

Interview with Dorotha Bordeau

September 10, 1979

Harvey, MI

Interviewed by Donna Barto

Donna Barto (Int): My name is Donna Barto, the date today is September 10, 1979. I am at the home of Dorotha Bordeau at the Pine Acre Trailer Court in Harvey. Dorotha has been a resident of the township for many years and today she is going to share with me some of her experiences as a teacher in Chocolay Township back in 1921 and her involvement in the educational system. First of all Dorotha, tell me about your childhood. When and where were you born?

Dorotha Bordeau (DB): In a little town in Jackson County, Brooklyn, Michigan November 8, 1900.

Int: And you're nearing your?

DB: Nearing my 79th birthday!

Int: Birthday, right. How big was your family, Dorotha?

DB: There were six of us children. Three boys and three girls.

Int: What did your dad do for a occupation?

DB: Well, my dad did various, he was a farmer and then when I was about five years old he moved into town and worked in a hardware store for many years. And then he went into business for himself until his store burned down, and moved to Ionia County where he was Superintendent of a 400 acre farm for a few years. And finally he got a position here with the state as Farm Superintendent of the prison. He was there for years, that's what brought me to Marquette.

Int: I see. Oh? That's what brought you to Marquette? Where did you go to school, Dorotha?

DB: I went to school in Brooklyn through the tenth grade and in Ionia County, and went to the Ionia County Normal at that time, for one year, get your teacher's certificate.

Int: Did they have, when did you decide you wanted to be a teacher?

DB: When I finished high school. I was rather undecided whether I wanted to be a teacher or what.

Int: What were some of the options for young ladies back in those days?

DB: Well there weren't too many options then. I did want to go to Lansing to business school but finally decided on teaching.

Int: What were some of the preparations, what was the preparation to become a teacher then?

DB: Well in those days if you finished high school you could take what they called County Teacher's Examinations. And if you passed them you were eligible to teach in a rural district.

Int: Was there a difference between rural and city teaching?

DB: Oh yes. Much different, because you had all eight grades to teach in the rural. And you were mother and father and nurse and doctor and all of them.

Int: For the whole group? Now, were there other teachers in your family Dorotha? Did someone set an example for you?

DB: No. I set the example for my sister, she went on from high school and she went to Northern Michigan, and that was known as the Normal School.

Int: Did you also attend Northern?

DB: I attended it one summer.

Int: What was Northern like when you? What year did you attend it?

DB: In '22, the summer of 1922.

Int: What was the campus of Northern like, 1922?

DB: Very, very small compared to what it is today. There was just the Normal School and the John D. Pearce School, that was all.

Int: How about some professors? Do you recall any of the professors that you had?

DB: Yes, I had one who was teaching Geography that had been the principal of our school in Brooklyn, Michigan.

Int: I see.

DB: Donald O'Hara.

Int: How about some of your classmates? Do you ever see any of them from Northern?

DB: No, I don't. I don't.

Int: In order to teach in a city school, Dorotha, were there, did you have to have more?

DB: You had to have more education, uh-huh.

Int: What did that require?

DB: Two years at Northern, at the time. You were eligible then to go into city schools.

Int: And you mentioned you came to Marquette because of your dad's job. What was his job?

DB: Superintendent of the Prison Farm.

Int: I see. Where did you live?

DB: Oh, the house was down by the prison. It has been moved, on County Road 480 now. That was a new house at the time we moved into it.

Int: I see. And what did Harvey look like in 1921?

DB: Well, shall I say it was kind of a ghost town. There wasn't any town to it, really. Just a store, shoe-maker shop.

Int: And what about other businesses? Were there any stores that you could buy clothing or?

DB: No. No.

[Noise from passing scooter, SKIP IN TAPE]

[inaudible]

DB: There was just a grocery store.

Int: Where? Do you recall the owners of the stores? Who were some of the people that did business?

DB: The Ford brothers, I've forgotten their names.

