catch them and some of the boys, they’d run through the fire you know and then on out and hide again. You were supposed to catch them or you were supposed to find them all and get them all back by the fire and then you were allowed to be one of the players and not stay there by the fire. It was a rough game, but there were about four families right there on one street with kids all about the same age. And we had fun and we could stay out there and play till...

SM: What were the winters like though? Did everybody pretty well stay inside?

NG: Cold. Well we’d do that until it’d get to cold in the Fall and then, but in the wintertime we just kind of stayed home and made our own...

SM: Went sleigh riding?

NG: Yes, we’d always, we never did have a sleigh, but I remember, this used to be a hill that would go clear from the top of the hill there, all the way down and we’d sleigh ride down it. But we never did have a sleigh, so we didn’t do a lot of that. I guess we did some when I was younger.
SM: Sounds like your mother provided for you excellently spiritually and with love and caring.

NG: Everything. We had the best mother in the world.

SM: Do you feel like you had less materially then some people around you?

NG: We were all in about the same situation, other than they had dads that brought in more money than we did, but, I don't know, it just seemed like somebody, if their kids could do something that we didn't have the wherewith, they always made a way that we were included. We were never shut out or felt neglected in anyway. And our neighbors had cars and sometimes when they were going somewhere- I had a girlfriend and her dad had a car and I went places with them. If they were just going for a ride or something I usually got to go. We never did feel neglected living in this little town. People were so good to my mother, but she was good to everybody too. She was just a person that, she'd take anybody... I remember her oldest brother, not her oldest, one of her brother's in his older years he got really sick and mother took care of him at our house until he died. He had a wife, but maybe she was dead by then, but I remember him living there with us and dying there and a couple of other relatives that were ill and didn't have anybody to take care of them. She'd take them home and care for them.

SM: Just really kind hearted huh?

NG: Yeah. Yeah, she was a good woman.

SM: Do you remember how she cared for you when you were sick when you were growing up? Do you remember any medication or anything specifically?
NG: Yeah, well we didn’t have any medication. We had aspirin. And with our temperatures, we took an aspirin.

SM: That was after 1930?

NG: Uh huh.

SM: So not when you were a little girl, was there aspirin then?

NG: No, well, see I was born in 1917, and up into the 30's, see I wouldn’t have been too old then, but I think we had it; I remember having it. But I remember too if we were sick and we had an ear ache she’d put a little oil in a teaspoon and warm it on the stove. We always had fire going and she’d pour it in our ear.

SM: What kind of oil?

NG: Olive oil. I have to tell you another story about that olive oil, though. And then put a cotton in there and hold it in there. She’d just hold us and rock us or if we were in bed she’d lay down with us and just cuddle us till we’d go to sleep. But we used to use soda a lot for upset stomachs and ginger tea. She’d take a little ginger and a little sugar and a little milk and stir it up and warm it, I don’t know whether it was the warm stuff that helped or whether it was the ginger that really helped but I remember taking that. There was always soda for an upset stomach and what else did she use? When we’d get burned, what did she used to do?

SM: I know it was common to put butter on burns a long time ago.

NG: I don’t know, I don’t remember her using that. But I’ve forgotten a lot of this stuff.
SM: How did you get olive oil?

NG: We bought it from the store. But you know our church believes if we have a real bad ailment we have the Elders come in and give us a blessing. And then that's when they used this consecrated oil. It's consecrated and given a blessing that it will heal. It's used as a healing thing.

SM: So they bless the oil...

NG: ...in the bottle and then we rub it on our ailments. We didn't ever swallow any of it, but it was just used as a healing thing in our church. That's what we believe.

SM: Is that the only thing they would bless is the olive oil or was there other things?

NG: Well, then they'd bless us. They'd give us a Priesthood blessing and ask the Lord to bless and help us to heal and get well. And if we were living righteous enough why...I've seen a lot of people healed through Priesthood blessings.

