



## Wasatch Hollow Community Council

### Interview Summary and Index - 001

**Interviewee:** Gordon F. Carmen

**Interviewer:** Anne Cannon

**Date:** December 16, 2015

**Location:** Salt Lake City

<b>Summary</b>	
<p>Gordon Carmen grew up in the Wasatch Hollow Community in the 1960's and 1970's. Gordon moved to 1324 Bryan Ave with his family when he was 5 years old and attended Garfield Elementary, Uintah Elementary, Clayton Jr. High, Highland High School and the University of Utah. Gordon remembers spending time with his grandmother and taking piano lessons from his aunt. Gordon discusses the 15<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> commercial district and the various businesses that operated there. He also discusses working at Dan's Market on 21<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> during his high school and college years. Gordon also has a discussion of the various cars his family owned during his youth.</p>	

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<b>Time</b>	<b>Brief description</b>
00:03	<b>Introduction.</b>
00:30	<b>Moving into the area in 1964, he was 5.</b> Moved from Holladay to be closer to his maternal grandmother. The family home was located at 1324 Bryan Ave. (Image 1)
01:35	<b>Talks about the schools he attended in the area.</b> Went to Garfield Elementary until 5 <sup>th</sup> grade when the school district decided to close the school. Talks about his mothers efforts to prevent the closing. He went to Uintah for one year.
03:29	<b>First memories</b> - Speaks about his grandmother's house at 1555S 1400 E. (image 2) Remembers several architectural features of the house. Reminisces about playing checkers with his grandmother.
05:37	<b>First big event memory</b> - President Kennedy's assassination in 1963, which occurred while he was at his grandmother's house. Recalls his grandmother being very nervous and anxious about the assassination. Naomi Ellie Naylor Farrell was his grandmother's full name.
06:46	<b>Maternal Grandfather</b> - Grandfather Farrell passed away from pneumonia



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	before Gordon ever got to meet him. Talks about his mother and grandmother moving to Salt Lake in 1946, after his grandfather's death. Mentions Grandmother's passing in 1974.
08:49	<b>Piano Lessons</b> - Discusses taking piano lessons from his Aunt Helen at 1374 Harrison Ave (image3). He would practice on his grandmother's piano every day. Still plays that piano to this day.
11:10	<b>Jobs to do</b> – Helping out his grandmother. He and his brother were assigned to help her as she suffered from macular degeneration. Chores included going to the grocery store, trimming rose bushes, fruit trees at his grandmothers house.
12:40	<b>Remembers the commercial district at 15<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup></b> . Talks about shopping at Safeway. Max Smith was the pharmacist at Economy Drug, which had the best selection of candy in the area. Rexall Drug had a soda counter. Discusses getting his hair cut at the barber shop from Clint the barber.
16:14	<b>Downtown shopping</b> - required dressing up.
17:00	<b>Mentions more stores at 15<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup></b> - including Family Market which replaced the Safeway, T.V, Repair shop owned by the father of a friend. Shop was located in part of what is now King's English. Mentions 2 Gas Stations that operated in 15 <sup>th</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup> . The area was "the happening place for the neighborhood".
18:43	<b>Attended junior high at Clayton</b>
19:11	<b>Bicycle adventures</b> - included riding to the airport, going to Pioneer Village around 23 <sup>rd</sup> east and 30 <sup>th</sup> south. Eventually moved all those buildings out to Lagoon.
20:53	<b>Talks about getting to Clayton Jr. High</b> – Walking from his house via the Gully (images 4a-4c), Mentions going up Harrison, or going up 17 <sup>th</sup> South as other options if you didn't cross the Gully. Often showed up at school with dirty pants.
24:03	<b>Discusses location of school in proximity to the gully.</b> School was located in what is now the field for the school. Talks about how Clayton was a newer building than Garfield. Thinks Clayton only 12 or 13 years old when he went there.
26:03	<b>Discusses going to Highland High School.</b> Talks about walking to school, or occasionally getting a ride from his parents or friend's parents. In the winter his friend Jeff Fox and he would occasionally get picked up by other kids driving to school by using their "pathetic" look.
28:56	<b>Talks about participating in Jr. High School Glee club.</b> Not as cool as being in the band. Remembers performing at Cottonwood Mall during



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	Christmas. Discusses originally being a soprano, then changing to a tenor.
31:02	<b>Recollects applying to work at Dan's Foods on 21<sup>st</sup> S and 21<sup>st</sup> East.</b> Moved to 23 <sup>rd</sup> East across from McDonald's before they hired him. Started working as a bagger at \$1.80/hr at age 16. Raised to \$2.10 when he became a checker. Worked there until he was 19 and went on a church mission. Talks about getting pizza at The Pizza Oven across the street.
34:23	<b>Remembers an armed robbery at Dan's Grocery.</b>
38:33	<b>Mentions going on mission for LDS Church to Chile.</b> Returned to work at Dan's after mission. Mentions how working at Dan's paid for his college education.
38:51	<b>College – U of U cost comparisons.</b> Paid \$196/qtr in 1977 as a full time student. Tuition was about \$500/qtr when he graduated.
40:12	<b>Discusses part time work before Dan's.</b> Jobs included doing yard work for various properties in the area.
42:36	<b>Remembers going on family vacations</b> – Annual trips in summer by car in Idaho and California. Recollects going to Arches and Zions National Parks.
43:37	<b>Discussion of cars the family owned</b> – Mom had a pink Plymouth which his father replaced with a Buick Skylark. In 1971, the family bought a Dodge Charger, which was the car he drove when he got his driver's license. His parents replaced the Charger soon after with a Dodge Royal Monaco which was not nearly as much fun to drive. Purchased his own car in 1980 from money earned at Dan's. That car was a green Datsun 610 which he drove through his college years.
49:49	<b>Talks about going through the skateboard craze.</b> Remembers riding skateboards down the hill they lived on. Talks about the various relatives that lived in the area.
52:11	<b>End time</b>