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### Clyde Waters, Oral History Index

Clyde Waters

Louise Skinner

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## Interview with Clyde Waters conducted by Louise Skinner

September 25, 2019

### Final Index

|          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 00:00:01 | Introductions and general Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 00:00:45 | Born Nov. 1930 at home 3 miles east of Cooper, attending physicians – Dr. Westerman and Dr. Wheat. Parents came to Delta Co. in 1915 - farmed south of Pecan Gap near the Underwood Farm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 00:03:19 | Mother born in Arkansas; her family eventually settled close to Doctor's Creek in Delta Co. She attended the Doctor's Creek school. She had several brothers and sisters. About 1935, her family moved to Stanton, Texas. Stories about her family.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 00:08:00 | Paternal grandparents passed away within 2 weeks of each other during the flu epidemic after WWI. His father, the oldest son went to live with an older, married sister.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 00:09:10 | Father and mother married; mother had been a teacher for several years (1920's) at Amy [3 miles north of Cooper on the East Fork of Big Creek]                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 00:10:40 | Older brother was 12 years older; brother graduated 1935; Clyde started school in 1936. Father always had a profitable farm, eventually went from horses and mules to motorized equipment. Brother enrolled in industrial education at East Texas State – taught school until WWII, then went to work as an instructor for the Navy in Chicago. After the war, came back to Texas and began work for the VA, then briefly for Luscombe Aircraft, then went to work at Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls as an instructor. |
| 00:19:50 | Clyde graduated from high school in 1948 and East Texas State in 1951 with a Bachelor's degree in Vocational Education, and was hired at Sheppard Air Force Base in 1952.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 00:27:25 | Several other Delta County guys also at Sheppard Air Force Base at the time – Harold Brock, James Hanna, Bobby Wickersham, Sammy Jeter's son. Harold Brock eventually got a job at Fort Sill in Oklahoma, and Clyde also ended up there after 3-4 years.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 00:29:00 | Had met his future wife, Pat, in Wichita Falls, married her and brought her to Fort Sill after about 6 mos.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 00:31:10 | Memories of serving in the Texas National Guard in Cooper, which was organized in December, 1949                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 00:32:12 | The beginning of the missile era at Fort Sill in the 1950's.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 00:33:12 | Moved to Denver to a new facility of Martin Company as an instructor and field rep – stayed 6-7 years                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 00:35:40 | Father passed away, Clyde and Pat moved back to Cooper (Clyde took a job at General Dynamics) to be closer to his mother. After commuting back and forth to Fort Worth for several years, went to work at E-Systems in Greenville. Stayed there about 15 years, retired in 1992.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 00:38:40 | Information about Pat's family, how they met in Wichita Falls, their early years                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 00:41:00 | Beginning about 1960, Pat's years at a women's college in Colorado; after she graduated, they moved back to Texas – their moving adventures; her years teaching in Lake Worth and in California while Clyde was with General Dynamics                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 00:44:40 | Moving back to Cooper, beginning of the E-Systems years, being part of the U.S. Army Reserve                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 00:46:15 | Daily life memories as a child in the 1930's; importance of paving FM roads in Delta County; paving streets in Cooper with channel gravel; original path of Hwy 24                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

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|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 00:54:25 | 1930's – every community had a school and most likely a church                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 00:55:00 | Changes - WWII, people began moving out of the county and didn't come back; the spread of inter-urban areas – the Metroplex expansion resulting in higher land prices here; onion farms between Garland and Dallas are now covered in houses.                                                                   |
| 00:58:00 | Many communities had a store; brought people in the community together                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 00:59:40 | Everybody had a garden; at Skinner's, father had corn ground                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 01:00:40 | Radio program, John Nesbitt, and The Passing Parade                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 01:01:40 | Close to where Clara Slough lived, Merritt Gray had a mattress factory in Cooper; also had a sorghum mill                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 01:03:20 | "Bloody Hollow" (Craig-Tranquil) - recalls several stories about murder/mayhem                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 01:04:10 | Parents' farm was between Doctor's Creek and Rattan. Texas Power & Light brought electricity to them about 1935 when living on Hagood place. Their turkey crop that year bought a 3-band, Silvertone radio from Sears-Roebuck; could pick up shortwave broadcasts as far away as London, England                |
| 01:11:10 | Bonnie and Clyde story – occurred along Brush Creek on Hubbard property between Hwy 19 and the current Golf Course. At one time they went to the restaurant behind the First National Bank. Shortly before they were ambushed and killed in Louisiana, they camped on a hill by a big oak tree in Delta County. |
| 01:19:20 | Bonnie & Clyde car on display in Cooper                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 01:20:40 | Memories of traveling around the county with his father buying hogs, parts, etc. for the farm                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 01:21:03 | The County Poor Farm in the 1930's – 50 acres – close to the Price community – description; at one time Emmett West and his wife farmed it; Before that, the Oyler's lived on the property. Clyde's father eventually bought it in the 1940's after the county closed it down                                   |
| 01:26:25 | Mother was a Glaspie; she was raised on the west bank of Doctor's Creek; father bought out her brothers' part of the property                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 01:28:30 | Words of advice to future generations – don't forget about the churches, regardless of affiliation. Churches in Delta County when he was a child.                                                                                                                                                               |