

Mr. and Mrs. John Schritter

Timothy Kloberdanz

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Burlington, Colorado

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ROUGH DRAFT

Tape #1, Side A

Today is May 20, 1976. This is Tim Kloberdanz. I am about to interview Mr. and Mrs. John Schritter in Burlington, Colorado, at their home.

TJK Okay, Mr. Schritter, when were you born, uh, the date?

JS Oh, I don't like to reveal that (laughter)--1908.

TJK 1908. What was the month? (laughter continuing) And the day?

S August.

JS The month was August--the 21st.

TJK August the 21st. Okay. You were born in Russia?

JS In Bessarabia.

TJK In Bessarabia

JS Nielch.

TJK Nielch. That was the name of the village, right?

JS Yeow.

TJK Do you know if the village was a large one or a small one?

JS A small one.

TJK Very small, or uh...

JS Well, it was smaller than Igelch. Put it that way, from what I heard after we went in. I think.

TJK Right. Okay, what were the names of your parents?

JS (Pause) My parents?

TJK Um hum.

JS Ernest.

TJK Ernest?

JS And Paulina.

TJK And Paulina. Do you know what your mother's maiden name was?

JS Reigenberger.

TJK Reigenberger. Okay. Now, they left Bessarabia then in what year?

JS 1910.

TJK 1910? You were how...two years old then?

JS Not quite.

TJK Not quite. What was the reason for leaving, why did they leave Bessarabia?

JS Well, I think from what I could gather it was for fear of a war breaking out. And the freedom that they could gain in other places, because they were watched too close there at that time. ,now that...

TJK Hum. Oh, I see , now that... Hum. Then it wasn't so much military ... well it would have been, with., the war coming on.

JS Dad had been in the...

TJK Oh...

JS ...service, see. He come back from the service, then is when he an
sold his belongings and through a Jew some way or an other got his
pass to get on to America.

TJK Oh, I see....

JS Him and his brother, see. Christian.

TJK Hum. And you were showing me the passenger list earlier so your
parents came, you came as a baby, and some other members of
your family, right?

JS Right. I had one brother older.

TJK Which brother was that, now?

JS Rudolph.

TJK Rudolph. And that was the entire group that came over then, or...?

JS Well, Yeow. In our family.

TJK In your family. But you came over with a number of other families,
then? Right? From that same area of Russia?

JS Yeow. Yeow. And then my uncle come over too. Christian and his
wife. I think they had one....

S No.

TJK Um hum. Hum.

Js I think they had one boy (sigh).

S ...and a girl.

TJK One boy? And the girl.

JS Matilda was born then? Alright.

TJK Oh, I see. Hum. Okay. Now, when they left Russia, where did they head to, have you traced that route? Like from Bessarabia-- then where? Did they go.

JS Well, they got on the train at either Berasina or Odessa. There, from there they went to Bremenhoffen. Now, at Bremenhoffen, that's the port, isn't it?

TJK Um hum.

JS Where they got in the, on the ship. They were on the ship for thirteen days.

TJK Thirteen days, then?

S Yeow.

TJK Hum. Did you ever find out anything about that, I mean from members of your family, about their experiences, or...?

JS ... yes...

TJK But then of course your parents were young when they died, though, right?

JS Yeow. See my dad was only 50 years old when he died in '30, so ... See 1910, that made him (undecipherable). Huh?

S He was fifty years old.

JS ...when he died. Yeow, I know that. He was born in 19-in 1880, and they left there in 1910 so he would have been 30 years old.

TJK Hum. Did he ever talk much, then, about the Russian military? Tell stories about....

JS Not that I know of. But... You

S We said he was stationed in Turkey and went....

JS Yeow, he was....

S ..went down to the Holy Land.

JS Yeow.

TJK Oh, he did?

JS Yeow.

TJK Oh, then he was in the Holy Land at one time?

JS Yeow, my dad was.

TJK As part of his service, military service?

JS Well, Now, I don't know that.

TJK Oh, I see.

JS I don't know that, see. There was things I wished I had of asked and found out that I'd know it now, see.

TJK Well, sure. We all regret that. Hum. I see. Now what did they do in that part of Bessarabia...in terms of making a living, the people there?

JS He was a, he had a verdstel.

TJK Which would be what?

JS Verdstel? I don't know-as much as I could find out, he was making the wagons, and the wagon wheels was mostly his job on that.

TJK Hum. What they, maybe like a wheelwright, what they would call in English.

JS Maybe.

S ...would you say spokes?

JS Well, the spokes would be the wheel, in the wheel, see, but then their verdstel, now that a shop more like a carpenter shop would be here, just designed to make wagons, see.

TJK Um hum. Um hum.

JS But I think his most work was on the wheel. On the wheels and things.

TJK Oh, no farming, then?

JS Very little.

TJK Very little?

JS Very little, yeow. They farmed a little, but not much, I don't think.

TJK Um hum.

JS From what I could gather, anyhow.

TJK Hum. And what about conditions there, did you ever find anything out about were the people poor, generally, or were they well off, were there different classes, or...?

JS I couldn't say that now. I, uh, he did say there, no that was in World War I, that if he'd knowed it was going to get as rough with money as it is ... they'd a stayed, see. Because there he had money at all times, and out here he didn't, see. So I know he had some money when he got here, I do know that. But ... other than that I can't say whether they were what you call, well you wouldn't call it wealthy. I think he had a good living while they were there.

TJK Then they weren't starving then?

JS Not over there, no.

TJK I see. Now, have you been able to trace where your forefathers in Germany came from? Before they came to Russia, have you been able to establish that?

JS No, not for sure.

TJK Not for sure yet, then? J

S No, no.

S But you think ...Widdenberg .

JS Yeow. Widdenberg. From what I found out in Canada here. This one told us in Canada, there, see.

TJK Who was this in Canada, now?

JS He ... that's a Schritter up there, too. I see

TJK Oh I see a relative then, or...?

JS Well, it could be but it's way off, see. Some of the Schritters went...he told me he went to Poland. And some of the other Schritters went to Bessarabia.

TJK Now, do, do his people, the one in Canada, come out of Bessarabia?

JS No.

TJK Oh, they don't? They come out of Poland then?

JS Yeow.

TJK Out of a German village in Poland?

JS Yeow. They went from Poland, they went to America, uh, to Canada, see.

TJK Hum. Alright. Now, your parents, and you and your family were on the ship thirteen days, then where did the family dock then, in the United States? Where was the port?