Int: Are they still in the area?

DB: No. They're all gone.

Int: What about the highway set up that is in Harvey now? Where was the main road? Was...

DB: Down around by the store, where, what is now the Harvey Inn. And it comes out by, back of Shaw's onto the highway.

Int: Shaw's service station? What about the service from Marquette to Harvey? What type of, was there any type of transportation service or?

DB: No transportation. No transportation. Used to be able to get the train down here at the Harvey Depot. I think Mr. Nelson lives in the house now, but was the old Depot. And we could walk down there and get the train going to Marquette. That was most of our transportation.

Int: I see. How did you get your teaching job, Dorotha, in Harvey?

DB: I went to the County Commissioner of Schools, Mr. Simon Anderson, and he recommended the Harvey school. The only thing he told me was, "If you teach in Harvey school, you don't come away from there single." And I believe him. [Laughs] And it was through him that I got, they were opening the two room school in Harvey. And it had only been used as one room for a number of years, and due to the fact that Beaver Grove School had burned, they were transporting the children down to the Harvey School.

Int: Okay. What was the salary like in those days?

DB: Seventy, great, big dollars a month! [Chuckles] We were rich! [Laughs]

Int: What did the school look like? Describe the school for me, what did the old Harvey School look like?

DB: Well, never having gone to a rural school until I taught the first year, I didn't know what to expect coming up here. The first thing I saw was this great, big furnace in the corner in the back of the room and I wondered how we were going to heat the school with that, great big stove. And it was a very cold north room to teach in all winter, but...but we made it.

Int: What other responsibilities did you have besides teaching in the school? Did you have to do any of the other custodial?

DB: Oh yes. You were janitor and custodian and all.

Int: Did you have to fire the big stove up?

DB: Had to fire the big stove. But the older boys were very good of taking care of that during the school.

Int: What was the location of other schools in Chocolay?

DB: Cherry Creek and Mangum, Little Lake on the Little Lake Road, and Green Garden.

Int: Are any of those still used as schools today?

DB: No. They built a new school at Beaver Grove, a one room school and that has since been torn down and they have the building that is there now that.

Int: What has happened to the buildings that were schools?

DB: Um, the Mangum School, the old school was torn down. And they built a new one, and now that is used as a home. The Cherry Creek School is used as a home.

Int: Who lives in those homes now?

DB: Um, Mr. and Mrs. Short lives in the Mangum School and Mr. and Mrs. _____kis [sounds like Ved-kiss] in the Cherry Creek School. And I think they tore the Little Lake School down, I don't remember. And Green Garden School was turned over to Mr. and Mrs. Kepp and they, in later years turned it over to the Church in Green Garden, St. Paul's Church.

Int: That building is still standing today?

DB: And that building is still standing, it was moved from one side of the road across to the other by the Church.

Int: I see. Alright, Dorotha, do you recall the school, the first school in Harvey, down near the Harvey Inn that was on the corner of Main and Corning?

DB: No, that wasn't there at the time. I have just heard different ones talk about the first school being there, but it was never standing while I was.

Int: The Chocolay Township School, what children did that serve? What area?

DB: It was the Green Garden and, I'm sorry. Not Green Garden, um, Beaver Grove school, they were transported to the Harvey school until a new school was built.

Int: I see. What were some of the subjects you taught, Dorotha?

DB: Reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, history, geography, orthography which is phonics.

Int: Renamed phonics today.

DB: Renamed phonics today, uh-huh.

Int: What did the children, did the children buy their own supplies in those days or?

DB: No, no they were all furnished by the school board.

Int: What about school hours? What were the school hours?

DB: Our teaching hours were from nine until four, three-thirty really, three-thirty. But teachers never got out of their schoolrooms until after five o'clock by the time they did janitor work, cleaned the schools up, and corrected papers and.

Int: It was an all day?

DB: It was an all day job.

Int: What about your evenings, did that involve school activities?

