

Cleone JUDD
Verene TAIT
ESPLIN
HEATON

2002
Kane Co.

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.



INTERVIEW WITH: Cleone Esplin Judd and Verene Esplin Tait
(cousins)
INTERVIEWER: Marsha Holland
INTERVIEW NUMBER: one
DATE OF INTERVIEW: October 2002
PLACE OF INTERVIEW: Home of Cleone, Fredonia, Arizona
SUBJECT OF INTERVIEW: Early life in Orderville, shepherding,
logging on the Kaibab, United Order.
TRANSCRIBER: Marsha Holland
DATE: December 3, 2002

Tape 1, Side A

MH: I am with Cleone Esplin Judd and Verene Tait Esplin.

VT: No, Verene Esplin Tait.

MH: Gottcha. It is October 29th 2002 and I am in Fredonia, Arizona. Cleone, would you please state your full name and where you were born and the date please.

CJ: Ok, I am Cleone Esplin Judd. I was born January the 14th, 1918 in Orderville, Utah in what was our family home.

MH: You were born in your home?

CJ: Yes.

MH: How many brothers and sisters do you have?

CJ: I have a brother who isn't living.

MH: What was his name?

CJ: Edgar Spencer Esplin. I was the second one, the third one was Velma Esplin Urie and she passed away about five years ago. The next one was Garda Esplin Heaton, a sister, and she passed away about a year ago or so. And the youngest sister is living, Ines Esplin Carpenter, she lives in Kanab and there's two of us left.

MH: Do you see each other often?

CJ: Oh yes.

MH: What's that like, do you have a good time?

CJ: Yes we do. We don't visit as much, actually go to see each other but were on the phone everyday.

MH: Really, everyday?

CJ: Oh yes, we have lots of things to talk about. We'll read an obituary of someone we both knew and so we talk about our association with them and what we remember of them.

MH: Now your parents, how did they end up coming to Orderville?

CJ: They were both born there.

MH: Both your parents were born there? Your dad's name is...?

CJ: Edgar Cox Esplin and my mother was Malinda Elizabeth Spencer. And they were both born in Orderville, grew up there.

MH: And then their parents, your grand parents must have moved to Orderville?

CJ: Yes, they did. The Esplins, oh I don't know how, maybe Verene will know more about when they first came. At the time my dad was born of course the family had their home right here in Orderville. And grandma Philena Esplin, her husband was a Cox, Henry Webster Esplin.

MH: I ran into another woman, though I think it's her married name, Twila Cox. And here husband's name was Alan.

CJ: They're a relative, I mean not first cousins but it's the same family.

MH: I just recognized the name Cox and he was from Alton. I never got to interview him because he just passed away too. Any way, so what did you think about

growing up in Orderville? What were the things that you liked to do when you lived there?

CJ: I loved it. Well you made your own fun. In the winter we would get a bunch together and go sleigh riding. We'd have hills but we'd have to make a track to sled down.

MH: What was your sled like. what would you use, a regular sled like with runners on it?

CJ: Yeah, so big.

MH: Really just that big? Of course you were little tiny people.

CJ: Two could sit on it and we'd go down the hill. And in the summer there was always a lot to do.

MH: It seems like there's more water down there. Did you have a swimming hole?

CJ: No. We had Alvin Porter's pond across the creek from us and they'd let us go swim in there. I never learned to swim; we'd go paddling. After we got old enough to go to dances. that was the big thing.

MH: When were you allowed to go to dances? How old were you?

VT: They used to have ward dances and everyone went to the ward dances.

MH: Oh, the whole town?

VT: Everybody went to the ward hall to dances. Babies were on benches to play or sleep and the parents and young people danced.

CJ: But as far a going like to Three Lakes or Hidden Lake we didn't do that until we were older.

MH: Well Hidden Lake. what was up there?

CJ: A dance hall.

VT: They also used to have dressing rooms for swimmers.

MH: So it was kind of like a resort?

CJ: For then it was. And they had a little building we called "The Joint" where they sold ice cream, candy bars and that was my first job. When I was twelve, it was owned by relatives so I went to help them. On dance nights, the dance hall was right across the lake from The Joint and we'd sell hot dogs and ice cream. The Chamberlain's made homemade ice cream they'd sell, and hotdogs and cold drinks.

MH: So you got to be part of the action?

CJ: Oh yes, I could see the dance hall and hear the music across the lake.

MH: You could see they were having fun.

CJ: But I was too young.

MH: Twelve. All right Verene let's get going a little on your history. Is that your name Verene or is it shortened?

VT: No, my name is Verene.

MH: Your full name is...?

VT: Verene Esplin Tait.

MH: Were middle names common then? Did you have a second name?

VT: No I didn't. The girls in my family didn't have second names, but my brothers did.

MH: Oh really, that's interesting. And where were you born?

VT: I was born in Orderville, on November the 4th nineteen twenty-nine.

MH: Oh, you have a birthday coming up.

VT: I was born in my grandfather Esplin's home. My parents lived there and when I was about a year old they moved into their own home.

MH: You were born at quite an interesting time because that was when the depression started. I don't know if it was any different some people say there wasn't a difference in how you lived when the depression started. You might be able to answer that better Cleone.

CJ: Well we didn't see much difference but my father, everyone called him Ed, went on a mission, a short term mission for the church in nineteen twenty-five and he died right after he got to the mission field. He passed away less than a month after he left and that was in nineteen twenty-five. And so we, of course my mother was left with five little children and The Depression to us didn't make much difference.

MH: But you remember that, so you were about eight or nine then?

CJ: I was eight.

MH: That's sad. How did he pass away?

CJ: He got the flu they said on the train.

MH: Oh the flu epidemic?

VT: Actually the flu epidemic was in nineteen eighteen he was eighteen or nineteen, when my dad was in the First World War.

MH: When those people were coming back from Europe wasn't that when the flu – epidemic happened?

VT: I think so.