JS New York.

TJK In New York?

JS I seen the place where I was pinned up for 2 weeks in New York, there.

S Ellis Island.

TJK Oh, Ellis Island? What was the reason for being, uh...

JS I was sick.

TJK Oh, you were? What was the, uh, the illness?

JS I..ah..just couldn't tell you what it was. It must have been sea sickness, or something like that. Whenever somebody was sick they was quarantined right away.

Td.K So you were detained then for two weeks? With your mother then, right?

JS The whole family.

TJK Oh, the whole family.

JS Yeow. So we sat in there for two weeks. did were

TJK Oh my. Now, did all of you, were like your father, did they know where they were going, their destination from, when they left Bessarabia did they know where they were going to in America, was there a certain place?

JS Yeow.

TJK Where was that they were heading?

JS North Dakota.-.Fredonia, the train only went as far as Coom.

TJK Now how did they know that they were going to Coom, did they have contacts there?

JS See, I had an uncle up there at Fredonia.

TJK Hum. What was the name of that uncle?

JS Israel.

TJK Israel ...Schritter?

JS Yeow. Yeow.

TJK And had he gone over much earlier, or...?

JS About a year earlier.

TJK Oh, a year earlier?

JS Um hum.

TJK And was he farming, or... ?

JS Yeow.

TJK He was.

JS He was farming.

TJK Okay, so that was all settled then, they knew where they were going and that was in their mind that....

JS Yeow.

TJK Then after two weeks you were on the way?

JS Yeow. And then they boarded, got on the train and come to Coombs, see. (cough).

TJK Now Coombs, that was mostly made up of German people?

JS Yeow.

TJK And people from Russia?

JS From that same area he... the

TJK Oh, from the same area, from Bessarabia?

JS I think, I believe that's the way it was.

TJK Hum. And then your parents, and you, and your family, were in that area for how long?

JS Two years. Dad worked on the railroad there a couple of years, and our uncle Chris, I think, from what I could gather, he left a short time after he arrived in North Dakota, and went to Idaho. Then a year later or so, Uncle Israel moved out. They homesteaded and then the next year my folks went out there.

TJK What was the reason that they were leaving?

JS They couldn't get any ground up here for homesteading. In North Dakota.

TJK Hum. Oh, you mean it was already, you mean all of it had already been filed?

JS Yep.

TJK It had?

JS Dad got on one spot there, it was forty acres, but wasn't going to wait the time out, so he decided he'd go out there where he could get a half section. That's the way he went.

TJK What year would this have been, then, about?

JS 19... uh, 12, I believe it was, or 1913.

TJK And then the family went out exactly where then would that have been?

JS West of Aberden, South Da, uh Idaho.

TJK Aberdeen, Idaho, then?

JS Yeow.

TJK Hum. And what was the work they did there in Idaho, then, were they...?

JS Farmers.

TJK And what crops?

JS Wheat.

TJK Wheat?

JS Wheat. Some of them raised a little rye, and that was all that they farmed there.

TJK Um, hum.

[he got a poor homestead]

S ...tell about clearing the land (undecipherable).

TJK Oh, he did?

JS Yeow. The sagebrush on there, about...

S ...and rocks...

JS Sagebrush and rocks, the land, we hauled many a rock off of there, before we could farm the ground.

TJK Um hum. Now when do your recollections begin? What are the first things that you remember?

JS Well, I can remember the time when we (pause) got off of the train in American Falls.

TJK This is Idaho, again, right?

JS That's in Idaho.

TJK Is this after you'd been in North Dakota, now?

JS Yep.

TJK Oh, and you remember that then?

JS Yeow.

TJK Which would have made you about four years old, or five?

JS Let's see....thirteen, it'd be about 5 years.

TJK Five years old then?

JS Yep. I can remember yet when we sat on the back of the buggy there, when a man by the name of Schlectt, Henry Schlect.

TJK Schlect..(laughter)

JS Schlect, yeah, took us on out, and took us up to our Uncle Chris, there, he was there and we had supper there, I can recall that just like it happened yesterday.

TJK Was it a German-Russian man? Schlect?

JS Yeah.

TJK Oh, he was?

JS And my other uncle, he lived oh about a, oh I'd say a mile and a half from my uncle Chris. We walked over to him, to their place. We was oh ... less than a quarter of a mile from their house till some of the kids noticed us there, and then Bertha, she come to meet us. She was the oldest in the family there

TJK Oh, I see.

JS I can remember that yet (laughter). Idaho

TJK Hum. Now how long were you in Idaho, then?

JS Well, till '23, that'd be 10 years.

TJK Oh, then you have a lot of memories of Idaho.

JS Huh?

TJK You have a lot of memories then of...

JS Oh, yeah. Yeah, yeah. Oh I can tell of some rough days out there.

(laughter)

TJK Um hum. You mean like clearing the land?

JS Yeah.

TJK What about the crops, could you raise good crops in that part?

JS Well, the wheat was fairly good, if you could raise it. But so much of the time you either got hailed out or the rabbits would get it.

TJK Oh, there were that many rabbits?

JS Yeah. There was plenty of jackrabbits there.

S ..tell him what you told me... If it hadn't of been for the jack-rabbits you wouldn't have been here.

JS Oh, yeah, if it wouldn't of been for the jackrabbits I wouldn't be here, I know that. (laughter) We'd of starved. (laughter)

TA Oh, times were that hard, then, huh?

JS Oh yeah, why they'd have these jackrabbit hunts, you know, round up s...

TJK Yeow.

JS Randy'd take half a wagon load of rabbits home. He and I was sometimes probably pretty near all night. To get them skinned and cut the front part off and they'd always keep the back and the hind legs. They'd be salted and cured, smoked, we'd have jackrabbit meat there (laughter) until the next fall again.

TJK My. (laughter)

JS Right.

TJK I've heard of eating cottontails, but jackrabbits too?

JS Jackrabbits, we ate jackrabbits.

TJK Were they good eating, though?

JS Sure. I know the last few years, why they couldn't eat them, they got them blisters on them. Some disease or some thing got into them. Lot of them they'd get great big blisters on the sides or places like that you know, so it was forbidden to eat rabbit then. I had an uncle, he had an article in the paper here, a -few years ago. He give quite a little lecture on these rabbits and things out there. If it wouldn't of been for them they'd a all starved out there.

TJK Hum. Now, where at this time, in Idaho, were there a large number of people from Bessarabia?