DB: Yes it did. You'd have to prepare classes for the next day it was...

Int: What grades did you teach, Dorotha?

DB: At Harvey I taught the 4th through the 8th.

Int: Were there any school vacations during those days?

DB: Yes, there was two weeks in the fall, the latter part of September that they had gone potato digging. The boys and girls would have to help on the farms.

Int: What about the standard vacations that we have today in school? Did you also have those? For Christmas?

DB: Yes we'd had the Christmas, Easter vacation. No, we did not have an Easter vacation because of the two weeks that was given in the fall.

Int: Was there a state requirement as to the number of days you had to be in?

DB: Yes, yes. You had to put in so many teaching.

Int: How many students were enrolled in the Harvey school in 1921 Dorotha? About, approximately?

DB: Oh it was, in the one room that I had it must have been about twenty-five or thirty. In Cherry Creek school I had forty-eight pupils in forty-eight classes. [Chuckles] We had a long day. That was kindergarten through...

Int: And that seventy dollars an hour, did you ever figure out how much you?

DB: Seventy dollars a da....a month. Of twenty days.

Int: Who else taught with you in the Harvey school, Dorotha?

DB: Um, Myrtle Antilla from Green Garden...or from Ishpeming, she taught.

Int: And in the Cherry Creek School, did someone else teach with you there?

DB: No, taught alone there.

Int: How did the children get to school?

DB: Walking, most of them. Those that came from the Beaver Grove School were transported by a team of horse, horse and wagon, and horse and sleigh in the winter time.

Int: And who were some of the people responsible for transporting the children?

DB: Mr. LaChappelle, Jeffrey LaChappelle transported. And then later they transported some from Sand River to the Mangum School, Mr. Delaurier.

Int: When did motorized transportation come to the schools here?

DB: About 1933, motorized. Mr. Lloyd Skoll had the first real school bus.

Int: How many children were transported in the bus?

DB: Oh, they transported to the school and transported into town, I wouldn't know how many he had. Couldn't say.

Int: What about discipline in those days, Dorotha?

DB: Well, the same as any school. You always had some problem with some of them, and as a rule, the children respected the teacher and when she spoke they knew that she meant, wasn't a lot of fooling around and talking back to them. One boy talked back one day and the Commissioner of Schools happened to be there visiting, and he took him out into the wood shed. I don't know what happened, but...

Int: Did he ever misbehave again?

DB: No, he didn't.

Int: Were there any rules or regulations that teachers had to follow in those days?

DB: Oh yes, we had our lesson plans that we had to have outlined to have them ready for the, you never knew when the Commissioner of Schools was going to call on us and those books need to be ready for him to have plans.

Int: Did he do a sort of teacher evaluation on you then?

DB: Yes he did. And he said, "A teacher is," in those days, "was really judged by the eighth grade pupils that passed the county board examinations."

Int: Tell me about the Board examinations, Dorotha. What did they involve?

DB: Well it was, I don't remember if it was one or two days and the children usually went into town for these examinations, written examinations. And if your eighth grade all passed these examinations, you were considered a good teacher.

Int: Well what about the boys and girls that didn't pass it? What would happen to them?

DB: If they weren't sixteen, they went back to school again. At that time the age was sixteen that they were required to be in school, and if they didn't pass they went back to eighth grade again.

Int: How successful were the eighth graders in those days? Do you know, what was the percentage of boys and girls passing the eighth grade?

DB: Oh I would say about seventy-five percent of them would pass, if they didn't want to go back to school again.

Int: Where did the boys and girls go to high school in those days?

DB: Marquette.

Int: Did many of your eighth graders go on to high school?

DB: Very few eighth graders, I didn't have any eighth graders that went on to high school.

Int: What did that involve for a student going into Marquette during the, for high school?

DB: Well there wasn't any transportation, public transportation for them, and they would really have to stay in town for the week with going to school, pay board and room, or work for their board or something like that.

