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.
KB: Okay Lula, tell me about Sampson Chynoweth. Where was he living before he came into this area?

LM: He came from England and he settled. I don’t know, way back east somewhere and then he came to Paria. He lived down there for quite a few years and that’s where my dad was born. He lived there and came to Henrieville; I can’t remember what year.

KB: Do you know why he came? What brought him into this area?

LM: Well the water dried up down there and there wasn’t enough water for all of them to farm and he had cattle and sheep so he moved on up here where he could have more feed and more water for his cattle and sheep. He had some of both.

KB: So he was the first Chynoweth into the area?

LM: Yes.

KB: And he would be your grandpa?

LM: Yes.
Lula Moore

KB: He had sheep and cattle?

LM: Yes.

KB: Was that normal?

LM: Well quite a few people did, yeah.

KB: Because usually you always hear of cattlemen and sheep herders at war with each other.

LM: Well, they didn't. There was plenty of feed out in the valleys and here where they run them. The grass used to just wave in the wind and there was plenty of water and they had them in different places. Cattle and sheep.

KB: And do you know how soon it was. was it still in the 1800's when he moved into the area or was it into the 1900's. do you know?

LM: I can't remember when they came here, but my grandma died in 1900 and she was buried in Cannonville.

KB: And so they were here in the 1800's?

LM: They would have been here. I can't. I should have found it out. but I can't remember. But she was buried in Cannonville in 1900.

KB: Now your dad was Harvey Chynoweth?

LM: Right.
KB: And he was born in Paria. How old was he? Do you have any idea when they moved up here? Was he just a young boy or was he...

LM: I should have found out but I can’t remember now.

KB: Makes you feel bad doesn’t it? I feel so bad I didn’t get more information from my parents.

LM: I’ve got it here somewhere but I can’t remember it. But he was the youngest one of the family.

KB: Now what happened that he and Nelly ended up living with somebody else?

LM: He lived with my Aunt Laura because she was, not the oldest of the family, but she didn’t have a family, and they was the youngest and after grandma died they lived with Aunt Laura.

KB: So but Sampson was still a Chynoweth. I mean still alive when they lived there?

LM: Oh yes. He was still alive and my Aunt Mabel lived with him and helped took care of him and Aunt Laura took the two youngest ones. Aunt Nel and dad.

KB: Okay, your dad was Harvey Chynoweth?

LM: Right.

KB: -And he was one of the youngest. He was the youngest or was Nelly?

LM: He was. He was the youngest.
KB: But you told me you grew up down, out west of town here.

LM: I was born there, out of town a mile.

KB: Just out by the old ponds out there?

LM: Yes, where that little house, two-room house was out there and during the flu in 1919 is when I was born. And that's when the flu was raging so bad and dad's other brother, Uncle Will and Aunt Nettie, lived in one room and Dad and Mom in the other room to be out of town. They didn't dare to come to town because the flu was raging so bad and Mama was expecting me and anybody that was pregnant, if they got it they died in them days and so they never come to town. They lived right there where the road went up to the cemetery see, and they could see people going up to the cemetery and being buried but they didn't dare to come and find out who they were or anything. Dad never knew, didn't know what was going on in town.

KB: Did a lot of people go out there? Or just like one or two to bury them?

LM: Just the ones that could bury them.

KB: They really didn't do ceremonies?

LM: No, they had nothing; they just buried them. Ken Gouldings mother and sister died within a night of each other and they took them out there and they didn't ever know who died. There was quite a few died at that time.

KB: How long did you live out there?
LM: I must of only been maybe a year or so old when I came to town. I wouldn’t have been very old.

KB: So did he own the fields that are just out there by that then?

LM: He owned all of it from the highway clear over to the creek down there, my Dad did.

KB: To the Henrieville Creek?

LM: Huh uh.

KB: What did he do for a living?

LM: He run his sheep and his cattle and then he farmed.

KB: Oh, he had both too?

LM: Yeah Dad did. After grandpa died he had sheep and cattle and then he farmed all that area and then he run the farm down where Grandpa owned where we lived in the little house. Grandpa owned that farm when he died, so he run it too.

KB: Did he own it? Did he inherit it or was it still a family thing?

LM: I think he probably bought it from the rest of them because he run it for, I think until I was up in 10, 12-years-old.

KB: What did he farm?

LM: Just raised corn and alfalfa.
KB: Was the corn just for the cattle? Or did you guys eat it too?

LM: We dried it and they'd grind it. Mainly he grew alfalfa to feed his horse and that he ran the sheep and cattle with. And we had cows and pigs and chickens and anything. You know, we had everything that we could survive with.

KB: And he kept them down there on the farm when you were there?

LM: Yes.

KB: Now when you moved up here, did he keep the farm or did he sell it or?

LM: I can't remember what happened to it, but I think that he sold it probably after he moved up here because he moved all of his livestock and things down here now where the barn is, you know, down south of here.

KB: You mean just right here on this block?

LM: Yeah, down where Ralph's is now.

KB: Oh, down by Ralph's house? Oh, okay.

LM: Over there where them barns is by Mary.

KB: And did he build those by barns?

LM: Yes, he built them. I think that there was some there that Tom Smith had when he lived there and then after Tom left Dad built on to them.
KB: Now is the same Tom Smith that just lived right below you here?

LM: Huh huh. Yes. He lived there before Dad bought the farm. the house from him.

KB: Oh, so he lived on that property and then he moved up here?

LM: Huh uh. We lived across the street here where Kay and Laura lived and then when dad bought that farm and the things from Tom when he moved up here two blocks up and then we moved over and bought the farm and the house and we moved over there.

KB: Okay, now the house you said that Laura, was it a house right there. was it that one that’s on the corner that’s kind of dilapidated?

LM: It was the old house.

KB: Sitting on the corner there? You lived in that for a while?

LM: Oh that was a great big house.

KB: Yeah, and you lived in it?

LM: Oh yeah, we lived there a lot of years.