SM: What did you do as far as maintaining teeth back then?

NG: Teeth? Well I remember we had a dentist in Fredonia. Before this, I don't know what they did, but in my day and time we had a Dentist Brooksby over at Fredonia. We went over there and he'd check our teeth, but I don't remember him filling teeth, he'd always have to pull them if they were very bad. I just remember having him pull my teeth. I don't remember every having any cavities filled.

SM: Did you brush teeth when you were young or was that a practice?
NG: Yeah. We brushed our teeth. We had toothbrushes back then. We’ve always had toothbrushes. Oh, I was going to tell you, maybe I shouldn’t say this, but you know women and their Kotex and stuff. That was what was something in our house.

SM: Oh, I bet.

NG: With nine girls!

SM: What did you do?

NG: Well we just saved the old rags. The soft cloths and then we couldn’t throw them away. We couldn’t burn them because you had to wash them and clean them and reuse them.

SM: Oh, that must have been a nightmare.

NG: Mom’s second oldest girl, when she got out of high school she went to school and was a beautician. When she gave permanents they hooked you up to all these wires hanging down you know, and then they had a little pad and you rolled them up on a roller and put them on top of a clamp that had protection so the heat wouldn’t get down onto your head and then you put this little pad over it that was a piece of flannel about that big( she makes a square out of her thumbs and forefingers) and then it had a protective paper thing on there that you’d clamp the hot rollers on that which heated your hair for a certain length of time. Anyway, that little pad was about that big and it was flannel and my mother, every time she’d give a permanent Elva would save those pads and mother sewed them into things about like that and then that’s what we used for our Kotex.

SM: That’s unbelievable. And would you share or would you keep them yourself?
NG: Well, with nine girls we had them all and we didn’t use them all at the same time but she had quite and see when I remember using them there were just two or three of us there then. But anyway, that’s what we used and we’d put them in a bucket of water and then we’d have to run them through the washer.

SM: I’ve heard roommates say that when they were in the dorm room living together that they’d be on the same cycle. Was that about the way it was?

NG: All of us, we’re about two years apart, but that doesn’t make any difference. We would just work it out. We had to work it out. If we ran out then we had to get them out and wash them, get them clean. (Laughter) We always had to hang them out in the sun, you know, we didn’t have a dryer or anything so I guess the sun kind of, oh we had to get them clean too. Our mother wouldn’t stand for half wash.

SM: That’s interesting, that is roughing it. I love hearing stories like that cause it makes you...

NG: ...appreciate what you have now. I don’t feel sorry for these kids now a days. They have everything handed to them and some of them get really kind of lazy.

SM: In a sense I feel sorry for them because they don’t have the richness of those times.

NG: But they can get that their selves later on if they want to. But it’s like I tell my husband, I didn’t have anything before I married him and now I have everything any money can buy, I have it. It’s just wonderful.

SM: Yeah, and you appreciate it.
NG: Oh, I really appreciate it, I have grandkids and I could just shake them. They just use it once and throw it away. Fill the plate with food and eat half of it and throw it away. It just makes me angry.

SM: Yeah, is there anyway to can teach these kids values and to respect things like that?

NG: Well you can to a point but you can’t override parent teaching. You just can’t. And you can’t bring out all these things they shouldn’t be doing. Pretty soon they won’t come and visit you. You have to kind of give them a little space and they’ll learn.

SM: Yeah. Could you teach them how to make soap one day or something like that just to pass down one of the traditions?

NG: I wouldn’t know how to do it. I never did make it see, that’s what my mother did, but when I grew up and got married and had my own home we didn’t make soap then. You bought it. I was married in 1940 so you bought everything. Well, my mother still made soap and I have that in my garage. A barrel that tall with soap in it.