Int: We talk a lot about a teacher's status in the community today. What was a teacher's status in the community today. How were teachers accepted by the community?

DB: I think as a rule they were all very well accepted and the teacher was supposed to be known by her performances in society of dress and behavior, and if you smoked you were just out entirely.

Int: Would you be reprimanded?

DB: Yes, you would be. And you were judged a great deal on the eighth grade classes that, eighth grade boys and girls that finished the examinations with a passing grade and your Christmas program that you put on.

Int: What did that involve?

DB: That involved a lot of hard work, two months of real hard work, because you usually started planning for those in November.

Int: What types of programs did you put on, Dorotha?

DB: Oh there were plays, speeches, recitations, songs. Every child was involved in a Christmas program.

Int: All the grades?

DB: All grades, all children. If you left out a child, they were very much insulted.

Int: Today school systems provide an awful lot of supplies and equipment. What types of supplies and equipment did you have?

DB: The books, pencils, paper like that was furnished.

Int: Who served on the school board when you taught in Chocolay Township, Dorotha?

DB: Let's see there was Mr. Menhennick, Mr Healey...

Int: Which Menhennick?

DB: Mr. A.J. Menhennick, the father of Buster, Jack. Mike Healey, John Seacott, George Basal...four, four or five. Who was the fifth one? I don't remember the fifth one now.

Int: How long did they serve on the school board?

DB: Two years.

Int: Two year terms. How many students went on to higher education, Dorotha, like to college? Were there very many?

DB: Not very many.

Int: Do you recall any of your students going on?

DB: No I don't recall any of my students going on, no.

Int: What types of work did they then go into?

DB: Farm work, mostly.

Int: Who was Chocolay Township primarily then?

DB: Farmers.

Int: Mostly farmers?

DB: Mostly farmers.

Int: Any light industry, any mills or any logging?

DB: No. Well there was logging but, but there was no other industry that, in Chocolay Township at that time.

Int: Were there any charcoal kilns or were those through?

DB: That was there before I came but they weren't in operation at the time.

Int: I see. Was there ever any possibility that Chocolay Township would have had their own high school out here?

DB: Yes, at one time when they were going to build the Beaver Grove School, there as a great deal of talk and it did go to a vote but was voted down.

Int: And what type of school would they have built then?

DB: It would have been called an Agricultural School where they would have gotten some help from the State of Michigan, their building program

Int: I see. When did you see the change from stopping at the eighth grade education and going on? Was there a period of time when all of a sudden more and more boys and girls were going to high school?

DB: Yes.

Int: What did years did that take place?

DB: Oh I would say in the late '20s, that you'd see more and more of them going onto high school.

Int: What do you think the reason was for them going on?

DB: Well I think one thing was transportation. That so many of them didn't go on.

Int: Was there a tuition cost?

CB: Um, I think that was paid by the Township. Tuition was paid by the Township or a percentage of it was anyway, you had to pay.

SKIP IN TAPE

Int: Did, were parents willing to work in the schools with teachers?

DB: Yes, we did get cooperation.

Int: Did you have report cards and parent conferences? What type of grading system did you use?

DB: We had...numbers, eighty, ninety. Ninety was a hallmark, a hundred.

Int: Percentile.

DB: A percentile. But, yes, we had the report cards every month, I'd have to make out those report cards.

Int: Once a month?

DB: Um-Hmm.

Int: And did you ever meet with parents, like people, we do today as parent conferences?

DB: No. No, we didn't have parent conferences.

Int: Did you ever have to call parents in?

DB: Oh yes. Once in a while you'd have to call a parent. If the child would try to get on the right side of you and have you invited into their home for a dinner. [Chuckles]

Int: A little soft-sell.

DB: That's right.

Int: Who were some of your students that you had Dorotha?

DB: Well, let's see who was...Misses _____ [sounds like Rissvergence] was one of them, my eighth grade. I had to stop and think, this many of them, some of them are here, some of them are gone. Geoffrey LaChappelle, the Basal family, and my own sister-in-law, she later became my sister-in-law. And maybe the French families from around.