JS Yeow, there's quite a bunch of them there.

TJK Quite a bunch?

JS Yeow.

TJK And from the same area as yours, now, that same...?

JS Well, fairly close to it, because they were all going to that same church there, you might say, and they all talked on the, they had the same expression in their...

TJK Oh, I see.

JS... dialect, see. The same dialect.

TJK Right. What church was that, uh, you were going to?

JS That was the Lutheran. Evangelical Lutheran Church.

TJK Evangelical Lutheran, hum.

JS Yeow, and it's still sitting out there. The windows are boxed up...

TJK Um hum. Can you remember the names of any of the families out there, and the places where they came from, right off?

JS Oh, I don't know just where they came from, really. Now, there was Bauers there, there was Millers there, there was Gerings there, ...Hofmeister, Fafrich....

TJK Hum. (pause) Were there any G.....

JS Dokdokters. Dokter, Dokter, just about like doctor in English, but it's spelled a little different than in English.

TJK Um hum. How does he spell it, now?

JS D o k, I believe, Dokter. And Nies, Ferwant, Sitlitz, Roof...

TJK Oh, there were Roofs there?

JS there were Roofs there. One of the Roofs was related to my parents
someway or another and then there was a Funk, I forget--I think she was
dad's cousin. That was, that would have been Fred Funk's wife. Oh,
there's, if I'd a knowed this was coming up I could have....

TJK Yeow. I was just wondering, but just some simple names...and...hum.
Were there any Volga German people there, do you remember?

JS No. I don't believe there's any around that I know of, anyhow.
Not in that area anywheres. Not even down on the irrigation
there, around Aberdeen....

TJK Would you say some people have made the claim that the Volga
German people usually went into the areas where there was
irrigation and the Black Sea people and the South Russian people
went into the drylands...would you say it would hold up to be true
in any sense?

JS I kind of believe so, I believe that's right, from what I can see...

TJK Sure, anyway from looking at Colorado it seems that way.

JS Yeow. But now you take it in Kansas, again, why, there's a lot of
in them around Hays and in that area...

TJK Who are on the dryland.

JS Who are on the dryland.

TJ K ..who are from the Volga. Yes, that is right. Hum.

JS Yeow, and...

TJK Now, why did the family leave Idaho then, after 10 years?

JS Well see after my mother died why then...

TJK Oh, she died in Idaho?

JS Yeow. And then our luck was pretty poor for a crop anyhow that year, so he decided he'd better move on down to Kansas. He had some friends down here that he knew, see.

TJK Now how old was your mother when she died?

JS 39 I think.

TJK 39?

JS Yeow.

TJK Was it an illness, then, or...?

JS Well, I think it's, it was through, what would you call it...? Child b...

S ...she had to work too hard when her last child was born.

JS That could be.

S ...consumption or something. She had 10 children.

JS Yeow and through that...

TJK Oh, there were 10 children by this time, then?

JS Yeow.

S ...and the baby (undecipherable)

JS Robert, he was uh (pause) that's right, I can't even say it.

S Bob, he was...

JS And he was born, he was born in '21 and she died in '23.

S Two years old. But she was sick for a long time. It seemed like it was consumption, you know.....

JS Yeow. She got sick in January, and then along in the, no in August. Then she went in and she had an operation and in January she went back in, then she stayed in till she died then, till June, see.

TJK Hum. And was she buried in Idaho then?

JS Yeow. She's buried at the Pleasant Valley Church there, at...about oh 13 -14 miles out of American Falls.

TJK Um hum. Is there still quite a German community there now, today?

JS Well, we been out there several times, but I've seen very few of them. See there, the old folks they're all gone now. Some of the younger ones are there yet. But there's not near as many as there used to be because the farmers are different there now than they were at the time that we were. Everything's practically under irrigation now.

TJK Oh, I see.. Water irrigation, sprinklers.

JS Sprinklers. Put wells in just like they did in our place right now. Everything's pretty well irrigated right now and they raise

real crops out there now, alfalfa, wheat, ..

S ... potatoes.

JS potatoes...

TJK potatoes, too?

JS An awful lot of potatoes.

TJK I see. Okay. Now, when the family moved from Idaho to Kansas, you say now...

JS Yeow.

TJK Which part of Kansas now?

JS St. Francis, Kansas.

TJK St. Francis. And what do you think caused the uh...how did your father find out about St. Francis and that area, that that would be a good area to settle?

JS Well, some of the neighbors out there had relatives living down there, see, and through talking with one another why it seemed like it might be a lot better down here. The girl that was down here was from out there (pause) I say a girl, but she was married, see? He didn't know the man that she'd married, oh he'd seen him a few times, but not saying that he really knew him good, see. So they wrote to one another and the first thing why he decided we'd go down here. Then he started farming down here again, see. But then he didn't last too long here, see. From '23 to '30.

TJK And then left St. Francis, then right?

JS Well, no, he died there at St. Francis.

TJK Oh, I see.

S ...died of cancer.

JS Yeow.

TJK Hum.

JS See that, and then I was down there until '34 and then I moved out here to Idalia.

TJK How old were you about when you moved to Idalia then? Just roughly?

JS Ummmm, I don't know, I'd have to figure it out. Can you figure that out right quick?

S Well, from '08 to '34 ...

JS Yeow, is how much..?

S 26 years wasn't it?

JS Something like that. Around 26, when I moved out here.

TJK Hum. Now were you married at that time?

JS Yeow.

TJK Had you married in St. Francis?

JS Yeow. In 1930.

TJK Hum. And what was your wife's name? That you married in St. Francis, now?

JS Uh, Schultz.

TJK Schultz?

JS Yeow. She was from Greeley.

TJK Oh, from Greeley? Was she German-Russian now?

JS Yeow. Yeow.

TJK What was her background, what area in Russia that...

JS Sh...her dad come from Worms.

TJK From Worms, huh? Hum. Now what was the makeup of most of the German people in the St. Francis area? They weren't from Bessarabia were they?

JS The biggest part of them.

TJK Oh they were? Hum.

JS See now where did the Reeves come from?

TJK I'm not sure right off. I thought it was Hoffmanstopf, maybe not.

JS Yeow. I think that's where it's at.

TJK And that's Bessarabia again.

