

Sawtooth Interpretive & Historical Association - Oral History Project

Interviewer: Adriann Hyde, Volunteer

Narrator: Shirley (Lindford) Athay

Date of Interview: May 23, 2008

Audio Presentation Transcribed by: Melissa Geary, Rochester, Minnesota Eastern Idaho  
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AH: Today is May 23, 2008; this is an interview with Shirley Athay about the time she spent in Stanley, Idaho during the 1930's.

Shirley my first question for you is what brought you to Stanley?

SA: Yes hello my father, my father Preston Lindford was a civil engineer for the Bureau of Public Roads which is now called the Department of Transportation and he was a surveyor and construction engineer and they were working in Idaho up in Gibbonsville and they had finished that project and we learned the next spring, the spring of 1929 that we had to break camp and go to Stanley.

AH: How long were you there for?

SA: My father and his family, my mother, brother and I were there from 1929 the summer it was probably May after school was out for my brother to 1935. I was five years old when we arrive and the last summer I spent was my 11th year so I really spent a good deal of years as a little girl but growing up and it was wonderful.

AH: Now were you there all year long or were you only there in the summer time?

SA: Yes, do to construction my father usually left often to go to select his crew and to get in touch with the contractors and so forth and he would leave in May after school was out possibly the last of May he came to Ogden and picked us up with all of our belongings which I will tell you later about and we went to Stanley for the first time, I was five years old. We were so excited because we had been to Ketchum and gone over the summer my father had worked the roads from Hailey up to Ketchum years before and when we saw the mountains, the valley we were so excited we could hardly wait to get to Stanley and get out the of car and play and when we turned up that street the road to Stanley from Lower Stanley it looked so bare and I said where are all the homes? No homes. Where are the people? No people. We came to a halt and my father said, "Here we are." My brother and I looked at each other and there wasn't anything else and both said together, "Where are the children?" Well that's a story little later. We lived in a stone -- a wood frame, not even really a cabin it looks more like a tent style building, two rooms and one big room with a partition between. Well our faces just dropped and we both ran into the street calling names for children where are you? Finally three young children came forth from this big building which we later learned was the local general store and their name was Gillespie the oldest girl my brothers age at that time would've been seven then another daughter my age and then a little boy Jack. So there was Gertrude, Doris and little Jack and those were the children of Stanley that we enjoyed for all those summers and they were rioting years.

AH: Shirley tell me what your house looked like inside and out.

SA: Adriann I mentioned that it was kind of like a tent, wood frame around it, it seemed to be a tent. We had one large room inside with a partition and in the front as you go into the house from the road was one book case was 3 feet by 3 feet by depth of 12 (3' H x 3' W x 12' D) for our toys and books and there was one chair and one car. Then in the next room in the corner was a huge black stove, iron stove, and a cupboard, a stand with a wash basin and a pitcher a mirror above it and the potty underneath. There was a table with four chairs, wooden chairs very primitive, a double cot and a few years later they built a screen about 4 feet away from the house from the back door around we had no running water at all there was a pump about 10 feet away of course our lavatory was so called a wood shed, an outhouse in fact a two holer anyway it was quite a shock to us because in Ogden we had a very lovely home. Then next to us was the office of my father with the young draftsmen and his men that he chose to work with the construction people and they were lovely young men. In fact it was exciting because after several years after being there two of them married and brought their wives to Stanley of all places. Of course it was wonderful for me because they were in their early twenties and I kept house for them and they gave me their clothes to dress up, we had such fun. Now they as I said there wasn't very much in Stanley but they had built several cabins across the road and behind the General Store where these two young couples lived so it was really exciting for me but as I said no running water so all the water had to be heated on the stove my mother had no ironing board she used the table and she had an iron iron and that was scary and hot. Washing dishes or washing clothes we always had water there.

AH: Can you tell me what your stove looked like and how you guys were able to cook your food?

SA: I think in museums they have these old iron stoves it was a four burner with a big oven it had kind of a vent on the top it was put in the corner so that mother could move around a bit and that was our means of cooking. Now that's another story what they cooked and what we had to eat you see we had no refrigerator at all so everything was prepared that day.