MH: So this was another wave of flu incidence?

CJ: It was called the Black Flu. And then he got pneumonia. I guess they didn't have very much medical knowledge about it.

MH: And he probably didn't know where to go.

CJ: So they probably didn't have much medicine to help him.

MH: Well what a shock for your family!

CJ: Well it was. I remember that so well because someone, some man, it might have been the bishop came up to the schoolhouse where my sister and I were. in the same room. They had two grades to a room. And my brother was in school and they came and got us to take us down home. And then there were the two little girls at home. My youngest sister was just nine months old.

MH: That's a big responsibility. Did your mother remarry?

CJ and VT: No

CJ: She died eight years later.

MH: So how did your family survive because there were just little kids in the family with your mom gone?

CJ:: Yes, we were just kids. but...

MH: Did you go to an uncle or aunt?

CJ: No we had an uncle; my mother's brother had lived with us quite a bit. He kind of made his home there most of the time. He said he'd just go on living there with us through the winters and kind of look after us and then he had a ranch where he lived in the summer.

MH: Where was his ranch?

CJ: It's up by Glendale Utah, like three miles.

MH: So by that time you're what, sixteen?

CJ: I was fifteen and my brother was old enough, he was almost four years older than me and he joined the CCC because we had no income to live on. However, he didn't make enough to send money back home.

MH: And that wasn't a lot of income. But that's about all there was then? So, what did you do for income?

CJ: Yes. We had to ask Uncle Howdy any time we needed money. Uncle always provided us with food. We just scraped by. He did provide us with formals when we were older teens, but we mostly lived on hand-me-downs from relatives.

MH: How did your mother pass away? Was she ill?

CJ: Yes. She didn't have good health for a lot of years and she had her gallbladder removed, which wasn't very common then. And then she had her teeth out they thought maybe she was getting infection from her mouth. She just got worse after that and one of my aunts took her to Kanab to take care of her. She passed away there but the doctor said it was a blood clot from having her teeth taken out.

MH: So that's sad growing up without too much time with your parents!?

CJ: I think that's the one thing I always just envied the kids who had a home, and a home life. Uncle Howdy, we called him, he was good to us but he was an old 'batch' and he...

MH: An old batch?

CJ: An old bachelor.

VT: He could play the violin.

MH: Could he? He was a violinist?

CJ: He was a professional.

MH: Did he play fiddle?

CJ: He played the fiddle.

MH: So lets get back with you Verene. So you grew up during The Depression that's your whole early childhood. Do you remember a time when it started to change, that things became a little better.

VT: Probably I did not notice it that much then but looking back I remember a Christmas when my brother got a bicycle and I got a doll. And this was in nineteen thirty-six. thirty-seven and I think that's the only thing that made me realize things were getting better. Because I never had a bicycle when I was growing up. My brothers had this bicycle and it lasted them...

MH: It was one bicycle for two boys?

VT: Well and two sisters probably. I had four older brothers and sisters. And then my younger brothers had a bicycle later but I never had a bicycle.

MH: Did you ever learn how to ride it though?

VT: I did, I did. Well we had the bicycle of my brothers that my cousins and I learned on before it wore out. Maybe my cousins learned better than I did. And then they got a bicycle. So we would ride bicycles from Orderville to Mt. Carmel.

MH: Oh my.

VT: I would have to borrow a bicycle.

MH: Well would you double ride?

VT: Oh yes.

MH: Yeah we used to do that too. So lets talk about your family a bit. You have brothers and sisters. why don't you tell me the order...

VT: My oldest brother's name is Larry, his name is Lawrence Esplin, Jr. My father was named Lawrence Esplin. And then I had a sister, Nan and a sister Amy, and a brother Richard. They were born about two years apart and then I was born about five years later. And then there were two brothers, the oldest of those two was about five years younger than me. Their names were Israel Mack and name John J.

MH: Israel Mac (unintelligible)?

VT: Israel Mack and John J.

MH: So there's a big gap like right in the middle?

VT: Yes, I was like an only child in a family of older and younger children.

MH: Now do you think your parents said, when you were born, when the depression happened basically, "OK that's it we better wait"? Do you think, it's seems like something that might have happened?

VT: Right.

MH: Now your mom's name. My mothers name is Lucy Heaton.

MH: Oh she's a Heaton?

VT: Yes, she's a Heaton, born and raised in Moccasin, Arizona. It is a fifteen -twenty miles to the west. Moccasin was a ranch that came into the United Order. All of my grandparents were from the United Order, so my grandfather was a young man at that time. Moccasin has always been a special kind of place, like a Garden

of Eden. Everything grows better there; fruits grow better there, and vegetables grow better there.

MH: Is that still in your family, the Moccasin Ranch?

VT: It belongs to two of my Heaton cousins. Moccasin is a small town now, but the old ranch house belongs to the cousins.

MH: Do you ever get out there?

VT: Oh, yes.

MH: And what about your dad?

VT: My dad was a sheep man. His father ran sheep and he acquired sheep herding from his father and his brothers. He ran sheep until I was sixteen and then he traded, sold the sheep and raised cattle.

MH: Was that in the thirties?

VT: No, that would have been in the forties. Both of the older boys who ran sheep went into WWII. My father was in the First World War just about six months after he was married, or less than that. Just a month after my parents were married he was drafted into the First World War and went to France. But he never saw any action.

MH: (Loud noise in background) My goodness! A fly over!

VT: We have jets that fly from the mid-west as close as they can to Las Vegas and see if they can get under the radar.

CJ: And they come close! (Laughter)

MH: What?

VT: As soon as Nellis Air Force Base picks them up on radar the planes turn around and go back, but they see how far they can get to the air base down there.

MH: So, it is like a game?

VT: It is a game. Well. I guess it is a training exercise. (Laughter)

MH: OK, so we were talking about your dad. He gave up sheep raising for cattle.