JS Yeow, that's in Bessarabia. And it's also Hoffenstott in Russia. See. I think they are from, they're all out of Bessarabia. The biggest part of them. From around down there. See now (pause) there's some of the Schlikenmeiers that's related to the Sumners up there. And the Wildermans down there, so...they pretty near have to come from that area, because they knew one another over

there already, see? They got over here, see, some of them got or over here to Burlington, uh or Bethune, in later years, you know. Some of them were over there already, but (pause) not with the same name, see, but then they knew one another before they come over here.

TJK Now, did you have a German wedding in St. Francis?

JS Hum um.

TJK No.

JS No. No, we got married out to Queeny there at LaSalle. Well, they had a little wedding there at the house, and that's it, see.

TJK Well, then let's see, did you meet your wife in St. Francis, or not?

JS No, no. Out at LaSalle.

TJK Well, how did you meet here at LaSalle, then?

JS Through her uncle.

TJK Who was where?

JS From St. Francis. (laughter)

S ...one of those arranged affairs. was it

TJK Oh, was it really?

JS Yeow. Yeow. (laughter)

TJK Oh, my, I didn't know it kept up that long.

JS We shouldn't bring it up...

TJK Oh-that's alright, no. (laughter) Well, had you met her before that then?

JS No.

TJK Oh you hadn't. And it was arranged just like that then?

JS Just about. Within two weeks I, the knot was tied. (laughter)

TJK And then so you left St. Francis, and then you married...

JS No, I went back..

TJK Well I mean for the wedding, though, you left and uh...

JS Yep. I went out there and got married and then went back.

TJK You brought your wife with you--to the St. Francis area?

JS Yeow. Yeow.

TJK (Pause) Why was the reason that you left St. Francis and then went into Idalia, Colorado, in that area? What was the reason?

JS Well, the place I had, the landlord was not going to do anything with the buildings. They were awful run down and everything. Pretty near impossible to stay in a place like it was. I only had 40 acres, yeow 40 acres of pasture there. I wanted more cattle and stuff like that, so, I had a chance to rent a place south of Idalia, and that's what I done. I got me a, let's see what was it?--a section, oh a section and a half, but about a section ... and a section and a half and a 40.

TJK Oh, I see.

JS Most of that was in grass, see.

TJK Um hum. Was your landlord in St. Francis, was he German-Russian, or American?

JS No, I think he was uh, he was English, I don't know what he was. They used to run a store down there and a bank, years ago.

TJK Now, I wanted to ask--growing up as you did, you'd remember the World War I, then.

JS Oh, yeow.

TJK And the experiences then. Where--were you in Idaho at that time now?

JS Yes.

S Tell him about how your dad (indecipherable) ...when he had to buy his groceries, what he had to do.

TJK Yes. What were the conditions like in Idaho at that time?

JS Well, it was forbidden to talk German. Dad had an awful time getting groceries and stuff. He always called the man that run the grocery store there in Aberdeen, why, he was a German man--Mennonite. So they'd always go to the back in the storage room and then he'd give him the order. You didn't buy groceries in them days as you do now, you give the man the order and he'd write it on a ticket and go fill your order. That's how they got along with it. It would have been too bad if you was caught talking

German in town. Cause we's forbidden in school, we couldn't (pause) we couldn't talk German at all. We couldn't talk the English, so we were in one heck of a fix. (Laughter)

TJK My. Was there much animosity, I mean could you feel people, you know, oh some bitterness, on the part of the Americans at that time? Do you remember as a child?

JS Well, I, I, was too young yet. I can remember when we come out to see how much flour we had and how much sugar, couple of men come out there and they told them what we had and they didn't believe it so they went upstairs, and one of them just about fell down the stairway when he come back down, because we had an outside ladder setting there to get up in the attic, the upstairs. They made sure that you didn't have any extra flour on hand, just so much--and sugar the same way.

TJK Was that a common practice? I mean where they would check up on people?

JS Yeow.

TJK It wasn't because you were German, it was just because...

JS Yes.

TJK It was?

JS Yeow. That's the only way we had it figured out.

TJK Um hum. That you were only supposed to have so much and...

JS Yeow, and I think they was just down on all the Germans that

were not naturalized citizens.

TJK Um hum. Well, did your parents file citizenship now, at that time?

JS Oh yeah, uh no.

TJK Oh, they hadn't?

JS No, see you've got, you've got a waiting period. Five years before you can apply for a citizenship. They would not accept the time that he'd spent in Dakota. See. So he had to file for his homestead there, and they went from the time he started this procedure on the filing of the homestead, till the five years were up till he could get his citizenship. See.

TJK Um hum. Hum. Okay, I see what the problem would have been then. Right. Right.

JS See, and if you weren't a citizen, why they kept pretty close tab on you. They had them pretty well marked out too. See.

TJK Had you heard many stories like what the experience was in St. Francis during that time, was...it...anyone said anything?

JS No, I never heard anything down there about it. But I remember that out there pretty good. I know me and my brother--we was just kids yet, we had to go haul some water from a man--he had a well, a windmill on it--he'd sell the water, see. We'd come up and get a tank of water. Put it in our cistern and that day why we went by the mailbox, and we picked up the mail. We had a card there and neither one of us could read it, but oh land, we was sure dad had to go to the Army. (laughter) All they wanted was a

horse see. Of a certain size. At that time they measured the horse by hand--you know what a fourteen or sixteen hand horse is. Do you know what that is?

S Well, I've heard of it.

JS About two or three days later a man come out there and looked the horses over, see. If we'd of had one they'd of taken it, see. They'd of paid you for it I suppose—I know some of them that did have to give up, well Mailhoffs right west of us, they had to give up two of them.

TJK Um hum. But they were still paid though, weren't they?

JS I believe so. I believe they were paid.....

TAPE #1, SIDE B ...house up at

JS house up at Idalia, there.

TJK Um hum. And before you moved up, did you look it over?

JS Yeah.

TJK That isn't too far away, is it? St. Francis and Idalia? How many miles would that be? Would you estimate?

JS Thirty-two.miles.

TJK Thirty-two miles? Oh, then like you had a chance to look over where you were going, then, didn't you?

JS Oh, yeow. Sure. We had the place rented in the spring of the

year--then I went out in the fall of the year and put in my wheat and stuff, see. Although I'd of been better off if I wouldn't of put the wheat in the ground. I didn't raise nothing that year, anyhow. We had that big flood through here then, too. And the hail.

TJK Oh, that's right.

JS In '35.

TJK That's right, the big floods.

JS It took out all the river bridges and everything.

TJK What river were you on there by Idalia?

JS That was the Republican. (South Fork?)

