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Anna Barrowman -- Interviewed January 27, 1984 by Teri Deane
Transcribed by Teri Deane
One tape, both sides

SIDE ONE

I was born at Brookside Colorado on April the 17, 1896.

When did you come to Lafayette?

We came to Lafayette in. . .oh, let's see. . .we came to Lafayette in 1906. We came on the Burlington train down here at the depot. It was late at night, and my mother, I mean my sister and my brother and me and mother walked up this (Simpson street and crossed to this big blue building, a hotel, had a lady who run it and dad was there. But he hadn't heard that we were coming, see. They forgot to tell him or something. So we were asking if a Joe (Schneider? or Snyder?) boarded there. They didn't know anybody by that name and just then he come out of the door. So we saw him. In 1906. So that would be 1906 when we came here to Lafayette.

What was the name of the hotel?

I don't know the name. They boarded miners. But I didn't get, don't remember who it was at that time. Later on Mrs. Bryan took it. Mrs. Bryan, later on. I don't know who it was when we came.

Do you have any brothers and sisters?

I have one sister living and a brother who died a couple of years ago. George Snyder was his name. He died a couple of years ago. I'm the only one left in this town.

So you had one sister and one brother?

I had one sister and one brother.

They were older than you?

No. I'm the oldest and my sister is next, she's eighty-five. And my brother would be eighty-two if he were living.

When your family came here, where did you live?

When we came here, we moved down they called it the Red Row at the Standard Mine. My father worked there at the mine. And we moved down, I think it was number six on the Red Row, and we stayed there quite awhile, I don't know how many years we stayed there. And Dad finally bought a piece of ground way out East right on the, we called it around the creek bend, we moved there. And we stayed there until 1920, I think, we moved up to Lafayette, on Emma Street, 400 Emma Street, we lived there.

Ok, so then you moved to town.

We moved to Lafayette. It was down on the creek about a mile and a half, two miles. Then we stayed up, I stayed up in Lafayette oh. . .I married then in 1935. The thirtieth of January would be our forty ninth wedding anniversary but my husband died two years ago, so ah. . .

Did you meet him in Lafayette?

Yes, I met him down, uh huh. . .

How did you meet?

I met ah. . .well we met, well when we were still living down on the creek we called it, I went to work at the. . .Ernest Johnson run the store down on Baseline Road here, and I went there and I worked there for seven years and then Ernest Johnson passed away in 1918. So I was there seven years and ah. . .so I went to work at the ((cant hear this)) and that's where I met my husband. A sister to the Johnsons wife, Jenny Johnson. Was her brother. Met him down on the farm.

Oh, o.k., so they were related to the people who owned the store?

Yes, ah Jenny was Bill's brother ((?)) and Ernest was her husband, Ernest Johnson, I get things mixed up. I was there until nineteen. . .Ernest passed away during the flu epidemic. And I was there in nineteen. . .and then I went to work at the Rocky Mountain Store, right up here on the main. . .I worked there for fifteen years.

Oh, you did. Who owned that store?

Rocky Mountain Fuel Company. They called it the Rocky Mountain Fuel Store.

So it was the Company Store?

Yea, they still own it, they've changed the name, I think. They have something about the Merchantile now on the top there, don't they? They've changed it all over now, it isn't the same. When I worked at the store all the young. . .it was the company store. There was the Simpson mine, the Columbine mine, all the mines around used to trade at the Company store. I worked there as kind of a cashier I guess it was. I remember we had the little line that run across and I put the change in, they were, you know. . .they'd put the change in and I'd have to run it back on that little pully across the room there. Do I get myself clear?

I think so. . .

The cash register was up in the office where I was working. The customer would pay and they'd put the change in this little box and it would come across the wire to me.

Oh, then you'd make the change and send it back.

I'd make the change and take it back.

So you worked there from 1920 to 1935?

Yes, I got married in 1935. We lived on the farm, of course Bill run this farm about, oh a mile and a half East and a fourth of a mile North and East down through the field. And we stayed there until 1969 we moved up here in this house.

Did he buy that farm or did his parents own it?