KB: Do you know if Bill Bryce ever lived there? Did you ever hear of Bill Bryce? He would have died twenty years ago at least before you came, well he left I should say. Left the area before you came, before you were born. I wondered if that was the old home he had lived in?
LM: I don't know. But Tom owned all them farms and then he sold them to Dad and we moved just across the street into that home when I was just little. I might have been around 8, something like that.

KB: And how long did you live in that house?

LM: Well, all the rest of my life until I got married.

KB: Did you? Good. Now, your dad, did he do anything besides the sheep herding and cattle? Could he make a living that way?

LM: Yeah, that was a good living in them days. The ones that had livestock, why they could. things was better for them.

KB: So they made more money than the rest?

LM: You could raise all of your living, you know, and then they'd raise some wheat and take it to Tropic, up in Tropic Canyon to that mill and grind it.

KB: Did you ever go to that mill?

LM: I went, Lois and I and Dad went up and took some grain one time and stayed over night and ground it and come back the next day.

KB: You had to spend the night up there?

LM: We rented a wagon and team and then we had to wait until they ground it and then bring it home, so we stayed over night.
KB: That's probably what. eleven. maybe twelve miles? Thirteen maybe?

LM: Maybe twelve.

KB: Yeah. it's probably about twelve because it's eight miles from here to. wasn't this road though was it? Didn't you have to go through the old...

LM: ...yeah we had to go way down through Red Rock, way around, cross the creek and go way up around.

KB: Were there any bridges on the creek?

LM: No.

KB: You had to go through the creek?

LM: Yeah, no bridges.

KB: And what about going to Tropic? Is it the same road you went on now?

LM: Practically.

KB: And what about going up 'The Dump'? Has that road changed?

LM: Not too much, it's just been about the same.

KB: That's about the same.
LM: When the wagons used to go there, they’d go down in the holler and up. you know, down in the gully, when they used to go with their wagons. south of the highway now, but when the cars come they went the same way.

KB: But the wagons went differently?

LM: Yes.

KB: Is it the one, if you look at the very top, they almost come out at the same spot, but there’s an old road you can see going down.

LM: That’s the way the wagons went.

KB: To the south. So did you go up that road?

LM: No, we didn’t go up that far. we just went down, you know where...

KB: ...where the waterfall is down there?

LM: Yeah, we just went to there, but when they drove the cattle to Marysvale, all of them drove their cattle for sale every fall. they’d trail them up that old trail, old road.

KB: Some of them still use that for their cattle.

LM: Oh yeah, they still drive it. that’s their cattle drive road.

KB: I want to hike it.

LM: It would be quite interesting.
KB: Definitely. Okay, do you remember the name of that one in the canyon? Is that the Bryce Valley, what do they call it. Bryce Perfection or something? That mill?

LM: A gristmill I think they called it.

KB: But the brand? Because I remember people telling me that there was a brand of Bryce, when they’d grind it they put it in these flour sacks that said something like Bryce Perfection or something like that? (Bryce Pride)

LM: Probably, but I can’t remember. Probably was.

KB: And you’d have to. so you’d ride a wagon up, spend the night, just camped out?

LM: Just out in the trees right there.

KB: How fun. Did you like it?

LM: Oh yeah. That was a treat to get to go.

KB: How many times did you get to go? A lot or?

LM: Just one. I only went on one.

KB: You got to go just once?

LM: Everybody had to have a turn. There was ten of us. (Laughter)

KB: Oh, I see. So he’d only go once a year and do it?
LM: Huh uh. Once a year. Everybody took it up there and ground it.

KB: Because that one can't be very old because Ruby's father, she told me used to go all the way to Junction, no, Kingston.

LM: Kingston, down in Kingston Canyon.

KB: Yeah. To get their's ground? Did your father do that or...?

LM: I don't think so. I don't remember it. I don't know why they didn't get it done here because it was about the same thing, but they had that bigger one down there. Maybe it ground it finer or things, I don't know.

KB: I wonder how long the one in Tropic; the canyon up there was there? Was it a new one I wonder? Maybe they had to go before?

LM: They could have went before that. See Uncle Jim Ed would have been older than dad so they, maybe they went there before they got this Tropic one. Ruby would know, but maybe she can't remember.

KB: And what about the waterfall? Did it help with the gristmill?

LM: That's what hit the wheel and turned.

KB: Was it water powered?

LM: Yeah. It hit that big wheel and kept it going around.
KB: Did you get to watch it?

LM: Oh yes.

KB: Did you play in the water there at all?

LM: Well I would imagine. (Laughter) We probably went wading in it and got muddy and wet, I don’t know. (Laughter)

KB: Now how did your dad pay for the flour being ground?

LM: They would just grind it for shares. The mill ground it for shares and then they could sell it to people that didn’t have any.

KB: So in other words, they’d take the wheat there and then they’d let the mill take some of the wheat as payment.

LM: For a share, huh uh. I don’t know what share, but they’d take so much. Maybe every third sack or something, I don’t know.

KB: To pay for the grinding? Was it just your dad’s wheat?

LM: He’d just take his own up. The few farmers that was here, they had their own wagons and teams and they’d just take their own.

KB: And what about the flour sacks.

LM: I don’t know where they got them. (Laughter)
KB: But did you use the flour sacks afterwards?

LM: Oh yes. Never did ever throw them away. They made good dish towels and good table clothes and good underwear. (Laughter)

KB: I heard that they made a lot of them into underwear. Didn’t you have to soften it though, wasn’t it kind of hard?

LM: No, it was fine material: it was nice.

KB: And you didn’t have to soften it, you just could just use it?

LM: Yeah, a lot of underwear was made out of it. Sleepers. Mainly dish towels I guess, because that’s what I can remember, having our dishtowels.

KB: And did you go down in the Monument a lot? Before it was the Monument?