TJK The Republican. How bad did that flood--did that, was that the worst you've ever seen it?

JS Oh yeow. Man, that river was about ... at least two miles wide down there. It took a lot of buildings and stuff away down— anything was down in the river bottom that way. It's funny that [Mingle?] the Mingo place didn't (undecipherable).

S Yeow.

JS But they--they had to stay in there I suppose till the water left-- went down, because the school houses were full of water up to the window height or better.

TJK Hum. What were the crops you were raising there, then, in Idalia? Main crops?

JS Corn--corn, maize, millet, beans,...

TJK And what kind of wheat--spring wheat, or winter wheat?

JS Winter wheat.

TJK Winter wheat. Hum. Would that have been the country for spring wheat or not? Could you have...

JS I don't think that spring wheat will do very good in ... this country anyhow. I've never seen it yet where it really done good.

TJK Were there many German-Russian people around Idalia when you, were there now in the thirties?

JS No.

TJK No?

JS No. I don't think there was any of them.

TJK But then you mentioned there was that German settlement south of Idalia, right?
[They?]

JS Yeow. That was all around Idalia, there was the Langendorfer's, and the...

TJK Yeow. But those were German people from Germany...direct?

JS From Germany, yeow. There was none of them that I know that was around there, except--there might have been one Hartman. He lived south and east of Idalia.

TJK What denomination were these Germans from Germany that settled there? South of Idalia--what religious, uh, group did they belong to?

JS Well, uh, well, what was that church in town, do you know? In Idalia?

S (Pause) No.

JS All I ever seen on it was St. John's Church, there.

TJK Well it might have been Lutheran then, huh?

S (Undecipherable) That's that....

JS In Idalia. No. I don't think it was a Lutheran.

TJK No?

S Evangelical... wasn't it?

JS Wasn't the Evangelical down south of...

[Boden's?]

S Which church does Bogen's (?) go to, that's...where the....

JS Well, Herman Bodens, they went to that church there in Idalia.

And Ed Bikeman, he went over to this other church there again.

The one that's south of Idalia there, about two miles south

and two east of there--two and a half--mile and a half east.

TJK Hum. Then how long then were you in the Idalia area, how long did you farm there?

JS Till 19..43.

TJK '43. And then what?

JS Then I bought the place over here--north of Bethune.

TJK North of Bethune?

JS Yeow.

TJK Where at about now--uh?

JS Seven miles north and a mile west.

TJK Oh, then you were right in the settlement area, weren't you?

JS Yeow. Yeow.

S We moved down there to be close to the church.

JS Yeow.

TJK Oh, that was one of the reasons then?

JS That the reason for moving down here, so we would be closer to a church.

TJK Oh, I see it wasn't, oh, then--what church had you been going to in Idalia then?

JS Lutheran.

TJK The Lutheran Church here. But then oh you had indicated earlier--that was a little bit different, though, right?

JS Yeow. I indicated--I mentioned that there, that was a little bit different again than this one.

TJK That's right. It

JS It wasn't a Lutheran there, at that time. But anyhow, that didn't suit me right there, so that's why I was out looking for a different--for a place where I'd be close to a church.

would have been more

TJK Um hum. And these would have been more your own people, too, in the Settlement, right?

JS Right. Yeow. Yeow.

TJK Did you have any relatives at all in the Settlement at that time?

JS No.

TJK These were not relatives though.

JS No. No.

TJK But they were Germans from Bessarabia , for the most part?

JS Yeow. Right.

TJK Hum. Now, I know you and your wife have both done so much work on the history of the Settlement. I think you have established that most of the people there came out of South Dakota originally, right? From the Settlement. Is that correct?

S Well...

JS The beginning of it, I believe they...

[Scotland (?)]

S ...South, or North Dakota...?

JS South Dakota.

TJK Um hum.

S Most of them came from Scotland.

JS Scotland and Kirk,...

S You see after Colorado got opened up for homesteads, that's why they moved down.

TJK Um hum. That would be what year--when the Homestead Act was...

S 1886...?.

TJK '86.

S That was when Eastern Colorado was opened for homesteads You see up there it was opened earlier.

TJK Um hum. And a lot of the land was already settled, probably.

S Yeow, there it was all open....

TJK And these families came down. Alright. And then uh, now this farm--you purchased the farm then?

JS Yeow.

TJK In the Settlement area?

JS Yeow, Yeow.

TJK Who did you buy that farm from?

JS A. W. Adolph, and his dad.

TJK Oh, then you ...o.k., alright.

JS I bought a half section from them, see. And then later on, well that same fall, after I moved down I bought another quarter in that that section. Two years later I bought another quarter in that same section there, so ...I just had a square section in there, see.

TJK Had you heard anything about the Settlement before you moved down there, I mean had you heard like, had you heard it called the Russian Settlement, or...?

JS No, I didn't until after uh, well, I heard about that in '35, when selling some of the folks were selling out here, because they were selling out just right and left all the time. I'd take in most of the sales. That's how I got acquainted down here, see. (inaudible) Adolph's sale was the first sale I attended. I got acquainted with quite a number of people there....

TJK Then that didn't fool you, people calling that a Russian settlement, I mean you knew it was really a German settlement actually?

JS Yeow. Right. I tried to buy down here several years before that, but just didn't get the job done, see.

TJK Was there much trouble becoming a part of the community, I mean, I mean were the people pretty open to you?

JS Yeow. Yeow.

TJK They were then? At that time were there two churches in the Settlement?

JS Yeow.

TJK There were two churches at that time. Hum. Do you have any idea how far that goes back, when there were two churches? In the history of that community.

JS Yeow. We've got it down here somewheres when they split up.

S 1911, wasn't it? that

TJK Oh, that was fairly early then, in 1911. round

JS Yeow, round 1911, I think, or it was 19...

TJK That would have been split between what two churches, now?

JS The Lutheran and the Evangelical, Evangelical ... no, Congregational.

S Congregational.

TJK Congregational, then--the two. In other words the north church is the....

JS Congregational and the south is the Lutheran. Emmanuel Lutheran.

S January, 1911. The following resigned.

TJK Oh, okay. January the 11th. Now was the church split, any idea what the split was over? Like uh, some treasury minutes, could you find that out, or...?

JS No, I wouldn't know on that part.

TJK Um hum. Because like I said earlier, there's nothing unusual in the German-Russian church history to come across a split and that happened all the time. Sometimes for very small things, it may seem (pause) At that time do you think the split was pretty even? Did one church attract more families than another, or do you think it was a 50-50 split? Could you tell?