No, Bill owned it. We sold the farm, we had to sell that. His sister-in-law, his youngest sister passed away and he was hardly able. . .he was seventy-five when we moved up here. Never left the farm, never left the farm worked there all. . . Of course we moved up here. Never did like it, always wanted to get back on the farm. In 1974 he had the stroke, was in the hospital a couple of weeks. I wasn't able to care for him so I had to put him in the Mesa Vista Sanatorium it was then, I think it's changed now. I think they've changed hands. It's the Beverly Manor now. He was there about ten months, ten months, I guess. And then I brought him

home and I cared for him here until he passed away in 1981. I just cared for him all that time til 1981.

What was your husband's full name?

William H. Barrowman.

His parents. . .Blanche told me this, now I don't know if it's right, Bill's parents owned that farm, they homesteaded? Did they homestead that farm?

Yes.

Do you remember what year they came? Or anything about that?

I've got tax receipts in there and I remember one year it was two and a half. Let's see. . .eighteen. . .Jenny Johnson, that's Mildred Williams' mother, I think Blanche knows Mildred Williams, that's her mother. Nellie, the oldest daughter. . . we can figure back, Jenny was born in 1889, and Nellie was the oldest, she was about two years older so that's way back in eighteen. . .Was it 1870 that his father bought that, homesteaded that place?. . .something like that, I believe, I don't remember just what year, but I've heard him say and I've kind of forgotton. I can remember some of the things back, but not everything. not on his side of the family. His younger sister, she knew more about the family, but now she's passed away, I'm kind of lost, couldn't keep up with the rest of the family. Must be way back there, 1870.

What were his parent's names?

Huh?

What were the names of your husband's parents? Do you remember their names?

His father's name was William. William Barrowman. And then the mother's name was Elizabeth, Elizabeth Ann. Yea, they caller her Elizabeth. She was just a little short lady. ((Not sure this last sentence is what was said, can't discern it.))

Did they come here from overseas?

No. No, I think Bill's mother came from Wisconsin, I think. Where Mr. Barrowman, I don't remember where he came from. Back in Iowa, I guess they have a lot of brothers and sisters in Iowa. I've lost track of all of them now. Since Hazel left I just don't keep track of them

How about your family? Where were you from before? Were your parents from. . .

My mother was born in Bristol, England. My daddy was born in Prussia, Germany.

Oh, really?.

Yea. He came over here to America and he met my mother in Kansas I think it was. In Kansas, ah huh.

So, what's your maiden name?

My maiden name is Snyder.

That's interesting.

So, you got married in 1935. . . how many children did you have?

Had one. Had one daughter. I was forty-two when she was born. I have three grandchildren. And just since November on Thanksgiving Day, a little great-granddaughter. So happy about that, a little great-granddaughter.

Congratulations. Let's see. . . O.k., let's go to early Lafayette, like when you first came here. What businesses were in town? What businesses do you remember?

Right on this corner was W.H. Franzes ((??)) store. It was the Oddfellow's Hall but W.H. Franzes store was down below and then the ah, up there was the Baptist Church. That's where we went to the Baptist Church. Then across on the corner there was ah, Mr. Doves Drug store and then they had a mortuary along in there somewhere. I've forgotten now just how many little stores was in there. And of course there was the Rocky Mountain Store and the bank on the corner.

What was the name of the drug store again?

Dowe. Mr. Dowe. They run it a long time. And then across from the bank on the corner there right across where the Senior Center is now was another drug store run by. . . Smith at that time. Their names were Smith. And then across was Bermont and Vanderberg store where Marv's is now. That was Bermont. . . and oh, you know upstairs in that great big building he had all kinds of machinery. I remember you used to walk by there and there was a big high place where you could look down, and they had all kinds of machinery there. They had in there, in that building. And let's see. The Moon brothers had a, used to run a butcher shop up there too. William Moon and Albert Moon and all them. They run a grocery store there, er, a meat market.

Was there a shoe repair? A shoe repair store? Or. . . for shoes?

Oh, yea, I forget. Alderson's was in there. Aldersons store.

What did they do, Alderson's?

They had a regular, general store, dry goods. You know, a regular, general store.

So, the company store was where you did your marketing. Was there any other grocery in town.

Let's see, yea, there was Lee Baker's up on the highway, there, ah, Baseline. Lee Bakers. And then there was Clemen's store on that side. And we had a shoe shop. Joe Brown had a shoe shop up on the corner. And ah, across down here right on this corner Barret's run a little store. William H. Barret had a little store there.

It was a grocery store?

