

ROZ PAUL and TOBY CANTINE

March 11, 1996

Tape 1, Side 1

M.O'R.: This is Michael O'Rourke for the Washington County Historical Society, and the date is July 11, 1996, and we're talking this morning with Roz Paul and Toby - what's your last name, Toby?

T.C. Cantine, C-a-n-t-i-n-e. Cantine.

M.O'R.: Okay. And we also have Eleanor Phinney sitting here on the sidelines with us as well.

So I guess I'll start with you, Roz. I have in here in my notes that you bought this property in 1945?

R.P.: Right.

M.O'R.: Where were you before that?

R.P.: Well, that's what I was just thinking. Very interesting contrast between where we had been previous, in Cleveland, Ohio. The last nine months of our living there, we were in a location, an apartment very comparable to being next door to Meier & Frank downtown Portland, and we were in the hub of all our friends. They'd come to downtown, and our house was like Grand Central Station, as they say.

And then to come here and ...

M.O'R.: And that was you and Peter?

R.P.: Yes. Yes, Peter and I.

M.O'R.: And did you know that house, Toby?

T.C.: No.

R.P.: Oh, no. She wasn't born then.

T.C.: I was not born yet.

R.P.: But then to come here and to discover this property on a river and a log house - we had that home over there, in the midst

of very dense woods, the trees so towering and big that we had never seen before, the contrast was incredible. And the loneliness and the being disconnected from people because we had to walk up to the corner to get our mail, and there was no bus and whatnot. So it was a great contrast, but the beauty and the strangeness of it sort of overwhelmed me. So we bought it.

M.O'R.: So it compensated for the loneliness?

R.P.: Well, not really. But it was a huge contrast, and everything was strange and wonderful.

M.O'R.: And what brought you to Oregon?

R.P.: There was a great restlessness. It was wartime, and there was some war work here. My husband came to do that, but we had been - a sailor had come to one of the apartments near us, and he had just glowed about the Northwest. He said he'd traveled everywhere, and he found this was the most beautiful place.

We wrote to chambers of commerce at Tacoma and Lake Oswego and all around, and we were looking for a body of water not too far from a city. See, we already had the picture of what we wanted, and it just seemed to fill that bill. And we never dreamed we'd be getting into a house that needed all those repairs. There was no heater. They heated the water through the fireplace. I mean, it was very primitive although very magnificent, beautiful log houses. You could see they've done tremendous remodeling since we were there.

But it was wonderful and strange and sort of hard. It was a mixed bag of pleasure and a little pain.

M.O'R.: And what did the two of you do in Cleveland?

R.P.: My husband was teaching, and he didn't have a teaching job at the time, and I was just a college student. So that's what happened.

M.O'R.: And what sort of employment did your husband find when you came out here?

R.P.: Well, he located a teaching job very soon after the war.

M.O'R.: Okay. So he came out without a job, then?

R.P.: Yeah. He was in the war work for a short period.

T.C.: What do you mean by war work?

R.P.: Well, he was in the shipyards, which was terribly difficult for a small and not-too-strong guy. [laughs] I never saw such dirty clothes in all my life as he brought home. And he was weary, and it was much too hard for him. He had to hold those tremendous hoses and sandblast, and it didn't last very long. He got his teaching job soon.

M.O'R.: There's a similar story in my family. My mother and father also came from back East and my father worked in the Portland shipyards, too, for a time.

R.P.: Oh, boy. Down in the hold, you know, sandblasting. It was a mess.

M.O'R.: Well, what was the Tualatin like in those early days, then? What were your first of impressions of this body of water that you have flowing right by the edge of your property?

R.P.: Well, I noticed that it was very brown, and down on the flats below the dam - see, we were in a - I have to tell you this. We were in a very strange position because we were right at the dam.

[interruption]

R.P.: So where were we?

M.O'R.: So you were telling me the Tualatin looked pretty brown back in those days.

T.C.: There was something down there, you were saying.

R.P.: Yes. Down below, to our amazement, things started to settle down in the spring. First we had - I don't remember which

came first. There was a huge deposit of onions, and they said there were onion farmers there. I thought, "What in the world is this?"

M.O'R.: By the river, you mean?

R.P.: You see, we have below the dam - I was starting to say we're at the dam, but we had lots of space, about 125 above the dam and 400 feet below. So that was all our property, and now we only have 25 feet because we sold the 100 feet or so to the next door neighbor, which subdivided. But at that time we had the whole property, and the stuff kept floating down from elsewhere at different times in those early times. And I remember the onion farmers, and I just thought, "Well, that is very strange. I never heard of such a thing."

M.O'R.: You mean you'd see the leftover debris from onion farming?