JS Well, that far back I just wouldn't know-what it really was there. They've always had more members than the Lutheran Church, than they had up in the other one. Since I was there anyhow.

TJK Um hum. Now, the Lutheran one is older, right? The Emmanuel Lutheran--that's the older church.

JS Yeow.

TJK Now, the Settlement, did it ever have anything else besides the churches and the parsonage--did it have like uh, a school ever in that community?

JS No.

TJK It never had a school?--What about a....

JS You mean a (pause)

TJK Right in the Settlement area--was...

JS Public school, you mean...uh....

TJK Oh, just like a school house, for instance.

JS Yeow.

TJK Oh, they did have a school house?

JS Yeow. They had lots of school houses. The had several of them around.

S ...one church school....

TJK Oh, there were?

JS There was one up there, right there by old Schaals. There was one there and then there was one down here by Meyers. Right--just south of the church there a mile. And then there was one--Uh, I can't say just where the other one was, (pause), and then the school over by us there, that was two miles west of our place. They had a

school there.

TJK Hum. Now was there ever a store there, or any kind of a little place where they might buy stuff?

JS No. No, nothing besides Bethune, you might say. Now, what they used to call the Yale over there.

S Did they have a few little supplies that you could pick up there?

JS Oh, at the Warner store, they did.

TJK Where was the Warner store?

JS That'd be three miles east of the church and a mile and a half north. Mile and three-quarters north.

TJK Um hum. Would that have been the Yale area, now, or...?

JS I think so. As near as I can figure it out that's about where that Yale would have been at, isn't that right?

S I'm not sure.

JS I wouldn't be either on that.

TJK You had in your manuscript earlier that the Settlement at one time was called Freedenspeld, then, you know. This was one of the early terms for the community.

JS That could have been a store around there somewheres, I wouldn't know where. That would have been that Freedenspeld.

S That's what the, the way the mail went, to start with, till it ...

JS (Pause) But long before that, you know, they had church in houses and they had a cemetery right west of that uh, north and west of the Spring Valley Ranch. If you know where the Spring Valley Ranch is.

TJK No, no. no. (Pause) Oh, this is the days, even before the church was erected and when they would meet in the homes.

JS Yeow. Yeow. People there died, they buried them up there. It's right next to the sand hills. But that was before a lot of these now folks moved in here, like close to where the church was at, now see, and they started their own church here, see.

TJK (Pause) Was that moved then, the cemetery? Or is that still there?

JS No, that cemetery's still out there.

TJK Now, where would that be again? It would be west of...

JS That would be on the Spring Valley Ranch, if uh.....

TJK This belonged to the Settlement, now, at one time?

JS No. No. But they say there are some of the people that died, were buried over there and I don't know who it would have been, butit's out quite a ways.

S Well,

JS It's out there where the Bauders and them

S Mrs. Fred Bauder said her little sister, Tillie, was buried over in that other cemetery.

JS Yeow, well, see, we'll say that our church sets there, and then you go three miles east, and then you go north here, (pause), about three miles north and then you go east and cross the creek here, and then you'd come, go down here a whole mile again, and then go back east. Now, at that time I think they went through from about here on up to uh, there was a farm there and from that farm they had another prairie road going across there. Then (pause) see, the old road, there's no road going up through here, though. You come up on the highway here, you get up here just north of Bill Coover's. You know where Billy Coover lives?

S Um hum.

JS You go up here to the end of his field, that's irrigated there now...

S And angle across.

JS Now you go just a little ways west here, about a quarter of a mile or so, I think. Then you start down this road and you get down here to the Spring Valley Ranch. You cross the, this creek comes down through here somewheres, like this. You cross that creek, you get on this side of the creek and then go on up here about a mile. Then you got to go west and that cemetery's supposed to be up in this area. I've never been to it. There's a Spring Valley Ranch that sets right, right down in this area here, and then the old Bauder place would be up in there. Andrew Bauder and all them, that's where they first settled, when they come here, see, and they...

TJK Um hum. the Bauders.

- JS Yeow. They were here before the Schaals and them were here. See when the Schaals come here why then they got over here and got involved more together with the Settlement, see.
- TJK Yeow, I was just looking over the, oh a couple of paragraphs here that your wife handed me from the manuscript on the Settlement. It has here that the Weishar family had settled near Idalia, but they heard about the county of Germans living to the south then they moved down to be near their own kind of people.
- JS Right.
- TJK And then it says now, the Yale post office was established at the Yale home east of the Settlement, with the mail being brought up from Burlington, making a 52 mile trip with horse and buggy. Later they put in a little store and it saved many a long trip to Burlington for supplies. In 1909 they had their first mail route out of Bethune.
- S That 52 mile was kind of a big circle.
- TJK Oh, I see.
- JS But now, see, I'll draw you this out here. The church is here, the store would be right here, and I think that's where the Yale was at one time, and then years later a fellow by the name of Warner got, bought this land in there. Store and everything. And then it went under the Warner store, you see. When this man bought this then they got this mail route going. That's what I've gathered. But where this Freedenspeld, or whatever they call it in here, was at--I don't know where that was at.

TJK Um hum. Now where did Landsmann Creek come in--at?

JS This would be the Landsmann Creek here.

TJK Oh, that would be the Creek, going in ...

JS Coming down through here, all the way across there.

S That might just call that area where they settled that Freedland. Just (undecipherable) country, see.

TJK Sure. Right. What were you saying before, that some people called that, they do call that Landsmann, and other ones they call that what?

JS Uh. Lanceman. Lunchman. See. (laughter) So, I think your maps will show Lanceman. Maybe it's lunchman, I don't know. I've seen it on one map where it says Lanceman and the other one it says Lunchman. One of them spelled it with a "u" in it. See. (pause)(map rustling) Now I suppose.

S Well, this paragraph tells about that other little church and cemetery that he was talking about farther east.

TJK (Pause) Now, it also has in your, in your manuscript you have a reference to the fact when they had the early church that I guess reading through this where the people would walk to church on Sunday. To give the horses a rest.

JS Right.

TJK This would have meant they would have walked some distance--the people that were out on the farms then, right?

JS Yeah, yeah, some of them walked as much as four miles, and five, they said. That's what I've heard anyhow.

TJK The first individual who was born in the community, do you know that?

JS A.W. Adolph.

TJK A.W. Adolph? J

S Yeah.