Ah huh, it was kind of a little, they had candy and just a little, not a regular. Just a small place. And then there was ah. . . then later on we had the Red and White store right across on this corner. Run by Mrs. ((Akey, Zacky??))

Mrs. Zackey?

Mrs. Zaikey ((??)) was her name. They had the Red and White store. Well, ah, first it was owned by Erna and Claude Dollar. Erna Dollar. They run it first. And then later the Zaikey's bought it out.

What did they have in the store. Just a grocery?

Just a grocery, yea. And just kind of a little, not a big one. But most everything you could buy there. In the grocery line.

There were a lot of grocery stores.

Yea. We did. And course, when we first came here course everything's changed quite a bit since I've been here. It's moved right along. Things change.

Yea, yea they do. Well, what school did you go to?

Went to the Lafayette school up here, the one that burned down. I was in the eighth grade, I didn't finish, went down to work at the store instead. Irvington store they called it then. And I was down there all through that big strike. That five year strike, that's where I was during that strike down at Ernest Johnson's store.

What do you remember about that strike?

(laughter) It was awful. Used to. . .oh, kind of shooting around, you know. That type of shooting around here. And you see the train stopped down there, Irvington, that's what they called it then, Irvington. Course there was a bunch of scabs they called it then, bringing them in. And we had one lady there and she'd go out and call them everything she could think of. (laughter) She wasn't afraid of them, no. That got pretty bad at one time. At one time they shot around there and we just went over to the farm to stay, you know, the farm just stayed at the farm, at night, that is. Jenny, her daughter Mildred and me went over to the. . .Earnest and the boys stayed over at the place.

That's bad. Where did the scabs come from?

Oh. . .they brought them in from all over I guess. I don't know where they did come from.

Just who ever needed work.

Yea. Mixed up, all kinds. Mexican and White and all kinds of people.

So the shooting was mainly animosity against the scab workers? The mine workers who were on strike were shooting the scab workers, or what?

Yea. Um hum.

I've heard some terrible things about the Columbine Mine having. . .

Yea, the Columbine Mine, that was. . .

How did. . .well, how did the strike effect the business where you worked? Did the miners. . .

Well, I wasn't there, I was down on the. . .No, we done good. Earnest done good business in that store. He had quite a bit of. . .they traded, you know.

Did many people leave town during the strike?

I just don't remember, we lived way down there on the end of the creek then. We didn't. . .I know we used to walk to school from there all the time. Never got a ride, had to walk. Had to walk from there all the time.

Well, tell me what the school was like.

Were you in a class of your own, or was everyone together?

Yes. We had one teacher for one group. All the grades just one teacher. We had. . . I don't know, I think we got along fine. Never had a complaint about the schools.

Did you. . . I heard somewhere, I don't know if this was your school, they made the children go outside to eat. In winter even. Children had to always eat outside. Do you remember that?

Oh, yea. When it was nice weather we ate. A lot of the time the weather was bad, I guess they. . . But I don't remember. . . I don't remember eating my lunch out.

Oh yea. O.k. I heard that you were store clerk in a hat maker's shop where they had buttons and thread. In a hat maker? . . .

Oh, yea.. Mrs. Bailey. Mrs. Bailey had that. Oh, yea. I forgot that little hat store. Yes, it had hats. Right in that. . . and then there was Sam Lucox's store in there, too. He used to take orders for men's suits and things like that. And he used to sell jackets and sweaters, things like that.

Sam Lucock ((Lucox??))

Yea, um hum.

How much did hats sell for? Do you remember a price? A price on how much you sold your hats for?

The hats, oh, let's see. . . two and a half and five and if you paid seven dollars for a hat you thought that was a lot, you know. They run about. . . prices and, uh huh.

Did you sell a lot of hats?

I don't know. Yea she used to sell a lot, yea.

Did you do a lot of your shopping in Lafayette or did you go to Boulder?

No, we never went. . . never thought about going. I can't remember because we didn't have a car at that time. I think Miss Johnson and Mr. Alderson were the first to own cars. They were Regal, R-E-G-A-L. The automobiles.

That must have been exciting to. . . So, o.k, what do you remember about the Fire Department? The Fire Department? Do you remember anything about it?

Well, I don't you see we always lived out. I don't remember much about that. I remember later on when I moved up there, we always depended on our firemen, they were always dependable. Just like they are now, they're a wonderful group of men.

