

**Binghamton University Libraries
Special Collections, Preservation and University Archives**

**Broome County
Oral History Project**

**Finding Aid created 2011
Yvonne J. Deligato, Local History Bibliographer
Updated 2017**

Broome County Oral History Project

Scope and Contents Note

The Broome County Oral History Project was conceived and administered by the Senior Services Unit of the Office for the Aging. Funding for this project was provided by the Broome County Office of Employment and Training (C.E.T.A.), with additional funding from the Senior Service Unit of the National Council on Aging and Broome County government.

The aim of this project was two-fold – to obtain historical information about life in Broome County, which would be useful for researchers and teachers, and to provide employment for older persons of a limited income. The oral history interviews were obtained between November 1977 and September 1978 and were conducted by five interviewers under the supervision of the Action for Older Persons Program.

The collection contains 64 recorded interviews. Each interview has been transcribed. One transcribed interview does not have an accompanying audio recording. In 2005 Binghamton University Libraries' Special Collections Department participated in the New York State Audiotape Project which undertook preservation reformatting of the audiotapes, and the creation of compact discs for patron use.

Audio Recordings

Media Cabinet 3

Person(s) Interviewed

Recording 1	Ayres, Dr. John P
Recording 2	Bell, Clara
Recording 3A	Benson, Dr. Carl
Recording 3B	Benson, Dr. Carl
Recording 4	Borsuk, Anna
Recording 5	Bower, Marjorie
Recording 6	Boyd, Jeanette
Recording 7	Brotzman, Leonard
Recording 8A	Buran, Leda
Recording 8B	Buran, Leda
Recording 9	Burbank, Sarah
Recording 10	Burns, Dr. John B.
Recording 11	Celeste, Daniel
Recording 12	Chase, Doris

Audio Recordings

Media Cabinet 3

	Person(s) Interviewed
Recording 13	Cinotti, Angelina
Recording 14	Cinotti, Dominick
Recording 15	Cole, Louie
Recording 16	DiVittorio, Angelo
Recording 17	Dryja, Walter
Recording 18	Elwood, Ann
Recording 19	English, Charles
Recording 20	Fawcett, Mrs. Claude
Recording 21	Fenson, Mrs. Simon
Recording 22	Fenson, Mrs. Simon
Recording 23	Freije, Marie Nejame
Recording 24	Freije, Marie Nejame
Recording 25	Gaidorus, Jenny Tokos
Recording 26	Gallagher, Susie
Recording 27	Gallo, Barbara
Recording 28	Goida, Andrew
Recording 29	Goundrey, Eunice
Recording 30	Hallahan, William A.
Recording 31A	Hanafin, Michael J.
Recording 31B	Hanafin, Michael J.
Recording 32	Harendza, Michael
Recording 33	Hladik, Elizabeth
Recording 34A	Isenburg, Florence Parsons
Recording 34B	Isenburg, Florence Parsons
Recording 35	Jewell, Anna
Recording 36	Johnson, Harmon and Harold
Recording 37	Keeney, Mary
Recording 38	Kern, Anna and Jennings, Marguerite
Recording 39	Kinnane, Anna
Recording 40A	Land, Helen
Recording 40B	Land, Helen
Recording 41	Link, Edwin
Recording 42	Maxian, Stephen
Recording 43	McAvoy, James S.
Recording 44	McNamara, Regis C.

Audio Recordings

Media Cabinet 3

Recording 45
Recording 46
Recording 47
Recording 48
Recording 49
Recording 50A
Recording 50B
Recording 51
Recording 52
Recording 53
Recording 54
Recording 55
Recording 56
Recording 57
Recording 58
Recording 59
Recording 60
Recording 61A
Recording 61B
Recording 62
Recording 63
Recording 64
Recording 65
Recording 66
Recording 67
Recording 68
Recording 69
Recording 70
Recording 71
Recording 72
Recording 73
Recording 74
Recording 75
Recording 76
Recording 77
Recording 78

