

**240 Years of Ranching:
Historical Research, Field Surveys,
Oral Interviews, Significance Criteria, and
Management Recommendations for Ranching
Districts and Sites in the San Diego Region**

**Attachment I
San Diego County Ranching Interviews
Conducted and Prepared by
Heather Thomson and Sue Wade**

Colorado Desert District Ranching Interviews

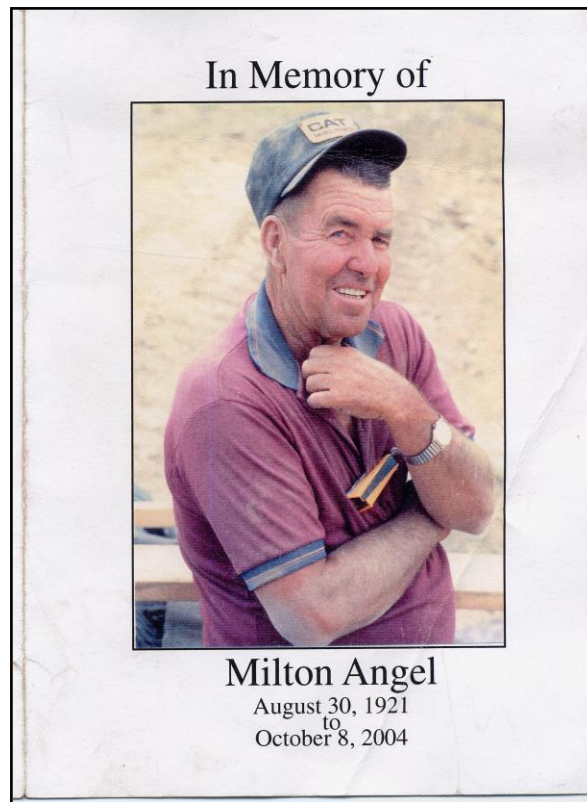
- ▶ Interview with Milton Angel by Heather Thomson - July 30, 2001
- ▶ Interview with Roy Athey by Heather Thomson - June 01, 2001
- ▶ Interview with Roy Birdsell by Heather Thomson and Chris Wray - June 06, 2001
- ▶ Interview with Mike Martin by Heather Thomson - August 26, 2001
- ▶ Interview with Albert Cary by Heather Thomson - 2006
- ▶ Interview with Eddie Guacheno by Heather Thomson and Steve Van Wormer - May 18, 2004
- ▶ Interview with Cynthia Kunkel by Heather Thomson - June 09, 2001
- ▶ Interview with Craig Jasper by Heather Thomson - June 09, 2001
- ▶ Interview with Kemp, Leach, Johnson by Heather Thomson and Sue Wade
- ▶ Interview with Jim Kemp at the Campbell Ranch by Heather Thomson and Sue Wade - March 18, 2004
- ▶ Interview with Steve Luckman by Heather Thomson - March 22, 2003
- ▶ Interview with Boots Paroli by Heather Thomson and Sue Wade - April 21, 2003
- ▶ Interview with Mildred Paroli by Heather Thomson April 12, 2001
- ▶ Interview with Charles and Ruth Sawday by Heather Thomson and Chris Wray - June 06, 2001
- ▶ Interview with Charles Sawday at Warner's Ranch by Heather Thomson and others - February 20, 2003
- ▶ Interview with Bill Tulloch at Cuyamaca by Heather Thomson and Sue Wade - December 18, 2002
- ▶ Interview with Willy Tellam by Heather Thomson - June 04, 2001
- ▶ Interview with Jack & Daisy Graves by Heather Thomson - August 10, 2001
- ▶ Interview with Mabel McCain by Heather Thomson - June 15, 2001
- ▶ Interview with Alora Benton by Larry Freeman (SDHS) - July 07, 1962
- ▶ Interview with Chalma Bailey by Edgar Hastings (SDHS) - September 10, 1958
- ▶ Interview with Mr. and Mrs. Vermal Clark by William Seidel (CSP) - April 12, 1973
- ▶ Interview with William Eugene Flinn by Edgar Hastings (SDHS) - August 28, 1957
- ▶ Interview with Ben McManama by Priscilla Lyons (CSP) August 03, 1994
- ▶ Interview with Charlie Ponchetti by William Seidel (CSP) - December 20, 1973
- ▶ Interview with Lester Reed by Phil Brigandi - February 13 and July 27, 1983

ANGEL

Milton and Bea Angel

Coming overland from Missouri, James Newton Angel and his family arrived in California in 1880. They settled in Mesa Grande, taking up a homestead which they proved up in 1885. The Angels raised a family of eleven children, with eight sons, all over 6' tall. Several of the Angel brothers went into the cattle business and by the early 1900's were driving their cattle to winter pasture in Borrego Valley by way of Hellhole Canyon. They established a cattle camp somewhere in the vicinity of the current Palm Canyon Campground.

Milton Angel (08/30/21-10/08/04) was a grading contractor and made his living running heavy equipment. He and his wife Bea (07/14/21- 07/25/2006) owned 1000 acres in Mesa Grande where he ran a herd of about 80 head of beef cattle.



Kinship of Milton J. Angel

Name	Birth date	Relationship with Milton Angel
Angel, Jack	Father	
Angel, Colonel Hector	June 7, 1871	Half uncle
Angel, Daniel		Half 1st cousin once removed
Angel, Henrietta	1909	Half 1st cousin
Angel, Henry Newton	November 24, 1889	Half uncle
Angel, James		Half 1st cousin once removed
Angel, James Newton	February 2, 1841	Grandfather
Angel, Jane		Half 1st cousin once removed
Angel, Jesse Roy	December 17, 1894	Half uncle
Angel, John		Granduncle
Angel, Judith Gale	October 19, 1947	Daughter
Angel, Kathleen		Half 1st cousin once removed
Angel, Kenneth H	March 1, 1917	Half 1st cousin
Angel, Lester Amadon	June 26, 1892	Half uncle
Angel, Milton Gary	November 12, 1939	Son
Angel, Milton J.	August 30, 1921	Self
Angel, Phillip G.	January 14, 1887	Half uncle
Angel, Rodney Raymond	February 20, 1943	Son
Angel, Vance	September 28, 1873	Half uncle
Angel, Verde	September 10, 1875	Half uncle
Angel, Woodson		Great-grandfather
Carr, Cynthia		Wife of half 1st cousin
Dodge, Dorothy Bea	July 14, 1921	Wife
Dunham, Larry		Son-in-law
Feigel, Norman		Husband half 1st cousin
Haun, Henrietta	1852	Wife of the grandfather
Jr., Vance Angel	August 21, 1912	Half 1st cousin
Marcy, Evelyn		Wife of the half 1st cousin
Miller, Trudy	November 24, 1943	Daughter-in-law
Parks, Della		Wife of the half uncle
Reid, Grace		Wife of the half uncle
Striek, Nellie	September 9, 1890	Wife of the half uncle

Milton and Bea Angel
Interview
with Heather Thomson

The interview was conducted in Mesa Grande at the home of Milton and Bea Angel.

Heather: I didn't research the Angel's too much, there are so many of you. If you could tell me a little bit about how your family history went. Who your Dad was, his Dad, etc. .

Milt: Tell you a little bit about that?

Heather: Yes.

Milt: My Grandfather was the first one over the Donner Pass after the Donner Party.

Heather: His name was.....?

Milt: James Newton.

Heather: Okay, he was the very first of the Angels to come here?

Milt: Of the Angels yeah. He was the first one. Didn't Kathy give you this information?

Heather: I didn't talk to her yet.

Milt: He settled up there at the home place. Had nine boys and two girls.

Heather: Big tall guys right?

Milt: Yeah, they all were big men. Most of them lived to be 94 years old. My Dad lived to be 88. He didn't make 94 but he made 88. I think one other one died a little younger than that from cement dust.

Heather: Really?

Milt: Cancer from cement dust.

Heather: How did he get cancer from cement dust?

Milt: Well, back when things were a little different, you'd open a sack of cement and you'd dump it. I mean, you didn't do like you do nowadays. It's all enclosed.

Heather: What did he do for a living? Was he around cement all the time?

Milt: No, just one time. He was more of a cowboy than anything. He had a ranch up here. He ran about 150 head of cow. He used to call us kids in when we were all young. I was about fourteen years old. I got along good with him. He was my drinking uncle.

Heather: You don't drink do ya'?

Milt: Oh I have a drink on Friday night. One on a Saturday night. Anyway, he had land right over in Gopher Canyon. He'd say, "Come on boys. We're gonna go round 'em up." We'd bring them up here to the Rey River Ranch which is just past Lake Henshaw. He owned that ranch in there. My cousin and I rode from here one day from here to Gopher Canyon. In one day. Left here at 4:30 in the morning. Anyway, we'd bring them right up the county road. Probably leading 6 to 8 cars through the herd, about 150 head. I'd like to do it nowadays, I'd love to put 150 head in the middle of the road and see what the people would do.

Heather: They would be getting very angry.

Milt: It would take us 2 days from Gopher Canyon to get back up here. In Gopher Canyon we'd get up early. We didn't have trucks to haul them cattle with.

Heather: My Mom said I was born 100 years too late.

Milt: You got it, me too. I wish I could have lived when they were young boys. Anyway, we would go down there and gather the cattle, get them in a big bunch. When nightfall came, we'd start riding around them like that and pretty soon the cattle would settle down and lay down. Then you get off and lean up against the tree and get a little shut eye. The next morning at daylight you better have them moving.

Heather: How does going around in circles.....

Milt: It settles them down. Just like a corral, artificial. Circling. You had some times that they tried to get away. If something spooked them at night, boy you had a problem.

Heather: Your Mother would ride?

Milt: Well, my Mother was the cook. It had to be in 1929 because my Uncle had a brand new Model A truck. They would take them all the way there. They had scales there and they had a slaughter house there.

Heather: Your Mom rode with them.

Milt: She would go along in the truck and she would know where to stop and she would cook dinner for us.

Heather: Did any girls ever go?

Milt: No, hell no. Girls were for being in the house. They didn't let any girls ride along like that in those days.

Heather: Mrs. Kunkle was telling me that she went on a drive once.

Milt: It's possible some did. There was a few women just did that kind of thing, but as a general rule, women would never do anything like that.

Heather: So your Dad had cattle. Did you ever have cattle?

Milt: I've got 80 head. I've got 80 head of cows. See, I own 1000 acres.

Heather: All right here?

Milt: No, there's only 7 acres right here. It all belongs to my kids now.

Heather: Do any of them live on it?

Milt: My daughter. She lives right over here where I was raised. On 160 acres over there.

Heather: Where is that?

Milt: Just down the road a little ways. Just past where Norman Feigle lives.

Heather: On the left? That cute little house?

Milt: No, no. That's on the right hand side. You turn in the left hand gate just past Normans.

Heather: That Bloomdale Ranch Road?

Milt: It's got a painted gate. It's painted chrome.

Heather: Hmm.

Milt: Painted silver put it that way. You go in there about a mile

Heather: How many kids do you have?

Milt: Two. Three. I had three, I lost a boy. Ron lives on Old Julian. Littlepage.

Heather: A lot of building going on in there or something.

Milt: Is there?

Heather: Yeah, I've been noticing.

Milt: That ranch there bought that Swycaffer property from Jeff Swycaffer. This is an old, old ranch.

Heather: EA bought it?

Milt: No, that horse guy there.

Heather: Golden Eagle?

Milt: That one there going on Old Julian highway.

Heather: Yeah, Ernie Auerbach?

Milt: Not Auerbach. This one is right on Old Julian Highway, not Littlepage. Right on Old Julian. Right across from where they are doing all that cancer testing.

Heather: Oh yeah, okay. Where they have all the little cottages and all? High dollar.

Milt: High dollar I guess. I guess they bought all that where the chicken ranch was.

Heather: Really, that's why they are tearing all of that out of there. I'll be danged. So you have 80 head, what do you do with them? Grow them up and sell them or.....?

Milt: You're gonna have to get in the country girl.

Heather: Well, come on, you might have milk cows, who knows?

Milt: I raise them up to 500 or 600 pounds and then when the little ones get old they go to market too. You go to McDonalds and get a hamburger or you go home and get a big steak. I've had people come out from Sears and Roebuck for the appliances and they ask what I do. I tell them that I raise cows. Before I had the construction spread. I had the bulldozers. I come aboard a bulldozer right after they first came out. About 4 years after they were made. Run one for 60 years. Still got 2 left.

Heather: There's something about a machine that can move that much dirt, you know?

Milt: It's something else when you turn around and see what man did by hand before. With a shovel and a wheelbarrow. This is the reason why, when the war hit, we had a bunch of tough men. Now we got a bunch of wimps. That's exactly what we got. Those boys, when Roosevelt went in office were standing on the corners hungry. He told them, "I'll give you a dollar a day, a half hours military training. And we're going to build roads all over this Forest Service land." That's how these roads were built. Built by Conservation Corp boys at a buck a day, room and board and a half an hour's military training every day. When Japan jumped on us, those men knew what it was to starve; they knew what it was to be cold. When they went over there Japan just jumped on the wrong boys.

Heather: You're right about that, people are soft.

Milt: They make things a little easier all the time and all it does is make us soft and easy. If we got jumped on right now, if it wasn't for technology, we'd be trouble.

Milt: It was 1962 before we had electricity out here.

Heather: What would you do now if you lost everything?

Milt: Hell, Mom and I could go right in here and settle down. That's how we were raised by.

Heather: You probably could huh?

Milt: Sure.

Heather: Could your kids though?

Milt: My kids? Sure.

Heather: Grandkids?

Milt: Grandkids? No. There are a lot of things that I should have passed on to my kids. I didn't do it. Like my Dad cured all the meat. When I was raised, there was no such thing as an ice-box. The only thing they had then, was they had an ice box and if you didn't have ice you were out of luck. So they learned how to smoke their meat, make sausage and put it down in a big granite crock like that. Dad had 5 pigs in the corral every winter. He'd say, I'm gonna get home early tonight, we're gonna kill a pig. I think about it now and the meat was just unreal. He'd take it and cut that pig up hang it out and start that fire underneath it, put salt on it, salt draws the water out.

Heather: You're making me hungry.

Milt: Pretty soon you'd have wonderful hams and Mom would take that other stuff and they'd grind it up in an old hand grinder like that, and make little patties out of it, put it down in this crock. See, in those days they scraped a pig, they didn't skin it. Got hot water and scalded him. Then you could pull the hair out.

Heather: Like doing a chicken?

Milt: Well, now sort of. Then they had a lot of hide left, they called *Cracklings*, like you get down at the store.

Heather: Pork rinds?

Milt: Yeah, pork rinds. Then they took the fat and rendered it on the old wood stove, now this was all done by wood. They would render that fat and they would pour it all over the top of those sausages. Store it away, come January, have sausage for breakfast. This ranch up here where the home folks were, where Grandpa Angel settled, you could go out ion that barnyard and you could eat anything you wanted to. He had big roosters there, fryers, you had your eggs there, you had your pigs there, you had your turkey there for Christmas and Thanksgiving, everything was right there.

Heather: Do you guys have a lot of turkeys around here now?

Milt: Yeah, we have lots of them.

Heather: Do you ever have turkey for dinner?

Milt: No, I've never shot one of them.

Heather: Why not?

Milt: Because I wanted them to get introduced.

Heather: They have been introduced, they are everywhere. From one end to the other.

Milt: Yeah, I like to see them. We've almost exterminated our deer herd and the state turns around and lets a hunter kill two bucks when he ain't got no business even killing a half of a one. I've hunted for years and I'm sure you've seen all these horns around. I haven't shot a deer in 10 years.

Heather: I haven't seen any around my place for a while.

Milt: You haven't?

Heather: No and they used to be all over.

Milt: They could be going up there to them lawns on those golf courses.

Heather: I was reading about where they used to run their cattle down to the desert via Hellhole. Did you ever hear any stories about that?

Milt: No, well, the family did it but I never heard much about it. That's a little bit before me. I probably was here, but I was too young to remember. Oh yeah they did but you're talking about before Jasper and them over there. They were the ones who ran that part of the country. Them and Charlie Ponchetti. Then the State Park stopped them.

Heather: I was talking to a friend of mine the other day about the cattle and fire. They used to keep it down.

Milt: Absolutely, it will catch on fire one day and they will lose the whole thing. You know, I think I told you before, for the sake of two bulldozer blades that you will see for about three years look at the trees they lost in Yellowstone up there! Six and seven hundred year old trees and might be even older. They will never come back in six generations just for the sake of a bulldozer pass. I went down here to get a fire permit at Mt. Woodson. I know the boys, I fought fire for years with a dozer. I had a standing contract with the State from about 1958 till 1980. I had my big truck and I had a dozer. Anyway I went down to get my burn permit and I went in the office I said, "I got my dozer up next to where I'll be burning." And he said, "Well, we don't approve of dozers much anymore." And I said, "Look at Yellowstone."

Heather: What did he have to say about that?

Milt: He shut up and then said, "Well, I don't think that will happen again." I've been on some fires right here on the Los Coyotes reservation. Just above Ranchita. When you come to that state line they are standing right there in front of you. Let it burn.

Heather: Well, I don't agree with that, all the dead stuff lying out there.

Milt: Sure and it isn't only that, you get a better re-growth of new stuff. You get new flowers in it and the whole shot. Actually, what I see for the State Parks is more for the rangers than anything.

Heather: Well, you can look at it like if State Parks didn't have it and wasn't preserving, then it would be houses. There are a lot of people who can't stand State Parks and I never realized that until I started working for them. There are a lot of people in there that think differently than they did just a few years ago.

Milt: How many hundred thousand acres do they own and on a Saturday on Sunday we've got a race-track here. Why can't there be a little bit of that State Park out there, make it as crooked as this road here is and let them get out there where they can't hurt anybody. Hey, we had a real nice community here, until those motorcycles come in. Saturday and Sunday it's unreal.

Heather: The fast ones or the ones going down to the place down the road?

Milt: The fast ones and the Highway sitting down at the café down there.

Heather: I saw a guy die on one of those not too long ago. They are far too fast.

Milt: We've got two or three cross' here on the road where they put a cross where someone was killed.

Heather: They are far too fast, that's too much power.

Milt: Sure they are too fast. I talked to a friend up here that's an ex- Hell's Angel, a good person. One of the finest guys I've ever known. Nothing wrong with him as far as I'm concerned.

Heather: They get a bad rap from bad things. You never hear any of the good things they do.

Milt: He says, "Milt, this Mesa Grande Road is the best road I've ever been on." That's why we've got so many of them around here.

Heather: Well, they go down to that place down there.

Milt: Yeah, at the bottom of the hill. They have a hell of a party there. They got a bunch of girls now and they have a hell of a time.

Heather: Do they have to import them?

Milt: I think they imported a few of them yeah. A picture a friend of mine had, there was quite a few imports.

Angels' ranch scene of Civil War skirmish

Times-Advocate 8 Jan 1978

By ELOISE PERKINS
T-A Staff Writer

Kenneth Angel and his wife, Evelyn, live on the Mesa Grande ranch where his grandfather, James Newton Angel, settled in 1880.

It is the ranch once owned by John Minter and, back in the days of the Civil War, was notorious as the place where men of the United States Army captured a band of Confederate sympathizers. It was a bloodless skirmish and the only action involving Union troops in California.

More than 15,000 volunteers to the Union Army for fighting in the East and Southeast came from California, but a steady flight of Southern sympathizers was going to Confederate territory during the same years.

One group of 19 of these ardent Southerners included Daniel Showalter, an assemblyman from Mariposa County, who was fleeing after killing Charles W. Piercy, his counterpart from San Bernardino.

The two men attended a luncheon May 21, 1861, at the home of the family for whom Fairfax in Marin County is named. It was the day after the closing of the state legislature, where they had held a hot political debate.

They represented opposing factions of the same political party — one following the ideas of Douglas and the other those of Breckinridge.

The antagonists decided to settle their differences in a duel with rifles. They gathered after luncheon with their seconds and a doctor.

The first round of shots left neither man wounded. Their host pleaded with them that honor was satisfied and attempted, without success, to pacify the hot-tempered pair. Piercy was killed

with the first shot of the second round.

Showalter was filled with remorse. He made his way down the state and joined up with the other Southern sympathizers south of Los Angeles. They planned to by-pass Union camps at Oak Grove and Fort Yuma and reach Texas, which had seceded from the Union on Feb. 1, 1861.

Letters from some of the group, mailed at Temecula, were intercepted and turned over to the Union commandant, Maj. Edwin A. Rigg, at Camp Wright.

After leaving Temecula, the party of Southerners went across the San Luis Rey River and into the mountainous

Sonora, Mexico; that their mission was peaceful.

Wellman already had read one of the intercepted letters, which said, in part, "We will have to cross the Colorado in Sonora to avoid Fort Yuma."

He arrested the party of 19 and took them to Camp Wright, where Rigg held them prisoners for a time. They later were released and Showalter, at least, reached Texas.

After the furor of the capture died down, Minter sold his ranch. It passed through several hands and James Gedney, who operated a store at Mesa Grande, sold the ranch to James Newton Angel.

The latter had moved to the mesa in February 1880, with his wife, Henrietta, and their five children. He began his holdings there with a 160-acre ranch purchased from Walter O'Brien.

Over the years, he added to the land until he owned 2,500 acres. The Angels raised thousands of cattle, nine boys and two girls there. A nearby peak bears the name of Angel Mountain in their honor.

Woodson Angel, the father of James Newton Angel, joined him at Mesa Grande. James' brother, John, also came to live with him. Neither of the newcomers lived for long, and their bodies were the first buried in the Angel Cemetery, located on a slight rise not far from the house where Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Angel live today.

James Newton Angel and his wife, Henrietta, also are buried in the cemetery. He died in 1934 at 94½ years of age.

"He didn't die of old age either," his grandson, Kenneth, recalls. "Grandpa was coming up the trail from the old granary, where he had gone to get corn cobs to start fires, when he fell on an icy

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Camp Wright located near trail used by Overland Mail

region of northern San Diego County, moving steadily to the southeast.

About the same time, on Nov. 23, 1861, Camp Wright was established in a wooded area at Oak Grove. It was located at the side of the Southern Emigrant Trail, used by the Butterfield Overland Mail and its stages before it had been discontinued earlier the same year.

Maj. Rigg ordered troops into action to stop Showalter and his companions. It was 2nd Lt. C.R. Wellman, First Cavalry, California Volunteers, who followed the Southern sympathizers from Temecula to Mesa Grande. There, early on the morning of Nov. 29, 1861, he found the 19 men encamped at the John Minter ranch.

He was told by the Confederate-minded men that their destination was

Continued from C-1
spot and broke his hip. He got blood poisoning, which was the cause of his death."

Henrietta Angel followed her husband in 1939.

Kenneth's father was Vance Angel Sr., son of James Newton Angel, and his mother was born Grace Reid, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Reid.

Mrs. Kenneth Angel is the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Marcy, pioneer residents of Wynola.

Kenneth recalls the days he hunted deer and sometimes quail on the Guejito Ranch, which is just a few miles west of the Angel ranch. Game was

plentiful in those days, but scarce now.

He pointed out two mines just outside the boundaries of his property.

"Both of those mines have been reopened recently," he said. "They were great producers of tourmaline and other semi-precious gem stones back in the early years of this century."

"Gene Rynerson, son of a noted prospector and gem cutter, has opened the San Diego Mine again. He works it mostly on weekends."

"Ralph Potter has sold shares in the Himalaya and the owners have workers in there now."

Besides their cattle raising,

some of his relatives worked in the mines in the old days.

Kenneth Angel is a carpenter and cabinetmaker. He commutes to the San Diego area most of the time.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Angel are parents of four children, James, who is married to Cynthia Carr, a native of Boston; Kathleen, who is Mrs. Norman Feigel and lives with her husband on the huge Feigel dairy in Santa Ysabel; Daniel Angel, whose wife's name is Carol; and Jane, who resides with her husband, Jerome Wasselewski, at the home of her uncle, Vance Angel Jr., just over a saddleback in the mountains from the home of her parents.

Obituary

Milton Angel

Milton Angel, 83, died Oct. 8, 2004, at his home in Santa Ysabel. Born Aug. 30, 1921, Milt graduated from Julian High School in 1939 and was an outstanding baseball player.

He married his wife of 65 years, Dorothy (Dot), and worked for H.G. Fenton in the San Pasqual Valley before starting his own grading business in Mesa Grande. He was the first to break ground on the golf course in SDCE and contracted with the CDF and fought many major forest fires with his dozers. Milt enjoyed hunting trips to Colorado with his family and friends. He loved the outdoors and owned a cattle ranch on "Angel Mountain" in Mesa Grande.

Milt is survived by his wife Dorothy of Mesa Grande; son Ron (Trudy) Angel of Ramona; daughter Judy (Larry) Dunham of Mesa Grande; four grandchildren, Andrea (Jamie) Tobiason of Ramona, Steve

Angel of Ramona, Greg (Michelle) Angel of Ramona and Gary (Beth) Dunham of Murrieta; seven great-grandchild-

d r e n ,
Brandy
and Tanya
Tobiason
o f
Ramona,
Miranda,
Tanne and
F a r a h
Angel of
Ramona,
a n d
Garrett
Milton Angel
and Amy
Dunham of Murrieta. Milt will also
be missed by his chocolate lab
Cody.



A memorial service will be held Oct. 24, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the home of Milt and Dot, 25443 Mesa Grande Road, Santa Ysabel.

Bonham Bros. & Stewart Mortuary assisted the family.

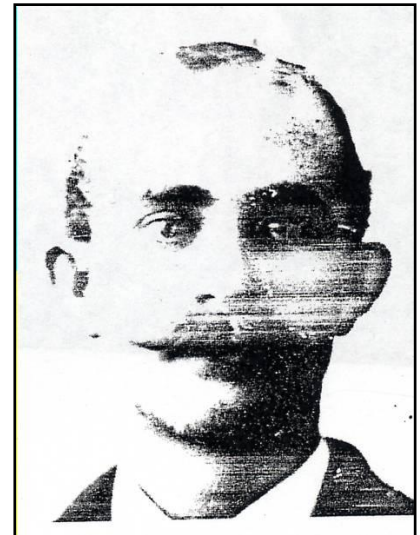
Athey

Roy Athey, a retired county employee, worked in Adult Detention for 33 years.

Roy's great-uncle was **Elias Henry Stone**. In 1874, Stone was a mail rider, riding between San Diego and Julian. In the mid-1870's, at the age of seventeen, Stone was the youngest driver ever employed to run the **Black Diamond** coach from San Diego to Campo .



Mr. Athey's great-grandfather was **Frederick Josiphus Rickey** (1869-1954). Rickey came to San Diego the year of his birth. A blacksmith by trade, Rickey also worked for the **Stonewall Mine** as a freight wagon driver, In the power house for San Diego's short-lived cable railway, farmed potatoes on North Island, tried for a time to make a living in the Imperial Valley, and ran a number of different dairies. Including one on the southeast corner of Richmond and Robinson, another operation in Otay, and at least two others in the Mission Valley area. He married **Natalia (Nettie) Stone** in 1896, retired in 1936 and died in 1954.



Roy Athey Interview
with Heather Thomson

Heather: What was the name of your grandfather?

Roy: Fredrick Josephus Rickey.

Heather: Josephus? Now that's a name I have never heard before. That's the one that used to drive the stage?)

Roy: There you go, you can read it. (*A family history Roy has compiled*)

Heather: Hmm. They farmed potatoes on North Island?. Amador County. Where is Amador County?

Roy: That's up in the gold country. His Father and Grandfather, I think came across the Isthmus of Panama, if I am not mistaken. Worked in the mines, then went back, and brought their families out to Ione. My great-great-great-grandfather owned the town-site. Then in 1860 when Lincoln signed some legislation which caused a lot of the land to go back to the Spaniards and Mexicans, he lost everything. The house, a church that he dedicated the property for, everything. His Grandfather had the first steam powered gristmill, west of the Mississippi. We have been there. We have been to the house that they lived in and everything. Not in it because somebody else lives in it.

Heather: This is your Grandfather right? He moved everything to the valley? Imperial Valley? Why did he lose everything?

Roy: He paid too much for the land. This was before the All American Canal was built and everything. My surviving Aunt tells the story that Grandpa wanted to go and Grandma didn't. She felt that they were better off to stay here with their dairies. She said it was the only time she remembers her Mother crying. She made Grandpa sign over the house on Richmond and Robinson, and put it in her name before they left.

Heather: Smart woman.

Roy: So, when they went down there and they went bust, they had some place to go back to.

Heather: Who in their right mind would go from San Diego to Imperial Valley?

Roy: Well, he thought it was a good place to go dairy. But it wasn't. They had irrigation but not like, they know it today. My folks went with them and they stayed on after the Grandparents left. I don't know where Dad worked. But I know they lived in town. Oh dear. I used to know the name of it. The big apartment building. The only thing I can remember about it is Mom saying something about the building next door caught on fire and she remembered the fire hoses got away from the firemen. They beat against the building, that alerted them, and they got out. Although their building didn't burn, the building next to them did. When that was, I don't know exactly,

There's the story about the gold brick. He also worked for the cable railway in San Diego. In 1896, I've been telling people 93, but he was married in 96. Okay. Olive might have been with

them when they went, see she was born in 1910 and they went in 1912. She's my Aunt. She's the only living one, but unfortunately, her mind is failing and I ask her about some of these things, and at one time she could tell me about some of them, but not now.

Heather: Does she remember the day to day stuff?

Roy: Fairly well

Heather: You were telling me that he hurt his back after he was married. Breaking your back just by falling over backwards? You'd have to hit just right.

Roy: Just right, I'm sure. I don't have much about the Stone's. Not written out in that fashion. Sorry.

Heather: That's okay. I'm getting ready to just read this into the tape recorder instead of writing it out.

Roy: If I had thought, we could make copies of that. I can go make them now if you'd like.

Heather: I was just going to say, I could run down to the copy shop if there is a place nearby.

Roy: I can just take it down to the church office and copy it.

Heather: That would be great. So, what can you tell me about...what stories have you heard? Mainly about Cuyamaca.

Roy: Yeah, Cuyamaca. Of course the mine story. There is nothing in there about the trip that they made. As I recall, it was in 1912. Once again, I thought after you were here. I've got to get hold of Joe and see if he can get a copy of those pictures down here. Olive must have been with them. If she were born in 1910, she would have been 2 years old.

For some reason, grandpa decided they needed a vacation. So he just put the whole family in the buckboard and two horses as far as I know, and off they went camping. As I say, they came up through Flynn Springs, because there were relatives there. There were some relatives at Descanso too. I can remember Mom taking me off right where the Japatul Valley Road goes off there at 78. Right there at Cuyamaca. Then you know there is a drive that goes off at the foot of the embankment. On the north side of the road there. Well, back up there someplace is a family plot. A cemetery. I'm not sure who is buried there. But I can remember going up there with Mom to look at headstones. Somebody in the family. It was my understanding that was who they stopped to see in Descanso. They went through the Cuyamacas. Nothing in particular was said about it except Mom remembered going through the Cuyamacas and going past Green Valley Falls. Now, what kind of a road there was and so on...I have absolutely no idea. I'm not sure how the road came down from the mine either. I'm not sure if it came this way and down or how it went. Somehow they got through the Cuyamacas. Came down through Santa Ysabel and up through Mesa Grande and visited the Angels, who were some kind of shirt-tail relation.

Heather: You don't know how they fit in? I haven't been up there yet to talk to them. But I've been running across that name everywhere I go.

Roy: No. I think, but I could be totally wrong, that an Angel married a Stone. I could be wrong about that.

Heather: That's entirely possible though because that's not too big a distance.

Roy: No. Then from there they went to Palomar and told about Nigger Nate tying the log on. That was it. That's all I remember. There were some instances I don't remember, other than getting in the poison oak.

Heather: Would you mind telling me the story about the gold?

Roy: Yeah. It's basically here, (*In paper he has compiled*) but I'll tell it. I've said in here, and I wrote this, that he worked for the Stonewall mine. The more I think about it, he probably did not. He probably worked for one of the freighters. Is this going now? Oh, it is. As he told the story, from time to time, he would be called upon to take the bullion to San Diego. But he never knew when it would occur. He told the story of putting the gold bricks into boots that he kept under the jockey box. On this particular trip, when he got to San Diego, he discovered that the boots had tipped over and the gold bricks were gone. But he had a pretty good idea what had occurred and when it occurred because there was a stream that he had had to cross. So, he got a horse and rode back up towards the mine, and when he got to the stream where he thought that they had probably fallen out there, they were there sure enough. I always kind of wondered about that story until I was preparing this work here and that's when I ran across this book that you had said you had read, about the story that the mine owner had some concerns about using Wells Fargo guards, because he thought that tipped off people that they were shipping the ore. He had a habit of calling in the freight drivers and just saying "*Okay, here, take it. It's your turn.*" That I thought lent credence to what he had told me and that was probably what had indeed occurred.

Roy: This is a display that I made for the reunion. That's a picture of the mine.

Heather: I wonder where it all went? All the houses, the whole city.

Roy: I don't know. You know you really wonder and you think, "Gee, it's a shame that it's not there. " I mean what a fantastic story it would be to see all of that.

Heather: They have one of the little houses, I don't know if it is original or a reproduction or.....

Roy: And there is a chunk of wire rope there off of the hoist.

Roy: I have been told, and I don't know how true it is. I've not read a lot about the mine but I guess one of the problems was with water. Finally they could just not pump it fast enough to keep it out so that they could mine. And then a part of the head frame after all of the buildings were gone and everything was shoved down the shaft. So, who knows what's down there and what was saved. That's lower Otay after the 1916 flood. (*showing a picture*) This was the powerhouse to the cable railway. That's where the cable car ran in San Diego.

Heather: So, it's in your blood? You come by this naturally. (*Mr. Athey has a small, narrow-gauge railroad that he runs on his property*)

Roy: Yeah, sort of.

Heather: That's neat, San Isadora huh?

Roy: I didn't use this, but this is what the streetcar line looked like.

Look at the 1916 car.

Heather: They never fixed it back? (The line after it was damaged)

Roy: Yeah, the Arizona & _____ that's part of their right of way I think.

Heather: Interesting. You know, you think trains, and you think San Diego, and you think up and down the coast period. That's all you ever see. Now is there one that runs out this way?

Roy: Well, there's the San Diego and Arizona eastern, which runs from San Diego to San Ysidro then across the border into Mexico. Then ran from Tijuana to Tecate. It was called the Tijuana and Tecate, although it was part of the original line. It crosses back over between Tecate and Campo, and then continues over through Campo, Jacumba down through the Carrizo Gorge towards Ocotillo and on out to El Centro.

Heather: Not any more?

Roy: Oh yeah, the lines still there. It's broken in a couple of places. I think the two major breaks I think is tunnel #1, which is south of the border. They are opening that up again. The Carrizo Gorge railroad, you may have seen it in the papers, signed a 25 year lease with the Mexican , the Baja State Government to operate the line from Tijuana to Tecate. But the brewery, they have to ship all their malt and grain in by truck. As soon as the tunnel is open again, they'll start bringing it in by rail car. Like they did for years and years.

Heather: So, you're telling me that, that railroad still runs through the desert?

Roy: Yeah. The line is used with some regularity between Campo and Tecate by the railroad museum. They have these Ticket To Tecate rides. They take you down to Tecate and leave you off about noon. You have roughly three hours, give or take, to tour, walk around, find someplace to eat. About 3:00 the train brings you back to Campo. That's about thirty-five bucks.

Heather: That would be interesting. I've been on a big train once when I was a kid, but I don't remember it.

Roy: Then they have operating rights from Campo east to Miller Creek. That's their regular run. It's about seven miles. They have a passing track so they can turn the engine around and put it the other way and go back. We have, or I have traveled on the train from Campo to Jacumba. Where sometimes the Kiwanis Club or somebody puts on a barbeque. You go there and have a barbeque and then ride back. I also rode the train from Tijuana to Tecate. There were about four or five of us, and we all had bicycles. You had to cross the border at Tijuana and you went to the railroad station in Tijuana. You paid twelve and a half cents for the ticket.

Heather: When was this?

Roy: It was.....

Heather: A while ago?

Roy: It was in the 50's. We threw our bikes, when the train came the conductor said, "Okay, put your bicycles in that boxcar, ahead of the caboose, and you'll ride in the caboose with us." Then he said, "When we get to Tecate, before the train stops, you've got to get up in that boxcar or the

kids will have your bicycles.” So we rode, and then we got our bicycles at Tecate and crossed to the American side.

Heather: My Grandpa used to ride the rails. He jumped and rode to the World’s Fair up north somewhere.

Roy: San Francisco? There was one in Frisco. I was in hopes of getting a ride from the other end up to Carrizo Gorge. I hiked up with my older son and a friend, I don’t know how many years ago. From Dos Cabezas, which is, 5 miles west of Ocotillo. You know where Ocotillo is? There was a tank, a water tank. It was the last place they could get water. Before they started up the hill to Carrizo Gorge. As far as I know, there was no more water until they got to Jacumba. I could be wrong on that. So, Dos Cabezas was a tank. There’s a loading dock there. A concrete loading dock. When I was there, there was a little concrete telephone box. Six feet high with a conical top on it that they had a telephone locked up in. So they could phone the dispatcher and whatnot. Then we hiked up along Dos Cabezas along the railroad track, all the way to...you know everybody say’s the Carrizo Gorge Trestle, but there isn’t a Carrizo Gorge Trestle. It’s the Goat Creek Canyon Trestle. We hiked up there to look at the trestle. Last year they offered rides from Ocotillo to the tunnel just east of the trestle is caved in. It burned down and caved in. That’s the other place that the line is broken.

Heather: Didn’t Hurricane Kathleen wipe out a lot of the track?

Roy: Yeah, a lot of track and right of way down by Ocotillo, but that’s been all repaired.

Heather: I vaguely remember it being bent up or something.

Roy: Yeah, the right of way was gone. In fact it was suspended in mid air. That was all repaired before they closed the line. They got some insurance money, and Morrison-Knudson Construction Firm, big company out of Idaho or someplace came in and they spent every dime of it trying to open the tunnel up. But they couldn’t keep it from caving in on them. They never succeeded, so that’s where it sits.

Heather: There was nowhere to reroute it?

Roy: No, the Goat Creek Trestle, was actually not part of the original line. It’s very interesting, and I’m sort of an amateur student of geology, but when you approach Goat Creek from the east, you can look off across the trestle, and on the side of the mountain, you can see a fault line just plain as the nose on your face coming down the side of this mountain. Originally the railroad had come through a tunnel on the north side of that fault, or maybe the west side, I’m not quite sure which way we’re facing at that point. Why the engineers didn’t see it, I don’t know. They came out of the tunnel and went onto a short trestle. Not anything like the existing one. I mean, minimal, just a little trestle. Then came across and onto a ledge and came on through the tunnel that’s closed. That tunnel started to collapse apparently, and when I looked at it, when I was there, I would say that the tunnel portal was at least ten to twelve feet below the grade on the other side. It had slipped that much. So when that happened, rather than reborer through the tunnel, they realized they were in trouble, they went further on that side of the fault, and I don’t know why, they bored another tunnel and then built this humongous trestle. The Goat Creek Trestle, across. When we were there, we crossed the trestle and walked back up to where the line converged and we could come back down the right of way, and we went down into the tunnel. The tunnels were lined with old growth redwood. 12 x 12 timbers, clear, just beautiful redwood. We went back into the tunnel, it started to get dark and we could not see out of the other end

because it had collapsed. But those 12 x 12 timbers were bulging out from the sides. I told the boys "you know we've gone far enough, I don't really care to go any farther." Just the pressure, it's just a wonder.

Heather: I've wanted to go out there. That's one of the things I've wanted to do.

Roy: Yeah, I think it's interesting just because it's a railroad but also geologically. Apparently all of that countryside is extremely unstable. That's why they had to line it with these redwood timbers. As they bored it, it would continue to fall in if they didn't shore it up in some fashion. Those things would have lasted forever except somebody builds a fire in them or something, and they are old and dry.

Heather: That's horrible.

Roy: Yeah, once they catch on fire, then they collapse. To say nothing of the beautiful redwood that's lost. Its timber like you can't get nowadays.

Heather: I wonder where they got that from.

Roy: They got it from the Redwoods.

Heather: That's a long way to haul wood. Do you know when that was built? When they did that?

Roy: It was the only railroad that was built during World War I. In the United States. Spreckles finagled the material and the rail and what-not. So I'm not sure when they started. I think they started about 1916 or so. But I don't think they completed it until about 1918. Just at the end of the war actually. I have an interesting book. You can certainly look at sometime. It's called *Rails of the Silver Gate*. San Diego is the *Silver Gate*. San Francisco is the *Golden Gate*. It's the story of Spreckles and his building. The railroad, originally, was the San Diego and Cuyamaca Eastern. That built out the line that the trolley follows now. To El Cajon. Then in El Cajon, instead of going across to Santee, it went right across where Gillespie Field is. There is a Railroad Avenue in Santee at about the junction of Magnolia and Cuyamaca. Have you ever noticed a street there called Railroad Avenue?

Heather: I don't think so.

Roy: Well it's the first block west of Magnolia. Mission Gorge and Magnolia. It kind of goes off in an angle and that's where the railroad came out. I don't remember the year or anything, but I sort of recall there being some kind of a mill there. Like some sort of a feed mill and seeing boxcars sitting there. That would be before World War II. Because when they came in and put in Gillespie Field for the paratroopers and the paratrooper tower and everything, then they cut the railroad and that was the end of it. But then from that point it went over to Lakeside and then up the San Diego River to a place called Fosters. Which is about where the dam is now. The line was surveyed, and I've seen the survey maps, all the way to Ramona.

Heather: They couldn't do it.

Roy: Yeah, they ran out of money and then they had some floods and some other things and they never went ahead with it. The lake came later, much later. Because I remember when that was built. I remember the old Mussey Grade, for awhile you went through the dam.

Heather: Really?

Roy: They left it open, then as they got the other road built then they closed that off.

Heather: I would love to see a picture of that.

Roy: How that was to go beyond Ramona, I don't know. There were some preliminary surveys I'm sure. When Spreckles took over, they decided that was not the route to go.

Heather: Was there ever a railroad up near Escondido? It's on this side of Escondido off of.....

Roy: Well the Santa Fe goes into Escondido.

Heather: By Felicita, this guy has got a railroad car.....

Roy: A caboose! That's Tom Yoder. Tom and Bobbie Yoder.

Heather: Where in the heck did they get a.....

Roy: He bought a caboose, what you really need to see is inside of his yard. He has a magnificent collection of historic mining equipment. Mine cars, like I don't have. Dynamite cars, _____ cars, ambulance cars, for a while and I don't know if he still has it, he had an old General Electric Locomotive that ran off of a trolley in the mines that was used to pull the ore cars down. Most all of it is 18" gauge. Which was pretty standard for mining equipment. He's got all sorts of things to do with mines. He and his wife used to take their low-boy down to Arizona and pick this stuff up. I haven't talked to Tom for quite some time. That's where I got my powder for my dynamite boxes. He bought up a bunch of it. He found it over there and was able to snag it. When I went there, the people wouldn't part with any of it. I know they've got it over there but they apparently save it and put them together for special occasions to give to somebody for some reason. Benson Powder is still in business. I think what I had, and I don't see it in here, was a map. Of San Diego County, showing where the dairies were at Grantville.

Roy: Mom used to show me where this house was on Market Street where they got married and I think it may still stand. That's not in the story.

Heather: That's a wonderful idea. (Reading a story about the flood) What happened to the cows?

Roy: Grandpa was really upset. The water came up so fast; he couldn't let them loose from the stanchions. He figured if he could let 'em loose, they would have a chance. That's the thing they put their head in when they are milking. They feed them and it was right at milking time.

Heather: Oh, that's horrible!

Roy: That's the stuff that I put together, then I had a map.

Heather: So is there somewhere close where we could copy this?

Roy: Yeah, if you would like.

Heather: Love it.

Roy: I'm sorry I couldn't help you more with something about Cuyamaca.

Heather: Oh, you know what? You've been a big help. It's all good. It was real interesting the story of the gold and the boot.

Roy: This was a timeline that I put together the best I could.

Heather: They farmed potatoes on North Island? Mules escaped?

Roy: Yeah, they left the mules over there. It really wasn't an island then.

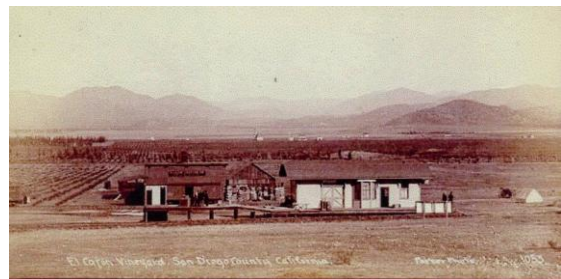
Heather: I just read a story where they could walk across but they had to wait for low tide.

Roy: Right, and that's what happened. They left the mules over there. I don't know if they had them in an enclosure like a corral or something. But somehow they got out. When the tide went out, they came across to Coronado and walked across the Strand and back up on the other side. When he and Uncle Billy found them the next morning, they decided they would teach them a lesson, they went down to the bay to the rowboats that they would row back and forth in and shoved the mules into the water and were going to make them swim across. Well, they almost drowned the mules. They never had anymore trouble with the mules coming home either. That's about all I can provide you with I guess.

Heather: Do you know where the blacksmith shop was in Bostonia that they talked about?

Roy: No, I don't. It talks about the town burning down and so on. Apparently there wasn't that much to the town. It wasn't his shop as I recall, I think he was working for someone.

Roy: The other thing that I remember, was coming through El Cajon, I don't know where we would have been going, but coming out on East Main, but there were vineyards along El Cajon Blvd. I remember seeing the trays of grapes out to dry. being made into raisins. They would cut them and just throw them on those trays. That vineyard or vineyards, and I don't remember them being on the south side of the street. They may have been. But I do remember them being on the north side of the street. How far they stretched, I don't know. My recollection goes, that they probably stopped about 2nd street.



Heather: Where they have that trailer park and all of that?

Roy: Yeah, yeah. Over towards first and all that. As I recall, it was pretty sandy soil. But I remember that being vineyard. In later years, I saw a movie, an old movie. A silent film. The reason that it intrigued me so was that they had little critters like my locomotive pulling little

flatcars around the vineyard with the raisins. After they were harvested and bagged. I often wondered what happened to that railroad and that equipment.

Heather: Was it the same place?

Roy: Yeah. It was just a brief flash of the thing. How long it lasted, who owned it, I have no idea. But I thought gee whiz, how about that?

Heather: Yeah, that's interesting.

Roy: That was long before I remember it because I would have seen these things some time after I was born in 31'. Do you know where Ward Road is?

Heather: I don't think so.

Roy: Extension of Fairmont.

Heather: Uh uh. I don't really know that area very well at all.

Roy: Well, Fairmont comes down the canyon there, It's 15 now isn't it? I think so. It goes up the canyon there. There was a bridge that crossed the San Diego River. It was a fairly long bridge as I recall. But it only crossed about halfway across the valley and then from the north side there was a long fill. The river sort of ran, at that time on the south side of the valley. There was a road that sort of paralleled the river, about where the freeway is now. We had been out to the dairy, to Grandpa's, and the road that came through Grantville and through the valley was always on the north side so the river didn't bother it. But the river was at flood stage, I do remember that. I must've been with my folks in their Model T touring car which was open. I think Mom said I was probably three or four. All I remember was that when we got to Ward Road, looking out across and the bridge was still standing, but the fill from the end of the bridge, it seems like hundreds of feet back on the north side had washed out. I can remember seeing cars stopped at the end of the fill and they were not letting anybody go out onto the bridge. You know, the police had stopped them on the south side of the stream. The bridge stood but it took the fill out. It was water clear across Mission Valley.

Heather: You wonder what's going to happen when we have a good one.

Roy: Well, that was before, what's the dam above Lakeside?

Heather: San Vicente.

Roy: San Vicente hadn't been built yet. All of that water came down there. I don't know when El Cap was built. I don't remember that. It's an earthen fill dam I know that. Anyways, San Vicente wasn't built yet, so that water, all of Ramona drainage came charging down that river. That's a lot of drainage coming off of Ramona. There is something by gosh. I didn't think of this till just now when we were talking about dams. My Mother did not finish High School. She went to Commercial College. She went to work as a secretary for Ed Fletcher when they built the dam at Cuyamaca. She said that she remembered, I don't know what the year was, but she remembers working in the office and the rainy season after the dam was built the reports kept coming in and coming in of the water rising in the dam. Filling it for the first time. The thing that I remember about it was that I remember her telling about it and I was working at La Cima, I was superintendent over there at the time. One year, I've forgotten the year; we have had a heavy wet

season in the fairly recent past. Within the last twenty years. I used to normally turn off at the county school camp, where the State Park headquarters is? We would go through the school camp there and there was a back road. We had keys to the fire road and we could go up that way. We would ford a couple of "cricks" and then we would get onto the road that came off of Sunrise Highway back of La Cima Honor Camp. That's the way we would go. The ranger would allow us to use that when it wasn't wet or rainy or snowed. We had been having a storm and I knew I shouldn't go through so I went around the long way and when I got there to where the trout hatchery was, the water was coming across the highway into the lake and the lake was down, I remember that, after they had built the coffer dam there so that it didn't extend clear out, and when that storm was over the coffer dam had disappeared, the water was over the top of that. I never will forget the water! I couldn't believe it. It couldn't go through the culverts. It was coming down so hard and so fast that when I drove down there by the hatchery it was over the top of the road. It was unbelievable. I often thought about wondering if that's how it was when Mom told this story about them getting these reports from Cuyamaca Lake. The water was rising and rising and I think she said that they didn't fill the dam that season. They were surprised. They didn't anticipate that it would fill in one season.

Birdsell / Martin

Alfred Ellis Birdsell, (Mike) worked his way from Kansas to Los Angeles as a cowboy. In 1885 he married **Elizabeth Langston**. There were eight children born to Mike and Elizabeth. In 1896, Mike helped move a sawmill from Los Angeles to *North Peak* in *Cuyamaca*. The sawmill was set up and a house for the family was built. The mill was eventually destroyed by fire and the family moved back to Los Angeles. However, the mountains called them home and the family returned to Cuyamaca. Mike went to work at the lake as a caretaker, where he was known as “Mike the Dam Man.” Mike’s next job was hauling logs for the *Stonewall Mine* with his ox team, which consisted of 12 yoke or 24 oxen. After that, he worked for **F.L. Blanc** logging on *North Peak* and eventually took over the whole operation. Interviews were conducted with **Roy Birdsell**, grandchild of Mike Birdsell. Another Birdsell Grandchild, **Mollie Birdsell** married **Granville (Granny) Martin**, self-proclaimed *vaquero*, who spent his life in the back-country of San Diego County. Interviews were conducted with one of their two children, **Mike Martin**. Mike lives on the family homestead in *Descanso*. The ranch is called “*Granny’s Place*” and a museum is being built there in honor of Granville Martin.

Report

Name	Birth date	Death date
Alfred Ellis Birdsell	August 27, 1865	
Alfred Ellis Birdsell II	November 26, 1896	July 28, 1978
Alfred Gibbs		
Alice Mary		
Alice May Birdsell	May 28, 1898	August 1967
Alwida Hackelman		
Ardith		
Arthur White		
Austin Harry McCoy		
Bert Bouse Birdsell	January 28, 1910	October 1984
Betty Frances McLain	April 29, 1931	
Charles Frederick Brown		
Charles McCoy		
Charles Owen Griffen		1947
Curtis Dowlin Krahlung		
Daniel Liberty		
Deanie Sierra Vanderstaay	January 08, 1949	
Donald Arthur Birdsell	January 13, 1925	
Douglas McLain		
Elihu Granville Martin	December 30, 1895	December 05, 1991
Elsie Elizabeth Birdsell	May 15, 1906	
Elsie Kathleen Birdsell	February 12, 1933	
Evelyn Griffen		
Everett Martin		
Francis Devine Birdsell	May 25, 1907	March 1971
George Barrum Birdsell	May 28, 1900	June 25, 1980
Harry McCoy		
James Douglas McLain	October 27, 1929	
James Victor McCoy		
Jesse R. Vanderstaay	September 20, 1956	
Jesse William Haworth	October 05, 1895	May 1960
Jim Birdsell		
John Martin		
Josephine May Hackelman		
Leah Mae Martin	March 06, 1932	
Lorna E. Birdsell	April 04, 1922	
Louise DuBois	December 18, 1901	May 16, 1972
Maria Ellis		
Marion Smith		
Marjorie Winifred McLain	April 14, 1939	
Mary Elizabeth Langston	July 21, 1879	March 04, 1958
Mary Moffatt		
Mike Martin	June 02, 1930	
Molly Mary Birdsell	June 22, 1902	
Nancy Evelyn		
Nellie Rosette Birdsell	May 09, 1928	July 07, 2001
Oscar Cooper		
Peggy McCoy	1931	
Peter Shane Vanderstaay	January 28, 1954	
Roy Meredith Birdsell	January 01, 1930	
Vanderstaay		
Viola Victoria		
Viola Violet Birdsell	May 13, 1904	June 1986
Walters		

Name	Birth date	Death date
William Alfred Birdsell	April 06, 1943	
William Birdsell	1832	
William Griffen		
William Thomas Martin		

Roy Birdsell Interview
with Heather Thomson & Chris Wray

Roy: It was given to me by Charlie Sawday. (*Speaking of the oxen yoke hanging over his front door*) He said that it was built by my grandfather, Bud Birdsell and that it was up on Volcan Mountain. Now, who was using it up there, I don't know. We called him Papa. (*Bud*) He trained most of the oxen that were used here in the country. Anyways, that's why I got it because he knew it was my Grandfathers and passed it over.

Heather: That was nice of him.

Roy: Yeah, I thought so.

Heather: He say's you're a nice guy too. I said, "I don't know, he keeps trying to run me off."

Roy: I'm not trying to run you off. Did he run you off?

Heather: Who? Him? Nah.

Roy: Oh, Charlie would run you off.

Heather: No, he let me stay for a long time.

Roy: Did he?

Heather: Yeah, he did.

Chris: Yeah, but he knew we were coming.

Roy: I don't know how or where you can get a picture of it. (*the boiler*)

Chris: Oh whatever. So where was the sawmill? Was it on Middle Peak or...?

Roy: Well, it was... which one do you want to know about?

Heather: See, this is where I'm having the confusion. Well, actually, the one that was first brought up was the one that was up on Middle Peak by Azalea Springs.

Roy: Okay. Now here's the boiler from that. From the old sawmill that was on North Peak.

Heather: Okay.

Chris: So how many sawmills did he have?

Roy: Huh?

Chris: How many sawmills were in your family?

Roy: A bunch.

Chris: A whole bunch?

Roy: I don't know that my Grandfather, Papa, had any of his *own* sawmills. I know there was one that was set up by Mike.

Chris: Whereabouts was that?

Roy: Oh, on North Peak.

Chris: On North Peak?

Roy: Yeah. This may have been one of....that one.

Chris: Was it like around the north side of North Peak? Up high or....?

Roy: No, pretty low.

Heather: Just on the other side of the road there?

Roy: Just above Harrison Park in that area.

Chris: The sawmills that I've known of, that I've seen mapped and things, the one that I never knew who owned was the one that was on North Peak way up high. On the North side. Up where there's a kind of clearing up there. And then there was another one up Cedar Creek just below where Heise Park is now.

Roy: There was one right above Heise Park but some of it was burned down. Apparently the horses got tangled up in one of the steam lines and broke it off and then it burned the sawmill down.

Heather: Oh wow.

Roy: And then the was the boiler there that was put on by Dad and Mr. Kleighburn I think was his name. It's got a little bit of patches on the end of it.

Heather: So are you going to go run around up there one day with me and my boss?

Roy: Yeah, supposedly Papa went up to, what the hell was it? Anyways, he hauled it down from Mount Baldy on the ox team.

Heather: That thing?

Roy: That thing. And I hauled it off of Cuyamaca on my little trailer. Had almost as much trouble.

Heather: Yeah?

Roy: It was on the side there and when I went to load it.

Heather: How long have you lived right here?

Roy: A couple of years I guess.

Heather: Come on, how long? Come on.

Roy: Maybe thirty.

Chris: That wasn't the old Shaw's sawmill was it?

Roy: It's a steam sawmill.

Chris: The Shaw place.

Roy: Who?

Chris: Shaw. S-h-a-w.

Roy: I don't think so. No, that was, I think, I hadn't heard too much about the Shaw mill and that was out by the Helvetia. There was the Shaw sawmill out there somewhere.

Chris: Oh, was there?

Roy: I think so.

Chris: I think there was one down at Harrison Park.

Roy: There was and that's one of them.

Chris: This was down like in the valley more.

Heather: I have topo's in my truck.

Chris: Nah. It seemed like the sawmill people they had one here for a while and then they had one over there for a while.

Heather: Cut down too many trees and then have to move it?

Chris: It's hard to tell whose is whose.

Heather: Is that why? Cause they cut down the trees around it and then they move it?

Roy: Oh sometimes they run out of money.

Roy: This come from above let's see, Heise Park wouldn't have been far from it. You got me all messed up.

Heather: I'm sorry. Oh talking about my boss huh?

Roy: Yeah. Harrison Park, up on the border of that. There used to be a place that was Hardy's. He lived there for years but this mill was there before he was there and then when they rebuilt back another mill they moved it about a quarter to a half a mile up the mountain. It was about the middle of the mountain and that they logged a whole lot off of that one.

Chris: Maybe that's the one that I saw then.

Roy: Off of the North Peak.

Heather: Now, which would be the one where they hauled the wood for the Stonewall from?

Roy: That was all hauled from over on the Milk Ranch and that area, most of that. On South Peak and Middle Peak.

Heather: Did your Granddad and Dad have anything to do with that?

Roy: Where most of the logs come from that.

Heather: Your family was involved in that.

Roy: Yeah.

Heather: And you know where those sawmill sites are?

Roy: There were no sawmills there, just wood.

Heather: They cut it down and then where would they mill it at?

Roy: Well they didn't mill it.

Heather: There was a sawmill up on Milk Ranch though right?

Roy: I don't know.

Chris: There was one up at Azalea Springs around the 1870's or something.

Heather: That's Milk Ranch?

Roy: Azalea Spring?

Heather: Middle Peak.

Chris: Almost the main Cuyamaca Peak, sort of above the valley.

Heather: Above Milk Ranch.

Roy: What he was handling was the wood for the fires. As I understand.

Heather: Okay, all of the lumber that your sister was telling me about that went for the homes and things that he milled, that would have been from the one above Harrison Park?

Roy: That all depends on what time you're talking about.

Heather: You have an outhouse collection.

Roy: Yeah.

Roy: They don't work so good if you go use them.

Heather: I don't want to use it, I just want to look at it.

Roy: I built those for the American Legion years ago and we used them on the barbeques and stuff. They served their purpose, you know.

Chris: So, is this your collection of equipment or did your Dad have a lot to do with this?

Heather: Look at that wagon.

Chris: Yeah.

Heather: It does nothing for you?

Chris: Ehh.

Heather: You might never get rid of me now!

Roy: That's just an old wood splitter I built.

Chris: I parked down here facing out in case you came out with a shotgun.

Heather: He was scared.

Roy: You're pretty smart.

Chris: To make a hasty retreat. She just pulled right up in front cause she knew where she was going so...

Roy: I noticed she parked in the shade.

Heather: Yeah. I'm smart. I'm not as dumb as I look.

Roy: Most of the pile of stuff up there came from Dad. This is my little jewel here. It's still working.

Heather: What is it?

Roy: A sawmill.

Heather: Oh. I see.

Roy: That's some of the last stuff I cut. I haven't been very active with this sawmill for a year or two.

Chris: So were all the ones that your Dad had, been all gasoline powered?

Roy: Oh no.

Roy: I just let the trees kind of grow around it so it's kind of hidden in here.

Heather: Look at that blade.

Roy: This is like a 1929 Cadillac V8 motor and he attached it there. They told him he could never do it but he did. He attached it direct and it runs in low gear and about 17 mph and saws real good. This was set up just about where his Dad's old sawmill was on North Peak. And it was last set up there on Doc Martins property. A year or two before he died, he gave me the mill and so I assembled it here. I've cut lumber on it here.

Chris: Which property was that?

Roy: Dr. Martins.

Heather: North Peak.

Chris: Around the other side?

Roy: North Peak. He was in there quite a few years, but this mill started off in Wyonola just across the road when we got it. Just across the road here. It was actually right on that property right across there. Up you know where the green house, you know where the fruit stand is there. Myers. That little green house was set up back when we lived here. Then it went to Middle Peak. Right above the store. It was in there for several years and cutting on Dr. Solvera (sp.). I think the Sorensen girls owned that before Dr. Solvera come in. Then, let's see...I don't remember what year it was, but probably 48 or 49 it moved over to South Peak behind the Milk Ranch in there and cut up in there. They had a fire in there that burned 40 or 50 acres.

Heather: the Conejos fire?

Roy: When was that? Probably was the Conejos fire.

Chris: 57' wasn't it.?

Heather: 57' I want to say or 47' or...