R.P.: Yeah. Onions. It's very vague. It's a long time ago. But the most remarkable thing was golf balls came one year. There must have been 50 of them, from the Tualatin golf course. And I tell you, we still have a bag of them. We were just cleaning the shed, and we found this bag. I said, "This is from the river." I took them to school and told the children because I was teaching.

M.O'R.: Do you remember the year?

R.P.: Oh, I don't know.

T.C.: I was alive already, so it was '55, '56 - '58?

R.P.: We lived here before you were born, and then we went to live elsewhere for two years, and then we came back and subdivided, kept this property.

M.O'R.: So the golf balls were the result of high water, then?

R.P.: Yes, high water.

M.O'R.: I assume that some of your property would routinely flood in the winter?

R.P.: Yes, it does. Well, down below, the waterfront.

M.O'R.: And how was it this year?

R.P.: It swirled into - there's ancient mill race, as you maybe know.

T.C.: Tell him about the mill race.

R.P.: I know very little about the mill race, except that that means that logs had gone through there at some historical period, and it used to cut right through the property and wear everything down between us and what became an island. And so sometime in the 40's or early 50's, I can't remember the time, we got permission from the Army Engineers to make our own dam work across. You'll see it if you walk down there.

M.O'R.: Yeah, I've floated the river down to that dam.

R.P.: No, it's not that dam. It's our own property from ...

T.C.: If you look, it's right there. There used to be water that would through the property this way and around, instead of going around where the river goes.

[interruption]

T.C.: There's a mill race. Instead of the water going around that way ...

R.P.: We dammed it up.

T.C.: ... the water would go straight this way because it was easier to go that way than it was to go all the way around the curve that the river makes there.

M.O'R.: I see.

R.P.: And it was cutting our neighbors and cutting ...

T.C.: Actually, there still is a little gully in there.

M.O'R.: So you built a dam to keep the water in the other channel.

R.P.: Yeah. It comes in from below, but I don't think it ever flooded into the mill race until this year. It never breached that before. Maybe it did in 1960. Maybe some of those very high - yeah, maybe in '64, whenever the other high water, but almost never. It would hold back the water.

T.C.: Yeah, but in '64 I remember you put the sandbags on that dam, and it prevented the water from going into the mill race in 1964,

R.P.: I don't remember.

T.C.: I remember.

M.O'R.: Well, we'll come to that in a minute. But you built the dam much earlier?

R.P.: Yeah.

M.O'R.: And you said you had to get permission from the Army Corps?

R.P.: Yeah.

M.O'R.: And was that difficult?

R.P.: I don't think so. They understood, and they could see. I don't remember any difficulty. That was a long time.

M.O'R.: So you were able to prevent it, then, in most years from flowing through that part of your property?

R.P.: Oh, yeah. Until the very, very high floods.

M.O'R.: Right. Anything else that you noticed about the river in those days, besides the onions and the golf balls?

R.P.: Well, people would try to water ski in those days, and we thought that was very lovely. There weren't too many speed-boats, but it was used, and people swam in it. It was a recreational river. We enjoyed it as a recreational. And we used to swim in there. We used to go in there and putter around, and we'd always have to take a shower afterwards because it wasn't that clean. But it was a recreational place.

We took our little boat sometimes. We had a canoe at one point, and when the first big flood came and broke it up in half ...

T.C.: No, that's not the story. There's a different story to the breaking of the canoe than that.

R.P.: Wasn't that the flood?

T.C.: No. The story was that the neighbor - you went on a vacation, and the neighbor boy who lived up the road came and stole the canoe and took it over the dam during the wintertime, and it broke as it was going over the dam. And he was almost drowned, and someone came and rescued him.

R.P.: Oh, my gracious.

T.C.: His name was Ron Woods. Remember that?

R.P.: Yes.

T.C.: That was how the canoe broke, was not just from a flood. It was from the guy came and - we were gone, and his job was supposed to be to start the car. And he didn't start the car, and the car - while you were gone, it must have been for about two months or something, he didn't start the car, and the car no longer would run when you got back. And then he also knew that you had a canoe, so he took it. And he went into it, and he went over that dam, and it broke because of the pressure of the water. That's the story. That's the real story.

R.P.: I don't remember.

M.O'R.: Well, anyway, and then the other dam for the Lake Oswego folks here, that was in place when you first arrived?

R.P.: It wasn't in this condition. They didn't have that cement there. What did they have before? It was very primitive.

T.C.: Wood.

R.P.: It wasn't a cement bulwark. It must have been about - oh, my gracious, in the 50's when they put the cement in because I

remember we were remodeling and they very kindly let us have some leftover cement to make our little back stair. So it must have been in the 60's that they did that. Mr. Halvorsen came, Carl Halvorsen, the contractor. He was the one who came, and he's supervising it, the whole thing. I'm not a hundred percent sure, but it seems like it.

