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Peggy Reid Durham, Oral History Index

Peggy Reid Durham

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Interview with Peggy Reid Durham conducted by Louise Skinner

November 15, 2019

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00:00:01	Introductions and general Information
00:00:49	Has lived most of her life in Pecan Gap. Story about the day of her birth.
00:01:36	Early memories – family grocery store with a cafe run by her father and grandfather – stories about the store, including drawings on Saturdays for \$25 contributed by the local stores.
00:03:58	The bank had already closed at the time of her first memories. Mr. Clarence opened a drugstore there – over-the-counter drugs, really good ice cream – Dixie Cups
00:05:10	Grandfather played jokes on people – story about Ernest Campbell
00:05:57	Other businesses in town during her childhood – furniture store, Ms. Shipman’s variety store, Frank Winshaw’s grocery store, Carl Houston’s hamburger stand, Union Produce. Someone from Paris came and showed movies on Saturday nights.
00:07:15	First time she was allowed to go to Cooper on a Saturday night – a disappointment
00:07:45	Other businesses in Pecan Gap - Her Uncle Otis had a furniture store where the Fish Place is now – the store burned – a total loss. Telephone company was behind it – Etta Adams was the operator – H.T. Shipman ran it; his brother V. E. Shipman owned a fur-buying business behind the telephone company. Joe Brown owned a filling station across from where the Fish Place is now. Buddy Siddles owned a barbershop, Croquet Ground, Earl Cooksey Lumber Yard
00:15:00	Memories of starting to school – missed her friends at the store, couldn’t talk or eat when she wanted to. Miss Champion, who was later Mrs. Burleson, was her teacher.
00:16:14	Memories of her father making Slang Jang and chili
00:17:59	Stories of happenings at the store - story about Lowell Stancil and her father
00:20:30	Description of stores in town before she was born
00:21:17	The feed/seed store – built by W.G. Lowery and Willard Briscoe
00:21:39	Memories of watching the trains come in to the depot
00:23:30	The role of faith in her family life
00:24:28	Memories of school years – all 12 years in Pecan Gap, senior play, skating at school
00:26:02	How telephone service changed over the years
00:26:40	Lived in West Texas for 10 years after she married – differences between here and there
00:27:21	Differences between country and city life when she was a child
00:29:05	The beginning of the family pecan business
00:30:08	Tornado in Pecan Gap-blew tin off of the Gin
00:31:07	Their first indoor toilet and bathtub when she was 6 years old
00:32:17	Story about a prank played on Clarence Cockrell
00:33:17	Pecan Fest – a recent development – how it got started
00:34:40	Her work with the Delta County Public Library
00:36:10	Advice to future generations