There was that transition in the late thirties and early forties when a lot of people got out of sheep and went into cattle. Did you ever hear about why that happened?

VT: Part of it may have been that the land was getting over grazed, but also because the cattle didn't take as much constant care as the sheep. That was the reason my father gave up sheep for cows because his older boys went off to World War II and so did all the other herders and he couldn't get any help. He had a real hard time doing it alone. My father was gone from home a lot.

MH: Do you remember going out to the sheep camp?

VT: Oh, yes.

MH: Tell me about it.

VT: My dad had a sheep wagon. That was a big treat to get to go to the sheep herd. He had canned milk. We never had canned milk at home because we had a cow. Canned milk was a treat. Sometimes he had canned peaches and he always made sourdough bread. And that was a big treat.

MH: Now, did he have a little crock where he kept his sourdough starter?

VT: I don't remember a crock. I think it was probably a canning jar that he kept his starter in.

MH: That is what I keep mine in, a canning jar.

VT: He had a crock in later years but I think in those early years he had a jar.

MH: Did you ever watch him make it?

VT: I watched him make the biscuits, yes.

MH: What do you remember about that process?

VT: Actually, I think I remember my oldest brother, Larry, more than my dad, although I know they made it the same way. They put all this flour in the bowl, then the liquid and they mixed it up. I remember them shaping into biscuits with their hands and putting them in a pan, and turning them over in the hot grease in the Dutch oven or pan..

MH: Was it a fry pan or a regular number 12 Dutch oven?

VT: I would say probably a Dutch oven.

MH: Everyone has always told me. "Ah, we just used mutton grease."

VT: That is what they used. I don't remember that they always had a fire outside, so they may have used the oven of the little stove on the inside to bake biscuits in a dripper.

MH: Would you go out for an overnight or a week or...?

VT: When my dad was homesteading my older brothers and sisters went and they would go and stay all summer, but by the time I came along, they were in school so, I didn't go out to the sheep herd as much as they did, or as much as my younger brothers did. My dad was a traditional person, so I didn't get to go to the barn when they hitched up the horses. My brothers did and they learned to swear

- (laughter) and my mother washed their mouth out with soap. I had to wait on the corner until they came down to turn to The Cove where we had an alfalfa field.
- MH: I love that, you weren't allowed near because he swore at the animals (laughter)
- VT: And he never swore anyplace else. [Dad] lived until he was ninety-four. Once I asked him, he was maybe in his nineties, why he swore at his animals and he said because his father did. He didn't swear any place else. The only time I ever heard him swear; our barn was adjacent to my uncle's and I was with my cousins over at my uncle's barn, we were playing in the grain bins and I don't think he knew we were there and he was out trying to get his horses to come to get hitched to the wagon...and I was shocked. I didn't think he could do that. (Laughter)
- MH: Well, there you go.
- CJ: Have Verene tell about the sheep wagon and how they lived in it.
- MH: How it was set up?
- VT: You have probably been in a sheep wagon?
- MH: I haven't, only a very modern one.
- VT: They are probably much the same. You go in the door and here is the cook stove to the right of the door. And I can't remember what is on the left and then there is a bench you can sit on each side and a table that would fold down.
- CJ: And the bed.
- VT: In the back part the bed was up higher. Probably half of the sheep wagon is the bed, double bed size. Underneath the bench that lifts up, you could store stuff, — bins where you store your flour and potatoes, and canned stuff. I can't think what was on the other side of the door.
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MH: Was it a little potbelly wood-burning stove?

VT: Not really, more long. There was an oven in it.

MH: Was it made from sheet metal?

VT: No, it was cast iron. I have seen those sheet metal ones, because I had one when I first lived at the log camp in Orderville Canyon and those stoves were hard to regulate, especially the oven temperature.

CJ: Maybe he had a little wash bench. Everyone I ever saw had a little bench at one side of the door and the washbasin and a hook to hang their towel on and a dipper in the bucket of water for all to use to get a drink.

MH: What about water? How would they get water into the camp?

VT: They would usually have to take it in fifty gallon barrels in the back of a truck. If they were to the sheep herd for a long time they had what was called a camp tender as well. My dad was his own camp tender because he owned his wagon and was [considered] a small operation. When they were on the mountain sometimes they camped close by a stream and didn't have to haul water..

MH: What is the mountain?

VT: OK, the mountain when I was a kid is different that the mountain now. We called the mountain Cedar Mountain and that was where my father ran his sheep, which was part of the Dixie National Forest, the summer range. He owned some private land there adjacent to what is now the Movie Ranch.

MH: Is that on the resort?

VT: Right where the Duck Creek Resort is. That used to be called the Movie Ranch. It belonged to his cousins. They filmed a lot of movies in that area. And then my

father owned his homestead. which was out on what is called Clear Creek Mountain. We called our place The Oaks. He homesteaded there probably in the early twenties.

MH: You had to be on that property...

VT: You had to live on the property so many years and you had to make improvements for so many years and I don't know what else you had to do.

MH: Does he, do you still have any right to the homestead?

VT: Yes we still own the homestead property. When my father died, my brother who still runs cows got the Mineral Property, which is down, lower and my father gave the remaining brothers and sisters The Oakes property. My father also purchased other property adjacent to his homestead. The homestead property, my brother told me just the other day, how many acres, but I don't remember. Some of the property corners in. like he has a section maybe and a corner in from another one. ...and a buck pasture.

MH: Everyone had a buck pasture?

VT: If you run sheep you have to have a buck pasture.

MH: Well, that is it! I never got it. (Laughter) They are buck sheep?

VT: Yes, buck sheep. You don't run the male sheep with the ewes all year.

MH: That was why they used No Man's Mesa. Tell me again where Clear Creek is.

VT: As you go back home, over The Sands and out of Kanab, you are looking up towards the north and kind of to the north west, you see this mountain coming along out here, that goes right up to Zion National Park. Clear Creek Mountain is up there. Our property is back east from Clear Creek Mountain. The only thing I

know about the area is that we have a Homestead Hollow, and a Fredrick's Hollow and a few other hollows that are just named by the people who lived up there.

