

## Oral Histories

Number : OH 24      Date: 11/11/89      Condition:      Holdings:  
Good      WP Library

Initials: DP

Interviewee: Carriere, Mildred

Interviewer: Davine Pera

Subject: Side A

00-50 Parents birth and history. Grandfather was a doctor. Mildred was born in Dolores then moved to Telluride at the age of 12. Memories of parents early years.

50-80 Early years in Pandora. Describes Pandora as a busy town around the turn of the century and in the early 20's. Mildred rode the bus (horse and buggy or sleigh) into Telluride to attend school. Talks of the different mines at Pandora.

80-98 Describes the businesses at Tomboy Mine. Speaks of the stage that ran from Telluride to the Tomboy every day. Speaks of the Smuggler.

98-150 She speaks of the first night in Pandora and all the people she met. Grampa Carriere (husband's father), French Alex was a mule stringer. Tells of some of his experiences including the Trout Lake Flood.

150-198 Mildred was married in the early part of the depression. Speaks of the houses that were stripped by out of towners during the depression. Her early married years & what they did for entertainment.

198-250 Describes the parties and social activities during her growing up years in Pandora. Speaks of special friends at Brown Homestead in San Miguel.

250-345 Tells of the birth of their children. She speaks of her husband's accident at the mine. Talks about receiving commodities from the government during the depression. Speaks of all the bootlegging in town. Describes social lodges in town and the churches.

345-448 Midge worked for 20 years for city government and never received any retirement pay. Names the many mayors she worked for. Talks about the many extra hours she put in at meetings.

448-530 Talks about life in Telluride now. Thinks the ski area has been good for the area. She and Bud paid \$450 for original house and lots in early 30's and the property just resold for \$850,000. Speaks of her feelings about selling their home.

Side B

00-132 Mildred tells of different snow slides in 1927, 1924 (Black Bear) and 1958. Son Robert was working in the mill when the Ajax avalanche ran in 1958. Bud's father was caught in 9 different slides during his years of working as a muleskinner.

132-228 Speaks of the war years and the rationing stamps that were issued for certain items. She baked for different people in town to make extra money. She baked on a wood stove and sold her pies of \$1 each. She speaks of World War 11 and the Korean War.

228-359 Describes various holidays during the years. Recalls the wonderful Memorial Day celebrations, July 4<sup>th</sup> and Christmas.

359-618 Speaks of the divisions of nationalities in town, the Swedes, Finns and etc. Tells of the hoboes and old men living in Muscatel Flatts. Describes the girls from the Red Light District, the way they were dressed and seeing them on horseback in town. Tells story of Tom McMahn. Mentions Swede Marie and Walt Snodgrass. Speaks of Lon Remine and his brother. They fought against each other in the Civil War. She was a close friend with Aino Pekkarine.

Description: sound cassette (90 minutes)

Subjects: Side A

Early history

Pandora

Tomboy

French Alec

Depression

Employee of City Government

Side B

Avalanches

War years

Holidays

Town Characters