Roy: Coulda' been 47'. The mill was up in that area and I know it was there in 49' or 50'. It was there still in 52' when I got out of the service. It was still on South Peak. Then it moved over there to North Peak. On Dr. Martin's property. That's why I got it and brought it here.

Heather: Is there an old sawmill back this way somewhere?

Roy: Yeah.

Heather: Whose was that? Do you know? Was it yours?

Roy: Foster had a sawmill. Right here across where that campground is over there. You see, going down here, just across the creek, this creek that runs here, the San Diego River. Just across that, then there was a sawmill back in the trees back in there. There was a sawmill up at the top of American Grade. There was a sawmill at Santa Ysabel. There was a couple of sawmills up on Volcan. Slaughter had a sawmill up there and Freddie Slaughter had a sawmill up this way during the war years when they were just cutting, cutting, cutting. They were hauling lumber out of here like crazy. They made good money at it.

Chris: What do you call American Grade?

Roy: That's the grade that, that's America Grade. America. There was an old negro woman, that had a laundry service, somewhere about halfway up the grade there. It was a rest stop or something too.

Chris: That's the road up to Julian.

Heather: Was that her name?

Roy: Yeah. America.

Roy: Somebody else has read some history.

Chris: I didn't realize until you said that.

Heather: Hey now. It's all going like this...in my head.

Chris: That's the problem, your brain gets full.

Roy: Yeah, it gets awful confusing.

Heather: Yeah. So if I walk away it's just because I'm full.

Chris: She's trying to figure out who married into which families. She can spend the rest of her life trying to figure that out.

Heather: Your sister can't stand State Parks. You didn't tell me you guys were feuding and then I go over there andState Parks....."I hate State Parks"! Can't win for losin' here, thanks! You owe me.

Heather: So when are you available to go ...to go meet my boss?

Roy: You're gonna have to find out when she's available.

Heather: Yeah, she's a busy lady. So I'll get ahold of her and then I'll give you a call.

Roy: I spend a lot of time taking care of this sister of mine. She's a pain in the ____.

Heather: Yeah, well she's gotta be high maintenance, she can't do much and all.

Roy: Yeah, she can't do anything and for two years it's been part of my life. It's cut into it pretty bad.

Heather: That's what brothers are for.

Roy: I'm down there at least two times a week.

Heather: You ought to move her up here or something.

Roy: *!#?)

Roy: Then I had a well drilled. If you can see the bottom of that board right there, that wide, I was gonna build a table out of that. What it is, is it's a "Y" in a tree and I milled it off on both sides and made that table about 4 inches thick. About 12 feet long and about 6 feet wide.

Heather: You'd never be able to move it.

Chris: I know!

Roy: It would have been permanent.

Chris: Yeah.

Roy: I did mill it.

Heather: Yeah, and what's this? Did You do all this?

Roy: Yeah.

Heather: What are you going to do with it?

Roy: Nothing.

Heather: Nothing? Were you just practicing?

Roy: I cut this for roughly half price. In other words I cut the lumber and that was my pay for cutting.

Roy: There's a little board. That's about 20 feet long.

Heather: How come you don't have a tree house up here somewhere?

Roy: I never done that.

Roy: This is basically the stuff that comes in here after my retirement. I picked this up on North Peak.

Chris: So you used to do it in trade?

Roy: Yeah. I traded my time and energy and the sawmill for the lumber. This was cut right on the border of the State Park. I think.

Heather: Wasn't over the line was it? ☺

Chris: The North Peak ownership's changed a lot with the State Park.

Heather: What's the hole from? (*In a rock*)

Roy: You never knew, unless the road might have tried to come in here.

Heather: Were they gonna blast it?

Roy: And they were gonna blast that. I don't know.

Heather: Is that where you hang people?

Roy: That's the hanging tree, yeah.

Heather: Looks like one.

Chris: She broke an axle coming out of Carrizo, way out in the desert.

Heather: Well all those darn people that got stuck, they made it all mushy.... I was spinning and spinning and then all of a sudden it caught and just slammed me. I made it home.

Chris: On one axle?

Heather: Look at the fireplace, I like that. So do you lift these weights every day?

Roy: No, I have to lift them every once in a while to move them around.

Chris: I've got stuff like that.

Chris: Look, we come in the front door, she goes out the back.

Heather: Okay, we're leaving.

Roy: I guess she's taken it down. There was a picture here of the log trucks.

Heather: You can look it out, he's gotta get going.....you came back in....good.

Ardith: You looking at pictures?

Chris: Sawmill stuff.

Ardith: Oh, sawmill stuff.

Roy: How about the one with the Christmas Tree?

Chris: If you find them sometime you can

Roy: This is a picture of Dad up here. See the knothole?

Heather: Well isn't that interesting? Who made that?

Roy: I did. He always had squirrels following him around.

Heather: Oh Yeah, Esther was telling me about that.

Chris: So now he's got a permanent squirrel.

Roy: I got the idea cause he was cutting wood and he was always looking for knotholes and knots and this kind of stuff.

Heather: Oh yeah? Me too, I'm a knot kind of person.

Roy: Now actually, that's a picture taken in front of the fireplace, it's a picture taken out of a picture and blown up.

Roy: I have a lot of farm tractors, that's Granny's collection. That's four generations.

Chris: What's your wife's first name?

Roy: Ardith.

Chris: She looks very familiar to me but..

Roy: Did you ever work in the hardware store up here or anything?

Chris: No, no.

Roy: She did.

Heather: Where?

Roy: Julian. She knew everybody here in the country for a long time.

Those are my brand new finds.

Heather: Oh really? What's in them?

Chris: You're pushy! It seems to work! I'm way too bashful to be that pushy.

Heather: Oh my!

Chris: Oh!

Heather: Whatever! Where did you find that?

Roy: This is a concertina.

Heather: Can you play?

Roy: No.

Heather: Are you going to learn?

Roy: No.

Heather: Then what good is it?

Roy: I can't even chew gum and walk.....it even comes with an instruction booklet. I've been looking for one of these for a long time.

Heather: Why? So you can look at it? Play it?

Roy: This is the other one.

Heather: Now you've got two?

Roy: This is a little different.

Heather: You need a little monkey! And a cup.

Chris: I used to have a great big accordion.

Chris: It's kind of a lost instrument isn't it?

Heather: Like the bagpipes.

Chris: The Mexican people have always used them.

Roy: The Mexicans tune them different.

Heather: Okay, I gotta get.

Roy: See how you are.

Heather: Bye Ardith.

Chris: I think she's out doing her car.

Heather: You should be doing her car for her.

Roy: Well, we'll probably be hearing from you again one of these days.

Heather: You know you will! Oh my goodness! Is that a metate? Where did that come from?

Roy: Oh, over on State Parks!

Heather: Okey dokey.

Roy: It really didn't.

Heather: Thanks Roy, Bye Bye.

Chris: It was nice meeting you.

Mike Martin Interview
with Heather Thomson

Heather: I'm going to put this by you because I have a big mouth and it really comes through. First, where was your Dad born?

Mike: He was born in San Diego.

Heather: In San Diego and he grew up on the mountain? (*Cuyamaca*)

Mike: Yup, yeah.

Heather: When did he settle down here? (*Descanso*)

Mike: In 1935.

Heather: What year was he born?

Mike: 1895.

Heather: 95, gosh, that's something. I was listening to a tape I have, we were talking to Roy Birdsell, and so, Mike Birdsell was your Grandfather too.

Mike: Yeah.

Heather: It was just funny the way that went, I'm thinking, "Okay, how does this work?" It all works. Did you know him at all, Mike Birdsell?

Mike: No.

Heather: No? He was gone.

Mike: I knew Grandma Birdsell.

Heather: That's the one that I read the story about, running with the lizard up her dress.

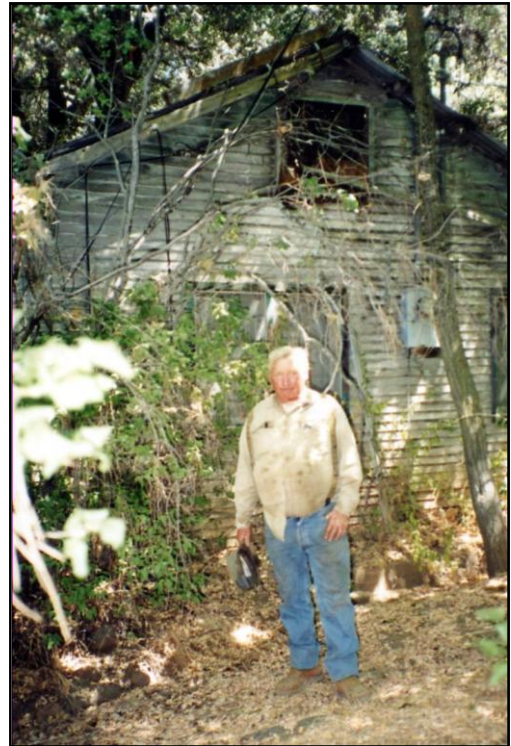
Mike: Yeah. Yeah.

Heather: Gosh! I laughed so hard. It was a great story. The way your Dad told it, "She was running down the road, just shucking her clothes..." So, I talked to your sister the other day. Real briefly. She said she didn't know anything either. She said that your Dad never had cattle of his own.

Mike: He had cattle of his own.

Heather: Did he mainly work for other people?

Mike: Not after 1937 or 1936. He had cattle of his own.



Heather: So, he was 40ish when he got enough together to have cattle of his own?

Mike: He always had some I think.

Heather: I would imagine if any of them really had a home somewhere, they probably had cattle of their own. Isn't he the one that...when they had all those cattle die down there....in the desert, he donated one to do the experiment thing with?

Mike: Yeah.

Heather: What do you remember about that?

Mike: Nah, nothing.

Heather: No stories or anything?

Mike: I remember when it happened.

Heather: He was a storyteller.

Mike: Yeah, a lot better than me.

Heather: Real outspoken too. If he didn't like something, he would say so. My kind of guy, I like that.

Mike: Yup.

Heather: How many acres are here?

Mike: He bought 10 acres in 305 I think.

Heather: You've managed to keep it all together?

Mike: Yeah.

Heather: That's great! It's pretty hard to be able to do that.

Mike: He bought this and then he bought a piece behind. Then he bought the next piece and the piece across the road, he bought it. I still got it. That piece and this one. The others my nieces got.

Heather: So, Molly was your Mom.

Mike: Yup.

Heather: Dang! When I was reading all of that, it seems like it was all so long ago, but it really wasn't that long ago, you know.

Mike: Yeah.

Heather: How long did she live?

Mike: She died 2 years ago.

Heather: That's it?

Mike: Yeah.

Heather: Your kidding! I had no idea. So that's just real recent.

Mike: Not too long ago.

Heather: I don't know why I'm so shocked.

Mike: Well, she was in a rest home for about 8 years.

Mike: Yeah, she was 90 something. 94 I think.

Heather: So you're related to Rosie.

Mike: Yeah.

Heather: I was lucky enough to get to interview her before she died.

Heather: When I first talked to her....my first mistake was telling her I had just talked to her brother Roy. She say's 'Don't have a brother Roy, not one that I claim anyways!' Then I show up and she wants to know who I work for. When I tell her State Parks, of course she says she hates State Parks. She warmed up a little bit and we had a good talk.

Heather: So, how many cattle do you have?

Mike: I don't have any.

Heather: Oh? Whose are those out there? (Speaking of the herd in the pasture in front of Granny's house)

Mike: Those belong to Garbani.

Heather: Whose is Bambi?

Mike: That's my son's. He's got the Brahma's here. He's got ...I don't know, whatever there is there.

Heather: So, you just never got into the cattle or?

Mike: No, I just never did.

Heather: Some people like 'em, some people don't.

Mike: Well, I had some one time. A long time ago.

Heather: So, it skips a generation then huh?

Mike: Yeah.

Mike: Do you like cows Kayla?

Kayla: Yeah!

Heather: I don't know....that cow is awful big.

Mike: Yeah, she's big but she's friendly.

Heather: When we were here with my boss's daughter, we were standing there talking and the cow was right there, she's licking me on the arm. Her daughter say's, "Did you notice how she licks up her nose right before she licks you on the arm?"

Mike: Ha!

Heather: What did your Dad do with his cattle? He was here when he started having his own?

Mike: Yeah. He leased a whole lot of land over in Pine Valley. Clear over by Buckman Springs over there.

Heather: Did he keep them here year round?

Mike: Yeah, he had them here and there.

Heather: This was after the days when they were running them down to the desert?

Mike: Yeah, he had some down in the desert a few times.

Heather: I still can't imagine getting them out there and them having enough to eat, but I guess they did.

Mike: Yeah, pretty slim pickins' but they did.

Heather: That kinda blows me away, going from the mountains down to the desert and having more food there. I was talking to Jack Graves and he was telling me they eat tules.

Mike: Yeah, they do.

Heather: What else? Here I go again doing all the talking.

Mike: I don't know much.

Heather: Oh come on Mike! Tell me stories!

Mike: I don't remember a whole lot.

Heather: Shoot! His house down here, that's the original one they lived in?

Mike: Yeah.

Heather: And that was built in?

Mike: In 1936 or 1937. A lot of that lumber came from the house on North Peak. At the sawmill. They weren't going to build here. They were going to build up further, but with the wet weather that's where the truck got stuck so that's where they built the house.

Heather: That's funny, seems like a lot of that went on. So, do you know where the sawmill was; up there on North Peak. Cause Roy took us up there.

Mike: Yeah, it's all changed. It's hard to find the place.

Heather: We exactly went out there and he was pretty sure and then it was all about, well, maybe.

Mike: They've done a lot of work up there in the last 25 years or so. It's all different.

Heather: So, what's changed?

Mike: Well, building lots of roads and a lot of houses.

Heather: What gets me is seeing the logging roads he built.,

Mike: I've still got one of the ox yokes.

Heather: I'd love to see it.

Mike: I think I've still got it, I haven't seen it in a while, maybe I don't.

Heather: Rosie was having a fit, because she said somebody told her that her Grandfather wasn't the only one to have oxen up there.

Mike: I don't think he would have been the only one to have an ox team in the country. I've got some pictures somewhere. We usually have them at Vaquero Days, so I don't know where they are right now.

Heather: So, I'll be able to see them at Vaquero Days.

Mike: Yeah, and I'll gather a lot more stuff up. There's a statue I got the other day that, it would be nice for you to have it at the park, but I'd probably get shot.

Heather: Now, what is it?

Mike: I'll go back a little bit. An old guy that I've been in the tractor club with for 15 years had a friend who is a wood carver. He's real good. Anyways, he wants Manzanita roots, which I've been getting for him when I can. Then we had to cut down a walnut tree that was in the power lines. He carves elk and he'd been promising me one for about 6 or 7 years. Last Monday the guy I'm in the club with met me at the restaurant and gave me this elk carved out of mahogany and Manzanita. It's beautiful.

Heather: Was it worth the wait?

Mike: Oh yeah.

Heather: Are you going to get him a bunch more burls?

Mike: Oh yeah. When he was here the last time he was busy carving a life-sized one for some elk farm in Minnesota. He's got it down but the ranch went broke and he's stuck with the elk.

Heather: Oh no! What a shame. Someone will buy it.

Mike: Oh yeah, it'll sell. This little one is neat; we'll have it at Vaquero Days.

Heather: How long did it take him to make?

Mike: I don't know. The detail on it is so.....

Heather: I think artists like that sit down and say, "Okay, I worked so many hours..."

Mike: No, this guy, he had it appraised. I'll get it out of him, I'll find out. I don't know what else he carves.

Heather: Now it's not the guy with the chainsaw?

Mike: No, this guy does it all by hand. The horns are out of manzanita. That's a hard wood to work.

Heather: I used to make these stupid little birdhouses, and used a lot of Manzanita. It *is* hard.

Mike: My Dad and my youngest son, when he was little, they made a landscape out of Manzanita burl. They sawed it off so it was flat and carved a whole mountain scene.

Heather: Where is it now?

Mike: I don't know, I think my niece got it, I'll have to see about getting it back. It's really neat. The root is burnt so it looks like it was a landscape that was burnt. It's got these little houses and barns.

Heather: All out of Manzanita?

Mike: No, I think all that stuff is out of pine. My Dad he made that.

Heather: He was a handy guy huh?

Mike: Yeah.

Heather: I saw the belt buckle he made for Roy., We were at the Lucky 5 celebration and all of a sudden in front of all these people, Roy started undoing his belt!

Heather: So, your Dad's brand, he had a G?

Mike: Yeah, a roman G.

Heather: Craig Jasper gave me a paper where his Grandfather had hand written all these brands. This was back in 1914 or 15, so your Dad had his own brand way back then?

Mike: He had it way back.

Heather: He was just a kid then, what? 20 years old or so?

Mike: I've got his little book that goes way back to 1932.

Heather: A brand book?

Mike: No, just a little notebook where he kept track of how many cows he had, where or whose cows he had and where.

Heather: Did he always keep records like that?

Mike: Yeah, but he just wrote them on these little things. This book, I found it after he died. I think it's in my desk. We had it at Vaquero Days, but you gotta hang onto it, things like that they disappear.

Heather: Oh, I'll bet.

Mike: It's interesting.

Heather: Very much so. Are you guys planning on having a lockable something.

Mike: Yeah, you should have been here yesterday. The board was. I want to have a building over there but the president don't want to. He doesn't want the building there. I don't know why.

Heather: That's kinda silly, did he have an idea where he wanted it then?

Mike: No, no idea.

Heather: Oh, no idea, he just didn't want it there huh?

Mike: What we wanted was because we got that bench in the bank there, we wanted a building about 30 feet long and about 20 feet deep and that would be like where you could have a meeting and it would also be like a stage. If you had a speaker, cause it would be up and everybody could see. I had it figured out pretty good.

Heather: It's your darn land!

Mike: Yeah, we'll probably have it that way anyways. It's not big enough, but it's a start.

Heather: Well, you gotta start somewhere.

Heather: So, what do you do for a living?

Mike: Me? I was a grading contractor for years, but since I retired, well, a friend of mine wanted me to help him for 4 days and I've been there ever since. I'm not supposed to be working, I just ride around and tell the other guys what to do.

Heather: Well, that's a good job?

Mike: Yeah, yeah.

Heather: So, can we take a walk down and take a look at the house? I'd like to take a couple of pictures of the outside.

Mike: That's where the old barn was right there. I don't remember a whole lot.

Heather: Yeah, I don't remember a whole lot about when I was a kid. You've got a funny way of blocking that stuff out sometimes.

Mike: My Mother had some pictures.

Heather: Those cows are in the right place that's for sure.

Mike: Yeah, in the shade.

(At Granny's house now.)

Heather: So, when you were born, you lived?

Mike: I was born in Bishop. He went up there for a couple of years and I was born there.

Heather: Oh, okay. Then they came back and you guys lived here?

Mike: No, first they went to Harrison Park.

Heather: But they still had this?

Mike: No, they didn't have it yet?

Heather: No? How old are you?

Mike: I was born in 1930.

Heather: Really? You're not that old. Are you that old? You don't look that old.

Mike: Here you can see the elk. We have so much stuff stored in it.

Mike: We got lights in here I think.

Heather: So, your son was saying you are going to....

Mike: Yeah, fix it up.

Heather: This is where you are going to live. It is so cool in here. Look at that knot-hole. Who made it?

Mike: That was Roy's Dad.

Heather: He told me his Dad was really into knot- holes. I'll bet you Roy did that huh?

Mike: He could have.

Heather: Cause he's got one just like it at home. Look at that stove, It's so pretty.

Mike: That's where Dad died, right here.

Heather: Oh dear.

Mike: Right there, he just went to sleep.

Heather: That's the way to go. That's how I want to go, just go to sleep.

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Albert Cary Interview

This interview was held at State Parks headquarters in Borrego. Participants include: Albert Cary, Heather Thomson, Sue Wade, and Mrs. Cary and for a short time, Anza-Borrego Superintendent Mark Jorgenson.

Cary: I was born on Frank Clark's ranch in 1919. My Dad worked for him and I was raised there for awhile. He and Fred, we just called them Uncle. No relation. Lester Reed was a government trapper. Fred Clark's ranch was at the end there and in this book is a picture of his old adobe. I was born over at Durazno Valley. Last time I saw it there was just a little bit of mud standing. My Uncle Art bought Fred Clarks place at La Puerta. Sal Biles was an orphan and Frank Clark adopted him.

Cary: Here's a picture of Lester Reed and those sheep tanks. They held water. That was back on that range back of Clarks Lake bed in there.

Heather: I am not too familiar with that area. Nancy is the expert out there.

Cary: Well, if you went out Rockhouse Canyon and then went east. He and Carl Beemis found a lot of Indian relics in this country.

Heather: So, in Rockhouse Canyon, were there rock houses there?

Cary: No. The last time I was in Rockhouse, my dad and I went up there and all I saw was a skeleton of rocks built up. Like a three-corner deal and maybe the sides were up about a foot to 2 feet high. But the rocks had fallen and...

Heather: But at one time there were rock houses?

Cary: Yeah, they said there was water running there. And they said that the, Indians, if they had like a cold or felt bad they would go in this sweathouse and build a fire and then they would go out and get in the cold water. That's what I heard.

Heather: Interesting. I have a whole list of questions for you

Cary: I'll tell you this right here. You see this little olla right here. I have that, I gave that to my sister, my mother took this picture. Grandma Cassero made that and her son built her a nice frame house, probably 100 feet away. He moved her in there and she stayed there maybe 6 months and she went out and got in her little brush hut here and she lived there until she died. She is weaving a basket when my mother took this picture and when she got through with the basket she hung it here on a string. My Mother took a picture of her weaving that basket and she bought the basket from her and she took a picture and my sister has the pot and I have the basket. Dorothy has it, the pot. It's a little pottery. Those baskets, she made that basket, it has a little star in the middle, and it would hold water.

Heather: That's a tight weave.

Cary: Look at that. She made that when I don't know how old she was, but the story was that she was close to 100.

Heather: You bought the basket?

Cary: My mother bought the basket, way back in around 1920.

Heather: Imagine what she paid for it then and what it would be worth now.

Cary: This is old Pat Cassero and he was an Indian that worked for my father and that was his mother.

Cary: That is _____Tortes.

Heather: You knew all of these guys?

Cary: Yeah, well I played with his boy. I got a spanking, well he got a spanking I was at uncle Frank's probably 9 years old and Simon came up and we were playing., his uncle Joe Lugo made him a bow and arrow and he made the arrow point out of greasewood and he hardened it with fire and I don't know how he did it. We would shoot it into the barn building. We broke a couple of bamboo shafts but it never split that arrow. This is taken at the old Fred Clark place at La Puerto in Terwilliger Valley. My uncle Art Cary bought the Clark place and these metate holes were all around there. It was quite an Indian settlement at one time. Back of this rock, there was a trail that you could take and go around and go up and up on top of this hill at what they call the window rock, from that height you could see the valley down here over past the airport you could see the desert floor.

Heather: That's why they called it window rock huh?

Cary: Yeah. It would probably take you 20 minutes to take the trail

Heather: Speaking of name s of places, we are curious how some places got their names. Like Alcoholic's Pass?

Cary: We used to call it *whiskey pass*. I don't know, but I was telling Nancy, that one time, I was helping drive cattle and we went around to where uncle Frank had a cow camp, the nearest I could figure out, in the middle of DeGorgios grape vineyard. Anyway, we went out, Arnold woods and I went out and into Clarks lake and we gathered up some cattle, maybe 15 head and we started them up towards Rockhouse canyon and then we took this trail to go up through all those cholla, and over the hill and the trail goes like this...I don't know how come but I think that by the time you got off of that trail you would be like you were drunk. We called it whiskey pass. I was over it once, all I remember was that it was like this, and if you didn't have a brichon on the saddle you were up on your horses' neck.

Heather: How about horse canyon.

Cary: Ok, well I did a lot of hunting up and above horse canyon. Those wild horses that were in there.... Well, when world war 2 came along, Henry Lightwald, he lived right there in the middle of there, Henry was drafted and he had about 6 or 7 horses, what bloodline they were I have no idea but they were cattle horses and he couldn't afford to keep them on Indian pasture and he took them down coyote canyon by turkey tracks and he turned them loose. Some of them even went up towards Tule Canyon because there was good feed and there was food water and they would go up Horse Canyon because there was good feed and water. Then gradually they multiplied. In 1963 I went down with my Uncle and we went up Buck Ridge and come back and we went down

Horse Canyon and we even went to Turkey Tracks but on the way down I think we saw 6 or 8 young stallions with a mare or 2 by the side and we were coming back by high benders and we counted 26 wild horses in there and I was riding a good horse that belonged to Howard Bailey and my uncle was riding his horse and there was a mare and a young colt and I was hiding behind some rocks and brush and my Uncle Art got behind them and they started running towards me and there was a trail that went down into Nance Canyon and across and went back up into the flat and those wild horses passed me and when the mare got close I went out with a rope and I wasn't even halfway close to them. I was spurring this...

Mrs. Cary: How old were you?

Cary: What do you mean how old was I? It was 1963. These are the same horses.

Cary: There were 26 that we counted and some of those stallions and mares, they were fat, really beautiful animals.

Heather: Happy huh?

Cary: They were really happy. Nobody bothered them. Then later on some guys come in there with horses from San Diego and they shot a bunch of them.

Heather: Oh no! Why?

Cary: I don't know. I have no idea. Uncle Art was riding for Howard Bailey and at that time there was a gate you had to go through at the upper end. I guess you guys even acquired property up in Horse Canyon quite a ways.

Heather: Do we?

Cary: According to this map. I didn't know that you had so much property up there. We would ride out of Uncle Art's place and go up to Bergman's and go out into Horse Canyon.

Heather: Do you now why Horse Canyon was named Horse Canyon?

Cary: It was named Horse Canyon a long time before I knew it.

Heather: I was wondering why nobody went out and caught those horses and kept them for themselves? Because they couldn't?

Cary: Well, my Uncle and Milt Bergman they went out in Horse Canyon and in this mesquite where they watered, they put a snare in there, a lasso snare and the first little mare that came in there, she was snared. Of course she fought and they put two ropes on her. They led her out of the canyon and before they got halfway up there she was halter broke and following them along and my Uncle put her in the corral. They weren't used to eating hay; they were used to bunch grass and Filaree. They starved her into eating hay and then gradually my Uncle would put a blanket on her and lead her around and he wanted me to ride her. There is no glory as far as I'm concerned in getting bucked off of a wild horse. I wasn't sure I could ride her. I don't know if he ever rode her. Their feet were real small. Their hooves were small like they, they were a lot smaller, because they had been in rocks so long. They weren't broken, they were real tough.

Heather: That's interesting. That they would adapt that quickly.

Cary: The cattle...World War II...Howard Bailey, he had his cattle in Indian pasture. He was getting drafted and he took about 20 or 25 head down the canyon and turned them loose because there was good feed. Years ago you had a lot more feed and water up and down the canyon. Anyhow, he got out of the service and a couple of years later he got these two Indian boys to go with them and they came down and they would find these cattle and some of them that he had at the time were branded and earmarked. All the calves and anything they could catch they would cut and brand. There were quite a few of them but they had no way of getting them out. Howard was working at the airplane plant but when he got out of that he came down and my Uncle was living at the ranch and he went with Howard and they collected cattle in Collins valley and over in Indian canyon and some of the cattle even wandered over into Lost Valley. That's where some of the cattle went. Those Indian boys, he got one of them to work with Uncle Art and they would round them up and they build this big corral and they build like a fenceline like a funnel and as long as they kept them running they would go down the canyon but if they stopped they had a hard time getting them up the canyon. So they kept them running right into this corral. Some of those cattle were pretty bravo. They had a cattle truck in there and they would load them and they would call Temecula and tell them that they had a load of wild cattle they were bringing into the slaughterhouse and they didn't fool with them. As soon as they got them in there they were right into the freezers.

Heather: Was this a one-time thing or did they do it often?

Cary: They took out close to 300 head and there were still cattle left in there. I know at one time there was a bot scout outfit took a bunch of kids into lost valley on a camping trip with those wild cattle in there. They had 2 little dogs to chase them cause they would go into the brush and stay, so those dogs would get them out. Uncle Art had a horse that a cow horned him. He had a big white scar on his chest. Those cattle hadn't been around man or nobody. They were viscous, they were ready to fight.

Heather: The cabin in Alder Canyon?

Cary: Uncle Frank had a cabin in Alder Canyon, we come down one time, and we were coming down to check the cattle. There was water close by the cabin. We went over to check out Mangalar Springs, a lot of cattle would water there. We didn't come down to the lower willows. There were several of those pits where they roasted mescal root. Over against the hill towards the NW side, there were 5 or 6 where they were charcoal pits. Apparently, Uncle Frank said they roasted mescal. There were pits at Alder canyon too. The most prominent was close to Indian Canyon.

Heather: I am assuming that the reason they called it Indian Canyon was because....

Cary: There is a trail that goes up Indian canyon someplace and went into Lost Valley. There were a lot of Indians that lived up at Warner Ranch and the Indians, the old time ones would come down it and they would even bring cattle down there.

Heather: Do you think that was after the white...

Cary: No that was before.

Cary: Did you ever go up into Collins valley and middle willows

Heather: No, I haven't been up that way.

Cary: Well one times we came down with a model T ford pickup all the way down Turkey Track and down to Middle willows and back.

Cary: You can't do it now; nobody takes care of them roads.

Heather: Did you used to keep the roads up back then so that you could?

Cary: Well, the county hired my Granddad to grade the road with a horse team but it was only good for 6 to 8 months and then they would get a good rain and wash it out. I have a hatband that Charlie Brown made out of horsehair. I reminisce through this book. Annie Terwillager married Uncle Frank, this was her daughter Pearl from another marriage, and then they had Bub and Babe. Pearl married a Davis that built the Aguanga grocery store years ago.

Heather: Where is Aguanga?

Cary: Well, when you get out of Warner Ranch you come into Aguanga. The store was maybe – yards down the road and then you come up to Anza along 79.

Heather: Do you have any idea where the name Medicine Canyon came from?

Cary: No.

Heather: How about the Turkey Track? Who built it?

Cary: I don't know. It was like a wagon road years ago. We came down in a Model T in 1928 or 29. It was a flatbed.

Heather: How long would it take you?

Cary: I don't know but we almost got stuck coming back up. It was pretty steep.

Nancy: Yeah, Turkey Track is tough. They are trying to improve it; they got a dozer and did part of it. But that one section close to the bottom is really rough. We hope to improve that road so there is more access. It is a tough one to maintain. Every good rain it gets washed out. You were saying something before about the railroad owning land up there?

Cary: At one time the railroad owned every other section of it like a checkerboard. They were given for bringing the railroad through, they were granted property. Uncle Frank leased some land up there in a couple of different places to run cattle. No railroad but they were given property. The government gave it to them.

Heather: Do you now anything about any mining being done in Indian Canyon?

Cary: Howard Bailey found some color out of Clark's valley but not enough to go back. He was more a cattle man then a prospector. I know that he looked, but don't know that he found anything.

Heather: You know about the Garra revolt?

Cary: Garra? He was the Indian? I remember hearing something but I didn't know anything about that. My sister still has a picture of Ramona. Ramona lived in an adobe house right close to the center of the reservation. She was about 5'5" tall and about 5'5" wide. She was a little fat Indian but she had a big smile on her face, she was real happy. And Juan Diego was shot up above my Uncles place up in Tripp Flats

Heather: Did you ever spend any time on Warner's Ranch?

Cary: No, went swimming there a couple of times. I knew a couple of the boys that their folks lived there and they would travel back and forth to Cahuilla. Jodi Lubo and Andy Williams, They were from Warner's Ranch and they lived there but his folks got pushed off. They went towards Santa Ysabel.

Heather: During your lifetime, as far back as you can remember, did most of the Indians live on reservations?

Cary: No, the biggest part that I knew about lived up there at Cahuilla. Caliste Tortes lived at Nicholias Canyon above Rockhouse. They were born there I guess. I knew some of them that lived at the old Santa Rosa reservation. Then they moved to the new Santa Rosa reservation.

Heather: Did you ever do any traveling with the cattle.

Cary: Well I can remember Jim Wellman, he worked for Uncle Frank I rode with Jim Wellman and we rode over here into this area and picked up a few cattle and took them in to the cow camp over here and we would go out and gather and pick up cattle by their brands.

Cary: I don't know who that cabin at Middle Willows was.

Cary: That is Frank Clarks homestead in Terwillager Valley That was taken a long time ago. Uncle Frank , when he bought this from an Indian, he gave the Indian maybe 5 head of cattle. I was trying to remember. He gave hi some cash He even gave them a hose I think. I can't remember.

Are there some pictographs up there?

Cary: Maybe, behind where those metats were, apparently they used that area back in there as a burial ground too. I don't know. There were a lot of pottery shards and grinding rocks. You could see a lot of holes. And where they ground meal for bread. There was a rock back there that had some painting on it but it didn't really amount to much because you really had to look to see it. We saw a lot the other side of Laughlin.

Cary: Here is that cow camp. Here in the desert. It had a fence built out of ocotillo. There was a Yaqui Indian that used to come over from wherever he lived. He came over and built this ocotillo fence for my uncle. Some of them grew. The cattle respect that ocotillo. They don't eat it. That's the cow camp. Actually all it was was a sheet metal barn. This here was in the middle of DeGorgios grape vineyard.

Heather: Who is Brad Cary?

Cary: Never heard of him.

Heather: Who is Dick Cary?

Cary: Oh, Dick is my cousin. Art Cary's boy. Bob and Dick Cary were Art Cary's sons. Two boys.

Heather: Art Cary and your Dad were brothers?

Cary: Right.

Heather: What was your Dads name?

Cary: Roe. He worked for Uncle Frank several years. He rode down here in the desert and helped round cattle up.

Cary: I heard them tell that if they found a pot or an olla, they would stick it up on a cactus and shoot at it. Something else. There are a lot of Indian signs all over this country. But you don't often find anymore a whole olla or whole pot. If you stop and think about it this country gets an earthquake quite often. It doesn't take much to roll rocks down these hills and that's why a lot of them got broken.

Heather: Were any of the ones you saw from around here decorated?

Cary: No, I didn't. We never did find anything down below Turkey Tracks. My Dad found a broken one way back in 1928 or 29. Maybe even before that. The first one that he found and kept was an olla maybe yay' big around. He was working below Mecca at a railroad station and he found it in the mesquite tree,. Apparently when the mesquite was growing it broke a hole in it. He kept that one,. He and my Granddad were clearing land down there and there would be a mesquite with a pack rats nest in it. It would be a good place to start a fire. When they tried to level it off they would finds broken pottery. So they got the idea that maybe there was a pot hidden in there and the rats built a nest in it. So they would take a long stick and jiggle it around in there before they set it afire. They found several that ways in Shelter Valley.

Heather: The horses that you saw that got let loose, what color were they?

Cary: There was a beautiful big bay with a white scar on his forehead and three white feet and he would look like he just came out of a stall and had been wiped down with an oil cloth.

Heather: Did they look like quarter horses or?

Cary: No, more like a standard. Standard bred. I have no idea if they had a blood line. Henry had a little brown more that was probably the fastest. They used to have horse races at the Indian fiestas and this little brown mare that Henry had was one of the fastest horses in the races. Indians at Cahuilla used to have a fiesta on the Cary road going out of Cahuilla my Granddad had a section of land on one side of the road and my Dad had some property on the other side maybe 120 acres,. There was an iron spring above us. The Indians would go up and go to the iron springs and gather willows to build their armadas. Every night at fiesta all the Indians would get together and have a peon game and gamble big money. They would gamble horses and I don't know what all it was big. They might stay up till 3 or 4 in the morning I was like 7 or 8, and we would play with the Indian kids. The old men would sit across each other with their blanket in their mouth. They would bet which hand and which finger had the white bone and the black bone. The old squaws would stand in back of them singing.

Heather: When you were growing up did you make your money being a cowboy or.....

Cary: No, we moved to Thermal in 1928 and then my Dad on Easter vacations my Dad would bring us up and I would visit my Uncle Frank. We come in one time at the old Truckhaven on the road before Westmoreland, We would leave Truckhaven and go through Ocotillo wells and there was a store and a one room schoolhouse.

Sue: Thank you for coming and doing this.

Cary: I was telling that one lady and told her it wasn't Bob Clark it is Bub.

Sue: Up in Coyote canyon we see can scatters and maybe campfire rings are those cattle camps?

Cary: It could be they would carry sometimes just a sack of flour and a sack of beans. He would make his bread right in the flour sack. They were pretty darn good.

Cary: Did you ever go up at that window rock up on top of the hill?

Mark: Never.

Cary: Next time you are up there, you seen those "metats" up on top there? Go up around there and there is a trail that goes up at the top of that hill. There is a big granite rock maybe as big as this room here and there is an entrance and a hole in that rock and you can see the floor down here in the desert. If you get up there they used to call it the window rock.

Mark: We really appreciate you coning down today.

Cary: Oh I don't know if I helped or not.

Mark: Oh yes, you sure did.

Cary: One time we went down by Clarks Lake and went up Whiskey pass. The way they got that name was by the time you finished winding up and down that trail you were drunk.

Cary: At the end of the day you could go to sleep and these horses would take you home.

Mark: You come back every year from Oregon?

Cary: Well, we have but I don't know how many more....

Mark: Oh I think about 20 at least. We will have to get you a picture of getting the cattle out of the park by helicopter.

Cary: How many did you take out o Lost Valley?

Mark: We did take any out of Lost Valley. We took 117 out of the park altogether. 70 or 80 from Rockhouse and 25 from Coyote and Hellhole.

Cary: Howard and my Uncle and an Indian took out 300 one time. Close to 317. There were even cattle in Lost Valley but it was so brushy and they had a hard time. They were wild cattle

Mark: It is a Boy Scout camp now so the old days of it being lost are over.

Sue: Are you related to the reeds?

Cary: No, I was named after Albert Reed. They called him Zeke Reed.

Sue: When they were coming down Coyote canyon were they bring them through or were they just grazing.

Cary: Around October or November they would take them out of the Indian pasture and bring them down to Coyote Canyon and there was good feed. Maybe every 2 – 3 weeks they would come down and check on them. They would gather them up in the spring and start them back. I got in on a couple at Easter time. There was a lot of feed in Parks canyon and coyote and around Mangalar. They would cull them out and put them in the Indian pasture and drive them into Temecula to Vail brothers and Pauba Ranch. To the slaughter house in Temecula. There would be buyers there at the Pauba Ranch.

Sue: Then what was left?

Cary: They would save some of the cows they wanted and then some of the bulls and they would keep them on the Indian pasture till the fall and start them down the canyon.

Sue: When did they have the babies?

Cary: In the spring. On the Indian pasture.

Sue: When you say Indian pasture is that Indian Canyon:

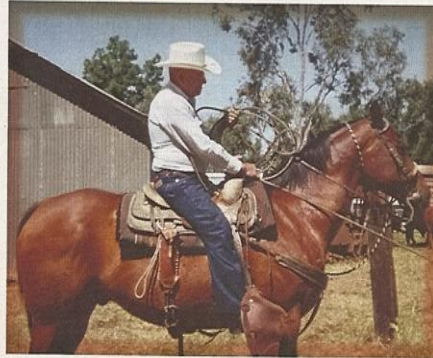
Cary: The Cahuilla Indian reservation is pretty good size up there. It comes down into Parks and even down into Terwillager.

Mrs. Cary: How did you know at that time that it was all Indian property? Was it marked?

Cary: You just knew.

Heather: Do you have an address so that I can get a copy of this to you?

Cary: Albert Cary. 1600 North Rhododendron, Space 431. Florence Oregon, 97439



In Loving Remembrance

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Edward William Guachino

BORN

December 14, 1912
Santa Ysabel, California

ENTERED INTO REST

May 9, 2006
Santa Ysabel, California

TIME AND PLACE OF SERVICE

10:00 a.m., Saturday, May 13, 2006
Santa Ysabel Mission

INURNMENT

Santa Ysabel Cemetery

OFFICIANT

Father Dennis O'Connor

Eddie Guacheno
Interview @ Warner's Ranch
with Heather Thomson
& Steve VanWormer

Eddie: You think I know something....

Heather: I think you do. You know where this is right?

Eddie: It's a corral.

Heather: Yes, it's a corral.

Eddie: I built it.

Heather: Oh, you did? Do you remember when?



Eddie: It's got to be in the 80's.

Steve: Where is this?

Eddie: That's right here.

Heather: No, this is the one across the way. (*The "Big Corral"*)

Eddie: Oh yeah. I know that.

Heather: You guys called it the Big Corral. It has oar handles on the gate.

Eddie: Oar handles?

Heather: Yeah. Stan took me out there and he told me that Sawday used to site up there and work the gates with those handles.

Eddie: Oh yeah! Gilbert would do that. He would separate the heifers and steers. Heifers and steers. That's right.

Heather: How old do you think this is?



Eddie: That quite a ways. The 20's at least.

Heather: Ok. And this one here, is it older? The Little San Jose? Or what do you call it?

Eddie: We built that one afterwards, down there, the little San Jose.

Eddie: The old corral used to be down there, we used to call it the adobe corral. Way down beyond this one. The old corral is down below this.

Heather: Is there anything left there?

Eddie: I don't know.

Heather: I have never been there.

Eddie: You haven't? He didn't take you down there to see that old corral?

Heather: No, he needs to do that huh?

Eddie: I bet you he doesn't know.

Heather: You think so? Rudy does doesn't he?

Eddie: I don't know, he might.

Heather: We are going to have to find out.

Eddie: From the corral, you go down that road, right down that road. That's where the adobe corral is.

Heather: You just keep on going past the big corral?

Eddie: Yeah, go down.

Heather: Ill have to see if they will take me down there.

Eddie: If not I will.

Heather: Ok. Deal.

Steve: When you were foreman here in the 80's, was this building used for anything?



Eddie: No.

Heather: It was just abandoned?

Eddie: There was something in there, but I don't know.

Steve: No one went in it on a regular basis.

Steve: How about the barn over here was it being used?

know. Or wire or whatever.

Eddie: No, we used to shove pipe in there you

Heather: You know where that is right?

Eddie: The Jasper corral.

Eddie: Charlie Ponchetti lived there for many years.

Heather: In that house?

Eddie: No, they had another little one besides.

Heather: That's the one that Craig Jasper lives in now?

Eddie: I think so.



Heather: I was told that these corrals, this is the one in San Felipe at Paroli Spring.

Eddie: The old corral is still there. His uncle used to live there. Louie. Paroli.

Heather: I was told that these corrals were made out of railroad boxcars. That Hans Starr.

Eddie: Probably were.

Heather: There is another one just like it in Julian.

Eddie: Yeah, Starr built that one too.

Heather: Those are dangerous corrals because you can't get out?

luck.

Eddie: Yeah. You get caught in there and you're out of

Heather: You know this? ‘



Eddie: This is up the road.

Heather: Yeah, when was the last time anybody ever lived here?

Eddie: Never, not since I remember. Somebody must have. They call it the Wilson store isn't it.

Heather: Is Joanie...

Eddie: Yeah, she would be the one to talk to.



Heather: These pictures were taken by Lillian Taylor.

Eddie: Banning's sister.

Heather: They were born here?

Eddie: Some of them were.



Heather: This is Dixie Ambler.



Eddie: This church burned down, they stole these bells.

Heather: Rudy told me a story about his Uncle or somebody was taking care of the place and they came home and they were gone.

Eddie: What happened was, my brother-in-laws wife passed away and this guy lived in Barona, the brother of the woman who died. Margaret. They would come

here for the wake. They came by for the wake and they saw a flatbed pick-up parked under the bells. They didn't think anything. The next morning they were going to bring the body down to bury it. They told me to come down and tell the guy to ring the bells. This LaChusa. I came down on horse back and no bells. They were stolen that night.

Heather: Didn't the clappers turn up somewhere.

Eddie: Yeah, my sister in law picked up the clappers. Florence. The clappers are in the church.

Heather: They took them off so they wouldn't make noise.



Heather: George H. and Frazier somebody, do you know who this is. It was taken in 1913.

Eddie: Could be George Hoskins.

Heather: What do you think they were doing with rabbits? Pets or eating them.



Heather: This is Dixie Ambler again. And her dog Buster.

Eddie: Mesa Grande again.

Heather: She doesn't look very happy.

Eddie: This is the old dining room at Warner Springs.



Heather: That is a mystery picture. Have no idea where or who that is.

Heather: It said the Williams place.

Eddie: Lots of Williams. Joe Williams and that bunch. He lived in Ramona for a long time. Kind of a



Heather: You know who that is don't you.

Eddie: Is it a Ponchetti?

Heather: I had a class with your granddaughter. I can't remember her name but she goes to Palomar.

Eddie: Brenda?

Heather: I don't think so, this was about 2 years ago. I had an American Indian Studies class with her. She told me that you were her Grandpa Eddie. I brought these in and she took them home and her Aunt said it was Barbara Ponchetti.

Eddie: Could have been. There were a lot of Ponchetti's?

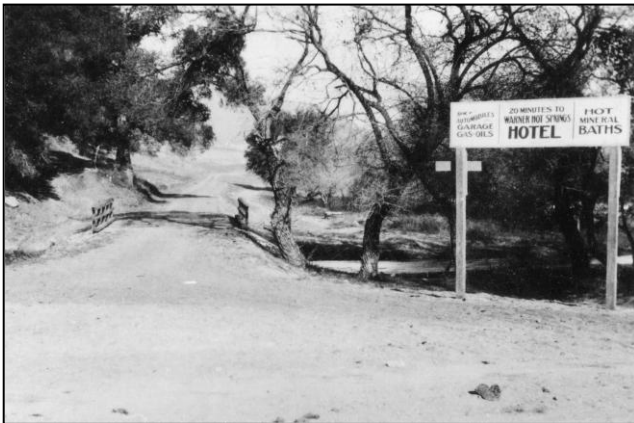


Heather: This one is Oso. Milton Angel told me that it was Oso Paipa.

Eddie: Yeah, he lived down here at the junction.

Heather: Did he look like him.

Eddie: Sure don't look like him.



Heather: Is this at the turn to Henshaw?

Eddie: Golly. Could be.

Heather: It says 20 minutes to Warner Hot Springs Hotel. Would it take that long to get there by horse and buggy?

Eddie: By horse? Probably.



Heather: Do you think maybe that is Bloomdale school?

Eddie: Where Feigel lives now?

Heather: Yeah. The hills look right. The porch looks right. Somebody told me that the Ponchetti boys didn't want to go to school and burnt it down.

Eddie: I don't know. I don't recall that. (laughter)

Heather: The older Taylor that is alive and lives down here, is that Sam Taylor's son?

Eddie: No, that is Charlie Taylor's son.

Heather: Was he Sam's son or brother.

Eddie: Charlie Taylor was the oldest of the family.

Heather: This said Mrs. W. JJ and Mr. W and

Eddie: I don't know.



Heather: This is supposedly Charlie Taylor...

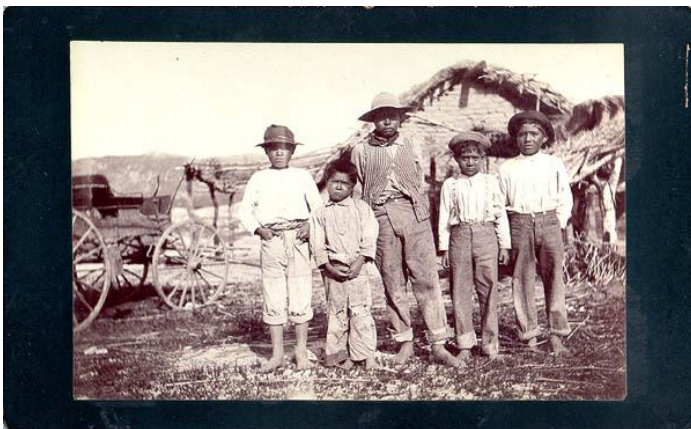
Eddie: Yeah, it is.

Heather: Lucille Griffin.

Eddie: Didn't know her.

Heather: Wasn't he Mildred Paroli's ...

Eddie: Grandpa?



Heather: Great grandpa it think it would have to be.

Heather: These are Davis's photos.

Eddie: I think Nancy Davis has a lot of those.

Heather: Look at this little face...he looks so sad.

Eddie: Oh you have some old pictures. I can't believe it.

Heather: None of them look very happy do they.

Eddie: No, especially him.



Heather: These ladies are down at some celebration in Pala.

Eddie: I would like to have one of these.

Heather: Ok. I'll get you a copy.



Heather: I think that is down in Santa Ysabel.

Eddie: My Grandma lived there. I told those guys and they didn't believe me.

Heather: In Santa Ysabel?

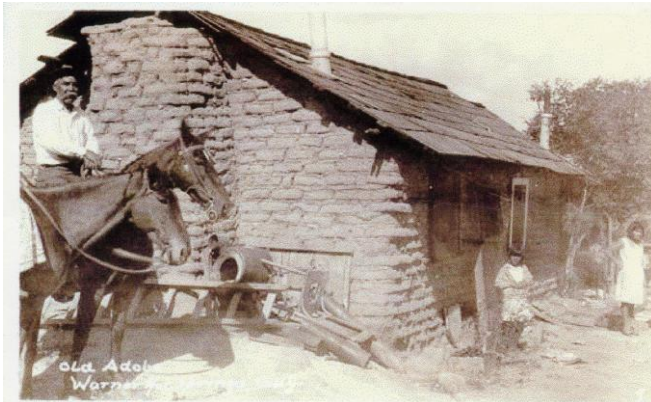
Eddie: Yeah, I knew right away. That was my Grandmas place. Right in there.

Heather: What was her name?

Eddie: Marie Ygnacio Guacheno. Mary. I

would like to have a picture of that.

Heather: I can get you an even better copy.



Eddie: Good. Good. That looks like Julio Ortega.

Heather: Was he a policeman?

Eddie: No, he was up at the store and told stories. He worked there for years and years. That's him on that horse. Cause he lived up there at the store on the one side.

Eddie: You've got some good pictures.

Heather: All the different ranchers used to make their corrals and fences out of what ever they could. Sawday seemed to like to use bridges. Kemp down in Campo likes cottonwood posts.

Eddie: You ought to take a picture of that corral down below the store.

Heather: Santa Ysabel?

Eddie: Yeah.

Heather: Did you build that?

Eddie: A bunch of us. Marco. My Uncle Jack, Frank Paipa.

Heather: How long ago.

Eddie: I was still at the ranch then. I was about 25 years old. You ought to stop and talk to Marco sometime.

Heather: He is at the dairy?

Eddie: No, he is down at Carrisita. At the junction.

Walking around the yard.

Eddie: This is a mess.

Heather: Do you have any old pictures from here.

Eddie: No.

Heather: Do you know who might?

Eddie: Tiny Taylor might. She lives up here next to Nelda. She got a lot of old pictures. Her Dad used to take a lot of pictures. Art Taylor.

Eddie: It's a shame. I can't get over it. At least when I was here it used to be clean.

Heather: That must have been hard to watch it go.....to this. They are going to fix it up again.

Eddie: Good.

Heather: Where are the buys working today?

Eddie: I don't know. I hope you find gold.

Heather: The barn is what kills me. The gophers are doing a number here.

Heather: Do you still go to the casinos?

Eddie: Yeah. You?

Heather: Yeah. You ever win any money?

Eddie: No. I don't have any luck.

Heather: Me too.

Heather: What about that corral?

Eddie: Around the 80's. 1980 or 82. I got my knee busted up in there.

Heather: You hurt it?

Eddie: Yeah. Had a big bull in there and he hit the horse and he hit me against the corral.

Heather: Did he break it?

Eddie: No it was just bruised. But it swelled up.

Eddie: So you live in Ramona?

Heather: Yeah. That's right I was supposed to give you my phone number huh.

Eddie: Is that all you wanted to see me about?

Heather: Well, yeah. But as long as you want to talk, I'll keep listening. I enjoy visiting with you.

Eddie: How come you are involved in this?

Heather: Well, Steve works for State Parks and I work for State Parks. Two different places, but both State Parks.

Eddie: You are the one that I met down at the Log Cabin.

Heather: Couldn't hear a dang thing. The music was so loud. Did you ever talk to Marilyn McCain?

Eddie: She came up.

Heather: Did she.

Eddie: She didn't make sense. Walk over here and let's have a cigarette.

Eddie: She ought to have a lot of old pictures.

Heather: No, because when she was born her mother took her and moved away.

Eddie: That's right. They left.

JASPER

Cynthia Kunkle and Craig Jasper

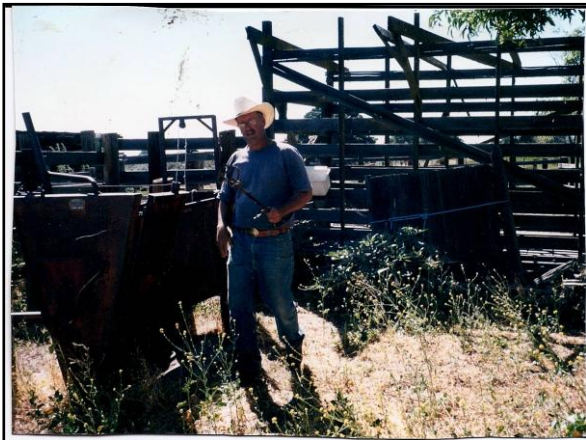
As a young man, **Ralph Jasper** (1882-1969) learned the cattle business while working as a hand for outfits such as **Sawday** and **Helm**. By 1919, he had acquired the old Wid Helm place in Montezuma Valley. He named his ranch the J9, and began running his own cattle. Simultaneously, Jasper steadily began to acquire land in the area. According to Jasper, he “*had 5,550 acres all around Montezuma Valley, some down in Grapevine Canyon, and Yaqui Wells*”. (*Brigandi: 234*)



Ranch house on the J9, built around 1905.

Most of this acreage he sold to the State Park and then leased it back for grazing. In a 1958 interview with Edgar Hastings, Jasper recalled running up to 1,400 head of cattle in a good year. (*Brigandi: 237*). Jasper ran Herefords and would drive them up to the railhead in Temecula. He also erected drift fences in *Grapevine Canyon* and was responsible for developing two of the major springs in the canyon, *Stuart Spring* and *Angelina Spring*. In 1965 Ralph sold his ranch to **Charlie Ponchetti** and moved to El Cajon. He died there in 1969. (*Brigandi: 238*).

Interviews were held with two of Jaspers descendants. **Cynthia Kunkel**, his daughter, was interviewed at her home in Poway. **Craig Jasper**, his grandson was interviewed at the *J9 Ranch* in Ranchita. Craig works for SDG&E as an electrical lineman, but still runs a small herd of around 30 head on the J9 where he and his family reside.



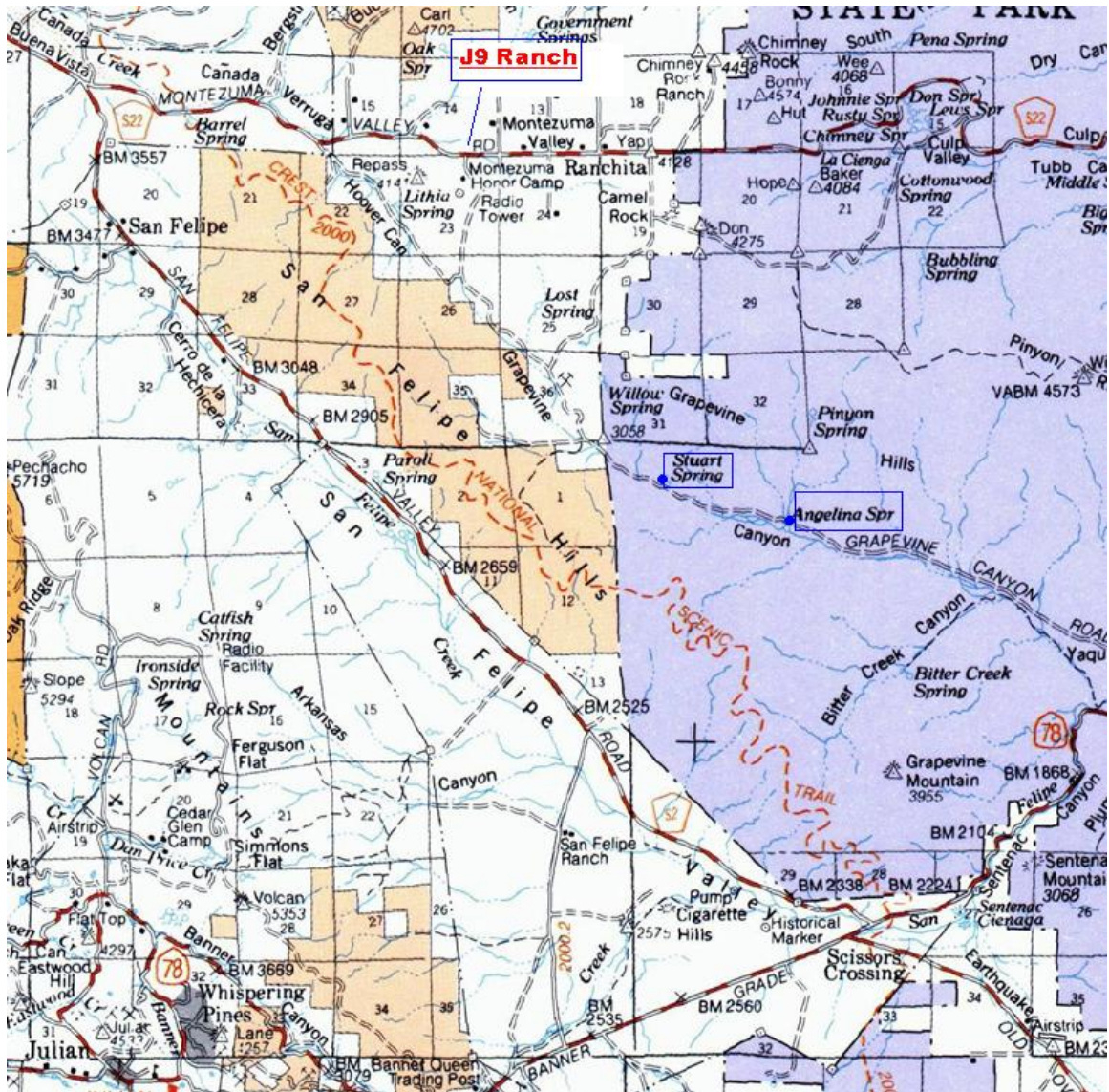
Craig Jasper - June 06, 2001



Cynthia Kunkle - November 06, 2006

Kinship of James A. Jasper

Name	Relationship with James Jasper
Jasper, Caroline	Granddaughter
Jasper, Craig	Great-grandson
Jasper, Cynthia	Granddaughter
Jasper, James A.	Self
Jasper, Ralph	Son
Jasper, Ralph David	Grandson
Jasper, Virgil	Son
Kunkle	Husband of the granddaughter
Mary	Wife
Rita	Wife of the grandson



Cynthia Kunkel Interview
with Heather Thomson

Cynthia: Who have you interviewed in the Cuyamaca area?

Heather: Charles Sawday, Willie Tellam, the Birdsell, Vanderstaay, which is a Birdsell, Mildred Paroli.

Cynthia: Oh really? Where is she?

Heather: She is on the La Jolla reservation. I guess before Bill died they had a house built up there. She is a wonderful lady.

Cynthia: Yes, she is a nice person. Does she talk...of course, I don't know her background, I don't know her maiden name.

Heather: Her family is Osuna.

Cynthia: Is she?

Heather: Yes, San Dieguito Rancho... her Grandfather was the first alcalde of San Diego County, Juan Marie Osuna.

Cynthia: Oh really?

Heather: Yes, I didn't realize that until we were all done talking about Bill's life, of which she was a large part, but we got to talking about her at the tail end.

Cynthia: How old is she?

Heather: They got married in 1932 I think.

Cynthia: She must be 80 or something.

Heather: She's 70's, somewhere around there. She still gets around really well.

Cynthia: That's really interesting.

Heather: She had saved all the old newspaper articles and all of that. She loved that man. You could see it in her face, her eyes just light up when she talks about him.

Cynthia: There were some very nice members of that family. The one I knew particularly well was Lavina. Her sister was a Wilson, married a Wilson.

Heather: Right, Clara?

Cynthia: Yes. Lavina never married. She saved our lives quite a number of times. She came and worked into the family beautifully.

Heather: Really? I didn't know you guys were that close. The Paroli family doesn't know a whole lot about the other. It seems like they all went their own directions and the ones that were left don't know what the other ones were doing.

Cynthia: No, they're not close. Do you know, and I'll never get his name right, Brigandi?

Heather: I've read his Livestock Report.

Cynthia: Cause he made a statement one time, it was in the paper, and I told him what I thought. He was talking about where places got their names. The Pena place, I'm not sure if you're familiar with it or not, he said that it got his name, and have you heard that?

Heather: Yes, and I asked some of them (Paroli's) and they are saying "no".

Cynthia: For one thing I think it is older than that.

Heather: Pena is very old.

Cynthia: I don't know....my Dad said Peen place.

Heather: Peen, not Pena?

Cynthia: Yes, but I'm sure it's the same place.

Heather: It's on the map, and it's Pena, not Peen. I guess it would be where Lavina had her place. Wilson was across the way? I don't know, did they intermingle their cattle?