MH: What were the improvements that he made up there?

VT: My father built a cabin and he made some fences and did some erosion control. Those were the only things that survived. I have hiked to the cabin with my brother. There is not a road there now. There used to be a wagon road but it is mostly ruts now. I imagine you could get there on a four-wheeler.

MH: How would your family get out there from Orderville? That is still a fairly long haul.

VT: At first, it was by wagon and team.

MH: How long would that take to get out there?

VT: I would think they could do it in a couple of days.

MH: A two day trip!

VT: Oh, yes, I am sure it would be by wagon. I remember my father saying once that he went out with my mother and Larry who was born while he was in the First World War, and they lost a wheel off the wagon, so they had to camp overnight. The place where they camped has a name and I don't remember it now.

MH: It will come to you. I don't know that area going up towards Zion well. I heard a few stories and have met people who were from Orderville and spent time up there for various reasons. Let's go back with you Cleone. What were some of the ways your mom made ends meet?

CJ: I am sure it wasn't easy. but the thing I remember she would sell products like seltzers, flavorings, spices, and elixirs and she sold stockings. What we would do, she and one or two of us would walk down to Mt. Carmel and take orders and then she ordered them and when they came, enough of us would go to carry the goods and we would walk back down and deliver.

MH: Like Avon?

VT: It was a good two-mile, two and a half mile walk one way.

MH: Did you have a sack, how would you carry things.

VT: Pull the wagon?

CJ: I just don't recall that. I remember we had some kind of sacks she would put things in. After her health got bad then my sister just younger than me and sometimes the next one was with us and so she would send us to go get the orders and then deliver them. I was about 12, 13, or 14 years old.

MH: And it was spices...?

CJ: Yes, and flavorings and I don't really know what else. I remember more about the stockings and I hated long stockings. (Laughter) We had to wear those long stockings when it got cold. They came clear up to...

VT: They came clear up to a garter belt.

MH: Oh.

CJ: And we had to wear those until it got ...

VT: ...warm enough that our mothers let us take them off.

CJ: – At first we could roll them down a little. Anyway I remember them more and going to the people's places and taking the stocking orders.

MH: What kind of material were they made out of?

VT: I remember in about seventh grade, we got colored ones. But before that they were always ribbed and they were tan and they always had wrinkles in them, but if you could pull them up far enough you could get some of the wrinkles out.

MH: It was one size fits all but not really?

CJ: And we had the garter belts that you wore with these long garters.

VT: They were homemade.

MH: What did you make them out of?

CJ: Flour sacks. That was what our panties were made out of.

MH: What about the hooks?

CJ: You would buy them.

MH: I remember them too. I always thought they were a weird contraption to have to wear. (Laughter)

CJ: It got kind of scary for me a time or to, especially going to Glendale, because it was farther. If we couldn't get home way before dark or even if it was daylight and a car would go by we would run off the side of the road and hide.

MH: Oh, you would hide!

CJ: Yes because we didn't know if it was a stranger or who it was.

MH: Well, do you remember many strangers coming through?

VT: I remember hobos or tramps.

CJ: Oh, yes.

VT: They would always come to the back door and they would want something to eat and they would chop some wood and then we would fed them. I don't remember too many.

CJ: I remember a lot of them. They would come to our house because we were the first house as you came into town.

MH: Ah, from the north.

CJ: From the north. It seemed like we were really out of town. They would often come to our place and we thought if one got food there they would make a mark of some kind on your gate for the next one.

MH: I have heard about that.

CJ: And they did.

MH: Did you notice what the mark looked like?

CJ: It was two marks on the post. Of course all this time we had a big house. At the time my dad died, my mother couldn't keep it up and she had to sell it. We went back to another house my dad owned. Anyway these tramps, [as]we called them, and like Verene's mother, if they cut some wood she would feed them. But we knew quite often that they were sleeping in our barn. And all of us were afraid because we had to go through the barnyard to get to the road. Near the barn was the road, and... what did they call that Verene where they unloaded the hay? It was covered.

VT: I don't know what that was called, just an unloading area.

CJ: Well, we had to walk through it then onto the road.

MH: Then you would run in a cluster....

CJ: ...just as quick as we could. There were two things my mother always said. "You don't stay down in town, you have to come home, before dark especially if you are alone." We *had* to be home before dark.

MH: Do you remember not making it home and having to stay with someone?

CJ: No.

MH: What was the other thing?

CJ: We used to have big floods come down the creek. And the creek circled right around our place. If we were on either side or if we went down the back street, Sand Street, [then] we couldn't cross. And the other way, the bridges were not very good. And so she would say, "Don't you ever stay if it is looking rainy or if there is a flood you go to Grandma's."

MH: Now where did your grandma live?

CJ: She lived right in the middle of town about a block from where the creek was.

MH: So, you had a place to go. What did your grandma and grandpa do for a living?

CJ: Oh, at one time he had the Orderville Coop store.

MH: Oh, he was a merchant.

CJ: Then he had sheep and most of his son worked with them, but my dad never worked with the sheep. He went away to school.

MH: Where did he go to school?

CJ: At BAC. Most of the Esplins went there.

MH: Interesting to see that pattern. What amazed me were the people who lived over in places like Boulder and had to go way far away to finish high school. What was the schooling like in Orderville?

VT: My dad kept going to the eighth grade until his dad thought he was mature enough to go on to school out of town. He kept going to the eighth grade to get some more education. He told me once how much his father allowed him for a winter and it was like ninety dollars for his board and room and everything at BAC. It was a very small amount and he [even] had some left over..

MH: Did he ever tell you about getting work over in Cedar?

VT: He did work for people over there and he was on the wrestling team, which I thought was interesting. He studied mostly animal husbandry and agricultural things. After graduating there he went one quarter at Logan, U.S.C.

