

Oral Histories of Tompkins County

Archival Finding Aid

The History Center in Tompkins County
110 North Tioga St
Ithaca NY 14850
607-273-8284
www.thehistorycenter.net
archives@thehistorycenter.net

Women's Voices in Tompkins County: Oral History Collection

The *Women's Voices in Tompkins County Oral History Collection* was established in 2021 to highlight interviews and stories in our archives that explore the experiences of women in Tompkins County. The topics of these interviews explore a wide range of experiences, community, and culture, and the stories shared may have been guided by the specific project the interview was recorded for. This collection will continue to expand as our Oral History archives continue to grow.

Trigger Warnings: white supremacy, anti-Black sentiment, domestic abuse, death, gender-erasure, sexual assault, death, sexually explicit, child abuse, child sexual abuse, AIDS epidemic, drug use, drug addiction.

We are still processing this collection, and are creating accompanying transcripts and listing details for each interview.

Interviews with:

Akua Akyea (00:14:50)

Akua Akyea reflects on her childhood spent in Africa, Western Europe, and Canada and the lifelong connection with food that led her to opening Mama Loye's Cafe in Dryden. She also discusses her personal philosophy of the importance of growth and trying things outside of her comfort zone.

Trigger warnings: war, descriptions of state sanctioned violence

- *Recorded 4/27/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-4-27_Akyea-Akua*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-4-27_Akyea-Akua_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Immigration & Food Project in 2019.*

Laura Almquist '56*

- *Recorded 11/2/2016*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2016-11-2_Almquist-Laura*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2016-11-2_Almquist-Laura_Transcript*

Johanna Anderson (53 minutes) - Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Services (INHS)

Johanna Anderson discusses INHS's transition to a virtual setting and how that impacted the work they were doing in the area. Anderson goes on to explain how INHS adapted to the situation, including what groups were still active and to

what extent. Anderson also addresses the new programs INHS developed to support the community, even programs beyond the scope of their purpose.

- *Recording Date: 4/21/2021*
- *Name of Interviewer: Audry Hong*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2021-04-21_Anderson-Johanna*
 - *Digital Format: M4A*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2021-04-21_Anderson-Johanna_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the “2020-2021 Community Responses to COVID”*

Ned Asta (11/14/2019 - 01:23:22)

Ned Asta discusses her relationship to art, travels across the United States, and participation in the women’s and gay liberation movements during the 1960’s, ‘70s, and ‘80s. She also reflects on her experience as a founding member of Lavender Hill, a LGBT commune located in Danby in the 1970’s.

Trigger warnings: sexual assault, death, sexually explicit, AIDS epidemic, drug use

- *Recorded 11/14/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-11-14_Asta-Ned*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-11-14_Asta-Ned_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the HERSTORY Project in 2019.*

Aneda “Ned” Asta (43 minutes) - Moosewood

Ned Asta talks about their experience as an owner of Moosewood and how the pandemic impacted their business. Asta goes into the collective owners’ debate on closing for good and the many decisions that came into play due to the pandemic. Asta also discusses her personal losses and experience with the pandemic.

- *Recording Date: 6/15/2021*
- *Name of Interviewer: David Marantes*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2021-06-15_Asta-Aneda*
 - *Digital Format: M4A & MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2021-06-15_Asta-Aneda_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the “2020-2021 Community Responses to COVID”*

Nancy Bereano (10/28/2019 - 55 minutes) (3/11/2020 - 01:02:21)

Nancy Bereano talks about her work as a welfare rights organizer and her experience fighting for LGBTQ anti-discrimination legislation to be passed in Ithaca and Tompkins County in the 1990s. She also speaks about her small business, Firebrand Books, a nationally acclaimed lesbian and feminist publishing company.

- *Recorded 10/28/2019*

- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-10-28_Bereano-Nancy*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-10-28_Bereano-Nancy_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Local Sisters of Change Project in 2019.*

 Nancy Bereano recounts her experience participating in anti-war activity during the 1960s and becoming a feminist. She also discusses her relationships with writers during the fifteen years Firebrand Books existed and her later advocacy in the City of Ithaca.

Trigger warning: gender-erasure

- *Recorded 3/11/2020*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2020-3-11_Bereano-Nancy*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2020-3-11_Bereano-Nancy_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Local Sisters of Change Project in 2020.*

Rose Bethe (11 minutes)

Rose speaks about her experiences as a teenager in Stuttgart, Germany, in the 1930s. She was shunned by friends in the classroom, the laws in Germany changed, ultimately requiring her family to flee. She came alone to the U.S. and worked as a “scullery maid” before being admitted to Smith College and continuing her education.

Trigger warning(s): antisemitism, violent imagery, Nazis, Holocaust

- *Recorded: unknown (Likely 2015 or 2016)*
- *Name of Interviewer: Carol Morris*
- *Audio File: OHTC_Bethe-Rose*
 - *Digital Format: MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_Bethe-Rose*
 - *Digital Format: PDF & docx*
- *Recorded as part of the "Oral History of Holocaust Survivors Who Settled in Tompkins County"*

Hazel Brill Brampton (70 minutes)

Hazel Brill Brampton discusses her experience growing up in the Ithaca community, including forming a family and seeking higher education in the region. Brampton explains the impact of World War II in the region, including drafts and rationing of supplies, and Cornell University. Brampton also goes into the sexism she faced as an undergraduate and then graduate student, and how life was for women in that time period.

- *Recorded 2016*
- *Name of Interviewer: Madeline Turner*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2016_Brampton-Hazel-Brill*
 - *Digital Format: MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2016_Brampton-Hazel-Brill_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Microsoft Word & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the 2016 - Generation to Generation Oral History Project*

Krys Cail (01:25:38)

Krys Cail is a consultant working with food production and distribution enterprises, particularly smaller scale cooperative ventures. Having spent most of her life in upstate New York, she reflects on the environmental changes she has witnessed over the past few decades. She talks about her frustration with the individualist consumer-oriented responses to ecological crises, and emphasizes the need for collective and political action.

- *Recorded 06/25/2019*
- *Name of Interviewer: Rachel Garber Cole*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-6-25_Cail-Krys*
 - *Digital Format: MP3 & WAV*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-6-25_Cail-Krys_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: PDF & Word Doc*
- *Recorded as part of the 2019 - The Warmest Years on Record (Ithaca) - An Oral History - by Rachel Garber Cole*

Millicent Clarke-Maynard (38 minutes)

Millicent Clarke-Maynard, who was born and raised in Harlem, NY, spent her career as an educator at the primary level in Ithaca, NY. In this interview, Ms. Clarke-Maynard reflects on her role in the community.