Int: What was some of their last names?

DB: LaJeunesse, Desjardines, LaChappelle, and Secartes, Roses.

Int: Do you ever keep in touch with them?

DB: Yes, I do. I do as several of them that would come and call on me every once and a while, when I'd go out to California there's some of them out there that are invited into their homes and it's real nice to see the boys and girls that I had in school.

Int: Did any of them go on to be teachers?

DB: Not that I know of. I don't know.

Int: How many schools in Chocolay Township did you teach in, Dorotha?

DB: Two, the one near Harvey and Cherry Creek.

Int: What was your experience in the Cherry Creek school with, with?

DB: There I had all eight grades from Kindergarten through the eighth grade, had every grade, and I had ten minutes per class period, so you had to cover a lot of work in ten minutes.

Int: How did you group the children?

DB: According to grades and ages. It would depend on the, like the eighth grade helping with maybe with the kindergarten and they were all day, the children they'd come in the morning and they were there until afternoon. Some of those children had to walk two miles through the snowstorms and all and the cold weather.

Int: So there was a lot of helping with each other _____

DB: It was, there was, uh-huh.

Int: Um, when did you stop teaching Dorotha?

DB: 1923.

Int: What prompted you to stop or what_____

DB: Well I decided I was going to get married.

Int: Was there a rule about?

DB: There wasn't here, at that time...well I didn't even plan on going back to teaching anyway. But throughout some places it was against the rule to teach...

Int: And to be married?

DB: And to be married.

Int: That certainly has changed.

DB: It certainly has, very much so.

Int: I understand that you served on the School Board also.

DB: Two years.

Int: What years did you serve?

DB: '32, let's see, the spring of '32 through '34.

Int: Who all served with you?

DB: Mr. Healey, Mr. Basal, Mr. Fassbender...there was five on the board and I can't think of who the fifth one was, myself. Well I can't think of the fifth one now.

Int: What types of activities and actions did you take in those days? Did you, do you recall any of those things that happened during your time as a school board member? What were some of the things _____?

DB: Well our sixth and seventh or our seventh and eighth graders went into town during those years.

Int: What, why did that happen?

DB: Our schools were not really adequate for handling seventh and eighth grade. We feel that they weren't, they had done away with the County Board examination at the time and we felt they would get more out of school by going into the town schools in town.

Int: Did Chocolay then pay a tuition for each child?

DB: Yes we paid so much and the state paid so much.

Int: I see. Was there any other notable things that happened during your time as a school board member? Any changes? Any buildings built?

DB: Uh, no. Not at that time. The new school had been built at Green Garden. Or not in Green Garden, at Basal corners here, Beaver Grove. And also the one at Mangum.

Int: How did the schools weather the Depression days?

DB: Well, we didn't have very much problem it didn't seem, it went along very nicely.

Int: Were there any services that would help children in need in those days? Was there any type of thing that a teacher felt a child had a special need, where they ever, was that taken care of?

DB: Uh, no we didn't have a visiting nurse, no at that time. Yes we did at that time, it was true. I was thinking of when I was teaching, but at that time we had a visiting nurse and if a child needed glasses or something like that they were taken care of. The nurse would see that they...

Int: Who taught school then in the Harvey School and, when you were on the School Board?

DB: Emma Spall did, taught, Mr. Actinuen taught at Beaver Grove, and Giselle Speckter taught at Harvey, and Dorothy Collins-Gutzman taught at Mangum and Green Garden School was closed at the time.

Int: What types of organizations were formed in those days for schools?

DB: P.T.A. was formed.

Int: Who was the president at that time?

DB: Edward Welch was the first president, I was the second.

Int: What types of activities did you do for the schools in those days?

DB: Well they had what they called a D.A.R. program, and that was an essay contest of the children in seventh and eighth grades and all have their essays, essays judged in Americanism and historical.