AH: Can you tell me what kind of food that they had in stores that you could buy?

SA: If I remember correctly it was not a grocery store like we have today or even a resemblance of it. It was mostly candy, nuts, pop and cigarettes. I'll tell you a story about that later. I'm sure provisions like wheat or flour because my mother baked all of our bread and pies and nut cakes and I don't ever recall going over to Mr. Gillespie's and buying meat we had lots of chicken and of course my mother had to kill the chicken and that was something to ring the neck and defeather them (bird) and cut it up and clean it out. My brother till his dying day would never eat dark meat of chicken because he had to clean the chickens and it was quite an experience. So we had lots of potatoes and I know for some reason my father always had a good breakfast because of course he was a construction engineer and out on the job. I'm sure we had eggs, bacon, and homemade bread toasted. Dinners I know they were wonderful because I of course was a chubby little girl and enjoyed all the goodies. Mother made tremendous pies and so I think the fruit came from canned fruit only and in the summer time I do recall about once a year in the summer a truck would come and they would have fresh produce of apples and so forth but the General Store we could buy canned wienies, little Vienna sausages. I remember Fig Newton's and pop our pop was Cream Soda, Root Beer, and Orange Crush. We didn't have Coke, I don't remember Coke at all but we always had great food so we must have gotten meat, but I never remember a steak or roast but lots of

chicken. Of course in the summer time when the fishing was on we had wonderful trout, my father would come home from work, change his boots and get his tackle and away he went and in an hour he'd be back with the most beautiful rainbow trout, he would clean them mother had potatoes, onion and bacon cooking. We would have lots of trout in the summer time and homemade biscuits. And on our picnics, we had lovely summer picnics particularly up at Red Fish Lake they have this lovely picnic area we would have potato salads and different salads but no fresh lettuce or anything like that but homemade ice cream. Now how did we get the ice cream? Mr. Gillespie's store had a very high, high roof two or three stories you would climb the latter and went to the first level and you would see these huge ice bergs covered with saw dust and when you wanted ice you went over and asked him to go up and chip it off and he'd get it and made your ice cream or if you couldn't get your watermelon that was one thing I don't know how that came about I think they grew them but on a picnic we put them in the lake to cool but if you ever wanted ice of course buy it. In the winter time you see the lakes were frozen so they hauled these gigantic pieces of ice and he stored them.

AH: It sounds like as a chef in today's world would take a lot of things for granite. So you were talking about the two brides that came into town can you tell me about some of the other locals that lived there?

SA: I'd be happy to. In our little area as I said it was the Gillespie's and Mrs. Gillespie was the only woman in Stanley to have my mother that they were friends and that was wonderful thank goodness. Mrs. Gillespie had a great sense of humor and my mother really kept her summers better in deed. There were no other people except for Juggie and Trapper Green who were old timers that had come there in youth from the east I suppose to mend their broken hearts or search for great wealth. Juggie was the gas station attendant he had one pump and a little tiny shed and we called him Juggie because he was always just a little bit on the fun side kind of like the reindeer with the red nose and happy and Juggie was short maybe 5' 8". Trapper Green was a tall, handsome, about 6' very muscular man and he did do a lot of trapping and he had a little cabin here. A few years later after us being there at first they built two rooms, I call them buildings but they were just like two rooms and it became a café. So we would have on occasion the ranchers would come in to town and get their supplies and particularly cigarettes because that was very popular and we would see them but we would never see the ladies except on Saturday night dance.

AH: Saturday night dance sounds like a lot of fun can you tell a little bit more of what the dances consisted of?

SA: The dance hall was across the street on the opposite corner of the grocery store and it was an old building that was beautifully at one time constructed had a wonderful stage and a wonderful dance floor, gorgeous I can't remember really if it was once a week or once a month they had the dancers and of course they had a violin and a piano and I think a horn. They were the good old songs of that time and the dancing and it was lots of fun in particularly for Doris, Gertrude and my brother and I because Sunday morning instead of going church because there was not a church there we would go over and pick up empty krispy bars and we would take them to the store where the man would pay us for them and that's the way we earned next years, next falls spending money. But they also played wonderful waltz's and I believe it was my last summer there at age 11 when my father finally

said that we could over to the dance and I remember that they had a few tables around where people sat and enjoyed their drinks and my father invited me to dance and taught me how to waltz, and I was the star of the evening, Mr. Lindberg's daughter was dancing the waltz because I was very important because of Mr. Lindberg but it was a wonderful experience.