TJK Was he related now to the people from whom you purchased the land?

JS Yeah. I brought the land from his father, and from him.

TJK Oh, from his father, and from him?

JS Yeah. See, A.W. had one quarter and his dad had one quarter.

TJK Um hum. Hum. Now, how long then were you in the Settlement area, that you lived there and you farmed there?

JS Oh, ('43 ?) let's see--twenty years.

TJK Twenty years?

JS I had the first irrigation well in that country too.

TJK You did? When did you put that in?

JS 1950.

TJK Did the other neighbors think that was a good idea--did you have to sort of....

JS Not to start with.

TJK Not to start with.

JS No.

TJK But it worked out then, I see.

JS Yeah, it took about four or five years before another well went in anyhow. Yeah, at least five years or better. See Fred Ziegler put his down I think in '56. I'm not quite sure of that. Somewheres around there.

TJK What crops were being grown in that area then at that time? Was it wheat again, or...

JS (Cough) I farmed corn and alfalfa under mine. And some maize. But now I've got sugar beets in it and everything. Lot of them farm sugar beets they say.

TJK Today--they farm sugar beets?

JS Oh yeah, there's a lot of sugar beets grown out here.

TJK Where do they take the beets when they harvest then, what dump?

JS To--well, they've got a dump in Bethune, and one in Burlington, and one over near Stratton.

S McConnick...

JS McConnick. They've got a sugar factory down here six miles west of Goodland.

TJK Um hum. Is this Great Western?

JS Um hum.

TJK It is Great Western.

JS It is Great Western. The beets from here, they all go to Brighton. The beets around Goodland and in that area come up to the factory there around Goodland. Most of the beets from the state line go the other way.

TJK Hum. They go west then?

JS Yeah. I don't know how many of them come in out of Kansas yet, to go west, or where any of them go, I wouldn't know, but then...

TJK When did the beets come in then, would you say? What year? With the sprinklers, or was it the irrigation?

JS Well, they don't sprinkle any of the beets that I know.

TJK Oh, when you talk about a well--this is flood irrigation? Oh, it is?

JS Yeah. But, see the sugar guys they contacted me, that was in '58 I think, or so. The way they wanted to tie me up with everything why I told them they ought to chase somebody else. Then they got a few to plant them. Lot of them planted these beets, [his?] (inaudible) again, after that. He didn't like the way they come up with it. So I don't think there was any beets raised then. Very few of them--put it that way.

TJK Now, this was something new for you, wasn't it?

JS Oh, yeah.

TJK Growing sugar beets, then?

JS Well, I'd worked with sugar beets before.

TJK You had? Where had you worked in the sugar beets at?

JS There was some in Idaho already, and then here in Fort Morgan. Worked in beets there, so I....

TJK Where had you...When was this when you worked in Fort Morgan now? Before you went to St. Francis?

JS No, that was, we didn't have anything to do in the winter time, and why I went out there and worked in the beets, see? The winter time when they fed cattle, out there. I'd go back to (Shriner?) here in the spring of the year and around March or so. I worked for a fellow there about four years in Shriner, south of Fort Morgan.

TJK Do you have any pleasant memories of the beet fields?

JS (laughter) Plenty of them..(laughter). Hauled that pulp out all winter long, again. And scoop every bit of it..oh, I'll tell you, that's, that was a snap throwing them beets up on the pile, after you had them loaded. You break your back loading them and then break your back again getting them unloaded. (laughter)

TJK Oh, yeah.

S (inaudible)

TJK Oh, is that right?

JS We used the beet fork at that time--we didn't have no elevators and stuff like that.

TJK Oh, this was when you had to go out topping by hand and the whole works.

JS By hand.

TJK Did you do that, now? Did you...

JS Sure. Yeah.

TJK And the piling?

JS Yeah. (laughter)

TJK And the loading? (laughter)

JS Go out on the frosty mornings and take them beets after they was pulled, you know, and get them together and knock the dirt off of them and throw them over on the pile, and then take the knife and go down there and pick them up and top them. Pick them up, that's the way get them on your knees, cut the tops off and that's the way you'd go.

JS Now this is when you must have run into a lot of Volga German people, then right? In the Fort Morgan area.

JS Sure, there's a lot of them up there.

TJK Yeah. (laughter) Hum. Now did you notice any differences with Volga German people from the German that you knew and understood--the expressions? Did you notice any...

JS Oh yeah, their talk is different and their eats are different, again.

TJK What were some of the eats that you remember, any that surprised you?

JS Well, there was what they called the Puderclays, really what all that was mixed into it, or what...

TJK But this was new to you, now?

JS That was--that was something new. Now their sausage, that was alright. Most of the others. Now that Puderclays, I could never understand quite what it was really...

TJK You mean the butterballs, more like, uh, was it a soup.

JS Yeah, in a soup, like, yeah. (laughter)

TJK What about grebble? Do you remember grebble? know

JS No, I don't know what that is, I....

TJK Yeah, now, see this is...

JS What is that anyhow?

TJK Well, in the Volga, and over here of course, that's very common. But it's a pastry that, it's a light pastry with sprinkled sugar on it. Oh, like the Volga Germans, they know what that is, but then of course they get in the other German groups....

JS Would that be similar to a coula, or whatever they call it?

TJK No, not really, not really.

JS You know what I mean by coula?

TJK Yeah. Yeah. More like a paste pie, like.

JS Yeah. Yeah. But grebble wouldn't be like that?

TJK No. No. It's like I say, a piece of pastry, altogether different.

JS Flat then, or...

TJK Oh, it's kind of-it's hard to describe, but uh,. . .

JS Uh, is it fried in deep fat, then?

TJK Yes.

S What was those things that that neighbor brought in to us,
Beemer's mother, when we went up there for that Bobbie's
funeral? It was just baked fresh, it was kind of like donuts, only
they was....

TJK Yeah, that's grebble, now, that's grebble, right.

JS Oh.

TJK Yeah, they weren't round, they were more like twisted around,
sort of.

S Yeah.

TJK Grebble.

JS Um hum.

TJK Hum. But this is something unfamiliar to your people now too, again?

JS Well, uh. I know, I know my mother used to take a piece of dough
and score a piece like that and cut a slit in it, and take one
end there and pull it through, see. Then she'd put that in deep
fat and fry it.

TJK Did she put sugar on it?

JS Sugar on it then.

TJK What did she call it? What did she call that then?

JS Uh. Shesla.'s.