M.O'R.: Did they have to use your property to get access to the water?

R.P.: Yes, well, they have a right-of-way. It's actually a 15-foot right-of-way and they have a little right-of-way down there to put their supplies. It's very difficult to get in and out, and it's all muddy, so they don't use that now. They walk through, but it's very hard to drive through because it's a mess.

M.O'R.: How long did it take them to make the improvements to the dam?

R.P.: I can't tell you. During the summer, you know.

M.O'R.: It just was a summer-long project?

R.P.: Yeah. It seems like it. Lots of cement, big cement trucks.

Oh, and then I remember now we said, "Oh, we'd like to swim down there," and so they made like a huge bathtub. They dug it out a little bit for us with their machinery. I vaguely recall that. That was nice.

M.O'R.: And they dug it out specifically because you asked them?

T.C.: Yeah, of course. They were very nice and friendly and wanted to have a good relationship with my parents.

R.P.: Yeah, they always were. We always enjoyed the people who came down to supervise, and we still are real friendly with these people.



M.O'R.: Now, let's see, the people that built the dam, that would have been ...

R.P.: The Lake Corporation.

M.O'R.: The Lake Corporation? Not the Army Corps?

R.P.: No, no. The dam is owned by the Lake Corporation, and it technically fusses with it. They're always coming down. I always admire those brawny boys who go in there and risk their lives, it seems like, but they take it so for granted that they go out in the water and put the boards up and take them down. Nobody seems to ever get hurt, but you know, I just - it's always picturesque watching them do it.

M.O'R.: I guess the boards are a way of adjusting the level.

T.C.: Yes.

R.P.: So we also were designated caretakers because somebody would come and blast out the boards. Somebody would come and blast out the boards from time to time in years past.

M.O'R.: Oh, I've heard about that.

R.P.: And we never knew. They'd break them down because they wanted more water below, or they wanted less water above, or they wanted to clean out the - see the debris gathers over there.

T.C.: When the dam is up, the debris gathers on this side a lot. And also algae sometimes gathers there.

R.P.: They're supposed to clean it out. The Lake Corporation is supposed to clean it out, and for a while there they were doing it regularly, and I don't know if they still are.

There has been some vandalism. I've never had a clue who that was. I guess they could come down from the other side of the river. They could come on a boat; they could come at night. They could sneak through; I don't know.

M.O'R.: Do you remember hearing - you said they blew it out, was that with explosives?

R.P.: No. I just don't know how they did it.

T.C.: Well, they said that it was done by an explosive, but my parents didn't hear it.

R.P.: No, we just never knew what was going on. We just live here. It's 400 feet down there, you know.

M.O'R.: I've heard reports that there were some people who threatened to blow the entire structure at one point.

ELEANOR PHINNEY: That probably came from upriver, because this dam holds back the river and the farms are flooded up there.

M.O'R.: Yeah. It also makes the river slower-moving, I think.

T.C.: And then down there on the lower part there's times when it's so dry down there the water might be six inches deep all the way down. You could walk there with long pants just rolled up, you know. And there's places where the crawfish live. When I was a kid, we used to call them like "crawdad heaven" because they crawdads would die. Because there's places where they're supposed to live, but the water level was like half an inch deep.

M.O'R.: As one farmer put it to me, the river would sometimes get so low that the crawdads had to carry canteens.

T.C.: We used to have crawdad heaven, and we used to go over there and we would pick them up.

Did you ever eat crawfish?

M.O'R.: No, I actually did fish for them once on a tributary of the Tualatin over by Aloha, and I was able to pull out quite a few. That's when I was quite young, probably in the 50's.

T.C.: Well, I brought up a whole bunch once. I went down on the dam, and the crawfish - I don't know if they're there now, but it used to be they would come through - there were sort of cracks and they would come through, and you could just grab them. So we used to go through them and pick about 50 of them and bring them up

in a bucket, and then my father would clean them and we would eat them. Three or four times we did that.

M.O'R.: Were they good eating?

T.C.: Well, no.

R.P.: It's too strong.

T.C.: But we would do it anyway because of the novelty of it, you know. They were tiny. You know, they're like four inches long and the tail's about an inch. And you have to go through all this trouble, and it's rather unaesthetic to take the - it's not a shrimp, you know? But I thought it was a great idea to try it, so I went out and did it twice. I think I got 50 of them twice, and my mother and my father prepared them and we ate them.

R.P.: Tualatin has a crawfish festival. I don't know where they get them. I don't have the slightest idea. They don't come here.

T.C.: Then the crawfish can also be used for bait. I used to go fishing over there and take the crawfish and use the tail.

M.O'R.: Yes, that's what I was using them for when I fished for them in Aloha. We'd pull up the crawdads, and then we'd take the tail off.