Trigger warning: child abuse

- *Recorded 10/16/2018*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2018-10-16_Clarke-Maynard-Millicent*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2018-10-16_Clarke-Maynard-Millicent_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Cornell Anthropology 1900 Project in 2018.*

Tal Oron Cohen (00:51:58)

Tal Oron Cohen discusses spending time in Israel, Denmark, and New Mexico before coming to Ithaca in 2006. She reflects on running her business, Ba-Li Cravings, building a commercial kitchen in her basement, and her experience as an immigrant in the United States.

Trigger warning: war

- *Recorded 4/20/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-4-20_Cohen-Tal-Oron*
- *Transcript: OHTC_2019-4-20_Cohen-Tal-Oron_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Immigration & Food Project in 2019.*

Elizabeth “Betty” Conger (54 minutes)

Elizabeth “Betty” Conger describes her experience growing up in Groton. Conger goes into her childhood years, including her education and hobbies, and explains her family’s roles in and out of the home. Conger also demonstrates how Groton has changed throughout the years, and shares her opinion on current Groton living.

- *Recorded 05/07/2016*
- *Name of Interviewer: Francesca Chu*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2016-5-7_Conger-Elizabeth (Betty)*
 - *Digital Format: MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2016-5-7_Conger-Elizabeth (Betty)_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Microsoft Word & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the 2016 - Generation to Generation Oral History Project*

Audrey Cooper (00:48:23)

Audrey Cooper speaks about her work in the community since moving to Ithaca in 1967 at the age of seventeen. Having worked with the Greater Ithaca Activities Center (GIAC), the Southside Community Center, and the Multicultural Resource Center, she has organized events serving marginalized members of the community, including the West End Breakfast Club, GIAC's annual M.L.K. Jr. commemorative breakfast, and Sister Friends.

Trigger warnings: anti-Black sentiment, domestic abuse, death

- *Recorded 10/29/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-10-29_Cooper-Audrey*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-10-29_Cooper-Audrey_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Local Sisters of Change Project in 2019.*

Betsy Darlington (00:25:29)

Betsy Darlington reflects on her work at Belle Sherman Elementary School since 1971 and with the Finger Lakes Land Trust, which she helped found in 1989. Darlington volunteered full-time for the Finger Lakes Land Trust for twenty years. She also discusses her favorite places in the area and the effects of urban development on Ithaca.

- *Recorded 11/5/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-11-5_Darlington-Betsy*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-11-5_Darlington-Betsy_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the HERSTORY Project in 2019.*

Ruth Davis (00:57:08)

Reflecting on her long, eventful life, Ruth Davis talks about her experiences growing up in Bridgeport, Connecticut, after World War I, and the ups and downs of studying, socializing, and dating as a young adult during the Depression and World War II. She recalls moving to Ithaca with her husband and two infant children in the immediate postwar years, and the struggles of living on a limited income on the Cornell campus while her husband studied for a Masters and Doctorate degree. Ruth later established a number of youth theater initiatives in Ithaca, for both Ithaca College and the local community, and she reflects on her experiences straddling the town-gown divide.

- *Interviewer: Laura Willemsen and Meredith Buchberg*

- *Interview took place at: Longview Senior Living Community, 1 Bella Vista Dr. Ithaca NY 14850*
- *Recorded 8/22/2006*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2006-8-22_Davis-Ruth*
- *File Format(s): MP4 & MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2006-8-22_Davis-Ruth_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the 2006 Interview our Elders project*

Anne Dimock (104 minutes)

Anne Dimock discusses her family's connection to Ithaca for many generations, including local names like the Hanshaw family. Dimock describes how love took her around the state, and how she ended up back as an artist in Tompkins County. Dimock's narrative focuses on her childhood, including her time as a ski instructor, and experiences in 4-H.

- *Recorded: 2018*
- *Name of Interviewer: Thea Clarkberg*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2018-5-15_Dimock-Anne*
 - *Digital Format: M4A & MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2018-5-15_Dimock-Anne_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the 2018 - Seniors - Generation to Generation - Oral History Project*

Nina Ebb (00:40:55)

Nina Ebb is a survivor of the Holocaust and the concentration camp Terezin. Ebb recounts a happy childhood in Czechoslovakia, the experience of being a Jewish child in a Nazi-occupied Bohemia, and the horrors of life in Terezin. For a large portion of this recording Ebb is reading from a written account of her life she had already prepared.

Trigger Warnings: discussion of Holocaust, experiences of antisemitism, discussion of sexual violence, experiences of hunger, childhood experiences of death

- *Interviewer: Laura Willemsen and Meredith Buchberg*
- *Interview took place at: Longview Senior Living Community, 1 Bella Vista Dr. Ithaca NY 14850*
- *Recorded 8/22/2006*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2006-8-22_Ebb-Nina*
- *File Format(s): MP4 & MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2006-8-22_Ebb-Nina_Transcript*

Margaret Ebersold (105 minutes)

Margaret Ebersold explains her family's role in Tompkins County, including Number Fives Fire and managing the Cayuga salt mine, as well as more national events, like Pearl Harbor. Ebersold also describes her experience living through World War II, and the invasion of Africa, especially having family members deployed to both wars.

- *Recorded 2016*
- *Name of Interviewer: Sarah Skervin*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2016_Ebersold-Margaret*
 - *Digital Format: WAV*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2016_Ebersold-Margaret_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Microsoft Word & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the 2016 - Generation to Generation Oral History Project*

Candace Edwards (00:40:47)

Candace Edwards, creator of Qinfock, an Ithaca-based festival that celebrates art made by the QTPOC (Queer and Trans People of Color) community, reflects on her childhood, time in college, and organization of the Qinfock Festival. She speaks about her work with the People's Hurricane Relief Fund in New Orleans during college and her future hopes for Qinfock.

- *Recorded 10/31/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-10-31_Edwards-Candace*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-10-31_Edwards-Candace_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Local Sisters of Change Project in 2019.*

Ann Erlich (19 minutes)

Ann Erlich speaks about her life as a child of Holocaust survivors, speaking with her husband, Howard. Born in a DP (displaced persons?) camp in Mittenwald, Germany, Ann is the oldest child of a young couple whose large Polish Jewish families were destroyed by the Nazis. Ann explains how, when she was young, her parents did not talk about their past and focused all their energy on making a new life in America. Their luck in being sponsored by an American soldier, who almost forgot about them when they got off the boat, showed the complete trust that the young refugees had in a kind stranger who eventually became a friend. Ann describes how new arrivals depended on a network of relationships just to find a place to live. As a young girl, Ann was called upon to translate for her parents (who only spoke Yiddish) while they struggled to get settled.

Trigger warning(s): antisemitism, Holocaust

- *Recorded: February 2017*
- *Name of Interviewer: Howard Erlich*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2017-2_Erlich-Ann*
 - *Digital Format: MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2017-2_Erlich-Ann*
 - *Digital Format: PDF & docx*
- *Recorded as part of the "Oral History of Holocaust Survivors Who Settled in Tompkins County"*

Yvonne Fisher and David Hirsch (55 minutes)

David Hirsch and Yvonne Fisher discuss Newfield/West Danby Lavender Hill commune, which was centered around the feminist movement and queer community. They shed light on the commune's migration to Tompkins and challenges faced at the individual and community level. Hirsch and Fisher reflect on their experience living there and delve into different events and movements that developed that community.