LM: We, Lois and I went one time with dad. It was in the fall, he was going out in Dry Valley and Cedar Wash and across Butler Valley and gathering up the, he took most his cattle down to Cottonwood Wash, and down through there for the winter, and so he was going gather the last of them and so Lois and I went with him and he’d go out this way and that way, right and left to gather the cattle and bring them into the trail and then we’d drive them on down. We got way out on Rush Bed and camp the first night out there where that old oil well was, that’s where the old oil well used to be that they drilled earlier in the years, a great big oil well they drilled out there and all of the big tin buildings and everything was still there. They’d moved out you know and there was just a rickety one there and the wind would blow and it would rattle that tin and scare us nearly to death. (Laughter) And we camped there that night and in the night, he had the cattle on down towards the Cottonwood Wash and then in the night, why I could hear the bulls a
beller, they was just a bellering and bellering, a mournful, pitiful. scared us. Lois and I nearly to death and of course when she got to sleep with Dad and I was on the outside and I was afraid they was going get me. They came right up by us and come on by, coming back this way and the next morning I said to Dad. “Boy. did them bulls scare you?” And he said. “What bulls?” And I said. “Well them that come by here in the night?” And he said. “Oh. I never heard any come by.” And I said. “Well, they scared me nearly to death.” And he said. “Well you kids will have to just stay here and I’ll have to go and get them and bring them back.” So he left and went back to get them and he was gone until mid afternoon and we was scared to death to stay there for fear he’d come with them because we knew they’d been fighting, you know, so we each got up in the tree and stayed up there all day long.. Out on a limb waiting for Dad to come till about three or four in the afternoon. (Laughter) And he headed them on down and we went on down into Cottonwood Wash and stayed that night and we camped right out in the creek bed and there was a lot of old dry cottonwood trees there and the next morning why we got up and Dad was fixing us some breakfast and all at once the dog turned and looked down the wash and started to growling and then turned around and looked and there was them two big bulls and they’d had a fight and the one was bringing the other back up the wash. (Laughter) And they was bloody, they’d been fighting, you know, their horns, and so we run up on the trees. Lois and I did, each one of us. She got up higher than I did. The bulls could have reached me if they’d wanted too. My Dad got on his horse and went up around them and brought them back by us and headed them on back down the wash. But that was a scary trip. (Laughter)

KB: Was that one of the only trips or did you go down quite often?

LM: Oh, we went that time and then another time we went with him down to check on them—and we went down to Old Paria Town and that’s when, I can’t remember that little guy’s name, that used to live by Jack...
KB: ...not Smithson? He wasn’t one of the Smiths or the Smithsons?

LM: No, it’s...

KB: I think I’ve read it.

LM: Oh shoot. His name was Jack something. He was just a little guy and wasn’t much taller than Lois and I was at the time. We went there to Paria where we loved to spend the night and it was a little bit dark when we got there and when we went in to look around, why we knew that he was just a little elf. We called him the little elf. (Laughter) And we was kind of leery, wondering how many more elves was around there. (Laughter)

KB: (Laughter) Was he the only one living there then?

LM: Jack Seaton was his name. And he had a kid from Cannonville there working for him and so there was just the two of them there then and that’s when most of the cabins had been washed away and that. But Jack Seaton was his name.

KB: Was that your only trip to Paria when you were growing up?

LM: That’s the first time and last that I’d been there until I got older, you know, then we went.

KB: Just to see it then?

LM: And Annie Bate was living there. I know that night they was moving some chickens and the chickens was a squawking as they was moving them to a different coop and I don’t know, Lois and I wondered why we was there. (Laughter)

KB: Was your dad’s house still there that he had lived in?
LM: I don't know. I don't think so. I think he lived further up the creek and it was washed away.

KB: Do you know anything about Horse Valley? I heard the Chynoweths bought that from Jim Ed?

LM: It got where the floods would keep the road washed out and you couldn't get up in there.

KB: To Horse Valley?

LM: Huh uh. You'd go out through Dry Valley, Little Dry Valley, Big Dry Valley, and then into Horse Valley and there was a big wash that come down and every time it flooded it would wash it and you couldn't hardly get in there. And then later on, Mary's husband, Lloyd, bought it and he owned it. She still owns it.

KB: So he's the Chynoweth that bought it?

LM: Huh uh. Sam Graff had it for a long time. Ran his sheep up there, Sam did. Sam Graff.

KB: Now where did your dad keep his sheep? Did he keep them near the cattle or somewhere else?

LM: Just out her in the valleys and his cattle grazed with the sheep. There was enough feed that they...

KB: ...so you just put them together?
LM: Yeah, they just run together because dad says you could look up through the valleys and you could see the grass waving like you can in the fields here when the wind blows. It was knee high. You think about it now, they dry farmed out there. Some Willis', I think there was that dry farmed.

KB: Okay, before they put this road from Henrieville to Escalante in, you used to have to go to Widtsoe or Pine Lake?

LM: You had to go out through there and over...

KB: ...the Barney?

LM: Not over The Barney but over the Escalante Divide.

KB: Is that between The Barney Top and Griffin? And so it’s lower down?

LM: It was just a lower spot. Griffin here and the Barney Top, you know, not quite a high a climb.

KB: Did you ever go over that route?

LM: Oh yeah. Used to go over there to go to the dances.

KB: With cars? Or did you ever do it in a wagon?

LM: No, I didn’t ever go in a wagon.

KB: Always in a car? Now it was an all night trip though, wasn’t it?
LM: Well not when I went it wasn’t, but we did go over and stay. One night I remember mainly is when I went over there and stayed over night because we went that way.

KB: In a car? A bunch of you?

LM: Yeah, in a pickup. (Laughter)

KB: In a pickup? (Laughter)

LM: A bunch of us went in the back of a pickup and the ones that played for the dance went, so a few of us went in it with them and we stayed over night. But before this road went through here they used to just go through here with a horse. When they packed the mail, they’d go through here with a horse, riding a horse and a packhorse and pack the mail and go through here and up in that flat way up in there where the grass is and that why, up in that house over in there. in Upper Valley, that house over on that meadow, that’s where they’d change. People would come from Boulder and Escalante to there and Andrew, my father-in-law was the one who packed the mail and they’d go up to there and that’s where they’d exchange mail and then he’d come back and they’d go on.