Person(s) Interviewed

Oldwine, Barbara
Ondrako, Fred
Parsons, Elsie
Perhach, Michael M.
Petras, Louise
Planck, Elodia DeHoyos
Planck, Elodia DeHoyos
Riggins, Olga
Sargent, Dr. Clealand A.
Sedlak, John
Shaughnessy, Mary
Smith, Dr. Jean
Sovik, Mary
Spisak, Anne
Stewart, Leroy Elliott
Tedeschi, Frank J.
Templeton, Lena
Titchner, Dorothy
Titchner, Dorothy
Warski, John
Weaver, Helene
Woodward, Shirley
Alston, Matthew
Bloomer, Harry
Gruss, Michael
Gruss, Michael
Kuryla, Frances
Levine, Herbert
Macko, George
Polansky, Joe
Rider, Arthur G.
Davidson, Eunice L.
Gitchell, Gladys
Payne, Leo J.
Quick, Mabel
O-Neil-Tice, Elizabeth

Transcriptions of Interviews

Box 1 (A-H)	Person(s) Interviewed
Folder 1	Ayres, Dr. John P.
Folder 2	Bell, Clara
Folder 3	Benson, Dr. Carl S.
Folder 4	Borsuk, Anna
Folder 5	Bower, Marjorie
Folder 6	Boyd, Jeanette
Broome County Oral History Project	

Transcriptions of Interviews

Box 1 (A-H)	Person(s) Interviewed
Folder 7	Brotzman, Leonard
Folder 8	Buran, Leda
Folder 9	Burbank, Sarah
Folder 10	Burns, Dr. John B.
Folder 11	Caganek, Anna (no tape recording)
Folder 12	Celeste, Daniel
Folder 13	Chase, Doris
Folder 14	Cinotti, Angelina
Folder 15	Cinotti, Dominick
Folder 16	Cole, Louie
Folder 17	DiVittorio, Angelo
Folder 18	Dryja, Walter
Folder 19	Elwood, Ann
Folder 20	English, Charles
Folder 21	Fawcett, Mrs. Claude
Folder 22	Fenson, Mrs. Simon
Folder 23	Fenson, Mrs. Simon
Folder 24	Freije, Marie Nejame
Folder 25	Freije, Marie Nejame
Folder 26	Gaidorus, Jenny Tokos
Folder 27	Gallagher, Susie
Folder 28	Gallo, Barbara
Folder 29	Goida, Andrew
Folder 30	Goundrey, Eunice
Folder 31	Hallahan, William A.
Folder 32	Hanifin, Michael J.

Folder 33 Harendza, Michael
Folder 34 Hladik, Elizabeth

Box 2 (I-Z)

Folder 1 Isenburg, Florence Parsons
Folder 2 Jewell, Anna
Folder 3 Johnson, Harmon and Harold
Folder 4 Keeney, Mary
Broome County Oral History Project

Person(s) Interviewed

Transcriptions of Interviews

Box 2 (I-Z)

Folder 5 Kern, Anna and Jennings, Marguerite
Folder 6 Kinnane, Anna
Folder 7 Land, Helen
Folder 8 Link, Edwin and Marion
Folder 9 Maxian, Stephen
Folder 10 McAvoy, James J.
Folder 11 McNamara, Regis
Folder 12 Oldwine, Barbara
Folder 13 Ondrako, Fred
Folder 14 Parsons, Elsie
Folder 15 Perhach, Michael H.
Folder 16 Petras, Louise
Folder 17 Planck, Elodia DeHoyos
Folder 18 Riggins, Olga
Folder 19 Sargent, Dr. Clealand A.
Folder 20 Sedlak, John
Folder 21 Shaughnessy, Mary
Folder 22 Smith, Dr. Jean
Folder 23 Sovik, Mary
Folder 24 Spisak, Anne
Folder 25 Stewart, Leroy Elliott
Folder 26 Tedeschi, Frank
Folder 27 Templeton, Lena
Folder 28 Titchener, Dorothy
Folder 29 Warski, John Sr.
Folder 30 Weaver, Helene

Person(s) Interviewed

Folder 31

Woodward, Shirley

Box 3

Folder 1	Alston, Matthew
Folder 2	Bloomer, Harry
Folder 3	Gruss, Michael
Folder 4	Gruss, Michael
Folder 5	Kuryla, Frances
Folder 6	Levine, Herbert
Folder 7	Polansky, Joe
Folder 7	Rider, Arthur G.