T.C.: Yeah, take the tail off, and then you'd use it for bait.

M.O'R.: The tail turned out in our case to be good bait for more crawfish.

T.C.: It was also just plain good for - I used to catch bluegill and bass, and on occasion there would be a trout.

R.P.: Croppies.

T.C.: I didn't catch the croppies. You'd always throw those back because they weren't supposed to be as tasty, so I threw them back. And then there was a couple of catfish.

R.P.: Oh, they had carp, enormous carp.

T.C.: They used to be about this big, but you'd throw them back.

R.P.: I have a picture, way back when, in the early days, of Peter with a huge turtle, a great, huge turtle. An enormous turtle. Of course, we threw it back.

T.C.: Did you catch it with some bait and a fishhook?

R.P.: I don't know how he caught it. I have a picture of it. Huge turtle.

T.C.: I never even knew there were turtles in this water.

R.P.: I don't know. I'm going to have to find that picture. If I'd known you were coming, I would have looked it up.

M.O'R.: Well, we might even come back for a second interview. I can tell already there's lots of stories.

R.P.: You never know until you start jabbering what you have in your memory.

M.O'R.: I understand that - in the early 50's, was it? - the Army Corps proposed a big project on the Tualatin?

R.P.: Mm-hmm.

M.O'R.: Can you tell me what you remember about that from your perspective as a homeowner here?

R.P.: I remember Mr. Hodell, Phil Hodell, who happened to be the father of the guy who became the head of the Department of the Interior. He didn't have his father's environmental concerns. He was entirely a different boy. But anyway, Phil was very much in the thick of that, fighting it, organizing us, and we went to meetings.

M.O'R.: So he organized the Army Corps plan?

R.P.: Yes. Yes. They wanted to riprap. It would have been a channel, a stone channel, and you'd have to get down from your property, you'd have to go down some kind of ladder to get down into the river, and they would straighten out all the bends and

clean all the debris. It would have been a channel instead of a river, and that would have meant swift water rushing through.

T.C.: What's the advantage of that?

R.P.: Well, I don't know. They wanted flood control or something. I don't - I really can't understand what their motivation was. But I remember going to meetings and being right in the thick of all that.

T.C.: There was another idea, wasn't there, about another dam way up the river?

M.O'R.: Well, of course they did build that, but that was later.

R.P.: Way later. In the 60's.

M.O'R.: We'll talk a little bit about that, too, because I'm sure you saw changes down here after Scoggins went in. But first of all, tell me, so Phil Hodell organized this group of homeowners, was it, a long the river?

R.P.: Yeah. I really can't say how extensive, I just know that he was very instrumental in this organizing the protest, you might say.

M.O'R.: You said you had lots of meetings?

R.P.: I don't know if they were hearings. The Lower Tualatin Valley Homeowners Association started at that time.

T.C.: I remember this guy Phil Hodell, he was a dignified, intelligent, articulate, wise leader type of a person. He must have been about 60 years old when I met him in the 1960's, whenever that was, but people would listen to him. Like for an example, my father would be more emotional, but people wouldn't listen to my father because my father was too emotional about it. But this guy was very conservative, a Republican, the sort of a person that would make people do what he wanted them to do.

R.P.: So we were successful in that effort.

M.O'R.: To stop the riprapping and the Army Corps plans?

R.P.: Yes.

M.O'R.: What I was going to ask you, though, do you remember where the meetings took place? Were they in people's homes?

R.P.: No.

T.C.: One of the places where they had several meetings was that there was a little piece of property just next to this person's house, and the people in the neighborhood all got together and purchased, belonging to the people in the area, and they used to have meetings over there, on that piece of property. About 30 or 40 people would come to these meetings. I remember going to them.

M.O'R.: It was an undeveloped piece of property?

T.C.: Yeah, it's still over there.

R.P.: I think it's Lot 18. It's the reserve.

M.O'R.: So these would be outdoor meetings?

T.C.: Yeah. There was a picnic table, and the people who were the bosses or whatever were sitting on the picnic table. I remember them standing on it or something. I can't remember now because I was a kid. Everybody else was sort of gathered around, and Mr. Hodell was there, and that's what I remember. I remember three or four meetings specifically. There might have been more of them. Even though I was only a kid, I happened to be interested.

M.O'R.: About how old were you at that time?

T.C.: Ten years old, I think, or something. I was just a little more ...

R.P.: She had a high I.Q.

T.C.: My mom is proud of me and will brag about me. But I was just interested in things like that.

M.O'R.: Now, we're talking right around 1960?

T.C.: Yeah.

M.O'R.: So the Army Corps plan to riprap the river, was it that late?

R.P.: I don't know. I'm very confused.

T.C.: It was in the late 50's. There was a couple meetings that took place in that park, and also - what was that Grange? I don't know where it is.

