



Wasatch Hollow Community Council

Interview Summary and Index

Interviewee: Kathryn Dunn Mawson

Interviewer: Susan Dillon

Date: May 5, 2015

Location: Salt Lake City, UT

Summary

Kathryn Dunn Mawson tells of her life in the neighborhood from 1941 to 2015. Her earliest memory is of a three-year confinement for rheumatic fever to a back bedroom of the family home which had been built by her father. Children played hide-and-seek in the alleys.

She was schooled at St. Mary's of the Wasatch, Irving Jr. High, and South High. She recalls meeting her future husband, Alvin Lavar Mawson, at age 13. She tells how she and friends frequented the gullies at 1600 East and by Westminster College against the wishes of her mother. And she remembers her mother locking her in the house when the Sugar House prison siren sounded an escape and her mother's displeasure at her watching the prisoners being bussed down 1700 South when the prison closed in 1951.

Kathryn tells about shops at 15th and 15th and describes her first carbonated drink from the soda fountain at Fallons Drugstore. She also talks about penny candy shops in the neighborhoods, especially the one at 15th and 15th.

Kathryn talks about winter and summer in the neighborhood. She recalls severe winters, tunneling in the snow, and sledding down Sherman Avenue. She reminisces about her neighbor telling her to get some clothes on when washed her father's car while wearing a swimsuit.

Kathryn tells about riding the 1300 East Trolley to the Sarah Daft Home above 800 East to visit her grandmother. She does not remember a bus on 1500 East.



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Kathryn comments several times about the neighborhood, saying it was always quiet and safe but noting a decline in neighborliness compared to the past.

Kathryn elaborates on their purchase of the family home from her parents in 1968 and gives the names of her children.

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Time	Brief description
00:00:00	Introduction. To talk about 1941-present.
00:00:49	Memories from kindergarten up. Did not go to school until 4 th grade because confined to home with for three years rheumatic fever. Dr. Leroy Kimball.
00:03:30	Family members. Siblings: Marge, Dorothy, Bill. Kathryn is the youngest.
00:03:50	Family home. Built by father. [1700 S] used to be called Temple Street. Bought plans from another person. Father was railway postal clerk Butte-Salt Lake line for 47 years.
00:06:51	Alleys. Children played in the alleys behind and between houses. Hide-and-seek.
00:08:31	Parents. Mother born and raised near state capital. Father in Tooele. Grandfather John Dunn was a founder of Tooele.
00:10:05	Church. Raised LDS but chose to leave it after attending St. Mary's of the Wasatch school. Great uncle Joseph Everett taught nuns art. Recommended school for Kathryn.
00:11:32	St. Mary's of the Wasatch. Talks about multi-grade classes, being taught by nuns, riding school bus. Asked parents for transfer to another school for more interaction with kids in neighborhood.
00:15:56	Other schools. Walked through vacant field across from Westminster College to Irving Jr. High. Followed siblings to attend South High. Treated as outcast by neighborhood kids who went to East High.
00:18:00	Husband. Alvin Lavar Mawson. Met through parents when she was 13 and he was 15.



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00:18:45	Gullies. Talks about hiking and hiding in Wasatch Hollow gully and playing in gully by Westminster College despite being forbidden to go there by her mother. Westminster had only one building at the time.
00:20:34	Sugar House prison. Remembers being locked in house when hearing sirens during prison breaks and watching the prisoners transported down 1700 South when the prison closed down [1951].
00:22:06	15th and 15th shops. Shopped at Safeway for mother. Economy Drugstore owned by Max Smith. Beauty and barber shops. Describes her first carbonated drink called Ironport from the soda fountain at Fallons Drugstore.
00:25:15	Winter. Winters were worse than in the past 25 years. Once snow so deep that brother and she dug tunnel to 15 th East. Sledding down Sherman Avenue.
00:27:17	More on shops. Roller skating rink, 10 cent movies at Southeast Theater at Sugar House. Penny candy stores at 15 th and 15 th (owner in wheelchair talked gruff but wasn't mean) and across from Garfield School
00:29:17	Rheumatic fever. Talks about history of rheumatic fever in the family and its treatment.
00:30:00	More on church. Parents were not active LDS until after moving to Arizona in 1968 and her brother's was hit by a car in 1978.
00:31:26	Seasons. Winter: coal chute, clinker tool. Icebox. Father raised roses. Summer: Tells about washing father's car at 14 or 16 in bathing suit and being told by neighbor's father [Mr. Hendricks] to put some clothes on.
00:33:45	The Hendricks. Children: Grant, Wayne, Lynne, Marilyn, Dale, and Dick. Father was a chicken farmer in Draper. Provided eggs for her mother.
00:35:52	More on St. Mary's of the Wasatch. Sister Rita Bernard was a very strict teacher. Taught respect. Religion classes were required. Asked parents for change of school because wanted more interaction with kids in the neighborhood.
00:37:35	Transportation. Rode 1300 East trolley to visit grandmother in Sarah Daft Home. Talks about visits and the home. Doesn't recall bus on 1500 East.
00:43:00	Feelings about neighborhood. Says neighborhood is not as neighborly as



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	it used to be. Gives example of her interaction with a lady neighbor who will not talk to her because of religion.
00:44:54	Purchasing the family home. Tells how they came to acquire the home from her parents, fix it up, and stay.
00:49:14	Children. Linda, Mike, Ron, Cindy, Rick, and Jeff.
00:51:45	End time