

# Southern Utah Oral History Project

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.

1 Ramona Esplin Heaton

INTERVIEW WITH: Ramona Esplin Heaton  
INTERVIEWER: Suzi Montgomery  
INTERVIEW NUMBER: One  
DATE OF INTERVIEW: March 5, 1999  
PLACE OF INTERVIEW: Her home in Kanab, Utah  
SUBJECT OF INTERVIEW: Her Life Experiences in Orderville and Cedar City,  
Salt Lake City, and then finally Kanab  
TRANSCRIBER: Vectra Solutions/LA  
DATE: August 3, 1999

**Tape 1, Side A**

SM: Okay Ramona, I understand that you were born in Orderville and you left when you were three-years-old. Can you just tell me a little bit about how you ended up in Orderville, how you ended up being born in Orderville, starting with your birth date?

RH: Well my parents were there in the United Order. Mother was a Chamberlain and both their parents were the leaders in this United Order.

SM: I see.

RH: They had quite a bit to do with that. Mother's mother, she lived at Hidden Lake for quite a while.

SM: Hidden Lake? I haven't heard of that.

RH: That was her father that had the mill there.

SM: Oh, he had a mill?

RH: Chamberlain.

SM: Oh, okay, a Chamberlain then?

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RH: Uh huh.

SM: Okay, I get it. They were pretty well a pioneer family in the area then?

RH: Uh huh.

SM: What kind of mill was it?

RH: I think they made cloth, weaved, I'm not sure.

SM: It wasn't a saw mill?

RH: Oh no.

SM: Okay.

RH: It was clothing, where, well, they made cloth.

SM: So they had been in Orderville because of the mill I guess?

RH: No, he built it there. They was at the Muddy Mission. Brigham Young sent them there and that didn't work out and so he sent them to Long Valley and they lived in Mt. Carmel.

SM: Oh yeah. Uh huh.

RH: And the people had left their, left their homes for some reason and they then came back and they moved on to Long Valley to Orderville and they settled in Orderville.

SM: Oh, I see.

RH: So they were right there to start everything.

SM: This was your grandfather?

RH: Both grandfathers.

SM: And what was the last name of your grandfathers?

RH: Chamberlain and Esplin.

SM: Esplin?

RH: Thomas Chamberlain.

SM: Uh huh.

RH: He was a polygamist and had six wives.

SM: Wow. (Laughter)

RH: (Laughter) You haven't heard that?

SM: Well I've heard of polygamy definitely but I am still surprised that he had that many wives.

RH: Grandpa Esplin had two wives.

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SM: Uh huh. Was there any, do you know if there was any problems with that with the government at that time? Could they go to jail for it?

RH: Uh huh.

SM: They did?

RH: Yes. They started giving them, coming and giving them problems. In fact they took Grandpa Chamberlain to jail for a while and he was so good they sent him home.  
(Laughter)

SM: Really? (Laughter)

RH: (Laughter) I guess. But I didn't know him at all. He died before I was born.

SM: I see.

RH: I didn't know Grandpa Esplin too well because I was young when we left Orderville and I just didn't see him, only a few times.

SM: So then your mother and father grew up in Orderville?

RH: Uh huh, in Orderville, or in that area.

SM: Tell me a little bit about what your parents have told you about Orderville. Anything you can remember, about the house they lived in, or the traditions, you know, how they got on in Orderville?

RH: Well let's see, I think Mother and Father, their first home was in a little granary until they could build a little small house on the corner and after some years they built a big house. Do you know where the post office is in Orderville?

SM: Is it right on the Main Street there?

RH: Uh huh. They had a big house there. They built a large one.

SM: Before the bridge? You know that little bridge that goes through there?

RH: No, I don't think so. And Grandpa and Grandmother lived right across the street there in their home. And my grandfather raised sheep. So my father raised sheep.

SM: Uh huh.

RH: It was a hard, long life.

SM: Tell me about raising sheep? What did that involve? What did he have to do as a routine everyday?

RH: They have to stay with them or they, if they're frightened or something they'll just take off. They have to stay. He used to go out in Nevada for the winter range and he had a sheep wagon and he lived right there.

SM: Oh, wow.

RH: Just come in once in a while to get some supplies. And this was, I remember, when we moved to Cedar. We moved to a farm house and my mother had had all these nice things

for the new house, bathroom, big rooms and then she moved to there and that was one sink in the kitchen with cold water...