R.P.: Hazeldell Grange, I think it was.

M.O'R.: Well, in these earlier meetings that had to do with this very first plan, was there any involvement of people further upriver?

R.P.: I cant remember. I wish my husband were able to talk to you.

I want to tell you a little story. When we first came here and we lived in that house, I was such a displaced person. I was not the kid I am now; I think I'm younger now than I was then. I had ladies in my home from the neighborhood. I don't know how we happened to get together, having a social tea or something. And there were the upper-dammers, and the lower-dammers, and we are the dammers.

[End of Tape 1, Side 1]

ROZ PAUL and TOBY CANTINE

March 11, 1996

Tape 1, Side 2

M.O'R.: So the upper-dammers, the lower dammers, and you were the dammers?

R.P.: I was in the middle. But there was antagonism between them, just like the hill people and the flatland people, or the people on the other side of the railroad track.

I must tell you something irrelevant here, but it's like when I came into my first year of teaching, I came in here all neutral and dewy-eyed and idealistic, and there was the conservatives and the radicals, and I'm trying to make peace between them. That's how I was in the neighborhood. I said, "What's with these women here?"

M.O'R.: So what were the issues that separated the upper-dammers and the lower dammers?

R.P.: I don't know. I think it might have been economic. Who knows?

M.O'R.: Was it the water flow?

T.C.: The real wealthy people lived upstream.

R.P.: I don't have a clue. I don't know why they were upset with each other. I don't know why they were at loggerheads, why the women didn't like each other, but here I was.

I met this one woman, I said, "Why in the world did he ever marry her?" I was very young and naive at that time.

M.O'R.: Let me ask you this, Roz. Would it be all right with you if I came back again if we don't finish today?

R.P.: Is it all right with you if he comes back?

T.C.: Well, I don't know. You're very unpleasant to have around. [laughs]



R.P.: Absolutely.

M.O'R.: Okay. Well, what I think I might do, then, is switch to Toby here for a bit just because I don't know when she's leaving.

T.C.: Could be about two weeks.

M.O'R.: But we've got lots more to talk about, you and me, Roz.

T.C.: She had nothing to say. She said that she couldn't think of anything to say at all, and that's why she called Eleanor because she said she didn't have anything to say.

M.O'R.: Well, let me just switch the topic here slightly to you, then, Toby. Can you tell me what your first memories of the river are?

T.C.: I was telling you a few minutes ago, the first thing I remember - of course, I don't - could have been lots of things because I was a kid, right, like a baby, right?

But one time - my parents didn't have this big house. They had just a little room. They had a one-room house that they had built, and we were living in it. And my mom took me down from the little house down to the river and showed me a tree that had been chewed and knocked down. It had white bark, and it was a tree about four or five inches in diameter with white bark. And the beaver had been there and had knocked it out, and my mom pointed out the beaver to me. And it took me a while to look to see where the beaver was, and I finally saw something that was a furry animal, and they called someone - I don't know who they called; you'd have to ask her who they called - to come and pick up the beaver, to capture it and take it somewhere.

I remember the story was that actually my mom said that she was afraid that they would do something to that beaver which they had done to another earlier beaver, which was to kill it. And I

was like, you know, two-and-a-half years old or something, just barely learning how to talk, and my mom said they had killed a beaver, and that was the most horrible thing I could think of anybody ever doing was to kill a beaver.

But they promised, the persons who came to catch the second beaver that my mom was pointing out to me, they promised that the beaver would not be killed and that they would take the beaver and let it go someplace where they didn't need to build a dam. You know, like not here.

But the reason the beaver had built the dam here is because it's a narrower - that's why the dam is here, because it's a narrower section of the river before the curves.

M.O'R.: Just like the Army Corps or the Lake Corporation, the beaver knows the best place to build a dam.

T.C.: The beaver knew the best place to build the dam, exactly. That's why he built it there.

But there was a tree, and it had been standing up, you know, and the beaver had knocked it down.

So my mom promised that the beaver was going to be taken care of and not be killed. She promised. She was reassuring me. But that was the first thing I remember about being here.

M.O'R.: You told me a little bit earlier about fishing on the river. Did you swim and do other things on the river as well?

T.C.: Oh, yeah. There used to be lots of kids. I've been around here and I haven't seen any kids, but there used to be like everyone, all the parents and all the houses had kids in them. So there was like 25 kids living in the neighborhood, maybe 15 kids. It seemed like there was a lot of them. All different ages, all going to the grade school and the high school, and we would all walk up the road and take the school bus to the grade school or the high school, all of us. Half the bus would be filled with people

from this particular neighborhood. But right now you don't see any kids. I don't know where they all are.