Trigger warnings: Substance abuse, homophobia, AIDS Epidemic and associated loss

- *Recorded 10/31/2019*
- *Name of Interviewer: Rod Howe*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-10-31_Fisher-Yvonne_and_Hirsch-David*
 - *Digital Format: MP3 and MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-10-31_Fisher-Yvonne_and_Hirsch-David_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the 2019 Communes of Tompkins County Oral History Project*

Marcia Fort Baum (48 minutes)

Marcia Fort Baum reflects on the experiences that have informed her work in the community empowering young people with the Ithaca Youth Bureau and the Greater Ithaca Activities Center (GIAC). She emphasizes the importance of encouraging others and pointing out their strengths, which put her on the path of serving the community as a long-time leader of GIAC.

Trigger warning: anti-Black sentiment

- *Recorded 10/22/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-10-22_Fort-Baum-Marcia*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-10-22_Fort-Baum-Marcia_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Local Sisters of Change Project in 2019.*

Cory Foster (00:35:19)

Cory Foster discusses her work as a surgeon at Cayuga Medical Center. She reflects on her time as Chairperson of the Community-Based Endocrine Surgery Committee and its efforts to give community-based surgeons a voice within the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons.

- *Recorded 11/12/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-11-12_Foster-Cory*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-11-12_Foster-Cory_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the HERSTORY Project in 2019.*

Erica Frenay (00:29:34)

Erica Frenay discusses how she got involved in agriculture, from volunteering on a farm as an undergraduate student at Cornell, to doing farm nonprofit work in Portland, Oregon, to deciding to run her own farm. She also speaks to how she uses her farm as a laboratory to develop methods to teach beginning farmers in the Cornell Small Farms Program, as well as the many facets of organic farming.

- *Recorded 11/3/2018*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2018-11-3_Frenay-Erica*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2018-11-3_Frenay-Erica_Transcript*

Karen Friedeborn (00:50:26)

Karen Friedeborn discusses her work in community organizing since coming to Ithaca in the 1980s. She has worked to address the inequities in the local school district and Tompkins County community as a whole as an Ithaca Youth Bureau employee; working primarily with youth in programs at Beverly J. Martin Elementary School.

- *Recorded 10/24/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-10-24_Friedeborn-Karen*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-10-24_Friedeborn-Karen_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Local Sisters of Change Project in 2019.*

Kara Frost-Clapp (24 minutes) - Trumansburg Central School District

Kara Frost-Klapp, an 8th grade Social Studies teacher at Trumansburg Central School District (TCSD), details the experience of being a teacher navigating the start of the COVID-19 Pandemic and the lasting effects it has had in her classroom. She goes into discussion about how TCSD has been handling the current circumstance of the 2020-2021 academic school year, and especially how it has impacted her students and their relationship to school. Frost-Klapp, also goes on to mention how being a teacher has changed within a very short period of time, and how she and her fellow staff members are trying to best reach their students.

Trigger warnings: police brutality, descriptions of state sanctioned violence

- *Recording Date: 5/14/2021*
- *Name of Interviewer: Nina Johnson*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2021-05-14_Frost-Clapp-Kara*
 - *Digital Format: M4A & MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2021-05-14_Frost-Clapp-Kara_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the “2020-2021 Community Responses to COVID”*

Amy Fuhr (33 minutes) - The William Henry Miller Inn

Amy Fuhr discusses her experience managing an inn throughout the pandemic, and how it impacted her business and workers. Fuhr dives into the economic repercussions of shutting down, and the decision behind staying closed for slightly longer and reopening policies. Fuhr also explains the community’s involvement in helping her business stay afloat and her hopes for the future.

- *Recording Date: 6/3/2021*

- *Name of Interviewer: David Marantes*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2021-06-03_Fuhr-Amy*
 - *Digital Format: MP3 & MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2021-06-03_Fuhr-Amy_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the “2020-2021 Community Responses to COVID”*

Juliana Garcia (54 minutes) - Tompkins Mutual Aid

Juliana Garcia discusses her experience working and co-founding Tompkins Mutual Aid during the pandemic. Garcia goes into the changes made by Mutual Aid to support more members of the community that would usually not qualify for more formal programs. Garcia also explains Mutual Aid’s relationship with local group and government organizations, and how that was impacted by the pandemic as well.

Trigger warnings: Systemic Racism, violence against protestors

- *Recording Date: 3/24/2021*
- *Name of Interviewer: Audry Hong*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2021-03-24_Garcia-Juliana*
 - *Digital Format: M4A & MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2021-03-24_Garcia-Juliana_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the “2020-2021 Community Responses to COVID”*

Jennifer “Jenny” Graham

Jenny Graham discusses her experience working at a segregated school in Georgia while studying elementary education at Fort Valley State College. She reflects on moving to Ithaca in 1965, working at Cornell, and belonging to Club Essence, a social group that promoted unity among Black women, as one of its first members.

Trigger warning(s): systemic racism, child sexual abuse, anti-Black sentiment, sexism

- *Recorded 10/24/2017*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2017-10-25_Graham-Jenny*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2017-10-25_Graham-Jenny_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Cornell Anthropology 1900 Project in 2017.*

Elaan Greenfield (00:49:24)

Elaan Greenfield discusses her passion for jewelry and metalsmithing and how it led to her career as “a small business owner, a manager, a designer, a jeweler, a metalsmith, a teacher.” She also speaks about the challenges that come with being a business owner, particularly a female business owner with children.

- *Recorded 11/11/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-11-11_Greenfield-Elaan*

- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-11-11_Greenfield-Elaan_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the HERstory Project in 2019.*

Elsie Gutchess (74 minutes)

Elsie Gutchess describes growing up in Dryden during World War II, including rationing and the role of children in supporting war efforts. Gutchess reflects on her experience as a Girl Scout and her relationship to other children in the area. Gutchess also explains her role as a historian in the Town of Dryden and how her experiences have helped document the history of the area.

- *Recorded 2016*
- *Name of Interviewer: Erin Root*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2016_Gutchess-Elsie-Erin*
 - *Digital Format: WAV and MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2016_Gutchess-Elsie-Erin_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Microsoft Word & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the 2016 - Generation to Generation Oral History Project*

Ooy and Bonner Herren (00:28:12)

Ooy Herren discusses her business ventures in Thailand, including a gas station and a bakery, and her restaurant in Ithaca, Thai Basil. She also discusses the time-intensive nature of owning a small business and the difficulties that the language barrier has imposed.