SM: ...so she went from a small house in Orderville to a big house in Orderville back to a small house in Cedar? (Laughter)

RH: (Laughter) ...and no bathroom. It was down at the bottom of the orchard and they worked hard for many years there.

SM: So when he sheep herded he moved his winter range to Nevada. And where was his summer range?

RH: Up by Navajo Lake. Bear Springs they called it. West of Navajo Lake. A really nice place where he had his sheep in the summer.

SM: Did you ever go tend sheep at all?

RH: (Laughter) No, but we went up to Bear Springs and spent time there quite often.

SM: I see. So your father was probably gone most of the time.

RH: Uh huh. He was gone a lot of the time, and brothers too. Three or four brothers spent a lot of time with him too.

SM: Uh huh. And so how many people were left at home?

RH: Well Mother had thirteen children, two babies died, so she raised eleven.

SM: Uh. Big family.

RH: Yes.

SM: So there was mainly girls at home while they were tending sheep up in Nevada?

RH: Yes. I think there'd only be one brother with him when he was there and then he had sheep herders too that he hired at times, because the other boys would be home going to school and taking care of the other dairy herd.

SM: Quite a large dairy herd?

RH: No, no just dairy cows for our own needs.

SM: And the boys did the milking?

RH: Milked them and fed them and....always had a big garden.

SM: Did you do gardening?

RH: I helped eat it. (Laughter)

SM: (Laughter)

RH: Just like with Fred now.

SM: Oh yeah.

RH: Helped bottle it.

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SM: But he does mainly all the gardening out there?

RH: Fred? Yes.

SM: Uh huh. So tell me about, I guess in Orderville during that time you were too young to really do anything and then how did the move to Cedar City come about?

RH: Uh. I think my father wanted to move there where there was better schooling for the children.

SM: I see.

RH: I'm not sure if there was even a high school. Anyway he wanted to be over there where they could go to school.

SM: Do you remember the trip over there?

RH: Uh, I don't, I think I just remember what I've been told about it. I remember they moved in wagons and my sister was fifteen or sixteen, she drove one of the wagons that had a piano on it.

SM: Oh my gosh.

RH: And the little ones. That was really, over the mountains, steep roads. They weren't like they are now.

SM: So you went through Cedar Breaks?

RH: No, no around.

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SM: Oh around?

RH: Around the Cedar Mountain over there.

SM: How did the route used to go from Orderville? Do you know where Long Valley Junction is now and it goes across, was it there?

RH: It goes across into Cedar. Well that's where they went.

SM: Was that the route there? Same route?

RH: Uh huh.

SM: So up over the mountain and then down again? And was it a dirt road?

RH: Well I'm sure, well yes.

SM: Yeah.

RH: And narrow.

SM: That must have been a crazy trip.

RH: And then I think one or two other brothers had wagons with furniture on. Some of them were driving the cattle. See they had one wagon with chickens.

SM: Oh my gosh. Piano in one and chickens in the other one...yeah (both laugh)

RH: My sister recalls when they went down Main Street in Cedar, the chickens were cackling and she thought why couldn't they have gone the other way, (Laughter) instead of Main Street. But anyway.

SM: So they made it though, the whole family made it to the city?

RH: Uh huh.

SM: Started off in a small house again?

RH: Uh huh.

SM: Do you remember, what are your first memories at Cedar City? Do you remember anything about the house or waking up in the morning, what it was like, or the weather or?

RH: Lots of wind. (Laughter)

SM: Really?

RH: Waking up and seeing snow all over. It used to snow there a lot. We had a big orchard, fruit orchard, a lot of birds chirping and singing and we had lots of cats and dogs... The cows would have babies and the sheep would have babies and (laughter), we had two or three pigs and they'd have their little pigs, so there was a lot of little animals, a lot of pets.

SM: Did your father continue sheep herding during this time?

RH: All the time until he retired in 19, oh, I'm not sure. But he lived to be 102-years-old.

SM: Wow. That was a long life.

RH: So I think he was probably, well it was after World War II and he didn't have the help and the boys went other ways and so he sold the sheep then and he sold the mountain range, which we all felt bad about. (Laughter)

SM: The property?

RH: The property, uh huh.

SM: Oh. Yeah, that would be something you'd miss I guess.

RH: So the man that bought it, sold it for mountain lots. I think he got forty thousand for it and he's been made a millionaire by selling lots.

SM: Really? Yeah, the real estate has definitely sky rocketed over there.