Subject Index

Accordionist	Maxian
African-Americans	Alston; Fawcett; Oldwine
Aeronautics	Johnson; Link
Agriculture	Ayres
Airplanes	Johnson; Link
Broome County Oral History Project	

Subject Index

Air pilots	Link
Albany (N.Y.)	Elwood
Albany College of Pharmacy	Perhach
Amahami Girl Scout Camp	Titchener
American Association of University Women	Oldwine
American Legion	Benson
Ansco Company	Goida; Templeton
Arlington Hotel	Alston
Austria	Warski
Authors	Bell
Automobile industry and trade	Gallagher
Babysitters	Sovik
Ballet Arts School (New York, N.Y.)	Goundrey
Barbers	DiVittorio
Baseball players	Hallahan
Bakery	Spisak
Beauty shops	Borsuk
Bee keeping	Brotzman

Beckwith Lumber Co.	Fenson
Bennett Family	Land
Bennett Hotel	Alston
Benny Goodman Sextet	Stewart
Bicentennial Celebration, U.S.	Woodward
Binghamton (N.Y.)	Alston; Benson; Bloomer; Borsuk; Boyd; Burbank; Burns; Caganek; Celeste; Chase; DiVittorio; Dryja; Elwood; Fawcett; Gallo; Goida; Hallahan; Hanafin; Harendza; Jewell; Keeney; Kinnane; Kuryla; Land; Macko; Maxian; McNamara; Oldwine; Ondrako; Parsons; Planck; Polansky; Shaughnessy; Sovik; Templeton; Titchener; Weaver

Binghamton (N.Y.) -- Officials and employees	McNamara
Binghamton City Engineer	McNamara
Binghamton Clothing Company	Gruss
Binghamton Exchange Club	Perhach
Binghamton First Ward	Macko
Binghamton General Hospital	Benson
Binghamton Glass Co.	Macko
Binghamton Grange	Brotzman
Broome County Oral History Project	

Subject Index

Binghamton Public Library	Fawcett
Binghamton Recreation Commission	Perhach
Blinky the Clown	Bloomer
Blittzen Station	Gallagher
Bolshevism	Buran
Boxer	Polansky
Boxing	Polanksy
Boxing matches	Polanksy
Boxing referees	Polanksy
Boston Conservatory	Stewart

Boys Scouts of America	Boyd; Polansky
Bridal shops	Freije
Bridgeville (Del.)	Elwood
Broome County Courthouse	Chase; Gallo
Broome County Courts	Chase
Broome County (N.Y.) - Officials and employees	Chase; Macko
Broome County (N.Y.) - Supervisors, Board of	Macko
Broome Community College	Macko; Titchener
Broome County Airport	Macko
Broome County Grange (N.Y.)	Brotzman
Broome County Historian	Weaver
Business and Professional Women/USA (Club)	Titchener
Businesswomen	Elwood; Freije
Canals	Brotzman
Carlova Perfume Factory	Riggins
Carnegie (Pa.)	Dryja
Carpenters	Warski
Castle - Conklin (N.Y.)	Boyd
Castle Creek (N.Y.)	Cole
Catholic Creek	Caganek
Catholic Schools	Caganek
Calvary Church	Bell
Chenango (N.Y.)	Cole
Chenango Bridge Airport	Johnson
Chenango Bridge (N.Y.)	Isenburg; Johnson; Petras; Rider; Smith
Chenango Forks School	Cole
Chenango Valley Medical Group	Smith
Chenango Valley (N.Y.)	Bower
Chenango Valley Central Schools	Bower; Smith
Children of immigrants	Hladik; Maxian; Riggins; Sedlak; Sovik
Children - activity	Cinotti, D.; Isenburg
China painting	Planck
Christ the King Church	Riggins
Broome County Oral History Project	

Subject Index

Christmas	Isenburg
Christmas customs	Caganek
Cider Mill	Cinotti, A.