Cynthia: I think that they probably did. I've been asking you so many questions and not answering whatever you came for....

Heather: You are Ralph's daughter. Not Ralph David, Ralph David was your brother. I've got so many families going through my head. I'm trying to figure out who married who and jeez!.....Now, where did you grow up?

Cynthia: I really, depending what part of the year you're talking about, I was practically born there in Ranchita. Which was not Ranchita then. It was Montezuma Valley. I've never been real happy with them naming it Ranchita, I liked Montezuma Valley. That's where I was born, well, I wasn't born there because my Mother went into San Diego before I was born, but I lived there.

Heather: Did she go just for that?

Cynthia: Oh yes. I was born at my Grandmother's house in National City. That was always my home. But, we lived in Ramona to go to school. From the time I was in the fourth grade.

Heather: In the D St. house?

Cynthia: Yes. My folks built that in 1924 and we were there for the 10 years while we were in school. So, I can say I'm a native, going to school in Ramona.

Heather: Which room did you live in?

Cynthia: Where the back bedroom was sort of a sunroom and that was my room. When the house was built there were just my sister and I but my brother was born in that house in 1927. He was born in the middle room. Why did you get interested about the room?

Heather: Because I know somebody who lives there. And I got to thinking; it was the Jaspers who built this house.

Cynthia: There used to be, a big room upstairs. We used it as storage. It was real high. Is it still there?

Heather: Oh yeah, it's still there.

Cynthia: Of course there was not public water at that time. We had a well.

Heather: Was there lots of water back then?

Cynthia: No, well no doubt they were having trouble or they would not have formed the Ramona Water District. In 1924 or 5 that was quite a venture. That was Tom Gardener who headed it of course. They had a very good record, paid off all our bonds every year, that kind of thing. Which, you know, a little tiny community, but some realized that they needed public water. Then it was some 20 years before municipal water. Anyway, who lives there?

Heather: Do you know the Pettijohn's? It's a rental.

Cynthia: I was going to say, does it belong to Pike's? Or do you know.

Heather: I think it does.

Cynthia: We lived in the little house that's in back while it was being built. My husband's father built it. That was my husband's business and his father before him.

Heather: You can probably go down the streets of Ramona and say, "Well, my husband built this and this and this...."

Cynthia: Well, I probably could. I never thought about who lives in that house before.

Heather: They have a passel of kids.

Cynthia: Now, do they have an upstairs in it?

Heather: Yes.

Cynthia: You might have run across the article. It was Ransom Brothers, kind of an ad thing. He wrote for Ransom Bros., things that were interesting. He said, that my husband's father had the contract to build a house for Ralph Jasper and it would be a three bedroom, with closets and one bath. When we moved from the ranch, it didn't have closets. That seems so strange.

Heather: So, it was a big thing back then, to have closets. You grew up where Craig is now?

Cynthia: Yes.

Heather: I'm interviewing him this afternoon.

Cynthia: He was practically born there. No, not really, they were living in Escondido when he was born. His folks had the ranch just before he was born.

Heather: So, you were born in Ranchita, then you went to Ramona to go to school. Then what did you do?

Cynthia: I went to school for a couple years after that and a year after that I was married. And then lived in Ramona all of my life. We were married 60 years.

Heather: I'll bet you go up there and just go wow.

Cynthia: It's very different.

Heather: It's golf courses and ski lakes in Ramona.

Cynthia: Do you think they are going to get a ski lake?

Heather: I hope not. They want to do that out where I live.

Cynthia: Oh is that where they are doing that? I never really knew where.

Heather: Yeah, Highland Valley and Rangeland. You know that piece of property across from, I can't remember her name, she just passed away not too long ago. She had the llamas. Across the street, golf courses and then by the airport golf courses.

Cynthia: I guess gold courses are better than houses.

Heather: Yeah, but the golf courses will also have houses, high end houses. No livestock, no 4H for the kids. That's what Ramona is all about.

Cynthia: Oh, I know. It's made a big difference. I don't know of any one factor, in just my observation that made a difference in Ramona that the 4H did.

Heather: What did you do after you got married?"

Cynthia: When we were married in 1936, my husband and his brother had a little grocery store where El Nopal is now. It hasn't changed any since. Especially the back of it. They had a little grocery store there. They were in that for about 5 years. So, everybody worked in the grocery store. Then the war came and my husband had done some flying, so he went on and got his pilot's license during the war, otherwise he would have been walking Army would have been drafted. He was too old really, he was 30, but we didn't have any children at that time so that's what we did during the war years. Then we came back to Ramona and he went into building and built for the next 40 years or 30 years I guess.

Heather: So, you came from Ramona to here?

Cynthia: Yes. I closed up my house we'd lived in for 50 years.

Heather: That must have been a rough one.

Cynthia: Not one that I was prepared for. I had never done any moving.

Heather: I guess not, after 50 years. My goodness. So, when you were a kid your Dad had cattle. He used to run in Grapevine canyon?

Cynthia: Yes, and down into the edge of Hellhole. Well, he had some property up on the, what we called the "flats" of Ranchita.

Heather: He owned quite a bit of acreage up there.

Cynthia: Yes, but some of his property he sold to the park. Over the hill, over the divide.

Heather: Down the backside of Culp or Hellhole? Grapevine Canyon, did he run onto the desert?

Cynthia: Just barely. I mean he never ran into Borrego because those were, I suppose some of the people were from Anza, but some of them were from Mesa Grande. Mesa Grande cattlemen.

Heather: The Angels etc?

Cynthia: Yeah, ran down onto Borrego .He ran down Sentenac. What's the name of it? Where the road goes to Borrego. Down at the bottom and there's a spring in there.

Heather: Borrego Spring?

Cynthia: No, I'm talking about on the highway. Below Sentenac, see my Dad had a little camp with some property, down at the bottom of the grade at Sentenac. Do you know what I'm referring to as Sentenac? Well, you know what, it's below the San Felipe. That part has gone to the parks in the last few years. From the Cummings Ranch anyways. Scissors Crossing. My Dad ran cattle up into that area. Went up to Grapevine, it'll come to me in a minute. The area is where, there must be a trailer camp or something, and then, where the road goes up over the hill to Borrego.

Heather: I can't think of it. I know what you are talking about.

Cynthia: It doesn't matter, but anyway, that is the area pretty much. He had a cattle camp, at the lower end of the Sentenac. I remember when that road was put in which made a connection for vehicles from San Felipe to, do you know what I call the narrows? Above the narrows. The narrows is another road that goes to Borrego. It goes up that steep really hits the Ram's hill part of it. That part of Borrego.

Heather: Did you ever spend time at any of the Stage Station's?

Cynthia: What do you mean time?

Heather: Were you ever there?

Cynthia: No, I'm really not familiar with any.

Heather: How about Palm Spring?

Cynthia: I know where that is, but we were really into Culp Valley. We didn't go much beyond that.

Heather: Okay, Culp Valley, let's go there then. Where Lavina..

Cynthia: I don't mean Culp Valley, I mean...Not Mason Valley...Shoot! Blair Valley. The cattle went into Blair Valley. Of course there never was ever any real water in Blair Valley.

Heather: When was that guy Marshall out there?

Cynthia: During the war, 1941.

Heather: What did they do for water?

Cynthia: Carried it. Didn't use very much probably.

Heather: They probably weren't smellin' too great.

Cynthia: They did shopping in our little store in Ramona. They shopped other places too but I remember them from that.

Heather: It's going to drive me nuts until we find out the name of that place we were talking about. So he had all the way down Grapevine, hmmm.

Cynthia: Well, my Grandfather homesteaded a place in the Grapevine. I don't know...Dad had some property on the road that runs down from the Montezuma Valley road down through the Grapevine. Not from the top but from the edge from the Warner's Ranch that goes down to the Grapevine. There were two or three places in there. My Dad bought property from discouraged homesteaders.

Heather: I read that.

Cynthia: See, my Dad went in there in 1914 it was all open country the next thing you knew they had I don't know 160 acres? Where ever they had a little water in there. There wasn't a lot of water in there, why somebody came in and as my Dad said, "planted a corn patch." And there were no more water holes and there was only green corn for their cows to want to break into. So it changed the business quite a bit. All of a sudden my Mother all sorts of neighbors. More than she could handle cause they had nothing else. A lot of them didn't have transportation. At first there was no mail in there so my Dad used to pick their mail up at Warner's whenever he went. He brought the mail and put it in a box nailed to a tree and the idea was for them to come and get their mail and to go home, But they didn't always go home. They were lonesome people.

Heather: And hungry....

Cynthia: The policy always seemed to me that the men went back and maintained their jobs and such and the women lived there through the process of establishing homesteads.

Heather: Oh, because they had to live there...

Cynthia: They had to improve it and live there a certain time and do certain things. So it changed things a lot during the first few years. So, some of the properties, some of the places I remember in particular were on that road that went down to the Grapevine. And my Grandfather had homesteaded a place. I haven't been down to that area for quite awhile.

Heather: Really? You never go and visit at all?

Cynthia: Well, since I no longer have a car and no longer drive, I no longer do things that I might do.

Heather: Well, if you ever want to go for a ride up there, let me know. **Cynthia:** Oh, how nice!

Heather: I'm serious. If you ever want to take a drive...and see what's there and see what's gone...

Cynthia: It really has changed so much.

Heather: It's amazing what you remember when you get back in there. We are going to take Willy Tellam up to Cuyamaca. He said, "Yeah, I'll go just to go back up there again." Your Dad ran onto Cuyamaca didn't he?

Cynthia: He at one time had what was pretty close to the park. At the time he rented it there was an old house there. It was after I was married. I mean, I was not at home. He had that, when he leased that piece of property.

Heather: Do you remember how many head of cattle he had at a time? Was it pretty steady or did it fluctuate a lot?

Cynthia: Oh a couple of hundred I think.

Heather: He had cowboys working for him?

Cynthia: Oh, at one time, we had a man who lived there.

Heather: At the ranch? When they ran, say down Grapevine, they would go with them? Would your Dad go with them too?

Cynthia: Yes.

Heather: Just stay with the cows?

Cynthia: Yes. When he had a man, they worked together. At some point there was quite a bit of area to cover.

Heather: So they would be gone for what? A month?

Cynthia: No, just a day. This was all within reach. He ran cattle right there in Julian. At that time it was known as, shoot! You know...right where the roads fork. One goes to Cuyamaca the other to Laguna? There was a good pasture in there so he would lease that. He had that for a good many years. He would have horses there and just come over by car. I don't have any idea when he started to trailer his horse.

Heather: Now, you went on a drive up to Temecula didn't you?

Cynthia: Yes. Uh huh.

Heather: How was that? Why did you go? Just for the heck of it or.....

Cynthia: Well, we had a whole bunch of cows and especially when you are going where there is a lot of traffic. There was a road and we followed the road and you had to keep the cattle moving. It was an everyday experience. We moved them to Ramona. That was quite a job to move them from Julian to Ramona.

Heather: I'll bet.

Cynthia: Yes, even then. I couldn't imagine driving cattle now.

Heather: You couldn't.

Cynthia: You could never imagine a traffic situation. The Sentenac canyon, if you're not familiar with it....there is a bridge across that canyon.

Heather: Are you talking about Banner Grade.

Cynthia: No it's below Scissors Crossing.

Heather: I've gone this way, and I've gone this way, but I think maybe once I went. It really helps if I know where I'm talking about. I've spent days up in Cuyamaca running around trying to get familiar with the place. It isn't good when you are telling me about a place and I can't picture it.

Cynthia: You go down Banner Grade and it's a straight run. Almost to Scissors crossing that I refer to that goes to Vallecitos and comes from the Warner's Ranch and comes down the San Felipe and hits that road that goes down Sentenac Canyon. To...I'll think of it.

Heather: Tamarisk Grove.

Cynthia: Is that what they call it now? There was a natural spring in there that was a good spring. Just a little ways out, I don't know what is there now, from Tamarisk.

Heather: There must be a little water because there a lot of trees there at that campground.

Cynthia: Yes, yes. And sea birds.

Heather: Charlie Ponchetti, he worked for your Dad?

Cynthia: Yes.

Heather: Where did your Dad go when Charlie was at Ranchita?

Cynthia: Charlie leased the property in about 1965. My Dad had married, my Mother had been dead for 15 or 20 years. She died, in 44. They were married 9 years later. He and his 2nd wife went to live in El Cajon.

Heather: So, you weren't very old when your Mom died.

Cynthia: I was married.

Heather: Shoot! You weren't even 30 yet. That isn't very old.

Cynthia: No, no it isn't. From the standpoint that we weren't little children. My brother was only 17. I was

Heather: That's young to lose a parent.

Cynthia: Yes, yes very difficult. She had never been a really well person. She had asthma. That's why she came too California. She had been very active. And did everything that everybody else did. She was from New England.

Heather: Wow, what a difference huh?

Cynthia: Very different backgrounds for sure.

Heather: Do you remember anything about the Indians that were in the area?

Cynthia: You know...they were people. They weren't Indians, they were people.

Heather: Right. It's really nice to hear you say that.

Cynthia: I mean...to me ...and of course , a bunch of them, with the background of the Ponchetti's and the Paroli's, they were Swiss, a lot of them. Charlie lived in our home there on the ranch for 20 years or more. My children found it interesting that he was a cowboy and an Indian.

Heather: I'll bet.

Cynthia: They were, I'm sorry to say, they watched television and there was the cowboy and Indian thing. Then there were people like Lavina. We went to school at Warner Springs for a couple of years. Most everybody was Indian. There were the Taylor's, and of course Taylor's were part Indian. I don't know if I ever knew a full-blooded Indian.

Heather: It never phased you.....?

Cynthia: No, I never thought any different. As I said they were no different than the rest of us. We had good friends among them. I don't know if you are familiar with, on the road down to San Felipe there's a summit.

Heather: Teofilio.

Cynthia: Teofilio. I'm glad to hear you say it like that. I went on a tour recently from Temecula to Vallecitos and they butchered Teofilio.

Heather: I don't know why I half-way pronounce it right.

Cynthia: You have it perfect. Anyways, I remember Teofilio coming to see my baby, my first child. Big, old, rough old hands, I can see him taking hold of my baby's little white hand. Then of course Teofilio was not all Indian either.

Heather: Now, wasn't his Mother, Guerra's granddaughter? Jesusa?

Cynthia: Now who is she?

Heather: Jesusa. She was Antonio Guerra's Granddaughter. Teofilio's Mother. **Cynthia:** I don't know too much. Teofilio was a Helm.

Heather: He was born a Helm and then she, remarried a Hyde. I guess Helm married 3 or 4 different times.

Cynthia: Of course that's the Taylor Helms.

Heather: Where was the Warner School at?

Cynthia: When we first went there it was in one of the adobes that they used for housing. One of the cottages, but it was a little ways away. Now, when I went to school in 1921, where the road goes up to Los Tules to the reservation and such and before you would get to the resort, there was an adobe in there then and that's where it was. Within a year, they built a school over across the sulfur springs up on that plateau there and that's where they went to school. I don't know how long, well, it wasn't too long before they built the school where they are now. Started it anyway. Because my brother went to school there and he went to school about 40 I guess,

Heather: So, before you were born, your Dad had gone down to the Valley? Down to Imperial Valley?

Cynthia: Briefly. His(We were interrupted by a telephone call)

Cynthia: If you've lived in Ramona, you've heard of Johnny Fanscher. He has passed away. He had the drugstore in Ramona for years.

Heather: Oh, okay.

Cynthia: He's 90 years old or more. He was a druggist in Ramona for 50 years, where the Rexall is now. He's been quite a character around town for quite some long time. He's been hanging on for the last few days. Do you know by any chance Jackie Beck and Darrell Beck?

Heather: I know of them.

Cynthia: Well that was Jackie, they are friends of mine. She works at the cemetery, that's not why she knew, Darrell had just come back from Kiwanis and had heard Johnny died.

Heather: I talk to Mabel Carlson up at the museum a lot and she told me I needed to get hold of Jackie Beck.

Cynthia: I was going to give your card to her. She works from the standpoint of genealogy so she has people in her head much better than I have. Darrel is interested in writing a book.

Heather: That's what I hear.

Heather: Where were we? Imperial Valley.....

Cynthia: Oh, my Dad must have been about 20. First he had gone, I always say they, I think of his Father instigating these deals where he went and lived with the Helms who had a house where you are going later. That was the site of the Helms. They were such a rough outfit. I can't imagine my Grandparents being behind. But it must have had something to do with my Dad going out and being a herdsman, that's what the census said, in 1900. Living with the Helms and being as herdsman for cattle that 2 or 3 people were putting in that area and running into Hellhole. That's when my Dad first went out to Montezuma. Soon after that then, my Grandfather got the idea that they would, I don't know what kind of claim they had or what they had but they went out into the Imperial Valley and I suppose had some kind of homestead and they were there when the New River flooded, so they didn't stay there very long.

Heather: It amazes me why anyone would go from up there to down there and think that they could you know.....

Cynthia: Well, of course they thought they were in the beginning that they were going to make a lot of money in the imperial Valley. Some people did, but not them. The Damron's, Helm's and Derrick's.

Heather: My Mom went to school with a girl named Joanne Derrick in the Valley.

Cynthia: The Derricks I am thinking of married into the Bailey family in Julian.

Heather: Really?

Cynthia: One of the Bailey girls married a Derrick. So that part of the Bailey family lived in the Valley.

Heather: Everybody is related to everybody one way or the other.

Cynthia: That's what they used to say in Ramona, "Can't say anything about anybody, they are related to somebody. Any kind of remarks like that have kind of annoyed me because in San Diego all the old timers were married and related.

Heather: Well yeah! They had to be, there wasn't anybody else to marry.

Cynthia: That's right! They were old established families and they all would intermarry or what ever you call it. Okay, so that's how you were asking about how they got to the Valley? That's why they were there not very long. And of course you know that my Grandfather was a Supervisor?

Heather: Oh yes.

Cynthia: I think that is what created his interest. Because at that time he was covering San Diego County and that went all the way to Yuma.

Heather: Yeah, the book he wrote, I just got acquainted with that. It is so interesting. I told Mabel, I need a copy!

Cynthia: I was going to tell you if you didn't know, she probably knows a lot more than I do. They have some things there that I have never seen.

Heather: It's a wonderful place. I hadn't been in there until a few months ago. Always, just passing through Julian. It's always so busy there, I don't really like to stop.

Cynthia: It's hard to find a place to park.

Heather: So, I stopped on a weekday.

Cynthia: You found the place open.

Heather: The next thing you know, we had papers strewn from one end of that museum to the other. Just talking for hours. She is a wonderful lady.

Cynthia: I missed my opportunity, I should have done it myself when I was in Ramona, got up there to see what they really have, because I'm sure they have a lot that I've never seen. Anyways, I've got enough stuff here that I can't find tops or bottoms to so.....Anyways, that's how they got to the valley. When they came back my Dad made one trip to Canada moving cattle. I'm not sure exactly what they did because I never asked. But they did make a trip to Calgary and then across there somewhere. That's the kind of thing he did until he went to work for George Sawday probably around 1910 or somewhere like that. That took them to the property, that's where my folks went to live in 1914. They gradually bought the property from the helm family.

Heather: That George Sawday was quite a man. Charles was telling me that he could start up at the county line and darn near ride to the border without leaving property that he owned or leased. So, your Grandfather was quite a character.

Cynthia: Yes he was.

Heather: Did you know him well?

Cynthia: Yes, quite well. Not as well as I should have, I should have listened to him more. I asked Mrs. Orville Cumming, who I knew very well, when I was going to give a little talk about my Grandfather, and I thought why don't I ask somebody who remembers him? I asked her what she remembered and she said that she remembered that he talked all the time. That's about all she said and it was quite true. He could talk and he gave lectures. He lived with us quite a bit of the time. Part of the time with my Father and part of the time with his daughter in Los Angeles. All this time he was writing. But he didn't write the kind of things I think he should have written. Tell the details about the family that I thought he might have. He was a character.

Heather: Oh, you mean about your family?

Cynthia: Yes.

Heather: Oh, because he was writing about everybody else's.

Cynthia: That's right. Most definitely.

Heather: That's a wonderful thing that he did do.

Cynthia: Every once in a while, people like, well, you, come and ask. I think I'm not eligible to talk about this. Then I think, if I don't, no one else will. I can't believe that I reached that point. I think that was the way with him too. He never thought he.....What his family had done, they walked across the isthmus of Panama. What happened was, they had been in a motel in New York City waiting for transportation for quite a while. They finally walked across with a family of four or five children. My Grandfather was about 20 years old. If he ever wrote a word about it, I never saw it. I never even knew it.

Heather: Do you think he would have ever thought someone would be here talking to his Granddaughter about him?

Cynthia: Even then he was a part of something to do with the 1915 exposition in Balboa Park which commemorated the opening of the Panama Canal. Wouldn't you have thought he would have talked about that? That where he had walked they could float a ship?

Heather: Nobody thinks that their own life is that interesting to others.

Cynthia: Of course I don't know how much of what he had was saved or where it went or anything.

Heather: The springs down Grapevine Canyon, your Dad had developed quite a few of those.

Cynthia: Well, I don't know too many. There's Angelina, nobody calls it that. That's the one I think of. Of course when he developed a spring he only developed it to stay open to water his cattle. There are springs on the property that my Grandfather homesteaded. That was a good spring there. Springs were what they had everywhere.

Heather: The Paroli home site where she lived in Culp Valley.....

Cynthia: Lavina?

Heather: Yes, Lavina. You go off of Montezuma and where the road turns and comes back that way, her place was down there at the bottom of the hill?

Cynthia: Yes, I.....of course, this is part of the park now. I thought there was a campground pretty close to where she was.

Heather: Okay, going down, on the left is Pena Springs and on the right was where she was.

Cynthia: Yes, down a little further. Back in there.

Heather: that's where she lived? Nobody lived on that left hand side there?

Cynthia: No, the only house in that area at all was hers.

Heather: Now, did that burn?

Cynthia: I don't know. I think the park just demolished it. I don't remember. **Heather:** Do you recall anything on the left hand side? Where Pena Spring is? There were supposedly some dams in there.

Cynthia: Well, there are fruit trees and remains of things that look like someone had lived there. I just don't know, not in my time. I don't even remember my Dad mentioning anything being in there.

Heather: What was it I read last night? Oh! Guy Woodward and the Warner Hot Springs. Your Dad was in that with him for a couple of years?

Cynthia: Yes. But it has nothing to do with the Guy Woodward from Ramona.

Heather: Oh really? I didn't know that. I'm glad you told me that. I was just assuming.

Cynthia: As a matter of fact, the Guy Woodward in Ramona would have been quite young. They went to Warner's in 1921 and 1922, at the resort. I guess Guy must have been born around 1908 or 1909. He was in High School in 1923 or 1924. No, there's no connection there. We were talking about Lindsey's first book. Where would that be available?

Heather: Let me see, where did I get that? I could pick you one up?

Cynthia: I would like you to, if you could.

Heather: Sure, no problem.

Cynthia: Do you have any idea what they were? About the same price as the other one? About \$17?

Heather: Let me think where I got it....I got it at the Banner Store, at the top of Banner there.

Cynthia: Really?

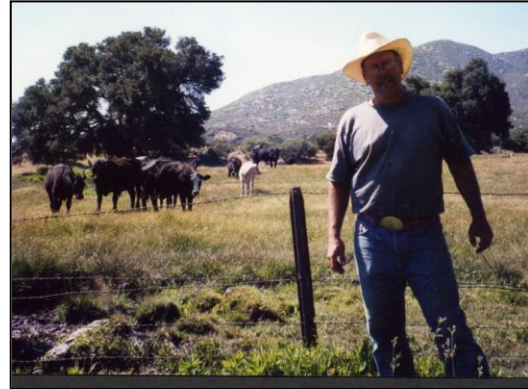
Heather: Yes, that's where I got mine. I think the Naked Bean is real expensive. I think they have it at the Visitors Center I'll get you one.

Craig Jasper Interview
with Heather Thomson

Craig: I do know that he had cattle down in Hellhole. They were going in there as late as the 60's. Then the State Park went in there and were yanking out cattle.

Heather: Were those his?

Craig: Yeah. My brother, my oldest brother, who is 60 now, he went in there as a kid. He would have been 12 or 13 maybe. It is right over by the Thimble.



Heather: When they say the Jasper Trail, what do they mean?

Craig: The Jasper Trail is further over than Grapevine. From my understanding, it was a route to check the corrals down by Yaqui Wells. It was a big round corral that was falling down. That is what I believe the Jasper Trail was for. This whole canyon, (Grapevine), my Grandfather owned it. My Great Granddad homesteaded 160 acres in there by the Grapevine Mine. He sold the land back in the 1930's. I saw some of the papers. They bought an acre and he gave them an acre. I don't know how that worked. I don't now if it was some kind of tax deduction. That would be something my Aunt Cynthia would know. She would have been 15.

Heather: I am acquainted with the people who live in the house that the Jaspers built in Ramona. On D Street.

Craig: Yeah, the one with the white pillars. My Dad was born there. Cynthia was taking about how the butcher would hang his meat from the tree in back because it was nice and cool. He would hang it up, cut it up and then take it all the way up to Mesa Grande and sell it. Originally Carolyn said they went to school out here. She has a picture of that. It's just two little white girls and a bunch of Indians. It's pretty cool. Some of he Taylor's are in there. I'm sure she has some really good pictures.

Heather: Well, I wasn't going to ask, she wasn't real sure of me yet.

Craig: Well, you know, I'll be honest with you, anything to do with State Parks and people just get all.....you know.

Heather: I've been finding that out.

Craig: My Mom and Dad were married in 1949 and my Mom remembers when they were first married, living n Cuyamaca. Where my Grandfather had the leased land and the cattle. Up until the 1950's. You know, way back when nobody wanted to live out in these areas, people like my Grandfather were out here developing springs and such, making it plausible to live out here. They

farmed it, worked it hard. Now people from the cities are coming out here and wanting to develop it all.

Heather: I know. I live in Ramona, and out where I live they want golf courses and ski lakes. The Tellam's still have cattle across the street from me.

Craig: Is that out Rangeland or where?

Heather: Yes. I was talking to him the other day and realized that when his cattle have to go, it's over. What is he going to do then? They just got the Guejita back.

Craig: Oh he did? That's good.

Heather: Yes. That's a good hunk of land.

Craig: They aren't booting them off yet are they?

Heather: Not yet, but they will. Heck, there used to be cattle where I am.

Craig: Rangeland?

Heather: No, Highland Valley and Archie Moore. I think it was the Morettis that had the cattle.

Craig: Oh! Behind the school there?

Heather: Yes.

Craig: That's where I learned to brand and castrate. I've only been here for about 10 years. After Charley Ponchetti died, I came up here. Cynthia opened the door for that and I couldn't go back now. I love it. As a matter of fact, Cynthia said recently, "Of all my brothers and all you boys, you were the one I least expected to be able to come up here and do this." It has been quite a learning experience. It will be 12 years in July.

Heather: It's not too hot here. Kind of in the middle of the weather zones.

Craig: Yeah, when it's foggy down below, it is windy here. But that's OK, it keeps the flies off of you. It snows here but it goes away in a couple of days. The thunder storms move in during the night and it is just beautiful

Heather: I like weather.

Craig: Speaking of lightening storms, a couple of years ago I bought a bull. Four years ago, I bought a registered bull. Spent a lot of money on it. A lot of money for me. 2100 dollars. I had him for less than a year. I was out working all night long trouble because of this lightening storm, came home during the day and was sleeping. I woke up because of thunder. I looked up and it was just one big cloud. I had to have the vet come up to vaccinate some cattle. So, I called them in and I'm missing my bull and 2 heifers who were ready to calf. I couldn't find any tracks outside the fence. I was coming back and there they were. All in a row, laying there up against the old oak tree. The lightening had come down, hit the oak tree and come down and popped the cows.

Heather: Wow.

Craig: Yeah, that was kind of an usual ordeal.

Heather: So, how many head do you have now?

Craig: 12. The most I've had out here was 29. I soon learned that to make any money on them you don't want to have to feed the animals. You don't want to have to buy feed. If you have a big enough place to plant your own and store it for the winter, you are OK. But if you have buy feed and are competing with prices, it is too much. It takes 2 or 3 bales a day. Too much. I can run, on 150 acres and can run 20 head and not have to feed. I used to lease the Cuca Ranch but it got to be too much. Supposedly the place has been cursed.

Heather: What is the story on this house?



ca. 1905 ranch house.

Craig: This house was built in 1949 by my Mom and Dad. When they were married it was built for them to live in. My brother and my oldest brother Jay were both born at Palomar Hospital and brought home here. I think my folks lived here until 1953. My Dad had part of the cattle operation. Then my Dad had other interests and my Dad and Grandfather had a falling out and they left and moved to Escondido. The original house was built sometime after 1900. The adobe was built pre-1900. There is a bunch of melt down there that I can show you. The cabin, is 2-story. It doesn't have any 2x4 studs in the walls. It's built right on the ground on redwood joists. My Grandfather was here during the 1900 census and was working for the Helms as a cowboy. There is a picture of him standing in front of the adobe. Have you read about how the Helms got this?

Heather: They kind of took it?

Craig: Yeah , pretty much. I heard they came through and saw the property and there was a Mexican guy living here who had a wart the size of a quail egg on is nose. I don't know if that is where the name Canada Verduga came from or not because that means Canyon of the Wart. Anyhow, the Helms went to LA and put a claim in on it and come back. The Mexican guy looked at these three hard guys from Texas and just left. So my Grandfather worked for the Helms, then

he went on some big trip (cattle) to Canada. Then he came back, met my Grandmother. She had an Uncle named Gilbert who was leasing part of the Warners Ranch. Then they came here and leased and then I guess bought them out in 1914.

Heather: Are there any Wilson's around?

Craig: Yeah, descendants of Wilson's. Fred Wilson was the last "Wilson" up here and he died a few years back. There was a Harry Wilson who died.

Heather: I want live ones!

Craig: There is Ben McManama who was born here and lived here all of his life. He worked for the county. His mother was a Wilson. Lavina Paroli would come from Culp Valley and help my Grandmother out.

Craig: This my Grandfather hand-wrote. These are all historic brands.

**Jim Kemp,
Larry & Arvilla Leach-Johnson
Interview**
w/ Heather Thomson
& Sue Wade

.....The original were white or gringo and married into the Indian, like the Elliot's.

Sue: I guess as far back as you can remember how the cattle were worked. You guys had cattle down here, you moved them up to Laguna....did they lease up there or did they still own the land?

Jim: Well, we owned the land up until the 70's. They would winter here. Before that you were talking whether Everett was related to the Campbell here. They weren't related, Everett came much later but Chilwell and Campbell did run cattle at Vallecitos. You know where the Shrine camp is, there is a trail there that they drove the cattle back and forth on. We had cattle at Vallecitos for years but we didn't use that trail. We used Kitchen Creek fro Campo.



Sue: Taking the cattle down to Vallecitos, is that Cottonwood Canyon or Storm Canyon? '

Jim: Storm Canyon. It is pretty rugged in there.

Sue: In the winter time where would they bring them? To the desert or Campo?

Jim: They would split them up, at that time in Laguna there were no fences, mo people there was no recreation area. They would go to the desert. Sometimes when there was no rain in the desert there was no feed, so they wouldn't take them there. In my time, in my day we would drive them from Campo up Kitchen Creek. Up until probably 87 I guess,, it just got too crowded, too many people with the change in ownership.

START

Arvilla: My Grandmother Leach rode side saddle.

Jim: I've got a cousin in New Zealand whose Grandfather went to New Zealand and William Chilwell came here. We went down to see him and he did a lot until he found out that there were so many damn horse thieves. There was Chilwell and Chilwell and they came during the war and they ended up stealing all of the English's horses.

(laughter)

Heather: Are there any McCain's left around here.

Jim: None that are still named McCain.

Sue: Did you ever run cattle or spend any time down around Carrizo?

Jim: I ran cattle out of there years ago. When I was a kid we used to drive them when Al Kalin leased the property. Sandy and I were down there and my Dad. There were some wild cattle down there that belonged to Jim McCain. We went down and got them. This was years ago.

Sue: Like 50's?

Jim: Probably later than that. Sixties probably. Not too long ago when Pete Marston had bought the property. There was a whole bunch of irrigation pipe that Pete's son gave to us. Pete had died and we were real close friends and so his son thought we ought to have the irrigation pipe. *(laughter)* Or somebody was gonna steal it.

Heather: This was down where the stage station was right?

Jim: Yeah, right before the bombing range.

Heather: Why did they have irrigation pipe out there?

Jim: They had a pretty good well there and they had some alfalfa.

Heather: They were actually growing alfalfa down there?

Sue: Right there at the creek?

Jim: By the round pen. Just a small bit.

Sue: Did McCain own that and he sold to Marston?

Jim: After Buster died. As a matter of fact, we bought his cattle after he died.

Sue: Do you know what all Buster built down there?

Jim: I really don't know who built what. And then they shut down all the leases. Carrizo Gorge and Rockhouse Canyon. We had leased the McCain Valley, but they fenced off Rockhouse Canyon.

Sue: There is a homestead down there right before you get to the water. We have been trying to find out who that might have belonged to. It's old. Turn of the century.

Sue: There are ocotillo fences and a corral.

Jim: Granny would know.

Sue: Who was Pete Marston?

Jim: Well, he owned Blossom Valley years ago. His family had an interest in the Cuyamaca packing plant. His family had Marston's Department Store in San Diego. Pete was always interested in cattle. He had some property in Boulder Creek and he bought some in Thing Valley. It's an old family. His son died some years ago. That was tragic.

Heather: Did any of your family ever have chickens in El Cajon?

Jim: My Grandfathers brother had citrus in El Cajon. But I don't know if they had chickens. I know one of them was somewhere by Greenfield but I never knew any of them.

Heather: What is your brand?

Jim: Well, what we use now is a J. We have used several through the years. The family used a PL and then the Heart C. and an SK. The PL was for Pete Larkin.

Sue: How did you come by the PL brand?

Jim: Well, do you know who Chilwell and Campbell were? Well they bought 700 cows from Pete Larkin and instead of going in and branding all of them they just took the brand too. Well, I've got to get going. I have to meet a guy in McCain Valley. He lives in Virginia so....

Larry: Well then, if you don't mind, we will drive them up to the old house and then to the old Grand place and up the road a ways.

Jim: Yeah, if you want to take them into Clover Flat...

Larry: How do you get in there?

Jim: ****

Larry: That's the combination?

Jim: Yeah. On the main gate there.

Sue: Can we get a picture of you when we get outside?

Jim: Well, I don't know about that.

(Laughter)

Heather: Well, thank you very much. We really appreciate it. I have learned a lot.

(We are now walking around the ranch yard looking at the buildings.)

Heather: So, what is it Larry? They don't like us if we are State Parks?

Larry: Well, as you can see, he is getting squeezed. I think what he would like to see is a more limited approach to grazing. Like if there is an endangered species, fence it off for that part of the year. I think that is what they got around to doing. Cattle do damage to some extant. But they are also beneficial. They will cause damage to creek banks and they will cause erosion.

Sue: I think that their attitudes that they want as much land as they can without any impacts on it. They are passionate to return the land to its original state.

Arvilla: Archibald Campbell was the one who started doing the rain. The weather is still done here. I do it once a day.

Sue: Why did they start doing the weather?

Arvilla: They moved it from Laguna.

Arvilla: Here is a picture of the Laguna house.

Sue: Is that the one that you said burned down and they rebuilt.

Arvilla: Yes. If you want to walk them out to the corral, I'll make sandwiches. This corral was built when I was born and I am 63. Jim lived on the ranch at that time. The house was right down there and then they moved it.

Larry: Part of the old system that Avilla's mother ran. She did reports 5 times a day. She did high and low temperature. She did dew point too. We do high and low now. The other day when we had a record of 103 they said at the TV station that we were 98. These houses were the ranch people loved in and we turned them into rentals. The first one was probably built in 1930. That was the one that Jim Kemp's family lived in. They moved the house off so Archie built another one. This was the granary and is now a cabinet shop. These were all grain bins. When Archie quit he ripped out all the equipment. Over on that side was where the store was. Later the cooler for the eggs was over there and a cleaning room because you had to clean all of those eggs. We look at this as restoring the ranch. We are tackling the major things first like the water system. This building is now the tool shed but at one time was a chicken house. To raise little ones in and then move them off to the laying house. Then over here on this side you can see steps going up there, it used to have cattle pens and cattle sheds up there. Where those steps are. Part of the feedlot was up this area. The green tractor right here is still in good shape it needs a major tune-up. Then we thought this other one new, because it has a bucket on it so we still use it for when we paved the roads. It was a great help in the house because we had to tear up and foundations and things. When we first moved in here you couldn't even get to the door it was full of everything. Nothing had been thrown away. Every box that had ever been used was still in here, so we started sorting and cleaning and so forth in trying to categorize the tools and things. This is what we kept, some parts etc. We bought all those shelves and things from a Sears in Arizona that went out of business.

Heather: look at the size of that Dolly that's an old one.

Larry: These are the corrals Archie used. The cattle would have of been here, over on that side is where he would fatten them.

Larry: That is a loading chute and these are the scales for weighing the cattle. This was used to store molasses sometimes with the feed you mix it with a little molasses and I think there's still some in it. I read something the other day that I didn't know. You know a mule is the product of a burro male and a female horse. Well, the opposite kind of animal from a male horse and a Jackass is a called a hinny.

We are now at Clover Flat

Larry: So, this is Clover Flat and this was one of the working places.

Sue: Spencer's built this?

Larry: Yes. He is about to pull them off of here and take them up to Laguna. Back in the 1880s Arvilla's great uncle Chuckie was buying this place.

Arvilla: This was part of the Spencer Place. This is where he had a great big house and it burned down. It was five or six thousand square feet and had a bowling alley.

Heather: What was his name?

Arvilla: Phin. His mother was Catherine. Sandy and Jim ran cattle with her. Then when she got so sick, Jim and Sandy split the cattle. I'm not real clear on that but I guess it was in the 60's. This is a beautiful place up here. Have you ever ridden the train during the day?

Sue: No. There were some Spencer's that had some land in Vallecito.

Arvilla: Same Spencer.

Sue: They still have some property there between the BLM and State park.

Larry: I thought he ended up losing it.

Heather: He has a cattle brand registered. She does too. Is she dead?

Arvilla: She's dead. These are Jim's cattle.

Jim Kemp Interview
@ Vallecito
w/ Sue Wade & Heather Thomson
March 18, 2004

Jim: I was down here when Spencer owned it. During the 50's, 60's and 70's and several times before that. My family, Chilwell and Campbell, on my Mothers side were down here. They used to take the cattle up what they call Storm Canyon, up to Laguna. We still have Laguna. The Campo Cattle Company had it, when my uncle was involved. Then Edward Campbell. I really don't know who homesteaded the place. There is almost 4000 acres here of private land. Well, if you take Phin's part out, it's not quite that.



Heather: Where is he? He would not talk to me. Well, his wife said he would not talk to me.

Jim: I didn't call him. I saw _____ in town yesterday and he said they were in Bali. They own a house down there.

Jim: I've known Phin since he was knee high. His mother was fine; she had a lot of class. I know somebody named Shaw homesteaded the place where Phin is, at the rock house up there. Did the State Park get Mason Valley too?

Sue: No, just the bottom part there at El Puerto. Daley has the rest.

Jim: Yeah, we had it leased for a long time.

Jim: The McCain's don't have any land or any cattle anymore. Well, they still have a piece down there where the other reservoir is, down where they put those fields.

Sue: Where they put the melons?

Jim: Just this side. At least they did own it, I don't know anymore.

Heather: What I want to know is- what this- right here is?

Jim: Just a storehouse. This house has been rebuilt or added on or something. Seems a little bigger now. This was the house that we used to use when we stayed here. Everett Campbell had a spring up there where he used to get water.

Sue: We were reading that their house burnt down in the 40's and then they built this?

Jim: Yeah, this one.

Sue: Oh, this was that one? Ok, the older one.

Jim: It wasn't white and it was in a lot better shape.



Heather: Do you want to go inside?

Jim: That reservoir coming in, he put that in and had water coming from Mason Valley then he had quite a controversy with the State Park. He pulled a pistol on them, but he didn't shoot them.

Heather: Oh! I didn't read that part.

Sue: So the water that came from El Puerto, went into that reservoir?

Jim: Yeah, there was a little dam not too far up there; you can still see the pipe. When Spencer bought it, they pumped in from the wells here.

Heather: That's when your brother put in the irrigation?

Jim: Yeah.

Sue: So they filled the reservoir from the wells to water the pasture.

Jim: Yeah, they would fill the reservoir, get a good head of water, let it out, and flood the pasture, which was planted in Bermuda grass.

Sue: Did you people have to maintain the pipe coming down from El Puerto?

Jim: Yes.

Sue: Was it a pipe? I heard it was like a culvert or ditch.

Jim: Well, it ended up a pipe.

Sue: So it was used up until the 60's? So the water from the well and from the spring in the palm trees was just for the house?

Jim: Yeah, but after Spencer came we hooked up to the pumps.

Heather: You still used it, but didn't have to rely on it?

Jim: Yeah, and cause there were a whole lot more people. This is new here. (a shed)

Sue: Do you have any idea....people were thinking that maybe this little building here was older than some of the others?

Jim: I don't know, it's been here a long time.

Sue: As long as you can remember? All these buildings?

Jim: That was here but it didn't have a tile roof.

Sue: Was the barn used for just hay and equipment or...?

Jim: Yeah, hay and fertilizer to fertilize these fields and feed and whatnot.

Sue: You don't know if Campbell's built it or...?

Jim: Campbell's built it. Problem is, everybody is just about gone. My brother is up north, he is just about blind now. He is 81. He could tell you about it. If he wanted to.

Heather: If he wanted to!

Jim: Cowboys are awful ornery.

Heather: Aw, you guys just pretend to be.

Sue: What we were noticing here, is that these corrals are somewhat similar to the ones we saw with Larry that day.

Heather: Yeah, let's start at that end. The Grand place. Did you build those?

Jim: Well, the Grand place, they were there. But we have had that place since 1959. So, they are bigger. Now, the Cline place, we built those. We own it.

Heather: Those are unique.

Jim: Well, you know, you are so poor, you use what you got.

Sue: We noticed some Camp Lockett buildings incorporated into the corrals.

Jim: Well, that place where I live was part of that old camp. They just left, so we used them.

Heather: Hey, whatever works.

Sue: We thought it was neat to see that there. We have seen a lot of that, using what was available. Many of the Sawday corrals are made out of the Cottonwood Bridge.

Jim: When Spencer was here, he would maintain a certain number of cows. Depending on the rainfall, he kept them out at the BLM, what about that? Are they going to turn it into a State Park? There is 19,000 acres that goes with it. Anyway, we had springs developed to keep the cattle out there as long as possible to get these irrigated fields up and then let them in here depending on the weather. Then let them into the fields probably this time of year or April and work the calves. Then either put them back out again, if there was feed for them. Early October or November we would wean the calves and ship them either from the feed lot in Imperial Valley or take them to Laguna and hold them another year. It just depended on the season or how much feed was here and there. We tried to maintain a certain number of mother cows.

Heather: Don't worry, we won't ask how many.

Jim: It doesn't matter, either it was not enough or too many. Of course Campbell and McCain, they kept cattle here all the time too. Maybe take them to the mountains once in awhile. My family, they would take the cows to the mountains every year. Up Storm Canyon. I never took them up there. Way back, these fields weren't irrigated at that time. Just depending on the rain.

Heather: Are you talking Campo Cattle Company days?

Jim: Yeah Chilwell/Campbell.

Sue: So the only reason you were able to keep them here year round when Spencer was here was because you had irrigated fields?

Jim: Well, you could keep some, but you couldn't keep that many.
(we are in the house now)

Jim: Well, it's a little bit different. Four or five of us would stay here. Sometimes we had a cook.

Sue: When you got up to the top of Oriflamme, up by Tullochs, where did you take them?

Jim: Lucky 5.

Sue: When you were taking them up to the Lucky 5, was that under Daley or?

Jim: We leased from Daley.

Sue: That would have been 50's? 60's?

Jim: 70's.

Heather: Daley's didn't have their own cattle?

Jim: Oh, they did, but not at that time. They did for years and then we bought all of their cattle, or Spencer did. They always had cattle.

Sue: Up until the 70's?

Jim: Yeah.

Heather: I heard they had buffalo up there.

Jim: Yeah, there were buffalo.

Heather: Were those your buffalo?

Jim: No, no.

Heather: They have camels in Ballena you know. They have a camel dairy.

Jim: Yeah, I know. Daley had a ranch (with camels?) over there in Las Cruces

Sue: We were trying to figure out when they cleared all the land up there. Cause there are those balls, and the chain. Were you around when they did that?

Jim: That was probably the late 60's. They planted a lot of wheat grass. It did pretty good for awhile.

Sue: It is still there. Did you know Andy Lopez? We were out there with him just after we acquired the property, it was August, and it still had the green in it.

Jim: Course when it rained there was plenty of forage and when it dried up out there, you had the fields. They would eat the mesquite beans, high in protein. We ran cattle there in Jacumba for years and years and years. I've noticed that anywhere there is mesquite the cattle will be. When it gets hot like this, you see more snakes than ever. I have not seen any this year.

Heather: I'm afraid I have. Up in Cuyamaca, they are real black too.

Sue: Lets walk around the corral I want to see how that worked.

Jim: It looks like its all there.

Sue The caretaker, to clean, took some kind of equipment and built piles and buried it, there is junk everywhere. Was that gas pump a decoration?

Jim: More or less.

Sue: Where did you guys go for fuel.

Jim We had a tank, they delivered it., But I don't' see it.

Jim: This is not in to good of shape. (corral)

Sue: So how did it work?

Jim: You bring the cattle in from the field, there were doors on this, actually, the corral has been torn down that came out to here. There were several pens in there and you would sort the cows off the calves and they go in and brand them. Any large animals, it was fixed so you could run them in the crowding pen there and run them through the chute or the cattle trucks load right where that chute is. Whatever you were shipping, whether its cows, calves or whatever, we always had several small bobtail trucks.

Sue: How did you sort the cows from the calves?

Jim: You put a bunch in this corral and put the cows through the gate and hold the calves back.

Sue On horseback.

Jim Oh yeah.

Heather: Was that trough there before?

Jim: Yeah.

Sue: That was probably Campbell

Sue: So you guys kept it up but this was probably built by Campbell's.?

Jim: Oh yeah.



Sue: Was there anything here that you guys actually built?

Jim: The barn had doors on it so the cattle couldn't go in.

Jim: You look at the old maps and there are some dedicated cattle trails around here but that doesn't mean anything anymore.

Sue: Like a county trail or county road or?

Jim: I think it was a county one, I think.

Sue: Have you been to the adobe down on the south end?

Jim: Yeah, it was in bad shape.

Sue: Yeah the roof is gone on it now.

Heather: How about the corrals down there?

Jim: Actually, Spencer built it.

(Talking about the water pipes coming from the spring on the hill)

Jim: Spencer put the PVC in, the metal was Campbell. The cattle will eat anything that's green. It's kinda short now but...It's kind of like a summer grass that came up. (6-week grass)

Sue: We went out with Boots Paroli. He said that if there was a little bit of rain there would be the 6-week grass?

Jim: Yeah, the same way down here. Simmer grass, 6-week grass, whatever they want to call it. We have the McCain valley and its kind of a higher desert nut they have that 6 week grass there. But it's got to rain like every day for a couple weeks or every other day to really get the volume up.

Jim: I guess Hoffman must have drug some of this stuff down to cut out the brush.

Sue: The fire came and burned some of this.

(Talking about Troutman Mountain)

Sue: Several people have told me there is a lot of Indian stuff around that hill

Jim: I know when we were gathering cattle there was a whole lot of pottery around the base of that thing. This fence was to separate the pastures to keep cattle on one side or the other.

Sue: Was there water up in these canyons here?

Jim: Not this one, if you put them in this pasture they had to drink at the house but it wasn't too far. The most water is on Phin's property, a tremendous spring coming out, for this country anyways. There was a pipeline from Phin's springs and they piped that water to several troughs down here and got it as close as possible to that windmill in the middle over there so you would

have water as close as possible to everything. It was kind of hard to maintain. When there were cattle here a guy had to check them every day. Of course water is very important in this kind of climate.

Jim: This was the last one (trough) here.

Sue: So it ran underground or on top.

Jim: Here it was underground but up there it was so rocky.....

Sue: What was this for?

Jim: Salt block. Years ago, we used to mix salt and cottonseed cake. The salt was to reduce the consumption. We would haul a semi load of cottonseed cake and we would mix it. They would not eat it as fast. If it was just straight cottonseed cake, they would stand there and eat it until it was gone. It was a supplement.



Sue: Did the cattle do a lot of damage to the troughs? Is that why they did this? (Concrete surround)

Jim: Well, you should or pretty soon your trough is sitting up on a pedestal.

Sue: The windmill pumped the water in.

Jim: Yeah and then it would fill up the tank so when the wind did not blow we would still have water

Sue: So these extra troughs were to store extra water.

Heather: Does everything look different to you?

Jim: No, same old desert.

Sue: What was this?

Jim: A test well probably, see it's got plastic PVC. I don't know who did that.

Sue: We see these a lot. Are they sewer pipes or are they made for water?

Jim: No, they are pipes, they fit together like this. I see they didn't put any reinforcing in that one.

Sue: So all of this is pretty much the same as it was. What was the windmill made out of pipe or wood?

Jim: It was a wooden tower.

Jim: Well, that old one has been there for awhile, the one lying down. The one that I remember was an Aeromotor. I forget who put it on. Campbell built all the wells and the corral and we might have put a new mill on that thing.

Jim: I hated these things with a passion. This is a pump jack. There is a cylinder on the bottom that had leathers on the pipe and many times, you had to replace them. You had to pull that pipe out of there with a block and tackle. You pull up as much as you can and then you put this around it to hold it till you get another bite on it. This, you could put a motor on. You hook it up to your sucker rod, which goes down into the cylinder. There is a brass cylinder, hopefully in the water, and they have a series of leathers that draw the water. There is a check valve that doesn't let the water go back down. The only problem is that many times the wind doesn't blow. So, this could be used with a gasoline engine.



Sue: The wooden thing over there might have been for the cottonseed cake and salt?

Jim: Yeah.



Jim: What a mess.

Sue: If you cleared all the brush out of there it probably wouldn't look too bad.

Jim: That's Granny Martins honeymoon shack.

Sue: Do you remember it when it had a roof on it?

Jim: Nah, we never paid much attention to it.



Jim: These fields were pasture. Say a fellow had a field 20' wide and then he would have berms. Small berms, just small enough to contain the water, each one of those lanes would have a valve at the end of the ditch that you could turn on or turn off. There was a valve out of this reservoir and you would open that and the water would go in the ditch and irrigate the ditch. Same system on the pastures down below. The pastures were put in by Spencer's in the late 50's. There was a small one that Everett put in that had alfalfa and then Spencer's made it bigger. There is more water down at the other end. That area down there is a natural Cienaga. They put the fields down there in coordination with the Soil Conservation Service.

Sue: Why would they have been interested in doing that?

Jim: They had a program to develop these systems. An offshoot of the depression. To help the farmers and ranchers and whatnot. They still are some services the Farm Service Agency as far as drought and fire and disaster, you apply for it and they will come in and give you a certain amount of aide.

Sue: Mr. Tulloch was telling us that some of those dams on his Cuyamaca Ranch were put in after the war. Would that have been the same thing?

Jim: Yeah, the Soil Conservation Service, probably. I know when we put them in I was just a kid, before the war. The Soil Conservation came out of the Depression. The federal government paid for part of it. They helped people. They had engineers to lay out these fields and build dams. Years ago, the Federal Government paid for part of it.

Sue: He was thinking that it was to make work for the soldiers returning from the war in World War II.

Jim: Probably, that would happen, but I think it was something that happened out of the depression, before the war to make work. Like WPA, CCC. Several of those agencies are still in existence.

(In truck after the interview)

Sue: When we were coming back from the big house and I asked him about what Mr. Tulloch said about construction of the reservoirs. He was saying that the fields down in the south end that Spencer developed, that he had did it in cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service. When we were talking at the end about the future of cattle ranching, he was saying that the biggest factor was population. Population creates roads, it creates housing and it just comes back and puts pressure on the cattle. Liability, insurance rates, all of that. Secondly he was saying, after population the packing plants, there are none in San Diego and the ones in El Centro are for dairy cattle steers. He was also talking about mad cow disease. A lot of their meat was shipped overseas to the Japanese. Now they started getting beef from Australia. Not necessarily because they don't have high quality beef. He said his son would be happy to come back into the cattle business but you can't make a living at it.

Anza Borrego Foundation
 Lucky 5 Tour
with Steve Luckman
 March 22, 2003

Steve: Welcome to Rattlesnake Valley and the Lucky 5 Ranch. I experienced this ranch from the age of 2 to 15 and 1/2. My parents bought the ranch from the Harpers in 1940 for \$65,000. We used to come out here every summer. My Mother would drive my two brothers and I across country and we would spend the summer here and my Dad came for the month of August and he would fly back to Boston. We would go up to San Bernardino in the old Woody station wagon that we had here on the ranch and get on the Super (?) and get to Chicago, transfer to New York and then go on to Boston. I wanted to show you a couple of pictures. I have a little packet for each of you that have two pictures, but I wanted to show you some of these. This is the gate that you saw when you entered the ranch. It used to say what it says today...the Lucky 5 Ranch...but it also had each of the brands. The ranch had a horseshoe 5 brand, my brother Chuck, who was the oldest, had an L with a 5 underneath it, Jim had a JL and I had an SL. They were there all across the gate. The main pictures that I wanted to show you are of the house. What you see today is quite a bit different than what we experienced when we lived here. This house is on the original site of the old Harper House. This was basically a clapboard house that they had up here on the hill. There was no swimming pool. My Dad had a background in architecture. This is what the house looked like when we lived here. This front porch cover was not here. It was all natural wood with a shingle roof. It was really a lovely home. My Dad had the swimming pool built which was a paddock pool; I think the first one in this neck of the woods. It was quite the talk of the area.



This is a picture of what the house used to look like inside. It was very comfortable. I can tell you a story about the furniture of which this house was furnished with. It's kind of an interesting and funny story. I copied two excerpts from my father's book that had to do with the ranch. I thought it would be kind of interesting. I included it in this little packet.

As I said, we used to come out here in the summers. Of course when we first came I was very young and I didn't have to get involved in the duties. Eventually I did, the first thing we had to do was to cut the



weeds inside the fence. The fence that you see around the house now is quite a bit tamer and smaller than it used to be. The weeds were the first project and then the next thing we had to do was to paint the trim on the old adobe barn. The first years we were her, that rock pile over there was about 40' high and I used to have a little Tonka Toy bulldozer and I used to make roads

in there and my Mother used to be all worried about rattlesnakes and things of that nature. The ranch was an operating cattle ranch. We had anywhere from 400 to 500 head of cattle. When you came from Julian and you came onto Sunrise Highway and you came up and over the cut, pretty close to that, the ranch started on both sides of the road. The first thing you saw was an old corral on the right, that was the Lake Pasture and across



from that was what we called the North Pasture. I have no idea if that was to the north but that's what we called it. At that point there is a pass and an old graded rough road that went down to the desert portion. When there was snow up here in the winter time, the cattle would be taken down to the desert for grazing.

Needless to say, for me, living on the west coast and going to boarding schools wearing a blazer, coming out here was an absolute wonder. Ever since that time, this place has probably affected my life more than any other place I've ever lived. I want to introduce my friend Julie and my friends, Dennis and Jill. Julie and I were steady friends in High school for 5 years. At that time I always wanted to be a rancher. Julie didn't think much of ranching and I kind of got out of that direction. This place was the place that influenced me. I was very distressed at the age of 15 when my parents sold this ranch I always thought this would be a place that I could wrangle and get into my possession and live here and operate a ranch. So with boarding school and the ranch I kind of grew up with a split personality. The house has two bedrooms up stairs and a bath, two bedrooms downstairs and a bath. This bedroom on this side here was my parents and the boys stayed upstairs. My two brothers had the far bedroom and my Mothers mother had this bedroom here. As a kid I was mesmerized that my Grandmother could take her teeth out and put them in a glass of water. (laughter) This was a wonderful place to grow up and a very special experience. Somebody asked me about this little house over her. If you look over to the water tank you will see a wooden one. The little house was a pump house. There is a well there. That pump house was a 1 cylinder diesel pump with a big leather belt that went around. It would pump water up to the water tank and then to the house. Let's walk on this way. When we first had the ranch, lighting was by Coleman lantern. Later on, I think in the late 50s my Dad had electricity brought in. All of the rock work was done by a man named Indian Joe. Other than that, I can't give you any identification. The man was a very fine mason. He did all the walls you see around the house here.

(We have walked around to the south side of the ranch house)

This extension here was an addition to the house. It is not original. The driveway used to be decomposed granite. My job was to get a rake and every morning I would rake this granite. There used to be a big apple tree here and my Grandmother used to make apple pie. The barn you see over here was built by local Indians for the Harpers. It was in disrepair and my parent's rehabbed it.



We had a lot of horses here on the ranch. My horse was called Frog. As a kid, I would stack up some crates to get up in the saddle. I used to fall asleep. We would get to the end of the valley and Frog would stop, turn round and come back. This building we see here on the right was not here. This building was a garage that the Daley's built.

Down below us there used to be a white clapboard house. I'm not sure but I think it was here before the Harpers built up here. I can't say for sure. As time went by, my brothers moved out of the big house and they used to hang out here and I was very jealous that they had their own house.

This is the tack room on the left side of the building. This area here was not really used unless we were bringing the horses in. My Dad was big on us working the ranch. We had a little GMC pickup; we would work on the fences. We would move the cattle. We had a foreman who lived here, no other help so we got into a lot of the work that needed to be done.



One time my parents had Ansel Adams come out and take photos of the ranch I am very fortunate that I have a photograph of when I was 7 years old opening the big barn door and he took a picture.

This building on the right and left were not here. This area here was used when we brand calves. We would bring them into the pasture behind, and then bring them in here, cut out the calves and there was a squeeze, then they were branded and released into the valley.

The road to Julian was nothing like it is now. It was very long and very windy. We would go into Tozers and have a sundae or a chocolate shake. Going into Julian was a big thrill. Going to Ramona was like an hour and 15 minute trip. We would go down to the movies or whatever.

There is a little hill that you can see through this opening. When I was about 4, so it was about 43 or 44, a black cavalry unit from Camp (?) Arizona came here. This was like Mars for me. I'd get the boxes, get up on Frog and ride over there. I was like the mascot. They were here for about 6 weeks doing maneuvers up and down the valley. They camped up on the side of this hill. Then they moved up the valley where you saw that concrete water basin. I'm one of the few people who can say they rode with the U.S. Cavalry.

Guest: Were they from Camp Lockett?

Steve: No, they were from Camp Huachaca. As I said this is an old original corral here. On the other side was the orchard. Part of the original Harper set-up. See up on the hill there with the pine trees? That area we called the Pine Flat. There is a road; this road that you see to your left went down to Pine Valley and all the way down to Highway 8. There were several old miners that lived back over this hill and down that road. There was an old guy named Duke and he had a big old Franklin 4 door car. He was a miner down there and I was allowed to go stay at his place. He had all kinds of old machinery and stuff. Another guy was a trapper. He had an old Jeep and he used to have a gallon mayonnaise jar. In this jar he had concocted this bait. He had a stick and he would stir it up and it was full of things we don't want to talk about. He would come by and pick me up to set his traps.

From an operational point of view, we had an old GMC flatbed truck here which was late 40's. We used to go to Westmoreland to get hay. We would go to Julian and down Banner Grade. At that time it was known as the windiest road in the world. There used to be a lot of deer in this area and my brothers used to do a lot of hunting. If anybody has any questions.....

Guest: How many acres were there?

Steve: I think the deeded acres were somewhere around 2500 and 2700. The total ranch was 22,000. When you go up towards Cuyamaca (*He is speaking of Kwamayii Point*) and the land drops off like that? The ranch went up to there. Just as you pass those cliffs there were two valleys. A smaller valley, Bluebird Valley, we called it. I can't remember the second one....

Guest: Lucas?

Steve: Could be, I'm an old man and I can't remember my name. One time we were at the Del Mar fair and we were sitting in the grandstands and my Mom looked up and we saw smoke. We raced home. The fire started back where this draw area is, where a dump used to be. It burnt up and over and through Bluebird Valley and into this other valley. It was a pretty big fire. It burnt down a bunch of fences. The forest Service came down and they rebuilt the fences with shovels. They took shovels about every 15 feet and they would shove them in the ground and they strung the barbed wire from them.

The foreman was Ray Anderson. Ray and Marian Anderson.. They were here the entire time we were at the ranch.

Guest: I have a question. Did you find Indian artifacts here?

Steve: Good question. Marian Anderson was a great pot hunter. Ray was a carpenter in San Diego. Before they came to work here, they used to come up here and comb the mountains looking for pots. My mom and Marian Anderson became good friends and my Mother started to hunt pots with them. I'm pretty sure that the pictures I'm going to give you have them in it. They found several really lovely pots. A lot of metate stones. I noticed in front of the house there is still one there. There used to be 4 or 5 of those. With 4 or 5 or 6 holes.