KB: Okay, it’s up in the Upper Valley and the little house is on what. the right or left side?

LM: The left side of the highway. It’s still back in there, a little one, in them meadows. You’ve seen it.

KB: I’ll have to look for it. Is it very far once you get to the top?

LM: Well it’s over there quite a ways, yeah. It’s where all of the meadows where the cows, you see all the cows in there feeding all the time, in them meadows, well it’s just right back there on the edge of the meadows, not up in the trees.
KB: Well I remember seeing some cabins but I really didn’t pay much attention. And that was the relay station?

LM: That was a relay station.

KB: Oh how neat. Did they call it the Pony Express?

LM: Probably, I don’t know. But anyway that’s the way they went and they had a pack horse you know. the alfoges as they called them and...

KB: ...the what?

LM: They called them alfoges. They had the saddle on the horse, a pack saddle, not a riding saddle, and then it was oh. a cross like this and then crossed and they’d hook, they had bags...

KB: Just a wooden frame with a cross. I’ve seen those.

LM: Then they would have the bags with the loops on them. They’d hook them over on each side and then they packed their mail in them.

KB: Now they didn’t ride that horse though, they rode a different horse and pulled that a long?

LM: They did.

KB: And that little cabin up there was a relay station and people would come all the way over from Boulder?

LM: To there.
KB: Did they have the Boulder road yet? That went over Hell’s Backbone?

LM: Oh no.

KB: They still didn’t have that one huh?

LM: For years, it hasn’t been that many years ago that they got that road going in there, other than they just had to go out and in on horses. I remember Andrew telling, that’s my father-in-law, he told that this one teacher, schoolteacher moved in there and I can’t remember what her name was, but she was quite fancy and liked to wear hats. She wore all these fancy hats and she went over into Boulder to teach and she’d order these hats and they’d come in these big hat boxes and the mailman about had a dog fit over having to handle all these hat boxes. (Laughter) They’d have to handle them carefully and not mash them you know, and that was hard to do.

KB: And that was Andrew Nelson?

LM: Huh uh. He’d say how they’d cuss her, especially the one that had to take over Boulder, it was a rougher road and things and he didn’t like it.

KB: Did you ever make the trip on horseback from over there? What about your dad? Did he ever go over there?

LM: I imagine they did. Probably did.

KB: Would they have business with Escalante or?
LM: Not too much. Didn’t know too many people over there or anything then. In our church we was a Panguitch Stake, never over there.

KB: And Escalante, what stake were they in then?

LM: They would have been, they would join Circleville and Boulder and Junction and down through there. Marysvale. I don’t know what they called it, but we was called Panguitch Stake.

KB: Huh. Now what about our old church over here? It was built long before you were born wasn’t it?


KB: And you went to school down here in Henrieville?

LM: Yeah, I went to school down here. huh uh.

KB: And did you ever ride that. okay. Sarah Littlefield told me that. they used to have, David Quilter drove the first bus which was actually a truck with a tarp on the back. Did you ride that? Did you use that?

LM: No, my sister, Nelda did. I can remember it. I never did.

KB: What did they have when you were growing up?

LM: It was a bus.

KB: A regular bus?
LM: Huh uh.

KB: But did you ever see the old truck?

LM: I can remember Nelda riding in it. It had kind of a net wire rack on it and then a tarp stretched all over it so it was closed in, you know.

KB: Did it have like the wooden slats that went across it or just the wire?

LM: Just the wire. Well it could have been wood, but I don’t know. But they tied the tarp over it you know, so that and wrapped it all around and then tied it in the back and opened it for them to get out. The schoolhouse was right where Ora lived then. There was kind of a store looking building there and that’s where they went to school. Where Ora Brinkerhoff lives now.

KB: Wasn’t that called the Johnson store or something?

LM: I can’t remember.

KB: I was reading about that building. Somebody’s journal. Huh. And that was the first… that was the high school? Was that the elementary? Do you remember, in Tropic?

LM: It must have been on up about like where the park is now I think.

KB: But now when you went to school here, what grade did you go to until you had to go to Tropic?
LM: To the eighth. I graduated from eighth down here in this building. I’ve got a picture in there, Harvey Moore, Gal Quilter, Irving Rose and Mary Quilter and myself; five of us graduated and were standing on the steps of that old building.

KB: Was the schoolhouse warm or cold? What do you remember?

LM: Oh, it wasn’t too warm. Just had a wood stove and sometimes it would get cold and we would get to crowding around it. Why the ones outer didn’t get too warm. It wasn’t too bad I guess, but it wasn’t like it is now days.

KB: Was there a stove on each side? Each room?

LM: Yes.

KB: Was there an outhouse?

LM: Yes.

KB: Where was it, behind it there?

LM: No, it was right over on the line of Steve’s fence there now, back about as far as the back of the firehouse is and it was this one out in there. The north side was the boys and the south side was the girls and they had a fence around them, you know.

KB: You had men and women?

LM: Boys and girls. (Laughter)

LM: Well we had just the outdoor toilet, but we had it fenced in kind of, you know, only just let the door open and then you’d get in there and there was a place, oh, about maybe a six by six and then the toilet—two of them. Harry Quilter, which would have been Conrad’s uncle, took care of them, the school and the outhouses. He was the janitor. I remember that.

KB: That was Harry Quilter?

LM: Huh uh. Eugene’s dad. And he was just a little man, but he was very dedicated and every morning the bell rung at 8:30 and that meant you’d better be getting ready to get to school and it rung at 9:00 and if you wasn’t there, you was late. You could hear it all over town. He’d ring the two bells.

KB: Oh, there’s two bells?