- *Recorded 5/5/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-5-5_Herren-Ooy-and-Bonner*
- *Transcript: OHTC_2019-5-5_Herren-Ooy-and-Bonner_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Immigration & Food Project in 2019.*

Samantha Hillson (57 minutes) - Tompkins County Health Department

Samantha Hillson explains the Tompkins County Health Department’s reaction to the pandemic and the spread of information regarding the dangers associated with it. Hillson discusses her role in keeping the community informed and releasing important updates as the pandemic progressed. Hillson shares her hopes for the future and experience living and working throughout the pandemic.

Recording Date: 12/16/2020

- *Name of Interviewer: Audry Hong*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2020-12-16_Hillson-Samantha*
 - *Digital Format: MP3 & MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2020-12-16_Hillson-Samantha_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the “2020-2021 Community Responses to COVID”*

Katherine “Kathie” Karakantas (00:24:01)

Katherine Karakantas reflects on the diner that her parents owned as Greek immigrants in Ithaca during the twentieth century. She discusses her role in the diner as a teenager, the Greek tradition of opening diners in the United States, and the evolution of social and restaurant culture in Ithaca.

- *Recorded 6/21/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-6-21_Karakantas-Katherine*
- *Transcript: OHTC_2019-6-21_Karakantas-Katherine_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Immigration & Food Project in 2019.*

Anna Kelles (67 minutes) - New York State Assemblymember, 25th District

Anna Kelles, a freshman Assemblymember of the 25th District of New York State, goes into detail the initial and following responses of Tompkins County with the news of COVID-19. Kelles depicts the situations that she had to navigate as a leader of the community, from food insecurity, to the return of Cornell students for the 2020 Fall semester. Through this interview, Kelles details the importance local governments and citizens have on their communities during times in and out of crisis.

Trigger warnings: mental health, mental illness, poverty, lack of food

- *Recording Date: 12/22/2020*
- *Name of Interviewer: Nabihah Qureshi*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2020-12-22_Kelles-Anna*
 - *Digital Format: M4A & MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2020-12-22_Kelles-Anna_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the "2020-2021 Community Responses to COVID"*

Dooley Kiefer (39 minutes)

Dooley Kiefer describes her experience growing up in a military family and moving around the United States, and the U.S. territory of Guam. Kiefer describes her family life, both as a child and now as an adult, and discusses her experience as a student at Cornell. Kiefer's account discusses how much campus living and interactions between different groups have changed over the years.

- *Recorded: June 2018*
- *Name of Interviewer: Katie Keegan*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2018-6_Kiefer-Dooley*
 - *Digital Format: M4A & MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2018-6_Kiefer-Dooley_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the 2018 - Seniors - Generation to Generation - Oral History Project*

Elizabeth "Liz" Klothmann (45 minutes) - Ithaca Youth Bureau

Elizabeth Klohmann discusses how the pandemic affected the Youth Bureau programming for children. Klohmann explains how the programs transitioned to a virtual then hybrid environment, and how this impacted the workers and environment. Klohmann also discusses the goals of the Ithaca Youth Bureau and how this has changed with COVID.

- *Recording Date: 4/15/2021*
- *Name of Interviewer: Audry Hong*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2021-04-15_Klohmann-Liz*
 - *Digital Format: M4A & MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2021-04-15_Klohmann-Liz_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the "2020-2021 Community Responses to COVID"*

Irene Komor

- *Recorded as part of the Generation to Generation Project in 2017.*

Beth Krause (27 minutes) - Ithaca City School District

Beth Krause discusses her experience working as a food service director for the Ithaca City School District during the COVID-19 pandemic. Krause details the district's approach to reduce food insecurity during those times, and how the food service community came together to support those measures. Krause expands on the food distribution program, its development, and lessons learned in the process.

Trigger warning: Discussions of food insecurity and child hunger

- *Recording Date: 6/9/2021*
- *Name of Interviewer: Nina Johnson*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2021-06-09_Krause-Beth*
 - *Digital Format: M4A & MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2021-06-09_Krause-Beth_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the "2020-2021 Community Responses to COVID"*

Noemi Kraut (16 minutes)

Noemi Kraut was born in Antwerp, Belgium into a Jewish family of active Zionists who worked in the diamond trade. After the invasion of Belgium by the Germans in 1940, Noemi's parents planned their escape from Antwerp to London, England. They left Antwerp with two small suitcases and young Noemi to the coast of Belgium where they got rides on military trucks crossing into France. Travelling up and down the coast of Belgium and France they were looking for a ship that would take them to England. Ultimately, an Egyptian sailor took pity on them, and convinced his captain to allow them to board a freighter destined for the U.S.. Noemi and her parents disembarked in England where they lived until the war was over.

- *Recorded April, 2017*
- *Name of Interviewer: unknown*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2016-5_Kraut-Noemi*
 - *Digital Format: MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2016-5_Kraut-Noemi*
 - *Digital Format: PDF & docx*
- *Recorded as part of the "Oral History of Holocaust Survivors Who Settled in Tompkins County"*

Colleen Ledley (46 minutes) - Lansing Central School District

Colleen Ledley discusses her experience as a member of the Lansing Central School District and how her role was affected by the pandemic. Ledley expands on issues with the transition to online learning and the work to make it as smooth of a transition as possible. Ledley also goes into attempts and inclusivity in the school district and how the events throughout the pandemic were catalysts for this change.

- *Recording Date: 6/22/2021*
- *Name of Interviewer: Nina Johnson*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2021-06-22_Ledley-Colleen*
 - *Digital Format: M4A & MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2021-06-22_Ledley-Colleen_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the "2020-2021 Community Responses to COVID"*

Nancy Leeming (57 minutes)

Nancy Leeming explains her upbringing, including her travels as a child and how she ended up in Ithaca with her family. Leeming explains her role in various local groups, primarily those affiliated to Cornell, and how it helped her create a space for different communities. Leeming also discusses her family life and unique experiences she had growing up in the midwest and studying at Wells College.

- *Recorded: 06/26/2018*
- *Name of Interviewer: Jesse Larson*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2018-6-26_Leeming-Nancy*
 - *Digital Format: MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2018-6-26_Leeming-Nancy_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the 2018 - Seniors - Generation to Generation - Oral History Project*

Louise Matosich (52 minutes)

Louise Matosich gives an intimate account of being a first generation Italian-American citizen in Ithaca New York, from the 1930s to twenty-first century. She goes into great detail how Ithaca has changed over the years both structurally and socially. She discusses her experience of Ithaca during multiple

wartimes and the changes that the colleges and schools went through during World War II.

- *Recorded 2016*
- *Name of Interviewer: Thea Clarkberg*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2016_Matosich-Louise*
 - *Digital Format: WAV & MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2016_Matosich-Louise_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Microsoft Word & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the 2016 - Generation to Generation Oral History Project*

Joyce McAllister

- *Recorded as part of the Generation to Generation Project in 2017.*

Leslyn McBean-Clairborne* (10/24/2019 - 44 minutes)

Leslyn McBean-Clairborne discusses how her passion for teaching and equity took her from working in the Ithaca City School District to working as a case worker and trainer to working with the Southside Community Center and Greater Ithaca Activities Center (GIAC). She also speaks to her personal philosophy of equity and justice.