RH: Oh yeah. I mean, selling it for mountain lots is different than keeping it to feed the cattle on.

SM: Had you owned it you never would have done that so you wouldn't have made that kind of money on it anyway. You know. Wouldn't have let it be developed.

RH: We would never have done that. (Laughter)

SM: Yeah, yeah. That's too bad. Uh huh. What was the population of Cedar City growing up then?

RH: It was more than it is now.

SM: How many families, was it countable? Were there a hundred families or less?

RH: I have no idea, but it was, I felt, a pretty good size. I couldn't say.

SM: Compared to Orderville anything was big. (Laughter)

RH: Oh yes. (Laughter) Course I wasn't aware of how big it was then. Used to ride a bus to school.

SM: A heated bus?

RH: Oh yes, a big bus. Go around to the different farms and pick up the school children and take them.

SM: You were just a teenager during the Depression? About thirteen or so, huh? You were born, what? 1920?

RH: 1920. So I think it started about 1930 didn't it?

SM: Yeah. So do you remember any of the influences of that or were you still too young. Do you remember going without anything?

RH: Well we never went without food. We always raised it. We didn't have a lot of clothes. It was a treat to have a banana or an orange or something. But as far as food we never went without. Mother bottled everything.

SM: What kind of fruit in the orchard did you have?

RH: Apples, lots of apples. Apricots, plumbs, pears.

SM: Uh huh. Did you box that up and sell that fruit or trade that fruit?

RH: No. My mother would bottle it.

SM: You would use it all?

RH: Give it to the neighbors.

SM: I see, yeah. Uh huh.

RH: Father would have a big garden. Raised melon and about everything. Potatoes, corn.

SM: And that would all be canned and bottled and?

RH: Uh huh. Just like I'm doing now.

SM: Still doing it?

RH: (Laughter) Freezing most of it. But bottling too.

SM: It's a lot of work isn't it?

RH: Yeah, it is. But it's better than what you buy.

SM: Is it? Does it taste better?

RH: Yes.

SM: Huh. So tell me about the education for women back then. Do you think your education in school was equal to that of young boys. Did they pay equal attention to girls' education quite a bit back then?

RH: Not that I'm aware of. The schools were good though.

SM: They were good?

RH: Uh huh.

SM: Were you into school? Did you enjoy school?

RH: Oh, yes. (Laughter)

SM: And you went through, all your school years were in Cedar City, right?

RH: Yes. Uh huh.

SM: What grade did you go up to?

RH: I graduated from high school, but I didn't go further.

SM: So there was a high school in Cedar City at the time?

RH: Yes. Uh huh. Most of the family went to college but I didn't. I don't know why. Should have.

SM: Was there very many Indians in the area at the time.

RH: Not, well, because of the Indian community there.

SM: Uh huh.

RH: There would be not a lot but there were Indian children in the school.

SM: And was it, did you mingle with Indian children or was it segregated.

RH: Well it wasn't segregated as far as I know but I didn't get really well acquainted with them.

SM: Did they speak English?

RH: Uh huh.

SM: They did?

RH: Yes.

SM: Did they have a school on that, you're not sure if it was a reservation or it was just a community, do you know what type of Indian, what tribe it was? Navajo or Paiute or?

RH: I'm not sure if it was Paiute, I'm not sure.

SM: You don't know if they had a school there or not or if they...

RH: ...no, they went to the public school. They didn't have their own.

SM: I see, so all the kids from that community went to school in Cedar City?

RH: Uh huh.

SM: I see.

RH: I don't think there was too many families there, it didn't seem like there was many Indians at school.

SM: Really? Do you remember trading anything, any kind of food for blankets or anything like that, any kind of jewelry, Navajo blankets or?

RH: My father may have. I don't know. It seems like we had an Indian blanket or two. I don't remember the occasion.

SM: Describe in your best words your mother and your mother's role in the family. What do you remember most about your mother?

RH: She worked very hard. She was very kind and loving. Very special person.

SM: Uh huh. What kind of work did she do?

RH: She had to milk cows sometimes.

SM: Really?

RH: Oh, washing and ironing. They had to heat the water on the stove to wash and she made soap. She made her own soap.

SM: She did?

RH: And a lot of cooking. She was a good cook. Always made lunches for us when we went to school and, oh just everything that goes with the home. All the cooking and all the cleaning.

SM: All that work. Do you remember what she would do if you got sick? Do you remember ever having sickness when you were young and if you did what kind of sicknesses did you have?