Cider Mill Playhouse	Cinotti, A.
Cigar industry	Cinotti, A.; Gaidorus; Goida; Gruss; Hanifin; Hladik; Kinnane; Ondrako; Planck; Shaughnessy Spisak; Land English Elwood Smith
Citizenship	
Civil War, 1861-1865	
Clerks of court	
Clinical Campus - State University of New York at Binghamton	
Clinton Street Neighborhood	Macko
Clinics	Boyd
Coaldale (Schuylkill County, Pa.)	Polansky
Coal mines and mining	Dryja; Gruss; Warski
Colgate University	Benson
Community Lounge	Celeste
Cooking school	Burbank
Cooking, Lebanese	Freije
Corbettsville (N.Y.)	Ayres
Cornell University	Brotzman
Cortland (N.Y.)	Bloomer; Link
Cortland (N.Y.) Airport	Link
Cortland (N.Y.) Normal School	Isenburg
Crandall, Stone & Co.	Hanafin
Czechoslovakia	Caganek; Macko
Dairy farmers	Dryja
Dance teachers	Goundrey
Dancers	Goundrey
Dance class	Land; Templeton
Delivery of goods	Keeney
Depressions-1929	Boyd; Buran; Goida
Discrimination	Alston
Disease control	Sargent
Drexel University	Burbank
Dry goods store	Keeney
Dunn & McCarthy Cigar Factory	Ondrako
Egypt	Freije
Electrification	Land

Subject Index

Ellis Island Immigration Station (N.Y. and N.J.) Kinnane
Elmira (N.Y.) Burns
Endicott (N.Y.) Cinotti, D.; DiVittorio;
Levine; Sedlak; Spisak;
Tedeschi; Warski;
Cinotti, D.; Gaidorus; Goida;
Gruss; Hanafin; Hladik;
Planck; Riggins; Sedlak;
Shaughnessy; Sovik; Spisak;
Warski; Weaver
Cinotti, D.; Goida
Boyd; Cinotti, D.
McNamara
Stewart
Brotzman
McAvoy
Cinotti, A.; Riggins; Spisak
Brotzman
Ayres; Brotzman; Cole;
Isenburg; Jewell; Maxian
Brotzman
Fenson; Isenburg; Jewell;
Petras
Maxian
Brotzman
Brotzman; Jewell
Brotzman
Keeney
Oldwine
Caganek
Keeney
Sargent
Ayres
Keeney
Ondrako
Elwood
Parsons
Gallagher
Hallahan

Endicott-Johnson Corporation-Employees

Endicott Johnson Corporation - Housing Program
Endicott Johnson Corporation - Workers Medical Service
Engineers
Englewood (N.J.)
Extension Service
Faatz Brush and Felting works
Family-owned business enterprises
Farm Bureau
Farmers
Farm machinery
Farms
Farms - Apple
Farms - Dairy
Farms - Tobacco
Fire engine horses
Fisk University
Floods
Florence Crittenton Homes Association
Food adulteration and inspection
Food quality control
Food storage
Forest City (Pa.)
Franklin Forks (Pa.)
Funeral homes
Gasoline pump industry
General Aniline & Film Corporation. Division of Ozalid

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Subject Index

General Cigar Factory	Spisak
Girls Scouts of the United States of America	Boyd; Titchener
Girl Scout Council	Titchener
Glassblowing	Macko
Grocers	Tedeschi
Grocery trade	Gallo; Kuryla
Groton (N.Y.)	Hallahan
Gypsies	Isenburg
Hancock Hospital	Benson
Harpur College	English
Hawleyton (N.Y.)	Bell
Health Commissioner	Sargent
Health officers	Sargent
Highway engineering	Cole
Highway superintendent	Cole
Historians	Woodward
Home economics teachers	Burbank
Honey Bee Dairy Farm	Jewell
Hotel Billingshurst	Riggins
Hotels - employees	Borsuk; McAvoy; Riggins
House construction	Maxian; Warski
House of the Good Shepherd	Weaver
Household employees	Hladik; Petras
Housing Authority	Titchener
Hull Grummond	Shaughnessy
Husking bees	Isenburg
International Business Machine Corporation	McAvoy
Immigrants	Buran; Celeste; Cinotti, A.; Cinotti, D; DiVittorio; Dryja; Freije; Gaidorus; Gallo; Harendza; Hladik; Kinnane; Kuryla; Levine; Macko; Petras; Planck; Riggins; Warski
Immunization	Burns
Interpreter	Macko
Ireland	Kinnane
Irish	Shaughnessy