Trigger warning: white supremacy

- *Recorded 10/24/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-10-24_McBean-Clairborne-Leslyn*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-10-24_McBean-Clairborne-Leslyn_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Local Sisters of Change Project in 2019.*

Leslyn McBean-Clairborne (54 minutes) - Greater Ithaca Activities Center (GIAC), Tompkins County Legislature

Leslyn McBean-Clairborne explains how she managed being a chair of the Tompkins County Legislature and GIAC throughout the pandemic, and the challenges she faced. McBean-Clairborne expands on efforts to alleviate the effects of covid and closures on the community, including food insecurity, testing, quarantining, and vaccinations. She also explains new projects developed to help families, and what she hopes these will accomplish after the pandemic as well.

- *Recording Date: 4/16/2021*
- *Name of Interviewer: Thomas Petluck*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2021-04-16_McBean-Clairborne-Leslyn*
 - *Digital Format: MP3 & MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2021-04-16_McBean-Clairborne-Leslyn_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the "2020-2021 Community Responses to COVID"*

Phyllis McNeill

- *Recorded as part of the Generation to Generation Project in 2017.*

Marie McRae (01:10:07)

Marie McRae, farmer and Dryden local, discusses adapting farming methods in reaction to the changing climate; banning fracking in New York with the Dryden Resource Awareness Coalition; and advocating for solar panels and carbon farming in Tompkins County. McRae emphasizes the need for collective action under strong leadership to effectively fight climate change.

- *Recorded 06/26/2019*
- *Name of Interviewer: Rachel Garber Cole*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-6-26_McRae-Marie*
 - *Digital Format: MP3 & WAV*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-6-26_McRae-Marie_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: PDF & Word Doc*
- *Recorded as part of the 2019 - The Warmest Years on Record (Ithaca) - An Oral History - by Rachel Garber Cole*

Laurie Meeks (Carrington-Meeks) (00:21:55)

Laurie Carrington-Meeks is asked about her childhood growing up in the Southside community in Ithaca. She recalls the block parties on Plain Street that she would organize with her friends (with the support of Southside Community Center), the odd-jobs she would perform for neighbors for pocket-money, and the shared responsibility of parenting that helped define the community.

- *Interviewer: Jessica Winter*
- *Interview took place at: Greater Ithaca Activities Center, 301 W. Court St, Ithaca NY 14850*
- *Recorded 8/10/2006*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2006-8-10_Meeks-Laurie*
- *File Format(s): MP4 & MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2006-8-10_Meeks-Laurie_Transcript*

Mimi Melegrito (61 minutes)

Mimi Melegrito discusses her childhood in the Philippines and the story of how she immigrated to the United States. She reflects on her first memories of the US, the story of how she met her husband and moved to Ithaca, and her work in Ithaca as a volunteer in nursing homes, food banks, and local 4-H youth clubs and programs.

Trigger warning: violent imagery.

- *Recorded 3/2018*
- *Audio File(s): OHTC_2018-Melegrito-Mimi_PT1 and OHTC_2018-Melegrito-Mimi_PT2*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2018-Melegrito-Mimi_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Generation to Generation Project in 2018.*

Mimi Melegrito discusses working with teenagers at GIAC since the 1980s and her efforts to resolve conflicts among these teenagers, often dealing with issues of racial prejudice and substance use. She also discusses her mission of

improving people's lives and her observations about housing discrimination in Ithaca.

Trigger warning: violent imagery.

- Recorded 10/25/2017
- Audio File: OHTC_2017-10-25_Melegrito-Mimi
- Transcript File: OHTC_2017-10-25_Melegrito-Mimi_Transcript
- Recorded as part of the Cornell Anthropology 1900 Project in 2017.

Jacqueline “Jackie” Melton Scott (01:26:54)

Jackie Melton Scott reflects on her life-long passion for equity and justice, from her organizing efforts in junior high to establishing the Cambridge Montessori School. Before her death in 2019, Jackie Melton Scott worked as the Family Literacy Facilitator at Beverly J. Martin Elementary School.

Trigger warning: systemic racism, sexism.

- Recorded 11/4/2008
- Audio File: OHTC_2008-11-4_Scott-Melton-Jackie
- Transcript File: OHTC_2008-11-4_Scott-Melton-Jackie_Transcript

Alexandra Moore (01:49:23)

Alexandra Moore discusses reforestation in Hawaii with undergraduate students while teaching at Cornell; addressing the climate crisis step-by-step; and focusing on climate education at a young age. Moore reflects on past and current climate movements in Tompkins County and emphasizes community and education as critical components in the fight against climate change.

- Recorded 06/28/2019
- Name of Interviewer: Rachel Garber Cole
- Audio File: OHTC_2019-6-28_Moore-Alexandra
 - Digital Format: MP3 & WAV
- Transcript File: OHTC_2019-6-28_Moore-Alexandra_Transcript
 - Digital Format: PDF & Word Doc
- Recorded as part of the 2019 - *The Warmest Years on Record (Ithaca) - An Oral History* - by Rachel Garber Cole

June Morse* (51 minutes)

June Morse gives a very detailed account on her take and experience of WWII as a teenager who was evacuated from her home of Liverpool into the English countryside. Morse also shares her history of how she became a teacher. Morse also talks about how she came to live and reside in Ithaca in the early 1960s.

Trigger warning(s): evacuation experiences of WWII

- Recorded: 06/15/2018
- Name of Interviewer: Thea Clarkberg
- Audio File: OHTC_2018-6-15_Morse-June
 - Digital Format: M4A & MP3
- Transcript File: OHTC_2018-6-15_Morse-June_Transcript
 - Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF

- *Recorded as part of the 2018 - Seniors - Generation to Generation - Oral History Project*

Dr. Nia Nunn (00:47:47)

Dr. Nia Nunn, the President of the Board of Directors for Southside Community Center, speaks to the importance of Black spaces in her childhood, Southside in particular. She reflects on her foundation in Ithaca, her work in the Ithaca community surrounding education and the Black community, and the people who inspire her.

- *Recorded 10/30/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-10-31_Nunn-Nia*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-10-30_Nunn-Nia_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Local Sisters of Change Project in 2019.*

Yen Ospina (00:34:01)

Yen Ospina discusses her art, spirituality, and cultural identity. She reflects on how art has helped her express herself in times of stress and trauma and how her respect for women and the planet have inspired her to include these themes in her art.