TJK Shesla. Okay, see that's a little different then.

JS Yeah. See that might be the same thing as they call grebble.

TJK Yeah. That's pretty close, then.

JS I've been wanting to ask somebody what grebble is, and I...but I tell you, if you take a piece of paper or something and just then cut it that way and put a slit through it and then you can see how it will roll, get different twists all the way around, see, and then pull them out a little bit like that, why then, they've got that rolling on each side of it. Put them in deep fat, and when they're done why take them out and then put plenty of sugar on them, or powdered sugar. See. You roll them over into powdered sugar and they get white on top, see?

TJK Um hum.

JS So that's what grebble is, Now I'll know.(laughter) What that is.

S I know those were awful good.....-----

JS Now in Mexico, the Mexicans, they call that what?

S It's the same thing.

JS Yeah, but call it what?

TJK Sopapilla?

JS Sopia.

TJK Yeah, that's awfully close again where it is fried in that deep fat.

JS Yeah, right.

S You have to eat those after you eat your enchilada's and all that kind of stuff.

JS Well, I'd just as soon eat them before. (laughter)

TJK I see. The sugar beets now, when did they really become big in the Settlement area? Did they ever, when was the time when you really started growing them?

JS Oh. I'd say in the early '60's.

TJK Early '60's then?

JS When I sold my farm, why that guy that bought the farm, he tore up most of the ground then and put out as many beets as he could put out on that place, see?

TJK Who would do the labor then, like the beet thinning?

JS Well, they got some wetbacks up here, things like that, to do the thinning and so ...

TJK The German people there, they didn't do it themselves, then?

JS No, no. They're all big farmers now. Not that they're all rich or anything, but they act like they are, but they're millions in the hole.

TJK Yeah, but they-didn't do the actual, the hand labor?

JS No. But now they've got so many new machinery that they don't

have to do any hand work hardly at all, they've got the thinner, they've got the topper and uh, digger and everything. That's all they have to do, just go along and sit on the tractor, and it's got the radio in it. Some of them's got TV in it even. (laughter) That's right.

TJK And you don't even need a beet fork anymore now.

JS No. (laughter) (cough)

TJK Or even a topping knife.

JS (cough) Heater in the tractor, an air conditioner in the tractor and a TV, some have a radio and some have TV.

TJK TV in a tractor, that I've never heard of.

JS Yeah, I've heard of them, alright. A little TV sitting in there. So you know what farming is like now!

TJK Yes. Yes. A little bit different than when you talking about before--in the cold, and shoveling beets.

JS Right. Yes, sir.

TJK So, you left the Settlement area, in what year again now? When you sold out your farm?

JS '63.

TJK In '63.

JS Um hum.

TJK And then where did you go?

JS To Burlington.

TJK To Burlington. And then you've been in Burlington ever since then?

JS Right.

TJK Okay. Boy, now that's been quite a moving of different places. And like you'd mentioned before, you'd been in Hays, Kansas, too, and this sort of thing.

JS Oh, yeah. Worked out in harvest there.

TJK Oh, you did? In wheat harvest?

JS Yeah.

TJK What years now were those, when you worked....

JS '26, 7 and 8 and 9.

TJK Um hum. Hum.

JS See, that was four years. One year, that was '27 I think, I was down there and run the threshing machine for Phiffer. If you know that...

TJK Yeah, I know the name. Sure.

JS It was just east of town a little

TJK Right. That little town. Yeah, that little village.

JS No, his name was Phiffer.

TJK Oh, uh, this is a family, now?

JS Yeah.

TJK Oh, I see I thought you meant that little town.

JS No. No. It's a man.

TJ K Um hum.

JS Phiffer.

TJK Was this near Munger? Kansas, by any chance?

JS Let's see--Munger's up between Victoria, uh, between Tulan and Hays?

TJK Um, I'm not sure about Tulan, I don't know about now.

JS Tulan's that little two elevators just east of Hays there about three miles or so. About four miles east of Hays.

TJK Um hum. That could be, I'm not....

JS Now that old guy I worked for, he had a two threshing rigs. I run [Auburn?] that old Ogden Taylor on that mowing machine there. He had the other machine, he had that down there by Leibenthal (inaudible). It's either Freidenstall or Leibenthal.

TJK Leibenthal.

JS Leibenthal. Now I think that's where he had the other machine. The other one he had that north and east of Hays.

TJK Oh, I see. Hum. Now, you and Mrs. Schritter married when now?

JS In 19....'69, wasn't it?

S Um hum.

JS Not in '79.

S (laughter) No.

TJK (Laughter) And that's also in both, and you'd already left the Settlement, and then you were in the Burlington area, already.

JS Yeah. Uh huh. when

TJK Okay. Now, when were you born, Mrs. Schritter?

S 1906, August 18th.

TJK August 18th, 1906. And you said you were from the Kimball area?

S Uh huh.

TJK Were you born in Kimball?

S I was born in Stockton, Utah. Then when my mother died I was 11 eleven years old, and had a sister 8. We had to go to Kimball, Nebraska to live with an aunt and uncle.

TJK Ah, I see. And when did you come into this area then, in eastern Colorado and in the Kit Carson, uh, county?

S I married a farmer from the Kanorado area in '34. We came down and lived north of Patonick.

TJK His name was what, the farmer you married, now?

S Roy Batiss.

TJK Roy Batiss?

S We lived out there until '61 when he had a heart attack and died.

TJK Um hum. Hum. So that's what uh, in terms of living in this country, that's why you could do a booklet and everything because you pretty well had your finger on the pulse of what was happening then? Hum. And then in terms of uh, you had mentioned before (cough) in the early years you'd heard about the uh, you know, the Russians.

And you'd never really understood the Germans.

S I had gone to school with the Russians up there (laughter) and uh, just didn't understand why they were Russians and spoke German and went to the German church.

TJK Um hum. (laughter)

JS There's another thing you didn't understand. You said said you's never going to marry a farmer.

S I know it. I know it.

TJK (Laughter) Now, when did you find out about the Settlement? Was that when you were living here in eastern Colorado, when you heard about that?

S Well. Just right away, because Burlington was our shopping area. You'd come to town and you'd hear them chattering around. Now, I didn't hear that up there at Kimball. See, they'd been there longer evidently.

TJK Yeah.

S They uh, but I never did hear them talking like I did down here. I noticed that so much. Maybe it was two or three families that they was always talking on the main street and it was kind of loud.

END OF TAPE AND INTERVIEW