RH: Well we'd have colds.

SM: Uh huh.

RH: And the diseases that went around. Measles and mumps (laughter) and chicken pox.

SM: What would she do, let's say when you got a cold.

RH: I think Caster Oil was one of the things I remember. (Laughter) Oh, and we used aspirin, but I don't remember. I think she made a ginger tea sometimes.(reminiscent laughter)

SM: Ginger tea? For?

RH: When we had colds.

SM: When you had colds? Do you remember a mustard plaster?

RH: (Laughter) Oh yes. She made those.

SM: Did she use those when you had congestion in your chest and things?

RH: Uh huh.

SM: Did she use, you know, with your big garden, did she use any herbs or any kind of teas or tonics or anything.

RH: No, I don't think she did.

SM: And no one in the family got really, really sick? It was pretty much just the common diseases?

RH: Uh huh.

SM: The two babies that passed away, were they pretty well at birth or?

RH: One was a twin, a boy and a girl and she died just about two weeks after birth. The other one, oh, had whooping cough and died at about six months.

SM: They were really diseases that were out of her control?

RH: Uh huh.

SM: So in Cedar City did you by then have cars or did you go by horse around?

RH: Well we had a car. One car. (Laughter)

SM: Uh huh.

RH: But we didn't ride horses or anything to town. We'd ride horses around the farm.

SM: Were you a good horseback rider?

RH: No. (Laughter)

SM: No? (Laughter). Did you enjoy riding a horse?

RH: Oh, yes. But they had to be mighty tame. (Laughter)

SM: (Laughter) Right. Were all your family kind of that way or did some people excel at riding horses?

RH: Not the girls. The boys were good riders. The one brother used to get wild horses and break them.

SM: Oh really?

RH: He did that a lot. Getting them in Nevada, catching them. He broke a lot of horses. Broke a lot of bones. (Laughter)

SM: Yeah. (Laughter) So transportation was sometimes by car then?

RH: Uh huh.

SM: Did women drive?

RH: My older sisters did. I didn't for a long time. Mother wouldn't drive. (Laughter)

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SM: But you drove?

RH: Not then. I didn't drive a car until after I got married.

SM: I see. Yeah.

RH: I think I drove his pickup truck in town a time or two.

SM: Uh huh. What would you do for entertainment during your school years? What do you remember as fun times in Cedar City back then? What would be a good time?

RH: Oh, getting together as families mostly and birthdays.

SM: Holidays?

RH: Uh huh. Mostly family. Families would get together and do things as families.

SM: Uh huh. So you were very much a part of the community during those years in Cedar?

RH: Not too much. Living out on the farm and not being able to get in, it was just mostly going to school.

SM: Uh huh.

RH: That and church.

SM: So you stuck mostly to your family then? Hung around with your sisters and brothers?

RH: We'd go to church.

SM: Uh huh. That played a big part?

RH: Sometimes, when there was someone there to drive us.

SM: Did you enjoy church? Did it play a big part in your life?

RH: Not too much. Not being able to go to the Mutual (Young Women) part of it and Primary. I missed out on that.

SM: From just living too far out of the city?

RH: Uh huh. We associated a little bit with neighbors that were, oh, about a mile from us.

SM: So, would you say that you felt isolation out there in that part of your life, where you lived outside of Cedar City? Did you ever feel a sense of isolation?

RH: Well I don't think I felt it. I did what I wanted to do. Played with the animals and my dolls and the one neighbor girl. She never wanted to play with dolls, she wanted to go roam around the country, so. She was quite a bit younger than I was so we didn't do too much.

SM: Was she kind of a tomboy?

RH: Well, not really, but she didn't care for dolls. (Laughter)

SM: Uh huh. You played with dolls a lot?

RH: Paper dolls. Cut out paper dolls.

SM: What other things did you play with?

RH: Well we'd have different games that we'd play. Card games; Rook I think, some games on a board, what was it? Monopoly. I think I played with my brothers and we had a basketball hoop and I'd try to play, but they'd get rough and I'd get hit, so... (Laughter)

SM: (Laughter) Yeah.

RH: Well, my brother and I, we'd go up in the hills and look for arrowheads and do those things quite a bit.

SM: Did you ever find any?

RH: He did. A lot of them.

SM: Did you ever find any other kind... did you ever find any pottery, Indian pottery or any other kind of Indian artifacts?