Trigger warnings: child abuse, child sexual abuse

- *Recorded 11/14/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-11-14_Ospina-Yen*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-11-14_Ospina-Yen_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the HERSTORY Project in 2019.*

Beth Pallace (56 minutes)

Beth Pallace (56 minutes) - Discovery Trail

Pallace, goes into detail about how life was working with the Discovery Trail (as the newly appointed Executive Director) right before and during the pandemic. Pallace talks about the experience the Discovery Trail tries to bring to students, teachers, and community members overall, and how that was deeply impacted with the switch to the virtual world.

[Trigger warnings]: mental health

- *Recording Date: 1/8/2021*
- *Name of Interviewer: Nina Johnson*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2021-01-08_Pallace-Beth*
 - *Digital Format: M4A & MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2021-01-08_Pallace-Beth_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the "2020-2021 Community Responses to COVID"*

Martha Preston

Martha Preston discusses her Greek heritage, including the store her great-grandfather opened in Connecticut and later relocated to Ithaca, which was

run by her grandparents. She speaks on her experience in the Greek community in Ithaca, from Greek dances to the Greek Orthodox church that opened in 1966.

- *Recorded 10/25/2017*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2017-10-25_Preston-Martha*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2017-10-25_Preston-Martha_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Cornell Anthropology 1900 Project in 2017.*

Kathryn “Katie” Prouty*

Kathryn “Katie” Prouty reflects on her time as the Treasurer for the Service League and its consignment shop from 1996 to 2006. Prouty discusses the shop and the gradual loss of volunteers as women joined the workforce as well as her thoughts on the urban renewal of Ithaca in the late 20th century.

**Per the endnotes section of student Elle Rothermich’s paper ‘Urban Renewal and Volunteerism in Ithaca, 1950-2017’ the interview was not recorded per Prouty’s request. Direct quotes were written down by Elle Rothermich. An essay on the interview by student Elle Rothermich is saved in our records, with supporting photographs provided by Prouty. These materials are available to researchers.*

- *Recorded October 2017*
- *Audio File: Interview not recorded*
- *Transcript File: NA*
- *Interview conducted by: Elle Rothermich*

Maria Rabb (19 minutes)

Maria is interviewed by her daughter and grand-daughter in Ithaca about her experience as a 10 year old girl whose family hid a Jewish family in their home on the outskirts of Budapest near the end of the war. Maria's father owned a shoe shop for making custom shoes, and his Jewish employee, Ede Hajos, asked Maria's father to look after his wife, daughters and sister while he was sent to a labor camp. Maria's mother and aunt took in eight members of the family altogether, and Maria recalls what the conditions were like in their home, as the Germans invaded Hungary in October 1944, and the fascist Arrow Cross party took over the country. Ede Hajos did not return to his family, but everyone else in his family survived thanks to the courage of Maria's mother and aunt. In 2011 at the Israeli consulate in New York city, Maria received a Righteous of the Nations award from Yad Vashem in recognition of her family's bravery.

- *Recorded est. 2014 or 2015*
- *Name of Interviewer: Maria Rabb (younger) and Zsofia Szegletes*
- *Audio File: OHTC_Rabb-Maria*
 - *Digital Format: MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_Rabb-Maria*
 - *Digital Format: PDF & docx*
- *Recorded as part of the "Oral History of Holocaust Survivors Who Settled in Tompkins County"*

Anne Rhodes (01:47:46)

Anne Rhodes discusses the climate crisis from a spiritual perspective. Working with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County, Rhodes talks about the importance of self-sustaining, strengthening community bonds, challenging American social structures, and breaking through indifference.

Trigger Warning(s): Holocaust reference

- *Recorded 07/01/2019*
- *Name of Interviewer: Rachel Garber Cole*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-7-1_Rhodes-Anne*
 - *Digital Format: MP3 & WAV*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-7-1_Rhodes-Anne_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: PDF & Word Doc*
- *Recorded as part of the 2019 - The Warmest Years on Record (Ithaca) - An Oral History - by Rachel Garber Cole*

Patricia Rodriguez (00:34:33)

Patricia Rodriguez, an Associate Professor of Political Science, discusses her upbringing in Chile and Brazil and its influence on her interests and areas of study, which focus on social movements and political systems in Latin America. She reports on her research on *campesinos* in Colombia and her work with the Tompkins County Immigrant Rights Coalition.

- *Recorded 10/24/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-10-24_Rodriguez-Patricia*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-10-24_Rodriguez-Patricia_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Local Sisters of Change Project in 2019.*

Helen Rogers (00:15:23)

Helen Rogers discusses growing up in Ithaca in the 1930-40s including West Side House, the fair, the circus, the flood of 1935, and being a teenager during World War II.

- *Interviewer: Bria Swails*
- *Interview took place at: Greater Ithaca Activities Center, 301 W. Court St, Ithaca NY 14850*
- *Recorded 8/10/2006*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2006-8-10_Rogers-Helen*
- *File Format(s): MP4 & MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2006-8-10_Rogers-Helen_Transcript*

Victoria Romanoff & Sarah Adams (01:38:49)

- *Recorded: July 14th 2023*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2023-7-14_Romanoff-Victoria_Adams-Sarah_Interview*
- *File Format(s): WAV & MP3*
- *Transcript File: In process*
- *Recorded as part of the 2023 Urban Renewal in Ithaca project*

Monika Roth (00:11:21)

Monika Roth is an Agriculture Specialist at Cornell Cooperative Extension. She discusses her first job in Ithaca, a campus job in plant pathology, and her work with Cornell Cooperative Extension since then. She reflects on the growth of Cornell Cooperative Extension's agriculture work, especially the alliances it has created among farmers, such as the Finger Lakes Culinary Bounty and Finger Lakes Cheese Alliance. Monika Roth also recalls several books that inspired her work.

- *Recorded in 2018*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2018_Roth-Monica*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2018_Roth-Monica_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the 2018 Agricultural Imaginaries project*

Liz Ryan Bogel (00:36:23)

Liz Ryan Bogel discusses her family, both past and present, her experience in medical school, and her career. She touches on her training in family medicine, work in rural clinics in Upstate New York, and recent transition to REACH Medical, where she helps people affected by the opioid overdose crisis and advocates for health equity.

Trigger warnings: AIDS epidemic, drug addiction

- *Recorded 11/7/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-11-7_Bogel-Ryan-Liz*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-11-7_Bogel-Ryan-Liz_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the HERstory Project in 2019.*

Mary Salton (26 minutes)

Mary tells the story of growing up in Vienna to Austrian parents surrounded by a large extended family including her mother's sisters and both sets of grandparents. She recalls seeing Hitler in person in a parade with her nanny, and tells how the SS came looking for her father at his office, and he cleverly avoided being arrested. At that point, Mary and her parents were forced to leave Austria, and did so legally as they were lucky to have recently acquired passports. Mary then recounts the sequence of events by which she and her parents were able to cross the border into Italy without any money, and without her grandparents and eventually ended up in Switzerland, where they lived until 1948 when their American visa number finally came through. Many members of Mary's extended family perished as they left Vienna to go to France and Belgium from where they were deported. She and her parents came to New York city where Mary studied English and qualified to get into went to Hunter College. She married Gerald Salton, a fellow refugee who came to Cornell, and she raised two children in Ithaca.