CJ: BAC was just a two-year school.

MH: Tell me just a few more things about the hobos. Were they OK people and you were frightened of them because you were little kids?

CJ: I thought they always looked (dirty) to me.

MH: Would they just come in on foot?

CJ: Oh, yes, carrying a pack and a little bedroll.

VT: I think they had a stick, but I think that is an image I had from a movie, and I think they carried everything [slung] across them.

CJ: Or on their backs.

VT: I don't have a clear picture of them, just when they were outside working. We didn't have too many strangers come through.

MH: Well, tell me about the United Order. Is that how Orderville got its name?

CJ: – Yes.

MH: I don't know very much about it except it was communal and they combined their assets. Was that when you were young?

VT: That was when our grandfathers were living here.

MH: Were they part of it?

VT: They were part of it. When my grandparents moved to Orderville they had been living in Nephi, both the Heatons and the Esplins. They were sent there and established their farms, and then they were called to the Muddy Mission, which was down in Nevada, just where Lake Mead is now. They made that long wagon trip down to the Muddy Mission with a number of other people, and it was a hard mission.

MH: Was St. George going then. Washington?

VT: Yes, they went down there because it was supposed to be a good growing area. It was hot. They grew melons and cane and I don't know if they raised any cotton. Did they?

CJ: I was going to say I think I heard them say they tried, that they tried the cotton.

VT: They were there for two or three years then Nevada and Arizona decided that they were in their state and each wanted to tax them and so they were released from there and advised to come to the Long Valley area. And my grandparents came. I don't know that all the people there did, but a big share of the people did come back to Long Valley. Originally they assembled in Mt. Carmel, then some of the original settlers who had been scared out of Mt. Carmel with the Indian raids came back and there was a concern of who owned the land. President Young sent one of his sons all through the area telling people that they should try to live

a United Order and this would be the way they could make these small communities flourish. This caused a division with the old and new settlers at Mt. Carmel. Some wanted to live the United Order, some didn't, so the ones that did moved up to Orderville with what they could carry in their wagons. That is what they started their community with. This order lasted longer than any of the other orders.

MH: So, there were other tries going on all over?

CJ: Yes.

VT: In many other places. But when they finally disbanded it, because of the Edmunds- Tucker Act, where the Court was threatening to take over all the property that belonged to the church. By this time The Order owned land on the Kaibab Mountain, which is the mountain to the south, they owned the Moccasin Ranch, and land all around the area. They had a woolen mill up at Hidden Lake, which Cleone talked about. They had a tannery where they tanned their own leather and made shoes, etc. They ran their own cattle in Southern Utah and Northern Arizona, and on the Kaibab. They were self-sufficient people but they only had home grown stuff, for example the boys had homemade trousers rather than the real thing. The boys in Kanab had boughten clothes and The Order wasn't as conducive to the second generation. The first generation had shares in it. The second generation didn't see that there was much for themselves in the organization.

MH: That seems like it would always be the case. It was happening all over the world, similar experiments in communal living and you couldn't divide up the pie enough.

VT: They had a communal dining hall in Orderville. I read in a book that my mother had about a jubilee held twenty-five after incorporation. They built the Ward Hall to celebrate this jubilee. The people that had left came back for the celebration and they just really enjoyed each other's company. They would say, "These were the best years of our lives, building this town up and making it a good place to live with good people."

MH: Did you hear much about that Cleone?

CJ: Oh, yes. This one Esplin. Aunt Mary was born during the Order and she remembered living there for a little while. The women were assigned, someway taking turns, with the cooking and some did the sewing and grinding flour.

MH: There were other states that had communal experiments going on that were necessarily connected to a region. I think in the south and in the northern states. It seems a good way to build up communities. OK, where should we go from here? What about food? What do you remember having?

CJ: What we raised. (Laughter)

MH: What about your favorites?

CJ: We had a big orchard. The apples were so good; you can't buy them like that now. My mother didn't have much money. I don't remember much while my dad was still living except, one thing that I guess I can tell, when they were building the school house in Orderville, the high school not the old rock school, why there

were workers that came there to work. My mother and her youngest sister took in boarders and so we must have doubled up to make bedrooms for them in our upstairs. I remember them coming in and Mother cooking for the workers. I didn't know what they paid her. But mostly we would buy flour once a year, I don't know how much. Then we had a place somewhere in the house where they would hang boards to make a swinging shelf for the flour, so mice wouldn't get into it.

MH: So, it was suspended?

CJ: Yes. I remember that so well because in those old houses if you have mice, then they could get in [to the flour].

MH: What about pets? Favorite dog or cat?

CJ: My mother wasn't much for pets. (Laughter)

MH: Just another mouth to feed?

CJ: We did have a dog for a long time. It belonged to my brother.

MH: What about hunting, would your family hunt?

CJ: I just had the one brother. My Uncle Howdy didn't hunt. I don't know why. And his ranch that was I telling you about, where he lived in the summer, he raised potatoes. Just acres of the best potatoes and muskmelon.

MH: What do those look like, their meat?

CJ: It is kind of like cantaloupe. The ones he raised, the meat was almost white and big. Do you remember that kind Verene?

VT: I can remember that Josiah Chamberlain used to raise muskmelons like that. My dad didn't raise melon.. If you weren't up in the sand area of town you couldn't grow melons. Our garden soil was mostly clay.

MH: That is true, you have to have a certain kind of soil.

CJ: Uncle Howdy's ranch was...

VT: ...sandy?

CJ: Well, I guess. I didn't go there much.

VT: They used to raise big watermelon out to Moccasin, in very sandy soil...

CJ: Oh, yes and they did at Clear Creek. Verene talking about Clear Creek reminded me of my uncle and aunt, Aunt Mary (Mamie) and Uncle Henry had a home there. They probably had proved up on a homestead, wouldn't ya' think?

VT: Probably, yes.