AH: So with all you kids running around did you get any schooling? Was there a school up there and what was that like?

SA: In the summer time of course there was no school but they did have a school house quite old, dilapidated but since my fathers work concluded generally by late September but sometimes he stayed until October he took us back to Ogden where my brother and I could attend school in Ogden but there was a school house there and one fall my father said I won't be very long bought a month he said, "The weather's going to be good why don't we stay and then we'll go home together." We were like, "Oh we have to go to school." So it just happened that next door to us on the right was built a home a lovely lady, a wife, she was the school teacher. I liked her because that was fun so we found out about school and I entered the 1<sup>st</sup> Grade in Stanley and my brother was in the 3<sup>rd</sup> but he was doing 6<sup>th</sup> grade work he so funny but anyway it was quite exciting because there was children from all over the area and I think there about 10 of us. There were three brothers that lived on a huge ranch across the I call it a prairie to the west of us and they never came into town so it was interesting to meet a few other children but we stayed only for one month and the teacher was very good of course all those grades in one class but my mother had been a school teacher and taught in a rural school, outside of Twin Falls so she appreciated what this lovely lady had to do. It so happened that I became very ill with whimsy and they almost took me to Ketchum to the hospital but luckily I was okay after a while and she came in every night and talked to me and give my lesson. So she was a lovely lady and in fact their house had running water and we were so envious of her. There was a school bell, had to behave properly. We got recess and we all brought our lunches and played games and got mad at each other, and threw my pies at each other but all in all it was a wonderful experience.

AH: Shirley can you tell me why people would come to visit? Were people traveling up there and what kind of accommodations were there for them to stay in?

SA: Stanley to me was not a resort area it seemed to me that people were going through or going to other places like to Montana, going on up to Salmon City or going to Ketchum and coming from Boise. There was a beautiful drive from Boise over on through old mining town called Idaho City and then this marvelous, marvelous field called Bear Valley and that was something that I do recall that I had heard from people living in Boise that was a summer trip to go through once a month to see the beautiful flowers that bloomed. The lakes were beautiful, people liked to fish there were no hotels there was a small cabin or two in Lower Stanley on the river but we never stayed there of course the famous Red Fish Lake with their lodge and that finally developed to much larger accommodations so there were no motels, no fancy restaurants, well there were places for people to camp. We have friends here, my husband is an artist and he has friends who are artists and one summer when we were there we went to this one area and they're great campers so they lived in a tent and so forth I think it was in Red Fish Lake area but this other summer that we went to paint they lived further away so there were people who camped. Now also there was a great coming and going for sheep so every summer, mid-summer usually if I remember correctly the sheep herders

would bring their sheep through and of course they would stay in Stanley down by the river and that was kind of exciting because that was new people that stayed there that you could talk to them. We had great fun enjoying in fact lovely lamb dinners and saw their inside of their cabins and learned how very wonderful people these are taking care of their sheep. One summer this nice sheep herder presented me with a little lamb as a pet and that was quite exciting and in fact we used it not used it my pet became a stage star, that's a story later. So as far as coming it's mostly people coming through or they did have and probably still do have these great ranches of beautiful homes, cabin homes that the wealthy would come out and spend the summer. I became with acquainted with two ladies that lived in Chicago and they owned this tremendous ranch and that's when they would come in to Stanley to buy their cigarettes they were ladies of great culture but when they were there where in dirty jeans, boots, no makeup, sloppy hair but when I was invited to tea in their living room it was elegant and you had to really have manners but that was a lovely experience and they were wonderful people.

AH: So when people weren't working what kind things did you like to do for fun? What kind of different activities did you do up there?