RH: No. He would dig and try to. My father tells about, they had sheep on the Arizona Strip when he lived home before he was married, when he was a young man, herding the sheep, and he said he came, as he was riding along on his horse, he saw this kind of cave opening under the ground and he got down and got, dug into it, opened it up to all these arrowheads and other different things there, so he said he filled his hat full of arrowheads...

SM: Wow!

RH: Beautiful arrowheads, and...

SM: They had been gathered by somebody else then?

RH: No, this cave, it was kind of a cave under the ground.

SM: And they were just scattered around in the cave?

RH: Down in it, and thinking he'd it go back and get more, he took them home and my grandpa, well if a salesman would come, why they would let them sleep and eat there and this one made such a fuss over them and so Grandpa gave them to him. (Laughter) And my father was so upset because he did that and he went back to find some more and he could never find the spot. He says he never could. He went back and forth and he could never find that spot again.

SM: Maybe that's where they made them or something, if there were so many in the cave.

RH: They were under the ground there.

SM: Uh huh.

RH: But that was a lot of years ago. See he was one hundred and something so that must have been, well one hundred years at least ago, because it's been about sixteen, seventeen years since he died.

SM: One hundred years or more, one hundred and ten years ago. Isn't that crazy, huh?

RH: (Laughter) But he tried hard. He never could find that place.

SM: So you guys would go arrowhead hunting for entertainment? What kind of outdoor games did you play?

RH: Well I think we played baseball some and, see, I should have written a journal.

SM: Well, you're doing all right.

RH: We had a pond where he'd fill it up to water his garden. Had a windmill and a well, so we'd swim in the reservoir a lot.

SM: Was it big enough to stretch your bodies out?

RH: Oh yes. It was, the water was running all the time into it.

SM: That must have been nice?

RH: Yeah, uh huh. We'd play in the snow, throw snowballs at each other and those things.

SM: Any sleighing?

RH: Uh huh. Yes.

SM: Materialistically, did you have as much as people in your neighborhood? Were you the same level as far as money went, as the rest of your neighbors?

RH: I think so. During The Depression. I think as far as the food and things, we used to have as much, well they would give the neighbors fruits and vegetables and stuff.

SM: You had as much as anybody else?

RH: Around the area there. In town there would be more, people would have more money, but we didn't have very much money.

SM: But you really didn't know it did you?

RH: No. (Laughter) Oh, I had to fuss quite a bit to get a perm in my hair and...

SM: ...tell me about getting a perm? Was it the same way they do it now? I don't imagine so.

**End of Side One, Tape one**

**Begin Side Two, Tape one**

SM: So there would be a machine?

RH: There would be a machine and then it had wires coming from it. Kind of a hood thing. Come down and then a little clamp thing that they'd put on your hair. But I had a lot of hair and so they couldn't do it in one process, they'd have to do it in two or three.

SM: Oh, really.

RH: Oh that was awful, kink my neck.

SM: Did you have thick, long hair?

RH: Well I didn't keep it too long, but it was thick.

SM: Uh huh. Yeah.

RH: And it was electric. True heat. They'd clamp those things on. And it was an ordeal.

(Laughter) Much easier now. (Laughter)

SM: Now they put chemicals on. Tell me other cosmetic things you used to do then. You know, that have changed now. Do you remember, did you wear lipstick?

RH: Oh yes.

SM: Oh, you did? Tell me about what was important to you cosmetically. What you always tried to have?

RH: Lipstick and powder, mascara.

SM: Uh huh. Could you always get those things?

RH: Well, I think I had them. (Laughter) But then that was as a teenager and later.

SM: What about teeth. You've got really nice teeth. I'm wondering how you managed to keep your teeth looking so nice?

RH: Well there were dentists there. Had a good dentist.

SM: Did you brush with toothpaste every night like everybody does now?

RH: Yes.

SM: Was toothpaste made out of the same stuff?

RH: I think so. It seems like Pepsodent has been here forever. (Laughter)

SM: Pepsodent? And you'd see the dentist regularly or once in a while or?

RH: Just when we got a toothache I guess.

SM: Uh huh.

RH: Maybe every year or two. I don't think too often. I think when we got our wisdom teeth pulled...

SM: You got those pulled?

RH: Yes.

SM: Then your life in Cedar City went on. Tell me how you got married and then what happened next?