End of Side One, Tape One
Begin Side Two, Tape One

KB: Okay, the Middletons. did they donate, I heard they donated boxes and you’d put that up in the room to separate the classes.

LM: He owned a furniture store in Panguitch, Bob and Esther Middleton, which is Elsie’s parents and the fridge boxes and things, the big boxes he would let us have them and we’d open then down one seam to the corner and spread them out and that made the curtains for each class in there. We had them around each class. To make the fancy we’d paper them with wallpaper. We used to paper our walls with wallpaper, pretty things, you know, so we’d wallpaper them to make them pretty.
KB: How neat. Wasn’t it noisy though?

LM: Oh yeah, you’d have a hard time paying attention.

KB: Now the old church was a social hall too, right?

LM: Oh yes, they had parties and dances and weddings and funerals and everything in it. Every time they had a funeral, there was a stage in there as we called it and every time they’d have a funeral why we’d have to go over and really clean and that and then borrow people’s throw rugs and put them all over the floor and then put what we called the Sacrament table up on there and that would have been the pulpit for them and we’d put the curtains up to the windows and things to make it look nice and comforting. We’d go and wash windows and things. I remember when Aunt Sarah Rose Irving and Davey’s mother died. Everybody loved her so much here in town and she was a great woman and Thora Fortner, her girls was the custodians of the building and me and my boys had been before that and so we decided everybody would go there and clean and fix it up nice for her funeral and we went there and the only ones that come was Thora and I and we cleaned that whole building and washed windows and everything for her funeral.

KB: My word. Oh. Now I just remembered something else I wanted to ask you. Your dad had cattle and sheep, but when he’d take them to market, where would he take them?

LM: They’d drive their cattle to Marysvale.

KB: All the way up to Marysvale? And then put them on the trains?

LM: Huh uh. That’s what they all done. All of their cattle, they brought them clear down from where Lake Powell is now. Where Lone Rock is, you’ve heard of that big rock out in there, it’s a great big rock and now the water’s way up on it and it’s called Lone Rock
and that's where they'd camp. was around Lone Rock and gather their cattle and Frank and his dad and his brothers and all of them. everybody down there would bring their cattle out and they'd trail them clear to Marysvale and put them on the train.

KB: Would they trail them together. would you have like Lige and maybe the Chynoweths?

LM: More or less each one or maybe two or three together, if they didn't have too many to sale why they, you know. they'd take them in 100 or 200 in a herd, but if they had too many and somebody only had a dozen or something, they'd put them in together, depending, you know. they'd limit them. When they got down to Marysvale, one night dad and a bunch of them's cattle. they just got them in and settled down in a pasture out there so that they could hold them over night and load them on the train the next morning and the train come in and blew it's whistle and it stampeded them and cattle was all over the valley down there. It took them for two or three days to gather them all up. Blew the whistle and they went through barbed wire fences and everything.

KB: Oh my word.

LM: It took them a long time to gather them up.

KB: And did they pay for them? I mean were they bought right there in Marysvale or...?

LM: Oh yeah, the cattle buyers would come in here and bargain for so many and so when they got there why then they paid them for them right there and then the buyers that bought them, then they'd go with them and sale them wherever they went on the train.

KB: Now would the buyers just go to Marysvale or they'd come right down here?
LM: Oh they’d come down here and bargain for them. They’d come here and go out and look at the cattle and that and the horse and find out how many they wanted and they knew when they left here with them that they would sell that many when they got there. They were sold by the time they got there.

KB: So they knew when they left here what they would get and everything? Did you ever go with them?

LM: No, it was kind of a risky business. But there used to be this big corral right here in Ed’s part here right now. it used to be a great big high, about as high as eight foot at least high, big pole fence there and they’d hold a lot of them right there in them corrals.

KB: You mean they’d come up from down below over here and then hold them there for a night and then go on? Did they go across over to PaNguitch or would they go up through Grass Valley?

LM: No, they went up to Witdsoe. down through Kingston Canyon and come out down in...

KB: ...Circleville? Oh, up above Circleville by Junction?

LM: Yeah, east of Junction and into Marysvale.

KB: Huh. Did you ever make the trip to Marysvale in a car or…?

LM: No, never did. I just went with our horses and stuff. I didn’t ever go.

KB: That would have been interesting. Did they come back feeling pretty good about the money they got?
LM: Oh yeah, that was a great time to look forward to. (Laughter) That was a once a year pay check.

KB: So that’s all they’d ever get paid wasn’t it. once a year?

LM: Then they’d do the shearing. They’d come down here by the old Red Rock, there used to be a great big corral and sheds and things down there and that was called the shearing corral, and they’d shear their sheep down there and then take the wool out to Marysvale and sell it.

KB: Did they sell it right at Marysvale? They had what?

LM: Probably people would come in and bargain for it, you know, and then they’d just take and put it on the train. but that’s where they’d take it. I guess their sheep the same way, you know, the lambs. when they’d sale their lambs, that’s what they’d do, until they got trucks to truck them out. (Laughter)

KB: And this sheep, the sheep shearers. were they nomadic or did they live here?

LM: Oh, they’d come in; professionals, they’d come in. Nobody around here ever sheared as far as I can remember.

KB: Do you know where they came from? Or was it just all over?

LM: A bunch of shearers would get together and go around different places and shear.

KB: I didn’t know that. I know that they had some shearers that were in Cannonville for a while, but it was out here at the Promise Rock that they had a big corral?
LM: Probably a dozen would get together and just go around different places and shear. That’s the way they made their living, kind of construction like.

KB: Huh. Did you ever meet any of them?

LM: No I didn’t. I wasn’t very old at that time. Just remember doing down and watching them shear the sheep.

KB: Oh, you did watch them?

LM: Oh yeah, we’d go down and watch them.

KB: Now they didn’t have electric shears did they?

LM: Yeah, not at first they didn’t. they just had them that went like this.

KB: Clippers?

LM: And then later on, why then they had a gas motor that run it, but for years and years it was just them clippers. I’ve got some out there.