Do you remember Ham Roberts store?

Ham Roberts, yes, uh, huh.

Did you trade there?

At Ham Roberts' yes, ah huh. We used to bring cream up there for him to sell. Cream and eggs. Oh, and then there was Charlie Skoals store here. That was Charlie Skoals store too, you know. We'd trade there once and awhile and go to Ham's too. Both places.

Charlie Skoals and Hams. And you sold cream and eggs. . .

Ham used to buy the cream and we took our eggs to Charlie Skoals'.

How did you get the cream and milk into town? Did you have a mule carrier or. . .

No, Bill used to bring it up in the car. You know, bring it up in the car to the store. And, course, once and awhile we would go to, I remember later on, we went to Boulder to get a coat or something like that for a change. Course we had the one big store, Aldersons. And they had everything there but I don't think they carried coats. Some things like that they didn't carry. And I know he didn't carry shoes. Yes he did. I know he carried shoes at the Rocky Mountain Store and that whole side, this East-West side was full of shoes. We had a big ladder that run across the top and had to climb clear up to the top of that ladder sometimes to get shoes. Wonder I didn't fall off. I wouldn't now, couldn't get up there now. And you just rode along on that ladder and found whatever size shoe you wanted.

Where did the shoes come from? Were they supplied from a warehouse?

I think they come in like they do now, from the different places they get them from.

Probably Denver.

It was all along, in the big shoe places like Chicago, oh, I don't know, places like that, wholesale stores.

Let's see. . . Oh, ok., what doctors were here when you came?

I can't remember all. . . let's see. . . It would be Dr. Braden and Dr. Porter. That I can remember. Course there was others before but I don't remember them. because we lived down on the farm and we didn't have a doctor too often, I guess. Dr. Miller and Dr. Hurt were dentists. Dr. Miller and Dr. Hurt.

Do you know where their offices were?

Dr. Miller's and Dr. Hurt's offices were above the Rocky Mountain store. Upstairs, their offices were upstairs.

What was it like going to the dentist?

(laughter) And I think there was one doctor Raymond, I think they called him, he had his office in the Bermont and Vanderberg store upstairs there. And he used to come to the house. I remember once both Jenny and I down at the store had a tooth filled here by that dentist down there. Never did like it.

No novacaine, yea, yea. Wasn't fun. Isn't still.

Isn't still.

So you went to the Baptist Church?

The Baptist, yes. We used to walk from the creek up here when they had it up here.

What other churches were in town?

Oh, there was the Congregational where the library is now. I remember that church. And of course, there was the Catholic church, and the Methodist church over there

on the . . . course it's, . . . the regular old church is made into an apartment now. But the new building of it the Methodist church I know. And then of course, there was a some people with a Mormon church. But they weren't, they had different places they went to I think at that time. I don't know where they did go, the Mormons. And we had a Christian Science at one time it was in the Congregational church. They had it there at one time.

Were there a lot of Mormons in town?

Not that I know. I don't remember very many of them. I knew a few families that I knew of.

How about the Mexican population. Do you know anything about how many there were or where they came from?

No, I don't know. During the big strike they brought in some. And I don't remember after that. I know they came in later and they brought in quite a few during the strike.

Ok. I heard there was a stagecoach station on the farm, the Barrowman farm.

Oh, yes, ah huh. Down on the farm when we were down there, yes. The stagecoach would come in from. . . from. . . Denver on the way to Wyoming. And they would stop at the farm and water the horses.

Did people get on and off the stagecoach there, too, or was it just a rest point?

Well, now I don't remember that. Just used to stop there. If there were people I don't remember. Just heard Bill talkin' about it. You know, that it used to stop there on the way.

And they stopped right at the farmhouse?

Yes, as they come through there. They'd just cut right across the prairie there was no roads there, they'd just cut right across the prairie. And that's how they used to go to Denver to shop every once and awhile but they'd go by horse and wagon. Just cut right across the prairie to Denver. Golden Eagle I guess that's the ((??)) That's all I remember them talking about. And of course they used to have these ((Jews??)) come around, wagons selling and they'd come around with different things. And you'd buy something from them. And they used to have fruit, they'd come around with fruits and like that. They'd sell anything.

Would they go up and down the street?

How they got there I don't know. They used to come across the prairie and there were no roads or streets. And I think that Bill made the first road, you know. Come from on top of the field down to the farm. He made that road.