Italians
Jazz
Jessup (Pa.)
Jewelry stores
Jewelry trade
Broome County Oral History Project

Buran; Cinotti, A.; Gallo;
Kuryla; Sedlak; Tedeschi
Alston
Warski
Levine; Rider
Levine; Rider

Subject Index

Jews
Johnson City (N.Y.)

Johnson Field
Junior High Pharmacy
Junior League of New York
Kalurah Temple
Key West (Fla.)
Korean War 1950-1953
Ladies Patronesses - Ladies of Charity
Lancaster (Pa.)
League of Women Voters
Lebanese
Lebanon
LeRayville (Pa.)
Librarians
Life insurance agents
Link Aviation
Lions Club International
Little League baseball
Lourdes Hospital
Lowell School of Business
Maine (N.Y.)
Market gardening
Mechanicsburg (Pa.)
Medicaid
Medical care
Mexican culture
Milk Delivery
Motorcycle industry

Buran; Levine
Bloomer; Fenson; Freije;
Gaidorus; JGruss; ennings;
Kern; Maxian; McAvoy;
Weaver
Polansky
Perhach
Titchener
Perhach; Polansky
Fawcett
English; Levine
Planck
Rider
Titchener
Freije
Freije
Parsons
Chase
Sedlak
Johnson; Link
Benson
Hallahan
Benson
Chase; Elwood
Woodward
Brotzman
Keeney
Boyd; Burns
Gaidorus
Planck
Dryja
Jewell

Musicians - Accordion & Harmonica
Musicians
Nanticoke Valley Historical Society
National Association of Retail Druggists (U.S.)
National Guard
Nearly New Shop
New York State Athletic Commission
New York State Board of Pharmacy
New York (State) Legislature, Senate
New Orleans (La.)
Broome County Oral History Project

Maxian
Alston; Harendza; Stewart
Weaver
Perhach
Celeste
Planck
Polansky
Perhach
Elwood
Fawcett

Subject Index

New Orleans University
Nurses
Office for Aging (Broome County)
Olum's furniture Co.
Orchestra
Organists
Orwell (Vt.)
Patterson Market
Patronesses Ladies of Charity
Peat bog
Pediatrician
Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Dutch
Pentecost
Perl Bakery
Pharmacists
Photographers
Physicians
Pickle factory
Pittsburgh (Pa.)
Planned Parenthood
Pleasantmount (Pa.)
Poetry
Police
Polio
Polish
Politics
Political clubs
Fawcett
Bower; Keeney; Shaughnessy
Weaver
Macko
Alston
Harendza
Sargent
Fenson
Planck
Isenburg
Burns
Gruss
Keeney
Fenson
Spisak
English; Perhach
Alton
Benson, Burns, Sargent
Jewell
Borsuk
Oldwine
Templeton
Bell
Hanifin
Smith
Dryja; Gruss; Sedlak
Macko; Tedeschi; Titchener
Elwood

Port Dickinson (N.Y.)	Jewell
Press Building	Gallo
Privy, Outdoor	Keeney
Produce	Keeney
Prohibition	Buran; Celeste; Hanafin; McAvoy
Public health	Bower
Race discrimination	Fawcett; Oldwine
Radio City Music Hall (New York, N.Y.)	Goundrey
Radio programs	Burbank
Radio stations	Burbank
Religion	DiVittorio
Religion-Russian Orthodox	Perhach; Spisak
Recreation Park	Land
Broome County Oral History Project	