We used to run around on the roads, and we would ride our bicycles and we would go swimming at different people's houses, or there was the reserve. At that time the reserve had a picnic table and a dock and some things for tying up your boat. And so we used to all go there, like 15 kids would go down to the dock and be there all afternoon and swim. We'd swim across the river and back. You know, there was somewhat of a current depending on the time of year, and so then you would play games with inner tubes and float down.

My parents have a kayak, so I used to paddle it up and down the river, and then one time way up the river - I paddled way up there, and I saw somebody had a rowboat for sale, so I asked my father if he'd buy it for me, and it only cost 20 bucks, and he said sure. So I had a rowboat, and I used to row.

My best friend when I was in the later part of grade school and when I was in high school who lived up the river; that's how you'd go visit her.

M.O'R.: Just get in the rowboat?

T.C.: Get in the rowboat and just run down. These neighbors where have a dock, so I would tie my rowboat. It actually was light enough that I could leave it on the ground here by my parents' house and just drag it over to my neighbors', throw it into the water and paddle up to my girlfriend's house. She lived across the river about a mile upriver. So I'd just paddle up to the place like where the 205 freeway is. That's where I would paddle up to. If you wanted to walk over, you'd have to go around and it would be like three miles or four miles. Much more direct.

Another way to do it would be to go across the dam and up the cliff, and then down. On occasion I would go to visit her that way.

M.O'R.: And you could walk across the dam then?

T.C.: Yeah. You could walk across the dam now, although usually they - I'm talking about in the summertime when they would put the boards up so it would be - you wouldn't wear your good dress.

M.O'R.: Your feet would get a little wet, huh?

T.C.: Wet and it was sort of slimy because there was algae growing.

But the main thing that was very interesting was to have your best friend that you would visit by going up the river on a little rowboat. That was so neat.

We had sleeping-out parties all the time. All through the summer we never slept inside the house. You've got to be kidding! We would sleep in each other's grass, in the grass of their yards, and just have parties. We were constantly doing that.

The other thing there used to be was dogs, and there wasn't any leash law, so they were all running wild. And there was like 10 male dogs, you know, they would run in a pack. And they would run up and down, and in the nighttime they would bark. If you were trying to have quiet sleep, forget it, because there would be one over there that would be barking at one way over there, like across the river, and there's quite a bit of an echo.

Also we used to have a number of coyotes. And you know what else there was? Foxes, red foxes. I remember seeing one two houses up that way, and the fox was there and it had a chicken hanging out of the inside of its mouth. And I thought I shouldn't tell anyone, for fear that somebody would shoot the fox. It had a

chicken hanging. I never even told my mom before, and now she's hearing. She's going to spank me when you leave.

M.O'R.: So it sounds like the river was a big part of your growing up here?

T.C.: Oh, you spent all the time, all summer and anytime when you weren't in school, doing something in the river.

Another thing we used to do is to make little wooden boats and float them into the river, you know, like different ways. One of them was there's a kind of wind-up rubber band boat. I used to make them all the time and make them go across the river and back.

My friends weren't always as smart as I was, so they couldn't make them, so they would just come over and I would make them, about four or five of them, and then we would take them and have races across the river. But I figured out how to make one that was more aerodynamic. I was tending to win.

But you know, that's a game that I don't know if anybody plays anymore. What you'd do is you'd do it on this side, you know, on the upper side of the dam when it was up so that the boat wouldn't float over - I mean, there wouldn't be current pulling it. And you'd float it across. And you'd put a string on it so that you wouldn't lose track of it.

M.O'R.: Well, it sounds like you were also pretty conscious of the river and some of the issues around it at a fairly young age since you were describing these meetings that you were attending, or at least had some consciousness of it?

T.C.: Yeah. I guess you could say that I had some influence. My father is very perceptive of environmental issues in a sense where it's not like unthinking. He explained it to me quite thoroughly, what the importance of environmental issues were when I was very young. Not that you're doing it just because you're some kind of crazy, star-eyed person, but because it had some

significance in terms of like the quality of life and the future of mankind and this kind of thing. He explained it to me rationally, so that I was thinking about it more from the rational viewpoint.

And if you take that and add it with your education, which I was a pretty good student and I did a lot of independent research about a lot of different subjects, it can become - you can add it together, and you go, "Well, here's the economic thing, and here's the aesthetic thing; do they necessarily have to be in conflict?" And they don't. That's what I realized very young, when I was about 10 or 12. It appeared there was a conflict between those who wanted money and those who wanted aesthetics, but I thought there didn't have to be a conflict because in actual fact in the long run we would have the best - there could be an answer which would suit everyone.

M.O'R.: And that was something that wasn't terribly apparent at the time that you're talking about, I think.