In fact, at this place we were talking about, this cliff area (*Kwamayii Point*) my Mom said "Don't forget to tell them about Marian and I ..." What she was talking about was, one morning very early, her and Marian went up to the cliff area and they were pot hunting. They went and they climbed all over. Marian twisted her ankle about 2/3 of the way down and my Mom had to help her hobble down. There was a man named Guy Fleming. He was the first superintendent of Torrey Pines, his wife was an etcher. She came up here and did several etchings of the ranch.

Guest: Do you know why they sold the ranch?

Steve: Get this... in your packet is the story of how they found the ranch, but we lived back east. It was a long way to get here. In 1950 my Dad went to work in LA and we moved there. Now we are living in Los Angeles. All of a sudden, the 3 1/2 hour drive to here became too long. Go figure folks. I never did get that one.

Guest: Is this still owned by the Daley's?

Steve: Yes. I don't know too much about the sale and I think that is a mental block.

Heather: I heard a story from Mr. Tulloch about when the Harpers were going to sell the ranch. George Sawday had told them that if they ever wanted to sell it to get hold of him. So they went to see him and he wasn't home and they told Mrs. Sawday. She decided that he already had enough land and didn't tell him.

(laughter)

Steve: There was a man named Ray Jacobs who found this property for my Dad. There was a big apple orchard back here maybe 40 or 50 trees. If you look up there you can see a couple of switchbacks. That used to go up to the Pine Flats. We used to go up there. My Mom would fix a wicker basket and we would go up there for picnics. My Mom played the accordion. The cows would hear and come gather around. None of this wooden fencing that you see back here was here.

Heather: Did you guys use that loading chute?

Steve: The original one was back behind where these 3 pine trees were.

Guest: What about water?

Steve: The water was all well water unless we had a good rain. Back over this hill is a lake. Very little surface running water.

Heather: Are the Andersons still around anywhere?

Steve: I don't think so.

Steve: This house in front of us was built by Dad for Ray and Marian Anderson. It's a cozy 1 bedroom 1 bath. Aside from being into pots Marian was into gardening and she always had lots of flowers.

Guest: Is any part of this house part of the original? (*Speaking of the main house*)

Steve: No, my Dad took it down to the ground and built a new house.

Heather: Do you have any idea about the corral up at the Lake Pasture? Any idea when that was built or who built it?

Steve: We built it, so it was built in the early 40's.

Heather: The water trailer that is there, was that from you?

Steve: No, there was a windmill there and a cement water trough. That is another place where we would do branding. I don't remember shipping cattle from that location but we more than likely did.

Guest: How many did you have?

Steve: We usually ran between 400 and 5000 head of cattle. They were split between this valley, the Lake pasture and the North pasture which was across the highway.

Steve: This wagon that you see here, this is the original Harper wagon. Where that red car



is parked, it used to be in that location, facing this way.
This pine tree here and this stump...the entrance used to be down here and the fence used to run pretty much along this road line of this enclosed area. Which, was the area that we used to have to weed every summer.

Guest: With a scythe?

Steve: No, with a hoe.

Guest: Wow!

Steve: Yeah, you don't know how much wow.

(laughing)

PAROLI

Bill Paroli (1916-1997), was a lifetime resident of San Diego's back-country. He grew up around cattle and except for his two year Army service in World War II, and a year in El Centro working for Immigration, Bill was a cowboy all of his life. He worked for **Hans Starr** at a ranch near Lake Hodges for awhile, but mainly he worked for **George Sawday** at Warners Ranch and then later on as foreman at the San Felipe Ranch.

Bill married **Mildred Soledad Osuna**. She is a direct descendant of Juan Marie Osuna, who was a soldier and corporal of the San Diego Company. District elector in 1830, and took part in the revolution of 1831. Mrs. Paroli was born on Cuca Ranch, home of her Mothers family.

Mr. and Mrs. Paroli had three children: David Earl Paroli, Charlene Paroli, and Robert Emelio Paroli Jr. (Boots). Mrs. Paroli and son Boots still run a small herd on Cuca Ranch today.

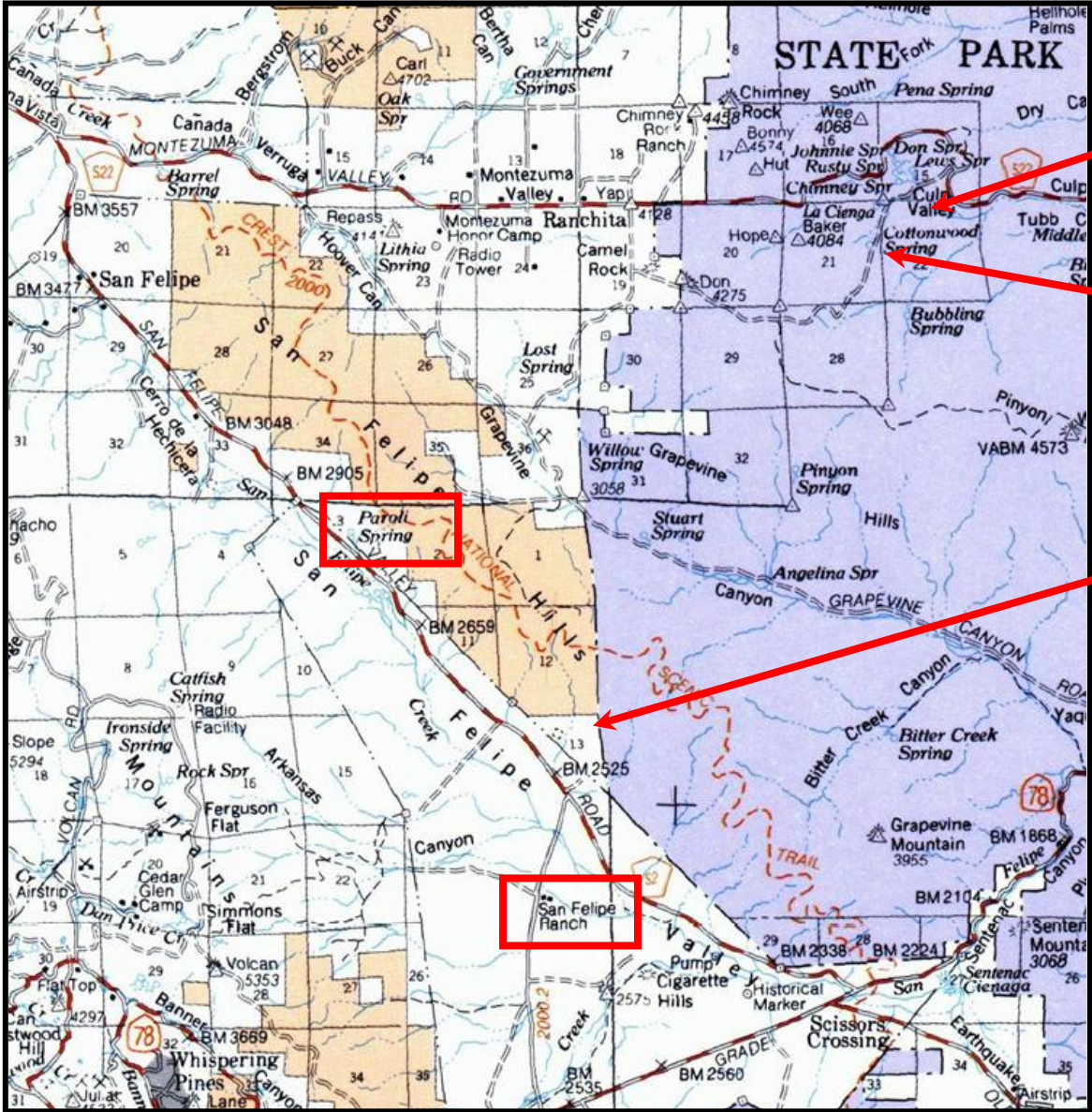
Lavina Paroli (1898-1990), ran cattle on property she owned east of Ranchita in Culp Valley. (It is now part of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park).

Clara Paroli (1901-1978) married **Alfred Wilson** (1888-1975), a cattle rancher in the Ranchita area. Wilson had cattle on the desert in the early 1900's. He owned property in the middle of Culp Valley, more near the top of Tubb and Culp Canyons, and some at the top of Grapevine Canyon. He also owned *Cottonwood Spring* and said that *By-Jim Spring* was named for a cowboy who once worked for him whose name was Jim. (Brigandi: 157)

The Paroli family owns property north of Scissors Crossing, east of the San Felipe Ranch. Mildred also holds a grazing lease on BLM land adjoining the family holdings; however they have not had any cattle on the land for several years. (Paroli: 2001)



Mildred and Boots Parole
Warner Ranch
November 06, 2004



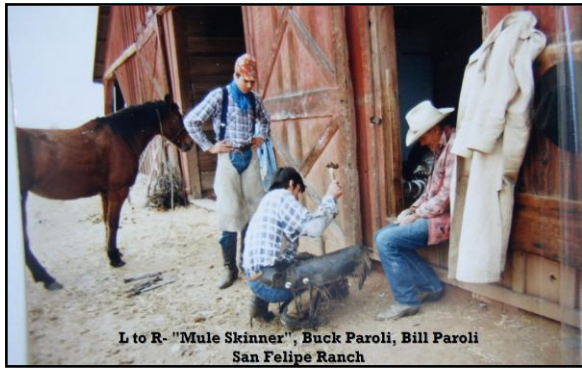
Lavina

Wilson

Paroli



Bill Paroli
Warner Ranch
Photos courtesy Mildred Paroli



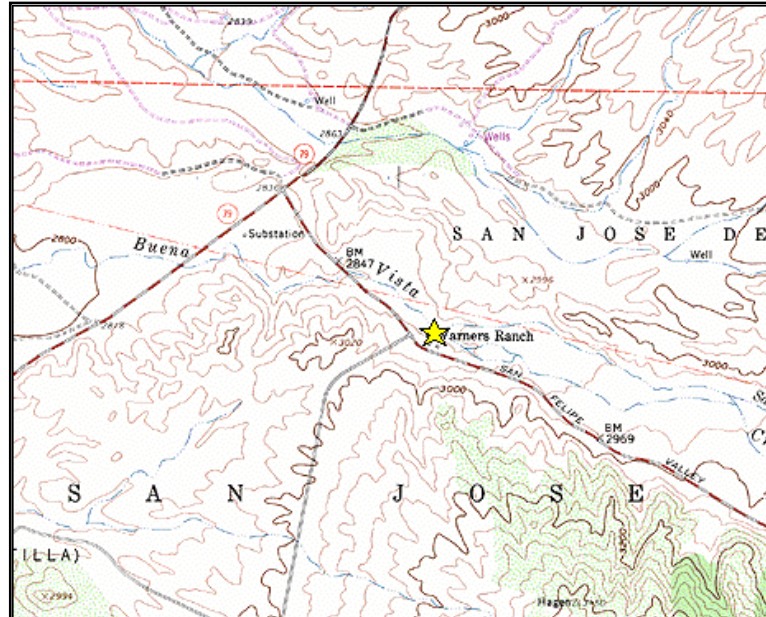
Bill Paroli
San Felipe Ranch
Photo courtesy Mildred Paroli

Kinship of Robert Emelio Paroli

Name	Birth date	Relationship with Robert Paroli
Angel, Ron	August 20, 1943	Husband of the niece
Baldwin, Dorothy Jean	September 27, 1936	Niece
Baldwin, Roy		Brother-in-law
Baldwin, Valentine Leroy	May 11, 1930	Nephew
Baldwin, Virginia Bell	September 10, 1933	Niece
Boronda		Daughter-in-law
Chapula, Valerie		Wife of the granduncle
Couro, Juan Bautista		Grandfather
Couro, Mary Frances	1871	Mother
Couro, Rocendo	April 12, 1871	Granduncle
Couro, Samuel	1854	Granduncle
Couro, Ted	April 2, 1890	1st cousin once removed
Couro, Tomaso		Granduncle
Damron, Lillie	November 28, 1898	Wife of the 1st cousin once
Dominga, Maria		Grandmother
Duro, Maria Susa		Great-grandmother
Miller, Alice Frances	June 26, 1922	Niece
Miller, Lavinia Catherine	1928	Niece
Miller, Leroy		Brother-in-law
Miller, Pete		Brother-in-law
Miller, Sandra Lea	July 14, 1947	Niece
Miller, Toni Rae	August 10, 1948	Niece
Miller, Trudy	November 24, 1943	Niece
Osuna, Mildred Soledad	June 2, 1922	Wife
Paroli, Alina P	April 6, 1909	Sister
Paroli, Andrea H	May 4, 1971	Granddaughter
Paroli, Baptiste	1854	Father
Paroli, Charlene Elaine	February 4, 1947	Daughter
Paroli, Clara	October 15, 1901	Sister
Paroli, David Earl	June 15, 1948	Son
Paroli, Frank K	May 10, 1911	Brother
Paroli, Lavina	November 4, 1898	Sister
Paroli, Louis B.	June 4, 1904	Brother
Paroli, Marie	1901	Sister
Paroli, Mary	August 16, 1913	Sister
Paroli, Robert E	August 9, 1969	Grandson
Paroli, Robert Emelio	November 2, 1916	Self
Paroli, Robert Emelio	February 8, 1944	Son
Paroli, Rosie Curo	February 7, 1911	Sister
Paroli, Valentine	February 14, 1903	Brother
Paroli, Virginia		Sister
Rossen, Barbra	February 4, 1959	Niece
Rossen, Bonnie May	January 20, 1949	Niece
Rossen, Clinton	May 27, 1955	Nephew
Rossen, Harold	April 15, 1947	Nephew
Rossen, Thad		Grandnephew
Rosson, Dick		Brother-in-law
Rufina		Wife of the granduncle
Smith		Husband of the grandniece
Wilson, Alfred	July 18, 1888	Brother-in-law
Wilson, Alfred A.	April 14, 1917	Nephew
Wilson, Fred L	August 3, 1924	Nephew
Wilson, Harry Joseph	October 20, 1922	Nephew
Wilson, Joanie		Grandniece

Boots Paroli Interview
with Sue Wade & Heather Thomson

The interview began at the Warner's Ranch House.



Boots: They had a big round corral close to the barn made out of mesquite poles. My dad was a bronco rider, so what he would do was to get on the horse, and Hans would be with him and he would whip the horse.

Heather: With your Dad on him?

Boots: Yeah, but 90% of the time he would hit my Dad. Those mesquite poles are crooked and when you would come around you would get pretty banged up. That's how come his knees were always bad. When they would get them going pretty good they would open the gate and let them out into the meadow. Most of the time they would be bucking and that would just wear them out.

Heather: Why would he whip them? To get them going?

Boots: To try and get them out of a buck. In other words, you try to get them to run instead of buck.

Sue: Where did they get their horses?

Boots: I guess they got them where ever they could find them. When we moved out of here, they had 25 horses down at San Felipe. We were the only ones down there so we were riding four a day apiece. We would ride one for about 2 ½ hours and get another one and then in the afternoon do the same to try and keep them rode down. I think they finally figured out they had to get rid of them. I'm not sure how they did that. Maybe somebody came in and bought them, I don't know. Of course they kept the good ones...except one that cracked my back.

Heather: Still ride now?

Boots: Yeah. There was one other old guy there. But he had his favorite horse called Trapper. I think we have a picture somewhere. Vicente was his name.

Heather: Was that the one that lived in the little adobe?

Boots: Well, it was made of wood; right there in front of the barn. I think it's still there. I know part of it fell down.

Sue: He was the caretaker there?

Boots: He worked for the ranch. He was there when we got there and I think he was in his 70's then. I was still in grammar school.

Sue: When was that?

Boots: Well, that would have been....we left Lake Hodges in '59. He was the only one down there but I think the reason they put Dad down there was because he was younger and Vicente was getting pretty old.

Sue: So you guys stayed down there all of the time? The cattle moved in and out or what?

Boots: Well, they had steers. What they would do was they would bring tractor- trailers full of steers. There could be anywhere from 600-700 head, maybe 1200. Then they would keep them there for x amount of months until they thought they were fat enough o take to the feed lot.

Sue: So, they were fattening them down there at San Felipe. Was that certain months of the year or year round?

Boots: It depends on the rain. Usually if it rained you would see the trucks coming in.

Sue: So you were talking about taking cattle down to Blair Valley. You only did that once in a while or...?

Boots: Yeah. It depends on the thunder showers. You would run them out there to get that good grass that had a lot of protein in it. Of course we didn't have any corrals down there so we had to drive them down there and back. The part that we call Big Blair would fill up with water in those showers in the summertime. Like a big lake. Then we found an Indian trail on top. So instead of going all the way around we would just go on over the top. IN Little Blair there was another natural pond up there that would fill up with water. So we didn't have to take water out there. When it stopped raining we took a water tank out there and we would get the water out of the bottom at Scissors crossing. We would have to travel 2-5 miles to get them water.

Heather: How often would you have to take water to them?

Boots: it would depend on how much they drank. Of course we had a pick-up so we could go on out to check on the water. We would let it get down about that much... cause I thin it was about a 3000 gal tank and usually we would put about 300 or 400 in it. But that was when you could graze on the park. Then they did away with the lease....

Sue: Was that a big blow when they stopped the leases?

Boots: Well, yeah. Cause that was real good grazing out there. You could double up on your herds. Times change.

Heather: Does that lake at Blair Valley ever fill up anymore?

Boots: It's been a real long time. I was trying to think on the way down here when the last time I saw it full was and I'd say it was in the 60's. I don't know if we have any pictures or not. It was really something to see.

Heather: You are the one who has the wagon right? That somebody came across in?

Boots: My Grandmother. From what I understand was they bought it in Ramona in 1906. They had a team of horses and two mares, one in foal. They came down from Ramona, through Santa Ysabel, to Julian and came up to Cuyamaca and came down that back way that comes down to Daley's Ranch down into the bottom. It goes down the other side of Granite Mountain. In the 60's there was still water in Fish Creek. Grandma said they found water out in the middle of the desert and that was enough to get them to El Centro.

Heather: What in the world were they going to El Centro for?

Boots: To start his dairy.

Heather: Your Mom's side goes way back.

Boots: Yeah, the Battle of San Pasqual. My Grandfather said his Dad; he was 16 when the battle happened he said his job was to find little rocks to put in the muskets because they ran out of steel balls. This was my great grandfather on the Osuna side.

Heather: You are also related to the Duro's form Mesa Grande right?

Boots: I don't know about that one.

Heather: Well, your Mom showed me a picture of Trinidad Duro and said that was her Great Grandmother and she was the daughter of Cinon who was the last hereditary chief of the Mesa Grande.

Boots: My Grandmother was a packrat and so is my Mom.

Sue: So, all of these corrals are new huh?

Boots: Yeah. Tejon Land and Cattle Company built these.

Sue: Ok, let me get this straight, your Dad came here from El Centro?

Boots: Well, what I remember was living at Witch Creek. We lived across from that Star B Ranch. Of course Orville he lived on that same side up on the hill a bit. Mr. Sawday lived in the Green house. I think he was still alive then but I don't remember him. He died when I was real young. They picked Dad up with all the guys who lived out this way. They would come out here (to Warners) and they would have breakfast and then go to work. Before he got married he used

to stay at Laguna on top where they ran cattle up there. Usually they would take them down to the Coogan Ranch. He told the story one time when they were going down the Old Julian Highway with a herd of cattle and the priest was coming in his little brown jeep, he said that they were flagging him and the priest ran into the cattle and it turned over his jeep. My Dad ran over to him and he said Hey! You guys killed the priest." But the priest was ok and they turned his jeep upright and the priest got in and away he went.

Heather: That's not good to kill a priest.

Boots: Bartolo Duro used to live up there by those big pine trees. He used to use a jeep to go put out salt blocks cause he could get around better. One time he and salt blocks and the jeep turned over and they said, "Hey! We killed the priest again!" So they had to go down there and turn the jeep over and he was ok too.

Sue: What used to be over here?

Boots: Well at one time they had a kind of pasture in here see this level spot? They would put the ones that were sick in here or the heifers that were getting ready to calf so they could watch them.

Sue: Did you guys ever go out to the old adobe down here? It was supposed to be an old store?

Boots: I've been in it but I've heard so many stories on that. They say that it was the Wilson Ranch, and I don't know who really owned it, if my Dad's Dad was alive, he could tell you. I asked him but he didn't know. He did tell the story one time, that his Dad was coming through here on horseback and he said that he was behind the guy in front and it was during the summer and a lightning bolt hit the guy in front of him and killed him. Who the guy was I have no idea.

Sue: Everything is so gorgeous.

Boots: Yeah, this is the way it used to look all of the time. It just kind of quit raining. Like at San Felipe, it was not unusual at all to see the flash flood down there in the summertime. The county roads guy would come through with sand bags.

Heather: Do you ever remember this burning or the San Felipe burning?

Boots: No, not in my day. Maybe Ramona once in awhile.

Sue: Did you guys hunt a lot?

Boots: Oh yeah.

Sue: What did you come back with?

Boots: Oh, during deer season we would get deer. Quail, rabbits. Wild pigeons. There were no turkeys then.

Heather: Plenty now.

Boots: Yeah, yesterday I saw one right there in Rincon.

Sue: How many head of cattle did they have here?

Boots: Gosh, the only thing I can remember when Sawday lost the lease was that it seemed like we were here forever just gathering cattle.

Heather: Do you know where the adobe corrals are over here?

Boots: No, but I suppose Stan would know.

Sue: Here is a question for you. There has been a big discussion as to if this is the original Warner's House or if he had another house back there on this hill on the other side of the creek. Have you ever seen any evidence of any foundations or anything over there?

Boots: No. Not a thing.

Sue: There never has been anything found that would suggest it but there are a couple of people who are adamant that it was over there.

Boots: Could be, you know who you want to talk to is the Taylor's, they are the ones that were here before Sawday. Nelda, she might know. She came from Mesa Grande, so they have been the area forever. Maybe her folks told her. Or maybe Rudy Osuna's relations might have told them something. His Dad was a cowboy.

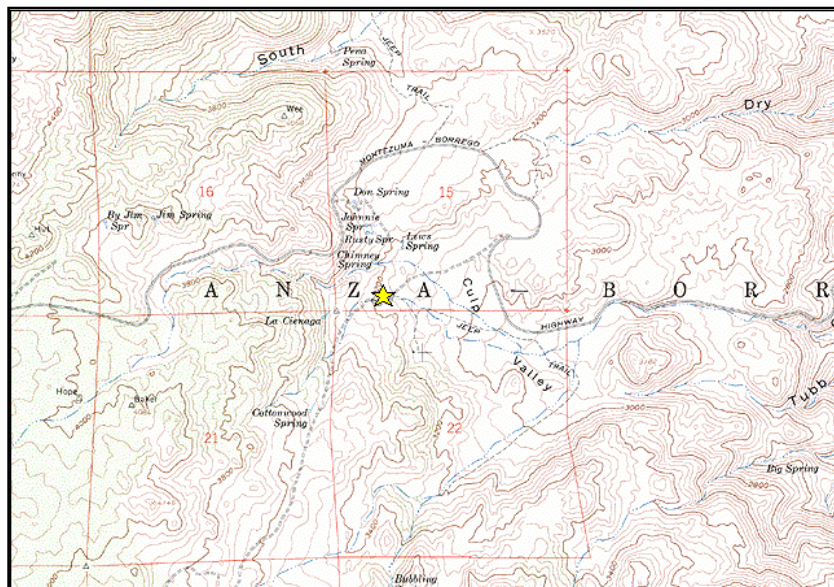
Sue: So how did you decide which horses got to sleep in the barn or did any?

Boots: Well, none did unless they were sick. They would get gassy from eating too much clover. Clover was real bad and they would have to stick a needle in there to relieve it.

Heather: Just stick it in there anywhere?

Boots: No, you had to stick it in just right. Had to pop them before they popped. We were just talking about that the other day.

(We are now at the Lavina Paroli home site in Culp Valley)



Boots: before this was parks they used to hunt all of this. There used to be deer, and I mean big deer.

Sue: Did you ever see bighorn here?

Boots: Yeah, you used to see them up around the turn there on the side of the hill. Early in the morning. I think we got pictures of them standing up there on the rocks. Over on cigarette hill I've seen 2 or 3.

Heather: Why does it have that name?

Boots: I guess because it's straight.

Sue: So the main grazing area would be this valley or?

Boots: Yeah and then you go around the back side there and there is another little valley. Of course as you get higher, it gets brushier. They would work all these little ridges. You can see up in the scrub oak there, all the grasses. That's why the desert was good for cattle, because they would go picking around these bushes and there is a lot of nutrition in them.

Boots: You never saw the turtle rock either huh?

Sue: I don't think so.

Heather: Me either.

Boots: I'll show you on the way out.

Heather: Do you know where the eagle rock is?

Boots: Yeah, that's up on the Warner's. Between the ranch house, actually I think you can see it if you take that road by the Warner store. You go right at the reservation and when the road goes straight uphill you can look up and see it. You have to get out and walk a ways to really see it.

Sue: I never did ask when they lived here.

Boots: It had to be in the 50's. Late 50's.

Sue: There are some nice Indian sites around here.

Boots: Yeah, they are all over. We think the reason they were here was because of the water. Lot's of ollas too.

Sue: Did you ever find any?

Boots: No.

Heather: I know you did. Your Mom showed me.

Boots: All right. One or two. We found one once with a lid on it. Kind of like the shape of a hamburger.

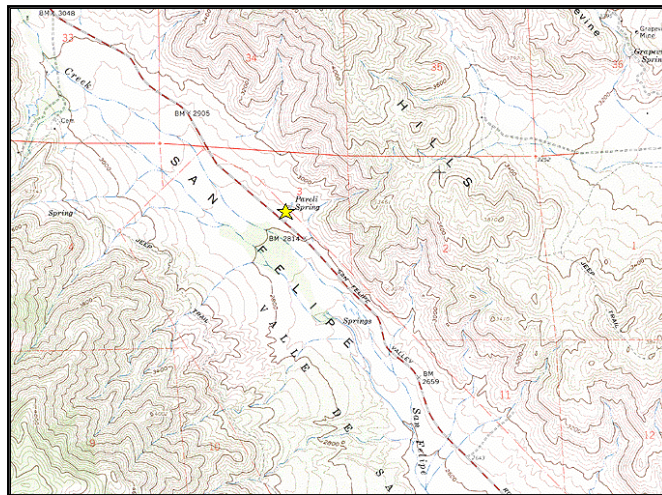
Sue: Anything in it?

Boots: No. We found on once with a piece of rope on it. I guess it was to carry it.

Sue: Could it have been the remains of a basket?

Boots: No. It was rope. You know, they had a hole drilled on both sides. There was just a little piece of it left. I guess the rest of it rotted away. It was some kind of meadow grass I guess. Something tough.

(We are now at Paroli Spring in the San Felipe Valley.)



Pine tree

Boots: See that dried up cottonwood tree. You can just see the top of it?

Sue: Oh yeah, ok.

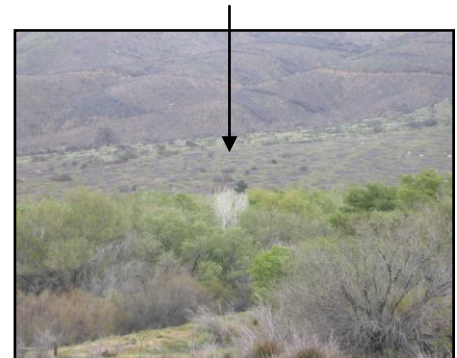
Boots: That's the one my Dad planted. He claims he panted it when he was living here. He said he found a pine cone and stuck it in the ground and thought it wouldn't grow.

Sue: So what would this corral have been used for?

Boots: Loading cattle.

Sue: So where would the cattle have come from?

Boots: All around. They would truck them in here and unload them using the chute. That area is like a wing and you would funnel them in and sort them out and funnel them out. I haven't seen it this dry ever.





Sue: Yeah, we were talking to Mr. Tulloch and he said they haven't had cattle down here for 5 or 6 years.

Boots: Yeah, I used to bring them down from our place in the winter and leave them down here until about May and then take them back to my place and let them summer there but it has been so dry and barren that we just quit coming. That's why we had to cut back as well. If you had no feed.

Sue: One thing we have been seeing.....Heather and said that she recognized the style between some of the corrals that Charles Sawday built. They build them out of this old bridge in Campo. I guess they demolished the bridge and he got the lumber and I guess he built several from that. Do different people build in different ways?

Boots: Yeah. I don't know where they got these from. This is dangerous and I'll tell you why. If something comes chasing you, you have to be a good jumper cause there is nothing to stick your foot into to climb out of. The ones she mentioned across from Julian are the same. The corral at San Felipe when we first came down here it was all mesquite just like that one at Warner's. When Dad was there were big boards and they had these real big boards and they had tar all over them. But when Edwards took over then he redesigned the whole thing and used metal pipe. Real modern and a real nice corral.

Sue: Do you suppose this iron was surplus something or other?

Boots: Yeah, I imagine. It looks like some kind of well pipe.

Sue: How long do you remember this being here.

Boots: Late 50's or early 60's.

Sue: What was it about the San Felipe that people started building things here?

Boots: About 56 this used to be dirt all the way to El Centro. Then they came in and started widening the road and paved it.

Sue: So there is an old cabin or something up there?

Boots: No, this is where the house used to be.

Sue: Who lived here?

Boots: This is where the Paroli's lived. They owned all of this. I don't know if my Grandfather died or what. It got sold. I don't know what happened. Anyhow, this got sold and they, him and his brothers ended up with the 137 acres down farther. Where the cemetery is down there.

Sue: This got sold to?

Boots: Sawday I imagine.

Heather: How many of your family are buried in the cemetery.

Boots: Not very many, just seven I think. Actually, only 4 are really buried. Everyone else has been cremated.

Heather: So your Mom still holds the BLM lease?

Boots: Yeah.

Heather: She said you were going to come down here and run cattle someday.

Boots: Yeah, like I was telling the lady, I haven't had them down here for about eight years cause it's been so dry.

Boots: Boy, that fire did a job here.

Heather: It did.

Boots: When I heard it jumped the road. I thought there goes the beer drinking place.

Heather: Yeah, it went all around it didn't it?

Heather: You know when you go in behind the log cabin, you go about a mile sown the road and there are these little shacks, Don't know.....

Boots: Shacks?

Heather: Yeah, shacks. There is the one bigger house and the little shack ones. What was that place?

Boots: Gosh, I don't know. Dad knew them all. I'm trying to think of that guy's name.

Heather: I heard everything from it was a whore house, a resort for movie stars.....This friend of mine told me that he knew where an old Butterfield Stage Station was, turns out he was talking about that place.

Boots: No, but old Vicente, down at the ranch told us that there was one down this side of scissors crossing. One day we were riding through and we came out of the creek and I saw this stump and it had bolts sticking out of it. I got off and I was looking around. I took my Dad and showed him. We found an old shoe and stuff. And he said I bet that was the old stage station.

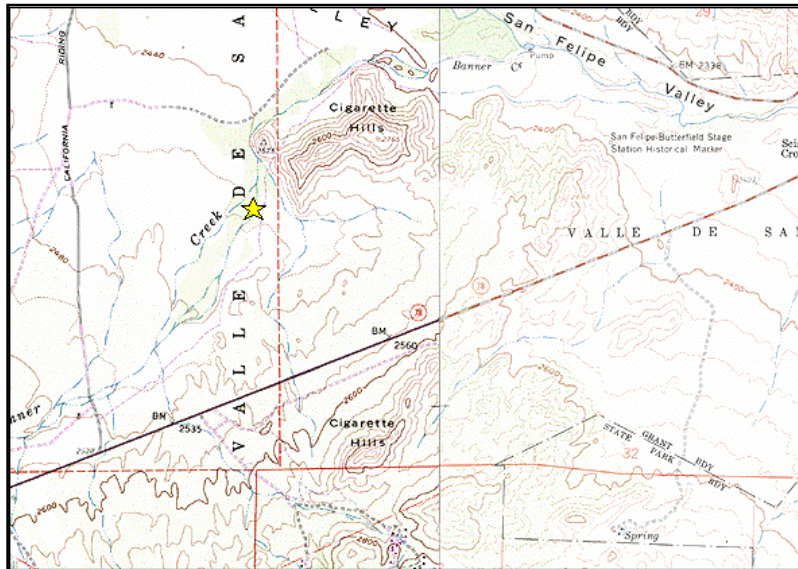
Sue: Well, we will show you where we think it was.

Boots: Ok. Fred, he was older than Dad, he remembers seeing Indian villages down through here. This was all clear. I don't remember seeing them. I don't even remember seeing the ruins.

Sue: Once you get down in the boulders, there are quite a few places in among the boulders.

Boots: There isn't anything up on top.

(We are now on the portion of the Sentenac acquisition located north of Scissors Crossing.)



Sue: You guys never plowed over here.

Boots: No. Not us. Dang. I've been through here a million times and I never did see this.

Heather: Not very observant, are ya'?

laughter

Boots: Well, maybe I was just looking for other stuff.

laughter

Sue: The cattle never came here.

Boots: We were looking for money. The oldest coin we ever found was 1805.

Heather: You are kidding me!

Boots: Yeah, the sun was going down and it sparkled.

Sue: Heather found a bucket of money once.

Boots: Really?

Heather: Yeah, 2 buckets actually.

Boots: Really! What? Was it buried?

Heather: No, it was off the side of the road. Somebody probably stole it, hid it, and then couldn't find it again. Half dollars.

Boots: Old Vicente told us about a time he was standing there and this squirrel was digging a hole and was pushing silver dollars up out of his hole.

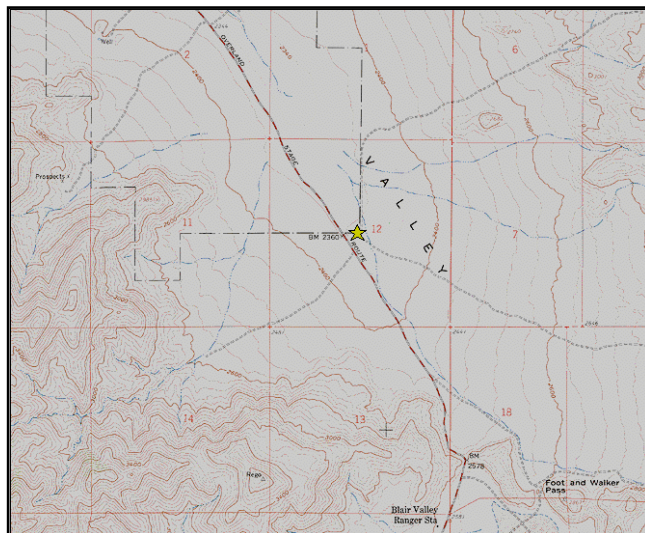
Heather: Ah! Ha! Right!

Boots: He says he buried it back up. Went home and when he went back to find it he could never find it again.

Boots: My Dad built these things for salt blocks. He would scatter them around. There was water right over there. The alfalfa fields are right over that little hill.



(We are at the southern end of Earthquake Valley.)



Sue: How many gallons did this hold?

Boots: Oh, about 2000.

Sue: Then it just went into a trough or what?

Boots: No, you would pump it into a big tank and we had it on railroad ties and then on the tank we would pump out of the big tank into the little tank and then it was just gravity fed over to the drinkers that worked off of a float regulator. So you didn't have to be out here turning it on and turning it off. Well, I hope I did you guys some good. Every place I took you, there wasn't anything there!

Sue: Oh no. You have been great. Everybody we talk to is just that much more insight I get. The more people I talk to, the more jealous I get! It must have been really wonderful riding around the country, exploring and finding things.

Mildred & David Paroli
Interview
with Heather Thomson

This interview took place at the home of Mildred Paroli on the La Jolla Indian Reservation.

Heather: So, when he, (Bill Paroli) first started...when did he first start cowboyin'? I mean, before you guys met?

Mildred: Well, he was a cowboy when I met him, but most of his life he was a cowboy because he was 25 when we got married. I was 21. He had done some other odd jobs I think. But he was working on the ranch when I met him. A cousin of mine from Warner's Ranch introduced us at a Mesa Grande Indian fiesta. She had many boyfriends then. She was a looker. So, she could spare one of the boyfriends.

Heather: Give one up for ya'?

Mildred: So, anyway, he said, "do you want to go to the Lakeside Rodeo tomorrow?" and I said, "Sure!" He was a good looking, tall, thin cowboy. So we started going around with each other for quite a long time. I got a secretarial job in Riverside at the Sherman Institute, the Indian School. For a whole year, every weekend he'd go up, pick me up and then I'd drive back. The next time I'd drive down and it worked that way. Then, when he got drafted why we left to get married. We went to Yuma over there. But on the way we went through El Centro and picked up my Mother and my Brother. So we got married over there. Later after we had three kids, we stepped into the church at Santa Ysabel and the Father there married us all over again. What else do you want to know about it?

Heather: Everything. Well, you got married and then where did you live then?

Mildred: Well, then he went to Camp Carson. I resigned working at Sherman Institute. They had given me a shower. They were all real nice. Anyway, I left there and went home to El Centro. My Mother used to do housework over there for some of those ranchers. One of them Mr. Beyschlag, he was the Farm Advisor at El Centro courthouse. So he said, "We could use Mildred in the office." So, I went over there and started to work there. Bill was so lonesome over there so I asked if I could go up there and see him. I meant to come back, I think. I went on the train and once I got over there, I stayed. So then I took some tests over there and I got interviewed twice. Once I almost got one of the jobs working for the Air Force, but some California girl beat me out. Just as well, because then, I got pregnant with Boots. Then I went to do housework and I was with the Lieutenant Colonel's wife and two kids. This Colonel was in that same Camp Carson where Bill was staying. Then she (the Colonel's wife) wanted to start a liquor store in Colorado Springs. Once a week she would drive over to Denver and pick up her order of liquor. She taught me to cook. We had this book of stamps then, during the war. By pooling our stamps we could have pretty much everything. She liked to have three kinds of vegetables and meat or fish. One time she got a leg of lamb and I didn't know how to cook it. So I called Camp Carson and I asked Colonel Richardson, "How do I cook this?" He told me turn on the oven and all and when she came home I told her, she said, "Mildred, you didn't!", and I said, "Yes, I did. And he was so nice!" I was good at making cakes. She and a bunch of friends were going up to Pikes Peak one day and she wanted to take a cake I baked. She let me bake another one for Bill and me. That picture of Bill and I was taken up there.

Heather: What a cutie. You were a cutie.

Mildred: I was there seven months. Then he had to go to Louisiana and I came back to El Centro. He never had to go overseas cause he had a bad knee. He served two years and two months. When Boots was born they let Bill come home for his Mother's funeral. As a fact his Mother, Frances Paroli died the day Boots was born. February 8, 1944. They used to keep us in the hospital for 10 days, so he came and saw his son and took my Mother and came up where his Mother had lived with two daughters. She's buried in San Felipe. I hear you went up to Santa Ysabel, I mean San Felipe. Do you know where the graveyard is over there?

Heather: No, I didn't go that far. I don't think I did anyways.

Mildred: So you didn't get to see the San Felipe ranch house? It's right across the road from the Paroli place. You were very close I think.

Heather: Here is Paroli Spring here. The ranch house is down here right?

Mildred: Did you go by Warner Ranch house?

Heather: Yeah. Instead of going down to Ranchita I hung a right. Are you talking about where Louie lived?

Mildred: You saw the big corral then. You were so close. You would come to the BLM land first then Paroli's 135 acres. The Paroli homestead joins the BLM land.

Heather: Is the BLM on the east side of that?

Mildred: On the left side, on the same side as that corral.

Heather: Does that back up onto the Paroli property? This is where I saw that concrete block that said LP 1950. Farther on down there was another spring.

Mildred: There used to be a spring, cause he used to run the cattle across the Paroli place onto the BLM.

Heather: So, this is what you're still paying on?

Mildred: I think so. Is that orange area what that is? (*We are looking at a map*)

Heather: Yeah, and this is State Parks here. How come you're still paying taxes on that? Do you still use it or is it just in case or?

Mildred: I keep it rented because...

Heather: Once you let it go out it's gone?

Mildred: Yeah, and Boots talks about maybe someday taking cattle there. It was real convenient when we were at the ranch. We could haul water cause BLM has no water.

Heather: When he was working for Sawday he had his own cattle too?

Mildred: Yeah. They had an arrangement, Mr. Sawday was great. He treated his cowboy's well. He had this pasture called the bull pasture apart from the cows. Mr. Sawday knew when it was time to take the bulls out to the cows so he let Bill have one of the bulls for his cows and then Mr. Sawday would turn right around and buy the calves from him.

Heather: That's convenient. Does any of your family still have cattle at all?

Mildred: I do.

Heather: You do? You have cows?

Mildred: There are about 30 on Cuca Ranch right there. Boots sold quite a few last year because they were getting old. Did you hear about Boots' son?

Heather: No.

Mildred: He went down in an airplane. That was June 10th. Three years ago. This is Buck right here. Here's Buck and Bill. This is the way he looked toward the end. He died less than a month later. I had gone to the hospital and he looked great. We were ready to bring him home the next day, the next morning. I told him I had to go home, and that I'd be there in the morning. He started looking so bad, got the shakes so bad. The nurse came in and gave him a pill. I rubbed his hands and everything. I decided not to go home, just sit in his hospital room. I called Boots and told him I wasn't going to go home I was going to stay there. About 11:30 or so he gave a gasp, the nurse yelled code blue and they came out of the woodwork. The Doctor told me there was no response. He went that quick.

Heather: This was only a couple of years ago?

Mildred: I think it was three. It's going to be four this year. He always used to say he wanted to go in his sleep. That was his wish anyways. The priest had been there and gave him communion, so he was ready. I was with him at the end. The nurse said he was a handsome man. I told her "You should have seen him when he was young." Boots came in and said "How is he Mom?" I said, "He's gone Boots." He hugged me and then I started to break down. We had a good life.

Mildred: I always went around with a camera. This is one (a deer) he got out back of the reservation. Our garage had a deer hanging all in it before the first year. Boots got another one since then. When Bill was in charge of the San Felipe Ranch, you should have seen the deer. He made the best deer jerky.

Mildred: Our first Grandson, Buck was born on our anniversary, August 9th. When you're married 50 years you can get that from the President. (*Speaking of a congratulatory card signed by George and Barbara Bush*)

Heather: He was still a good-looking guy.

Mildred: He never got that tubby. This is from The Roadrunner in Valley Center. See? *“A real Cowboy passed away this week.”*

Heather: You do save things don't you?

Mildred: Boots helped write that.

Heather: You guys lived down at Lake Hodges?

Mildred: Yeah. When he got out of the Army we lived in El Centro for a year. He was hired by the Immigration Service as a guard. They have a facility there where they corral all the wetbacks. They had a tower where Bill would sit and when it was dark, he would watch the wetbacks in case they would run along the ditch to escape. He could speak Spanish pretty well, so they would get him to interpret when they get these Mexicans. One thing led to another, the girls in the office there they would send their hand washable clothes home with him and I would hand wash them and I would get my \$1.50 or whatever it was. He didn't like the job at all. He lasted a year. Mr. Sawday said he wanted his cowboy back. So he put us in a little house at Witch Creek, it's not there now.

Heather: Maybe you will know what this place is then. I stopped and took a picture. All that is left is the chimney. If you are coming this way and you pass the green house, it's on the other side. Where was the Spring Hill School?

Mildred: On the way to Sutherland Dam. Bill and his sister Virginia went there. Coming out of where the Sutherland Road comes out it was there. His sister Mary Rosson also went there.

Heather: I was curious about what happened to Mary Frances' folks.

Mildred: I don't know.

Heather: Lavina had her own cattle? What about that information where they say that Pena Springs was named for her Mother? Do you know anything about that? Did you ever spend any time out at Pena Springs, Culp Valley?

Mildred: Oh, we'd drive through there, through Grapevine. Bill was quite a tracker. He could track.

Heather: We got side-tracked again. Where were we?

Mildred: At San Felipe, one of our cows had this calf and a lion got it. Look how it was covered. There I was with my camera again my hair standing up on end. I was so nervous and scared.

Heather: Was it going to come back and eat it later or something?

Mildred: Yeah, he came and moved it. Because when we went back the next day he moved it over a little bit. See that's what Bill could do, he was a good tracker.

Heather: Wow, look at the scratch marks there. Is that what that is?

Mildred: I suppose.

Heather: It's mom (*The cow*) was standing up there yelling for it?

Mildred: Yeah. Bill knew if something was wrong with that cow. He had a lot of cow sense, I admired him a lot. He could doctor everything. See, when we moved over there, (San Felipe Rancho) it had this railing and a widow's walk over the two story ranch house. They knocked it down, because my kids couldn't stay away from it. There is a real good picture of the house that David has. This is a good picture of Bill riding in the corral at San Felipe, but Boots noticed his Father wasn't wearing his boots.

Heather: What's he got on his feet?

Mildred: Oh, he has walking shoes, you know. This is when my Grandson was a little guy. At Lake Hodges.

Heather: This is at Lake Hodges?

Mildred: Yes, Hodges.

Heather: Is this the same house?

Mildred: Yes, at San Felipe. They made movies there.

Heather: You guys actually lived in this house?

Mildred: Yes.

Heather: Wow.

Mildred: Not in the top part. We never used the upstairs.

Heather: How did the kids like growing up out there?

David: There were a lot of other kids who liked to come and stay out there at the ranch.

Mildred: Two movies were made at the San Felipe Ranch. They spent two days making "Time of Destiny" with William Hurt. John Wayne came to the ranch one time. To Warner's Ranch. Hans Starr, the foreman, was married to Mary Sawday. She was first married to Tellam. Tellam died after a rattlesnake bit him reaching for a key under the steps of a ranch cabin.

Heather: I read that somewhere.

Mildred: Well, Willy Tellam, you know, is quite a cowboy.

Heather: Yeah, I see them out by my place every day.

Mildred: Oh, you know Willy?

Heather: I don't know them, I see them all the time. They run cattle over by my place.

Mildred: Oh, okay. We've known the Tellam's since they were little. Willy and his two brothers. His son's a cowboy too. Then Mary fell in love with this rodeo cowboy. Hans Starr and had three daughters from him. Three sons from Tellam and three girls from Starr. He hired Bill to work for him at Lake Hodges. Mary fixed that house for us, put a big window in. I loved it I could pull the curtains and look out. Course it wasn't a freeway then, just a highway. People knew this cowboy because he used to ride around the lake there. Anyway, they would call him and say, "Mr. Paroli, one of the bulls is out on the road. Same thing used to happen over at the San Felipe Ranch.

Heather: That's Pena Spring.

Mildred: Pena Spring, where ever that is.

Heather: Right here, Culp Valley. On the left hand side there, going down the grade.

Mildred: See my good looking Grandson? This is Bill sitting out at the barn at San Felipe with his two Grandsons. I have a picture of Tex there bending over and he reminds me of Bill so much cause he's a cowboy. He took after his Grandpa. So did Buck. Buck used to say, "I have the best of two worlds. I can go up in the sky and fly around and come down and ride horses. His dream was to wind up in Oregon and he was thinking about buying land over there and putting cattle over there. I think he was going to marry Kaylin. He had just started to get settled, just gotten ready to do his crop dusting and he went up with his plane, and I don't know what happened, but it happened suddenly and down it went. He had given them this phone number so I took the call. I'm straying away from Bill, maybe I shouldn't.

Heather: No, that's okay.

Mildred: They said, "This is the Sheriff's Department in Oregon. If you know Buck Paroli, call this number." So I took the number and immediately I called Boots' house and Colleen, my daughter-in-law said, "He just left, he should be there any minute." So I took my portable phone out there and I told him to turn off the engine and make the call. "Something happened up in Oregon." I heard him say, "Yes sir. I understand." "Yes sir." So when he hangs up he says, "He's gone Mom. The plane went down with him." Oh man. Boots took it very hard. He was this young man, good looking, he had it made. The kid did exactly what he wanted to do. He started in Ramona taking flying lessons. When he went to Oklahoma and he got a job with these people there. When they asked if he wanted a job, he said, "Yeah, I'd like to work" and continued flight school there. Buck was a special person. When I used to read about that Diana, that Princess over there when she died. All those nice things they'd say, Buck was a lot like that. I have a whole notebook with everything that was said in the cards and letters at his funeral.

David: There was a way about him. He was one of those people. He met my boss one day. They had never met him and were watching him ride over there at Warner's Ranch. He just rode up there on his horse and got off like at the movies. They offered him lunch and the wife wasn't prepared and only had pea soup. They said he was a real gentleman, made sure there wasn't crap on his boots, you know. He hung his hat on the corner of the chair like in the old days. It was like out of a movie. Then he was eating pea soup and saying it was good. He probably hated it.

They just took after him. He once rushed me to the hospital in the middle of the night. He had to dress me and everything. He always loved weenies. Weenies and broccoli. He could cook them any which way you wanted them.

Heather: Together?

David: Anything. He loved them.

Mildred: This is his sister.

Heather: She's pretty.

Mildred: We went to Chico to see her graduate.

Heather: What does she do? Did you say teacher?

Mildred: Yes, so is my daughter. Both teach Kindergarten.

Heather: Boy I'll tell you what, you need to have some patience for that. I couldn't do it.
(we are now looking at pictures of Pena Springs, Paroli Spring and San Felipe)

Heather: That's Pena Spring, a pipe sticking out with water running out of it.

Mildred: Boots probably knows the springs. He'd take off on horseback and ride all over. This is my son Boots. Andrea's father. The Indians over there at the Chico University took her under their wing, so when she graduated she got an eagle feather to wear on her hair. She used to go to pow-wows with them and did Indian dancing. She was very much like her brother, got involved.

Heather: It was one of those strange days, sun then rain then fog then rain.

David: It looks familiar, but it's been a long time.

Heather: This would be looking at it ...north would be that way. Hellhole would be that way. Up there are metates in the boulders.

Mildred: There's a metate right there. These are the only ollas that are left. I've given them all away.

Heather: Now, where did these come from?

Mildred: Bill found them here and there. He found all our ollas.

Heather: Out in the desert or?

Mildred: Yes. Mostly.

Heather: So, this is what I'm going to be doing for my talk on Saturday. Pioneer back-country families and their interaction with Indians. So, my whole talk is pretty much going to focus on your family. Because...

Mildred: Because of Bill?

Heather: Yeah, how in the world did they get Bill from Robert?

Mildred: I don't know.

Heather: They had a big hand in it, you know?

Mildred: Look at Boots. When Bill got drafted and we got married, his boots landed in the closet at my Mother's house. She said that when we had our baby, she was going to call him Boots. If it was a girl she would call it Bootsy.

Heather: That's where it came from?

Mildred: Yeah. Her name was Andrea like my Granddaughter. That's how Boots got his nickname. When Boots called the ranch house and he said, "I have a son born this morning at six." I said, "Oh great!! On our anniversary." He said, "Oh! Is that right?" I said, "yup. Our anniversary is today." Then of course when Bill got to hold him and to love him, he called him Buckaroo and then it got shortened to Buck. He was Buck all his life. They are all named, the three of them, Robert Emelio Paroli. Those three. So, Buck was third. Boots was junior and we made Bill Senior. Now there is another Robert Emelio. My daughter Charlene has two sons Tex and Jim. When Tex was expecting a second son he asked Boots if he minded if they named him Robert Emelio. He said, "No, go right ahead." But of course he's got a different last name. Their name is Dowdy. Bill got to play with Tex's first son when he was little. He's 11 years old now. Here's Boot's and Buck. Here's Buck and Andrea. Buck was something special. I don't know if you know the Denmark's. They got to be good friends. They were real similar. They won a trip up north and Tex also. They are all Indian. On channel 13 Buck and Andrea were interviewed with the Julian FFA and I have the tape somewhere. I have so many things that I enjoy. Anyway....see how proud I am of my family?

Heather: Yes, you surely are.

Mildred: There are just so many things that have happened in my life. I've enjoyed every minute of it.

Heather: So, besides the time you were in El Centro, did you live here in San Diego?

Mildred: Yes, I was born here at the Cuca Ranch. My Mother's family was there. She came up to have her baby. But then we went back because she and Dad owned a dairy and both worked twice a day milking cows and sold milk to a creamery.

Heather: Down in the valley?

Mildred: Uh huh. There's Charlene with her two big sons. See her sons? She's just a little lady. I have so many pictures. I thought when I retired I could do albums. Here are the boys at San Felipe burying their Grandpa's ashes. Right there.

Mildred: 97 was the last time I went there. This is the patio side. Do you remember the flood that we had in January 1983. There was such a flood and it did a lot of damage to the San Felipe corral.

Heather: Okay, when the train tracks got washed out and all that? Wasn't it a hurricane?

Mildred: Whatever it was, it got our jeep. We lost it in the mud. See what it did to the corral? Later on the Ranch put metal fences, but it used to be wooden. Marylou noticed the barn was falling apart so she got John Tellam to build a new one with an apartment up top. That's what's there now.

Heather: So, who lives there now?

Mildred: Did you ever know Buttons Sugart? He replaced Bill. He was there a while and so when he left not too long ago, they got a renter to go there. This fellow put his son there but the kid didn't like that big old house too much. Boots went to have coffee at Lake Henshaw, the cowboys all go there in the morning. So he said I'm going to move over to San Felipe. But I'm not going to go to the big house. I'm going to the apartment. The apartment has everything. This kid, well he's not a kid, but kind of young, he will be moving there. I don't know what his name is. This is the back side of that house. (San Felipe) All the pictures are from the front side, but actually when you come from S2 where you were on that road, you really come up into the patio side and it looks like that.

David: It's about a mile off of the road. For us that was the front of the house. When we first moved there we had a generator and a redwood tank for a water tank.

Mildred: Our T.V. was a black and white. The first one we ever got. I had to convert it to DC and also my Maytag washer. Whenever I wanted to wash, I had to crank over the generator or if I wanted lights in the evening.

David: It was a long way out there to turn it off in the dark. Dad went to bed early all of the time! Mom will deny it all.

Mildred: I sat up half of the night. Crocheting.

Heather: Did he retire or.....?

Mildred: Yeah, he decided he didn't want to be there anymore. They had brought Button in too so...he just made up his mind. He surprised the heck out of me one day. He walked in the house and he said, "Well, I turned in my time." "Oh.", I said, "When are you going to leave?" and he said, "At the end of the month." This was in October, so I thought, what are we going to do? I told the grocery store up in Julian to save me some boxes. I started packing. Andrea was living in Mesa Grande in a nice cabin. She said, "Grandma, you can live there. I got everything." His house (David's) in Ramona has a lot of space too. Oh you ought to see Boots' place. It's a big house. He's got a nice house. So I thought, Boots would ask. He took his time. He said, "We've got that one bedroom over there, but it's real small...." It was okay. We squeezed in there and we stuck some of our things in his barn. He got started on this pad right away. One of the Indians down here got me this catalogue, so I picked this mobile home and really, this should have been on the back-side, so they did a flip-flop. It cost an extra thousand I think. I wanted the windows

over here, in the kitchen part. Everybody sits at the table no matter who comes. The house came in two pieces. In two months, at the end of January, we were here. That's how quick it was. Bill used to dig our weeds and watch for rattlers. We had big rattlers and deer would come by here and they still do. Coyotes too and he would get so mad at the little hummingbirds. There was a mean one that would sit up there and one day he came in and said, "Look what I did." He had the feathers of this hummingbird. He said he grabbed it's tail. Honestly. We would see that darn bird and he had no tail feathers. He sneaked up on it. I used to work down at the Tribal Hall and I'd leave him here. When he had to cook beans he had to sit here cause he'd burned beans once or twice. He would make Sanka coffee and he was used to that propane stove down in the desert. My old robe, the sleeves all have holes from our electric stove. I turn on that darn stove on high and I think I'll remember to turn it on low and I don't.

Heather: So, is he registered here or...?

Mildred: Nowhere.

Heather: Nowhere huh? He never got registered?

Mildred: Virginia gave me that paper. Now where is it?

Heather: This one? Clinton's kids got registered didn't they.

David: Man! Is it hot in here? I can hardly breath.

Heather: I was kind of wondering, The air is kinda' thin down here where I'm sitting, I can imagine what it's like way up there!

David: Gosh! Why didn't you say something?

Mildred: Virginia wanted to be enrolled. Well, she is enrolled, but they wanted to verify that she is Indian. This is what she got and I don't know where she got it.

Mildred: Baptiste Paroli, the one who came from Italy, became a citizen. There's the second page. He was a bonafide Italian. He didn't speak any English. Frances and he, I guess they could communicate.

Heather: I guess so, if they had 11 kids!

Mildred: The kids grew up learning some Italian, a lot of Spanish and of course English.

Heather: They didn't speak their native language did they? Any of them.

Mildred: He would make wine in the cellar. Many of the Italian and Swiss people would go there and get drunk. I don't know how he would get to San Diego, but he would buy those salamis and spaghettis. Frances made her beans and her tortillas and biscuits. He made wine all the time. This is from that lady that wanted to do an interview with Bill.

Heather: How come he didn't do it? Was he shy?

Mildred: I think so. These are clippings. I have saved everything. Some of these are interesting stories. Did you know the Ponchetti's in Culp Valley (Charley)? They had cows down in Hellhole and he couldn't get them out.

Heather: The ones that they had to lift out? Those were his cows?

Mildred: Bill used to live in that historic Warner's Ranch House. The story is that they were going to restore or preserve it as the Butterfield Station. Here's a neat story here about the ranch house. This is that story where I got the picture.

Heather: Are you going to get me some copies of these or will you let me take them and make copies? I wouldn't let them go either, but will you make me copies?

Mildred: You can have this one, I have extras.

Heather: You do save everything.

Mildred: You can have that one too.

Heather: Cool. That's a great picture.

Mildred: On the back-side, it's got some too. I was taking pictures all the time. This one says Robert E. Paroli but he wasn't in that one at all. I like this one.

Mildred: School, is that why you are doing this?

Heather: No. Well, I go to school full time and that is how I got into this. I was interning for State Parks and I got hired for this project.

Mildred: So, is this your dissertation or whatever they call it?

Heather: This is for State Parks, the deal on Saturday is for school. Oh! You made me think about it. I hadn't thought about it for an hour.

Mildred: I used to go upstairs at San Felipe and look down out of the window toward the barn. The cattle trucks would always come at 2:00 in the morning. Bill was already sacked out and I was on the couch waiting for the trucks to come in. There were no lights out there in the barn so, truck lights were going and they would either bring cattle or take cattle.

David: It was always at night, never during the day.

Mildred: The Duques were the ones that owned the San Felipe at that time.

Heather: That's how you pronounce their last name?

Mildred: D...u...q...u...e. Duque.

David: All their names were up there on the stairs where they lived.

Mildred: They weren't friendly with us.

Mildred: There is something there about the dogs. Did you read that? Orville had a dog, and there was something about his hearing aide. Did you read that?

Heather: Uh uh. No I've been skipping through.

David: It was his hunting dog. A black lab. It was his pride and joy. We just had a regular old dog that belonged to my brother. Dad always said "Don't let your dog down." Of course Orville had been bragging on his dog. Then one day it got down and our dog just ate it up. His was a \$300 dog and our dog was nothing.

Mildred: It was George wasn't it that gave Boots that little dog?

David: Yeah, something like that. (*Speaking to Mildred*) I was so mad at him cause I didn't want to fuss with that dog. He kept him in this big piano box over at the ranch house. Okay Boots, you're going to have to get up at 2:00 in the morning to feed this puppy, give him his milk. You're going to have to clean the patio, clean his poop and all. Then we got to loving this darn dog.

David: We used to dress the dog up in a shirt and levis.

Heather: Levis too huh?

David: Yeah, and the Boy Scouts used to come and one day Boots put whipped cream on the dog like it had rabies. Then he said "Sic 'em!" Then the kids ran and they told Dad. Dad was mad! That dog was famous. He used to fight coyotes and kill skunks.

Mildred: When Boots would go riding, there was this dog, his dog following. He would come back just barely walking. He had cholla in his feet from the cactus.

David: That dog used to ride with me in my car. I had that Mercury and I'd go get the paper and that dog would sit in the car like a human being. We'd fly down that road listening to music.

Mildred: Okay my dear, something else very interesting. I corresponded with Allesandro Paroli in Italy, and he sent me this coat of arms. This is black and white, but this is the color of it. This is what it's going to look like. The Paroli coat of arms. See the name in there? It's really pretty. Boots has one. Charlene copied one for Boots. When I was up there I was so dumb. I said, "No I don't want one." Don't know where to hang it." Well, once I got home I wanted one. So for my birthday, June 2nd, this is what I want. I'll have to call and remind her. That coat of arms is very interesting. So....you know about this book huh?

Heather: Yeah. I do. This is Rosendo, Ted Couro's father. What was your maiden name?

Mildred: Osuna. Virginia said there was an Osuna in the family. They probably married a relative. I used to tell my kids, don't marry an Indian because they were most likely related.

David: I used to go with this girl named Celeste Osuna, a pretty Indian girl and my Mom says, don't.

Heather: It says her father Bautisto Couro, then it say's Maria Couro then Maria Osuna both born at Warner's Ranch. Yeah, all the Duro, Couro you know.