KB: Oh do you? Where did you get yours from?

LM: I think some Dad had.

KB: Huh. And you watched them just clip them?
LM: Oh yeah. Just snap them. Dad used to, later on when they only had a half a dozen or like that, why he’d shear his own. when there was a dozen or something, but they had hundreds of them when they’d come in down there.

KB: Would they bring the farmers in one at a time, do one rancher and then do another spread?

LM: Different herds. Huh uh. Yeah, they’d have a different day set for each one.

KB: Now did your dad use dogs with his sheep?

LM: Oh yeah. He used to have. they had sheep dogs as they called them and all they had to do was motion from them to bring them or something and them dogs knew what they was supposed to do. He’d just say, “Get ‘em” or “Bring ‘em” and that do knew what to do. Smart.

KB: They didn’t use the dogs with the cattle though did they?

LM: Oh yeah. They used to heel the cows. They’d say, “Get ‘em” and they’d go bite their heels and they’d go back to the herd. Yeah, Dad would just motion to the one he had and they knew what to do. The cattle were same as the sheep. But them sheep dogs would sure go out around them sheep and turn them if they was going the wrong way and bring them back.

KB: Now how much time did your dad spend down there? Was he gone a lot?

LM: Oh, sometimes he was gone two weeks at a time.

KB: Down with his animals?
LM: They just packed, like I told you, the pack horses, sometimes he’d have four and five pack horses. cause they’d have to take grain for his horses and his food and his beds and his tents and things and they’d have four and five pack horses.

KB: Who’d go with him?

LM: Oh, Bud did. My older brother went with him a lot and then Jack and Ray and them as they got older. but when we was just kids, why then each one had somebody that would herd them and stay with them and they’d just go and come. you know. there’d be some of us stay down there all the time.

KB: Now what about your mom? She was a Campbell? And some of the Campbells lived at Widtsoe? Did she ever live there?

LM: No, she come from Hurricane.

KB: Oh, they came up from Hurricane? Her family?

LM: Yeah, grandpa come from Virgin, the little city, Virgin, down there.

KB: And did he come for the same reason, with cattle and sheep?

LM: No, he just come out here. He was a carpenter and he made barrels, the old wooden barrels and kegs, and things like that.

KB: Now what’s a keg?

LM: A little water keg. Some of them we called them, some of them were ten gallons, some fifteen, twenty-five and fifty.
KB: Out of wood?

LM: Yeah and they was made the same like the old wooden barrels. you know what I’m talking about?

KB: Oh really? Huh uh.

LM: They was made with the stays and things and things, the same. only they was just little ones like. dad and them would have to have them to put to put on their pack horses to haul their water where they was going and coming. They have five and ten and fifteen, twenty-five gallons so they could pack them where they wanted to go and he made them. He was a carpenter. He built houses and things. But he wasn’t out here only a little while when grandma died and so he was a widower for long years.

KB: Did he die out here too?

LM: Yeah, he died here. He’s buried out here.

KB: Huh. And what about. let’s see. Roxie was your mother, right?

LM: Right. She was just little when Grandma died and Grandpa took care of her and then Aunt Shy...

KB: Sarah Ahlstrom?

LM: Huh uh. She was the oldest one of the family.

KB: And she was a Campbell?
LM: She was Mama's oldest sister. so she helped take care of her and then Aunt Lois, and they all lived here and Aunt Lois Butler. they lived here and they helped Grandpa take care of her and then when she got older, why her and Uncle Leo. they took care of their selves and then when they got older, why then, she took care of him. But he used to get her ready for school and things. Grandpa did. She was telling about every time she’d go out or anything, he wanted her to have a hat on and she didn’t want to wear a hat, you know, that went over her ears and things in the winter and she didn’t want to tell him no so she’d wait until she got outside and then she’d take it off. (Laughter) But he raised her.

KB: And what did she do when the men, like when your dad was gone and stuff?

LM: She took care of all the chores at home.

KB: Like what?

LM: Feeding cows and horses. pigs and chickens and sheep and everything and watering the fields and with what little bit of help us kids could give her. I remember before I, when I was going to school and then high school and that, why, Lois and I had two and three cows we had to milk. before we could ever go out to the dances or anything, we had to go milk two or three cows and after the CC Camp come in up here why we went with some of the CC boys you know and lots of times they’d come to get us to go to the dances and we’d just still be milking a cow. (Laughter) It was hard times. Hard times.

KB: Now what did she cook on? How did she cook?

LM: Just a wood stove. Wood cook stove is we called them.
KB: And did you have it in the house or did you have like a summer kitchen?

LM: Oh no, we had it right in the house.

KB: Was that the heat for the house too?

LM: That would help heat the house.

KB: Did you have anything else for heat?

LM: A heater in the front rooms.

KB: Like? Just a potbelly stove or what?

LM: Like a potbelly stove only they’d be, some of them that big around, you know, big stoves.

KB: Was it coal or wood?


KB: It was hard to get?

LM: Yeah. Hardly ever had coal. Dad had to haul wood every fall so we’d have enough to last us through till spring. Pine wood, pinion fir, the heating stove and cedar for the cook stove.

KB: And why the difference? Why would one be for one and one for the other?
LM: Well the pine wood was sooty. Pinion pine would make soot and then it was too hot and so had it for the heating and then the cedar would burn steadier and it wasn't sooty.

KB: Now sooty. when you say that, are you talking about?

LM: The black soot that would, you know, form in them and get them black and plug them off. But the heater you could let it go up the pipe and suck it off, you know.

KB: Did the stoves have a water well?

LM: No.

KB: So she had to heat the water right on the stove?

LM: We had everything on top of the stove. No hot water heaters. (Laughter) We just had a big pan on the back of the stove and keep it hot all the time.

KB: And she made her own soap?

LM: Huh uh.

KB: Now did she buy the lye?

LM: Yes, we used to buy the lye.

KB: You didn’t make your own?