T.C.: No, it wasn't. But my father had - he didn't say it to me. He more or less just led me to think certain ways. It's too bad he's not feeling well because I'd like to see him do some writing of the things he taught me. It would influence people's thinking and their whole lives.

But I remember that when I got to be a teenager I was in high school and had a class in speech, and I was on the speech team. So I realized that I should do something when I was only like 15 years or something, I should do something about the environment, so I decided to make some speeches about that matter.

M.O'R.: What were the focuses of these speeches?

T.C.: Well, the focus was why can't we have a lifestyle which is - you don't have to be wealthy in order to have a nice aesthetic environment to live in, a healthy environment. You don't have to be rich. Not just the rich should be able to have that kind of a

life, but why not everyone? It wasn't so sophisticated. Why are we taking away the opportunity for this to happen?

M.O'R.: So it was focused directly on the Tualatin so much, but just more generally an environmental approach?

T.C.: More generally. Rozzie, I guess, told you I made this speech once to the County Planners about the reason why I didn't think they should put the freeway here, the I-205 freeway.

M.O'R.: Right. And I wanted to talk to you about that.

T.C.: So I did that. I got some of my friends and I told them all about it, and they agreed that why should you put a freeway there. Well, the reason you put a freeway there as opposed to in Lake Oswego, where it had originally been planned to go, because the rich people in Lake Oswego managed to show how it would wreck their property values if they put it in - you know, along Macadam was where they were going to put the freeway at that time, and the Lake Oswego people didn't like that idea. But they also had - they were very wealthy, you know, and some of them were big shots and so on, and so they had managed to avert the freeway.

Well, they were going to put it through our area, and there aren't that many wealthy people. It originally had been a farming area here, and the land was purchased when it wasn't that expensive. And so there wasn't this huge power that there was in Lake Oswego, that's what was my thinking. So it didn't make sense. It's not fair. Why can't we just have a high-quality life not just because we're rich but because we're wanting to have a high-quality life? Let's figure out a place to put a freeway which has the least impact on the quality of life. That's what I said.

So anyway, I got my friends. I actually had it all arranged that we were going to have a march in front of the courthouse in West Linn - wherever it was; I think it was in West Linn. I had these friends, and we all had placards that we had made, but Phil

Hodell came and said, "Don't do that." He said not to do it because - he was a conservative Republican type person, and I don't disagree with that, but he said, "Don't do that because it will have a negative effect on ..." You know, it was during the time when Martin Luther King and that type of thing was going on.

M.O'R.: Sure.

T.C.: And one didn't march and picket and stuff like that because it was, you know, not the thing to do if you're - it would have associations with that type, and he didn't want to associate the campaign against the freeway. He didn't want to have it associated with anything that would create a negative public relations viewpoint. Do you see what I'm saying?

M.O'R.: Yeah. And were you convinced by that argument at the time?

T.C.: No. Not really. I didn't really understand what he was looking at. On the other hand, he came and said, "Don't you dare do this. No way!"

M.O'R.: And was he talking specifically to you?

T.C.: To me, yeah, because he knew I was organizing these teenagers that were going to march.

M.O'R.: And how old were you at the time?

T.C.: Fifteen. I had about six people who had come with me. So all I did was to make my talk to the Planning Commission, and they weren't impressed at all with my talk. "Well, it's the same old stupid argument we've heard before." It was shown on TV, my talk, a little excerpt of it, but it was like ...

M.O'R.: One of the news stations in Portland picked it up?

T.C.: Yeah. One of the news stations picked it up because it was sort of unusual to have some kid come there and make a talk, right? And that was the whole point, was I was a kid making the talk. But they were saying, "Well, it's the same old stupid



argument we've heard before, like the quality of life." You know, why should people have a home that's built by their father, you know.

It didn't make any impression on anyone.

M.O'R.: And how did you feel as a 15-year-old walking into this roomful of the commissioners?

T.C.: Well, I said to these guys, "Hey, you guys, listen to me. I don't know why you're not listening."

M.O'R.: So you didn't feel intimidated at all?

T.C.: No. I looked out at these people, and they were like not listening to me. The persons I was talking to weren't listening to me.

So I looked out at the audience, and I said, "Listen. You don't seem to be listening to me. I don't think that's fair; just because I'm a kid, you're not listening to me." I did say that. But it wasn't impressive, and the TV didn't pick up that part of it.

M.O'R.: I was going to ask you about what you thought about your daughter getting involved in this and speaking to the Commissioners.

R.P.: She always was very independent. I didn't have any objection whatsoever. In fact, I was very proud of her. No, she was just doing fine.

I have to tell you that all the ideals of what I would want for my own child she exceeded. I would tell her about classical music, and then she would tell me about it. She was ahead.

Can I add one thing different?

M.O'R.: Sure. Go right ahead.