He did, he made the road.

Yes, he made his own road, yes.

Ok. Tell me something about the farm. Tell me about the crops. What did you grow?

Well, ah, wheat they raised wheat and oats and barley and hay. I got a picture of them. Here, I'll show you.

Ok.

END OF SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO

and down on the farm he wrote on the top there. I wish they'd have written the date, but they didn't. There's my husband, Bill and Roy, the oldest brother, and there's grandpa, he's on the binder. I guess they're cutting hay.

Oh, ok. So you had a binder.

Cutting the grain. That's the binder. You see the wheel, that's the binder back there.

And you have three large horses that pull the binder.

Yea. And see there at the top of the binder, that wheel that goes around and round cutting the hay.

This is probably looking East.

Looks like it, ah huh.

Oh, I think the Historical Society would like to have this, yes.

Would they like that?

I think they would, yea.

I found that a long time ago and I. . . it was taken by some man in Boulder way back there in. . . Roy, he's gone now. He died back in 1936.

Oh he did. How did he die?

He died during that. . . flu or something they had at that time going around. No, that was pneumonia. Lower pneumonia it was. I think that's when that penicillin first came out. And Viola had a heart attack and she had to go clear to Fort Morgan to get someone to fill that prescription. Must have been afraid of it when it first came out. It was, you know, a drug. But they. . .

How did grandpa Barrowman die? Do you remember?

Just of old age I guess. He passed away of old age. They called it anyhow. Same with the mother. The body was gone but the heart was. . . she was gone but the heart was too good for her, I guess. Both of them. . .

How about your parents? Now your father worked in the mines. How did he die?

He had that black lung I guess you call it now. It was. . . they called it miner's consumption then.

How old was he when he died?

He was sixty. . . sixty-four or sixty-five when he died. And mother, I think she was seventy-five. She had just a natural death. She always had gall bladder trouble. Dr. Porter was her doctor.

So, your farm machinery. . . you had a lot of machinery for your crops?

Yes, ah huh. Course they had the horses then and then Bill, he used the horses for oh, I don't know, quite awhile and then he got a tractor. And the bailed hay

on the tractor, the combine. And ah, he bought them and sold the horses.. and bought the farm machinery. Had a combine, he thought he needed a combine. And for awhile he had custom combiners come in but he thought he could use his own.

When you harvested your crops, where did you sell them? How did you. . .

Well, sometime we would store some, you know, keep it waiting. And most of the time we'd take it up to the mill. We brought it to the mill. So there was a mill there we needed to have. And store some. And the grainery, we had a grainery down there we put it in. We bought an elevator. We owned an elevator.

Did you ever have a bad year when your crops were bad?

Oh, yes. We did going on three years straight. Oh, it was bad, real bad then. We had a hard time of it then. But, we always managed to get through. The Lord always provided for us.

Yea. How about your livestock. Did you have a lot of livestock?

No, we didnt. He used the horses and sometimes we kept a cow. Course, we just had the one cow, that was all we needed just for our own. We used to make our own butter and cream and milk.

When you were selling cream to the stores up here, how many cows did you have then?

We had, I think, two then. They were Jerseys, give rich milk.

You hand milked them?

Yes. Hand milked them. I never did. Never learned how. But toward the last there he was older there, toward the last he didn't keep any. No livestock at all. We'd just buy our milk and butter.

Did you ever hire help for you on the farm?

During the combining we did, yes. Not combining, but the. . .thrashing machine. And then there was a bunch of men. But once and awhile we'd hire a man to help with the hay, or help with the grain or something that way. But, otherwise, we did it ourselves.

How did you hire? Did you put a notice in the store that you needed help?

No. We had neighbors around, good neighbors that help each other. The neighbors would help each other. So we didn't have much trouble finding help. You needed help you'd just yell at somebody. . .always have, always come to help.

Ok: what do you remember about World War II? How did it effect you and your family; or life in general?

World War II?. . .well my nephew, Georgie Snyder was in World War II. George Snyder. And my nephew, Walt Smith, was in World War II. He was a Merchant Marine, I think. And, ah, I think Georgie was. . .he was over in Germany. Walt, he was down the other way in. . .oh, I had the word. . .

The Pacific?

Hawaii and along down in there I think it was.

Do you remember rationing?

Oh, yes. Sugar and. . .