CJ: And they built a home there, and they raised melon, acres of melons, it looked like to me. They had the best watermelons.

MH: Do you remember having a watermelon bust?

CJ: Oh, yes. Do you Verene?

VT: Yes, out to Moccasin.

CJ: Aunt Mamie used to bring, they would bring the best melons. They would pack them in straw in the wagon box and bring them in, so they wouldn't break. They would last about until Thanksgiving.

MH: Wow! What a treat.

CJ: I remember having them. Uncle Howdy never raised watermelon. I don't know why.

MH: He must have had a surplus of potatoes. What would he do with that?

CJ: He gave a lot of them away around here, to families, you know. He would sell some.

MH: Would he sell locally or would he haul over to Cedar?

CJ: He didn't haul anywhere. He used to trade potatoes to someone where they had the coalmine. Either in Glendale or probably, I'm not sure where...there was a coalmine south of Glendale.

VT: Ina Adair had one out on Coal Hill.

CJ: That is right. But I'm not sure where, they would bring a load or two of coal and he would give them sacks of potatoes.

MH: That seems how it worked, more barter, not a lot of cash.

VT: It was.

CJ: We didn't have any money.

MH: What about at the Fourth of July. Would you get nickel or a dime?

CJ: Yes!

VT: A half dollar when I was growing up.

CJ: Oh, Verene you were lucky!

MH: Wow!

CJ: I think it was a dime. We would have to decide if it was an ice cream cone at Aunt Nell Hoyt's. She made the ice cream herself on the Fourth and Twenty-fourth. Or we could go to the store and buy a banana for a nickel.

MH: Oh, that is right, bananas and oranges.

CJ: I don't remember getting oranges.

VT: We had oranges at Christmas.

MH: Right bananas, and oranges at Christmas. What were some of the celebrations like?

VT: On the 4th and the 24th of July we had a parade and foot races and horse races up the side streets. The foot races first. And there was always a program.

MH: Singing or a play?

CJ: Miss Liberty...

VT: On the Twenty-Fourth they had Miss Utah and on the Fourth they had Miss Liberty. There was always a young woman that was the star of the parade.

MH: Was there a band in town?

VT: We always had a what you would call a, what would you call them...they would go around early in the morning in the back of a truck and play the flutes, the drums and the violin, playing martial music. Maybe they were called a Martial Band, I don't know. But it was patriotic music.

CJ: For the Twenty-fourth, that was really the big celebration.

MH: It still is.

CJ: Yes.

VT: Not here. In Arizona the Twenty-fourth of July is not a holiday.

MH: Oh, that right it is a Utah holiday.

VT: We used to call it Pioneer Day, and it used to be a big celebration here, now the Fourth of July is and they hardly do anything on the Twenty-fourth.

CJ: When Allen was bishop, my husband was bishop; they had a big Twenty-fourth celebration here to get funds to build the church.

VT: That was when they started to have the barbeques. I can remember making apricot sherbet for the Twenty-fourth.

MH: When was that?

CJ: In '51.

VT: I moved here in '51 and her husband was the bishop then and for several more years.

MH: Did you move from Orderville to here?

VT: Yes.

MH: How long had you been married before you moved here?

VT: I was married in 1948 and we moved here, in 1951.

MH: Is you husband from Orderville?

VT: He was from Mt. Carmel. He was working in the logging business.

MH: Let's talk about that for a minute. Logging was a huge part of the economy around here, up on the Kaibab.

VT: Yes it was.

MH: How many people do you think were employed by then?

CJ: Two hundred and fifty. I worked in the office for years

VT: Yes, she worked in the office.

MH: Oh, you did.

VT: Her husband was the saw filer and they lived in town at the sawmill. But I spent a lot of summers on the Kaibab because my husband was a heavy equipment operator. He would load the logs onto the logging trucks.

MH: Well, so, where would you stay out there? In the forest? (Laughter)

VT: No, they had log camps. The first two summer we stayed at a place called Orderville Canyon which was a place originally owned by the United Order. They had a sawmill there. The sawmill was running the first two summers. They also had a log camp down at Mangums, which is lower down off the mountain. Whiting and Bushman's were the ones my husband worked for. They were there before Kaibab Lumber Company. They owned the Kaibab Lumber Company. My husband worked there for a couple of years before we were married, for Whiting and Bushman. I am not sure when it went to Kaibab. But they had a mill in Orderville Canyon and they had a mill down at Moquich.

CJ: That sounds right.

VT: Anyway that mill burned down. And right at that time they got the Big Saddle sale. It was a big timber sale.

MH: Is that up on the Plateau?

VT: You go out what we call the logging road, by Ryan, which is the Forest Service Station, then you go up higher in the mountains. It is not like you go up Jacob Lake then out to the Grand Canyon. Then they built a lot of new homes at the log camp. The first year I was there, there was not another woman in camp all of the time. There were some Indian ladies, who would not speak English to you, and other women there occasionally. And then they built the Upper Camp.

MH: Wow, what an experience.

VT: Then they built the upper camp and they built a lot of homes up there and it became like a small community. There were a lot of people there, loggers, and cutters and the skidders and the loaders.

MH: Now, the skidders hooked onto the logs?

VT: Yes, when I was in Orderville Canyon, the first year I was married they had skidders there that skidded with workhorses. But when I was down at Mangum they did all the skidding by machine.

MH: They still used chokers?

VT: Yes, they still had choke setters.

MH: I did that a bit. So, Verene what was it like living at the logging camp?

VT: My first child was born when I lived up at Orderville Canyon, so I had a baby to care for. The days were long. My husband was gone to work at daylight and would come about dark. There were people there occasionally, other wives, but there weren't people there all the time. Most of my time was spent entertaining and caring for the baby.

MH: What made you make that decision to live up there, where most wives lived down below?

VT: Well, because I didn't have any children in school and I could go and I wanted to be with my husband.

MH: You lived in a tent?