Mildred: I'm related to the Duro's.

David: A lot of those records burned.

Heather: So, you're related to the Duro's on your side?

Mildred: Yes. This is the wagon I was talking about. Boots was moving it up to the house.

Heather: You guy's families are all mixed up.

David: It's been that way since I can remember. There are people that claim us and Mom say's "I don't see how."

Mildred: This is my Father that was on the Ramona ball team.

David: He was a Dodger fan.

Mildred: Yes, he was a Dodger fan.

David: Down in the valley we used to go down to the corner liquor store and we'd sit out there. He'd buy me an ice cream and he would listen too the ball game.

Heather: This is the wagon?

David: That was the wagon her mother and father used to cross the desert when they moved from Ramona to El Centro.

Mildred: In El Centro they had milk cows and pretty soon they had their own string. They had thirty-five.

Heather: Where was this? (*Looking at picture of the wagon*)

Mildred: Boots took it up to his house.

Heather: There is an old wagon like this out where my Grandpa lived in El Centro.

Mildred: You said you were going to bring pictures of your Grandpa.

Heather: I forgot.

David: Well, I don't know if we did you any good.

Mildred: Sorry I talked so much about the family.

David: We will probably remember a lot of stuff after you leave.

Heather: That's okay, I'll come back any time. Did you want these pictures of Pena Springs?

Mildred: Not me.

David: You could leave one to show Boots.

Mildred: We missed our 55th by, let's see. He died June 8th and our anniversary was August 9th. It would have been 55 years.

David: That's a long time. Marriages aren't like that anymore.

SAWDAY

*Charles and Ruth Sawday
Willy Tellam
Betty-Anne and Bill Tulloch*

Born October 6, 1876 in Julian, George Sawday was the son of Fredrick Sawday, a British immigrant and pioneer in the Witch Creek area. In 1904, George married Emily E. Crouch of Oceanside, daughter of Herbert Crouch a sheep man. Not long after, George Sawday began building his empire and soon became known as a “Cattle Baron”. He owned and operated the largest cattle enterprise in Southern California and one of the biggest in the west during the first part of this century.

The Sawday cattle empire spread throughout the county, from the 14,000 acre Los Penasquitos Rancho in North County all the way into Imperial County. It has been said that you could ride from the Riverside County line clear to the Mexican border and never set foot off of land Sawday either owned or leased.



George Sawday
Photo courtesy Julian Museum

I was fortunate to have had the opportunity to interview Charles F. Sawday (05/16/1911-06/23/2008) and his wife, Ruth Cornell Sawday (08/03/1914-05/10/2006). Charles was George’s nephew and spent many a day riding the range, helping Uncle George with his vast herds of cattle. George and Emily Sawday raised two daughters on their ranch at Witch Creek. Still living on the family ranch are Grand-daughter Betty-Anne and her husband Bill Tulloch. The Tullochs still run cattle on the home ranch at Witch Creek, the Cameron Station property near Buckman Springs, Crouch Ranch in the Laguna Mountains and the Coogan Ranch in Buckman Springs, which is run by their son Ben.



Sue Wade, Charles & Ruth Sawday, Betty Anne & Bill Tulloch
San Felipe Ranch, February 04, 2003

Another Sawday descendent is Grandson Willy Tellam. Tellam and sons Steve and John, run close to 3,000 head, (steers as well as cow and calf pairs) on ten different ranches spread over about 30,000 acres in the Back country of San Diego. These folks are doing what for many Sawday descendants has become a family tradition, cattle.



Mr. & Mrs. Tellam at Warner's Ranch
November 06, 2004



Steve Tellam at the Highland Valley lease property.

Kinship of George Sawday

Name	Birth date	Relationship with George Sawday
Avenall, Martha		Mother-in-law
Bailey, Minnie	September 14, 1877	Sister-in-law
Baldwin, Merrill H.	November 30, 1891	Brother-in-law
Berndt, Ethelda C.	November 12, 1895	Sister-in-law
Christian, Mabel		Sister-in-law
Cornell, Ruth	August 3, 1914	Wife of the nephew
Crouch, Emily E.	January 27, 1879	Wife
Crouch, Herbert Royal		Father-in-law
Cumming, Elizabeth Anne	January 3, 1931	Granddaughter
Cumming, Mary Lou	1941	Granddaughter
Cumming, Orville	1904	Son-in-law
Edwards, Tom		Husband of the granddaughter
Good, Sarah		Mother
Redding, Eileen		Wife of the grandson
Sawday, Bessie Matilda	1891	Sister
Sawday, Catherine Ann	March 19, 1940	Grandniece
Sawday, Charles Clark	December 11, 1884	Brother
Sawday, Charles Cornell	November 26, 1942	Grandnephew
Sawday, Charles F.	May 16, 1911	Nephew
Sawday, Charlotte Mary	1883	Sister
Sawday, Ewart Albert	March 4, 1881	Brother
Sawday, Frederick Henry	August 1, 1878	Brother
Sawday, Fredrick	1849	Father
Sawday, George	October 6, 1876	Self
Sawday, George Albert	January 20, 1912	Nephew
Sawday, Kessen G.	March 15, 1887	Brother
Sawday, Lucy	January 20, 1905	Daughter
Sawday, Mary	May 27, 1906	Daughter
Sawday, Mary Sue	August 16, 1938	Grandniece
Sawday, Orley H.	June 25, 1889	Brother
Sawday, Richard H.	December 19, 1919	Nephew
Shank, Catherine A.	December 11, 1963	Great-grandniece
Shank, Natalie E.	September 2, 1969	Great-grandniece
Shank, Robert B.	June 11, 1966	Great-grandnephew
Starr, Hans	1907	Son-in-law
Starr, Joanne Elizabeth	July 18, 1940	Granddaughter
Starr, Kathryn Mary	May 26, 1938	Granddaughter
Starr, Martha Helen	May 23, 1947	Granddaughter
Tellam, Allan R.	1959	Great-grandson
Tellam, Curtis M.	1965	Great-grandson
Tellam, Denise M.	1957	Great-granddaughter
Tellam, Fredrick	1905	Son-in-law
Tellam, Fredrick George	July 11, 1929	Grandson
Tellam, George	October 11, 1932	Grandson
Tellam, George S.	1956	Great-grandson
Tellam, John L.	1958	Great-grandson
Tellam, Madeline M.	1961	Great-granddaughter
Tellam, Matthew	1960	Great-grandson
Tellam, Michael G.	1957	Great-grandson
Tellam, William Sawday	June 25, 1931	Grandson
Tellam, William Stephan	1955	Great-grandson
Tulloch, Benjamin William	October 1, 1953	Great-grandson
Tulloch, Douglas Orville	1955	Great-grandson
Tulloch, Janet E.	1956	Great-granddaughter
Tulloch, Lucy A.	1963	Great-granddaughter
Tulloch, Margaret A.	1958	Great-granddaughter
Tulloch, William		Husband of the granddaughter
Ussery, Jean		Wife of the grandnephew

Charles Sawday Interview
at Warners Ranch
with Sue Wade, Heather Thomson,
Steve VanWormer, Susan Walter, Mike Volberg,
And Vista Irrigation District employees.

(This interview took place at the Warners Ranch House and various spots around the ranch)



Charles: I have a fond spot in my heart for this old place. I spent all my summers and some of my Christmas vacations over here. I lived over at Witch Creek, as you probably don't know, they used to ship cattle into Temecula in the fall, replacement cattle, and then they'd keep them here during the winter. This was kind of a nursing area, you might say. Feed them cottonseed cake, look after them, vaccinate, and brand them. Then in April, why, we'd take them maybe to Laguna Mountains or up back of Pine Hills, someplace up there. I was here when it was in the 20's. This was really a going outfit.

VID2: I read about how you used to run cattle between Temecula and here.

Charles: Yeah. The railroad was in Temecula. Then we would ship fat cattle out in the summer and then bring the replacement cattle in the fall. I was a young kid then, back in the 20's. I was born in 1911. They had about eight or nine cowboys on this ranch. Of course, we did not have pickups and trucks and we had to ride to where we were going. If we were going to work down at the old adobe corrals, we had to all ride horseback. Of course, when I used to use the word cowboy, that means, build fence all day. I remember in this old building I got up inside of it one time and put barbed wire across and I put a stick and I twisted and tightened it up and pulled that roof together.

Mike: Get the camera out. We are missing all of this.

Charles: And when I say cowboy, as I said in my tape...did either of you girls listen to the tape?

Heather: You know it. More than once.

Charles: When I dug a hole for the new chick sales. That's right. You know who! If you're the youngest, you know who dug the holes. This country was all willows down through here and they used to get their water about an eighth of a mile or so up the canyon and bring it down to the water tank, right about where that dirt platform is there. There was a water tank there and the water ran in all the time and ran into a big oak barrel. That was where you would wash your saddle blankets and things in there. This tree, these two trees were here and there was a big cottonwood tree over there. Back in the 20's, early 30's, boy, it was something, the way we would operate.

VIDI: So this house used to get its water from a well or a spring?

Charles: Up on the slope, where the pasture fence ends up over there.

VIDI: So it was piped down? I think the spring is up in here and we didn't know whether he brought it down from there or brought it up...

Charles: No, it came from up there, because the pipe used to freeze up- it was awfully old. I remember I used to have to go up and repair it.

Steve: It just ran on the surface...it just ran on the ground?

Charles: Yeah, it just ran along the ground. In fact, they put the tanks on...they put the tanks up here.

VIDI: So where was the tank?

Charles: The tank was about...(sounds like walking in brush)... that addition, that was where my brother and I bunked, in that part, and the tank was right in here someplace and there was an old oak barrel.

VIDI: Just here outside, right there?

Charles: Yeah, right around here. There was an old oak barrel that used to run into...

Heather: So has it changed a lot?

Charles: Oh yeah. One thing I think they ought to do if they can is get inside the tack room there and look at the construction of that end of that building. It is tongue and groove, no nails. Tongue and groove and wooden pegs that support it. The floor in interesting. Even then, way back in the 20's, the big old timbers, cedar timbers...I don't know how thick they must've been...and I know that they were old when I first saw them and the horses were led in through and out there. They cut all the soft wood away and took the knots. I think they were cedar. It's quite interesting, at least to me, is how the construction was done.

Heather: No, I haven't got through yet. I have not



been in the fence yet.

Susan: How else has this area changed visually to you since you first were here?

Charles: Well, I have to be careful what I say about the Vista Irrigation. (*Laughter*)

VID2: Was the Buena Vista Road the same place that the highway is now? Was the road through here?

Charles: Did you say Buena Vista? Right here?

VID2: They called it the Buena Vista Road didn't they?

Charles: Yes, but the road on down to Borrego wasn't there.

VID2: But the house still faced the road and was still on that side?

Charles: Yeah.

Susan: Telephone lines?

Charles: Yeah. We don't have the cottonwood trees we used to have. When they put the wells in, they lowered water table and there were all kinds of springs.

Heather: Oh, look at the deer.

Charles: Oh, a deer went by.

Steve: So there were many Cottonwoods along the creek or?

Charles: There were huge springs boiling up out through the whole valley and then there was a nice lake out there. It was quite a small lake. I don't know it must've been...2 miles diameter or maybe a little more. About halfway down to the adobe corrals. The big thing is the lack of cottonwoods. Just over the hill and I guess the road down to the old adobe corrals still takes off there.

VID1: I used to know where the adobe corrals are. I don't know...

Charles: Well, but mostly the water and the fact that it isn't up around Monkey Island as much as it used to be. In 44 and 45, right in there, was when the lake was at its highest and it was right up even to the south side of the highway station. That clump of cottonwoods just the other side there, the little clump, those were seeds that the prevailing wind brought from the west and those were cottonwood seeds that blew in there and when the lake went down, they settled and grew and that's how that clump of trees got there.

VID1: I was wondering about that. Yeah. So, the shore used to go up that far?

Charles: Yeah, that was the one time. One time.

Sue: Did you say something about they lowered the dam after that? Can you tell us something about how they lowered the dam?

Charles: Yeah, they lowered the spillway. What was it...when Mulholland Dam went out and this dam was constructed by that same method...I remember one time before that, there was a scare, somebody's dam went out and they went in on the face of this dam and drove in interlocking kind of steel pilings. They drove it into the side of the dam because the state was worried and they had to go in and reinforce some. Then later they came in and lowered the spillway.

VID1: I think one of the issues was that the dam was right on the earthquake fault.

Heather: That wasn't a real bright place to put a dam.

Charles: Springs. Big springs boiled up, clear up the valley here. There was water coming out of the ground. There was big one down in the San Jose where we were working a bunch of cattle. There was one of those little places with the tules in them and the water boiling out. Uncle George took after a steer and the steer turned, but the horse didn't and Uncle George went right out of his saddle and just bogged down out in there. I can remember him to this day come climbing out. He had the horse reins in his hand, the horse was lunging and he was...(heavy breathing noises)...he said, "You know, that's so boggy you could bog the saddle blanket down out there." He was a great hand. He was hotter than a smoking 45.

Heather: Never heard that one before.

Charles: Well, that's hot! (*Laughter*)

Heather: I'll bet.

VID1: Even in the summertime, there were springs?

Charles: Oh yeah.

VID1: The water never really dried up or anything?

Charles: One of the biggest mistakes they made, taking all those beautiful pole corrals down. Used to be a round pole corral on the other side of that building and on down out here and up and down there was a fence that went up and I don't know if it's still up there or not, but that was the horse pasture and the one man, Harold Smith, later, he had a livery over at the hot spring. He usually would get up to the stable in the morning and saddle up the horses and bring the _____ in and they put them in a round corral and one reason for putting horses in the round corral is they panic easily and in a square corral, they'll get banged up and then another thing, it's easier for them to catch them in a round corral because they usually rope them. They just stand in front and the horses go by. Those old cowboys were pretty dexterous. They'd have a rope ready, flip like that and the horse would run into the noose. And another thing is you girls, if you listen to my tape, there was a sand wash, well that's a new barn. The sand wash came right up here. That's right. The round horse corral was over there.

Sue: Is it still there? Right back there? There is a round one back there.

Charles: There's a round one, but that...

Sue: Different one?

Charles: No, that might be where the other one was. Oh yeah. A sand wash ran right up between here. Many times when there was a cloudburst, some water came right down there. There was a sand wash here

and if one of the cowboys was breaking or riding a new fresh horse, he'd saddle it up and he'd take the horse and get out here in the middle of the sand wash. The horse couldn't get very good footing and he could stay with it. We some cowboy was breaking in a new horse, we'd all watch and see him get on in the morning. See what kind of a show we are going to have.

Steve: How many hands were here in 1920's?

Charles: Oh, 9, 10, 12 and I can name a lot of them. The Ponchetti's. There was George, Charley, and Ben Ponchetti, There was Ralph Camel(?). Ralph Camel(?) would cowboy in the Imperial Valley in the winter and he had a pack horse and one horse to ride of his own and he'd ride and bring his pack horse up through the desert and he spend the summers here cowboying. He could count more cattle, faster than I ever saw. You know, you had a big herd you'd want to take through that gate, you'd want to count them as they go through. Well, he'd sit there and count. Sometimes they get to rushing, but old Ralph could, he could count them.

Heather: You want to walk down there?

Charles: Well, it is about in the right place, I guess. But as I remember, this valley was over that way a little further. More questions. I'm running out of thoughts.

VID1: Do you have any recollection of how many cattle would run?

Charles: Yeah. I think, oh, somewhere between five and seven might have been here during the winter. And then, of course in the spring, we'd take them out to other pastures.

VID2: Between five and seven thousand?

Charles: Yeah. Between five and seven. Yeah. Someplace in there, because we'd bring in quite a few cattle in the wintertime. We'd replace the cattle and they would be here during the winter. Vaccinate them, brand them.

VID1: Would you keep many over the summer?

Charles: I don't know the number, but I know we shipped a lot. We'd ship 500 fat beef cattle; that's a trainload, every week and then '28, '29, '30. Nineteen that is. So then Uncle George, on Sunday, would get my father and his two daughters. They were both great horsemen, Mrs. Cummings and Mrs. Starr, and he'd come over and he's cut another 500 head of fat beef cattle and we'd start out with those, maybe make two train loads a week. By this time, I was 17, I think it was. We had a lady cook and her husband did the chores, milked the cows and did things around here and we had lady cook and so she couldn't go on those trips. They had an old '28 Dodge Ram truck. Got to have a truck with a cook box on the back of it and let it down. And had the hay for the horses and big 10-gallon milk cans full of water and the bedrolls. It had a low rack on it when we were cooking and when we were hauling cattle or horses, we'd put a high rack on it. And so we'd get back here and haul the cowboys back on the truck on Wednesday and then one cowboy was coming with the horses to bring them back and then the lady cook would have, oh, doughnuts made up, a lot of food and things. Then I'd start out. I'd load my grub box and start out again and we'd take another trip. I remember there were a number of weeks. I don't know whether it was Wilson or Cudahy. One of the big packinghouses sent a buyer down here to cut out, to help George cut out the fat cattle, choose the cattle that he wanted for the packinghouse. But at that time, all the operations were here. And that house was standing vacant. So this old, Riley, was his name. He'd come down and spend the summer and he was an old timer and he help cut the cattle and then three days more he go out and they'd

cut another 500 head. Instead of having a buyer come down and...transportation was such in those days, he just came down and lived on the ranch. And they'd cut the cattle.

VIDI: So this house was here too?

Charles: Yes. I don't know who built that. It might be I think the Vail's had this before Uncle George had it. I think the Vail's built the house there. I think I remember something about one of the Vail's used to go up and spend time there. But this was quite interesting. I have, I just saw it the other day. Oh there's a pipe right over and a faucet right up at a place there where we'd have basins. Granite wash basins so we could wash up. And on that wall...

Steve: They were here on the porch?

Charles: Yeah. Down on the porch there and we'd stand there and you'd look out this way. There was a place with these different basins where you could wash. And there was a roller towel on that wall over there. One of these handles is for a towel, a cloth towel and I have the roller at home. My brother absconded with it and they had a plain nail driven into a round limb about this big, a nail driven in each end and that's the little hole in these brackets on this. I mention this because that hole is about that big now. That nail is turning over all these years. That hole is about that big. In that corner, there's a pantry and the cook...

Steve: Over on this side?

Charles: Yeah.

Heather: Do you want to go in?

Charles: Yeah, sure.

Heather: If you start getting tired, you say something, okay? Promise?

Charles: I won't get tired. Not if I can get up and cough. One of these trees, I don't know whether it's still here or not, I was a young lad.

All those limbs came down and I nailed a pipe there and nailed the other end to one of the limbs and when I was in college, I was on the wrestling team. So it wasn't enough to haul hay out here all summer long. The cowboys thought I was nuttier than a fruitcake. But I'd get over here and get on my bar and...

Mike: Work out?

Charles: Work out.

Mike: So you went to high school in Julian, then?

Charles: I went two years to Julian and then I went two years to old San Diego High School. Now, this is the pantry here. And they used to be some wires hanging from the ceiling and on those wires, hanging on those wires were white flour sacks and those flour sacks were full of jerky. Because if we'd kill a beef, you couldn't...we didn't have refrigerators or anything for it. The last thing at night, we'd do is we'd hang the beef out on one of these trees. So it'd cool out at night and then in the morning, first thing in the



morning, we'd take it and wrap it in old sheets and big tarps and we'd put it in here in the pantry, wrap it all up again and keep that cold in the meat. And then when it got kinda sticky, why, we'd make jerky out of it. We'd cut strips, _____ and about that long and then we had old wash tubs and we'd lay a layer of these strips. This is entirely different than the jerky you buy at the store and then we'd lay some this way and then we'd sprinkle some salt and pepper over them and we'd just keep building up. The salt was pulling the moisture out of that meat. Pretty soon, we had quite brine on the bottom which we wanted, we wanted to dry that meat. Then we'd take it out on the other side of the building here with the lines and we'd hang it over this barbed wire that we'd strung up there. Maybe it would hang a foot down on this side. When it got dried, it was hard. It was like a big hairpin. Then we'd put it in the flour sacks and hang it up in here on wire so that the mice couldn't get to it. And when we were on the road on those drives to Temecula, the second day out, we'd cook up a big jerky stew. We had big Dutch ovens and we'd cook up a beef jerky stew and then we'd get into Temecula the third day, why, we'd go into Temecula. Old Freedman's meat market and get floods of round steak. And speaking of those trips, I'll tell you about my first drive. I was 11 or 12, sharing my dad's bedroll. Dad was in charge of that drive. Sharing his bedroll and maybe after dinner someone would throw a spread out or a saddle blanket and they'd have a little poker game. And so he was in that for sure. So I went ahead and went over and got in bed. Stripped down to my underwear and got in this bed and pretty soon, dad came over and got in bed, but he got in bed with his Levi's and the only thing he took off was his hat. And he got in there. And I'm, "Gosh, what am I doing here? This is what you're supposed to do?" Well, I didn't say much and pretty soon, he's kick me a little bit with one of those spurs. And finally, I said, "Dad, can't you at least take your spurs off?" Well, then he got up and took his boots and spurs off and we went ahead and slept. Now on that trip, I remember...I'm rambling.

Sue: We love it.

Charles: On that trip, I remember now. I'm going to use the "N" word, because that's what they had in those days. We get into Nigger Canyon and that's the canyon that Vail's dam is built. And at the upper end where they've been harvesting sand was quite a nice flat riverbed. They had to remove the sand. Well, that's where we, on the second day, we would have lunch there and we'd let the cattle water and rest and our horses rest. And that's the last time they could have water because we'd get into Vail's scales, that the selling weight, and they would of course, pass an awful lot of that water between there and Vail's scales on down at the Vail Ranch. I remember watching the cook, of course all the cowboys, they'd just roll their Bull Durham cigarettes and were leaning back against their saddles relaxing. The young kid, he's got to see what's going on. I watched the cook. He had a team of mules and a buckboard and wagon and he had to get from there down to the Vail corrals and get us an evening meal cooked. So he was preparing some of his meal right then and there while we were all resting. I saw him take a cloth, an old piece of burlap, is what it was, moisten it and wipe the wheel, the iron wheel of the wagon. And the next thing you know, he reached up in the little jockey box. On the wagon where you put your seat on that board, there's a toolbox under that they used to call it the jockey box. Anyway, he's reach in there and get a hammer. I thought, "What in the world?" And then he reached up in the back of the wagon and got one of these big sacks of jerky. He opened that up, he got a beef jerky about that long, big around as your thumb and it looks like papier-mâché. It's gray. And he starts running that back and forth across this wagon wheel, pounding it, because it was as hard as the dickens, you know. Well, that was softening...

VIDI: Softening your dinner.

Charles: Softening the meat up so it'd cook. You could put that in the water and boil it and boil it and boil it, and it'd be hours. So this way, he could let it be _____. Down to the Vail Ranch and go ahead and stew up pretty well.

Charles: I did. I mean, oh yeah. If the cowboys...sometimes he had to run cowboys off because they would come in and get a piece of that and stick it in their pocket. That's how I used to like it. They used to chew and chew and chew on it, you know. It had salt and pepper on it and it was actually dried beef. And another thing we usually, if we could and if it sit in...we didn't like thundercloud weather. But if we had a good east wind blowing or a real dry hot day without any moisture in the air, we'd put that meat...of course, the pepper on the meat keeps the flies away and we didn't cover it. Of course my brother and used to say so you wouldn't notice the flyspecks. Well, that's what he said.

Sue: Oh, it makes sense, doesn't it?

Charles: Anyway, that takes care of this part.

Steve: Where this window was, that was the pantry?

Charles: Yeah.

Heather: Can we go inside?

Charles: I guess. The owners are here. I guess. They can see it. I wanted to see what someone had carved here.

Charles: Rough ground is hard for me to...I get along pretty good. Somebody carved something. Here's another one over here.

Charles: P-L-B. Oh, they're putting their initials there.

Susan: Oh, probably vandals or something, likely.

Charles: Yeah.

Mike: Did you guys use the old Kimball Wilson buildings down here at all, or was somebody living there? Or do you know what was going on with that?

Charles: Where's that?

Mike: About a mile down the road.

Charles: Oh, the old store.

Mike: Yes.

Charles: Yes. Oh, who was running this at that time? You know, it was profitable to run a store there with all the people going by and the wagons and things. Can't think of his name now. Yes, that operated up until the middle 20's, I think, but not much after that.

Mike: What kind of supplies did they have there?

Charles: Oh, the normal...beans, flour and lard. Staples. Bacon.

Mike: Was it all food or was it kind of a hardware store also?

Charles: No, no hardware. And is pretty _____. McCains, McSlains, I just can't quite remember. I knew their son, but I just can't quite remember.

Mike: This was before your time obviously, but you know, the heyday of this, Butterfield Station and things like that. There is a controversy over that. Some people have said that this was the stage stop, other people said that the store was the stage stop.

Charles: I had always, in the early days, heard the old timers speak of the store as the...so I had always assumed that was.

Steve: So you assumed it wasn't this...

Charles: I don't think so. I think this was being run, you know, what his name that owned this for awhile was. Not Fisher, was it?

Steve: Warner? You mean the original owner?

Charles: No, after Warner. After Warner.

VID2: The Carrillo's owned it after that. That's the other controversy which is that...some people think that...

Charles: Gosh. I didn't bring my book. I've got that Union Title trust book. You girls have seen it, haven't you? In there, it tells one man that owned, either before or after, owned Santa Margarita.

Heather: Forrester.

Charles: Yeah. He owned part of this. You know, this was two grants...the San José Maria...

VID1: San José del Valle?

Charles: Yeah. And Forrester and then Warner, of course, being. He wasn't first. He took it over from some Spaniard, I think. In fact, I don't know whether the Vail's owned it or were renting it from Riverside Cement or...I wish I had brought that book.

VID1: I think the Vail's had a lease and they lost it and that's how your uncle got it.

Charles: Yeah. He took over, I think, in 1913 and he and his widow had a lease on this for 47 years.

VID1: _____ foreclosed _____.

Steve: Yeah, he was down in Riverside.

Charles: Who was that?

VID1: The man that foreclosed on Warner, his last name was Rains.

Charles: Oh.

VID1: This was back in 18__.

Steve: When you grew up, were you told that this was the Warner's house?

Charles: Yes. Yes.

Mike: Because some people think Warner's house was up there.

Charles: No. I was told this was it and they had a soldier encampment here from time to time too. But I'd always understood that this, didn't directly ask, but it was always understood that the stagecoach place was up there, that this was the Warner Ranch house.

Steve: Because you know, it burned down and the Carrillo's rebuilt it and the basic question was always, obviously the Carrillo's built this house, but was it a brand new house, or was this just like the one that burned down or is the house that burned down up there?

Mike: Had anyone ever talked about any buildings being on these hills over here?

Charles: No.

Mike: No ruins, no mention of any old buildings?

Charles: No. Never heard of any. Shall we go inside?

Sue: Certainly.

Charles: That's where I ruined my knees. Yeah, old Teofolio Helm used to raise and bale hay here and I had to haul it and he baled that hay, an average of 195 pounds to the bale. And it was green hay and there was so much grain that is what made it weigh up.

Sue: We brought you a chair.

Charles: What?

Sue: We brought you a chair, if you want to sit down.

(We are now inside the Warner's Ranch House)

Charles: Oh no, no, no. This was Harold Smith's room, one of the cowboys. He was here _____ and also has the _____. I better get my other glasses on.

Sue: Yeah, it's dark in here.

Steve: You said that was a smith's room. You mean a smith lived there, actually a blacksmith?

Charles: Harold Smith. Born and raised down around old Vista and that country. And he later ran the livery, after he retired from here, ran the livery at Warner Hot Springs for the horses.

VID2: What was his first name?

Charles: Harold.

VID2: Harold.

Charles: Harold Smith and he had a fantastic, I know I just thought of it, a fantastic collection of Navajo blankets and Navajo rugs and Navajo saddle blankets. I guess a lot of times those old timers...now the big long table down at the other house used to be right here. It just ran right along here and it had benches on each side. This is where we ate. That was the kitchen, of course. And...

Susan: Wow. Let me turn on the lights, please. How was this place lit?

Charles: Kerosene lamps.

Susan: Kerosene lamps?

Charles: Yeah. Kerosene lamps. Ed Grand, he was foreman many years, some of the Grand's that used to own Volcan Mountain. That was his and lots of times when we had lots of cowboys who ride _____ as a rule and can't remember who's this was. There's a new wood floor here, tongue and groove, put in '28. I know that because I had to oil it. I didn't put it in. Painted it with linseed oil. And it used to have, I think it used to have...oh there's some here...used to have muslin and they'd calcimine it and that's what they had for _____. Many homes did that and there's a big tin washer you could buy, about a quarter and they always used that so that the heads wouldn't n pull through the muslin. Gee, I'm glad to see some of that's still here.

Susan: Where did you sleep?

Charles: I slept in this corner. I think there was a shed. And that's where my brother and I slept.

Heather: They put you in the shed?

Charles: Well, right here, I saw some terrific poker parties. On the end of this long table that was here and the fireplace going, why there'd be three or four sit on this side and three or four on this side and they used to have poker games here. That was one of their entertainments. Did you find the wood?

Steve: There's some wood and there's some old brands they put in the wood.

Heather: Oh, look at them all.

Steve: Brands.

Charles: Yeah, it was regular pine, tongue and groove flooring put right over the old flooring.

Steve: Was the old floor the same thing? Pine tongue and groove?

Charles: I don't know. I think it was put over the old floor in that there's a little elevation there. Well, I don't know. They might have taken the old floor out.

Heather: You know who brands these are? Just that one. I recognize that one from somewhere. This one?

Charles: I don't know. Uncle George's was an anchor and Ralph Jasper, you know Jasper had a ranch up at Montezuma. His was J9, and he was already referred to as J9. He'd go down the road, "Well, there goes old J9." And that was his nickname, it was his brand, was a J and a nine. I don't recognize this. It might've been later. Might have been later. They put this in. Looks like this one was cut in.

Heather: Speaking of brands, Ralph Jasper's grandson gave me with a bunch of different brands on it that he handwrote in the '20's.

Charles: Oh look. Gosh, I didn't know... Why no, you know those brands are so wild like that. Mexican brands, the state refers to them as "A Mexican brand." My dad had one, I told you about that the other day. And my dad had one that they called a Mexican brand. Looks like they only came to here with the new floor, doesn't it? Oh, isn't that interesting. Well, how about that?

Heather: That B looks familiar, but I can't remember what it's from.

Charles: And then you know, old...I can't think of it now...he was foreman. I think he was foreman for Vail. Sam...

Heather: Taylor?

Charles: Taylor. Sam Taylor and then Uncle George, I think, kept him on for a number of years and then he quit and went up on the _____.

Charles: Just to see who would hold out the longest about taking the ashes. They'd let somebody else. In fact, I was telling the story one time it actually got so hot they could hardly get a log in here. And oh, I'm glad some of that _____ is still there. It's real exciting about those brands.

Heather: What's that on the wall in there?

Steve: Yeah. What was the...I mean are people just messing around here or...

Charles: I think so. If you had a fireplace with a hot bunch of coals and put some brands down and one fella saw somebody else's brand.

Mike: So he had to get his there.

Charles: That brand...doesn't look like a handmade brand, does it?

VID2: Doesn't to me, no.

Charles: No. Some of these others, you know. What was on the wall, you said?

Heather: Is that more of that, I don't know...it looks like fabric from here. Is it?

Charles: Oh yeah. Now this wasn't here. The graffiti wasn't here. You see the roof rafters? Cedar poles. And it goes on up into the attic and I had to get up there and wire it together.

Susan: How was this room furnished? Did it have pictures on the walls?

Charles: No. The _____.

Steve: You mentioned a collection of Navajo blankets. Did he bring those?

Charles: Yeah. Harold had. But those were, gosh, I used to claim...you see, I'd have to throw the bedrolls off on that truck. That was part of my job. And I used to claim that Harold Smith had an anchor, I mean an anvil, in his bedroll because he had a couple of those big Navajo blankets in there and man, were they heavy. No, he _____ because the same way with silver conchos. They'd have a concho on their spurs or belt buckle. They were made; they were made with some Mexican dollars. These silversmiths used to _____ because the Mexican dollar is pure silver, so they can pound them out and shape them and make these conchos to put on their bridle and Harold had some beautiful conchos. There were just certain things that they'd collect. Most of the conchos in this country were made by a couple of brothers over by the Coogan Ranch over on Highway 8, on the other side of Pine Valley called Cameron. Uncle George finally bought the old Cameron place and those boys used to spend their winters and most of their rounds were peacocks and they were _____ like this so it was like a peacock with his tail extended and it fit good on a round button. So many of those conchos I remember were peacocks.

Heather: Wasn't Cameron famous for his lariats and stuff that he'd make?

Charles: He used to make riatas. He made some good riatas.

Heather: Sam, right?

Charles: Pardon?

Heather: Amos?

Charles: I don't know which one, but I know they used to make some good riatas. Of course, riatas in the...most of the cowboys originally that were on this place, I don't know of a single grass rope when I first started. And then they got into the grass rope later. But one reason for the riata, one of the reasons they used it is this country was so brushy and rough, Julian and Pine Hills in that area and you had to use a long rope. Some of those riatas were 70 feet because you had to play with the animals. You rope them and they get into some brush and you take your dallies on the saddlehorn and pretty soon the steer comes out and you ride up real quick and you take some new dallies and pretty soon you got him. Whereas...we used to laugh a lot about the grass rope boys that came from that flat Arizona and Texas because there was always a competition between the cowboys. You were either a Tejano, which is a California cowboy, or you were...no, a Californios. A Tejano, I think was a Texas cowboy. And you use the right kind of saddle or the right kind of rope and I don't know. Maybe good grass rope wasn't available at the time that they started making the riatas.

Heather: What is the difference between tying hard and fast and dallying?

Charles: Well, these calf ropers you see in the rodeos and different places, they tie hard and fast and rope the calf and they don't have to worry about if it got in the brush. If you were tied hard and fast and you hooked onto a big 14, 1500-pound steer, you've saddled and everything. But if you, you know, if he really hit the end of that and it didn't break...

Heather: Okay, gotcha.

Charles: Yeah. The riata people always dallied. And sometimes they lost thumbs. Charley Ponchetti, one of the greatest cowboys we ever had here, he had one thumb. When he was taking his dally, he had a

half loop around his thumb and it slipped on the saddle horn a little, took the thumb right off.

VID2: Do you know Stan Ring? He is the present foreman, cowboy foreman?

Charles: Here?

VID2: Yeah.

Charles: No.

VID2: He lost his thumb the same way.

Charles: Did he?

VID2: Yeah.

Charles: Yeah. No, I hadn't been close with any number of them here since Uncle George lost the place. Now the last stove to be here at Warner's down at the other house, which became the cook house and the lady cook had her quarters down there too, is in the Julian Pie Company in Santa Ysabel.

Susan: Really?

Charles: And I put a little narrative for them to put on the stove. I don't think it was my grandmother's but it was Uncle George's. He decided to modernize and go for stove oil in his home place there at Witch Creek, so they moved it. Needed the stove at Warner's, so he moved the stove here and George and I always—that was my brother, he's gone now, a little younger than I am—we were always so nostalgic about this Warner's Ranch because it was so much of our lives. I asked for a parlor stove, heating stove, kind of fancy, with chrome; not chrome, nickel on it, you know, an upright kind of, not a cooking stove. He asked for the cook stove and my son now has my upright stove. And that stove that's in the pie company over there is so doggone big. Hard to find a house with a kitchen that big. So my brother sold it and then it finally ended up they bought up.

Steve: The stove was in this adobe or in the other house?

Charles: In the other house. This, of course, all cooking and everything was with wood and I forget what the stove was like that was in this house. But yeah, it was in the other house over there when the family lost the lease.

Mike: Now what about the table that was in front here?

Charles: Or was. Down at the other house.

VID: The one down here?

Charles: Yeah. It was a big long table with a bench on each side. Everybody had _____ at that table too. Uncle George sat at the head of the table, north end of the table, if he was on deck. And if he wasn't, the foreman could sit there. Harold Smith always sat to the right. And then some of the other cowboys, they'd all, I don't know...of course you know what happened to us little, little chickens.

Heather: Yeah.

Charles: Way off down at the other end of the table.

Heather: This was where John Wayne came and got somebody's hat.

Charles: Down at that other house.

Susan: Other house?

Charles: Yeah.

Heather: Were you there?

Charles: No. But I was, I guess I was down in San Felipe doing something down there and I heard about it. And I saw the movie with him wearing the hat. I recognized it. Uncle George didn't do this with the hat. The hat was to keep the sun out of your eyes. And he always had his hat like this. And if you remember on that tape, I mentioned the fact that we could look across a herd of cattle and even though you couldn't see the face, you'd know who that was by their hat. Nowadays, you see a bunch of cowboys, every one's got the same darned hat, turned up, and you know, just the same way. Like old J9 Jasper, he wore a hat that Porter...most of our saddlery, boots and things were bought through N. Porter Company in Phoenix, Arizona, so _____ saddlery and I think J9 Jasper wore a Tom Watson, not too wide for him, rolled tight. I think I told you. You know, a rolled brim like some hats have. And then he didn't crease it. He just wore it with no crease. And you could always tell. Of course, Charley Ponchetti, he always wore a big hat. The largest hats were worn by the Montana and the Wyoming people. They always wore pretty darn big hats. And he would send off and get a big hat and I remember I was just a kid and he was a very dapper dresser and he sent for a new hat and he gave me his old hat. And I'd walk around with this hat and they'd say, "Hey! Where's the hat going with the boy?" Charley, he was all cowboy. And he, up until the time he died about 20 years ago, I guess, in his later years, he was running...he has leased the Jasper property up in Montezuma Valley and he was down in...What's that next little valley below there?

Susan: Grapevine?

Charles: A ways down that road...

Heather: Culp Valley?

Charles: Culp Valley. He ran cattle in through that country and on the Jasper place and the...what else can I tell you about this?

Mike: What was a day, an average day out here working the ranch like?

Charles: Usually normally 5:00 is the quitting time, 7:00 is the starting time. But if you were really moving cattle, you got the cattle moving about daylight or a little after because they go up _____. And you want to move them when it's cool and so there was nothing to start a herd up out 5:00 in the morning and maybe not quit 'til dark. But if you're working here on the ranch...I remember when I had gone out to Nevada to run a cattle ranch and an alfalfa ranch for my father-in-law and...Oh, I'm doing all right.

Heather: Are you sure?

Susan: You've got a long day ahead of you.

Charles: And I took an extra pill this morning. Did I say a little while ago that right here on this ranch is when I ruined my knees? Where was I?

Susan: A day at the ranch.

Heather: Let's walk over to the barn. I want to see the _____.

Steve: Before we leave this house, let's walk through each room and get a description of what it was used for. Well let's start...This was a bedroom?

Charles: Yeah. Oh, I remember who, when I was here, had this. _____ Embrey. He was the son of a family, a prominent family in San Diego and of course, a lot of the families that George knew _____ wanted to have their kids come out and spend the summer here. They would...

Steve: Get rid of them?

Charles: Yeah. They would. Harmon Embrey...very musical. He used to play the saw, a violin, a little concertina. He gave me the concertina one time and no, I was no good. I can't even whistle.

Susan: When you were a kid how did schooling affect working here on the ranch?

Charles: How did what?

Susan: School.

Charles: Well, this is summertime and then sometime in the wintertime, I'd work a week or so. But I remember one time, I guess it was after I was out of college. We were going to take a bunch of cattle out in April. We were going to take a bunch of cattle out, it was April. We were going to take a bunch of cattle up and put them on because the grass had gotten pretty good up there in that cold country and we'd work them over here and separated these cattle and we started out with a thousand head. Always before we usually had taken about 500. And started out with a thousand head. We got to Santa Ysabel. Of course, cattle always have the right of way. It was a dirt road. It was paved, I guess, from Santa Ysabel to Julian in '26. So that was paved. But we got started up the grade just before you turn to start Santa Ysabel grade, and one of these clouds came down. You couldn't see your hand in front of you. I remember I had a long yellow slicker, a saddle slicker that went all the way down. I had a short one when I came out of the brush and we lost...they say we lost about 500 head of cattle. That's all right. He lost them on his own property. Or property he owned a part of. He owned half interest in the Santa Ysabel ranches and he leased the Kelly country and where the Girl Scout camp is back behind. He leased all that and so it was okay.

Steve: They just didn't get there. They weren't lost.

Charles: Yeah.

Mike: Did the cook feed you guys in the morning before you went out?

Charles: Oh yes. And that's one of the toughest parts. When I was cooking on the cattle drives, I had to get up and have the bacon. I had to slice it myself. And to get up early enough and have it ready so that they could start moving the cattle a little after daylight. I'd get up, oh 4:00, 4:30 and start cooking for them and yeah, that was the tough part for me, that getting up early in the morning.

Steve: What did they feed you besides bacon?

Charles: Bacon. Oh always bacon, eggs and then you'd have store-bought bread. I was trying to do some cooking and turning the eggs and here's a cowboy, he wants his bread toasted and so he got one toasted. He cooks on the grill here. He's trying to toast his bread while I'm trying to cook. And we had a black cook. In 1924, Uncle George bought a Model T little truck. It was kind of a screen job. Maybe you've seen pictures of them. They weren't a pickup. They had kind of a long bed, but they had a screen on each side, kind a little delivery wagon. Well, he took all the screens off and all that and this black cook, he hired him for the summer. Man, was he a good cook.

Steve: They were a drive cook?

Charles: Pardon?

Steve: They were for the cattle drive?

Charles: Yeah. When we were driving the fat cattle from here to Temecula and then I think he came a horseback and _____ fat cattle too. And anyway, when the summer's over, he saddled it, headed for warmer country, I guess. And as I remember, wouldn't have had any of that somebody getting in the way toasting. He had some doughnuts or something that he'd made up. The cowboys would come in, they could go up to this big old box and he had a knife...he'd go, "What do you want? What do you want? Just ask me. I'll give it to you." So I didn't have that big knife.

Steve: What did the cook here prepare? What kind of food did she make?

Charles: Oh, absolutely fabulous pie maker. My wife is the fabulous pie maker now. Apple pie. But she learned and used this lady's recipe and you'd have pie. She'd bake cakes. She was real good to the boys. They'd have mashed potatoes, pot roast and gravy, and you know, just a roll and they could sure eat. Oh, another thing about eating. We used to poison grasshoppers here. The County would send out representatives and supervise the poisoning of grasshoppers. We would get bran, put it in a mortar box. You all know what a mortar box is. You mix it with a hoe, then we would sprinkle arsenic on it, and then we would hoe that in. Then we would put enough water just to dampen it some and then we'd hoe that in and then we'd put it in barley sacks and we'd take it out and find out...the grasshoppers always seemed to be, oh maybe about that big, a ring. And then we'd have a scouting cowboy go out. I remember Harold Smith once...we had an old wagon with a washtub on the back and we'd dump the sacks of grasshopper poison in there and he'd scout and he'd find these little patches, the little grasshoppers are just thick, just like this, you know. And before they start hopping too much, if you could get two of them to spread a little bait, you could...because they're just like a locust, you know, in the old biblical days. Anyway, I was a mixer down here in the shed. And you know, in the olden days, I don't know whether they still do, they used to give old people a minute amount of arsenic to stimulate their appetite. And boy, my breathing that and maybe in the mucus of my nose swelling or something, I had an appetite that was insatiable. I was a good eater anyway, but I tell you, I could eat. I'll wait until the rest of them get out.

Heather: Watch the floor, though.

VID1: A couple of summers ago, they had a huge grasshopper invasion up here too.

Susan: Yeah, I remember the first year I got here. Boy, you couldn't drive _____.

Steve: We came through this _____ room. Was that just a bedroom or...

Charles: No, they...when we had lots of cowboys, there was a bed on each side.

Mike: So it was a bunk room?

Charles: Yeah.

Susan: A bed, a couple beds, maybe a dresser or something?

Charles: Yeah.

Susan: You have shelves on the wall or something like that?

Charles: I don't know. Maybe a calendar. It was older than Betty.

Steve: Was the main door over here or main entrance or the main entrance back there?

Charles: We didn't...we only used that door there. This is a window. We used that door there just to go outside to get to the log pile to get logs for the fireplace.

Mike: So this was the main door then, or?

Charles: No, everybody came through the kitchen.

Mike: Oh, okay.

Susan: So this was a common area where you guys hung out and played poker?

Charles: Yeah. Sometimes there was a goodly amount of their salary. This is the kitchen. There was a big sink right here in front of the window, water faucet. The cook stove was over here. And I don't know what this door was here. _____ locked. Looks like it was lumber. Yeah. Oh, I know. I think the cook used that for a bedroom, if I remember right. And then ours...

Steve: This room?

Charles: Yeah. Now our lean-to, which was on the other side...I can tell you a _____ story, but it's a little risqué, but we have ladies present.

Susan: We won't listen.

Steve: Go around the block.

Charles: I'll do it nicely.

Steve: I know them all real well.

Charles: That barrel I was thinking about...it's that barrel the pipe ran out and kept that wooden barrel full of water. One of the cowboys had gone, had a few days off and they went to Tijuana. Well, he got home, been home a couple of weeks and he realized that he was carrying some extra passengers. And he couldn't get rid of them. And finally, somebody told him, he was sharing a bunk room with him, somebody told him that if you swab yourself in gasoline, that that'll get rid of them. Well, he would have

been all right if he waited 'til the gasoline dried before he got back to bed. And anyway, we heard a "Yeeoow!" And we went tearing out the door and George and I jumped out to see what it was. He was sitting in that barrel of water. We realized he was just sitting there in that barrel of water. He was sure the passengers left. That's true, girls, I'm not kidding you.

Susan: I believe you.

Charles: And I brought pictures of...

Heather: The guy in the barrel?

Charles: I brought pictures of cross the cattle to...they're not too good, but cross the cattle to Monkey Island. Swimming the cattle to Monkey Island.

Heather: I want to go to Monkey Island.

Charles: Pardon:

Heather: I want to go to Monkey Island. You told that story. Tell us the story about Hans Starr and the horse.

Charles: Oh yeah. A number of times at Monkey Island. The rest of you people know what Monkey Island is? It's a hill out there, oh, out from the dam out in the middle there. And pretty good sized little area and when the water was up that had awfully good feet on it, why they'd put some cattle over there and leave them there until they got fat and when the water went down in the fall or late in the summer when they were shipping cattle, the cattle would come off or they'd go out and get them. But anyway, they would swim the cattle out to Monkey Island. And Hans was, his horse was swimming alongside them, making the cattle go. And his horse had a heart attack and died right there. And then Hans had to dive down and tie his cinch and search for his wrango strap and get his saddle out. And the girls, when I was telling this story, I think they thought I was pulling their leg. And that's the reason today I said no giggling or laughing when I'm lecturing. But yeah, they...that happened quite often. And that was quite an Indian camp before the white man and there were a lot of very fine metates out there.

VID1: There still are, yeah.

Charles: And I guess if you...the Indians, when they break camp or leave, they always turn them upside down so that they just look like an old rock. But I have a couple that came from there. Museum pieces, these two that I...come by sometime, I'll show them to you. They're beautiful. At least one of them, the tall stone like this. You've got a pedestal stone about that tall and about that big around, but they used it until they wore a hole right in the bottom.

VID1: In general, how were the relations between the Indian bands around and...

VID2: Were there Indians living in the valley around you by the springs?

Charles: Oh yeah. There were lots of camps. Yeah. A lot of Indians. Of course, the latest, and it's kind of sad too. They wanted, the white man wanted Warner Hot Springs and there were a bunch of Indians there. That's the reservation they had been given, but they wanted to take it back, I guess. And so they moved them all down to Pala and oh yes, there were lots of Indian camps. One reason is, is the valley is circled and many places have nice live oaks that have acorns and their camps are always close to water.

Wherever you find a big old stone with holes in it, that's where the water dried up the last. Oh yeah, there were many Indians here. Of course, the padres, I guess in that tape I gave you, I talk about the padres riding cattle here and one of the main reasons was hides and tallow. So they'd skin the animal and they'd render out the tallow and then they would put the tallow in the hide and tie it up and ship it to the East Coast or Germany or England or someplace, you know. They used lots of tallow to make soap and things, but to launch ships, to grease the way to launch ships. And they, of course, used the Indians.

VID2: Did you interact with them? Did you trade with them? Did you hire them? Did you work with them?

Charles: The Indians here, by the time I came on, they were...although they were still on their reservations, in fact, oh yeah...there were, in my father's day, they had lots of Indian tribes. There were lots of half breeds and many whites took Indian girls for their wives and there were lots of Indians. I remember, though, in 1933, the Indians were still going to Indian school because I quit cowboying. I figured I ought to finish college. Besides, \$45.00 a month and my groceries weren't going to go very far, so I quit cowboying. And then I got a job with Standard Oil Company. Hooray! I made \$3.50 a day. And they...I was driving an oil truck up here. I delivered gasoline here. There's a gasoline tank out there. And going by, you know where Indian Hill is, if you come from Santa Ysabel, you come over and drop into Warner Valley, there are quite a few...that's where the Indian reservation is. Quite a few Indians were on that reservation.

Mike: Did a lot of them work on the ranches?

Charles: Yeah, well and a lot of them were wards of the government. You know, they claimed we had more Indian nations than we had Indians. But they started...they wanted them to go to school. The County did...get this straight...the County wanted those Indians to come and go to our regular County schools because they were just keeping them segregated. They weren't going to mix and blend with our society. I remember I hauled some kerosene. I know where the little school was still running, because I hauled kerosene for their lamps up to the school. The first year that they were in our school, the Indian girls had kind of long Indian skirts and you know, dressed like Indian women were dressing then. The next year, along early in the morning, the kids were there waiting for their bus, bobby sox, pleated skirts, the boys were dressed really up nice looking. It didn't take long for them to get with it.

Heather: Did you...a lot of the white guys married Indian ladies. Didn't Mr. Ponchetti marry...isn't Mrs. Ponchetti an _____?

Charles: No, yeah. But Ponchetti was half. He was half Indian and half...what's Northern Spain?

Susan: Basque.

Charles: Basque. There were a couple of Ponchetti men came back and one of them married a Spanish lady and one of them married an Indian lady and the cowboys that I...well, I went to school with them, too, grammar school...the cowboys here were of the Indian family and that was Charley and Ben and George. Charley, Ben and George. I guess that's all that were...and boy, they were good cowboys.

Steve: Those were Ponchetti?

Charles: Yeah.

Susan: And they were sometimes with the ranch?

Charles: Yeah. They worked here, oh sometimes they'd go and work some place else, or they were getting some kind of government...they might decide to stay on the ranch and cowboy, although Charley Ponchetti cowboied all his life. I remember a story they tell about the Guejita. That's that big ranch, out of Valley Center, you know, that big ranch up there. Of course, we always liked to hear the story. I think the Green Brothers leased it one time. Well, they were from the flat lands, the grasslands of Arizona or Texas and they came to gather their cattle. Their cattle got so wide, they couldn't get all their cattle out. They had a terrible time. Everybody all...their cowboys trying to get them out. But George and Ben went down. I don't know whether Charley was there, I think he was here then. They went down there and they were two rough cowboys. They knew brush. They knew steep canyons and they knew wild cattle and they just loved it. And they tell me that they'd go in there and rope those cattle and drag them out of there and one reason I like the story was that these Arizona and Texas boys, they couldn't get those cattle out, but a couple of old California cowboys went up there and got them out. But...what was I going to say....?....something. Yeah. They were good cowboys and Charley was a dapper dresser. You never saw Charley that he just didn't look right out of the cowboy catalogue.

Sue: I have a question. Were there different times of the year, I mean it seems like in the summer was when you had a lot of people here and there was a lot going on and then in the wintertime...

Charles: Yeah. Ralph Cornel as I mentioned before, he was an old bachelor and he cowboied in Imperial Valley in the wintertime and then he'd get on his horse and bring his pack horse and his world belongings up here with him and yes, that is true. In the winter, there was feeding and cottonseed cake to take out there. When I came back out of Nevada in '46, I lived up in Julian and I used to drive the old pickup down to Santa Ysabel and meet Hans Starr there about a quarter to six in the morning and quite a...he'd have a half pint of Old Taylor. He'd take the lid off and pitch it and by the time we got here, we just had a real good appetite. But at bedtime in the wintertime, it was cold. Oh, there were five or six, four, five or six cowboys here. You know, you always...

Sue: What kind of cows did you have on the land in the wintertime? Old ones, young ones?

Charles: Well, you had the new replacements, which would yearlings out of Arizona mixed with maybe two-year-olds that were here. Most of the cattle, when you're fattening cattle on grass, they gotta have a little age on them. Probably most of the fat cattle that were shipped off of here were three years old. And so we had...but they were...most of them crossbred, but mostly whiteface. You might say whiteface. Yeah.

Susan: Did you have problems with disease in the cattle or anything like that?

Charles: Yes. We had that. We had a terrible problem in the 20's with liver fluke. And bear with me girls. I think I told you this story.

Sue: Yeah, that's okay, we can hear it again. We didn't have it on tape the first time.

Charles: The liver fluke, one of it's cycles of it's life was in the snail. And another cycle was free-swimming and another cycle was it would attach itself right at the water line on the grass. You got a lot of grass sticking up right...this water line here...they'd attach themselves there. Well then, as the water went down, the cattle would eat that grass and they'd get the liver fluke. That was another cycle of their life. And their BMs were red water. They used to call it red water. The locals called it red water disease. And the livers were never any good from here. They just made dog food, I guess, out of that. But before Cutter Laboratories came in and helped us develop a vaccine and we would have to vaccinate cattle. That was

one reason why we used the old adobe corrals which we'd gather down on the Big Cienaga. We used to call that place that goes out to the road to Temecula where the airport is over to the center of the valley, we always called that the Big Corral and then down the other way was the San Jose. And we'd take them down and put them in the corrals, the adobe corrals, and you could put 2,000 head of cattle in there and still have room for more. And they had a chute where you could work the cattle around the chute and they had a big old squeeze that would squeeze down on them, keep them from moving and put the brand on them and then also, we would vaccinate the big stuff. The three-year-olds, we were doing this in March probably, or April. And then we would...Harold Smith would sit up on a big dodge gate like this, the cattle are coming this way, and you had a big gate here. And he's just swing it this way and let the cattle into this corral and then swing it the other way and the cattle into this corral. And so we were separating them and we were going to...that's where we got the thousand head we lost so many of them. We had a thousand head of younger stuff we were taking to the mountains and the rest of them we were keeping here because they were going to get fat that summer. And liver fluke was the worst thing. Although when we were out...Uncle George always operated mostly with steer. He said, "I kinda like to gamble." But he did do a lot of cow/calf raising too. And we had to go out into certain areas. We usually had the cows in a more restricted pasture and go out there and rope those calves. Those little calves, and vaccinate them. And I forget what his earmark was, but we'd do part of the earmark or only one ear and that means that this calf had been vaccinated but not branded. And later, we'd put them through a chute and brand then. I remember one time a road going down toward Henshaw and they had fenced things. And on that side of the road, we had some cows that had some calves and we had to vaccinate them. Uncle George was a smooth old character. He never really told anybody to do anything. If Harold Smith was sitting here, he's right at the table, Uncle George had a pasture down there with some calving heifers...they usually had some trouble calving...and he'd say, "Well Harold, what do you think? This afternoon you better ride down there and take a look at those heifers. What do you think?" "Yeah, I think that's a good idea." So, to this day, I'll never forget it, I was a young strapping fellow in those days, and they had about three or four ropers and I had to flank for the whole bunch of them. Uncle George come riding over to me, "Charlie, go over there and tie your horse up to that tree over there. I think we're going to let you flank for us today. God, they dragged those big calves by me and I had to run down the rope, get them by the flank, that's where the word "flanking calves," plop them down so that somebody could vaccinate them and cut their ears. "We're going to let you flank." That's what happened to my knees!

Sue: Lucky you.

Charles: Yeah. Lucky me.

VID1: Was that before or after you were on the wrestling team?

Charles: No, that was after. Yeah. That was after, that was in later times. I remember I didn't have a back belt and I had a kind of sacroiliac belt, with straps up here, holding down my sacroiliac and after he said, "We're going to let you flank for us today." So we get there, we get the cattle all down and I'm ready to flank and I just dropped my britches down around my knees and then I was cinching up on these hitches. I was going to get that. It was on kind of a side hill too. Boy. I'll never forget that. But we got it and I lived through it. They're all gone.

Sue: What time were you...what time did you do that thing? In the summertime?

Charles: In the spring. When the calves were coming on for awhile, you know.

Steve: What did the kitchen look like?

Charles: The stove was over there to the seat in front of the window and oh yeah, here's this...look at that. That's something.

Steve: Those are original?

Charles: That's pretty valuable. Yeah. I think that's put together with pegs. I'm not sure. Or little screws. All right. Pie cupboard. You put your hot pies in there and let them cool. You put them in a regular cupboard, they'd sweat.

Susan: What kind of dishes did you use?

Charles: I'm glad you asked that. We used white enamel and they had the white cups too.

Steve: White enamel tin?

Charles: Yeah.

Steve: Was there any kind of tables here in the kitchen

Charles: There might have been. The whole time they had cooking going on here, it was men cooking.

Steve: The lady cook didn't cook here?

Charles: No, she cooked down there at the other house. Although, there was old Solomon, he followed Taylor as foreman, and he had a German wife and at that time I think they had this room here. He was cowboying and she was cook. She never would serve lunch unless her man was here. She would say, "No we no eat now, Solomon he no come." Then old Solomon would come and she'd say, "Solomon he here now, now *ve* eat."

Susan: Did they store things here in crocks or bags or how did they store them?

Charles: Big tins. Remember they used to make those big 5 gallon tins with lids on them? Lots of things got stored in that. Bacon was hung up on these wires. The hooks are there.

Steve: These hooks are the originals?

Charles: Yes, the original.

Steve: This is what held the jerky or the bacon or?

Charles: It would hang down so the flies couldn't get it. They would hang it or put the bacon in that pie safe.

Susan: Were there shelves in here?

Charles: Oh yes. There was one there, there was another there, there was a little bit of a cupboard there. I wish this was in a little bit of better state of repair.

Steve: This is one of the priorities of the restoration.

Susan: Did you use milk and butter products?

Charles: Oh yes.

Susan: Where was that stored?

Charles: Out on the deck was one of those cooler cupboards with screen and burlap over it and water ran over it and the evaporation kept it cool. I remember they tell a story. We were having trouble with one of those lightning storms and it hit somewhere on this building. They did have an old radio in the other room there. They swore they saw a ball of fire come in on this antenna and made a snapping cracking sound and they swear that the milk soured after that. That was a little bit much for me to believe but they claimed that it turned all of the milk sour. Yes, they made all their own butter and cottage cheese and it was good.

Sue: They kept dairy cows here.

Charles: Yes, well they weren't dairy breed particularly, but sometimes if they had a good milking one....

Steve: But they kept one here to milk?

Charles: Yes.

VID2: Did you have chickens and pigs here too?

Charles: No not here. Then we used to go over to Warner Springs a couple times a week. All the cowboys would get into the pickup and go take a bath.

Heather: I was going to ask, what did you do for a bath? Once a week whether you needed it or not?

Steve: That's my motto.

Charles: In my house, it's if there are clean sheets on the bed, you better get clean. As you are going to Santa Ysabel, you will see a point of land goes out there and you can see some old stumps or old timbers. There is a good spring there, no sulfur, but it's warm. They used to all that Agua Tibia, warm water. The cowboys, that's where my brother and I went, we didn't go to Warner's and pay money to take a bath. It was quite a good bit of water coming out of it. Lazy kids that we were, we would tie a rope around our saddle blankets, tie it to the log, and leave it there for a day or so and the water passing by it would get our saddle blankets clean. Of course, when they started pumping a lot of these springs dried up.

Susan: Speaking of delicate things, where did you go to the bathroom when you were out here?

Charles: We had chick sales. Chick sales was a friend of my Fathers and he used to tell little comical stories. They always involved an outhouse. Throw out your arms so you don't fall in, that type of thing. I told this to the Julian Historical Society. I said that for me and my brother, cowboying at times, meant digging the new Chick Sales. Out here we had our little row of wash basins. Down at the other house they have a bath.

Steve: The desert cooler was out here too on this porch?

Charles: Yes, and water ran out over the cooler.

Steve: Did it come out of that same bucket setup there?

Charles: No, there was a faucet came to these. Well, they hooked someplace on to the pipe. They just had a drizzle, a little rag sprayer. So, this is the pantry.

Sue: The cook washed her dishes out there on the porch?

Charles: No, there was a sink there by the window, there was a wooden sink board on each side of the sink.

Susan: Was it metal?

Charles: No, it was porcelain, an old one as I remember. They used to use...very popular here in this part of the country....get someone to go up onto Cuyamaca Mountain and cut sugar pine and they would have their sink board made of sugar pine because it will not check and split. If it gets wet, it's wet, when it gets dry it won't split like a lot of them. It doesn't have a definite grain to it. I remember my folks had a beautiful one. They made it thick so that when it got bad you would just take a knife to it and scrape it and then you would have a new surface and start over again.

Mike: Were you going to take us and show us the tack house?

Charles: Yes, we've got to get in that barn someway.

Steve: Do you remember this fireplace ever being used?