SM: There’s this woman EvaDean Francisco, married to Charlie Francisco in Bryce Valley, she made soap and she gave me a large chunk and it’s a bit discolored, but it’s cut into almost a triangle- cheese shape. And I’ve got it in my drawer in Salt Lake City now and she told me to use it in my hair with some vinegar and I’ll never see it shine so bright! (Laughter)

NG: (Laughter) Oh dear, you don’t want to use it.

SM: (Laughter) You don’t think?
NG: Oh, you wouldn't like it. It would be terrible trying to get it out of your hair. Well you could get it out, the vinegar would cut it out but I think you can make your hair shine with other things. I don't think we had anything back then that could even come close to what you can buy now to put on your hair.

SM: Yeah.

NG: And why we would work at it so hard when you don't have to. And if you got that in your hair you never would get it out. You wouldn't have any idea how to get rid of that. (Laughter)

SM: So do you remember did you do any artifacts hunting, pot hunting, or arrowhead hunting or do you remember any Indians around the area.

NG: Oh, we always had Indians here. When I was a real little girl they used to come by and beg for food and mother, she'd make them a bread and butter sandwich and jam. But I was always just a little bit afraid of Indians when I was growing up because they weren't around that much. And then after we got married, then they started this Indian program of having Indians in your home.

SM: Oh yeah? What was that called?

NG: I don't know. I can't think.

SM: Placement?

NG: Yeah, Indian Placement Program. And the ones that were Mormons, we took into our homes. We had a little boy like that for five years. He came and spent the winter months. Went to school with us.
SM: Did he seem happy?

NG: Well, he really wasn’t happy because I’m a hard mother. I mean I expect things out of my kids. They have to go to school. They have to learn. They have to do their reading. They have to work. They have to help me keep the yard up and the house up and he was just let run wild. He lived, his parents worked for the oil company, or the power company over by New Mexico. Let’s see, where did he come from? Gallup. Around Gallup is where he was from. But he didn’t know much about working.

SM: What kind of Indian was he?

NG: He was a Navajo. Smart little fellar. Just as cute as he could be. But he, I was just too strict, he couldn’t just run and play all the time.

SM: So did he learn English and things?

NG: Yes, he spoke English before he came. Let see how old was he? He was eight I guess.

SM: You had him until he was about thirteen?

NG: Or fourteen, right there somewhere. He was just to the point where he was tired of me and I was tired of him and he just didn’t want to be here and I couldn’t have him here with my boys. I had four boys and the girls had pretty well left home. Claudius* was gone. There was just three boys when he was here. And he didn’t want to study. He didn’t want to do anything but he was so smart and I wouldn’t let him get by with anything. He liked the boys. Especially Greg, our youngest one, they were just as thick as thieves and just really brothers. I let the boys build a hut out in the backyard just for them to entertain their selves. He was a year older than my youngest boy. He and one of
his friends were out there smoking this one day when I came home. (Laughter) That’s the kind of friends he wanted to be with. Well Greg told me just a year or two ago, he said Mike was smoking when he came up to live with us, course he wasn’t smoking all the time because...

SM: Is Greg still in touch with Mike?

NG: No, not any of us right now. But when he was about fifteen he was just more than I could handle. I was just too strict and he wasn’t used to it. I’d get him shaped up pretty good and then he’d go home in the summer...

SM: ...and then you’d have to start all over again?

NG: And his mother- we went to a car sale down a round where they live and his mother...we were in the used car business for about, oh, fifteen years while the kids were growing up and Mike’s dad and mother came. We took Mike down to visit his folks and they came out to the sale and she said, “I hate to have him come home, he just runs wild in the summer, and I can’t make him mind.” And I said he didn’t want to mind me either, but Claude can discipline him. But his dad said, “Take out your belt and use it on him.” I said, “I never would do that.” But he just was- he’d grown out of everything I wanted to teach him.

SM: Yeah, he was starting to come into his own.