VT: No, there was a home. The first house we lived in down at Mangum had a large living room. The walls were just studded in. There was no insulation. [There was] a kitchen and bedroom. There wasn't even any wallboard or anything.

(Laughter)

MH: Still pretty rustic.

VT: I was trying to think if there was water in the house. At the Orderville Canyon camp there was not water in the house. They had a water tank; you would go with buckets and carry. We were talking about that the other day. My granddaughter had her baby at my place and we were talking about all these disposable things they have and I said, "I carried the water from the water tank for five months, to wash out the cloth diapers and hang them out.

MH: Wow, Verene! (Laughter)

VT: The bathroom was an outhouse. It was the same down at Mangums, at the lower camp. When we moved to the upper camp they had water piped in the houses, then they built us nice sanitary outhouses and a shower house.

MH: Was it a good company?

VT: It was a good company. Kaibab was a good company.

MH: In Fredonia, you mentioned they didn't celebrate the Twenty-fourth, but so many families were connected to the Utah pioneers. Maybe the Arizona Strip should become the Utah Strip.

VT: We have thought that a lot too.

MH: (to Cleone) Tell me about your time at the Kaibab. You were the secretary?

CJ: Yes, but [let's] go back a little?

MH: Oh, yes we forgot when you got married. What about your high school time?

CJ: There was high school. I went through high school at Valley. It was called Valley High then. Then I went two quarters, part of a year to B.Y.U. The principal had me work in his office through high school. We had to pay tuition,

five dollars and so he let me work for mine. He insisted I go to college. But I didn't get to stay too long

MH: There was a cost?

CJ: Yes, and I didn't have any money.

MH: What classes did you take? Was it a fun time for you?

CJ: Yes, but I didn't study as much as I should have. (Laughter)

MH: Hum, sounds pretty normal.

CJ: I was going to go into elementary education. I had a super English teacher. I was lucky to get into that class. Then I took a couple of education classes and everybody took a religion class. Then I took mythology from the funniest old lady. (Laughter). I also took type and shorthand. But it was a fun time. I roomed with girls that I still stay in touch with.

MH: That is neat.

CJ:: They were from Nevada. One lives in St. George now, Helen Robertson. Then it got kind of crowded for five of us, so Helen and I got us a little apartment from one of the professor's parents. She was an Orderville lady. Another reason I didn't continue with my schooling was that Allen and I were married in 1938.

MH: So, it was in the thirties when you were at B.Y.U.?

CJ: I graduated from high school in thirty-six.

MH: The depression was just starting to be over?

CJ: It was, but I didn't have any parents to help me. They let me work in the library – at the 'Y', but I couldn't keep up with all the working and a full course load..

MH: It was similar to when I went to school, full load and two jobs.

CJ: I could have done that part, but my little sister was home. Ines was only like ten or eleven and so I went home after the quarter. And then when we were married, this as before the sawmill had come, and Allen worked out on the Kaibab Mountain for the Bureau of Public Roads.

MH: That was a good job wasn't it?

CJ: It was good, but it was just for the summer.

MH: Where did you meet Alan?

CJ: Verene's sister Nan, and a bunch of us used to go around with Fredonia boys.

MH: Oh! I heard all the Fredonia boys had cars.

CJ: Oh, yes. Allen had an old '29 Ford or Chevy and he then he traded the old for a newer one just before we were Married, a pick-up.

MH: So, Allen was from Fredonia, did I get that right?

Oh, yes, we are in his family home!

CL: So, I moved to Jacob Lake with him. They didn't have houses. We had a little boarded up tent. He made a wood floor and some sides and he never bothered to put on a door. (Laughter) I didn't ever have a door. That first summer we moved there in August, and we stayed until snow.

MH: What was Jacob Lake like then? Was it going with the hotel?

CJ: Oh, yes.

MH: Was it really named after a guy named Jacob Lake?

VT: You, know there was no lake?

MH: Yes.

VT: It was named after Jacob Hamblin.

MH: What kind of people would go to visit there?

CJ: Tourists. They were just there to visit the Grand Canyon. I think they came from all over the country.

CJ: I think it was just tourists going to the Grand Canyon. Our camp the first year, [actually] all the time we were there was down by what they called the lake, and everyone just had tents. There were several families that lived at camp through the summer, while the men worked..

MH: What were the workers there for, to make roads and built access?

CJ: Well, they were keeping the roads up. That was Allen's job was to go along with the crew. They were widening and making them better. The next year we went back out with them, but Allen had bought a big tent. I thought I had the world. He built a whole new frame and we moved farther up on the hill. Let's see, we were there two more years. When we had Polly why that took up my time.

MH: Just tended babies. I think that is really interesting that you were out in the forest.

CJ: I loved it. We lived at V.T.'s the last year we were there.

MH: What was that, V.T.?

VT: It was place where they had a store and gas station. There are two theories on how it got named V.T. One was when the Untied Order had cows on the mountain that carried a VT brand for Valley Tannery. The more authentic was that there were two men whose names that started with 'V' and 'T' who were also in that area running cows and they started the store.

MH: Now where is that? Out towards the North Rim?

VT: If you go out towards the North Rim, it is on the north side of the road and the Kaibab Lodge is on the other side, just before you get to the park.

MH: We just recently stayed there when we hiked the North to South Rim.

VT: I did that. We hiked south to north. I did that in 1971 or 2. We took a bunch of young girls, for their fifth year, hiking and camping certification. We went from the South to the North Rim. We stayed the first night down at the campground at Phantom Ranch. We were supposed to stay at Cottonwood the next night, but there were a whole bunch of boy scouts that were supposed to stay up at Roaring Springs, they came down there and were all over the place and noisy. We knew they were supposed to be at Roaring Springs so we went up to Roaring Springs and stayed there instead.

MH: That was when you could just change your plans. Now it is very restricted.