Charles: No, I don't but I'm sure it was because this was the cook's quarters and ours was tacked onto the side.

(We are now in the barn)

Charles: All the cowboys were good dancers.

Heather: Were they?

Charles: Well, we didn't have much to do and they had a dance in Julian every Saturday night. Most of the cowboys would go to Julian.

VID1: Did you ever hold dances in here?

Charles: No.

Charles: I like the way those diagonals are there. They may have added some nails. This was the tack room See these timbers? See these knots. The knots are harder, the horses' hooves just wore the wood away, and you would stumble over the knots. See up there were they had the wooden pegs? There is one peg still in that one. I'll bet this old thing was built in the latter half of the 18th century,. I'm not sure if Warner built it or not, but the hand hewn timbers.

VID2: They got most of this timber from up around Julian?

Charles: Up on Volcan they have native Cedar. Many of our old posts are made from Cedar. They would

go up there and cut the tree in the wintertime when the sap was down, split up their posts and stack them. Then they would dry them out a little bit and they would build a fire and they would lay the posts in the fire and char them. Because a char will resist rotting. I've taken out posts that I know have been in 50, 75 or 100 years or longer.

Charles: The mangers were in there and that's where we would put our horses. If you are going to ride a horse all day, he has to eat too.

Charles: We used to fill that side up to the roof with hay. 195 pound bales. Before balers they used to stack loose hay.

Sue: The hay storage was down at that end and you had horses n that end. Where did the hay come from? Warner's?

Charles: Remember the other day when we were down on the San Felipe and we talked about the Helms? Teofolio Helm used to have a camp down by Monkey Island where that 100 acre field was and he would set up camp and they would plow in December and would plant oats and then in the summer he would come back and with a horse drawn mowing machine and the hay baler was horse drawn too and I guess Uncle George paid him by the ton for the hay. Uncle George didn't want his men to have to be making hay so old Teofolio Helm who lived up at San Felipe at the Indian place made good, clean hay.

Steve: Were these adobe walls always here?

Charles: Yes, they were.

Sue: Were they bigger? What do you think their function was?

Charles: See the original barn may have been adobe or maybe they just put adobe for a foundation and then the wood.

Steve: Do you think the adobe may have been earlier than the wood?

Charles: Yes. Some of this looks like sawmill cut lumber wood. I'll bet you that Vista did this. I just love this construction. See this, inside this here this has got a tendon on it and it sticks down into this timber. See there is nothing here to stop it from sliding down but it has a tendon that goes into this one like this. Fantastic.

Steve: Are barns in the east built this way too?

Charles: Yes. See, instead of having a tendon they cut here and left that side like that.

Susan: Did you have a favorite horse to ride, male or female?

Charles: Oh yes. My favorite horse to ride was Chiquita. She was a mare and she was fast. Dad used to race her at the Julian 4th of July celebrations. Used to win too. They didn't ride too many mares, but some. Sometimes when they are in season other horses stir them up. My brother and I rode Chiquita for years and we just loved those colts she had.

Sue: Quarter horse?

Charles: Yeah, well, crossbred. I think she had a little thoroughbred in her cause she sure was fast.

Chunky too, she made a good cow horse. We had a thoroughbred horse, a stallion that we used to keep in that corner box stall there, he was for breeding some of the mares. He was long and lanky.

Sue: So you guys bred all of your own horses here.

Charles: Yeah, they did when I was here. I used to have to take care of that stallion and he was kind of mean. I used to have to take him out and water him. In the early days before I went on the trail drives they would leave me here at the ranch to milk the cows and just be here. I'd go in there and throw a halter on him and go to snap a trope on him and he would rear and he was kind of an ornery old devil. I didn't look forward to watering him. We had a water trough, right down there was one. There was kind of a fence ran down there and then the corrals are over there. These corrals are now pipe. They used to be beautiful peeled willow logs. It's only been recently that they put these pipe corrals in. There was a place down by the adobe corrals where the willows grew tall and slender. They put two posts up like that and then lay those willows in like that and they would peel them so that they wouldn't rot. And if they did begin to rot you just cut more willows to put on top.

Sue: How many horses did you need to have here?

Charles: I dare say they had 30 or 40. They would run out there in the horse pasture. Each cowboy had their own horses.

Susan: Did you have very many Mexicans working here?

Charles: Well, I would call them Californios. I never did know or recognize a Mexican as such. Cause so many of these Indians were intermarried with these Spaniards. Joe Maxie, Teofolio Helm, there were quite a few of them.

Susan: Did they speak Spanish?

Charles: They spoke kind of a pigeon Spanish, a combination of Indian and Spanish. It is real guttural. Some of them spoke pretty darn good Spanish.

VID2: Did you have a regular blacksmith out here?

Charles: No, most of the cowboys shod their own horses. I tried it. I shod one horse and couldn't straighten up for a week. My Dad used to have me ride our horses over to the blacksmith there and get our horses shod. I always got a bottle of soda pop that day.

Sue: So all the horses wore shoes?

Charles: Yes, most of them, because this country is so rocky.

Charles: Ruth couldn't come today. She was at the taxman on Tuesday, at her women's club in San Diego yesterday, I was coming today and tomorrow we have to go down and look for a car.

Heather: Those ladies stay busy don't they?

Charles: Yes, Ruth has the cleaning lady coming tomorrow so she had to clean house.

(We are now in the car riding around the ranch)

Sue: The guy that used to be the manager out here, Paul Dorey, I was talking to him a couple of years ago and he was telling me a little about how the cattle operation worked and he called these the "Chippy Cows", the CHP Cows, cause of the black and white.

Charles: I used to come down here and lean out water holes for the cattle with a team of mules and a Fresno scraper.

Sue: They must just be putting the water in these flumes and sending it on down to the lake.

Charles: Well, that's what they bought it for, the water.

Charles: Then we would put them in a pasture at the north end of Cuyamaca Lake, part of the old property that belonged to the Harper outfit. Then on the east side of the lake, we would camp out. Boy, it was cold. The wind would whip through there. Coldest place in the county. That's the Big Cienaga right there.

Sue: Didn't Mr. Tulloch tell us about camping out there and how cold it was Heather?

Heather: Yes.

Sue: I'll bet it got hot out here.

Charles: Oh, you know it. The winds would come up every afternoon too. Just like Temecula. I wouldn't live there on a bet.

Charles: Teofolio used to grow hay out here on some of this land.

Heather: Tell Susan the story about the nails.

Charles: Well, Uncle George was always scrounging old timbers so that he could make corrals. Well, they had taken out a bridge where you turn to go to Henshaw, there was a bridge across there, they just pushed it off to one side, and they told Uncle George that he could have the timbers. So my brother George and I were delegated to go down and pull all the nails out of it and clean u the timbers. Uncle George came down with some buckets and said, "Here, I want you to put the nails in these buckets and someday when we got time and nothing else to do we can straighten them out." Well, I knew who would be the "straighten-outters"! So George and I put the pretty straight ones in one bucket and the really bent ones we put in another and then we dug a hole and buried the baddies. Then Uncle George came back and he said, "You would think that a bridge like that would have more nails in it."

Heather: OK, now we are gong to Monkey Hill.

Sue: Why do they call it Monkey Hill?

Charles: See all of this manure?

Heather: Yeah.

Charles: See how it looks like it's all been turned over?

Heather: Yeah.

Charles: Well, it's a bird that does that. They come along and flip it over because there is moisture under there and bugs are under there. So, you'll notice that every one of these decent sized cow chips are flipped over.

Heather: They don't turn over the little ones?

Charles: Well, no. It's like I always say, "I know a lot of things, but none of it has ever made me any money."

Charles: My brother raised grain here for a few years after Teofolio, and he went broke in the draught of 51', 52' and 53'. He is up in Medford Oregon now.

(Mr. Sawday shows us pictures of Hans Starr swimming cattle from Monkey Island)

Heather: Oh! What a sweetheart!

Charles: See? I got a couple of doubting Thomas's here

Heather: I have a question about the grasshoppers. You know they have been bad the last couple of years? How is that compared to how they were back then?

Charles: There are certain areas that would get it pretty badly. Swampy areas and then when they got to flying they would fly to the swampy areas. It goes in cycles.

Charles: Put on these old stovepipe chaps and slicker, long yellow slicker he had. And he rode all the way over and rode down here and as he was riding down through here, he cut every fence he came to and then went on down. Cattle have a tendency to follow and they'll follow if they're in strange country or something and you've got a horse out ahead, they'll follow. Then they started following him until, they followed him until he got clear up here where there was no danger and then he galloped on and got away from them. He said the bridge over at Santa Ysabel was out. They had to ford that and this bridge here was out, the one that all the bent nails came from. That had got washed out and so he had to come way down on the flat here where the creek spreads out before he could cross it. But that was the first time that the like ever filled up or caught any amount of water to speak of.

Comment [PC1]:

Sue: So you actually had cattle fenced in down here?

Charles: Yeah. There was lots of sub-irrigated pasture down there and he had some pastures down there. The cattle of course, would drown if they got up to that fence.

Sue: Now when you said the creek you had to ford here, does it run along the side of the hill there or where does it...

Charles: Well, it spreads, yeah; it just comes and spreads out. It's the one that comes from Carrisita, where you see that house up near there, from that canyon; it comes down into here and kinda spreads out.

Sue: So he must have followed on the hillside of it until he got to the valley. Now did you know Morettis who lives over there?

Charles: Yeah. Angelo Moretti was the big honcho here; he was the boss of the dairies. There were four dairies. Carrisita, the main dairy, you know where you go to Mesa Grande and then back over was Ponchetti's, and then up on Mesa Grande was Mesa Chiquita dairy. They had four dairies. They milked 600 head of cows. It was a big operation. Uncle George owned a quarter of that ranch.

Heather: Did he use the Santa Ysabel for raising his beef cattle or did he have part of the dairy cows?

Charles: No. They had...it used to be they needed all their grass for dairy until we got trucks and transportation. They get foreign grown feed in and they raised some alfalfa, they directed some grain down and they can buy their grain at _____ rates. But the whole great loads of hay...but then later when they could haul in loads of hay from Imperial Valley; they started raising some beef of their own.

Charles: There's another one, smart, a lot like the Holstein. (Speaking of some cows in the meadow) It's a good milk cow. What they're doing is taking all the boy calves and putting them in and raising them on a special mix. And then they put them into the feed bins and they're feeding them for beef. They're a favorite animal to put on feed bins and fatten because they're the greatest user of feed of any of the bovine.

Sue: The Holsteins are?

Charles: Yeah. Just like turkey is the greatest user of feed in the poultry family.

Charles: They did raise some grain hay that they fed to their cows, but alfalfa has got higher protein and is better for milk cows.

Sue: So did the Moretti's own all those dairies? Or were those...

Charles: Well, yes. George owned...

Sue: A part.

Charles: A quarter interest and then when old Angelo Moretti was gone, Uncle George kinda was a patron saint. He kinda rode herd on them to see that things went right. I guess nephews of Angelo's or Mrs. Moretti came over from Switzerland, and that was the Cauzza boys. There were three of those boys. They went into the dairy. I would just to have loved to have had a piece of ground up there someplace and built a house.

Heather: Mesa Grande?

Charles: Right here, no on this slope.

Sue: Overlooking the valley?

Charles: Overlooking the valley. But we had a nice place anyway. They got quite a fence there. Boy, in the olden days, you wouldn't drive around down here.

Charles: Don't drive under that mistletoe. It'd be a terrible temptation!

Charles: Did you ever talk to any of those people that did the excavations down there in the badlands in Borrego?

Sue: Mm...Which ones?

Charles: Well, it's been...25 years ago we had a lady who came up and spoke to the Julian Historical Society and she gave quite a talk on fossils that they found down there. One was a horse's head and she said it was more like a zebra head, but she said, as I remember, that the horses first originated in this country. That's when we were joined together, I guess, with Africa. The zebras were more like zebra, but they were the predecessor to our horse. And I thought it was quite interesting. Then the horse dies out here and then man brings horse back.

Sue: Yeah. We have quite an extensive paleontology group at the park.

Charles: Yeah.

Sue: They have a lab down there. In fact, yesterday, they were out pulling a mastodon tusk in some washout in the badlands.

Heather: I was going to say, did they do that helicopter thing?

Sue: Yeah, they did it yesterday. Mike had the camera to film that too yesterday. If you want to know how it went, you can ask him. Or no, he said he went with Joe yesterday.

Heather: Oh, that's right, huh?

Sue: Yeah, I wonder if it got cancelled. Or no, I guess he wasn't going to film it. Brian was.

Sue: Yeah, so they've taken some very interesting things out of the desert paleontology _____.

Charles: I've always been interested in that. In the last few years we traveled extensively. Taking care of my grandchildren's inheritance. We've traveled a lot all over the world.

Sue: Yeah, you were telling us about when you went to Tibet.

Charles: Tibet, Bhutan, Taj Majal. That old boy must really have loved that woman.

Heather: Oh, we're going to go over the bridge that you took the nails out of, huh? So was this a convenient place to like, herd them all into or...?

Charles: Yeah, we just we were just a bunch of cowboys standing around holding them and a couple of cowboys going in the herd and roping calves, culling them out. Well, I might say, children, that you were quiet until today. I appreciate that. The other day, I had my worries.

Sue: Are you kidding? We hang on your every word!

Charles: Yeah, but you thought I was trying to snow you.

Sue: No, we were enjoying thoroughly.

Charles: Ah well, it's been a lot of fun for me. I enjoyed it. I liked it. Somebody's got to know these things. There are absolutely no old-timers that knew all of this. Here's where the times we would feed

cottonseed and some blew up here and when the water went down, the seed stayed and grew in the trees.

Sue: Well I think what you've got here is a careful of people that really love to hear stories. All three of us had a great time today. What a great combination. We, who love to hear the stories, and you who love to tell them.

Heather: Ah, you don't like to tell stories, do you? Do you?

Charles: No. It was a chore for me.

Sue: I can tell.

(We are pulling up to a Border Patrol checkpoint)

Charles: Immigration. Inmigración.

Sue: Now, now, keep your Spanish down.

Charles: Oh yeah, I better not speak...Howdy.

BP: Border immigration check.

Sue: Hi there.

BP: Are you U.S. citizens?

Sue: Yes.

Charles: What did he say first?

Sue: Something about border immigration check. I didn't catch the first part.

Susan: We haven't passed Agua Tibia yet.

Charles: You see all down there? (Talking about the road) That's where we'd lose two or three head of cattle a year. But the worst part of it was what it did to people who were going too darn fast and hit the cow.

Sue: So did you know Mr. Treanor when he was coming out here to Mataguay?

Charles: I didn't know him, but I saw him and so did my dad. He built that big adobe house up there. He had the Indians do it. They stomped and mixed the mud with their feet and they mixed straw in it just like the old-timers did.

Sue: We heard the story of about how he died from falling off the roof. He fell off the roof of that house.

Charles: Oh yeah.

Sue: While he was painting it or something.

Charles: Well, it's ideal for what they're using it for.

Sue: Oh yeah.

Charles: Boy Scout retreat or whatever, you know.

Sue: Did he have somebody like a ranch manager that lived there?

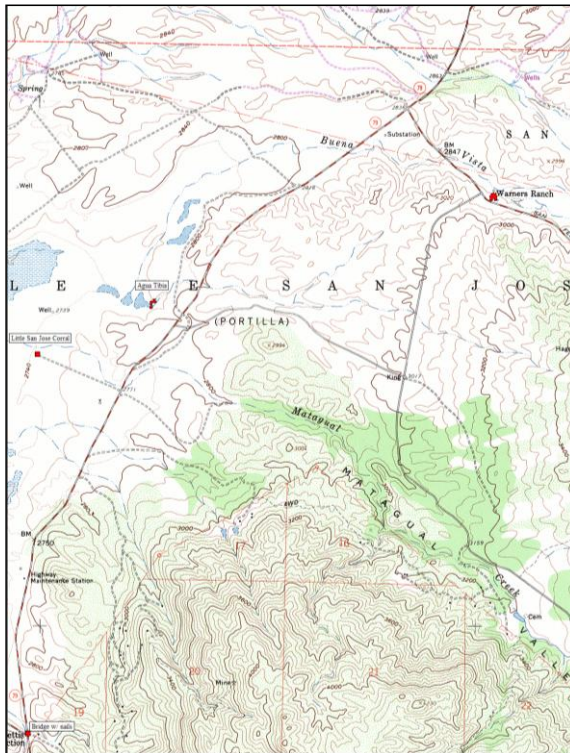
Charles: Yes. He had somebody. He didn't have much to do; it was just kind of...

Sue: There weren't any cattle?

Charles: Not that I remember. Now we get to through this pass, we can kind of slow down a little bit. Yeah. Pull over at this spot here. It's made for this.

Sue: It was. This is where you guys pulled over to go wash your saddle blankets?

Charles: Can't get in. It's right at the end. Right out where you'll see some old stumps down in the flat.



Charles & Ruth Sawday
Interview
June 6, 2001
with Heather Thomson & Chris Wray

Heather: I am going to tape this if you don't mind.

Ruth: Who have you interviewed from our family?

Heather: I interviewed Willie Tuesday.

Charles: I'd have liked to have been there.

Ruth: Yesterday was Tuesday or was it last week?

Heather: It was yesterday. I have an appointment on the 20th with Betty Anne.

Ruth: Because it is her Grandfather who was the one who was in the cattle industry, Charles Uncle.

Heather: Now didn't you used to cowboy a little bit.

Charles: Well, I grew up until college I spent all my summers and I can tell you that 35 dollars a month was well worth it. I went out and got a job at Standard Oil. They had a pump plant; do you know where the water district is? Just this side by the highway. Due south. That's where the big tanks were.

Chris: What George?

Charles: The

Chris: Yeah,

Ruth: There Georges and

Heather: It's McCain's.

Ruth: Well, The grandfather had eight children 6 boys and two girls.

Heather: I have a picture of all of them at the old Witch Creek School sitting out on the steps.

Ruth: We have the one of the family in front of the green house. I will see if I can go dig it out.

Charles: What are you searching for today?



relation were you to

cattle...

the cattle baron.

are a bunch of a bunch of Charles's

not as bad as the

we aren't as prolific.

Heather: Basically, Cuyamaca, land use on state park. Anything you can remember. Any of the stories.

Charles: So you don't want a history of the family I see.

Heather: You know that would be a good thing because I am a little confused still.

Charles: Why don't I give you a little rundown on the history? Grandfather left southern England probably 1974 or around there. He got off at Oceanside. He came on up to Warner's ranch and he stopped off there and herded sheep for a little while. He came with a little money.

Heather: You just keep talking. I'm going to get those papers.

Chris: It's your interview.

Heather: You're doing just fine.

Chris: So, when you were a kid, where did you actually live? Not to go backwards, but...

Chris: I know Witch Creek, but which part of Witch Creek?

Charles: Well, I was telling you, up from the big green house.

Chris: Up on the hill?

Ruth: Wasn't it about two miles from there?

Charles: A mile and a half or two miles.

Chris: I'm trying to think of what's back there.

Ruth: You don't see it from the road.

Charles: Everything has been torn down back in there now. But back then you could come down, ride horseback from there but there wasn't a road, you could ride horseback from Santa Ysabel. They used to call it the McKay place or the, it's slipped me now, but a fellow thought he was going to have a dairy. He put in this huge barn, it was the biggest barn in this area, HUGE. It had stanchions and each side piece was 6 inch maple. When you get ready to run your cows in, they stick their heads in and you'd knock it down like this. It was a beautiful old barn. But what was he going to do for feed? Right today, you can get in with a regular pick-up. They didn't keep the road up back then. One way, narrow roads you know.

Chris: So that wasn't actually all the meadow at Santa Ysabel then?

Charles: No, it was a meadow of its own. A nice, little meadow. Betty Anne now owns that.

Chris: That's getting towards the river canyon too isn't it?

Charles: That's getting towards the big canyon, yeah. My brother and I used to ride all through there. We had our own horses when we were kids. We grew up on over there mostly. When I was about 6 years old I went to Mexico. With my Grandmother on a little motor ship and spent a year

down there, then Uncle Fred brought me back by car. This was about in 17 that I went to school at Witch Creek then add 7 years to that and I graduated in 24. I went 2 years at Julian High School and then I thought there must be something more exciting than this so I went to San Diego High School. "Old Red Castle." It was the only high school in San Diego but they did have one at La Jolla or Sweetwater.

Chris: Where was the high school in Julian then?

Charles: In a little building, behind the service station.

Chris: Okay, that's what I was wondering about.

Charles: Yeah, I went to school there.

Chris: It's a church now isn't it?

Charles: No, it's a storage...maybe it's a church. But it belongs to Cousins.

Chris: I know the building you mean though.

Ruth: Porter.

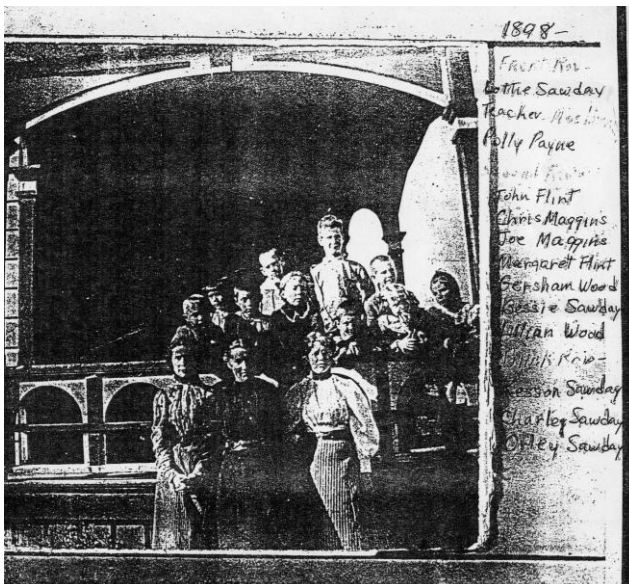
Charles: Out where the High School is now were the rodeo grounds. They always had a fourth of July party there. The road that goes by the High School, that was the racetrack. There wasn't enough track; so they just went out and bought that up so they could have the horse races.

Chris: When you were talking about the post office that is what I was wondering if you were talking about that building.

Charles: The Post Office was, you know the lot they cleared the service station off of? You go up and turn left there and then you get right behind that vacant lot and that's where the Foresters Lodge was and the post Office.

(I am now showing a picture taken on the steps of the Witch Creek schoolhouse.)

Charles: Where in the world did you get that?



Heather: The Julian Library. They have all the old school records. All of them. I'm thinking, 'Oh my gosh! Someone 100 years from now is going to go back and look at my school records?'

Chris: Public record.

Charles: I knew all of those people. I wonderLottie Sawday...That was my Grandfathers oldest daughter. Teacher....Paine, I remember the Paine family.

Chris: The Paine's were over west of Cuyamaca weren't they? Were they down Pine Hills, Engineers Road?

Charles: Tellam owns part of the old Paine place. Paine Bottom. It was part of the Hoskins Place off of Eagle Peak Road.

Chris: Did you know any of the Talleys?

Charles: Huh?

Chris: Did you know any of the Talley family?

Charles: Yeah, Joe Talley? Joe Talley owned that ranch where

Chris: It's like, Harrison Park I think is what it is called now.

Charles: Yeah, you turn in there. No, you turned off at Inspiration Point.

Chris: Down where Convair had their camp?

Charles: Then you went on down.

Chris: Cause I know there was a Father Talley then there was 2 or 3 sons.

Ruth: The first old lady that I met when we got engaged, wasn't she Joe Talley's sister or something?

(Charles is back on the school picture subject again)

Charles: Lillian Wood was my teacher when I came back out of Mexico, Lillian Wood just started teaching. She went to Normal School for 2 years. She was the daughter of the tutor that my Grandfather brought back for us.

(Showing another picture.)

Chris: That's down where the hotel used to be down at Witch Creek. Where that Green House is now.

Charles: Yeah, this is there at the old Hotel compound.

Heather: Is that where the old hotel was or?

Chris: I'm not sure if that was the old hotel or...There's a house there now.

Heather: Next to it?

Charles: Fairly close to the road. They got a lot of trees there and a hedge. That was the old hotel and Wilscoft owned it. He owned it after it ceased being a hotel But before that, when my father was a young un', it was the Woods Hotel. Margaret Woods Bancroft, you've probably heard of her.



Ruth: They were explorers.

Charles: She was a young girl and my Father taught her to ride. You know, she just died a while back. She rode mule all over Mexico.

Ruth: Her husband wrote books of Mexico, of Baja.

(We are looking at a picture of the barn at Ballena)

Heather: That's down by Golden Eagle. My friend Jeanie and I stopped to...

Chris: That's the one that just fell down?

Heather: No, they tore it down. We stopped, took a picture and one week later, gone.

Chris: It was right across the little side road from the Fire Station.



Charles: That was the old Pepper Ranch. Andy Pepper lived there. That was quite a handsome hotel there at Witch Creek. It was two-story, adobe on the bottom, and it had a veranda all the way around, you could walk around. It was part of a kind of chain of hotels. They had the railroad coming to Foster. Then it was about a days drive to the Kenilworth Inn at Ramona. It was an interesting hotel. There were 48 rooms and there were no numbers on the doors, but states. The names of the 48 states. Then the next was Witch Creek and the next was Julian, the old Julian Hotel. So it was right along where you could go on a stagecoach in a day.

Heather: Do you remember when the Mountain Glen Hotel burnt down? The McCain's had it. It was right across the street from the cemetery. Where the fire station is now.

Charles: In Ballena?

Heather: In Julian.

Charles: In Julian? No, I don't remember that. I do remember the old original Town Hall was across the street from the present Hotel. It burned down, the one they had before.

Ruth: I think this is the fifth one they've had.

Chris: Do you remember the old Warnock adobe? In Ballena?

Charles: Yes.

Chris: Whereabouts was it? It was on the old highway right?

Charles: Warnock? I thought it was Swycaffer, where Willy Tellam's son Steve lives? You know that little ranch there? Across from that fancy ranch with all the trees and horse shades? That was my Mothers until 50 some years ago. Across from that is Steve Tellam.

Ruth: Do you know Steve?

Chris: No.

Heather: Yes, I know Steve.

Charles: Steve is a World Champion Team Penner. A couple of years in a row.

Heather: Yeah, Willy didn't even ride in the rodeo because Steve is too hard to beat. He says, "There can only be one winner and Steve is awful hard to beat."

(Back to the previous subject)

Chris: It was right over in there?

Charles: There was one there. I don't know whether that's Warnock though.

Chris: That's the one I'm thinking of.

Charles: Old Jeff Swycaffer lived there. Jeff's been gone for.....

Heather: I think there is a relative that still lives there isn't there?

Charles: Yes, that's young Jeff.

Chris: Well, Warnock and Swycaffer were kind of partners anyways. So it may have been one built it and sold it to the other one. It may have started out Warnock...

Charles: That may be, that may be the one. But the Warnock main ranch that I remember, you go behind, well they owned what that little horse ranch is, you went over a little ridge and the house was back in there.

(Back to discussing the picture of school children)

Charles: Charlie Sawday, I wonder where he'd be. Look at this one honey, standing up back there.

Chris: Was the other Warnock one in the same valley there as well?

Charles: Behind the horse ranch over in there. Toward Harris Canyon where the falls are.

Heather: I had a question about that too. The Leaning Oak Ranch, going past that Ocean Canyon, Canyon Resort, going past there, it's on the left hand side, it's a red ranch,

Chris: Oh it's right there where the road curves...

Charles: Used to raise goats?

Heather: Yeah.

Charles: That's an old-timer. I remember going there for Sunday dinner.

(Back to the picture again.)

Ruth: This is your Dad.

Charles: It is? Are you sure it's not Kessen?

Ruth: No, Kessen is the first one, then Kessen and then Orley. That's the way it looks to me. Front row from left to right. I'm sure.

Chris: I'll bet those people who took cattle out to Carrizo didn't have a very good time. That's a pretty desperate place to have to go.

Heather: I know, it was so awful.

Chris: I was talking awful for them not for you.

Heather: I know but it was pretty awful for me. They were used to it. I'll be better prepared next time. Every time I go into Kmart I buy one of those big water jugs. I'm telling you I can't stand the dirt. I like to get dirty, I do it real well but ...Sue is a trooper. She's tough.

Chris: It's on tape now. You said that.

Chris: They did an archaeological dig at the old Carrizo Stage Station in the spring and it's so far out, you have to go through a creek to get there. They were there for a week. I went out for 1 day. They camped for a week.

Heather: It's miserable.

Chris: They are sifting dirt, they were just brown. They were trying to wash in Carrizo Creek.

Heather: Yeah, no way to wash.

Charles: Carrizo is kind of south, I'm not too familiar with that

Chris: You go out from Bow Willow and out that way.

Charles: I did take my children, they weren't very good, but I took 'em. When we were on the Coogan Ranch we got on the passenger train and we went to El Centro. The kids were pretty young. They had these paper cups and it seemed all they wanted to do was to go drink water. But that was a beautiful...I'm awfully glad that I did take that trip. You know something? You ought to study Mesa Grande. You know there's some pretty good history there. They had an old Indian, and it was the nearest thing to a trading post that we had in this country. Except, they did have at Warner's too. Gleason Ambler had this store and his sister was married to Arthur Stone and he had a big cattle ranch then there's the mines, the old Shenandoah, the tourmaline mines and every gay blade in my Father's day had a tourmaline tie stick pin.

Chris: Did you ever know the Davidson's?

Charles: Oh yeah. I used to work with Stanley Davidson. He was a famous stone mason. If you see some beautiful fireplaces, you can't see the mortar and the moss is still on the rocks, there are some of them at Corte Madera and I think the Pine Hills Lodge. Old Ed Davis used to own the

Powam Lodge on Mesa Grande and he was one of the first white men to ever go on that island in the Sea of Cortez where those special Indians are. He went down there in the early days and wrote about them.

Heather: I just read about that last night.

Charles: Yeah, and he owned the Powam Lodge. It was a lovely lodge, he had that full of Indian artifacts, ollas, baskets and people would go there and stay like they do Pine Hills Lodge but it burned down and a lot of wonderful artifacts were burned with it. He used to have a cherry orchard in front of it. We would go and pay so much to pick cherries. Mesa Grande has got some interesting history. You know they fought the civil war a second time up there?

Heather: Was that up on Angel's place?

Charles: I don't know if it was the Angel's versus the, what's the name of that place? The Angel's said they fought the Civil War all over again. I don't think anybody got killed.

Heather: Did you know any of the Couro's?

Charles: Who?

Heather: Couro, Rocendo, Tomas.....

Charles: Those are Indians. Yeah, I knew Johnny Couro. Johnny Couro was a hell of a pitcher. Johnny Couro was on the Mesa Grande Indian Reservation and he was a good pitcher. In fact they wanted him big time they wanted to put him in the training camp but he didn't want to go but later he moved to the Barona Indian Reservation, he died there. Do you know how the Barona Indian Reservation got there?

Heather: Yeah.

Charles: They wanted to build El Capitan dam.

Heather: You know Clint Rosson, and Buck, or Harold Rosson? Their mother was a Paroli? Her mother was Frances Couro. Then there were the Grandparents and they got killed real young and nobody knows what happened to them. Do you ever remember hearing any stories about that?

Ruth: Well, all of our lives we heard stories of the Indian drunken brawls. They have had some notorious ones. Even killing each other. A lot of that.

Chris: Were you living up here when the big Inaja fire happened.

Ruth: No, we've only been living here 25 years.

Charles: We were living in Fallbrook then.

Ruth: We weren't living in Julian then.

Chris: Did you ever know any of the Paipa's?

Charles: Yes.

Chris: Cause they are on Santa Ysabel now.

Charles: My brother who lives in Bedford Oregon and my father before he retired had this grain business. They used to hire a lot of those out of the valley too work for them.

Chris: I always wondered whatever happened to the boy who was accused of starting that fire but I don't really want to ask the Paipa's about that. It may not be a good subject.

Ruth: I didn't know it was started by a Paipa.

Chris: It was kind of an accident, but it was one of the Paipa kids who was about 16.

Charles: Weren't they on the Inaja reservation?

Chris: Yeah, Inaja. But see, I don't think there is anybody on Inaja now. They may still have claim to it but I don't think there are any houses.

Charles: It so remote.

Ruth: That's just what I was going to say, it's a little remote.

Heather: Did I hear that Santa Ysabel voted to have a casino?

Ruth: Oh no! I hope you heard that wrong!

Chris: Have you seen the one at Campo? The Campo Indians they are building one right next to the freeway. Crestwood off-ramp.

Ruth: I've seen the one at Pala and the one at Rincon. I can't imagine.

Chris: It's just before Live Oak Springs at Crestwood.

Ruth: No, we haven't seen it.

Chris: Well, it's not built to where you can say 'Oh look, a casino.'

Charles: Now, you know, there's an Indian reservation on Laguna.

Chris: The Lucas place.

Charles: Kind of off that way from the Shriner Camp. I don't know who owns it now, he died and his wife I guess owned it. It was just a little bitty place.

Chris: 1100 acres or something?

Heather: What about Cosmit? That one is real small too.

Chris: Inaja wasn't very big either.

Charles: My Grandfather, when he bought that 320 acres, that creek that runs down there, and his little cabin, where the fire station is, right across that canyon. You look right through and see that cedar tree with a lot of little cedar trees there. He planted that. There are some apple trees there that still have some little old gnarly apples on them and there are some olives there.

Ruth: Well, there was the last time we were there. They may have expired by now, I don't know. We haven't been in there for 5 or 6 years.

Chris: Olives seem to stick around pretty good. Olives and apples.

Ruth: They were pretty hard to find when we were there the last time.

Charles: I had a cousin out from England and I took him in there one time and we went back in there.

Charles: Yeah, Mesa Grande, I'd like to buy that whole side of Mesa Grande. Ruth and I retired 24 years ago.

Ruth: 25 now.

Charles: We had an avocado and orange ranch in Fallbrook and Ruth was with the real estate business. We found this, but I would sure love to....the dam, the lake was here. But you go into Mesa Grande.

Heather: Yeah, I was out Mataguay way not too long ago. There was a road on the map that goes through but it doesn't go through any more.

Charles: Mataguay? That was, what was his name; he was president of the Riverside cement company.

Ruth: When you don't discuss things for a long time you forget the names. Now, having discussed it today, you know, at our ages, if we haven't used a word or talked about something, you don't just get it back. It may come another time, but we just don't have instant recall. It just doesn't happen that way.

Heather: That's what I was going to suggest, that maybe we get together again some time.

Ruth: Oh my goodness, you don't want more of this?

Heather: You're wonderful.

Charles: You being associated with the State, it should be very easy for you to get that tape that I made.

Heather: That's what I will do. I'll try to get my hands on that.

Charles: There's a lot of good information about how the cowboys did this about the time Hans was swimming back from Monkey Island, swimming on his horse and his horse had a heart attack and died. There's a lot of good stories about how they handled the

Ruth: Don't we have that tape here?

Charles: No, Robert's got it. We never got our copy that they were going to give me.

Heather: You know where I'm going when I leave!

Charles: Every morning at Warner's we would have breakfast at 6:00 and before 7:00 the man would always gather the horses from the horse pasture and put them in the round corral. We always put horses in a round corral. If they panic they will run around and hit their shoulders on corners. Then to see the cowboys out there with what they called a "Hoolihan". They would take an old rope like this with a little old loop and with all these horses running that loop would go out and the horses would run into it. I couldn't do it. I had them pick a horse for me. They each had their own string. Each cowboy had their own string. So when you go to catch a horse....there are a lot of good stories about cowboys.

Chris: Do you remember any of the old sawmills up on North Peak? That's something I have always tried to figure out, was who had what.

Charles: The last sawmill, it wasn't on North Peak. When I had my Standard Oil business, I hauled gasoline across the creek below the dam and then you hang a right and kind of go around Middle Peak, Bud Birdsell, he used to run a garage in Julian.

Chris: Heather has been talking to them too.

Charles: Old Mike Birdsell, the father, used to haul big logs out of that country. We used to have a picture when we lived in the Hoskins House, it belonged to the Hoskins House, a picture of an ox team hauling a log. The biggest darn log this country had ever seen. He had a lot of sugar pine and sugar pine in the old days was valuable as sink boards because they would kind of carve it to direct the water towards the sink. Maybe put some little grooves. It was kind of like yellow pine, it wouldn't split. It didn't really have a grain. They could have a board this wide and if you tried it wouldn't split. Yeah, I remember old Bud having that sawmill. He had a garage in Julian for many years but later he had that sawmill. Big old ___Scott engine from the first World War that he had work his saw.

Heather: Roy says he has all the old sawmill equipment.

Charles: Roy? Roy is a good guy. That Ox yoke over the door, I gave that to him. I had collected it, I've always been a collector. I'd collected it and I knew that it was his Grandfathers. I think Roy's got it over his door now. Roy's got a very lovely wife.

Heather: I just talked to one of his sisters yesterday, Esther.

Charles: I remember one time I was at Jacks grocery and there were a bunch of drunks outside all of a sudden I heard a roar over at the garage next door to where they sell all the stoves and stuff. Out of there came smoke and Bud Birdsell in a old Cadillac that he had made into a small ___ had a little A frame on the back. He came outta there a flyin' No coat, no hat and going up the street with the children to get somebody who was stuck.

Charles: Let me show you something out here.

Ruth: Are you going to show them the metates?

Charles: Yeah, and the bear trap.

Heather: Have you had any bears? I've been hearing all these stories about bears.

Charles: You know Ballast Point was one of the best honey producing areas in the area. One of those famous old families was a honey merchant and he had a warehouse out where the submarine base is, Ellis Point. That's where the ships all loaded in those days. The bears were a big problem. (*We are looking at a stone bowl*)

Heather: That's beautiful. Where did you get that?

Charles: That's off of Monkey Island. It's worn through, got a little old hole in the bottom. Those are very hard to find, the single stone. I had some others but I had two absolutely beautiful ones, big like a big oval soup bowl and I gave them to my son because he's gotta have them.

Heather: Did you find pestles with them?

Charles: Well, my Dad, he's the one who found them.

Charles: I think that's a cobblestone that came off of the placers.

Heather: The ancient riverbed out there?

Charles: Yeah. This trap was used to trap the last of the bears that were threatening the bee business.

Chris: I'm going to go get my camera to take a picture if that's all right.

Charles: Of the trap?

Chris: Well, with you in it.

Heather: Not in the trap!

Charles: I was afraid of that. I've been a great collector.

Heather: I love old stuff too. Wow, what are those from?

Charles: You know, if a young man was going to go into the blacksmith business part of his being an apprentice was having to build his own tools. This is hand made.

Heather: How does that work?

Charles: I used to have the clamps you put clamps and clamp it down and then as this comes down there, you put this over that. See that little notch? You put this there with this under that and they step on this and then they are stuck.

Heather: There were actually bears down at Ballast Point?

Charles: No, that was where Gunn, who was a honey merchant, had his warehouse there and he used to ship honey particularly to Julian. Uncle George used to have 3 big apiaries. One down on the Collier Flat where the big picnic is going to be that you probably won't be able to get into.

Heather: If I get down on my hands and knees and beg!

Charles: Then there was one at the John Dye place, see, that's white sage country and that was the finest honey.

Chris: Now stick your tongue in it.

Heather: Mrs. Sawday, are you going to come get in this picture?

Ruth: Oh, you don't want me in it!

Heather: Oh yes we do.

Ruth: I look like somebody's Grandmother.

Heather: You are someone's Grandmother.

Chris: This is a good sized house for 2 people.

Ruth: It is. We like it. It's only 2 bedrooms. It's our retirement home not our family home.

Ruth: What are you doing hon'?

Chris: Playing with his bear trap.

Ruth: Oh! I'm in the ants!

Chris: A bunch. You're standing in them too.

Heather: He knows. He likes them.

Charles: They're just black ants. I have a 100 year old niece with a 90 year old body.

Heather: Oh, they are crawling all down your dress. Come here let me get those off. How did they get all the way up here? Did they drop off of the tree?

Ruth: Oh!!!

Charles: They'll go away honey.

Heather: Yeah, just wait till you start wiggling around.

Charles: I feel them on my head. They are black ones. They don't sting, they bite.

Heather: Don't they pee on you?

Chris: I really don't know, want to find out?

Heather: No thank you very much.

Ruth: Charles! Honestly.

Charles: It was very nice talking to you. You know, I'm very much interested in somebody knowing some of this. Willy knows some of the history, but he can't go back as far as I did.

Heather: Yeah, that's why I'm coming back sometime. Okay?

Charles: Okay.

Bill Tulloch Interview
with Sue Wade, Heather Thomson
& Ann VanLeer

The interview was conducted on December 19, 2002. The interview began during the ride from Witch Creek to the Tulloch Ranch.

Bill: The Sawday's owned the Laguna property at Crouch Meadows. Mrs. Sawday was a Crouch, and it was her father that homesteaded the property back in the 1870's.



Heather: With sheep; right?

Bill: Yes, he ran sheep. They had winter pasture down around San Luis Rey, in Oceanside. In fact, some of the family's still buried there in the old cemetery. They used to drive the sheep from there up to the Crouch Meadows in the summertime. My wife's grandparents - George and Emily - met because they used to come up through Witch Creek when they were moving the family up to the Crouch Meadows for the summertime.

Heather: Did they raise the sheep for the meat or for their wool?

Bill: Both. In those days, mostly it was for wool. There wasn't a big demand for lamb. They used to sell lamb also, but I think mostly for the wool.

Heather: I heard somewhere that sheep -- they eat everything, even the roots of the plants?

Bill: Well, they eat right down to the ground level. If it comes out by the roots, they probably eat that, too. They're a lot more destructive.

Bill: Herbert Crouch -- he had cattle, too. He homesteaded land down there in Ballena.

Sue: Where the Golden Eagle is?

Bill: No, not where the Golden Eagle is, but on the other side of the highway where the Buena Vista Ranch is. I went back in the old records, and a lot of that was homesteaded by Crouch.

Sue: Hmm. So, Sawday had cattle all over the county.

Bill: Somebody said at one time -- and I don't think it was quite true -- that you could ride from the Mexican border to the Riverside county line and you'd be on land that Sawday either owned or leased.

Bill: Sawday got into a partnership deal with Oliver Sexton who was a sheriff down in San Diego County. Sexton bought the Penasquitos Ranch, which is another land grant. He was having trouble, so George Sawday bailed him out, and they went into a partnership deal. They had the Guejita. They also leased the Fairbanks Ranch. They had a lease on that and a lot of other small pieces down there. They had quite a holding down along the coast there and then the Peaveys; they had the Rose Canyon area in there,

Heather: What do they call this place right here? I don't remember. Turkey something.....

Bill: This is Lewis' property here. They have turkeys in there. He used to be the dam keeper down here at the dam for the Helix Irrigation District for years and years.

Sue: Like 40, 50 --

Bill: Yeah. Well, they were there when I first came on the ranch which was in 1949. When he retired, they lived here.

Sue: You were saying when you had cattle on this ranch.

Bill: Well, this is the Cuyamaca area. Yeah, we ran cattle up here. I don't think they ever had the lake bottom. The last people who leased it were Schaffer; they ran Charlois cattle which are a French breed. They had a problem when they put in the dike at the bottom of the lake. The lake went low and the fluid and everything went down to the other end of the reservoir; the nitrates got high and were affecting the fish. -- they stopped grazing on it. There was a time when the whole lake bottom was farmed.

Sue: Oh, really?

Bill: They were dry land farming in there when the lake was down.

Sue: Barley?

Bill: Mostly just oats. Kind of weedy hay.

Sue: Like recent or years ago?

Bill: Oh, I don't know probably 30 or 40 years ago. They were all upset about the cattle being in there because of the farming and the flower that grows in there. I don't understand some of these environmental problems that they're so concerned about.

Sue: The Sawday family had cattle on all of Cuyamaca?

Bill: No. Just on this.

Sue: Just on this property?

Bill: - I think Jasper had the main part of the park over there.

Sue: Again forties, fifties?

Bill: In the fifties that I know of.

Sue: I think we figured the last time there were cattle on the Cuyamaca was in the late fifties. When was the first time that the Sawday family had cattle on the north part?

Bill: I'm not sure whether it was in the thirties -- late thirties or -- whenever they acquired the property.

Sue: Okay.

Bill: Well, that was when they would have had cattle in there.

Sue: We've been on this property a couple times and we found a water trough up there. Are you familiar with those kinds of things?

Bill: Yeah. Well, I drilled the well up here. And there used to be a spring back up in the canyon where all the overgrowth and vegetation is up there. Well, it still runs a little bit in the summertime. But I drilled a well in there so we'd have water to keep the cattle distributed out. -- when the stream went down in the summertime -- well, the only place they had water was over there by the corrals there.

Bill: There was always water there in the pond but that meant that the cattle didn't utilize this area in here as much. They'd utilize it when they'd go in and out of this area out in here. They utilize it heavier as they go in and out for water. It gets utilized heavier then so I drilled a well in here, it keeps them scattered out. We used a little solar pump the last couple of years like we use at the ranch. Years and years ago, when the family had the San Felipe and everything, they had cattle down there in the wintertime and they would drive them up to -- well, they'd drive them up through Chariot Canyon down there. I remember being on a couple of the drives, and we'd drive them up here and hold them overnight, and then take them on over to the Crouch Meadows and Laguna pasture over there.

Sue: How did you get from here to Crouch Meadows?

Bill: You go out on Sunrise Highway.. At one time, before the highway was there, they'd go down through Harper Valley and cut across over by the Shriners Camp and down through the Meadows. The Sawday's had the Laguna Meadows leased for a number of years... Then during World War II, Sandy Kemp went into the cattle business and they took back over the Laguna. They ran cattle there and probably down at Campo, too. They used to drive them back and forth from Campo. In the summertime, bring them up to the meadows. And in the wintertime, take them back down. They still have some kind of forestry lease on there. But they truck them back and forth now. They cut them way back on the numbers of cattle they could run.

Heather: Don't you guys have a ranch down there in Campo or Boulevard?

Bill: We still own the Cameron Valley, the last piece of private property, Sawday acquired. Then the old Coogan Ranch -- Jackie Coogan; the movie star -- his father invested in it for him. And they had put a lot of things in there. Mr. Sawday was reluctant to buy the property because it had a lot of buildings on it; a lot of maintenance. But my son lives there now with his family.

Heather: Does he run cattle, too?

Bill: Oh, yeah.

Sue: How does their cattle fit into the seasonal back and forth thing?

Bill: Well, in the old days they used to buy a lot of Mexican cattle and they'd bring them across the border down there. They had a dipping vat south of the border because they had fever ticks down in Mexico and they didn't want them up here in the United States. So everything that came across the border had been dipped. So they'd run them through down there and bring them up to Campo. That was

before World War II and Mr. Sawday had the big meadow down there at Campo. They would quarantine the cattle in there for a while to make sure they were all right. And then they'd bring them on down to the other ranches further north

Sue: So did they buy calves down there?

Bill: Oh, they were probably yearling steers.

Sue: Okay.

Bill: I guess they can bring them across still, but they have to be quarantined. If they had a lot of rain down there they would barge the cattle across from the mainland. But I don't think they were as far as La Paz but probably down around Santa Rosalia or someplace down there. And they would pasture them north as the feed dried up. When they got to the border here they bring them across the border and sell them.

Sue: To the ranchers here?

Bill: Yeah

Sue: I'm trying to figure out how the whole system worked. So, the idea was to buy calves, get them on the land to fatten them up and then sell them for meat?

Bill: They didn't run very many cows and calves; the ranch wasn't set up for that. It was easier than steers because they would grow them. And I know the Warner's Ranch was all steers when I first came on the ranch in '49. Beef cattle reach maturity, full grown, when they're three years old. So they never sold anything if it was less than three years old and if they weren't fat enough or the feed conditions were such that some of them didn't get fat enough, they'd hold them over another year and sometimes they would be 5 years old.

Sue: Uh-huh.

Bill: In those days there were no feed lots. Back in the Midwest they used to get what they call Iowa beef. You'd see places that advertise it. Well, it was corn fed. The farmers would know if the corn prices weren't good and they would buy a couple -- a few head and feed the corn cob to them.

Sue: Okay.

Bill: They had cattle in a feed lot in a confined area and were feeding them the corn and roughage, the corn stalks. Since they didn't have the machinery they have today the corn was whole and the cattle wouldn't digest that entirely. So they followed the cattle around with hogs -- the hogs would eat the corn.

Bill: We did quite a bit of prescribed burning up here in the last ten years or so. On the other side of it, we've burned a lot of that off over there.

Sue: Did you guys have fire breaks also over there? Because we think that was what stopped the fire from going any further. --

Bill: No. They had a fire one time that was started by an arson it came up the Banner Grade and set several fires up there and came up kind of toward Julian. And after that they were very concerned about fire starting on the desert side and coming with an east wind behind it and coming in through the State Park here. So they took crews in and they built a fire break over here where the road goes down into Chariot Canyon. That way they built what they call a fuel break to put a stop to a fire with. They went clear over to the Whispering Pines area. They put it in there and typical of a lot of government programs they do the work and then don't have any money for maintenance. It just disappears. Like that road up on the hill there--at one time they had it cleared for 100' on either side. This burned off in the 50's. The fire started back over here someplace with an east wind and burnt this whole hill off. This is all grown up now ready to burn again.

Sue: On North Peak here?

Bill: Yeah.

Sue: There's been an archeologist out here doing some studies and some of the old records tell about four villages that were here. One of them was called Iguai, and it was on the south slope of north peak. This is all full of Indian stuff, I'm sure you know that.

Bill: Wherever you had a source of water and oak trees and a rock outcrop you will find signs of an old village. Back over where that spring was, there are signs of habitation there. Then there is a big one back on the other side there.

Sue: By the pond?

Bill: Yeah. I guess that was quite a village because they said when they were doing the mining around Cuyamaca that there was a pretty good sized village over here. People used to come over and visit them.

Bill: That ridge over there, we burned it off completely about five or six years ago.

Sue: Along Sunrise there below the corrals?

Bill: No, back on that far ridge over there.

Sue: Was the idea to make the pasture better or just for the fire safety?

Bill: To keep the fuel load down, mainly was what the government was interested in but we wanted to burn it off because it opens it up because it provides more feed not only for our cattle but for the wildlife.

Sue: One of the main things I want to do today is--I don't know if Heather told you--we are writing a history of ranching. What I'm trying to do is to convince the park that it is an important part of our history and we need to retain important parts of it. Not just take out all the fences everything. Not just remove everything from the landscape which is what the natural resource people always want to do. What we are arguing is that ranching is really an important part of our history. We want to describe it and we want to keep portions of the history alive through the windmills and the corrals and all those things that were important components. So what we are trying to do is to identify how the whole system worked and what were the important components of it. So I'm hoping we can talk a bit about the physical things like the springs and the windmills and how that kind of fit into the whole way that things worked. I read a story

where Granny Martin said "In 20 years there aren't going to be any windmills". Because people aren't using them and they are falling down.

Bill: They serve a place in the history of things.

(We have arrived at the north gate of the Tulloch Ranch and are joined by Ann VanLeer from The Nature Conservancy)

Bill: There was a CB camp up on Engineers Rd. They used to come up and help with this road when they had spare time.

Sue: That was after the 50's fire then?

Bill: Yeah, they had roads all over. Trees were killed by the fire and they went in and salvaged some of the wood for firewood.

Sue: We had Roy Birdsell up there.

Bill: Well, they were up on the Milk Ranch. I remember Granny Martin said that in his lifetime -- and he was in his nineties when he died, he said that when they put in this no burn policy back about early 1900's. He said it took three fires but they finally got one that got hot enough and in the right direction and everything and it went right up over the top and burned up Cuyamaca Rancho State Park.

Heather: So everything on the mountain burned in the last 50 years?

Bill: I think so. Yeah, they had that Inaja fire but I think it was the Boulder Creek fire, or Cedar Creek fire; whatever they called it at the time, that went over the top there. Everybody abandoned ship up there and some of the locals went up there and saved the fire lookout. Granny Martin grew up there in Cuyamaca -- I forget where they lived, but his dad had a store there, which is probably where the old fire station is now. His father used to haul timber to the mines there. They'd cut timbers off of the Cuyamaca Peak there. And he said he remembers as a kid there was always a fire burning up on the side of the hill where they'd burned the slash. And then after this no burn policy came in, what happens is, you have all this trash that grows up underneath the trees up there on North Peak in there by the Milk Ranch, Birdsell was cutting timber, cutting trees. When that fire went through there, it killed a lot of those trees. There were some beautiful, big sugar pines up there and they cut them down for lumber. There was a fellow from the state college came up there and they were checking the age by the rings and some of those trees were 300 years old. Finally, because of this no burn thing, they finally killed the trees. But I'll tell you something, according to the rings, about every 10 or 12 years there was an indication that a fire had gone through there and scorched the bark. And then about every thirty or forty years, why, there was a major fire went through. The small fires, they burn out underneath and clean up all the trash and everything. Any disease or -- if some trees were going to die, why, it would burn them up. The old-timers back there on Laguna, they ran cattle in there and would winter them down in Imperial Valley. It wasn't as developed as it is now. There were fresh water lakes down there. And the people that lived in the valley at that time, they knew when they were starting to bring the cattle down because whenever they pulled out of here; they would set the country on fire.

Heather: Ahead of time?

Bill: Oh, yeah and just let it burn. Well, in those days you didn't have to worry about a major fire because everything was kept burned down and under control. And when the Indians lived here they had what they called the natural land and the natural forest. The Indians knew that when they got up like this, why, you know, as far as game went -- which they depended upon for their food source -- that the deer aren't going to live in country like this. And it was very difficult for them to get through there. I mean, they liked the young browse and everything. The Indians would burn it off periodically, if it didn't burn naturally from a lightning fire or something like that. So they --

Heather: It'll grow back.

Sue: All our biologists are telling us all these plants are fire-adapted and they say they want the fire to clean it out and get rid of all the undergrowth and the dead stuff.

Bill: And it should be burnt off periodically. As I say, there are some of these fields of brush that haven't burned in a hundred years and the fuel load is tremendous. There was a fellow that had an extension service San Diego County, and he did some experimental work out here. As I remember, he said there's something like 20 tons of dry matter an acre accumulates every year.

Heather: Wow. The majority of the large trees that survive through the fire keep on growing right?

Bill: Oh, yeah. The live oaks are harder to kill. I don't know about these here, whether they'd survive a fire or not. The Engelmann Oaks have a rather thin bark and they don't take much fire. Doesn't take much to kill them because it cooks that layer under the bark, the Cambrian layer. But the live oaks, even though they have a lot of oil in the leaves, and they go up like a torch, they'll come back out of it and re-sprout.

Sue: So this guy was logging while you guys were out here, huh?

Bill: Yeah, he was cutting firewood. And then when he left, there was another outfit that came in there. My father-in-law let them come in and cut the firewood. Got to clean out some of the debris that was left over from the fire.

Sue: Did it work, having them --

Bill: Oh, he got a lot of firewood off. Now, if you go over to the other side there, when you go through, there's a lot of Ceanothis and Manzanita and all this garbage that grows up underneath there that just creates a tremendous fire hazard.

Sue: That firewood guy isn't going to be cutting that stuff out?

Bill: All he did was salvage some of the trees that were burnt.

Sue: Well, how do you want to do this? Do you want to just drive around and you can stop me when you want to stop, and --

Bill: Whatever you want to do. We might go down here a little further and I'll show you where this Indian camp is down here.

Sue: Ann, was there anything you wanted to do in particular today? Or just cruise around?

Ann: You don't mind if I jump in and ask questions?

Sue: No, not at all.

Ann: We've been so curious about some of the things that we've found out here. I've asked Glenn things and he's doesn't have much to say.

Bill: Well, you only want to believe half of what you hear.

(Laughter)

Sue: I'll tell you what, Ann. We were at the Lucky 5 Celebration, and, you know, those big orange buoy things that are out there? It was puzzlement and now we know! We never would have guessed what those buoys were for.

Ann: What are they for?

Sue: They were being towed behind a tractor to clear the brush. Did you guys ever go back and forth with cattle with the Daley's? I mean, because your properties are right close to each other; was there any kind of interaction?

Bill: Oh, they used to get over on us once in a while.

Sue: Just accidentally, though?

Bill: Oh, yeah. We didn't run cattle together.

Sue: You didn't team up together to run cattle or anything like that?

Bill: No. We can stop in here, if you want to get out and take a look.

Sue: Did you guys have a foreman or a caretaker on the ranch?

Bill: No. there's never anybody lived here. They used to come up with a pick-up and horse trailers.

Bill: When I first came here in '49 Mr. Sawday was still alive. He died in December of '49 and I came to work in February. He was the boss then and then after he died, my wife's aunt and uncle decided that they would -- that it would be better if they split up the property. Mr. Sawday, when he acquired land like this -- he would give each of his daughters a quarter interest in it and he and his wife kept half interest. And so they had this piece of property. They had the San Felipe Ranch. They had -- what they called the Kelly country, which is south of Pine Hills over there, which the Rutherford's acquired. And they had the Volcan Mountain. And they had interest in the Santa Ysabel property. And -- well, Santa Ysabel wasn't in it, but these were the various properties that there were three interests in and so when they decided to divide the property up, I think it was about 1952. Yeah, I believe it was '52; somewhere along there, '52 or '53. And so my wife's parents acquired sole interest in this property. And the Starr's, the Aunt and Uncle, they acquired the Kelly country and Volcan, and then they divided the San Felipe, which is an old Spanish Land Grant. The Starr's got the upper half and Mrs. Sawday took the south end of it. The Cummings got the interest in the Santa Ysabel. You know, it was kind of convoluted.

But anyway, this property here was owned by my wife's parents. And this was before the tax laws changed in 1986. To get it out of their estate, they gave it to our four children. And so that's why the Tullochs got hold of this property.

Bill: When we were going to do a prescribed burn up here, and we burnt all of this in here, on this side of the road, back up around the flat there, and this whole back end here, that's been probably ten years ago and you can see how this stuff comes back. In order to do a prescribed burn, there's a certain process that you have to go through. One of them is an environmental review. Another one is the archeological review and all of these things; - the water, soil, and all the rest of it. They did a study on the archeological and they found this area in here was a big Indian camp. Let's go out on these rocks out here. There was a guy who worked for the U.S. Forest Service, and he got all excited about this. There had been a report of a large encampment back here; a good-size settlement, and they determined that this was the location of it. They left potsherds and stuff there. And then out on the rocks out here, why, there's a lot of grinding -- grinding holes. There are a lot of slicks and everything else. There was a spring down below here; apparently that's where they got their water for the encampment. And then over on that other ridge over there, there's a -- I don't know whether it was part of the camp or part of a separate camp, but you'll find a lot of evidence of a big camp in there, too.

Sue: Now, there's a pond down here --

Bill: Well, it's dry now. That's the first time it's ever been dry that I know of.

Sue: Was the dam breached, or is it just dried out from the --

Bill: No, we've had four years of draughts here in Southern California. This last year we had a third of our normal rainfall. Before that -- normally, we probably get about 30 inches of rain. And probably this last year we had 10. I know at home we only had eight and a half inches of rain.

Sue: Wow. So normally there would be a nice little pond in here for the cattle.

Bill: Oh, yeah. It backs up clear back into here.

Sue: Right below us?

Bill: -- where this water is coming out here.

Sue: And the spring is up -- upstream a little?

Bill: Back up in here someplace. You can see there's water up top there now.

Sue: Yeah.

Bill: It seeps out of the rocks and goes down through there. But this camp went through -- back on the other side of the road there's some rocks up over in there with grinding holes, too. And it was a good camp because they had good acorn crops up here. And they had rocks. Rocks and water and acorns.

Sue: Yeah. What more could you need?

Bill: They've got brush around here to build their huts with.

Sue: Uh-huh.

Bill: They were pretty primitive people that lived here in the old days. They weren't as sophisticated as some of the plains Indians; the ones that lived back East didn't live in brush huts. They just built homes.

Sue: How many Indians around here actually worked as cowboys for some of the ranchers?

Bill: Well, all of the help up at Warner's except for a few of us were Indian; came of the Los Coyotes Reservation over there. Well, there were two of them, -- in the old days, when people -- White people first migrated into this area -- and part of it was because of the Julian gold rush. There were a lot of people came into here, and there was a large shortage of women. And so the men would marry -- well, they would take a squaw as a wife. So the Grand family, a lot of them in the Julian area, they were descendents of --French, they were French, I think. They had the Volcan. But there was one fellow -- Theodore Grand -- that worked for the ranch for a long, long time. And he was born in Arkansas Canyon down there by the side of the Volcan. And he worked as a cowboy for the Sawday's since way back in the twenties. And he was 83. But he worked with me -- or I worked with him. He took care of the cattle when we lived over at the Buckman Springs. My wife and I, when we were first married we lived over there. We lived there for 27 years. But he took care of the cattle. He boarded and we fed him. We fed him -- in the wintertime. And then he took care of the cattle down there; moved them back and forth at that time. And there was another Indian. Bartole, he used to come over and he would work there, too. But they didn't employ a lot of Indians then.

Heather: Bartole, was he a Couro?