Subject Index

Restauranteurs	Buran; Celeste
Retired Senior Volunteer Program (U.S.)	Weaver
Richford (Vt.)	Sargent
Rochester (N.Y.)	DiVittorio
Rockettes (Dance company)	Goundrey
Roxyettes (Dance company)	Goundrey
Ross Park	Land
Ruby and Sons	Levine
Russians	Buran; Gruss; Levine; Sedlak
Santa Claus	Bloomer
Security Mutual Building	Celeste
Shoes - selling	Sedlak
Shriners	Benson
Silver Lake Township (Pa.)	Maxian
Single mothers	Borsuk
Slam Stewart Trio	Stewart
Slovak Americans	Caganek; Gruss; Harendza
Social workers	Boyd; Buran; Oldwine
St. Cyril & Methodius Church	Caganek; Ondrako
St. Louis Cardinals (Baseball team)	Hallahan
St. Mary of the Assumption	Gallo
St. Mary's Church (Binghamton, N.Y.)	Shaughnessy
St. Michael's Church	
State University of New York at Binghamton	Stewart

Stickley Furniture	Hanifin
Stonecutters	Gallo; Kuryla
Swamp Root Medicine	Gruss
Syracuse (N.Y.)	Sargent
Syracuse University	Buran, Levine; Smith
Teachers	Gallagher; Isenburg; Jennings; Kern; Parsons
Telephone companies - Employees	Kinnane
Titus-Parsons Funeral Home	Parsons
Town of Maine (N.Y.) Historian	Woodward
Travel	Sovik
Trinity M.E. Zion Church	Fawcett
Trolley Cars	Land
Tuberculosis	Boyd; Shaughnessy
Tuberculosis patients	Borsuk
Typists	Jewell
Ukrainian	Gruss
Uncle Sam	Bloomer
Underground Railroad	English; Fawcett
United Way	Weaver
Broome County Oral History Project	

Subject Index

University of Notre Dame	McNamara
University of Notre Dame-Football	McNamara
University of Vermont	Sargent
Urban League	Oldwine
Vaccination	Burns, Sargent; Smith
Van Cotts	Levine
Veterinarians	Ayres
Volunteers	Templeton; Weaver
Watch making	Rider
Watch repair	Rider
Wilson Memorial Hospital	Shaughnessy
Windsor (N.Y.)	English
Windsor (N.Y.) - Town Clerk	English
Women - Societies and clubs	Elwood; Isenburg; Titchener
Women in Politics	Titchener
World Series (Baseball)	Hallahan
World War I, 1914-1918	Freije; Jennings, Kern

World War II, 1939-1945	Benson; Bower; Gallagher; McNamara; Rider; Smith
World War, 1939-1945-War work-Red Cross	Elwood
Yale University	Stewart
Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)	Oldwine

Name Index

Bennett Family	Land
Brock, Billy	Link
Chamberlain, Clarence	Link
Cibulsky, Mike	Buran
Crocker, Eli	English
Ely, S. Mills	Jewell
Earhart, Amelia	Link
Faysal I, King of Iraq	Freije
Gaillard, Slim	Stewart
Garner, Earl	Stewart
Goodman, Benny	Stewart
Hinman, Harvey	Gallo
Hotchkiss Family (Windsor, N.Y.)	English
Hotchkiss, Jed	English
Johnson, George F.	Boyd; DiVittorio; Sedlak; Weaver

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Name Index

Kilmer, Willis Sharpe	Gruss; Hanifin
Kress, Charles - Mayor, City of Binghamton	Hanifin
Lindberg, Charles A.	Link
Link, Edwin A.	Johnson
Mangan, John, Chancellor of the New York State Board of Regents	Gallo
O'Brien, Jack	Polansky
Rando, Joe	Buran
Rockne, Knute	McNamara
Ross, Dr. Mary	Gruss
Schmeling, Max	Polansky
Sharkey, Jack	Polansky
Stewart, Leroy Elliott (Slam)	Stewart
Tatum, Art	Stewart
Thorpe, Jim	Polansky

Titchener, Paul
Vitanza, Dr.

Titchener
Burns