LM: No. She bought hers and she’d make the soap. Have a fire outside and a number three tub and you’d put your grease in there and get it all melted and they get your lye in it and
cook it. She knew just how long to cook it and then we get some screen, like on the screen door, and put it over another tub or two and have to pour that hot soap over it and strain it through that so that it would all be smooth and there would be no lumps or anything in it.

KB: Now what would be the lumpy part, just pieces of fat or something that didn’t melt down?

LM: Yes, rinds or something. They used to use anything that was grease you know, anything that would be a rind or bone or anything, why then you’d strain it through that screen so it would be smooth.

KB: And did you use that for shampoo too?

LM: No, that was our wash soap. We never did make any hand soap. We just bought it.

KB: You didn’t use it on your hands either? That was just for washing clothes?

LM: No, just a wash soap.

KB: What did you use for hand soap then?

LM: We just bought it. I don’t know who made it. But we just bought it.

KB: And shampoo?

LM: Yes.

KB: In the stores?
LM: No, just hand soap more or less.

KB: Oh, hand soap was used for shampoo?

LM: For a long time.

KB: And you bought that in the stores around here? Let me ask you, the Indians used a lot of the plants in the area. Did your family use any of the plants for things?

LM: Us kids used to go out flower hunting or hiking in the hills or that and the Yucca or the Oss we called them then. Why, you’d get the roots of that and it made soap.

KB: How would you make the soap?

LM: You’d just use it. Just get the roots of that and lather it.

KB: Oh, you mean just take the root itself; you wouldn’t grind it or anything? You just rub it? And that would make soap?

LM: Yeah, that’s the way we done.

KB: And you used it on your hair? To wash your hair?

LM: We used it for shampoo. (Laughter)

KB: I heard it made everything really soft?
LM: It did. It was good. When we could go and find any of that, why we thought we had it made. I can't remember what kind the hand soap was. but that's what we used to wash our hair with.

KB: With the Yucca?

LM: That was a long time ago. And then lots of times after, why they told us if you'd rinse your hair with vinegar it made it soft and so we used to rinse our hair with a little bit of vinegar water, you know. put a little vinegar in our water and rinse it.

KB: And did it work?

LM: Oh yeah, it would make it soft.

KB: What about the smell?

LM: I guess we didn't worry about it. I don't know. (Laughter) But that's what we used to do. Rinse it with vinegar. Just a little. not much.

KB: Now you said you used the number three tin for making soap? Wasn't the number three tin the one you bathed in too?

LM: Huh uh. We had several tubs, you know, we had a soap tub and then a couple, like a big tub and then we'd dump it two because you didn’t want great big thick bars of soap, and then we had our bath tub and then we had, when we had to haul our water in the big old barrels, the fifty gallon barrels, we had a tub to put over it. We put a piece of canvas over that, over the barrel and then we’d put a tub over it and that would hold it tight so that the water wouldn't slop out coming from the creek.

Ng: Oh, it fit in like a lid?
LM: Huh uh. it fit over it. Fit over the end of the barrel, you know, and it was just like a ring around it. the canvas on that held it tight so it couldn’t slop out.

KB: And that’s when you’d go down here to the Henrieville Creek with the ‘lizard’ to get your water? Do you remember doing that very much?

LM: Oh yeah, I’ve helped haul a lot of it.

KB: How often did you have to do it?

LM: depending on how many washings you done and how muddy the water was the day before and... (Laughter)

KB: So did you go more than once a day?

LM: Oh sometimes, have to go.

KB: But usually only had one barrel?

LM: Yeah, usually, just one. But usually we just got a barrel a day or every two days, depending on if it was wash day or not. We only had one day that we washed.

KB: Now did you wash in that one day, all of the clothes and yourselves? Pretty much?

LM: Everything that was dirty, we washed, scrubbed it on the board.

KB: And yourselves too?
LM: End of an evening then we’d have a good clean bath so we could go to bed in good clean clothes.

KB: And what would you do to make the mud settle down if it was muddy?

LM: We’d throw a cup of milk in it.

KB: You’re the one that told me that.

LM: Always poured a cup of milk in it.

KB: And that worked really good?

LM: It would settle it faster.

KB: And was this just milk that you had milked yourselves? How often did you have to milk? Once or twice a day?

LM: Twice.

KB: Twice, morning and nights? Did you make cheese then?

LM: Oh, Mama made a lot of cheese.

KB: Did you?

LM: I helped her. I helped her a lot of times. We had a cheese press. She fixed a cheese press and pressed it and made big round things of cheese and it was very good.
KB: What was the cheese press made out of?

LM: She had a ring about that big around and about that thick, just a metal ring, and then just had a loose bottom in it so you could press they whey off of it and then she had a thick wooden lid that she put on the top of that and then she’d put weights on that and it would press the whey out press the cheese down.

KB: Was it like our cheddar cheese? What kind of cheese would you call it?

LM: It was just like our cheese. It was very good.
KB: Cheddar? Was it white?

LM: No, it was yellow.
KB: Yellow? So did she buy coloring for it?

LM: Yeah, you had to buy cheese tablets. rennets, tablets to put in it and they was colored.
KB: Oh, the coloring came with the rennet?
LM: Yeah, they had to color it or else it would be white.
KB: And did you like it better than what you can buy now?

LM: Oh it was good; I loved the cheese curd. (Laughter) It was very good.
KB: And so did you eat a lot of the curd?

LM: We ate a lot of it. We ate a lot of cheese.
KB: Did she have to make it every day?

LM: No, about once a week. She did a lot of butter. She used to make butter and sell it. Churn it and she had a butter mold that held just a pound, it was just about like this and that thick and it was wood, it was square and then in the middle it had hole and a handle and this handle would go through there and she'd mold this butter into a pound, you know, and then she could just turn it upside down and press that and it pushed it out.

KB: Okay, so it was just like a rectangle box, wooden box, and it had a lid with a hole in it, would she just pour it in through the hole then?