RH: Well he was a cook and he had come to Cedar to work in the Park. He had worked at Grand Canyon, and he was cooking at one of the hotels when he first came, waiting to go to work for the park. We got acquainted there and we got married. From there he worked at the Escalante Hotel, too, in Cedar. It was the main hotel. I think it has been torn down. And so we had an apartment there for about a year; two different apartments. And then we went, I guess it was Salt Lake we went to. We were there for a while, and then we moved to Ogden.

SM: What was Salt Lake like? Do you remember a lot about Salt Lake? Did you raise children there?

RH: Never had children.

SM: No children?

RH: No. Trying to remember if we went to Ogden first. Anyway, from Ogden we went to Oakland, and he worked in a service station there and I worked in a restaurant, and he joined the Navy Reserve in the Merchant Marines and he worked there. Oh, the war started, broke out in Ogden when we lived there, so that was what? '42 or '43, or something like that.

SM: Yeah, that sounds about right.

RH: And so they sent him to-----Bay, in New York for training from the marine base.

SM: And then you moved to Oakland?

RH: No from Oakland, that's where he joined.

SM: I see. Tell me what it was like...

RH: ...so I went back to Cedar. (Laughter)

SM: You did? So you weren't in Oakland all that long then?

RH: Well we were there for a year, maybe two.

SM: Where did you live in Oakland?

RH: MacArthur Boulevard or something like that. (Laughter)

SM: Oh yeah?

RH: We rented a room there.

SM: In like, just a room, or an apartment?

RH: No, we just had a great big room.

SM: Really?

RH: The landlady rented the upstairs to, I think they had one or two children, then they rented a big room. It had a bedroom and a little kitchen stuff, and then we used the same bathroom that they did. (Laughter)

SM: Right.

RH: And then, oh boy, I've counted and I've lived in about thirty different places. (Laughter)

SM: Really?

RH: Then I think, I can't remember which way this was. We were in a boarding house and I helped with the boarding house, cooking and taking care.

SM: Did you enjoy that?

RH: What?

SM: Was that enjoyable?

RH: No. (Laughter)

SM: (Laughter) No, it wasn't?

RH: All day long and just a little room in the attic.

SM: Oh, wow.

RH: I got upset with that one time and upset with my husband. We didn't have much money and a friend wanted to borrow some money to buy a jacket and that didn't sit very well with me. (Laughter) So my brother was working in San Diego in a defense plant during the war, so I said, "I'm going to go down and be with him", and then he was playing cards some with some of the fellows there at night and I was fed up with the boarding house anyway and he says, "Well you go on down there and I'll quit here and I'll come down there and we'll live in San Diego." He got down there, (interesting). I don't think I told him I was coming, but anyway he was living with two other fellows in an apartment, so he got me a room with somebody in the Ward to live with.

SM: Really?

RH: So I got a job in the Chicken Pie shop. I think I was there about two weeks and quit and talked to Lloyd and he decided he wanted me to come back cause he wanted to stay there.

SM: You talked to who?

RH: My husband. He decided he didn't want to go to San Diego. He wanted to stay in Oakland. So I went back.

SM: You did. (Laughter)

RH: And then after that, soon after that he joined. But I didn't go back to the...

SM: ...the boarding house....

RH: ...yeah. He had an apartment for us. Oh, that's where we had this big room. I couldn't connect that. That's where we had this big room in this home.

SM: That was after you came back? And that was a nicer situation?

RH: Oh yes. (Laughter) And then I had a job in the restaurant just a block away.

SM: You stayed there for a while longer?

RH: A year or two? And then he joined the Merchant Marines and the Navy Reserve and I went back to Cedar. Then he was on the base as a baker instructor. Instructed baking, teaching.

SM: Oh. Instructed what?

RH: Baking, teaching. This was for preparing to go on ships and so he instructed them how to bake and cook.

SM: Oh wow.

RH: The Merchant Marines took supplies all over the world where they were fighting.

SM: Oh, okay, I see.

RH: Had an apartment there off the base and I had a job in the sewing factory making plackets for buttons, that was before zippers. So I'd get them ready to package to sell.

SM: Oh really. (Laughter)

RH: Then after awhile I got on the machine where you sew the plackets.

SM: Oh, is that right? I see movies all the time of all the women sewing in factories and you were one of them huh?

RH: Yeah. And then they decided to put him on a ship and ship him out.

SM: Uh huh.

RH: So I didn't want to stay there. I went back to Cedar. (Laughter)

SM: Where were you at this point in sewing?

RH: In Oakland, I mean New York, Brooklyn, Brooklyn.