Was it a hardship?

Oh, it wasn't too bad. I still got some rationing stamps in there somewhere.

I guess on a farm that wouldn't effect you too much.

Yes, ah hah. With sugar, I think sugar was rationed. We had to cut down on sugar. I think it was better for all of us to cut down on sugar. I had recipes that called for two cups I'd just use one cup. I'd just cut down the sugar and it didn't seem to bother it at all.

How about people in town. Did, do you remember anything happening in town or anything that would earmark that era?

No, I don't. I was always on the farm. I just knew all my friends, some of them had just lost their sons, and some of them didn't.

What do you remember about the Great Depression. Now, during that time, I know you were working in the store. Did that effect the mines at all? Were miners out of work also, or did the mines work through the depression? In. . .1933. . .

No. I think I was down at the farm at the time.

You were at the farm?

Yea, at the farm. I don't remember anything.

I know that was a hard time for a lot of people.

Yes, ah huh. I think it was, ah huh. . .

Did your husband, or anyone you know ever talk about indians?

About what?

Indians? Indians being around?

No. I never heard about indians.

I know Anna Hammond, her parents remember something about indians.

Oh, did they. I remember her father. . .ah, I remember him. they lived down on the creek when we did, down the other way. And, ah what was their name? Hotzik ((?? on spelling))

Hotzik?

Yes, Hotzik. I don't remember any thing about indians, never hear them speak any of it. Know about some gypsies, some gypsies were around.

Oh, really?

Used to be around. Come down there one year.

Tell me about it.

Gypsies come around. Come in and try to tell your fortunes, things like that. And it was down around the creek, my dad was. . .and it was all down around the creek, they were camped in there somewhere, I guess. I don't remember. . . anyhow, he found a little gold dollar. It was on a ((??)) you know. 1870. A little gold dollar.

You still have it?

I give it to my. . .one of my children so they could have it. They still got it. 1870. A little gold dollar. And dad always thought the gypsies lost it. They were around there at that time, so he thought. . .Oh, and speaking about indians, we used to hunt arrowheads. Always found several pretty arrowheads. So we knew indians had been there, but I never. . .didn't know when. We found the arrowheads, Hunted the arrowheads.

Were there any festivals in town? Socials? Ice-cream Socials? What did you do for entertainment?

Oh, I never was one to go. Bill was never one to go either. Used to have shows. Used to come to the show once and awhile. And after I married, we didn't go. But, yes, they had the show there. And every once and awhile somebody would come in, you know like, and put on a play or something. Then, of course, I suppose they had baseball games and things like that. But I don't hardly remember any other things. Up here, what went on I don't know cause I was always down on the farm. Ladies had their meetings and card parties just like they do now. Entertain themselves.

Do you remember Mrs. Miller ?

Mrs. J.C. Miller?

Yes.

Oh, yes, yes. Grandma Miller, yes.

What was she like? I know she owned a lot of land here, basically started the town.

Yes, she owned a lot of land. I don't remember seeing her much. But I know J.P. Miller he was in the bank. You know the bank went broke. They always blamed J.P. Miller for that.

Oh, yes. Were you effected much when that happened? Did you have your money in the bank?

I guess Grandpa Barrowman did. I wasn't married then at that time. I was at the store. But, ah. . .I guess they lost every bit. One of the directors of the bank or whatever it is, I guess he lost a lot.

Do you remember the swimming pool?

(laughter) ((??)). . . we never used it. (laughter) You know, to this day, I think how selfish can people get. You know they had it all ready, it was ready but they had a quarrel over it, they didn't want Mexicans in it or something. And how foolish. I don't know what difference it would make. They go now to all our. . . what difference would it make? I don't understand people, I just don't. I

remember about that, now. Kinda bring it up. I remember about the swimming pool. Never did use it because it had the quarrel over what to use it. . .

Did you ever go anywhere on vacation? Did you visit people?

Very seldom. Never, Bill, he never. . . I always told him, I said, . . . he had a sister that lived in California, Nellie, the oldest sister, she's gone now, too; Just all of the Barrowman family is gone, Bill was the last one. I always told him, I. . . now Grandpa Barrowman was gone all the time; he was always on the go. Grandma Barrowman always stayed home. She never wanted to go. I said I'll bet you know if you went to California the farm wouldn't be here by the time you got back. (laughter). It would leave. So, I never could get him to go. I'd always want him to go and see his sister, Nellie. But we did that when we were retired. But we didn't go.