Bill: What was it they called them? There were three different brands of Indians in this area. The Kwaymii's, and the Cupenos and the Cahuillas I think are the ones -- from the desert. And this might have been the western edge of their area. Most of the Indians are descendents from them. And then there was another family, the Paroli's, which were Indian -- part Indian. They were Italian when they came over there. He took an Indian in as a wife. And so that's where a lot of their families came from.

Bill: I remember I stayed there with the Sawday's. And the first year that -- well, when my wife and I were married, why, I lived there with George and Emily, upstairs. A sun porch and a bedroom and a bath up there. And I stayed there, but I worked over at Warner's and I remember we used to pick up Bill Paroli on the way to the ranch every morning --

Heather: To go to work?

Bill: Yeah. We'd go over there and have breakfast, work all day over there and come back, and I'd have supper with them.

Sue: Hum. So the Indian cowboys that you had, they didn't stay out here at all?

Bill: No, no. Now, this is an old camp in here. Like I said, there was -- there's a written record of it, but -- I think down at State College they have, you know, archeological archives. And they have maps of all of the -- the ones that they know of. This was one of them that there was a written record that some old-timer had written about the Indian camps back in here. It's part of their encampment, I guess. As I say, in

a lot of this area in here and then across on the other side on that ridge over there. And then clear back over in here, the same thing. You'll find the grinding holes and evidence of occupation.

Ann: Up until the time of that survey, were you not aware of the size of the camp here?

Bill: Well --

Ann: I mean, you knew there was Indians.

Bill: Yeah, we knew. We knew. I mean, you find evidence of where these camps are. And people have come up here and scratched around and dug around in some of these places. Anything that's on the surface is usually considered -- well, not significant or of archeological value because it's been disturbed. But anything that's buried, why, then, of course that's another story. You need to go through the process of getting a permit to dig. And then it's all recorded and --

Heather: Did they do those kinds of digs out here or --

Bill: No, not that I know of. People out here just looking.

Sue: We have some of those records at the Park, the records that they filled out. Like the village of Iguai that the old-timers had talked about. It's kind of confusing because they -- the early records talk about it being at North Peak on the road. And this was kind of off the beaten path. So they may not be the same, but obviously it's a large village here.

Bill: Yeah. There was a big camp.

Sue: So this is the place where the cattle would hang out because you had water available for them, so they wouldn't stray too far from this area?

Bill: Yeah, they work around out in here. There's not too much feed in through here, but there is some. At certain times of the year even the buckwheat and stuff has a bloom on it that they can browse on. And the deer do a lot of browsing up in here, too. But after World War II, there was a program where the government provided funds for these conservation dams. And some of the fellows that came back from the Service had equipment. And so they made a business of going and putting in these soil conservation dams. And the theory behind the dams was to catch any silt or sediments so that they wouldn't go downstream and get into the reservoir like the Cuyamaca Lake or down into Capitan or some of those places. So there's -- a large number of these dams were put in back up in the hills up in here. And most of them are still in.

Heather: To catch dirt? Not to hold water, but to catch the dirt?

Bill: Well, for a while you'd have a water source there. But after it had silted in, why, you'd have a nice grazing area.

Ann: Did the government pay them to do it?

Bill: They paid so much a yard. And the Soil Conservation Service provided the engineering for it. They'd come in and they'd pick a spot. Usually they'd try to find a narrow place that had a rock face like this for a spillway. And then they'd excavate behind that and use that material. They'd cut a keyway in

there first, down to hard ground, and then they'd go in and compact that in and build it up as a packed -- compacted earth -- earthen dam. They tried to find places where they could find the rock deal so it wouldn't wash out when it ran over.

Ann: Do you have any recollection of the San Diego flume coming in off of this property?

Bill: No. The flume -- the Cuyamaca Dam was the headwaters. And they release water out of there down into the creek down below there. And it flowed clear down to El Capitan. It went down to -- what was it -- Cedar Creek or --

Heather: Boulder Creek?

Bill: -- Boulder Creek, I guess. Yeah. And then the upper end of El Capitan Dam is where the flume line took off. I have pictures over there at the house. But it was -- the theory was they were going to take the water from there, and carry it on around and across -- past Lakeside and, right across El Capitan; someplace in there. And then they had a ditch that they carried it on down. And then where they had the drainage or something, they put another flume across and they take it on down. And then they were going to take it over to the La Mesa and Mt. Helix area. And that's why -- that's how Mt. Helix -- Helix Irrigation District has the Cuyamaca Lake as part of their water source at that time.

Sue: I've got to get my jacket. Well, we probably ought to get a move-on, and move on to other places.

Bill: Okay.

Sue: So what is really -- cattle-related-- is the water here, but the dam wasn't really specifically put in for cattle; it just worked out nicely.

Bill: Oh, sure. They had water here because of the spring. But the dam helped a lot.

Sue: Helped the cattle; to hold some more water for them?

Bill: Yeah.

Sue: But the spring was really all they needed.

Bill: Yes. Usually they come in and build some kind of a drinker or something for the livestock and pipe -- run a pipe back to the spring. So the cattle wouldn't get in and muddy up the spring.

Ann: When was the well on the other side of the property drilled?

Bill: Which one is that? Oh, over on the north side?

Ann: Yes.

Bill: That's probably been ten years ago. Eight or ten years ago.

Sue: Maybe we can drive over to that side a little later; back up there.

Bill: Usually people come up here looking for arrowheads and things like that. I think most of the ollas and things like that have been pretty well removed. This area here has been dug up ---- been disturbed.

Sue: Yep. Do you have a problem with trespassers a lot coming out here?

Bill: Oh, yeah.

Ann: Were you up here the day Susan picked up -- her and the other archaeologist gal picked up a piece that had decoration on it. And she was very excited about it and she put it aside so we could find it again next time. Well, she forgot where she put it.

Ann: It was very weird to find decoration up here.

Bill: There's many of them around here that don't go in much for decorations.

Sue: Occasionally you find them. It's funny, because they're so unusual.

Bill: Once in a while you can find one; a basket kind of incision or an outline of a basket on the pottery. I've always wished I could find one of those complete ollas.

Heather: Never found one, huh?

Bill: No, I never found one. Not yet. I'm still looking, though.

Heather: I know where you could find one, but you can't take it.

(Laughter)

Bill: Where? At the park headquarters? I know Bill Paroli told me one time they had some that he picked up down there on the San Felipe. He said he was down there one time and just climbed up over a rock, and there in the bush there was one right there. He just couldn't believe it.

Heather: Yeah, I've seen it at the house.

Sue: Oh. Mrs. Paroli showed it to you?

Heather: Yeah.

Sue: Oh. Cool. Well, believe it or not, people still bring them in to us at the park. Every now and then somebody will find something and bring it in.

Bill: I know there's a fellow -- Dick McCain out there. He used to go out when there was a burn or something like that; he'd go out and go scour the hillsides.

Heather: Now, he's not around anymore, is he?

Bill: No.

Ann: Can you talk a little bit about the wildlife that you've seen out here and about whether you've seen any change in terms of the amount of wildlife over the time that you've been out here.

Bill: There used to be a lot of deer in San Diego County. You'd see herds of them out here in the meadows in the evening. And, actually, over a period of time -- part of it, I believe, is because of the increase in the amount of vegetation; less browse for them. The other thing is there's been a tremendous build-up in the number of mountain lions, since they can no longer hunt mountain lions. And, of course deer are a primary source of food for them. So the deer population has diminished a lot in the last 50 years. I know over there at Cuyamaca, in the park, just past the upper end of the lake up in there -- because I used to drive back and forth a lot in that area -- you'd see herds of 40 or 50 deer out in there. And down there in Green Valley there was another big bunch I down in there. I came through there four or five years ago in the late afternoon and there was about 13 of them. That's the most I had seen in there for a long time because after the State Park took over there was no more hunting in there.

Heather: How about mountain lions; would you see them in here?

Bill: You know, they're kind of an illusive creature. People say they see them all the time. I've been around here for 50 some years and I think I've only seen two of them. A while ago I was coming from work down at San Felipe headed back over to the Coogan Ranch and -- I came around one of the corners there on the Banner Grade, it was in the evening and the headlights are on, and there was one sitting beside the road there. Of course when my lights hit him, he turned around and ran off back up the canyon. You'll see tracks occasionally. And then over there by Witch Creek where I live we had problems with them occasionally killing a cat.

Ann: What other types of wildlife? Like badgers?

Sue: I don't know anybody that's ever seen a badger.

Bill: Yeah, there are badgers around. And there are also a lot of coyotes. Of course, the coyotes will kill the fawns, too. They can build up to the point where they'd kill a fawn. Mountain lions are rather territorial and if there's too many of them in an area and not enough game, the males will kill the young ones to keep the population down. I guess they make tasty morsels, too!

(Laughter.)

Ann: This here, do you know the history of it?



Bill: I think this is probably -- don't take my word for it, but I think this was probably built when this mine was working out here, when they were developing this mine. I don't really know what the history is behind that building. It was in that same condition 50 years ago as it is now. It's just deteriorated a little bit. We they let the Black Powder people come back and camp in this area here. They had their rendezvous back in here for a number of years. And they had their shooting course set up on the other side down the road over there. They'd come in here and set up their teepees and all the rigmarole that they had. They had their private deal for two or three days. And then on the weekend, why, -- they open the road up and let the public come back in to see their rendezvous. I never came back in here. I don't like -- too many people.

Ann: Yeah, we heard stories. We've heard stories about that. They were very appreciative.

Sue: Now they do it -- what -- up at Mesa Grande?

Bill: Over at Mesa Grande now. I was afraid that they were going to come and ask us to let do it at Witch Creek.

(Laughter.)

Bill: And then there were the Horsemen's Group, the Los Cineros, they'd camp back in here a lot of times, too. It's an open area. They can ride from here, you know, and get on the Pacific Coast trail or the California Riding and Hiking Trail and go over to the State Park. Go off down towards Oriflamme. There are just all kinds of places to ride from this area.

Sue: Yeah. Now, there's a spring here, too, there was a spring box somewhere, do you know where it is?

Bill: No.

Sue: Did the cattle use this area?

Bill: No. Well, they would graze them in here. There was a wild horse back in here for 20 years, I guess. I think it was a Mustang or something that somebody had over the hill here that got away from them. And she was happy as a clam up here. Lived back in this area here. And at times she'd go down to the lake, down below there, to get some water; go down the road. And if you came up the road, if she was coming down, well, she was off up into the bush.

Ann: Do you know if this meadow has been logged?

Bill: Logged?

Ann: Yeah.

Bill: Could have been, yeah. I don't think it was timber stand ---- if that's what you mean. What you see around here -- and I've seen pictures of different areas. And where the brush line is --it's probably the same as it was a hundred years ago. The only thing that you'll find growing out in elevations like this -- not at this elevation as much as down at lower elevations, is sagebrush. As the meadow dries out and as the moisture comes back, why, then the meadow will too and the sagebrush will dry out.

Sue: It's just too wet for anything other than ----

Sue: We were wondering what these mounds were? Were they.....

Bill: I don't think so because they're over there on the other side, too. There are a lot of them over there.

Sue: Do you want to take a look at the mine?

Bill: Yeah, we can go take a look over there.

Bill: See, this is where that fuel break was put in years ago, right across through here.

Sue: And we thank you for that. It really saved the ranch from the Pines Fire.

Bill: There was some controlled burning back in there.

Ann: It is quite dramatic. You can see where it stopped.

Bill: They had their hands full south of here.

Bill: We had another enterprising soul from down in Potrero and were digging out the Manzanita roots. They would hollow them out as planter boxes and selling them to the flower shops.

(We are now at the Gold Queen Mine)

Sue: One of our rangers was talking about how he would just love to get a rope and go on in there. He plans on doing that.



Bill: Yeah?

Sue: Yeah.

Ann: After you take ownership --

Sue: Yeah. -- Not before.

Sue: That was Bob Hillis who was talking about that.

Ann: Oh. That sounds like Bob.

Bill: The wind blows through here.

Heather: Yeah.

Bill: West wind.

Sue: Well, the bulldozers went through here, too. I'm trying to think -- it's not real apparent now since we've had the rain. And then the Navajo crew guys, you know, that do the rehab and stuff --

Bill: Uh-huh.

Sue: They did a pretty good job of covering it up. But I think it actually went right straight through there.

Ann: They didn't do very much of any restoration here. Over on your side looks great but here.....

Sue: Oh, really?

Bill: This whole knoll out in here was -- out here where the fire went over there; it was pretty well cleaned off.

Sue: Was this just recently?

Bill: Well, within the last ten years.

Bill: I was going to say if you wanted to, I could show you where the old land grant corner is. It's over on that ridge over there.

Heather: Really? Yeah, we ought to go look

Bill: Okay.

Sue: Looks like there's a way to drive over there. Is that okay?

Bill: Yeah. We can turn around down below there.

Sue: Okay.

Bill: It came to a corner like that, and then headed back down this way. And then when Mr. Sawday bought the property, why, there was another piece of ground that stuck off up over here, and went back across down below here and back over and ties in where the gate is.

Bill: Some of the Mexicans that were working on the Manzanita roots they camped here, too.

Sue: Hum. Now, you were telling us about bringing cattle from San Felipe up Chariot Canyon? And then would --

Bill: Yeah. Used to come up -- used to bring them up Chariot Canyon and then up the road that comes out up here, and then down over into the ranch; over that ridge and into the ranch. Then years ago they used to drive up from Warner's Ranch over. And they'd scatter them out over the other side of the Cuyamaca -- back over in that country. And then some of them they'd bring up here. And then we have driven cattle from San Felipe up the Banner Grade up to Volcan Mountain. Then they cut a road off the back side of Volcan so we could drive the cattle up through there. That was a number of years -- it's been fifty years ago.

Sue: Was that like every year, then, you would bring cattle from San Felipe up here, or --

Bill: Yeah. This is summer pasture up here.

Sue: Okay.

Bill: And then when they got ready to take the cattle out of here, why, you'd either -- you'd ship them to -- wherever. Take them back to Warner's or whatever. The ones that -- of course, they had trucks in those days -- later on -- so they could truck them to wherever they wanted to take them. This is strictly just summer range. And then the San Felipe, why, that was winter range.

Sue: So these two ranches kind of went together?

Bill: Yeah. They worked together that way, yeah.

Sue: And there -- then -- I know there's a house down in San Felipe. So there must have been people actually living down there.

Bill: Oh, yeah. There was a big 'old adobe house down there.

Sue: So were those foremen or were they family?

Bill: The Duque family built that. In fact, my wife is still good friends with Sally Duque who remembers going down there with her father. And the Duques had that ranch. And then -- let's see. There was a fellow by the name, I think; of Gilbert that -- was down there. And then Mr. Sawday was in partnership deal with him. I think Bob bought out his interest in the San Felipe Ranch. I forget how many acres there were. 9,000 acres or something, from the original grant.

Sue: Uh-huh. So the Sawday family had cattle on there when? Like the thirties? Forties? Or later than that?

Bill: No. Probably earlier than that. A little after the early teens. Then they had -- I remember Mrs. Sawday said they used to have calves down there. And I still can't figure out how they did it, but she said there was a row of cottonwood trees there, and they used to slaughter the calves for veal -- meat -- and then they'd hang them in those cottonwood trees to chill them. And I still don't know how they got them from there to town, you know. Transportation wasn't that good in those days. Then the upper ends of the San Felipe, the Rutherford's have now -- or had; sold off bits and pieces of it. They -- the Starr's had that. But at one time it was all part of the San Felipe ranch, before 1952. And it was all part of one big ranch divided into -- I think it was divided into two pastures.

Ann: So the San Felipe ranch extends from the flatter area there, then up over Volcan, and then on toward what we call San Ysabel?

Bill: No. Well, it just took in the San Felipe valley. The Volcan was a separate piece over there.

Ann: Okay.

Bill: And then when you get over the hill on the west side of the Volcan, you run into the Santa Ysabel land grant. And it was another land grant. And, then, of course the Warner's ranch, it was -- I think it was two grants; San Jose del Valle and Valle de San Jose.

Heather: Figure that one out.

Bill: But this -- you're talking about the wildlife in here, I remember I used to come out here deer hunting during deer season. And the deer, at that time -- at this time -- they seemed to come up out of the -- down below down here. Come up here and eat and graze and water and whatnot, and go back down here in the daytime, and back over.

Heather: What is that up there? Excuse me.

Bill: Somebody bought that 40 acres in there, I think, and they got a little cupula or whatever they call it; a little look-out spot where they can sit up there and drink their hot tea in the evening. They built a road back down into the upper end of the canyon here which was still on their property, and drilled a well down in there. And I don't know what kind of water they got in there. I heard they got something like 30 gallons a minute for about ten minutes.

(Laughter.)

Heather: That's the hay road.

Sue: Yeah. Part of it's the hay road.

Ann: H-a-y?

Sue: Yeah. The old Lassiter Hay Road. There was a guy down in Green Valley -- Lassiter -- when the immigrants were coming through. And -- you know, right after the Mexican-American War of 1850. And he grew hay up here, took it down to Vallecito and he made a killing selling it to all the desperate people coming across the desert.

Ann: Okay.

Bill: Where this road wiggles around over there. And then if you go over that way, it goes over to the San Felipe. And this way goes back down into Chariot Canyon.

Heather: Ah. So that's where you'd bring the cattle up?

Bill: No. Up that way.

Sue: How long -- when was the last time you think you got cattle up that road?

Bill: Oh, probably back in the fifties.

Sue: Really?

Bill: Yeah.

Heather: How long did it take -- ouch!

(Laughter) bumped into a cholla.

Sue: How long have you been doing this?

(laughter)

Bill: What they did; down there in San Felipe you'd sort the cattle, the ones you wanted to bring up here. And then they had an old milk cow, and she was the lead cow. And they'd put a rope on her, around her horns. And whoever was in the lead would just, you know, lead the cow --

Heather: Oh, no. And they'd follow?

Bill: -- and the steers would follow. You know, cattle are herd animals. And you get a little bunch of them going up the front and somebody behind them pushing them along and keeping them behind the cow, and the rest will just follow along behind. And then you have people behind, you know, to pick up any strays that might wonder off. But usually they'd all stay together. And you'd come up so far and then let them rest a while. But you get them sorted down there. And then you start early in the morning, and be up here in the evening.

Sue: As long as you had hold of that milk cow you were good to go, huh?

Bill: Yeah. And then when they got up here, why, they'd take the -- they had a trap over there next to the Daley's, and they let the cattle water and graze for a while and then they'd pin them in there; shut them in there overnight. And then they'd just turn the milk cow loose and she'd go back.

(Laughter)

Sue: But they wouldn't know because they were penned up, so they'd stay here, huh?

Bill: They'd take her back out here and turn her loose. And she knew where she was going.

Heather: Were there ever any women on the trail ride?

Bill: Usually not. My wife and her mother and her aunt and sometimes some of the other people's wives would come and help gather when they're working cattle.

Heather: For fun? Or because they needed the help?

Bill: Well, for both, I guess.

Heather: Yeah.

Bill: Woman's place was in the home.

(Laughter)

Bill: If it wasn't for my wife and daughter and son, why, we'd a been out of help. Because we used to drive cattle from Buckman Springs up that truck trail to Crouch Meadows, and from the Cameron Valley up the other way.

Heather: Now where is the Cameron place, the flat down there by Campo, by the town; actual town?

Bill: No, not Campo. It's on Interstate 8 --

Heather: Oh, oh, oh. Okay.

Bill: East of Buckman Springs.

Heather: Okay. I got you.

Bill: The forest service is there.

Heather: Yeah. Okay.

Sue: So you came up Kitchen Creek -- the old Kitchen Creek fire road -- or what's now Kitchen Creek.

Bill: Well, the Kitchen Creek road from the Cameron Guard Station came up over the hump into Kitchen -- into Kitchen Creek.

Heather: Uh-huh.

Bill: And that was the original road up to Mount Laguna. And I know my wife's grandmother said that when they -- how they used to camp up there at the lagoon at Crouch Meadows when they would -- they'd spend the night there at Buckman Springs. Because the Buckmans had a -- You know, in the old days, people that lived out like that, if you were going through and it was at night -- in the evening, or whatnot -- they'd take you in and feed your horse and give you a meal or something for fifty cents, or whatever it was. And then the next day you'd go on. My aunt rode all over the back part of this county here when the family first moved out here. She was kind of an independent soul, and she rode all over out here. And one thing they had, was most of these places had a telephone line. And the only thing that my grandmother asked of her was that she call in once in a while and let her know where she was and that she was all right. But she used to ride all over out here, and even stop at a farmhouse or some place like that. Oh, sure, they'd put you up for the night --

Heather: Was your aunt a Tulloch?

Bill: -- and feed your horse. Pardon?

Heather: Was your aunt a Tulloch? Was her name "Tulloch"?

Bill: Yeah. She was quite an interesting person. She -- the family first moved into San Diego in 1906. Why, she and my older aunt used to have a -- keep their horses in the backyard. And this is on Front Street; what's now Banker's Hill or whatever they call it. And every time the fire siren went off she'd run off and go jump on her horse to see what all the excitement was about.

(Laughter)

Bill: Then she got written up in the local paper because she stopped a runaway horse down there on Broadway one time.

Heather: She sounds like a character.

Sue: What was her name?

Bill: Helen.

Sue: Helen. Helen Tulloch?

Bill: Yeah, Helen Tulloch. Later she was married to a Canadian, name of Bowles.

Sue: He must have had his hands full.

(Laughter)

Bill: Like I say she was kind of independent. When they were on their honeymoon -- she was married on horseback in what is now Claremont.

Heather: Oh, wow.

Bill: There used to be an old olive grove out there. And she -- everybody was on horseback. And they were married on horseback out there. Then they went on their honeymoon. She let him drive one time. And I think he got a ticket or something, so she never let him drive after that. He could drive himself, but not when she was in the car. She always drove. She was the one that was the boss. Then-- in 1916-- we had a very wet year. They had floods and everything. All the roads were washed out, the San Diego Railroad Lines; everything was washed out. San Diego got its food and water and everything by way of steamship from Oceanside -- not Oceanside, but Long Beach. There was a steamer that went back and forth every day. And that's where they brought their water and food and everything in. And she had a stage. They called them "stages" in those days. They were old touring cars is what they were. And you'd go down to the Pickwick Hotel there on Broadway, and you signed up there with the agent. She had to have a license. And you sign up. And, why, you get three or four people wanting to go someplace. So they call you up and tell you they have a road for you to go. Well, she used to go back and forth to Los Angeles quite a bit. But she also used to take the run over to Imperial Valley and Yuma. And so she was over in Imperial Valley when that big rains hit; the floods and everything. And she was the first car through. She came up through that Devil's Canyon down there below Jacumba where it's all freeway now. Got up to Jacumba, and there was a big river running across before you get to town coming out of Mexico. And there was another car on the other side. Well, anyway, they -- she had three Hindus and a drummer, a salesman with them. And they got out there and waded across the creek and went into town and spent the night in there at a hotel. And the next morning why, they got together with the people that had the other car, and they each helped each other get across this river.

Heather: I was going to say why didn't they just trade cars?

Sue: Yeah, really.

Bill: And in those days, why, the road went down through Campo. And I think they spent the next night in Campo. And then I guess they went down to Potrero. And then when they got down to National City or -- yeah, Chula Vista, the Sweetwater River was flowing across there and everything was washed out. So they got on the Strand and then over to Coronado and got on the ferry. Yeah. She was an interesting soul. She just really enjoyed life.

(Laughter)

Sue: Let's go find that boundary.

Bill: Okay.

Sue: Does that sound like a plan?

Bill: Sounds good to me. You kind of have to be careful as you go charging through the bush.

You might fall off into it.

Ann: What led you to this arrangement with the Water District?

Bill: The Cuyamaca resort and everything down there, they don't have sufficient room for a septic system. And so they -- they can have a septic tank, but they can't -- there's no place to put a leach field that might not contaminate the lake, the lower end of the lake. And so they put in a big underground tank there to dispose of the liquid. It was very expensive to have to haul it from there clear down to Lakeside or wherever they could dump it into the sewer system. So what they did was they made an arrangement with the -- oh, I forget what they call that -- the water districts. Whoever is in charge of the -- the drainage. ...the regional quality people. So they stated that if they could come up here and dump it on the back side to where it would flow into the Imperial -- or the desert side, they would allow it/ The solids they have to pump out and take down to the sewer system down below. So that's why it was way back in here. And then my father-in-law --

Don't slow down.

Sue: I'm trying to see which way is -- that way?

Bill: Go down this way.

Sue: That way?

Bill: Yeah, to your right. -- My wife's -- my father-in-law made the arrangements.

Ann: Do you know if they approached any other ranchers about that?

Bill: I don't know. I don't know. I think it was because of this truck trail back in here, they had easy access to get back in here. .

Sue: Now where?

Bill: Take the -- veer to the right. Now to the left.

Sue: There's another pit right here. We found several more of them. Yeah.

Heather: When were you here and why wasn't I?

Sue: CDF came up here, after the fire.

Ann: They were going to give us that report

Sue: I haven't gotten anything from them either. I've been meaning to call. Do you want me to go all the way up or --

Bill: Go up and turn around here. And we'll get out here.

Sue: Okay. So we're going to park and we'll turn around when we get back in?

Bill: Whatever you want to do.

(Laughter.)

Heather: There's the San Felipe.

Bill: Yeah. You can see --This is the old Cuyamaca land grant. It comes across through here and here and goes south, and comes to a point.

Sue: So this peg would be the land grant?



Heather: Looks like..... Looks like there's a date on it.

Sue: Is there really?

Heather: Nah.

(Laughter.)

Sue: What am I gonna do with you?

Heather: Keep me. You can't get rid of me now!

Bill: You know what these are. We let the CDF

come in here, cutting trails.

Heather: Ah ha. Just like that hill with those stripes up and down it.

Sue: Maybe, yeah.

Bill: They can practice cutting through the bush; get the crews ready for fire season. Show them what they were up against.

Bill: Looks like they had a little rain down there, too. See where --

Heather: Yeah.

Bill: This fire went clear down. I can see the road where it goes across, just to the left of that yellow spot down there. The yellow is all grass in there, and above that is all catclaw.....where it's all Cienaga.

Sue: Cultivated?

Bill: Mesquite.

Sue: Oh.

Bill: It's just a natural grass. But way up at the upper end where those light spots are --

Sue: Uh-huh.

Bill: -- that's all cultivated. They used to grow potatoes in there. That's where Rutherford's land is, up in there. Some of that I think the Fish & Game has bought. And some of it -- I don't know whether the Conservancy bought some of it.

Ann: Fish & Game.

Bill: Fish & Game?

Ann: Yeah.

Bill: And then over on the other side, of course, is Parks. But the Parole's property may be -- well, it's kind of along the foot of the hill there.

Heather: Yeah. And their cemetery is up there.

Bill: It's on this side, though.

Heather: Huh-uh. It's on the other side.

Bill: On the other side?

Heather: Uh-huh. The Wilson's is on this side.

Bill: There is one on this side. Used to be some old adobe ruins up in there too. And I guess they're still there. I don't know whether it was an Army camp or what it was.

Sue: How long has it been since there were cattle on San Felipe?

Bill: Oh, they still run cattle in.

Sue: We were down there -- well, maybe they've just taken them off just for this past couple of years because it was so dry.

Bill: Well, the Edwards own that. My wife's sister and her husband. And they sold that down there at Scissors Crossing, the old Sentenac Place, they sold that to the Park -- I guess to the Foundation, or whatever it is.

Heather: Uh-huh.

Bill: I think they had that. And then they sold another 300 acres down there. I think it takes up there where the old stage stop used to be. Because the stage used to come -- well, it came up through -- over here. It came up from the valley up to -- it came over through Mason Valley and then to San Felipe, and then to Warner's, and then up to Oak Grove.

Sue: So they still do keep cattle on there; they just haven't probably for the last couple of years because it's been so dry?

Bill: Yeah. This fellow in Imperial Valley, I think, leases the ranch. They don't run cattle on it themselves.

Sue: Okay.

Bill: Yeah, he has a feed lot down there in Imperial Valley.

Bill: Charles -- Charles is the next generation down. He's in his nineties.

Heather: Yeah, he is. He's up there. He's a character.

Bill: When I was a kid growing up in Point Loma, I used to have a lot of problems with sinus trouble. And Dr. Ledford was a general practitioner that we went to. And he sent me down to Dr. Cornell. So I went with him. And he says, "I've got just the cure for you." He says, "I have a ranch up in southern Nevada at Pahrump, if you want to go up and work with us in the summertime." You know, I was in high school. And I'd had experience around livestock. And I says, "Sure. Sounds good to me." And so I went up there -- about eight of us kids went up there -- The other boys were helping Charlie build a house up there. And I worked out on the ranch with him -- with the Indians.

Bill: Is this a map of the area here? Well, I'll say one thing. It was a good burn. It really was a good burn because it burned everything clean, except if your house got burned up it wouldn't be too good.

Heather: Yeah.

Bill: But it was a good, clean burn. If you're going to have a burn, this is the kind to have. Because if it just goes through and scorches the brush, why, then, it makes a real mess.

Heather: Did they ever figure out how many miles of dozer lines there were? I'm just curious.

Sue: Well, you walked all of 'em.

Heather: Yeah, there and back

Bill: I don't know if we want to go back out --

Sue: You want to go back out the other way?

Ann: Now, during our negotiations to buy this property --

Bill: What?

Ann: During our negotiations to buy the property, Glenn has been very upfront about his feelings that he's concerned about this property going into public ownership. And it's not necessarily this property, I think, his concern is rather, that the back country of the county is going from private holdings and ranching to public land.

Bill: Well, it is a big concern, I'll tell you. My wife's family We feel very strongly about ownership of the land. And we feel -- we were very good stewards of the land; taking care of it to the best of our ability and with the economics of it And, generally speaking -- and I don't know if this thought has an influence over his thinking, but it's been my observation that when a public entity takes over a piece of property, that that property deteriorates because they have money to buy the property, but they don't have the money to keep going. They don't have the money to maintain the property. It's just like a lot of the -- a lot of the things that they do. Like this fuel break they put through here. They put it through, and then it went years and was almost all overgrown again before they came back in -- brought the crews back in here to do some maintenance on it. And over there on Laguna, we deal more with the Forest Service than they do with other state -- or state agencies. And I've seen them spend hundreds of thousands of dollars over there on projects, and when they're through with them, they never go back and do any maintenance on them. It's almost deteriorated away. And it's just a waste of money as far as we're concerned. It's just like this burning; we got the State to come back here and help us burn. We burned this off here on this side of the road. And that burnt two or three years ago -- no, not that long. Well, it was four or five years ago, probably. There was a dozer trail for these guys when they were taking roots out -- put in there, coming down in this little canyon here on the other side. And there's a monument back over there. You can kind of see the line over there where it comes across. That's the property line, and it's down in there. But that's the way we feel about it.... is....if the State Park acquires it -- the public's not going to get that much use out of it. The only people that will get any use out of it might be some hikers. There may be some bicyclists back in here. There's not really going to be any major development as far as campsites or things like that. Because they have Cuyamaca State Park, and I hope I'm not hurting anyone's feelings.....

Sue: No, I'm sitting here agreeing with you.

Bill: They have Cuyamaca State Park. And there's certainly room for expansion in the camping facilities back there. And people really enjoy getting out and enjoy doing those kinds of things. But they just keep a limited control and they let so many people in there. And then they slam the door in their face and say "Go someplace else." And I think probably the Forest Service is going to be doing the same thing, eventually they're going to -- shut everything down so that there will be a limited number of people. You'll be on a reservation-basis, or something like that. Now, this is the land grant here where these posts are. It comes down and makes a little jog here. The property corner is actually back on top of this hill over here. And the line comes across over there. So, the property that's acquired is on the backside of these posts here. But that's the way we feel about it. The land goes across the hill over there. That's the property line over there. The park land goes across down below here someplace. I'm not sure if it's over there where the gate is but it goes back over that way. And then that's Daley's property where the road goes out over that way.

Sue: Oh, I know where we're at. Then this goes over the hill down to the Fages monument.

Ann: What do you think will happen to ranching in this county?

Bill: There will always be some ranching but it's just going to be on a smaller scale than it has been in the past. You know at one time San Diego County was considered a cow county. It was a major enterprise, cattle raising. When the Spaniards were here they had a lot of cattle in here and all they did was raise them for the hides and the tallow, the meat didn't mean anything to them except for what they needed to eat. See those trails over there? That's more of where the CDF were in there practicing.

Ann: Is it economically viable to raise cattle?

Bill: If you own the property like we do, outright, and you don't owe any money to anybody you can get by. I didn't realize until my Father in law passed away how much he was subsidizing the ranching business.

Ann: Now you get to subsidize it!

Bill: Yeah.

Ann: This is what the Navajo crew did. They came in and fixed it all up. This is amazing what they have done.

Bill: Well, that'll stop some of the trespassers from coming in. This is another fuel break they put in here; it goes up to the other flat and comes out over there by the Sunrise Highway. We burned this whole hill here. We got a pretty good burn; it wasn't as clean as we would have liked to have had it. The advantage to something like that, you can see how the brush comes back, when you do get a wildfire such as this, if you get a spot fire out in here there's not as much fuel to really have it take off like it did on this other side over here.

Heather: You still have cattle right?

Bill: Oh yeah.

Heather: Up there? At Witch Creek?

Bill: Well, we still have the Witch Creek property and the property over there in the Laguna's, the Crouch Meadows and then the Buckman Springs property and the Cameron Valley, we still have those.

Ann: You are running cattle on all of those properties?

Bill: Well, we used to run them year round but with the way the weather changed, the dry years and everything we kind of use them as an on and off deal. Over on Laguna ever since 1948, 49 when they had that big snow that winter they changed that.

Sue: Did you guys ever bring cattle up Oriflamme for any reason?

Bill: Oh yeah, we used to drive 'em up from San Felipe. We never grazed that in there.

Sue: I had heard that people brought cattle up this trail from Box Canyon.

Bill: They could have. The ones down there at Vallecito they could have brought them up here. Then down there at the Canebrake, there was a trail up the Canebrake that went up and come out up there in Thing Valley, the back side of Laguna.

Sue: What canyon to come out of Canebrake?

Bill: I don't know but there was a trail through there.

Sue: So you guys from San Felipe to here, you went up Chariot Canyon?

Bill: Granny Martin used to run cattle down there. The people who had the Cuyamaca, they ran cattle down on the desert there. I remember Granny said that when he was a young kid growing up he used to cowboy for them and they would leave Green Valley down there where the old house was. He would get up early in the morning he would have to milk the cow and then they would have breakfast, saddle up and then they would go over to what they call the Jack-Ass Trail, that's a trail that went from there down to the desert., They would go down there and ride through the cattle all day and head home late in the afternoon, head back over the hill in time to milk the cow eat some supper and go to bed.

Heather: Did they do that forever? I mean....Was that a standard thing having that cow to lead the way?

Bill: No, not everybody did it that way. Sometimes you get just 2 or 3 people that have a little bunch of cattle and drive them ahead of the main herd.

Bill: I think they actually came in here and planted some of these pine trees. As I remember there was a brass cap on that side of the hill. It almost looks like they did some tractor work down there. The bugs and the drought sure have raised some heck with the pine trees.

Bill: Those people who were taking the Manzanita roots they had a little D4 and they had pulled off of the road with the tractor and were stuck about 2 feet into the mud.

Ann: Did they pay you for that or did you just let them do it?

Bill: Well, they were supposed to have paid us but it's another one of these things. They were supposed to pay the kids but I don't think they paid too much. But it cut the fuel load down so much.

Ann: I remember that fad when everybody was making things out of Manzanita.

Heather: Wow, look at the size of that Oak.

Bill: The problem with an oak that size is that most of them are rotten on the inside.

Sue: Over on the east side that we were driving on there wasn't a lot of forage for cattle.

Bill: No, it's kind of like this stuff in here; they get a little browse off of it. We call it all kinds of different things. There's some firewood there.

Ann: So do you recognize every tree and every rock.

Bill: No, not really, they're all friends of mine. Years ago they use d to harvest a lot of these trees. There were about 6 or 7 sawmills in Julian and they used to harvest a lot of them When they get mature what are you going to do? They are going to die out. Might as well get some use out of them. Another problem with not having any fires in here is that you get these little trees like this and pretty soon you have a jungle in here. It's like in the cattle business, you have what you call a carrying capacity, in other words, this land only has so much water in it, you only have so much nutrients in the soil. If you get too much vegetation in here something is going to have to give.

Heather: There a big pothunters pit back there. Big old pile of dirt.

Sue: So is that carrying capacity related to the cattle then?

Bill: Well, that carrying capacity is related to how much feed you have for them. If you overgraze, you aren't going to have enough feed for them. If you have too many trees and too much vegetation. You are going to have a situation like you have now where you have a drought and natures way of cleaning out a lot of this stuff.

Sue: With beetles and lack of water.

Bill: There are some turkeys that graze through this area too. They spend most of the time across the highway.

(At this point Ann has left us and we are headed over to North Peak)

Bill: She was quite upset and was talking to Glenn about the amount of trespassing that goes on this piece of property. We can't be up here 24 hours a day when we owned it. I worked with the game warden to try to keep people out of it.

Sue: Well, we have the exact same problem with State Parks with the added problem that once they know it's public land they think they can do anything the want to with it. At least with private land they somewhat have a little bit of respect.

Bill: Once you have one or two of them arrested it pretty much can put a stop to it. It doesn't take long for word to get around.

Bill: By and large the public is not very nice people. They think what the heck and throw the trash out or make a new road or do what ever they want to do.

Sue: They take plants, they poach, they steal archaeological material, they steal artifacts off of sites. I agree with you, the public

Bill: You can't be too heavy-handed with them because then they will turn around and complain to the politicians and the politicians will come down on somebody...

Heather: Kind of a catch-22 there...

Bill: There has to be some kind of a balance where they can utilize what they have. I don't know how big the Anza-Borrego is now. How many camp sites do they have on it?

Sue: It's open camping. You can camp anywhere in Borrego that you want to.

Bill: But the Cuyamaca is limited. There are some areas that are heavily utilized and then there are some that are under utilized.

Sue: Where do you want to go in?

Bill: Well, do you want to go up on the peak road? This is the gate here. Go down to the one where the pipe gate is.

Sue: I want to see if my key works.

Bill: I'll have to come up here and salvage my signs.

Heather: Are you against State Parks getting the property too?

Bill: Yeah. (laughs)

Heather: Hey, honesty is the best policy here.

Bill: If it had been my choice, I told the kids if they had an opportunity to sell it they ought to take it because there is no income on the property. We bring 40 or 50 cows and calves up here in the summertime for 5 months and that's no income off of a piece of property like this. The other [problem that we are faced with is these highways here. Its open-range and we've had I don't know how many head of cattle that have been killed. People have run into them and destroyed them. My concern is that somebody is going to hit one and get killed. They imported some non-native species back in the 50's. They brought down some Elk and turned them loose in the Laguna meadows. The last one I saw was an old cow and she was standing out in the middle of the lake bottom, she lived over on the park over there. She finally died of old age. Three took a crash there.

Heather: What happened to them?

Bill: The first year they put them in there some deer hunter came driving into town with one strapped to his hood and said look at the size of the deer I got. There aren't too smart, some of those deer hunters. Someday this community up here is going to be in real trouble. I don't know how many hundred homes there are but they are going to get a fire come up that canyon or one with a east wind and it is just going to clean house.

Sue: Like that one back in Eagle Peak that started after the Pines Fire?

Heather: Yeah, they sure knocked that one down quick.

Bill: Yeah down on McCoy's pace.

Heather: Do the McCoy's still own that?

Bill: I don't know. They dropped the level of the lake 6 feet dipping water out of it for the fire.

Sue: Do you ever remember seeing the lake this low?

Bill: Well it was dry, they drained it to do some work. That's when they put in the dike up there. It's quite a popular place.

(We are now on the west portion of the property heading up North Peak,)

Bill: I think this was originally put in as a fire road. They used to run a grader over it but that's been a while. They came in here years ago and they cleaned it off on both sides. At least 100'. Took all the under

story out but up here you will see that it's pretty much come back and taken over again. My wife used to like to come up here and pick up the pine cones off of these trees.

Sue: For Christmas decorations?

Bill: Yeah. I guess those are Coulter Pines. These other are the Jeffries. Jeffries are just trash pines. They have literally taken over the area. Especially on Mt. Laguna.

Sue: They move into the meadows, those and the Cedars. The Cedars are really bad. Would cattle get up this high?

Bill: Well when we ran steers here they would go all over the pasture. Cows and calves, the calves get kind of fat and lazy and they stay down here and the cows don't want to get too far away from them. It limits the grazing. When we had steers here they would be all over the whole pasture.

Sue: So what is the difference as to why sometime you would have steers and sometimes cows and calves?

Bill: Years ago we used to run all steers when they had the Warner's Ranch after they got rid of the Warner's they changed over to cows and calves. Up here back in here under a tree there are a couple of Union Tribune boxes. And then someone was kind enough they were doing some remodeling and they brought their washer and dryer back up in here. Somebody picked up a couple of the paper boxes, got a dollar and a half and dumped them up here. We used to have that problem quite a bit till we locked the gate there.

Heather: Well, I know your hill over on the other side there used to be a favorite sledding place.

Bill: They are very concerned about water quality and very concerned about runoff and pollution and you get a foot of snow up here, you get 100,000 people up here playing in the snow, there are no sanitary facilities, over there at the Crouch Meadows you can go out there and pick up a ton of trash. Dirty diapers and people have to relieve themselves and it's just a mess.

Heather: Does this road go all the way through?

Bill: I think it does go all the way through to Harrison Park. But there is a locked gate up here and it goes onto somebody else's property.

Heather: Roy Birdsell had us all over this mountain.

Sue: We got to see where his Grandfather had his sawmill.

Heather: We ended up coming out through somebody's front yard.

Sue: See, he hadn't been up here in a long time. He didn't realize they had fences and property lines. That was an adventure.

The problem we have with trails is that the State has so many rules and regulations about trail, like how much of a gradient they can be yada yada yada. I was thinking what a wonderful riding trail this would be and then I got to thinking about that steep area back there and it probably wouldn't work.

Bill: This has a wet spot here you can tell by the vegetation. That big tree there it went about 4 or 5 directions. If we get a big snow it takes out some of these trees especially when they are so dry.

Sue: You were saying that there was a spring up here is that where we are heading?

Bill: Yeah.

Sue: So getting back to when you said there were calves and cows, you guys were actually breeding or how did that work?

Bill: Well we had the cows and we had the bull. We would breed our cows. We would put the bulls out with the cows at a certain time of year and they would breed the cows and then we would take the bulls out and put them in a separate pasture and the cows would calf in about a 3 or 4 month period in the spring. Then we would try to get the calves to come out in a certain time so they aren't coming year round and would all be a uniform size.

Sue: So you were still raising them for meat at that point?

Bill: Yeah, they were beef cattle.

Sue: So you were doing the whole life cycle instead of buying them as calves.

Bill: There is a trail that runs up to the left. You used to be able to drive up it but it's all overgrown now. We used to come up here to get our Christmas trees. There are one or two areas in here where there are firs. That canyon back in there has a lot of them. Up on top there are Cedars. But on this side of the hill are Firs. Somebody was kind enough to drag an old car down here. It was right in the middle of the road. Woodcutters drug it off. There were roads off to the side all over because this all burned off over here.

Sue: Are you sure we can get through?

Bill: Can't do anymore than get stuck. Just keep on going. Don't slow down. This soil has a little clay in it. It'll be dry under the tree. Watch that rock.

Sue: Was there snow on the ground when you came up here to cut your Christmas tree.

Bill: Occasionally. But we used to stop back there.

Sue: Oh!

Bill: It's not much further up here. The thing about this snow and ice, if you get up here when it's cold and frozen that's one thing but if you wait till the afternoon when it's slushy that's a different story. Here is the property line. Drive up there to the gate there or do you want to get out and walk? This is where the spring is up here. It's just off of the property. This is the property line here it goes up and over the hill and goes clear down to where the cattle guard is down by the lake. And then goes out this way and corner and goes down to the Lewis'.

Bill: Dr. Martin used to own a lot of this property up in here. He subdivided it and sold off quite a bit of it. That's where you see some of those houses over on the other side of it came from.

Sue: He bought from Fletcher or the other way around?

Bill: I think from Fletcher.

Sue: Roy Birdsell was telling us that Fletcher was trying to sell to State Parks and they didn't want to buy it. So Doc Martin subdivided.

Bill: He subdivided that whole side of North Peak in 1/2 acre lots. There's no way in the world you could do anything like that nowadays. Well, there is no water. You would have to form a water district and drill wells closer to the lake and pump water back up the hill. Water is a critical issue backup in here. Harrison Park, I don't know how those people survive in there. I don't know if they have a mutual water company in there or not. I don't that Lawrence, he was from the valley. He bought a piece pf property in there, drilled a well and got 1000 gallons a minute. He put in a big pump, cleared a lot of land started irrigating and everything. Well about 3 or 4 years later it was all out. No water. The water in these mountains here, it's all granite underneath here and it's all fracturalized and the water gets in these seams and that's where you are drilling a well. If you miss it by a foot or so you might not get any water.

Sue: Where these springs come from are these fractures.

Bill: If it gets enough pressure behind it will force it up to the surface. We have a spring over there at the Crouch Meadows, I think it's an old wildcatting chimney cause it's a different kind of rock and the water that is coming out of there is warm about 70 degrees where most of the spring water down here is cold its down in the 40s.

Bill: There are quite a lot of turkeys down below here. I guess they don't go on State Park land.

Sue: No, we shoo them away. The park service said that they would not go on park land and of course they start reproducing like turkeys, you see them in the spring with 20 little babies. I guess they have made some kind of attempt to trap them and move them.

Bill: They brought some in a while ago and let them go on the Corte Madera Ranch and they scattered all over the place. There were some down by Lester Hooks place. Usually the hens and the toms are in separate bunches except during breeding season. There used to be a house back in there by the Stonewall Mine. The guy used to work for State Park and then he retired and was living there.....Harvey Moore. Over where there was a single pine.

We have come down off the mountain and are headed over to the meadow.

Sue: You said you drilled a well over here?

Bill: Over there, we can go in that other gate there. Granny Martin said there used to be fires all the time, they took the timbers down to the Stonewall Mine and he said there are columns in there that they left then when it flooded they brought in steam engines but they couldn't pump it fast enough so they just had to abandon it. That's the story I heard anyway.

Heather: Where did they used to have rodeos?

Bill: They used to have them in Julian.

Bill: That's a pear tree there. Left over from an old homestead.

Heather: Oh! Look at the hawk.

Sue: A hawk in a pear tree.

Bill: This is the well that was drilled up here.



Heather: What is that over there?

Bill: Those are drinkers over there. This is the well that we drilled and it was only making about 1/2 a gallon a minute.

Heather: How deep did you go?

Bill: I think we went down about 300 feet. But there is a spring over here in this draw and the water came down to these cement drinkers. This is one of the areas that we had the cattle in here and this was a water source for them. And it has gone dry and we dug it out and put in new pipes and things like that over the years it got to where it wasn't making any water so that's when we drilled this well here. We put a little solar pump on there and a solar pump will only pump about a gallon or a gallon and a half a minute. Then we put a float on the trough so that when the water level went down it would fill it back up. We have used those in a number of places. They work just as well as a windmill they cost about the same as the initial

installation they are really when the sun is out they pump right along. Some places we put in a tank and then they overflow back down into the well and then some places we just have a trough.

Sue: So they kept the cattle in water here. The trough is around here somewhere wasn't it? I thought it was down on that point of the hill or something,

Bill: We had a metal trough right here next to the well. That's what those posts are there.

Sue: There is another trough on one of these knolls. Do you know the one I'm talking about? I can't remember where we were. Anyway, one of these knolls overlooking the road has a big cattle trough.

Bill: They may have piped the water over to it from one of these springs. In these rock piles here, you find more Indian holes, mortar holes because they had a spring here and they had a water source and of course they had all the oak trees.

Sue: The old descriptions of the guys coming in on 79, like Judge Hayes and those guys coming in the 1850's and 1860's, they described the Indian village of Iguai as it was on the north side of the road, on the slopes of North Peak and that there was a spring there.

Bill: Well, it could have been in here. They had protection from the wind here too. When the west wind blows, it comes right up that canyon as you know and really whistles across the flat here and then the east

wind blows across here to. The spring is right over there in the ditch; see the pipe sticking out of the ground? The spring box is right down below that.

Sue: If the park wanted to use that well it's still functional isn't it.

Bill: Oh yeah. It's not a high volume well. The reason we went to the solar pump is because with the windmills you have to put up the tower and all of that and if you get extreme winds they will be damaged. The solar panels are pretty stable.

Sue: How much fence maintenance did you guys have to do?

Bill: It's not a full-time job but usually in the spring when we brought the cattle up here....well the deal is, the lake is supposed to maintain the fence around the lake. Along the road, that fence is to keep the people from driving up here. Not to keep the cattle off of the road, since it's all open range in here. People have no respect; if they want to go someplace they just take off and go.

Sue: What fences needed to be maintained?

Bill: When we found out the recreation had to maintain the ones around the lake it just left putting up a post every once in a while. The worst area is over off of the Mason Valley Truck Trail. Back where the gate is where the California riding and hiking trail so you get a lot of activity over in the back there.

Sue: What? People knocking over fences and stuff?

Bill: Yeah.

Heather: Did you ever spend any time over on the Lucky 5?

Bill: No, years and years ago that was the Harper Ranch. The story was that Mr. Sawday had told the Harpers if they ever wanted to sell it, let me know. They came by the house there one time and Mrs. Sawday was talking to them and they said to tell George we want to sell that ranch. So, she made up her mind that George didn't need any more ranches so she didn't tell him. They sold it to someone else. George was a little upset about it.

We are now at the corral.

Bill: In a situation like this, you would bring the cattle up here and leave them in this pasture for a certain period of time and then you would take them out again. This was good if you didn't have to handle them. If you had to doctor them up 2 or 3 times a week, then you would have to have better facilities. More fencing and a smaller pasture.

Sue: So this was kind of an auxiliary pasture, to the main ranching headquarters.

Bill: One time we had some heifers but one, so I came back to find her and I found her over in there. We had had a storm and so getting her back was exciting because she would hit those ice patches and go sliding.

Sue: How did you get your horses up here when you were here?

Bill: Trailer. In the old days they had what they called bobtail trucks. They had what you call a stock rack on 'em. It was a 6' high rack and you had a side door where you could pull up to a chute like this and they had a back door that you could open. You would load your horses in the truck and then to unload them you would back up to a bank or wherever and unload them. The horses would jump in and out of the truck pretty easy. Later, everybody started using these trailers. They have gooseneck trailers and they can haul 3, 4, or 5 horses. Some of them are 20' long. It made it a lot more convenient. With the gooseneck trailer you didn't need to have a chute. You could just back up to a narrow place and run them in to the trailer. They only had to have a pick up truck to pull it.

Sue: So a lot of this was moving. Moving cattle and moving horses.

Bill: you had to keep an eye on them. You would have to come up and ride through them periodically. Bill Paroli would come up and ride through them once a week and then he would come up to Witch Creek once a week and then he had the whole of San Felipe. If he needed any help then he would just call and somebody would go down and give him a hand to do whatever it was he needed to do.

Sue: So he would come up here and if a cow was sick....

Bill: He'd get 'em in and doctor them if he could. If it was something he couldn't handle then a vet would come out.

Sue: You counted the cows out here and made sure you got them all back? Did you ever lose any?

Bill: Right after they built that base up on Mount Laguna, that radar base up there, we started losing cattle. We found out what was going on. Some enlisted man started up a meat market. He took 2 or 3 out of here. He would kill them, cut them up, take them home, put them in his freezer and sell them to his friends.

Heather: Do you brand your cattle?

Bill: Oh yeah.

Heather: What brand do you use?

Bill: Well ours is an upside down "T" with a bar after it. The old Sawday brand was an anchor or a rocking T. Usually in the old days when Mr. Sawday bought a piece of property on it, he not only bought the cattle he would buy the brand too. So the ranch had several brands that they used. We still keep them registered. There was a hexagon brand that my wife's mother and her sister used on their cattle. Then there was a JHC connected that was Jackie Howard Coogan brand from the Coogan Ranch. The anchor brand was the old Cline brand. A circle S came with the Penasquitos Ranch. When my wife and I got married they said we could brand a few cows if we wanted to so we came up with the T bar.

Sue: T for Tulloch?

Bill: Yeah, upside down Tulloch. When you apply for the brands, you get three choices of brands and this was one of them we found out the other two had been taking. When we were at the cattleman's convention and a fellow had the new brand book and it's this thick with all the registered brands in the state of California.

Heather: They have to be registered how often?

Bill: You have to renew them every year.

Heather: So these are not just people with cattle. Some just want to keep the brand.

Bill: Most of them are people in the suburbs and think they want to have a brand to put on the side of their car.

Heather: People go to get brands without having cattle? You are pulling my leg. Come on now! He's pulling my leg isn't he?

Bill: No, really. It's a status symbol. Remember those big station wagons? These people had one and the name of their property was "I have no ranch".

We are now on the east side of the Tulloch property at the dam.

Heather: I got rid of my goats, I gave them to Sue.

Bill: What have you got against Sue?

Heather: Nothing, she needed to get rid of some poison oak and.....

Sue: But all they want to do is hang around and eat all the ground cover on the slopes.

Bill: That's the dam there.

Sue: We are sitting on it.

Bill: That's the spillway there. I have never seen this completely dry but it certainly is now.

Sue: They took advantage of this rock to enclose their spillway.

Bill: When this was fairly full in here, we went fishing. There may be fish down under there but this summer it probably got too hot and cooked them. Problem is the neighbor kids knew there was fish in here and would sneak in here and go fishing.

Heather Everybody goes out to your pond at Witch Creek.

Bill: I hate to tell you but it's completely dry.

Heather: All the years I've lived here I've heard, Cummings Pond, Cummings Pond....I've never been to Cummings Pond.

Sue: Guess you can't go this year, it's dry.

Heather: Yeah, but I know the owner now.

Sue: So how do you water the cattle when you don't have water in the pond?

Bill: Wells. Even then we have problems. Last winter I drilled 6 wells there at Witch Creek. Just for livestock water. To keep them scattered out, otherwise there were only 2 places they could get water. They don't go too far away from the water. We drilled some wells around where there was water previously to keep them scattered.

Sue: So, what I'm hearing is the biggest deal in managing cattle is water.

Bill: That's very important. They have to have water. They can get along without a lot of feed but they have to have water. That's the key.

Sue: So it's kind of like the Indians and the oaks and water except it's grasslands, water andaccess?

Bill: A stout fence

Sue: And access too. You have to have easy access in and out.

Bill: Well not necessarily, you can go anyplace on horseback.

Sue: Go in and round em up.

Bill: We have areas up in Laguna that you can't drive into so you have to go horseback.

Sue: Do you miss it? Do you miss riding?

Bill: Oh yeah. I've had 3 hips replaced now I have to go in and get my knee replaced. My doctor told me to stay off of horses.

Sue: You rode all of your life though huh?

Bill: I've done a lot of riding. It's a lot nicer to get out on a horse than it is in a pickup.

Sue: So that's another ingredient you need to have. Horses. You have to have cowboys and horses.

Bill: And you can't just take any horse and work cattle with it. Some horses are scared to death of cattle. That's where the expression cowpony came from the cattle and the horse, the cows respect the horse and the horse and the rider work together to work the cattle. A lot of it is if the horse has worked around cattle enough. They know what to do. But these people who go out there and throw the reins down and expect the horse to figure out what needs to be done. I wasn't brought up that way. I want to tell the horse what to do. You do need horses for cattle.

Sue: And good cowboys.

Heather: Just a couple though, not too many.

Bill: Well, there are a lot of people who want to be cowboys. If you haven't been around cattle a lot, you have to be able to read cattle in other words you have to know what the cow is going to do before she even thinks it. Then you can keep ahead of them otherwise they will outsmart you.

Heather: The Tellam's sure are some cattle sorting folks.

Bill: Yes, Cousin Willy and his boys, they know what they are doing. They are good hands. Course they were brought up on the ranch. That's all Steve's ever done. Mike he has worked around cattle and he worked with John in the construction field. Allen, he was smart enough to get away from it all. He became an airline pilot. He enjoys it.

Heather: I wonder what's going to happen to them when all the development gets going in Ramona. They still have the Guejita right?

Bill: Well, he lost the Guejita for quite few years now he has it back. The worst year ever. Cattle prices down, bad water, no feed. That Guejita has always been a hard scrabble. I remember old Theodore had it once, he was down on the Penasquitos at that time, he said they asked him to go up there to see what was going on. He went up there to stay and take care of the cows. George got up there and said, Theodore what's wrong with the cattle? He said: "Well, they are starving to death." Sexton was not a cowman, he was the under sheriff. George Sawday had a heart attack when he was on his horse over at Warner's. He lived through that and after that they wouldn't let him ride horseback anymore. So he got a driver, Charlie's brother George drove him for awhile. Then he had Glen Huntamer, he lived in the house back of where we live now. He had a nice car; he had a Mercury Lincoln or something like that. He'd say Glen; put some salt in the back there. He would be driving around where you are driving this truck. He was quite a person. He always stopped at people he knew to talk to them. He'd stop to see what was going on.

Sue: That was something that struck me, I've been reading about the different people. The Sawday family. It was a social thing too. The women got together for the Cowbelles and the men got together for the Cattleman's and different people would go to other peoples places to help them gather.

Bill: Yeah, we'd trade help. Lester Hook used to come over and help us over on the Coogan ranch and we would go down and help them. Still today, the Tellam's and the Alford's trade off work. If you ever need any help all you have to do is pick up the phone and say "Hey I need a hand. Could you come and help us."

Heather: That was great during the fire when they had to get those cattle out of there. You saw cowboys coming from everywhere hauling truckload after trailer after trailer out of there.

Bill: In the old days the social get together they had dances once a month. People come from miles around the ladies would bring food and then you'd go out back of the schoolhouse and have a snort or two then they would move all the tables and they would dance all night. They would put the kids under the tables and they would sleep there. Morning came they all loaded up their wagons and went home.

Sue: I think that what enchants me the most about first part of this century. People were helpful and friendly.

Bill: Yeah, you live in one part of town work in another most people don't even know their neighbors.

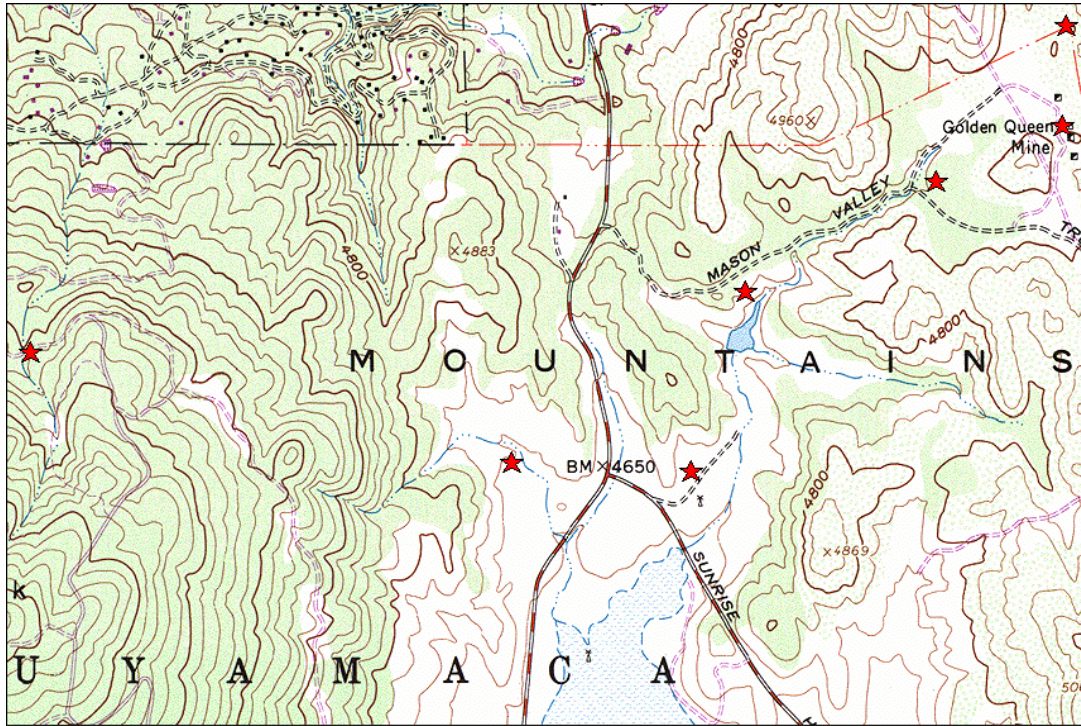
Heather: I kinda like it better before I had any.

Sue: Neighbors?

Heather: Yeah.

Laughter

End of Interview



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Bill & Betty Anne Tulloch
at their home in Witch Creek
June 2001



Willy Tellam Interview
with Heather Thomson

This interview took place in a field off of Rangeland Road in Ramona, CA. The Tellam's lease the acreage as cattle pastur.

(We are discussing an old newspaper article.)

Tellam:but I don't remember the windmill being there.

Heather: Yeah, me either. I haven't been here forever but.....