SM: Oh, so you were in Brooklyn now, huh?

RH: It was quite close to the base where the Merchant Marine Base was so I had an apartment there.

SM: I see, okay, in Brooklyn. Wow.

RH: So then when he was ready to ship out I went back to Cedar and I got back there and they decided not to ship him out, just keep him there at the base so I went back. (Laughter)

SM: (Laughter)

RH: Different apartment. Different job. Had a job where they were making the firing pins for machine guns.

SM: Sounds wild. So you did that how?

RH: On a machine. Anyway you had to put this against something to shine it and make a smooth surface on the machine on the firing pin.

SM: A sanding of some kind?

RH: Well it was not really sanding, just polishing it. I did that and then they did ship him out and so I went back to Cedar again. (Laughter) In the meantime his family lived at West Virginia and I had a sister living in Indiana, so I stopped to see her and then I decided I'd better go meet his parents.

SM: Oh, you'd never met them?

RH: Never met them. (Laughter)

SM: Wow.

RH: So I took a bus and stayed three or four days with them.

SM: Was that nice?

RH: It was kind of scary at first. When I drove up in a taxi I was about to tell him to keep going. (Laughter) But they were very nice, so, I got acquainted with them that way.

SM: Uh huh.

RH: And during The Depression he had worked in this bake shop as an apprentice, he worked there and the owners, some relative, left school, graduated from school and came back and didn't have a job and so they had to give him his job. So there wasn't work for him there. He heard that they hired apple pickers in Washington state, so he and a friend came out there. I guess they just caught rides. Well they started out there and they stopped in Texas and worked there for a while and they never did get to Washington.

SM: They didn't?

RH: And then he came to Utah.

SM: And so you were separated for quite awhile then?

RH: No, that was before I knew him.

SM: Oh, okay.

RH: That's how he got out to Utah. That's why he hadn't seen his folks for so long. Clear away from his family. So, then he cooked in Idaho for awhile, he had jobs there and then he came to Utah. All over learning new things and cooking.

SM: Well he must have had other relatives in Utah then?

RH: No.

SM: He didn't? Was he one of the first Heatons in Utah?

RH: Oh, no. This was my first husband.

SM: Oh, I was sort of wondering because there so many Heatons here. I thought, how can that be? What's the deal.

RH: No. It was Allenby.

SM: Allenby?

RH: Uh huh.

SM: Now this is Allenby that we're talking about this whole time?

RH: Lloyd Allenby.

SM: Oh boy. Okay, I got you know. So Lloyd Allenby was your first husband?  
He was the guy who did all of the Marine things?

RH: Uh huh. So I stayed and worked in Cedar during the war while he was shipped out, while they were taking supplies. He had quite an adventure on this ship and then after about, '43 or something, he came home, came to Cedar. We lived there about a year and that's when we started going to Salt Lake and Pocatello, Idaho. We went first and he was a chef at Bannock Hotel there.

SM: Chef at the Bannock Hotel?

RH: Uh huh. And with that job it was room and board for both of us. So I had a room, so I got a job, but I had my meals there and then we had one room.

SM: Uh huh.

RH: And all that time I wanted an apartment. (Laughter) Somebody to make your bed, somebody to cook all your food, huh? (Laughter) I think that went on for about a year.

SM: You wanted to have an apartment instead of having someone cooking your dinners?

RH: Yeah. Right.

SM: A place to call your own.

RH: Right. I worked in a grocery store there. Then we went to Salt Lake. Then Pocatello, then up to Idaho Falls and he made arrangements to get a job in a hotel there and then we couldn't find a place to stay that night, every hotel was filled, so we just drove back to Salt Lake and got an apartment in Salt Lake. Kimball Apartments. We had to wait for it. That was on North Main. I don't know if they're still there. I think that's where they're building this new building. The gym wasn't there then.

SM: The Deseret Gym? I know where that was.

RH: There was a grocery store right across at that time. And the Ute Hotel, I think.

SM: Uh huh. I know about where you were then. So you had an apartment there?

RH: Uh huh.

SM: And then you worked...

RH: ...wait a minute. He worked at oh, what is the church hotel across from the Temple? On the south of it?

SM: Was it a big hotel?

RH: Uh huh. Maybe it still isn't there. It's a church hotel, belonged to the church.  
*(The Temple Square Hotel is being referred to here and was remodeled and is now the Inn at Temple Square)*

He worked there for a while and I worked at the grocery store for a while there and then he went to the Newhouse Hotel, which has been torn down, there on Main, and then I went to, oh it was the Temple Square Hotel.