A farm is a lot of work, too.

A lot of work for just the one. See, he did it all himself. All himself. After he got the combine and he'd have to hire help. Maybe one to help do something and another fella. . . a couple, one to haul grain to the grainery and to get it in to the truck. Otherwise, he did it all himself. And then during the. . . was always out, never was in much, always out. In the winter he spent most of his time getting the machinery ready for the coming spring. Get it all ready, you see. And he always took care of his machinery. Brought in the combine and he'd take off all the belts and lift it up on a jack, And of course, when it came time to use it he'd have to get all that back on and he always kept it in working order. To be ready for when he wanted it.

Did he ever hunt?

No, he never did, no.

So your daughter also went to school in Lafayette?

Yes. She went to. . . she went to the old building, too before this one, the one that's on this side. She graduated from high school. And Bill's sister, Nellie, graduated from that old building in 1902.

Oh, really?

She graduated. I think I've got the picture, he got the picture of the. . . five graduate when she did. There was four women and one man. Ah, Tom Nell I think was the man. And Edith Smith, she had the drugstore at that time, Edith Smith and one of the Schole's girls the oldest Scholes girl, . . . I wrote it on the back of the picture. But Tom Nell was the. . . five graduated from the tenth grade at that time, in 1902. They have the picture, I sent it up there.

Yea, they might have.

The Historical Society, I sent it up there. I think. . . what's her name come down and got it. . . Rodewick, yea, Mrs. Rodewick, she came down and got it.

Ah, I'm trying to think of something else here to ask. . . Well, let me ask you this. Was there any event that stands out in your mind?

Any what? . . .

Anything at all that stands. . . what stands out in your mind? When you think back, what comes to mind most often? The strike or. . .

That was. . .yes that, ah huh. And then when they robbed the bank up here. That time they robbed the bank.

Oh, tell me about the bank robbery.

I don't remember much about it, only they robbed it. I don't know. . you hear different things. And I know they said that Dr. Raymond was right above up there and he could have seen it. Course and done something about it. He was across there, but I don't know where he was. They got away with it.

What year? Do you know what year?

What?

What year that would have been. What date?

I don't remember that. I don't remember when that was. Someone up there will have an idea at the bank. They'd know it. And I know they said he was up there. . . guess he was in the bank at that time. Jay Miller.

What happened when the bank went broke? Did the bank close down?

Yes, they closed the doors.

So you didn't have any bank at all, then?

No. After awhile. Let's see. . .what was that. . .I can remember when it went broke. . .I think I had a Christmas club in there, used to sit, you know. . . ((unintelligible here)) didn't miss much at the store. I think that was the thing, fifty dollars a month, I got working at the store all that time. That was good wages then, cause everything was down. Oh, goodness, I just can't realize the prices now and what it was then. I just can't see everytime I go to buy I think my goodness, I used to get that for a dime. We did. . .and ah, I'd make dresses and the material in the dresses don't come up near to what they did in that time. \$2.98 I think was the most expensive dress we had at the store. Little girl. The prettiest little dresses. \$2.98. Why, those for fifteen dollars don't compare with the material.

The quality you mean?

Yes, the quality. Yes, I don't like that old stuff. It's cold in the winter and hot in the summer. I don't like it at all, even the feel of it.

So, you made all your own dresses?

No. I don't sew.

You didn't. . .you bought them?

I bought them.

They were ready made.

There were at that time. So, . . .that's all, I guess. It was a quiet little town at that time. We never heard of such robberies and all the things going on now. If we did, it was oh my, something you never heard of. Never thought of locking our doors. Never locked our doors when we went out anywhere. Things were quiet, it was a nice little town. Hoping it will get back to the way it used to.

People always. . . seemed like they always got along. I was never bothered by anybody.

Do you remember? I've seen pictures of a blizzard.

Oh, yea. (laughter)

There it is. ((showing picture that was printed in paper))

I found that. 1913.

So what do you remember. . .

Here's your Vermont and Vanderberg store. Here was that store, that man was up in there . . . Dr. Raymond had his office. He was a dentist.

That snow's up to their chests.