VT: We had to get the little registration tags, but no body ever came to check them. We figured the only reason you had to have those was in case you died they would know your name to bury you. (Laughter)

MH: You were backpacking then?

VT: Yes.

CJ: I never did that.

VT: Did you go over in one day?

MH: No, we stayed at Phantom Ranch. We were pokey. What did you think about that trip? It's thirteen miles coming out.

VT: Yes, it is a long pull coming out the north side. The thing was, I had two groups of girls, one fast and one slow. I spent most of my time trying to get one group to

slow down and the other to hurry up. I got to talk to a lot of people as we went along who were wondering what we were doing. There were two people who were going through in a day, but running most of the way. The South Rim is like desert; the other side was so much prettier. One thing we had to deal with, was the muleskinners. We had to stand on the outside of the trail to let them go by, they had the right of way, and they would tease the girls about pushing them over the edge.

MH: Well, the North Rim is a very exposed, big drops. Well, that is a good adventure to have. So, basically both of you liked the outdoors. Would you fish much?

CJ: I loved to go fishing.

VT: My husband was into fishing. I was kind of an observer when we went fishing on dates. That was the only fishing I liked.

MH: So, how many children did you have Cleone?

CJ: Two girls.

MH: Are they still around?

CJ: One of them has moved to the Kanab Creek Rancho's a year ago and the other one lives in Cedar City. Polly lives everywhere. She is the one in Cedar. Her husband travels a lot. He is a college professor and he does Hotel Management. They have been to China and he is in Houston every year, part of the year. She makes a triangle, she says, she comes here and stays a lot and did when Allen was ill. Her two daughters they live in Las Vegas.

MH:- Oh, so there is the Triangle. What do the girls think about the area?

CJ: They both went through high school here. Polly graduated from B.Y.U. in Home EC and Nayna went o Cedar to CSU. She met her husband there and put him through school.

MH: How about you Verene?

VT: I had five children. three girls and two boys. [I had] a girl and a boy and a girl and a boy and a girl. My oldest daughter's name is Teresa Ann, and she lives in Manhattan, Kansas. and my oldest boy is Steven and he lives in Mesa, Arizona and then Patty who lives in Wyoming as does Carson, my second son. They both live in Bridger Valley area of Wyoming.

MH: How did they end up there? That is a beautiful area. I have to ask.

VT: Patti's husband trained as an electrician and he got a job at the Trona Mines near Rock Springs. Carson my son went to school and became a welder and worked for a while in Idaho and then his brother-in-law said to come down and work because the pay was much better. Then my youngest daughter Nan lives here in Fredonia.

MH: Nan was a sister's name?

VT: Right.

Discussion of the Project, not transcribed.

MH: So, what are some the changes you have seen in Orderville? Do you go to Orderville often?

VT: I go to Orderville often. I have one sister there, Nan. We get together often. We have what we call sister day and go visit some old place where our Dad used to run sheep. I went four wheeling with my younger brother up on the Sands a

couple of weeks ago. He wanted to take me places that he knew that he had been with Daddy. I'm always saying to my sister, "I don't belong to this family." I am in the middle (with five years on each side of other siblings) When my father died they even omitted my name from the obituary. (Laughter)

MH: Oh, no.

VT: My sister Nan was tired of hearing me say "I didn't belong to the family" so she had Johnny take me on this trip out on the Sands.

MH: Did you enjoy that?

VT: Yes.

MH: So, The Sand is up by the Coral Pink and up that way?

VT: Right, my dad ran sheep there on the Sand. There were a lot of places there that I didn't go to or know about.

MH: You were in the middle.

VT: Way in the middle.

MH: Well what kind of things did you have to do? I know you were young for a while, but then you had to help out.

VT: Right. My mother raised a large vegetable garden, and we had a lot of fruit trees and animals to care for; chickens, pigs, and doggie lambs.

MH: Would you have to go out and pick the fruit or would you have someone come in and help?

VT: Oh, no, we didn't have that luxury. I would have to climb the tree and throw the apples down to my mother. (Laughter)

CJ: Catch them in her apron?

VT: Yes and then put them in the buckets. During the World War II, I milked the cows because the handy man that we had to do our chores when my dad was to the sheep herd. wasn't available. He didn't go to the War but everyone else did and he had many other things he had to do. So, I milked cows one summer. My mother had never learned to milk cows because my dad was there and my two older brothers. And it wasn't a girl thing. But when my younger brother got older enough my mother learned how to milk because he wouldn't go to the barn by himself. I have always given him a bad time about it. Mama had to go with him to milk the cows.

MH: Well that is a tough job. How many cows did you have?

VT: We only had two milk cows. Before the road changed through Orderville, the barn used to be behind our house, but the new road went right through where I barn was, so it had to be moved. two blocks up the lane, and we had to carry the milk back.

MH: Oh, my, that is not convenient. So, where was the old road?

VT: It used to curve more to the north. I think they just straightened it out more so it went right on the back of our property.

CJ: The new road went right through our barn yard and orchard and part of the yard, so we had to move things too.. The real old road, our barn happened to be right where right where they put the road through.

VT: We were in a different part of town.

CJ: Yes, we were clear up north and she was in the south. And they put it right through where our barn was. My uncle the cleared property on the other side of the lot and someone helped him build a new barn. We had a big lot.

MH: I have another minute on this tape and I want to thank you both.

CJ: Well, thank you, it has been fun.

MH: You enjoyed it? Well good.

End of interview

UTAH STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

INTERVIEW AGREEMENT AND DEED OF GIFT

I hereby give to the Utah State Historical Society the tapes and transcriptions of the interview/interviews recorded on 10-22-02 and grant the Utah State Historical Society the right to make the tapes and transcriptions available to the public for such educational and research purposes that are in accordance with the policies and procedures of the Society's Utah History Information Center.

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§ DATE 1-27-03

Orderville, Fredonia

INTERVIEWER Marsha Holland

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SIGNATURE Marsha Holland

DATE 1-17-03

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ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

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