NG: He had so much freedom at home. He couldn’t handle this so I just told them I didn’t think I’d better take him anymore. I couldn’t think that I was going to help him anymore. But he went to live with a family up to Salina and he seemed to do all right up there. He went on a mission for our church. But then when he came back- his dad died while he was out on his mission. He was in a car accident and killed and he was a big influence in
Mike’s life. And then his younger brother was hurt in a car accident and he came out of it disabled. I don’t think he was in a wheelchair but he had all kinds of problems and this kind of turned Mike against- I think he was kind of mad at the Lord for letting it happen to him.

NG: So we haven’t got in contact. He’s been here a couple of times since, but I was telling Marilyn the other day, he called us about, oh it might have been six months ago, not long ago, and I was so surprised. I answered the phone and he said, “This is Mike.” And I said, “Where are you Mike?” And he said, he was out in New Mexico somewhere calling from a pay phone. He said he was a truck driver. And I said do you ever come up 89 into Kanab and he said no, he went up the other way into Salt Lake, but I said come by, we’d just love to have you come by. I could tell he’d been drinking though. And I heard reports back that he was on drugs.

SM: Oh, that’s too bad.

NG: And he said he was married. It seems like he said he had a couple or three kids and seems like he said that he wasn’t living with his wife right now. I can’t remember whether they’re divorced. The thing with me, I’m eighty-two years old...

SM: You sure look younger than that. You look sixty-five. I can’t believe it.

NG: (Laughter) But my mind, if I don’t write things down, in a little while it drifts away from me and I have a hard time bringing it back and I’m just forgetful. But it was so good to hear from Mike, and the thing, I said to Marilyn, this is just what pleased me the most, he called me “Mother”, and he wanted to know how “Dad” was and he never would say mother to me while he was here, but I didn’t really expect him to do that. I thought that was just...
Nabbie Mace Glazier

SM: You knew he had a mother of his own?

NG: Yeah, but he said, "I love you and Dad." He said, "I've always appreciated what you did for me." But it was just a little too much. I was a little heavy with him I think on this learning and doing things.

SM: You did what you did for a reason.

NG: Yeah, well why have him if you're not going to take care of him and teach him what he needs to know, and I felt like he needed to learn respect and learn to take care of his self and learn how to work. How are you going to survive if you don’t know how to hold down a job and be responsible. But this one day, it was the end of the year and he wanted a yearbook and our kids always had yearbooks. I hadn’t thought much about it, but he came home this one day and said he had to go to one of his friend’s mothers. I said, "Why do you have to go over there?" He said, "Well, I owe her some money." "Well what do you owe her money for?" He had borrowed money from her to buy a yearbook. I was so ticked at him. He and Greg would go to the, Claude was the Postmaster, and he had the kids come over there and sweep up and then he’d pay them money. He had money that he had earned at the post office but he didn’t want to go ask Dad for it I guess. I don’t know why else, but I said, you’ve earned money over at the post office, why didn’t you go and tell Dad you needed some money for your yearbook. Well, he had gone and borrowed it from Sharon and I was so mad at him and then he didn’t want to talk about it and tell me about it and something else, I was making pie and before I even thought, I had the rolling pin in my hand and I turned around and I whacked him with that rolling pin. And I hit him, I was aiming for his, I hit him right on his crazy bone and it hurt like crazy. Oh, oh, I cried with him. I said, "Mike", I’d never hit him before and I don’t know why, other than he just, it just bothered me to think he’d do something like that. I cried with him and he cried and I was glad I hadn’t broke his arm.
Nbbie Mace Glazier

SM: Well I think you've been forgiven.

NG: And I never did want to raise anybody else's kids. And the only reason I took him is cause Claude was over the program in the Stake. You take a Navajo, but my wife won't. How do you do that?

SM: Well you did it and you know.

NG: We got along and he's still my friend. So I felt good about it.

SM: Well I'm going to end this interview because the tape is almost done.

SM: Thank you so much for such a great interview.

End Side Two Tape One
End of Interview
Interview Agreement and Deed of Gift

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