R.P.: About Mr. Hodell. It occurred to me that he started the campaign to put blue vitriol in the river to kill the algae,

and he was always on the forefront of getting that blue vitriol, and he would see that it was done.

T.C.: What was it?

ELEANOR PHINNEY: It was copper sulfate.

R.P. To do away with algae, which was proliferating all over the river. So he also did that. That's something that occurred to me,

T.C.: There was tons of algae. There was a thick layer. At some places, especially down here when the dam was up, there would be places where there would be a layer about an inch-and-a-half or two inches thick with algae.

R.P.: Well, now the Corporation is supposed to keep that cleaned up.

T.C.: And it would smell. You see, like right now you don't smell anything. But in the summertime when you were sitting in this place, it used to smell like dead fish because it was the algae that you actually smelled, but you thought it was dead fish. And of course then there were the dead crawfish and so on that were down here where there was no water.

What they have now, which they didn't have then, was people who are the riverkeepers, and they would come and they would look at things like the quality of the river. Nobody came and noticed. There wasn't anybody who came and paid attention to things like how clean the water is. But back in those days, no one cared about it.

R.P.: Those sewage people, they're forever testing.

T.C.: Who knows what was in the water when we were swimming in it? You never knew what was in the water.

M.O'R.: But the algae didn't discourage you from swimming, nevertheless?

T.C.: No.

R.P.: There was a point at which there were so many dead fish and so many dead eels, and it was in such bad shape that they didn't fix the fish ladder and they didn't fix the fish ladder, and my husband singlehandedly - I don't know who he called, maybe the Lake Corporation. He said, "If you don't do something about this, I am going to call the newspapers." He threatened them with exposure. The next thing you knew there was a new fish ladder. What we have down there now is a direct result of his pushing. I'm not sure just what year that was, but we have a beautiful fish ladder, and you don't find the dead critters. It was really, really horrible before.

T.C.: It used to smell so horrible here that we wouldn't have invited you to sit outside.

The other thing that happened that was really neat was that the salmon would run up the river in the fall. They'd run up the river, and it was so neat to watch. I used to have a cat that was a little Siamese about eight inches long, and she was a full-grown cat, and she had kittens all the time. We would feed her so much food, but she was still always hungry because if you're an eight-inch cat and you have four kittens, you can imagine how much the cat would need to have in order to provide for those kittens. So she would hunt. We used to make a joke about the mighty huntress cat.

Anyway, so one day I came home from school, and the cat was in the kitchen here with her three kittens and herself, and there was a salmon, about a 10-inch long salmon, that she had gone down to the river, batted with her paw, grabbed, and you could see where she had dragged it across the lawn. She had brought it all the way up into the kitchen.

M.O'R.: So you think this was a live healthy salmon before it encountered your cat?

T.C.: I'm absolutely certain, because where else could she have gotten it? And it was like a fresh salmon, you could see. It was not dead, and it didn't smell horrible. The kittens were all gathered around.

And then of course there were other things that she caught. One time she caught an owl. Remember that owl?

R.P.: She caught all kinds of things.

She caught an owl. Can you believe it? The owl must have been - I can only guess this - the owl could have been flying down to catch her, and she had been the victor.

And another time she had a snake, a garter snake, and the kittens were all eating a garter snake in the middle of the kitchen. And of course mice, that was no big deal, and moles. But the bringing of the salmon, you could see where she had dragged it all the way up. That was an amazing cat.

Somebody went down there and caught a salmon in a net, but I never was sure if that was legal or illegal.

R.P.: No, they're not supposed to. They used to gaff them. The person who lived here before used to gaff them.

T.C.: With a spear?

R.P.: It's like a trident. I still have it somewhere. An ancient thing, a trident with three prongs.

M.O'R.: So do you think there's enough fish down there now so you could spear one?

R.P.: I don't think so. I don't see them.

T.C.: I'll you what there is down there: There is some bluegill down there.

A lot of the time we'd spend out there in the summertime was fishing. My father and a couple of the neighbors and I would fish. You could use a stick, but it's better to have a simple fishing pole with a little reel on it, and you put a - not too strong of a

line because you're not going to catch that big of a fish, and then you put a little leader on the end and you put a little weight on it, and then you put a little bobber on it. And then you'd catch some worms, and then you'd throw it in, and they would grab it and that's it. It's like very easy fishing.

There were people who came, though, with their flies just because that's more fun and more sportsmanlike.

M.O'R.: I was going to ask you, Roz, do you remember seeing your daughter on TV?

R.P.: I must have, yeah.

T.C.: You showed it to me.

M.O'R.: Unfortunately this was before the days of VCR's.

Let me ask you both about the decision that was made to go ahead and put the freeway in. So they didn't listen too carefully to what you had to say.

T.C.: No, they didn't listen at all.

[End of Tape 1, Side 2]