LM: No, the bottom had a hole in it and this here little, like a, oh just a thin, to go in that and then she'd fill this here full and then...

KB: ...oh, it was like a plug that would plug up the hole...

LM: ...and then when it would come out it would be the shape of a pound of butter, that's how she got out of there.

KB: Okay, so she'd fill it with...that was on the bottom then? Then she'd fill it and then she'd turn it over and she could just push it out with that is what you’re saying? Oh, I see.

LM: It was a butter mold, just molded it into a pound shape pound, you know, about two by four or something you know, which was a pound anyhow.

KB: Where would she sell it?
LM: People in town bought it from her all the time here.

KB: Oh, she’d just sell it locally?

LM: Oh yeah, she sold a lot of cheese to people too.

KB: Oh I’d love to try that some time--some of the old cheese. Where would you store it though, because you didn’t eat it right away?

LM: Oh no, down in our basement. She had shelves made down in there and it was cool in the basement and she had these clean shelves down in there and she’d store it on these shelves and let it cure however you liked it.

KB: So would she take the cheese press down there and keep it down there while she was pressing it?

LM: No, she pressed it outdoors.

KB: Oh, outdoors?

LM: We had it outside there by where the garage is now, had it out there so it could drain and then when it got pressed. I think in about thirty-six hours, why then she’d take it out and put it on this waxed paper and put it down in the basement where it was cool.

KB: And how long did she cure it for?

LM: Well, however you wanted it, from curd to strong. However anybody wanted it. She used to have a dozen bricks of cheese in there at a time.
KB: And what was your favorite?

LM: I like the curd. (Laughter)

KB: Now, my understanding is when you make it, you get it in a vat until it cooks down and starts to get thick and then you cut it up...

LM: ...like it was going to be like clabber, then you cut it this way and this way and this way and you’d just keep working that until the whey would get loose and then you dip this whey off of it until it got down until it was almost like curt before you pressed it, you know.

KB: But when you say you ate the curd, did she press it at all to get the curd or was that just the curd that when she was done getting the whey out?

LM: Yeah, we ate the curd like that before it was pressed.

KB: And then she’d press it when you’d do that? That pushes it altogether so you don’t have the curd?

LM: Yeah.

KB: Now what did you do with the whey? Was that for the pigs and stuff?

LM: Huh uh, the pigs drank it.

KB: Did you ever eat it? Try it? Do you know what it tasted like?

LM: No. I don’t, not that I know of and I don’t want any. (Laughter)
KB: So when she was pressing the whey out, would it go down into a bucket or something?

LM: No, we'd just dip it out. We had a little dipper, like a little cup thin and then it had a handle on it and we'd just push it down in there and get that full and then empty it. That's the way and then we'd cut it some more, you know, and then dip some more out.

KB: But when she was pressing the cheese itself, the curd? Because it comes out of the bottom doesn't it?

LM: Oh yeah, the same what I said. in her cheese press, it could run out. Yeah but there wasn't much in it by then.

KB: Oh, so it wasn't enough to worry about, you didn't try to save it?

LM: Probably wouldn't have even been a cupful left. Because it was all worked out.

KB: Okay. And what about water? Didn't they turn the ditches on at one time down here so you didn't have to go down to the creek?

LM: When it was coming through to irrigate, come across the top of the town and then down through town and all the ditches.

KB: And it came from the Henrieville Creek over here?

LM: Yeah, they'd get it in way up about where the, not quite as far as the reservoir is, but they'd get it coming right above here in this ditch all the time.

KB: Is that what that ditch is up above here? That's it?
LM: It watered all the fields and everything; when it come through there and down through down there was a ditch that come down through town and down by the church house and down by Ammon’s and down by Jim’s and down by mama’s and them’s and then there was one that went across the top of the town up by Farley’s and down by Bob Willis’ and Rhoda’s and them’s and that’s the way we watered our gardens.

KB: Okay, now let me ask you. when you say this ditch, was it kind of almost like a wash ditch, it was like a really little one? It was quite big?

LM: Oh a big one.

KB: And it went down across. did it go across Ammon’s property there?

LM: Just in front of him, went right in front of them. Right down the side of where the highway is now and then the other one come down and it ended down to Layton’s there and it went up that way and this one ended down to mama’s, the one that come through here and when that water was in the ditches, we’d take our tubs and things, our buckets and things and dip them full of water while it was in the ditch. Every Monday it went down them ditches and so every Monday we filled up everything we could fill up full with water so we didn’t have to go haul it. If it rained we put our tub under the eaves of the house where the water would come off from and catch that.

KB: But you didn’t drink that did you or did you?

LM: Oh no, uh uh, but we liked to wash our hair in it because it was softer than what we got out of the creek.

KB: Now, what about to drink though? You did drink the Henrieville Creek water and the ditch water?
LM: No, not the ditch. We didn’t drink any of that that came down through town.

KB: Oh, how come?

LM: Well it went through too many...

KB: ...cows and fields and...

LM: ...and kids playing in it and things. on Mondays kids played in the ditches all day, so we didn’t ever drink it.

KB: Did you ever boil the water for drinking or did you just drink it straight?

LM: No, we didn’t ever drink it after it come through town. In the summer when it was here on the fields and things here in town, why all of it was in this ditch right here and many a barrel come up here and filled right here. They’d fill it here in the winter over there above the hall or up above you right there in the summer. They’d get up early and get it.

KB: Go up there in that field ditch up there?

LM: Huh uh, with their barrels and fill them in them places.

KB: And that old ditch is east on the hillside, east of Henrieville?

LM: Been there for a long time and it’s still there.

KB: Well when did they put that reservoir in then up there?
LM: Hasn’t been too many years ago. It’s in the paper here somewhere what year it was. I’ve got it down. but anyway. Verland Rose was the one that started the reservoir.

K Oh, that wasn’t very long ago.

LM: No. it wasn’t.

(Tape runs out)

End of Side Two, Tape One

End of Interview