- *Recorded February, 2016*

- *Name of Interviewer: Howard Erlich*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2016-2_Salton-Mary*
 - *Digital Format: MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2016-2_Salton-Mary*
 - *Digital Format: PDF & docx*
- *Recorded as part of the "Oral History of Holocaust Survivors Who Settled in Tompkins County"*

Kathy Schlather (51 minutes) - *Human Services Coalition*

Kathy Schlather, the executive director for the Human Services Coalition, thoroughly explains how the Coalition became an invaluable resource for people, businesses, schools, etc. at the start and for the whole first year of the pandemic. We get to hear about just how much the virtual and isolated world impacted the lives of others all around us, and how Schlather and her team worked 24/7 to make sure people got what they needed in times of need during this period.
[Trigger warnings]: poverty, lack of food, mental health, mental illness

- *Recording Date: 4/9/2021*
- *Name of Interviewer: Nabiha Qureshi*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2021-04-09_Schlather-Kathy*
 - *Digital Format: MP3 & MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2021-04-09_Schlather-Kathy_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the "2020-2021 Community Responses to COVID"*

Josie Leonardo Schug (69 minutes)

Josie Schug discusses her father's emigration from Sicily Italy to Upstate New York, where he started working in a salt mine before getting injured and turning to bootlegging. She recalls stories from her childhood about the many businesses her family owned in Ithaca, some of them bootleg stores and some legal. Josie Schug also reflects on her close relationship with her grandmother, who died when she was 20 years old.

Trigger warning: discussion of death

- *Recorded 10/25/2017*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2017-10-25_Shug-Josie*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2017-10-25_Shug-Josie_Transcript*

Ruth Scott (64 minutes)

Ruth Scott, a resident of Ithaca/Trumansburg, NY for the past 60 years leading up to 2016, talks about her life within the area. Ruth describes the hardships and good times of raising a family and working within the Trumansburg Central School District. She also shares personal stories that shed light on what living a long life here has been like, and all the change she has seen, as well as what has remained the same in the area.

- *Recorded 07/06/2016*

- *Name of Interviewer: Cindy Kramer*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2016-7-6_Scott-Ruth*
 - *Digital Format: MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2016-7-6_Scott-Ruth_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Microsoft Word & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the 2016 - Generation to Generation Oral History Project*

Baldev and Kamaldeep Sekhon (01:14:06)

Baldev and Kamaldeep Sekhon discuss moving from Punjab, India, to the United States, where Baldev first worked in agriculture in California, then in construction in New York City, before opening New Delhi Diamond's restaurant in Ithaca. They reflect on the downsides to being disconnected from their family and friends in India and discuss traditional family structures and activities where they grew up.

- *Recorded 4/23/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-4-23_Sekhon-Baldev-and-Kamaldeep*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-4-23_Sekhon-Baldev-and-Kamaldeep_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Immigration & Food in 2019.*

Noa Shapiro-Tamir (01:00:00)

Noa Shapiro-Tamir is a high school student at Lehman Alternative Community School and climate change activist. Shapiro-Tamir discusses the climate change culture in Ithaca, the Sunrise Movement, learning about climate change in school, and being a young person during the climate crisis.

- *Recorded 06/25/2019*
- *Name of Interviewer: Rachel Garber Cole*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-6-25_Shapiro-Tamir-Noa*
 - *Digital Format: MP3 & WAV*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-6-25_Shapiro-Tamir-Noa_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: PDF & Word Doc*
- *Recorded as part of the 2019 - The Warmest Years on Record (Ithaca) - An Oral History - by Rachel Garber Cole*

Rachel Siegel (18 minutes)

Rachel speaks about her family and how they escaped from Germany before the Holocaust. Rachel's parents had weathered wars and the Russian revolution while living in Lithuania. They moved to Berlin in the early 1920s for safety. Rachel was born in Berlin, and at the age of 6, her father uprooted the family once again to move to Lausanne, Switzerland where she went to school. She speaks about the life that her family led leading up to the war in the neutral country of Switzerland and finally moving to the U.S. as immigrants in 1939. Rachel's parents, driven by fear and worry managed to save the lives of their

whole extended family. Rachel Siegel passed away at the age of 91 on February 21, 2016.

- *Recorded February 2015*
- *Name of Interviewer: Charles Siegel*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2015-2_Siegel-Rachel*
 - *Digital Format: MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2015-2_Siegel-Rachel*
 - *Digital Format: PDF & docx*
- *Recorded as part of the "Oral History of Holocaust Survivors Who Settled in Tompkins County"*

Poppy Singer (Two interviews 10/18/2018 & 11/8/2018)

10/18/2018 - 0:41:02min - Poppy Singer discusses her life experiences, including living in Israel with her former husband at age 21, homeschooling her children, and working in art and food production throughout her life. She also discusses her perception of Ithaca, particularly the changes that have been made to the downtown area and the malls. Finally, she speaks about her interest in alternative education and environmentalism.

- *Recorded 10/18/2018*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2018-10-18_Singer-Poppy*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2018-10-18_Singer-Poppy_Transcript*

11/8/2018 - Poppy Singer reflects on her experience attending East Hill School, which was a free (alternative) elementary school between 1969 and 1977, and the positive memories it left her with. After high school, she worked as a graphic designer and helped organize Ithaca's first Take Back the Night march, a protest against violence against women, before spontaneously moving to Israel, where she lived briefly with her former husband.

Trigger warning(s): sexual harassment, violence against women

- *Recorded 11/8/2018*
- *Audio File: Not held in OHTC records.*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2018-11-8_Singer-Poppy_Transcript*

Amy Somchanhmavong (53 minutes)

Amy Somchanhmavong speaks on the intersection of creating a space for Asian American studies in academia and connecting this pursuit to community engagement. She reflects on leading the push for the establishment of the Asian American Studies program in Binghamton University and, upon moving to Ithaca, becoming involved with various community-based organizations in order to apply this work.

- *Recorded 10/24/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-10-24_Somchanhmavong-Amy*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-10-24_Somchanhmavong-Amy_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Local Sisters of Change Project in 2019.*

Sandra Sorenson (39 minutes) - *Second Wind Cottages*

Sandra Sorenson, a key leader and decision maker of the Second Wind Cottages covers just how much life was dramatically altered for their residents trying to recover from homelessness, and those of Ithaca's homeless population community known as the 'Jungle', at the beginning stages of the pandemic. She details the struggles of resource shortages and influxes, mental health challenges, and how navigating this time period was particularly unique. Sorensen also speculates on the future of what will happen with Second Wind Cottages after a year into the pandemic.