Tellam: That's young George Sawday, that's Bill Paroli there. *(Looking at newspaper article)*

Heather: Boy! Her family...I was interviewing her because of him, her family goes way the heck back. You can't get much farther back than that.



Photo by Richard Herrmann-The Nature Conservancy

Tellam: They were Osuna. That's gotta be a while back, this sucker. What year was this? Where does it say or does it say?

Heather: 1977

Tellam: Is that what it said? Yup, July 14th, 1977. Yeah, that's gotta be in Ramona.

Heather: So, did you do the rodeo thing this year?

Tellam: I didn't, Steve did. My son. I went to Hermosa. There was another penning. There can only be one winner and he's hard to beat. Roddy! I get a pretty girl and then you show up!

Roddy: _____

Tellam: Okay, now how long did you have the pump set for?

Roddy: Four hours.

Tellam: It was four hours on the weekend too wasn't it?

Roddy: It's been like four hours.....

Tellam: See that's an hour and a half per week per spot out there, that's hardly enough.

Roddy: For three days.

Tellam: Three days, that's an hour and a half combined.

Roddy: But what.....

Tellam: But what? Don't give me

Roddy: But Willy, I can't have running water down there.

Tellam: There is no running water; it never even filled up where you put that load of DG. That's just a mud hole. That's how I can tell it never ran. His heads a little hard!

Tellam: Go ahead. Are you gonna be back? In about an hour?

Roddy: How'd you find your way out here anyway?

Tellam: She's had some bad help probably. Roddy, maybe I'll change those sprinklers and run these ones here and in the morning, I gotta take a load of cows to Guejito. So, the next one down there should be ready to go and then in the afternoon, run the second one. Got that? Then we'll hassle that. Four hours is plenty in there but we'll have to discuss that other one. Bye. He doesn't want to leave now.

Heather: I followed the tracks. Do you and the Tulloch's work together or do you guys run things totally separate?

Tellam: They are my cousins, but my sons and I work it.

Heather: Are all of your sons into it?

Tellam: Two.

Heather: Just two?

Tellam: I have four, two of them help out. You probably talked to Steve?

Heather: A little bit.

Tellam: Yeah, but he was never up there. (Cuyamaca) Are you taping?

Heather: Yeah.

Tellam: Oh well... they uh... You taped my conversation with Roddy?

Heather: I'll erase it...if you want.

Tellam: The State Park had run cattle forever. You know, before the State Park bought it. I think... if I can remember,... the McCain family had it for a while and then from there it went to a guy by the name of Dyar, and Dyar as I remember, ...he gave it to the State Park. He got half the money and then whatever half the price was, he donated that.

Heather: They bought half and he donated the other half, yeah.

Tellam: So, Bert Moore had it then. Bert Moore had it for a long time when it was State Park. And then Bert Moore's brother, Harvey Moore worked for the State Park for years. As a matter of fact, he was the head of the State Park when we took over our lease.... We went to a retirement party for him there at the park. Anyways, Bert Moore's brand was a PO on the left hip, a P with an O, and that dates back real early in the State Brand Book and that PO stood for a Mexican cowboy by the name of Pete Ortega. Somebody said that at one time he ran cattle on the Rancho -Cuyamaca Rancho-- But that was Bert Moore's brand and in 1953 when me and my wife got married, Bert Moore, he gave us that brand, that had been around Cuyamaca for a long time, as a wedding gift. This was a very, very nice gift. Brands that old and that good sell for quite a bit of money nowadays.

Heather: Hmm, I didn't know that.

Tellam: That's kind of interesting. We ran steers and cows and calves. We had cows and calves and steers both. On the East Mesa we ran cows and calves, on the West Mesa we ran steers. Then there was that pasture down below by the Boy Scout camp. They had taken parcels out that we did not graze. Down around the Dyar house and like that.

Heather: This was all...it was all State Parks when you..... I mean, you're not that old. I mean it was all State Parks by the time you were involved right?

Tellam: Yeah, oh yeah.

Heather: Was there anything left up at Cuyamaca City? Were there any structures at all?

Tellam: Not that I can remember. You call that out by the mine?

Heather: Yes.

Tellam: No, the mine was all fenced and the Girl Scout camp over there, but no, nothing that I can remember. Matter of fact, I don't think we ran cattle out by the Caballos Camp either. But then Harvey Moore owned 40 acres that went out and tied between the Lucky 5 and State Park. And either gave it to the State Park or the State Park purchased it, and now the State Park, as I understand it, bought that piece from the Lucky 5.

Heather: Yeah, they just acquired that, or the Anza Borrego Foundation or however it is that works.

Tellam: It was a beautiful, beautiful piece of ground. It was always lovely. We usually came in March or April and then we were only over there like 6 months.

Heather: Did you guys have somebody staying up there with the cows?

Tellam: No.

Heather: You'd just come in and check on them every once in a while?

Tellam: We lived in Julian and it wasn't too far.

Heather: So do you have any cattle up there in the mountains?

Tellam: Most of our cattle are here, but we have a couple, I live in Pine Hills. Just this last week we leased the Guejito Ranch.

Heather: I thought you guys had that forever?

Tellam: I did. I had it for 27 years and then the old man that Mr. _____, ran it for 8 years and then he decided he didn't want to run it any more, he wanted me to have it back, so he let us have it.

Tellam: Yeah, but I'm 70 years old, I took it for the boys, so that makes it all right. But one time William Penn Mott, the head of the State Parks, they were thinking about having State Park buy that. I don't know if that's still in the offing, which was years and years ago. Matter of fact, I have a picture of he and I at home.

Heather: So what are you going to do when this is all golf courses and ski lakes?

Tellam: Well it won't be that long; we never know from day to day what we have. That's progress and that will happen.

Heather: I know. I know it will.

Tellam: In my lifetime I'll have plenty. But I always said, 'I didn't know what the boys would do'. This here, this is the sewer water.



Heather: Yeah and I was kinda thinking about that, I mean it's spraying on here and the cows are eating it and we're eating the cows... do we eat these cows?

Tellam: Yeah, but...

Heather: I know cows have good digestion, all those stomachs and all.

Tellam: Yeah, you can't run it through vegetables. But this water, Hell I can't tell the difference between this and good water. Right down there, is another treatment

plant. They already treat it once. I don't drink it but other than that I practically take a shower in the stuff. No, it's very good quality water when it goes back out. They can even, I think, put it on avocado trees. At least they do on the other end of town.

Tellam: See the brand on this one?

Heather: Yeah.

Tellam: Chevron J and that other brand on its shoulder like a pitchfork?

Heather: Uh huh. What do those mean?

Tellam: Those are from the kid we bought it from and the one before was Bob Willis, who he bought it from. We never re-brand. The pure-bred cows, they're all Brangus, We'll brand the yearlings. Our own heifers will be _____ branded.

Heather: So, just like once a year you'll do it?

Tellam: Yeah, we work the calves when they're little, we vaccinate them.

Heather: They sure are cute when they're little aren't they?

Tellam: Yeah, like kids.

Heather: But then they get big huh?

Tellam: Yeah, and then they grow up.

Heather: Sue would like to know if you would be willing to go up to Cuyamaca sometime and go around with her and see what you remember. See if there are any places that you can remember.

Tellam: I can remember, seemed like when we were there, was right after the Conejos fire. Does that ring a bell?

Heather: Yeah

Tellam: The Conejos fire burnt up over the top and burnt West Mesa, took all of East Mesa clear to the desert. You had a picture of Bill Paroli, I was, I can't remember if it was 49, 48 or what, but I was working for my grandfather at Warners Ranch and my step-father Hans Starr was the foreman there. They could see that fire. The smoke was all over and we could see it burning. It started over at the Indian reservation, what is now Viejas. Part of the Viejas reservation, where the casino is now. Anyways, it burnt all the way up there, so he sent Bill Paroli and I up with 2 horses in case there were any cattle, they had cattle up at the north end. So we pulled up with there with the cattle truck, up there on the hill just as it got to the, what is it, the Green Valley Campground? We sat on the hill there and they had fire trucks parked bumper to bumper between Green Valley and back up to Green Valley Falls or whatever, where the bridge is. They were just solid as could be. You could just hear the fire roaring up the canyon and there was chunks of fire going out a quarter of a mile and rabbits were running out. There was a lot of grass of course, on fire. It was just like they weren't there, the fire trucks. The fire just blew right over them.

Heather: Oh really!

Tellam: It was the most terrible thing I'd ever seen.

Heather: Pretty scary.

Tellam: Well a big fire makes its own wind, you could just hear it roar, like an airplane. You could hear it just roar and then *poof* all of a sudden- it went up and over the hill towards East Mesa.

Heather: I'm real, real surprised that we haven't had one out here. You know, in this area, I really am.

Tellam: We probably will someday. Everything has got to be just right. You gotta have the east wind. That fire was coming up that canyon, the east winds; the Santa Anas didn't fan that one. Just the canyon- and so much brush. So, we had East Mesa after the fire. I was just trying to remember, I think I remember one year, New Years Day I was up there and we had steers or cows or something and we were up there and there was about 2 foot of snow on West Mesa and it was absolutely beautiful. There was no wind then just the snow and it was so still. It was always a beautiful piece of ground.

Heather: It is nice up there.

Tellam: But it was, you know, it was all kind of a mountain range, there was really no lowlands on it. So you pretty much had to pull out in the winter and go. Of course there were lower spots down towards Descanso, you know, the lower end of the ranch. That was about the year that, in that time, when Ralph Slaughter fenced the whole of Cuyamaca. They had a contract and fenced the perimeter of the State Park. Then you went out towards the campground, Green Valley Campground, you went out a road there and it dropped off into, I suppose towards Boulder "Crick".

Heather: Down Eagle Peak, Cedar Creek and all that?

Tellam: Yeah, because I remember there used to be a road that went out.

Heather: Oh yeah, that went all the way through?

Tellam: Right, _____ Valley and some of those places like that. But we always just hauled in and worked the cattle and hauled out. I can't even remember, but we took the calves on East Mesa and we would put up a portable corral, we never even had a set of corrals. And I can't remember, Oh yeah! I know, and then we would drive the cattle off of the park. We also, for a while, had the Lucky 5 which bordered the State Park. We used Harvey Moore's corrals, I can remember that. Harvey Moore had a set of corrals. He had some old purebred cows. So that's what we used on this side. The other side on top. Then down at La Cima is it? La Cima that camp?

Heather: Yeah, the fire...?

Tellam: Nothing else was there. Ralph Jasper had the concession before we did. And I think they had somebody that stayed in the little house that used to be to the left as you turn to go to the Dyar. If you were coming from Julian going down to the Dyar where the museum is and all, there was a house right straight out that had a little set of corrals. When he had it he stayed there. But when we were there we never used that, all that property in there.

Heather: I had no idea that those Jaspers were the same as the other Jaspers. Everybody's connected. Any time any of these people go to get married they need to go out of state and find somebody.

Tellam: Those boys weren't even around then. Their Dad was, but he died. So I don't know if anybody would remember it. But Jasper had it for 10 years, matter of fact, we bought, the old man bought Jaspers cattle or something off that truck, we took it over, they just bought his cattle. But Christ this was 50 years ago. As for buildings, I'd go look, just for the sake of seeing the park, but I don't know what I would remember.

Heather: It's amazing what will come back once you get out there and in it.

Tellam: That's the airport.

Heather: Yeah, I just live over there.

Tellam: Did you have anymore questions?

Heather: You know, not really, not right off the top of my head, probably right when I leave.

Tellam: Not that this matters, but I would say that the limit of cattle he could put on there was 600.

Heather: Yeah, I read...

Tellam: An agreement or a lease or something?

Heather: Yeah, Phil Brigandi wrote a thing about the cattle grazing at the park and it had all that in it. So how many cows do you have now?

Tellam: What's that?

Heather: How many do you have now? Any idea?

Tellam: How many cows?

Heather: Uh huh.

Tellam: Oh, we run between 500 and 1000.

Heather: All around?

Tellam: All the different ranches, right. I'm trying to think what else.

Heather: Is Elmo Cauzza still alive?

Tellam: No, he died a long time ago.

Heather: I didn't think that he was still, but

Tellam: Heart attack. Hell that had to be 20 years ago. You know time goes so fast.

Heather: Is there a junior then maybe? There

Tellam: Let's see, what else would I remember about the park?

Heather: So you used to work up at Warner's?

Tellam: Yeah, I worked up at Warner's. Well, my Grandfather had it for 54 years, so I was kind of raised there.

Heather: Was it your Dad that got bit by the rattlesnake?

Tellam: Yes, I was only 6 months old.

Heather: Yeah, I was thinking, gosh! You were just a baby.

Tellam: Early 40's. Then my Mother married Hans Starr. The foreman at Warner's. He was a good cowboy. He came from Wyoming. He kinda revolutionized the cowboy. It was still kind of the old Spanish way, with the riata and like that. Well he came in with a more modern way. They dallied. When he came, they tied hard and fast to the saddle horn. Different type of saddles, different type of horses.

Heather: That's interesting.

Tellam: They went more towards quarter horse; theirs used to be Thoroughbred/Morgan type. It's like everything else, things change.

Heather: Oh yeah they do.

Tellam: But here, like you say, we don't know, well, I wouldn't say it's quite that bad, but day to day what we have in the way of a ranch or not. But this is the best ranch in the county now because of the water.

Heather: Yeah, there's lots of water here.

Tellam: Well, sewer water and it's all free. They put the water on the pasture.

Heather: There's lots of groundwater too though.

Tellam: Yeah, but you can't afford to pump it, not for pasture. Electricity's gone high. Where do you live?

Heather: Over off of Archie Moore.

Tellam: Oh is that right? You live right here?

Heather: Yeah, yeah.

Tellam: Then you're a neighbor!

Heather: I'm just straight across from the Carter's old place.

Tellam: Yeah?

Heather: Yeah.

Tellam: Carter? Was he the.....?

Heather: Gordon Carter, well driller. County Well.

Tellam: Weren't they also dynamite guys?

Heather: Steve does that yeah.

Tellam: Yeah, he's a good kid. I like him.

Heather: I was out over there in a trailer, hauled my water in and ran off of a generator for years.

Tellam: Oh my God! You know what tough is!

Heather: You know, I'd go back to it in a heartbeat if all of my neighbors would go away.

Tellam: They've had archaeologists for 3 months out there. (*speaking of Oak Country*)

Heather: For 3 months?

Tellam: Well, for a long time. Sometimes they'll have 3 and sometimes it'll be a guy and a gal. What are they looking for?

Heather: Right now they are starting on it. They're starting on the serious archaeology studies.

Tellam: I'm sure White had to pay for that.

Heather: Good.

Tellam: What are they looking for?

Heather:things.....

Tellam: Were there Indians here or what?

Heather: Yeah.

Tellam: I see they're out there sifting.

Heather: Yeah, to determine if there are subsurface deposits.

Tellam: How do they know where to look? There's a lot of ground out there.

Heather: This is going to be a full summer job for them. They walk their surveys, they

walk straight lines, whenever they see something, they map it.

Tellam: They had some rocks, flat rocks, they were drawing circles around them, they were putting stakes in. You know, where I live, was an Indian village. The holes in the ground were deep. They were big ones. There was a lot of pottery, Indian pottery and arrowheads and stuff around there. But those out here, they were putting marks around any smooth spot in a rock.

Tellam: When we were kids, things were kind of different. We lived at Witch Creek and we never had shoes till we went to high school, the war was on, things were tough and we never went anywhere and we ran all over the hills and hunted arrowheads and we had lots of land, my Granddad, George Sawday.

Heather: Yeah, I'd say he did!

Tellam: Yeah, he had lots of land and so we had access to it and we were always looking for places and it always seemed like even on the Guejito, if they ever went up there, they would have a field day, those people. I mean those archaeologists.

Heather: There are over 16,000 sites in San Diego County, recorded.

Tellam: I can believe that. On the Guejito, you go to where these holes are, you go up after a rain and that's when you look. But the Indians here, they used little tiny arrowheads it seems like.

Heather: Did you ever see any bears?

Tellam: Oh, they had that bear last year and that sighting of that bear. Then they shot the one there at Slaughterhouse Canyon. Now it's the lions. Now what was it? Oh! It got into the pheasant farm, which is part of the old Tellam Ranch, 250 or so pheasants.

Heather: Oh my gosh! Just out of meanness.

Tellam: Well, I don't suppose he could eat them all. People had seen it there. I've been around this country 70 years and I've only seen 5.

Tellam: Now tell me again where you live.

Heather: Archie Moore, Rancho Suenos..

Tellam: I don't care if you come in as long as you shut the fence. He's gone! (Roddy) What time is it? Twenty to twelve. What I can't get through his mind is that an hour and a half is not long enough to get it wet out there and that's the most productive part that we have.

Heather: Hmm.

Tellam: He's gone. He's not answering his.....

Heather: He knows it's you!

Tellam: Hold on a minute, he had that telephone this morning. So, do we need anything else?

Heather: No, I think that's about it. I'll tell Sue that you'd like to go up there then. She'll be happy.

Tellam: Yeah, I don't know. I remember up on the West Mesa, on that side were the most beautiful Christmas trees. Silver-tipped fir. We had Volcan, my step-father and Mother, we had a lot of Christmas trees there, but they were beautiful, what we called silver-tipped fir or white fir or some damn thing. That had burned off but when they grew back, they were just beautiful. A lot of that, like up where the lookout is, has never really quite come back that much.

Heather: It hasn't has it?

Tellam: No, you know, it's been there forever and it takes forever to come back.

Heather: Well, the Indians used to burn, to keep their seeds going etc. So, I know Bill Paroli was Indian; did you guys have many Indians working for you?

Tellam: Bill Paroli worked for my grandfather, then for Orville Cummings and then worked for my step-father and then went back to work for Cummings all his life. That's all he did. Yeah, they were all Indians. There were 2 or 3 Paroli boys. There was Bill, there was Louie and their sisters worked for my Mother and worked for my Aunt.

Heather: That's right; Buck Rosson was telling me....

Tellam: Yeah, her name was Mary. Mary Rosson.

Heather: Yeah, his Mom. She just died not too long ago.

Tellam: Then Virginia Miller, I think she's still at Henshaw.

Heather: Yeah, she's the only one left.

Tellam: Did Mary die?

Heather: Yeah, about a year ago.

Tellam: Virginia looks so good. She was a beautiful young girl. Then _____ Hyde, Bartole, Teofolio Helm.

Heather: Yeah, I'm just getting that one all together in my head. I've been researching these families and yikes!

Tellam: I'm trying to think who else worked for us.

Heather: Do you remember Mary's mother Frances? Didn't she used to live at Witch Creek?

Tellam: Well they lived at Sutherland Dam. That's where the old Paroli place was, at Sutherland Dam. The only one I can remember was the Maxy's. Joe Maxy, I think they were at Witch Creek for a while. And then Bill Paroli lived there. But I don't remember Mary's mother, no. Their Dad was Italian wasn't he?

Heather: Yeah, Baptiste Paroli.

Tellam: When the city bought that land to build the dam, the depression came along and they never finished it until the fifties.

Heather: Where the heck is or where was Bloomdale School?

Tellam: Bloomdale School, that was up on Mesa Grande.

Heather: Up by the cemetery up there?

Tellam: Yeah.

Heather: I've been driving myself nuts with that. Nobody knows where it was.

Tellam: Doesn't Fiegle?

Heather: Who is Fiegle?

Tellam: Norman Fiegle. The person that lives there. The person that owns Bloomdale now.

Heather: Oh I don't know. I don't know him.

Tellam: Well, who were you looking for?

Heather: I just wanted to know where the school was.

Tellam: Well you ask him. Those people would know. Any of the Morettis would know. Marco Moretti would probably know. See, I never was associated with the Santa Ysabel Ranch very much. My Grandfather owned $\frac{1}{4}$ of it but Victor Cauzza ran it forever. So I had nothing to do there.

Heather: Is that how you pronounce it Cay-ew-zza?

Tellam: Cay-ew-zza, Cauzza whatever.

Heather: Oh, what's his name? There's one of them that's down in Borrego.

Tellam: Moretti.

Heather: Is that a Moretti?

Tellam: Ernie Moretti.

Heather: He's an old guy huh?

Tellam: No, he's not that old. He was always very articulate. He's a realtor or something.

Heather: I don't know.

Tellam: I saw him the other day. He's very articulate, very bright, very young looking. I hadn't seen him for awhile. They were all in school when we were in grammar school at Witch "Crick". The Bloomdale School, it *had* to be the Bloomdale School that was up there.

Heather: I was reading somewhere, that Rocendo Cuero, he would be the great-uncle of Mary Paroli and blah-blah-blah...Then it said that he used to live, his family used to live where Bloomdale School was, is now, this is way back in 32 that he said this.

Tellam: See the Davis', Mesa Grande, Old man Davis, the old, old one. He was the one that befriended the Indians. So, what's Bud Davis' wife's name? That lives up there now? At Mesa Grande? The Davis'? Hell, I know it as well as I know my own. Annie! Ann Davis. She'd know, or some of those people. They had all those books with all the Indians and that stuff. Christ, it's just like Warner's when I was a kid and they had all those cattle out there and we'd run a couple thousand head of steer. Christ, there's nobody left. Charlie Sawday was there. Can you think of anything else? Because I've got two Mexicans out there digging weeds and they're gonna be hungry.

Heather: Not unless you want to send them over to my house when they're done here.

Tellam: Right! Well it was nice talking to you.

Heather: It was nice talking to you too. I really appreciate it.

Tellam: Sorry I don't know more.

Heather: Oh, you helped me out a lot, thanks.

Jack and Daisy Graves Interview
with Heather Thomson

Heather: Okay, I guess the first thing would be....you married a McCain, right? You married Joan McCain.



Mr. Graves: Joan, yup.

Heather: Whose brother was Buster.

Mr. Graves: Buster.

Heather: And his sister was Mary.

Mr. Graves: Mary. She still lives up, oh a couple of miles.

Heather: Oh really? That's interesting. I didn't know she was still around. I didn't know you were still around. What in the heck were you doing out there? in that desert.

Mr. Graves: Well, way back in the year one the McCain's owned that land. There was 500 acres. About 2/3 of it in San Diego County and 1/3 in Imperial County. The county line ran right by our camp. You could pert' near throw a rock into the other county. That's where the county line was. Years ago they ran cattle up around Boulevard area. In the winter they would take them down into the desert. When the rains would come, grass would grow up, if it rained. They would pasture them down there in the winter. In the desert there, they could go about 20 more miles down the wash and there was another big swampy area and they would pasture them down there. Before we had a flood in early 70's., there was a big swamp just up from our camp. It covered 5 acres or so just a swamp. The tules would grow up and the cattle would eat the tules.

Heather: I didn't know they ate tules. I guess they would pretty much anything.... but *tules*?

Mr. Graves: They wouldn't eat the cattails but they would eat the tules they would. If the grass didn't grow they would feed on the tules.

Heather: I'll be danged. So, did you have cattle of your own?

Mr. Graves: No.

Heather: Did you help look after theirs or did you just do your own thing?

Mr. Graves: No, I had nothing to do with the cattle.

Heather: Not a cattle guy.

Mr. Graves: Our camp was right on the county line.

Heather: Are you talking about the one at Carrizo? I brought pictures. Recent pictures. That I thought might be interesting for you to see. When was the last time you were out there?

Mr. Graves: The last time? Oh, about five years ago. One of my sons died and his wish was to have his ashes scattered out there.

Heather: Oh, I'm sorry.

Mr. Graves: When was it? Seventies I guess, our camp burned down. We had a camp there and the whole thing burned down. Why, we don't know.

Heather: Was this when you were wintering there, spending vacations there?

Mr. Graves: Huh?

Heather: Were you spending vacations there? You weren't living there?

Mr. Graves: It was the last part of May, so we had given up for the summer. It gets warm so we had given up. My son Bill, he said he was going down there with 2 or 3 other friends for the weekend. My wife said, "Well, you'll be hot, you'll come right back." He did, he came right back. He said, "The whole place had burned down." So we went down there two or three days later and it was like he said, it was all gone. The park kept talking about buying the property and so I said if they are going to buy it soon, we will just give up. My kids said, No, we'll built it back. So they went down there in about February I guess and in about 4 or 5 weekends, they came down there and they built the whole thing back again.

Heather: I've got pictures that I took when I was down there.

Mrs. Graves: They brought friends. They brought friends with them down there to help.

Heather: That's wonderful. So, you taught them how to do all of that stuff?

Mr. Graves: Uh huh.

Heather: I've got doubles of these, so if there are any of these that you want you can have them.

Mrs. Graves: When did you take this?

Heather: This was last April.

Mrs. Graves: The side is all gone. This had a side.

Heather: Oh, did it? Yeah, these were in April.

Mr. Graves: I'll be darned.

Heather: There looks like, well, obviously, there have been people out there, but what is left standing is just intriguing. To think that you guys actually did that. It's wonderful.

Mrs. Graves: We had a wonderful playground out there.



Heather: Did you make these bricks? (*Mr. Graves made the adobe bricks that the family home in El Cajon is constructed of.*) That was a brick that was lying on the floor of the place.

Mr. Graves: On the floor?

Heather: Uh huh.

Mr. Graves: No.

Heather: No?

Mr. Graves: We had a carpet on the floor. Last time I was down there someone had drug the carpet out and it was underneath that tree.

Heather: I saw that.

Mr. Graves: Still there?

Heather: Yeah, it's still there. I was wondering what's this carpet doing out here?

Mr. Graves: We had it on the floor.

Mrs. Graves: It probably got dusty.

Heather: What doesn't get dusty down there? Oh my gosh!

Mr. Graves: I don't know why they drug it out.

Heather: Like I said, I have doubles so if you want any of these you're more than welcome to have them.

Mrs. Graves: This is the roof.

Heather: It was a wall, a side wall. I think. Maybe it was the roof but I'm pretty sure it was a wall.

Mrs. Graves: It could have been cause it all looked pretty much similar.

Heather: This was the roof.

Mrs. Graves: Oh yes.

Heather: Was this your tractor?

Mr. Graves: Wasn't mine. It was Busters. It was drivable. Buster bought it in Lakeside and took it by trailer, I suppose, down to, do you know where the Martin's place is?

Heather: Granny Martin?

Mr. Graves: No, no, no, no. Down there when you go down from S2 you go down the dirt road about a little mile, there's some big trees, and people by the name of Martin lived there.

Heather: On the left?

Mr. Graves: On the left going down the hill. So, the park kept saying they was going to buy the place. Mrs. Martin, whatever her name was, finally got the park and said, "Are you going to buy it or not?" So they bought it. Every once in a while, the Martin's would have their place up for sale. About 160 acres on both sides of the road and there was some houses over there. Whenever they would get somebody to buy it, the Park would go, "Don't you sell it, we are going to condemn it pretty soon." Well, that's what happened. Finally, Mrs. Martin, got to them and told them to either buy it or shut up.

Heather: Put your money where your mouth is.

Mr. Graves: So that's when they bought it. Then they had, on the south side of the road, they had a big trailer park, concrete slab, sewer hook-ups, water, electricity, the whole bit. They mowed everything down. You can't even tell that it was even there. All the houses are gone.

Heather: They did some not so great things.

Mrs. Graves: They ran over them. The state ran over them.

Mr. Graves: Up at the Martin's up the road a little quarter of a mile or so, there was a house and the park had it, the property, and they had their Ranger staying there. That's where the Ranger stayed. Eventually, they moved up where they have their house now up by Canebrake. They moved up there because they had electricity and telephone and stuff. That's why they moved up there.

Heather: So, Buster got that tractor that is out at Carrizo now, ...

Mr. Graves: Yeah.

Heather: He was using it out there? What was he doing?

Mr. Graves: Well, he...on the east side of the little clay hill, (we call it Clay Hill), he farmed some. He put in Barley. He had Barley and he farmed it. That's what he got the tractor to do.

Heather: He got barley to grow out there? Do you know what that berm, there's a berm all along the edge of that hill.

Mr. Graves: Years ago, they hired a guy, and he come down with a bulldozer and made that and made a little lake up there above, a little pond up there above where the

Mrs. Graves: Stage Station was.....

Heather: Where the Stage Station was?

Mr. Graves: Yeah. So, he was farming it some.

Heather: Down in there? (*We are now looking at pictures of the site taken in April 2001*) Let's see if I have a better picture. Okay, here's one that would show it. This is the creek right here and then there's Clay Hill as you call it. Right down at the bottom in there.

Mr. Graves: Clay Hill yeah.

Heather: Is that where he had the pond in that little cubby in there? It kind of circles back. Do you know where the Stage Station was exactly?

Mr. Graves: Yeah.

Heather: Was there anything left of it when you were down there?

Mr. Graves: No.

Heather: Not a thing?

Mr. Graves: No.

Heather: So, in back of that, was that where he had his little pond?

Mr. Graves: Yeah and this fellow with the bulldozer, I can't remember names anymore, and he made a ditch around the end of that Clay Hill and he made a little dam in there, had a little lake like, and it carried it on around.

Heather: So the water would run off and go into the pond?

Mr. Graves: Yeah.

Heather: Oh, okay.

Mr. Graves: It ran all the time and when they didn't want to irrigate the barley patch, they just let the water run back onto the desert again.

Heather: Okay, so where was the actual place the water was coming from? Here's the hill, here's the stage station here, your place was right here. Did it come from that creek over there and then that's why it went around the hill?

Mrs. Graves: It came from the creek that was south of the house.

Heather: Oh, okay, your house. His house.

Mrs. Graves: The shack. That creek is still there isn't it Jack?

Heather: To the south of the stage station?

Mr. Graves: When we had a big flood in, I forgot what year, anyway, all the water from Jacumba clear to Julian comes right down there. All of it. Our camp was up about that much higher on a little hill and the water came clear up to there. It was $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile wide. That's when they had this hurricane.

Heather: Hurricane Kathleen?

Mr. Graves: Yeah, and they had up in Laguna's, some places up in there, they had in one night, they had 10" of rain. It came all the way down there.

Heather: Were you there when it happened?

Mr. Graves: No. Before that, the water ran right past where our camp was, down just a little ways. The water ran right on past there. Well then, when they had this big flood it washed out so it's down deep now. So that's why it's down deep and the water ran way out. So then, we didn't have any water. So we dug a well.

Heather: I saw that.

Mr. Graves: Still there?

Heather: Yes, it's still there.

Mrs. Graves: They had a pump in it.

Mr. Graves: So then as the little rains would come and the water come in, sand kept washing in. We had ponds at first we could pump the water out of the ponds. It kept filling up so then we didn't have any water. It used to be, after we put the wells down, the water wouldn't run. Then about Thanksgiving time, the water would start to run. There was a little spring but the water was bitter. It was terrible!

Heather: I'll bet.

Mr. Graves: All we could use it for was baths, to bathe and showers and dishwashing, stuff like that.

Heather: That alkali. When we were out there, no water. Well, you know when you have to come through the water to get in? There was water there. From the part where you come out of the creek and then you have to go on a dirt road some more to get to the camp? From there on there was no water, none.

Mrs. Graves: No water south of the camp?

Heather: No water before the camp. You come in into Carrizo off the highway. You go a ways and then you have to drive in the creek for a while. You come up and out of that creek and you take the dirt road around and from that point on.....I don't know where the creek goes this way, it was still running this way, but when you get to where your camp was and a ways ahead of that, no water. Nothing. It was miserable. It was hot, it was dirty, no water.

Mrs. Graves: No water. The water was about a fairly short city block south.

Heather: Oh, no water. None.

Mrs. Graves: And it goes into where the swamp was.

Heather: You can see where the swamp was. It was just this April, but you have to remember that we didn't have very much rain.

Mrs. Graves: That's right.

Heather: These fools were out there getting stuck.

Mrs. Graves: If you don't know how to drive in it look out.

Heather: Yeah, they stop. The fools stop. You can't stop in that stuff. You gotta keep on moving.

Mrs. Graves: Yeah and hope you don't get stuck.

Heather: Right, and just keep on moving.

Mrs. Graves: You'd enjoy talking to Jack's two sons. They live right here in El Cajon. We have three sons that live in El Cajon. They are the ones that insisted on rebuilding.

Heather: We are going to be out there again.....let me show you these pictures first. This is what we are doing at the stage station. They are trying to figure out how big it was, etc. And I guess if you guys don't remember any of the ruins, that's no problem. They would love for you or your sons to come out to the site in October.

Mrs. Graves: I know that they would be delighted to see these pictures and to go back too I'm sure. Let me call one of them right now. He'll be home.

Heather: This is the floor of the stage station.

Mrs. Graves: And you are.....?

Heather: My name is Heather.

Mrs. Graves: Yes, but you work for the State?

Heather: For California State Parks, yeah. These are some more of the stage station. This is the man that would dearly love for you to come down there. His name is Steve Vanwormer. He is an archaeologist. This was Buster's corral?

Mr. Graves: Where was this picture taken *at*?

Heather: Standing back in here pointing toward the creek, there's that big eucalyptus tree right there. Big, big tree. Been there for awhile.

Mr. Graves: Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. The eucalyptus tree.

Mrs.: Graves: When are you going?

Heather: It's in October.

Mr. Graves: Joan's mother planted that eucalyptus tree.

Heather: Really?

Mr. Graves: When she was little, Joan and Buster, before they went to school they used to go down there in the fall and stay all winter till it got hot and then they would come back up to the mountains. They spent the winters down there till they

Mrs. Graves: Jim will be available the 6th and the 27th of October.

Heather: Okay.

Mrs. Graves: They are retired and they are very busy.

Heather: Ah..I left my pen in the truck...oh no...here it is.

Mrs. Graves: Do you want to take their address and let them know? Or their phone numbers?

Heather: Oh sure. Yeah. Or I can give her mine or we can do them both.

Mrs. Graves: She's going to go get Jim and you can come and talk to him.

Heather: That's the Quonset hut, yeah. Al Kalin brought that in there?



Mr. Graves: Yeah. They moved it out there for the cowboys to live in when they came out there. It had a plank floor and they laid about 2 or 3 around it to raise the whole thing up. So it was washed over against that tree. I guess the tree warped it some.

Heather: Where had it been before?

Mr. Graves: Huh?

Heather: Where was it at before in relation to where it sits now.

Mr. Graves: It was just where it was but out just a ways out from that tree. I'm trying to think, sometime or another they had a fire there and it burned everything. The floor and everything burned out.

(I am in the kitchen talking to the son, Jim.)

Mrs. Graves: This is kind of fun

Mr. Graves: Yeah.

Mrs. Graves: Are these your pictures?

Mr. Graves: Yeah, I've got a whole bunch more.

Mrs. Graves: I saw some boxes with pictures in them downstairs. Where the jars of things are. Down at the foot of the stairs, around the corner. Want me to go down there and look? That looks like after the disaster. Oh, the old storage house. I saw a house in Mexico that was made of ocotillo. The walls were ocotillo sticks. Imagine that.

Mr. Graves: Who is she talking to?

Mrs. Graves: Jim.

Heather: Your son. Now, do you have any idea...let's see now, where am I? I'm getting all mixed up.

Mrs. Graves: When you speak to Jack honey, look at him and speak slowly and a little bit louder.

Heather: Oh okay.

Mr. Graves: She's doing fine.

Heather: What is this? Do you know? (*A stacked rock rectangle*) Never seen it before?

Mr. Graves: I don't think so.

Heather: Looking from where your house was, looking to the northeast, looking at the base of clay hill, about ¼ of the way up. These rocks stacked up. They weren't there before?

Mr. Graves: No.

Heather: How about these ones? They are on the top of the hill.

Mrs. Graves: People used to go up and do all kinds of things up there.

Heather: Weird things?

Mrs. Graves: Well yeah. Pictures and things. Is that the top of the hill too?

Heather: I was just wondering if it was from the Indians from a long time ago or if that was something recent.

Mrs. Graves: Wild Indians maybe.

Mr. Graves: One time my kids were down there at the north end of Clay Hill, east of it a little ways is a big high hill. The kids, when the mosquitoes were bad, they'd go up and stay up on top of it.

Mrs. Graves: To get out of the mosquitoes.

Mr. Graves: They'd go up there and sleep up there.

Heather: Play around, build things with rocks.

Mr. Graves: They had scraped the little rocks away to make their beds so that it would be smooth. One time a fellow come down there fromhe went up there and come back all excited. Oh, I found where some Indians played. We didn't tell him. He thought he found some Indians place.

Heather: He thought he had found himself a sleeping circle.

Mr. Graves: One time my husband and I , we were good friends with Jack and Joanie.....

Heather: Now what was your last name?

Mrs. Graves: Jack worked at the base in 1938 and my husband came home and said "There's a guy at the base wants to go camping, do you want to go?" And I said, "Sure, I'll go."

Heather: Do you remember the guy's name?

Mrs. Graves: Sure, Jack Graves.

Heather: Oh! That was him. So what was your maiden name?

Mrs. Graves: McCall. From Imperial Valley.

Mrs. Graves: My family was there in 1905.

Heather: My goodness.

Mrs. Graves: Well, he homesteaded. He was one of the first ones to homestead. I was born in 1916. I graduated in 1938 in the end of May. The next day, we were sleeping outside on a screened porch and the wind blew so hard and so bad that my Mother and I got up and took a sheet and laid it down on the wood floor on that sheet, closed the doors and windows to get away from the wind and the dirt and the next morning there were little sand dunes. Our bodies were outlined with the dirt. And I said, "Mother, I'm leaving. I'm going to go to San Diego to go to school." And she says, "I'll go with you." We put everything we owned in one suitcase, we were very poor. Then we came to San Diego. We had very little to do in the way of packing.

Heather: Just get out of there huh? Shake your stuff out and run.

Mrs. Graves: I had a little money from my senior year, I worked in the 10-cent store, saved my money and gosh, I made ten dollars a week. The going wages for a man was fifteen dollars a week.

Heather: So you guys have known each other forever.

Mrs. Graves: Since 1938. Oh, I was going to tell you, the first time we were invited out to Carrizo, we went camping Jack had a tarp, maybe sleeping bags, I don't know. We had a one extra big single sleeping bag, so we both slept in this sleeping bag. Hon, Did you have sleeping bags with you and Joan? How did you sleep?

Mr. Graves: We had a bed!

Mrs. Graves: Not at Carrizo, I'm talking about when we first camped.

Mrs. Graves: Wind blew every time we went camping. That tarp, we put it up too keep from freezing to death. The first time we went to Carrizo, they had stacks of mattresses. Any time anyone would get a new bed they would bring their old one down there, so they had stacks of mattresses and box springs.

Heather: I was wondering where all those darn things came from!

Mr. Graves: They are still there!?!

Heather: Oh yeah, who'd haul them out?

Mrs. Graves: My husband was a city boy and I was a country girl so nothing bothered me but everything did him. We went to go to bed and they said take a mattress and go over there and get some cow chips and build a fire so you won't have mosquito's. So we went over there to go to bed and we heard squeaks and scrambling under the mattress. And Roy said, "What was that?" and I said, "That's the little people that live under the mattress." It didn't bother me at all. I thought he was going to pick up and leave.

Heather: That's funny. I'm not one for mice or reptiles.

Mrs. Graves: Things. One time a coyote came down in the camp, it was about midnight or so. It was howling right 3 or 4 feet from the nearest bed. Jim, the son of Jack's you talked to, he got up and he cursed that coyote with every word he knew.

Heather: Did it stop?

Mrs. Graves: We had a lot of fun.

Heather: The desert is a beautiful place.

Mrs. Graves: It truly is.

Heather: The day we were getting ready to leave, the next day we would be gone, or I was anyways, and it started raining at night and I'm thinking, we'll never get out of here. But it wasn't that bad.

Mrs. Graves: It can get that bad in short order.

Heather: We woke up in the morning and it was just beautiful. A rainbow, from one end of the sky to the other. It was gorgeous. So we go okay, it would stop raining we would take out paper and start drawing and it would start raining and then the wind would blow and would get you all dirty. Then it would stop. Then it would start raining and then the wind would blow. Then you were mud. It was quite an experience and I said that I'd never go back, but I'm going back this October. I'm just taking lots of water. I have this "dirt threshold" I can only take so much of being dirty and then I got to get clean. This is dirty work excavating.

Mrs. Graves: If you are excavating the old stage station that would be very interesting.

Heather: So there was nothing left of anything when you guys were there huh? How about any of the other stage stations? What about Palm Springs?

Mrs. Graves: At Vallecitos there was quite a bit left. They have rebuilt it. Kind of disappointing.

Heather: Yeah, I kinda liked the way it looked before.

Mrs. Graves: I did too. But of course it would eventually erode because the adobe would melt.

Heather: So you made all of these bricks? (*I am speaking of his house in El Cajon*)

Mrs. Graves: That's why it's plastered. Because if you water them, the bricks turn into mud.

Heather: That's what we found out there. Yeah, they want to determine where the walls were and such. And that berm, that was really bothering them. So let me get this straight, the water would come off of the hill and then would come around and fill that little pond. I'll bet you, when they had that big flood, was that when it broke out and made this big old ditch here?

Mr. Graves: Uh huh. Used to be, right out from where the eucalyptus tree is, it was straight out.

Mrs. Graves: Not any more.

Heather: No, there's a big gully.

Mrs. Graves: Just down from the eucalyptus there was a big hill that was about 20 feet high up at the top it was probably 20 or 30 feet wide and 100 yards long. After the flood, it disappeared.

Heather: All that water going through.

Mrs. Graves: When they built that house, they got everything they could scrounge out of the desert. They found 2 x 4's, 4 x 8's, and all that stuff.

Heather: I looked at that place and wondered. I'm so glad I met you, I actually got to meet the guy who built it.

Mr. Graves: This picture here, the wall is all gone. Did you take that down?

Heather: No, I wouldn't take anything down like that. No, that's how it was when we got there. It looks like there are people that come and use it, that camp there. There's an old trailer.

Mrs. Graves: Yeah, our old storage trailer.

Heather: This, it's kind of filled up with, people have put trash and stuff in it. People, when you come out to the desert, you haul more out than you haul in. I do.

Mrs. Graves: That camp was always neat as a pin. Just junk, no trash.

Heather: Neat trash.

Mrs. Graves: It was very, very livable. Comfortable and warm. At night if it got cold they could put a fire in that little fireplace. Besides the rock house, they had the big room and they could throw a fire in that.

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Mabel McCain Interview
with Heather Thomson

The interview was conducted at the home of Mrs. McCain in El Cajon.

Mable: All I know is what I've been told through the years.

Heather: Oh, right, right. Well, that's all that there is.

Mable: Trudy, the one that's here, through her work...not through her work, but a lady she knew, is a McCain, originally a McCain, and she did all this for her. So, I'm gonna trust you with this. I'll let you take it home and you can get it taped. I mean...you know, get it copied. Then bring it back. I had several books. I had one by Ella McCain, if you can get a hold of it.

Heather: I think I've got a copy of that. The diary?

Mable: Have you got the book?

Heather: The diary...no, I think I've got...now who wrote the diary? There are so many McCain's....my goodness!

Mable: Oh my! Well my husband's Grandma alone, John's mother, had had about fifteen.

Heather: Okay now, who were his parents? Your Husbands.

Mable: My husband's father was John Jefferson.

Heather: Okay.

Mable: They called him Jacko. I could never get John to go up to Julian too much.

Heather: Really?



John McCain

Mable: Yeah, because his Granddad when he was growing up, raised Cain. Fightin' and I guess boozin' he drank. He kinda put the name on the blink. And then his Aunt, Edith McGowen, that was John's Aunt, my husbands Aunt. She lived there most of the years. She was always ashamed because the brother was a pain in the butt. And she never would blow up any of the McCain's. Like when Apple Day come or anything, if you ever went up there, you'd see there wasn't ever anything ever said about McCain's.

Heather: Really?

Mable: Uh huh. She was the one, she worked in the hall, the city hall and things. She was the post mistress. And she saw to it that they didn't, you know, nothing was said too much about them.

Heather: Good or bad?

Mable: Good or bad. Yeah, because they were ashamed of the way he acted.

Heather: Well, you know every family's got that hell raiser.

Mable: See, Granddad, John's Dad was 37 or 38 and Grandma was only like 19 when they got married. I guess the old Grandma made him marry her.

Heather: Really?

Mable: Then she went there and worked in the Hotel. They had a Hotel. That's the thing that you should know. I mean right at the foot, do you know where the cemetery is up there? Up on top of the hill. All right, you look down and see where the fire station is? Down from there? Where the fire station is and all that? That was all McCain property.

Heather: Really?

Mable: Uh huh. and that was where the hotel, where they had the hotel .

Heather: What was the name of that Hotel?

Mable: The hotel was called Mountain Glen.

Heather: That's it. That's it. I knew I read that somewhere.

Mable: Mountain Glen. See if there is anything that you are to turn in, that should be in there. That hotel was called Mountain Glen.

Heather: So, did he ever run cattle?

Mable: What honey?

Heather: Did he ever have anything to do with cattle?

Mable: His Dad? I don't think a whole lot. Maybe in his early days. Down at Borrego. He owned a lot, now not John's Dad. But the Granddad. His name was John. They never seemed to know. This stuff that Judy has, his name was John McLaughlin. The old Granddad was. My husband never knew. What the Granddad's middle name. His name was John McLaughlin, according to this lady that, now this lady....Judy would tell you she ...she still lives....unless she's died lately. Judy knew her through work. Let's see, John McLaughlin. McCain. That was his Granddad. Now John's Great-Granddad was George. That was the original guy that come here.

Heather: Right. Okay.

Mable: In 1853 they say.

Heather: Okay, okay, here we go. John McLaughlin McCain married Mary Cline

Mable: Mary Cline was John's Grandma.

Heather: Okay....and then.....

Mable: As far as they had....they had the four. Let's see they had John Jefferson and Chris Horatio.

Heather: Christian? 1874?

Mable: Yeah.

Heather: Ok...so this is.....

Mable: That's the boys. And the girls were Lily and ...it's in here though. All this.

Heather: Okay.

Mable: And Lily and Maude.

Heather: So this John right here would be your husband? Did he die in 1948?

Mable: No, that's John's Dad.

Heather: Okay. So that must be the next generation.

Mable: They all went by, he went by Jack. I upset the apple cart when I called my son Roy. Because, well because in their family, I thought it was plain stupid, John, my John, McCain, was the only John McCain. John McCain Russ was one; John McCain Haley was the other one. And I thought that was so stupid. For them all to have John names. And I thought it was so stupid.

Heather: You'd get them all mixed up!

Mable: But in the meantime, before I had Roy, there was six years between my two girls. Between my second girl and Roy, and before I had Roy, his sister had a boy and his Dad was John. So he was named John. So then I thought, now I know I'm not gonna name him John. If my second one had of been a boy, I'd a named him John, but when it came time that I had Roy, why I thought that was stupid. There you go again, another John, John, John. But I really regret not doing it because I named the girls all with the J and I shoulda' too John. But I've got a Grandson John, so

Heather: There you go!

Mable: But you know how come his name is Roy? Well because the girls listened to Roy Rodgers all the time on the radio. And that was all "please, name him Roy!" If it's a baby boy, Roy. Did you meet Judy? Where is she?

Heather: Hi.

Judy: Hi.

Mable: Well, anyhow, all that is in here.

Heather: Okay, fantastic.

Mable: This is Uncle Chris's.

Heather: Did you ever hear any stories? I'm sure they told stories about Cuyamaca or Borrego?

Mable: The biggest thing was what we was just talkin'. Have you been to Vallecito ever? Down in the desert?

Heather: I've been to Carrizo. Been by Vallecito, but I've been to the Carrizo Stage Station. Now that's where Buster lived?

Mable: Buster?

Heather: For awhile.

Mable: Yeah, Buster did live down there.

Heather: Yeah, and I guess his sister Joan, who married a Graves, they lived right on the other side of the hill there? Their old homestead? Have you ever been out there?

Mable: I've never been to their house. Are they out there now?

Heather: No, no no. It's just ruins. Matter of fact I've got pictures if you want to see them.

Mable: Joan's dead.

Heather: Is she?

Mable: Yeah. Yeah, I never did know her.

Heather: Could you imagine living out there?

Mable: What honey?

Heather: Imagine living out there?

Mable: See, there's about three different bunches, that were halfway relation.

Heather: Uh huh.

Mable: You know what I mean. They were halfway someway. Well see, my Husband's, they all belonged to this George. But he went back home. He lost his wife, this tells that in here. He lost his wife, his first wife in childbirth. And she's buried in Utah. It tells all that in here. This lady got for Judy. (Genealogy report)

Heather: Uh huh.

Mable: Then he went back and married some, a younger woman, and then had a whole batch more kids. He was Father of about fifteen.

Heather: My gosh.

Mable: That was this old George see? Old Granddad. I learned a lot from this one cousin of his, which is Ella. Not Ella, Irene. Irene told me a lot. She, did you ever hear Brett talk about Tule Jim?

Heather: Tule Jim huh?

Mable: Dick McCain see...Dick McCain...See, I had these all in this book. Dick McCain is the cousin to John. But he's much younger. And he played a big part up there. He lived on the old property at Boulevard that this Tule Jim owned. He's tellin' all down here. But here's the old Granddad. John McCain. The old Granddad. He's the one that had the old ... it was called Mountain Glen Hotel. Like I told you. Where the Fire Station is. This is the old Granddad. He looks like he's got a belt on there but he generally wore a belt around his belly. I had another book that Ella McCain had written and it has his picture by the old stage station. Anyways, the old stage station, the Granddad, this John McCain, he ran the stage from Vallecito to Temecula. He was one of the drivers I guess, I don't know, they probably had to have several. The Vallecito Stage Station, this is the way it looked when I first went down there. Then they restored it and made a museum thing. They won't let you in it now. I don't think so anyways. It was locked the last time I was down there. They have campgrounds all around there. The niece that lived there, she was supposed to get married to this John Hart. Well, John Hart was hung. His grave is out there. There's a marker out there, a tombstone. The Indians hung him. She supposedly rides at night. She's like a spirit or a.....

Heather: I've heard that story.

Mable: By gosh, I swear she does, because we went down camping, we always camped in the rough. We didn't have anything to camp in. My second girl was little, Joyce was small. We all went camping and it was so windy and so bad, this was years ago. I had Roy. Roy was just a little thing. We had a camp cot and you weren't supposed to be in there. But we got in there out of the wind and the rain. You could see tracks. There was a big old fireplace that went up. You could see tracks where the animals had tracked in there. I guess we disturbed them. There were these other people. His name was John. There was a boy that was a teenager and his name was John. My husband was John. Anyways, Roy and I slept on a cot or we tried to sleep. Right at the door we had a big old dog. A big old red copper spaniel and her name was Copper. Anyhow, I heard the biggest noise outside and I hollered at them, I hollered, "John! John!" Not a soul would answer me. John's wife, we called her Billy, says, "What's the matter Mabel?" and I said, "Can't you hear that noise outside? Like somebody screaming and yelling?" and she says, "Yeah, but I think it must be wild animals." And I said, "Well, do you suppose it is?" "Must be." She said. And I said, "Don't you think a darn John would answer me?" Then I hollered "John!" and not a soul. There I am trying to sleep with that little kid on the dang cot and he's half crying cuddled up against me. Petrified you know. We made it till morning.

Heather: Where were the men sleeping? They were sleeping outside?

Mable: No. We was sleeping in there. Whatever, it was that big noise out there. They didn't pay no attention. They had so much to drink....

Heather: Oh! They were sleeping hard.

Mable: Yeah. They were sleeping. Like I said, I swear it happens. They have always said that there is supposed to be money buried there. John, I think Brett was with them when we was camping several years ago now. Because he's been dead nine years. We were camping there and he took them all around and showed them Vallecito and all around. Those that hadn't been down to Carrizo Gorge. That's the biggest thing that I ever heard and I believe it. I believe that spirit does and I do believe that you do hear it.

Heather: I'll tell you what, that desert is a big place. I couldn't imagine living out there.

Mable: He owned, I'd say half of it down there. He also owned in Julian that hotel that was called Mountain Glen. It burnt. It burnt down when John's family was there. Grandma, his mother, built a big fire to take a bath there in the washtub in front of the fireplace. They had only been in there about three months. The Granddad had died and he bought the other part out of the family to move into the hotel and she built this big old fire and caught the fire up on the thing and burnt. They didn't save a thing and that was in like '27.

Heather: Where did they go from there?

Mable: Then they took off with the wagon, went to Ramona. On the right side in town, kind of where that feed place is and where you turn to go to the High School and that? It's kind of flat in there. He lost his shirt doing work with the teams. He got a job doing the streets and you know, laying it out for streets and then never got paid. He worked the Indians and the different ones. They lost everything. So, they took off with the wagon. John was the oldest and those kids all little. Take off with the horses and the wagon and that's in 27 and went to work in Long Beach and tried to get work there. I guess just lived in some empty house or some dang thing. But see, she had a kid every year, Grandma did. Let's see there was Fred, blah blah.

Heather: So, where was he at when you met him ?

Mable: He lived at 70th and El Cajon. He lived on one end of the block and I lived on the other. We were married 57 years.

Heather: What did he do for a living?

Mable: Truck driver. All his life.

Heather: Long haul?

Mable: No. You know that company Nelson Sloan? He had a heck of a life.

Heather: I imagine.

Mable: Like I said, him growing up and then Grandma and him separating when she had her last kid. He'd hide out here and there. He had a sister up at Escondido. He would go up there and stay so he wouldn't have to support them. They would live off of the welfare. All them kids.

Heather: What has been puzzling me is.....there was George Washington, then some sons went into the cattle business and some didn't.

Mable: That was George. I mean that was Robert, that wasn't Georges. It was George's all right, but it was not.....That was a half-way relation to John. My husband. See they were a different.....

Heather: Do you guys kind of put them in.....

Mable: See, like I say, they had the 2 Grandmas.

Heather: Okay. Now I see what you mean.

Mable: See? There was a batch of kids from one and a batch of kids from the other. This Irene that I talk about she belonged to the youngest Grandma. Her Grandma wasn't my John's Grandma. Great-grandma.

Heather: So your husband was from the first batch of McCain's?

Mable: John was from the first batch.

Heather: So when you figure your kinship, you have two sides because of the different Grandma's?

Mable: Yeah, they had the same Granddad but the thing.....this Irene Glenn, she belonged to the second Grandma. But she was just a couple years younger than my John but she was like a half-cousin. Tule Jim that lived up there to Boulevard was her cousin. That was her rightful cousin. So it's kind of hard. Like I tell my outfit, some of my kids are here and to some stranger and they go along anymore and the younger people don't pay attention to relatives. You know what I mean?

Heather: Everybody is so spread out.

Mable: See, John and I would go down with the kids and go down to visit his Aunts and his Uncles down in the Imperial Valley.

Heather: Really? My Mom is from the valley.

Mable: We would go to visit Sunday afternoon and you didn't have to call and say you was-a-comin'. You just went. Then Uncle Chris and Aunt Em his Aunt, moved to , that's Dick's mother. They moved to Escondido and we went up there. That's the old Granddad, that's John McCain.

Heather: What are those? Oxen?

Mable: Oxen. That was when he was young. That's Brett's Great Grandfather. This is a full cousin. (Dick) This belongs to Uncle Chris.

Heather: Brett's mom, Joyce, they moved up to Alpine?

Mable: Uh huh.

Heather: Do they like it there?

Mable: Uh huh, I think she does. Although they are right there where the fire was. Burned right up close and they hadn't been there but 3 months. They pay an awful lot of rent. John's Dad stayed down at Carrizo Gorge in a little old shack for a long time. Busters step-son, he does art, you know pictures of art. He's called "Buckshot" but he goes by McCain and he claims that he's

a McCain and that is how he sells it. He sells it in Old Town and everywhere. He is a good artist. I'll say that for him.

Heather: What about Cuyamaca? Do you remember any stories about anyone spending time on Cuyamaca.

Mable: Well I did, but it had nothing to do with them. My brother owned the tip top of Cuyamaca once.

Heather: Really?

Mable: Yeah, he died. He was always going to run a site-seeing thing. But he had a heart attack and died in 52.

Heather: What's your maiden name?

Mable: Daugherty. Well Jim owned lots of property. But that's later years.

Heather: Ella McCain is the one that wrote this book?

Mable: No, she didn't write that. She is James' I'll write it there so you know. Chris is a full uncle.

Heather: Brett remembers all those stories.

Mable: As far as Julian went and this halfway relation he didn't pay much attention. Bob was Buster's Grandpa.

Heather: So, Bob, Darrell, Buster.

Mable: They were the ones that raised the cattle. Some people called them the cattle thieves. I personally have been where I saw another, you know, when spring comes and they brand.

Heather: If they were eating your grass?

Mable: I guess they thought that. Yeah, I personally saw that. ... see this John?...This girl that wrote this, you could find anything out from her. So, just copy this and then you can bring it back. This is John's full relatives. This is Edith McGowen that's the one I told you was the post mistress up at Julian. John Jefferson was his Dad. Aunt Maude's husband worked for the State. He had the State barns and had teams up at Escondido. He worked for the State and stayed there. Aunt Lil lived at the desert.

Heather: Does anybody still live at the original place.

Mable: No I don't think so.

Heather: Is it still in the family?

Mable: What? The one up at Boulevard?

Heather: The very original homestead.

Mable: No, the one that lived at Borrego, was tore down years ago. I never did see it.

Heather: What about the one in McCain Valley?

Mable: They lost the property. They sold it all at Julian. Where the fire station was. For years Granddad, John's Dad had the property for years and then he sold it off and somehow there was a pie shaped hunk that went down through the center, that wasn't cleared. I don't know why they didn't take that part. So then they divided it between Aunt Edith McGowen and somebody she knew and that's how they ended up with the fire station there. That hunk that wasn't cleared I think the kids...there was 10 of them alive then. They got a little dab like I think a couple of hundred apiece out of it. This gal that wrote all this she's from this family. This author is a halfway and John is from another. It don't matter as far as your history goes but...this book, I think I bought this at Old Town years ago, Up at the top of the hill where the mission is.

Heather: 1969.

Mable: This was Tule Jim.

Heather: Where was Tule Jim from?

Mable: Boulevard where McCain Valley was. This Tule Jim and Uncle Bob it mentions is on the halfway side. This old house where you go in past the park. George McCain had 5 boys and 1 girl, I do not know their names.

Heather: I might have their names.

Mable: John's got a brother George.

Heather: He married Isabel Hook?

Mable: There was one when I first knew him, but he got killed so she turned around and married the other one, I think Henry.

Heather: Charles.

Mable: Did she marry George and then Charles.

Heather: I've got this tree I've made up and I think I've got some wrong things on it.

Mable: It's hard isn't it? I tried on my Mom's side and it's so very hard.

Heather: I've got this genealogy program that helps tremendously.

Mable: They say that you can go to the Mormons and they will do it.

Heather: For nothing?

Mable: Yeah they'll look up anybody's history.

Heather: I wanted to see if there is a picture of the stage station.

Mable: There was an McCain that got killed at Jacumba. When we came to California in 32. They played it up there was wild Indians. Probably didn't want us to come into California.

Heather: Then come to find out it was McCain's.

Mable: Yeah, I met him later. Mom never did know exactly where he was buried. The old Granddad is buried up here somewhere and we never did know. John's cousin Irene said she did know and said she would show us. Irene Webb. She belongs to the youngest Grandma.

Heather: It's important to pass this stuff on.

Mable: I thought it was funny. There was a John Allen McCain. He died in 1913 and died the very year John was born. That side lived more into Potrero and Moreno. That's where they were from. A girl that worked with Judy in El Centro. There's something else I wanted to show you.

Heather: That man looks very familiar. Oh that's why. It's that picture I've already seen.

Mable: This is not John McCain but it is about history. Look at this, look at how the time has changed. That would give you something interesting to put on your thing. Life on the reservation, see how bad it was and look what they're getting now. They are all living high on the hog.

Heather: If I go straight to the copy place can I make copies and bring them back?

Mable: Honey, you can take them and copy them and bring them back later. This is one Judy took not too long ago.

Heather: Where was this taken at?

Mable: You know where Oak Grove is on the way to Anza?

Heather: Yeah.

Mable: I'll write it on the back.

Mable: He says how his Dad lived in Julian and he never lived in Julian.

Heather: What's this?

Mable: That's an old thing you might be interested in. Morales down in San Diego It's just things I put in that book and forgot about. Up at Julian they got his picture. Have you seen it. They say people came from miles around when he had the hotel. This Indian, why I kept this, this was one of his friends that he knew all his life. I forget what his name is. Angel. One of the brothers is the one that helped dig John's grave up there at Julian. Like I said, there never was enough said about the McCain's, it was Edith that always knocked it. I imagine whatever Brett remembers is probably how it is. They had mines up in Julian too. There was a mine where they had lived. Then they moved. They had just moved from that mining camp up to the Hotel when it burnt. John was born in Heber in the valley. Edith had a daughter and two sons. She lived in Julian. Aunt Edith's girl Minnie taught at the High School.

Heather: Do you have a guinea pig out there?

Mable: Yeah she had it in here. They stink. She's got a pair now. She wants baby guinea pigs. You don't know of any rabbit hutches just laying around do you?

Heather: I had one at my house, I'll take a look and see if I still have it.

Mable: We once had 300 rabbits. We sold them to eat. We raised chickens too. My younger sister said I never worked. We did too! We took care of the kids and all them animals. Poor Crystal here has three kids and is only 20 years old.

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