Yes. . . I'm trying to see if I know those men. I don't know them. I can't see them well. But, there it was that big snowstorm. We were down on the creek then. I was down on there at that time, 1913. I was down. . . early, Johnson's store there. He had his store there.

Did the snow keep people from coming in? Were they pretty stuck at home like we are today?

Oh, yes. When Ernest. . . Ernest Johnson he had just a spring wagon and a white horse. And during that big snow, he pulled Fanny up to the. . . clear across the pasture and went up the railroad tracks, to the mill to bring down flour and cornmeal, things like that from the mill. I guess the mill sold out all the flour. And we sold out everything we had there, because the men from the Standard Mine they shoveled their way through. And finally the men up that way came so far this way till they got the road open that way; oh, the snow. That was a time. Sure was the biggest time at the store. And the night of the storm, the night it began, Ernest Johnson was up at the Blue Ribbon Mine delivering some groceries. And it even got so bad finally he turned around, tried to get around but he couldn't. So he had to unhitch old Fanny and got on her back and come the rest. . . to the store. You know, on her back. She got him home. And you know, later on, after it had all melted, where he tried turning around he almost missed going into a gully. But old Fanny, she got him right around that. So many places they got stuck, bad places like that, men were out delivering and got stuck. Rocky Mountain Store, they had two horses, they had a bigger wagon. They were out.

So, it was common to take the horse and the wagon and deliver to the outlying areas.

Yes, ah huh. And I know the Rocky Mountain Store used to way out to the Columbine. George Moon. George Moon was the one that used to have that wagon. Used to run that wagon.

George Moon.

Is he related to Bill Moon?

Yes.

His brother?

Yes. George Moon.

I've also heard about a flood.

Yes. the flood. That was something, oof.

Really? What was that?

I was down at the store at that time. It must have been. . .1915 or 1916, along in there somewhere. Cause I was down at the. . .no, it was after that. . .1920. It must have been in 1920 or 1921. Because I was up here. I was living at my sisters. I know Mildred and Jenny were still down at the store and they come up they got the marks on the piano where it come up right up half way to the piano.

Really? It came all the way in the house?

Yes. Oh yes there was houses. . .a couple of them going down the. . .the creek. We never thought the creek would get that high. It sure got out, washed out bridges, and, oh. And those houses, there were two of them; and clothes hanging up in there, chickens and things going. . .it was just. . .ooh. That was something.

Was there a lot of rain?

Yes, rain.

Was it Spring run-off?

Rain.

Was it in the spring?

The spring, rainy June. It was in June. We had those awful rains. I was at the store when that flood. . .

Was anybody hurt in the flood?

I don't remember. I don't think anybody lost their life in there.

That's lucky with a flood like that!

That's lucky. I don't remember. There might have been, I don't remember. anyone that lost their life. I remember one of the houses that went down the people lost their piano, they had just bought a new piano. I think it was the Mastriani family that lost their piano. Went down the creek.

Let me bring us to the future and ask you what do you think of Lafayette today?

I don't know, I don't see anything wrong with Lafayette. I've always liked the little town. Have always lived here. I don't see anything wrong with Lafayette myself.

Do you like how it's growing and. . .

Oh, yes. Has to grow, you know. I don't see anything wrong with it myself. I like to live in Lafayette.

Your brother and sister, they didnt stay in Lafayette ,then? Or did they stay?

My brother, oh yes. My brother lives right up there. And he's lived here all his life.

Did he work in the mines?

Well, not all his life. He was about four years old when we came here. But no Gladys Snyder is her name, my sister is Gladys. And my sister, she moved to Arvada, lives in Arvada. But she lived in Lafayette a long time and they sold their place. But Maxine ((can't get last name)) lives in the house now that they lived in a long time. They moved to Arvada. Later on they bought a home in Broomfield. Then her husband passed away in 1959. And until four or five years ago she moved to Lafayette again. And then she got to where she wasn't well, couldn't take care of herself. So she's in the Aspen Care Center in Westminster now they call it. Aspen Care Center. She's there doing pretty good.

Was your brother a miner?

Yes, well, no. He worked in the mines for awhile. Then he was working out at Dow Chemical. Is it Dow Chemical they call it now. . Rocky Flats. Rockwell. He worked there until he retired.

Do you know what your dad. . . what did he do in the mine?

Just digging coal.

Just digging coal?

Just digging coal, ah huh.

Then, course the last. . .

END OF SIDE TWO