SM: Oh, I see. Okay. I don't think that's there any more. I don't know for sure.

RH: Temple Square isn't there anymore?

SM: I don't know. I don't recognize the name. So how did you get back to Kanab?

RH: Well after a few years (like forty) up there in Salt Lake we had our own businesses. We had a café and then we ran Foothill Shopping Center. We had a restaurant there.

SM: ...What was it called?

RH: (Laughter) This is awful...uh...

SM: ...right, you haven't been thinking about these things for a while.

RH: Uh, anyway it was a shopping center and a restaurant there. Service station right next to it. We were there about eight years and then we had a coffee shop in a hotel on State Street for about four years and then we bought a café on Third.

SM: Do you know what that café was called?

RH: Trucker's Café.

SM: (Laughter) Trucker's Café.

RH: It was just a little one. Then we went to, oh, my word, I should have been prepared for this.

SM: Oh, hey we really don't have to get the names.

RH: Anyway so then we sold on the Foothill, we went to work at ZCMI too then. He managed the food and I worked as a hostess. And then after a while he wanted some time off in the summer and a little more time and so he went to work for Granite School Lunch and that was at night, all night preparing the food, so that didn't last very long.

SM: Not the break he was looking for was it?

RH: Thought he'd have the summer break. I stayed at the Tea Room after he left and worked as a waitress there. Then they tore part of the store down.

SM: Oh, part of ZCMI?

RH: Uh huh. And put the Tea Room upstairs and I went and worked up there for a while after

they did that.

SM: You did?

RH: And so after, then his next job was a cook at the LDS Hospital. (Laughter)

SM: Really?

RH: Worked there, and then from there I think we moved to St. George. Different jobs. Was there about five years and he had a heart attack and died, so that's how Fred came in.

SM: I see.

RH: I was acquainted at the ward I went to, the church, with a relative of Fred's and so I knew Fred's daughter-in-law here. Anyway, she decided that we should meet each other. (Laughter) That's been sixteen years ago.

SM: Since you've been married?

RH: Uh huh. Since we were married.

SM: Wow. So Lloyd was fairly young when he died?

RH: Uh, more than sixty I think. Let's see. I think it was '79 when he died. '79 or '80' and he was born in 1911, so.

SM: So he was older than you?

RH: Uh huh.

SM: I see. Uh that's interesting. And you've been in Kanab since you met Fred then?

RH: Yes. Uh huh.

SM: Well that's quite an interesting story you have there.

RH: Not telling it very good.

SM: Oh, I think you did a great job. Is there anything else you'd like to add about your time here in Kanab, what are your conceptions about Kanab.

RH: Well, I've enjoyed being here and I kind of look forward a lot to go out to drive the truck when he's out taking care of his cattle.

SM: See the countryside.

RH: I don't ride a horse. (Laughter)

SM: (Laughter) No.

RH: But I drive the truck to go out and be with him and when they move the cows, they have to move them ever so often to different pastures and so I drive the truck.

SM: Is he still doing that?

RH: He was until the day after Christmas. He fell and broke the cup on his shoulder and now he can't get on the horse. He's still taking therapy and trying to heal it up. But. He goes

out, but know he's doing my job, the son rides the horse when they go out branding the calves and he drives the truck.

SM: So there's still some ranching going on in the family.

RH: Yes there is.

SM: Where's the summer range?

RH: Out on the Arizona Strip. It's year round ranges.

SM: Oh, I get you. And the grandchildren, do you think they'll continue?

RH: Those, here, no. The twelve-year-old boy is the one that goes with him. He loves it. But the others live up north. One of his sons is in California and he's a veterinarian, and a daughter in Payson, and a daughter in Salt Lake.

SM: I see.

RH: And the one son here.

SM: Uh huh. The young one?

RH: His son is the little one. Chris. He's special. Kurt\*, his son here is the Justice of the Peace here.

SM: Oh wow.

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Ramona Esplin Heaton

RH: And Stake President, so he so busy. Has a hard time getting together to take care of the cows.

SM: Right. I can imagine. Well I think we'll end this interview. Thank you for sharing your story with me. It was really nice.

**End of Side Two, Tape One**

**End of interview**

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Interview Description

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Interview March 5/99

Primary Subject Her life born in Orderville, on To Cedar City - all over - to Kanab.

Other Topics \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tapes 1

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