[Trigger warnings]: mental health, mental illness, substance use, discussion of relapse, housing insecurity, unhoused population of Ithaca

- *Recording Date: 4/26/2021*
- *Name of Interviewer: Nabiha Qureshi*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2021-04-26_Sorenson-Sandra*
 - *Digital Format: MP3 & MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2021-04-26_Sorenson-Sandra_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the "2020-2021 Community Responses to COVID"*

Jennifer Tavares (24 minutes) - *Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce*

Jennifer Tavares, CEO of the Chamber of Commerce, goes into detail about the specific impacts Covid-19 had on business owners from Spring 2020 up to the time when she was interviewed in January 2021. She talks about the transition to remote meetings and services, and how some businesses had great hardships trying to adapt. She also talks about how the Chamber viewed Cornell opening its campus back up during this time period, and the reasoning behind that.

- *Recording Date: 1/8/2021*
- *Name of Interviewer: Thomas Petluck*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2021-01-08_Tavares-Jennifer*
 - *Digital Format: MP3 & MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2021-01-08_Tavares-Jennifer_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the "2020-2021 Community Responses to COVID"*

Carol Treman des Cognet (01:04:46)

- *Recorded 2/16/2017*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2017-2-16_Cognet-Des-Treman-Carol*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2017-2-16_Cognet-Des-Treman-Carol_Transcript*

Melissa Tuckey (01:08:25)

Melissa Tuckey focuses on the intersection of her political activism and poetry and the time she spent in Washington, D.C., where she co-founded Split This Rock - which fosters and supports a national network of socially engaged poets.

She also touches on her work since moving to Ithaca and serving as Tompkins County Poet Laureate since 2019.

- *Recorded 11/8/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-11-8_Tuckey-Melissa*
- *Transcript File: OHTC-2019-11-8_Tuckey-Melissa_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the HERstory Project in 2019.*

Ilse Voss (20 minutes)

Ilse Voss speaks about her family life in a small town outside Vienna prior to Hitler's annexation of Austria. She describes how her family was evicted from their home and lived in the empty Rabbi's apartment in the local synagogue. On Kristallnacht, the Nazis searched the apartment, forced them to leave and the synagogue was set on fire. Ilse and her mother left for England to work as a maid and au pair. Both Ilse's father and 12 year old brother were deported.

Trigger warning(s): antisemitism, Holocaust, Nazis, death, war

- *Recorded February, 2015*
- *Name of Interviewer: Claudia Voss Lewenstein*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2015-2_Voss-Ilse*
 - *Digital Format: MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2015-2_Voss-Ilse*
 - *Digital Format: PDF & docx*
- *Recorded as part of the "Oral History of Holocaust Survivors Who Settled in Tompkins County"*

Christianne McMillan White (01:27:29)

Christianne McMillan White owns Steep Hollow Farm and approaches the climate crisis from a farming perspective. While walking through Steep Hollow, McMillan White reflects on extreme weather events, sustainable farming practices, ornithology, and the power of observation.

Trigger Warning(s)

- *Recorded 06/30/2019*
- *Name of Interviewer: Rachel Garber Cole*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-6-30_White-Christianne*
 - *Digital Format: MP3 & WAV*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-6-30_White-Christianne_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: PDF & Word Doc*
- *Recorded as part of the 2019 - The Warmest Years on Record (Ithaca) - An Oral History - by Rachel Garber Cole*

Christianne White (01:36:19)

Christianne White of Steep Hollow Farm reflects on her childhood visiting her grandparents' farm, which she now owns. She started with a sustainable chicken project, which was not profitable but connected the farm to the community. Since then, Christianne White's farm has sold trees, built a sound garden, and operated rental houses, but they are aspiring to a larger, sustainable farming operation to

make use of the land.

- *Recorded 10/18/2018*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2018-10-18_White-Christianne*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2018-10-18_White-Christianne_Transcript*

Marion Wimpfheimer (22 minutes)

Marion Joseph Wimpfheimer recounts the life of her family as wine-makers in Osthofen, a small town in the Rhineland of Germany. When the Nazis prevented non-Jews from working for Jews, Marion's family was forced to leave the winery behind. They were hoping to get visas to the U.S., but were rounded up in Mannheim and sent to Rivesalte and Gurs in Vichy France. After struggling to find food and survive there, her parents, her brother and Marion were sent to a transit camp in Marseille (her mother at the Center Bompard and her father at Camp des Milles) only to find out that their U.S. visas had expired. At that point when she was 12 years old, Marion's parents were deported to Poland, and she was sent to live in a Chateau near Limoges with other girls by OSE - (Œuvre de secours aux enfants -- a children's aid organization). When the Nazi's occupied Vichy France, Marion went into hiding with an elderly French couple who wanted to adopt her. After the war her brother, who was in hiding on a nearby farm, reunited with her and arranged for the two of them to emigrate to the U.S., when Marion was 16. She finished high school at night in New York, married there, and has two daughters and four grandchildren. Marion lives in Ithaca where she and her husband retired to be near family.

Trigger warning(s): antisemitism, Holocaust

- *Recorded May, 2016*
- *Name of Interviewer: Noemi Kraut*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2016-5-Wimpfheimer-Marion*
 - *Digital Format: MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2016-5-Wimpfheimer-Marion*
 - *Digital Format: PDF & docx*
- *Recorded as part of the "Oral History of Holocaust Survivors Who Settled in Tompkins County"*

Karen Yearwood (37 minutes)

Karen Yearwood discusses the mission of the Village at Ithaca and her work in the organization, from volunteering upon moving to Ithaca in 2005 to becoming the Executive Director in 2014. She discusses the tactics the Village uses to help students succeed and the limitations on their work and the advancement of equity in the Ithaca City School District.

- *Recorded 10/18/2018*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2018-10-18_Yearwood-Karen*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2018-10-18_Yearwood-Karen_Transcript*
- *Recorded as part of the Cornell Anthropology 1900 Project in 2018.*

Ingrid Zabel (01:12:28)

Ingrid Zabel reflects on teaching climate change to students of all ages with the Paleontological Research Institute and how younger generations understand the climate crisis. Zabel argues both societal and individual change is critical and discusses balancing sacrifice and fear with action and hope.

Trigger Warning(s)

- *Recorded 06/29/2019*
- *Name of Interviewer: Rachel Garber Cole*
- *Audio File: OHTC_2019-6-29_Zabel-Ingrid*
 - *Digital Format: MP3 & WAV*
- *Transcript File: OHTC_2019-6-29_Zabel-Ingrid_Transcript*
 - *Digital Format: PDF & Word Doc*
- *Recorded as part of the 2019 - The Warmest Years on Record (Ithaca) - An Oral History - by Rachel Garber Cole*

Generous support for starting this collection came from a two-year grant from the Museum Association of New York and the Institute of Museum & Library Services between 2020-2022.



MUSEUM ASSOCIATION
OF NEW YORK