Int: And what was the prize?

DB: It was a monetary prize, it wasn't very much but it was good.

Int: Recognition for?

DB: Recognition.

Int: Scholarships?

DB: No, no. Uh-uhh. No, they were, they might have been given a pin or something to show that they were a good citizen, but.

Int: Dorotha do you recall when the other schools closed and then the building of the Silver Creek School took place?

DB: No. I wasn't living in the township at the time.

Int: Oh, I see.

DB: We had sold our farm and had moved to Arizona, then came back and lived in town for a few years, at that time. I don't remember the building of it.

Int: Are you pleased that they kept the township hall as, the school was the township hall?

DB: Yes, yes.

Int: Is it much like it was when you taught in it?

DB: Uh. I haven't been in the new building, I'm ashamed to say. But I understand they did take, make it all into one big room.

Int: How about the outside?

DB: The outside is the same.

Int: Was there ever a bell in the belfry?

DB: Oh yes.

Int: Who rang it?

DB: The boys and girls of the school and when Marquette opened, Chocolay Township had their centennial I rang the bell for the last time.

Int: Where's the bell now?

DB: I don't know if it's in the belfry there or not. I don't know whether they've taken it out or not.

Int: Were there patriotic programs and things that

DB: Oh yes.

Int: For the different holidays of the year and?

DB: We were supposed to have some recognition of the holiday.

Int: Fly the flag in the morning?

DB: Oh yes.

Int: When did custodial help and that come into the picture, when the teacher wasn't so responsible for doing everything __?

DB: Well, I think it must have been just since the Silver Creek School was built, because I know we always, the teacher would hire some of the older boys to do custodial work too.

Int: How do you think teaching has changed, Dorotha, from when you taught to teaching today?

DB: Well I find out, in my own experience with my own children and all, that the boys and girls that I taught in school had a great deal of respect for their teacher. More so than the boys and girls do today. Maybe I'm wrong in saying that, but what I see of the children today I can say that.

Int: Yeah, did, the parents supported you as a teacher-authority?

DB: Yes they did, uh-huh.

Int: After your, your teaching career out here Dorotha you became an active member of the community, still involved in education. Who were some of the things that you did as an involved parent?

DB: Well I was president of the P.T.A. and we tried hard to get different activities in and confer with the teachers on what problems they would have and see what we could do to help them.

Int: What were your years as a farm wife like?

DB: Busy years. [Chuckles] There wasn't much time for playing then!

Int: What type of a farm did you have?

DB: We had a poultry farm, for several years we had a poultry farm and then oh, the prices of feed and everything went so high that you couldn't afford to keep many chickens and pay the price of the feed. So then we went into truck gardening.

Int: What was your husband's name?

DB: Alex Bordeau.

Int: Has he, had he been a member of a family that had been in Chocolay Township many years?

DB: Yes.

Int: How long had his family been in Chocolay Township?

DB: They moved here in 1896, his father and mother. And his father had been member of the school board in the earlier years. And they were always quite active in the township, a member of the township board, and the school board.

Int: Where did you raise your family, Dorotha?

DB: In Cherry Creek

Int: In the farmhouse there?

DB: In a farmhouse. Um-hmm.

Int: How many children?

DB: Five.

Int: What are you involved in today, Dorotha? What keeps you busy?

DB: Senior Citizens!

Int: Tell me a little about how Senior Citizens got started out here in Chocolay Township.

DB: Well, several of us that attended the meetings downtown and say that they've had a good time and all, and there were many here. And Mrs. Esten Comstock had also been and going downtown to the activities, and Mrs. Ewing. So we just got our heads together one day and wondered, "Why can't we start something?"

Int: What year was that, Dorotha?

DB: Oh...about 1960, '61.

Int: So then what did you do?

DB: Oh, we'd just meet and play cards and just have a visit and have a good time.

Int: And it has now developed into a weekly activity out here?

DB: No, we meet just once a month out here. But we do have, now we have now gotten the Title VII meals here, that we have at two different places every week, at Prince of Peace and St. Louis Churches.

Int: What do you plan on doing now Dorotha, with your so-called free time?

DB: Free time! I just keep active with the Senior Citizens and on the go a great deal.

Int: Do any of your former students ever stop by and see you?

DB: Oh yes. Yeah, they do, many of them. Many of them come to our Senior Citizens meals.

Int: And visit with you?

DB: And visit.

Int: Living on the farm, Dorotha, what was it like living on Cherry Creek in those days? What did it look like out that way? There's so many new homes there now. Describe what the area looked like then.

DB: It was rather barren there were not many homes on Cherry Creek Road. There was one, two, three, four. About four or five homes along here.

Int: Who were some of the families that lived out there?

DB: The Ewing family and the Billings family, Boyal [Boreal?] family, the Menhennick family, that was about all from the corner of Cherry Creek Road and 41 to the corner of 480. 480 Road was not in at that time.

Int: When did 480 go in?

DB: I don't remember what year it was. Because there were boys and girls that lived back from the school. Let's see, who lives there now? Mr. Barr, the Barr home, they lived there and they had to walk across the fields in the snowdrifts and all in the wintertime.

Int: How did you get out in the winter?

DB: How did I get out? Plowed through the snowdrifts and all. [Chuckles]

Int: Any plowing?

DB: A plow came in, in about 1928 the first plow went through.

Int: How about doctor services of medical care out here?

DB: Doctors would come out here at that time. Call a doctor he would make house calls.

Int: What was Harvey like in those days as far as churches and other things, were there any of those?

DB: There were only two churches in Chocolay Township at that time, the Episcopal Church and the Green Garden Lutheran Church.

Int: What was Harvey, primarily then, I notice a lot of cottages along the lake?

DB: Along the lake at that time there were very, very few cottages and they were never used...

SKIP IN TAPE

DB: The cottages weren't used in the wintertime at all.

Int: This was sort of a resort area?

DB: It was, more or less the Lakewood was a resort area.

Int: Were there any businesses that catered just to people that were tourists?

DB: No, nope. Only store, the grocery store was the Ford Store.

Int: Is that building still up today?

DB: That build, no it burned I believe.

Int: How many years have you lived here in Chocolay, Dorotha?

DB: I have lived here about forty-two years.

Int: With, with a break in between?

DB: With a break in between, we moved into town for a few years.

Int: What do you see as the biggest change in the area?

DB: The building of all the homes, so many new homes that have gone up, I just can't believe that they could find a place for them all.

Int: Sort of interesting to see farms that have been farms that subdivided now into...

DB: Oh yes.

Int: What happened to your, what is now on your property that you owned at one time?

DB: I understand that has been subdivided. The property across Cherry Creek that belonged to our farm has been sold and new homes going up in there which I can't understand.

Int: Well Chocolay certainly has grown in...

DB: Chocolay has grown

Int: In the past years and it has grown in many ways. Education has certainly changed over.

DB: Oh yes, the education has changed, the children have more opportunities for higher education, even as far as college is concerned with, better transportation for going to college then we had.

Int: Did any of your children follow you into the teaching career?

DB: No. No.

Int: I imagine you inspired some children though that would go on to teach.

DB: I've always taught, and I've always taught getting a higher education that they're not going to get anywhere until they can get a higher education. And now a days with only a high school diploma, a college diploma means more.

Int: That's true. Well there sure has been changes right here in Chocolay in the last fifty-eight years since 1921.

DB: There has been many, many changes.

Int: Well I've certainly enjoyed talking to you Dorotha.

DB: I've enjoyed talking to you Donna. It's been a pleasure.

Int: It's been a pleasure and I know when we meet again we'll have more things to chat about.

DB: I think we could always find something to chat about.

Int: Thank you very much Dorotha.

END OF INTERVIEW