SA: We had no TV, no telephone, no radio, well we did have a telephone my father had because of his position but we couldn't use it so we had our books, toys and games that were packed and brought there from Ogden then we had time to make our own experiences, we would travel mostly around with our own legs. We'd take an afternoon or a morning to afternoon walk up to Stanley Lake and have our picnics and come back or we would go hunting for Indian heads, Indian arrowheads in the sage brush and that was very dangerous because of the wood ticks so anytime we were out on such adventure after dinner I was stripped, laid on the kitchen table and my father went over my body with a flashlight, tweezers and matches of all things and he would pick out the...

[SECTION 1 ENDS]

AH: What they did for fun?

SA: Since we weren't in the big city to do things we had to make up our own games and so forth it was wide open spaces with us. We'd get our long overalls on and our little hiking shoes and staff and away we'd go someplace around the area of Stanley. One time we got able to ride horses there was a man that would come in to buy provisions at the local store and he got acquainted with us and we were very excited about being around horses so one day he brought in three horses and of course we rode bareback of all things but I really learned how to get on and off with help of course but it was fun I learned to trot. We had that several times but that wasn't a daily experience but a wonderful one.

Trapper Green was very good, I mentioned him a long time ago and he had a log cabin that was his home and one day he asked me if I'd like to have his cabin as my play house and I didn't know if I should of course with my mother's permission and looking things over mother said that would be alright. Well it was a really nice experience the cabin was old logs, one room, and it had a bed in it, a chair and a very small table with one chair and cupboard, a counter and a little sink but no running water but at least it had a sink he had pots and pans and dishes and there were two windows well I decided to be just a little housekeeper and would straighten up and had my own tea parties with my imaginary friends

it was a lot of fun I'd spend two or three hours there and that was enough and it was fun to be alone but yet wanted other people around too so off I'd trot home of course it was always more fun to work someplace else then helping my mother who needed help.

We kids were always getting into imagination and fun we got together and of course my brother was the big shot and the most brilliant of us but he was quite a thespian and than later I was at the university a very fine actor in Shakespeare and so forth but anyway he said lets put on a play so I don't remember the subject at but we had our lines and story to go along with it and at the time I was giving a baby lamb maybe 3 or 4 months old by one of the sheep herders that was very nice I think I mentioned the sheep herders and how we had fun going down and visiting them and we'd get to be around the sheep and they always provided us with fresh meat to take home to my folks which was very, very nice but anyways I was thrilled to get this little lamb and it really was a lovely little pet around our cabin or 2-by-4 so we decided to incorporate this very bright animal in to our play and of course it was my pet it obeyed me it would not obey anybody else so we rehearsed everything very nicely and she did very well when she was called and so forth, well the night of the performance which was sold out in fact and we don't know where the people came from really because we never saw them in the day time I would say there was 100 people there. We had the first act just beautifully done and I remember around the second act that was where the little lamb took over and she wouldn't budge she wouldn't do a thing and I'd coax her and coax her she wouldn't do a thing. My brother, loud voiced, coaxed her, no. A little slap on the rear end that didn't help at all so she was cuddled and talked to and all of a sudden bang across the stage and across the whole auditorium in a jiffy and well of course I stood there stunned and made a bow and I'll never forget that so people clapped and clapped like that was supposed to be in the play but it was a fun experience. We didn't put on any more plays after that. But it took up quite a few days of activity and then we liked to go down around a little stream and I think it's an outlet from Stanley Lake and it's to the north of Stanley in a little creek is it still there?

AH: Yes.

SA: And we'd go down there and my brother and little Jack would have a play fishing pole to try and catch minnows and such and we girls would just walk around and pretend that we were glamour girls and so forth then one day Gertrude the oldest daughter of the store owner brought about six packs of cigarettes and of course at that time everybody was smoking in the 30s, everybody smoked except my mother my father smoked cigars and I'll tell you about that story later but anyway we had to learn, this was the thing to do and of course we had no movies there but we did get movie magazines and so forth to show these people with their fancy cigarettes and holding them and having a drink and we pretended that we smoked and tried them all. Well and we did that several times it strange that their father didn't find out that his packages of cigarettes were missing however one day I got very ill from it, got a tummy ache and a headache and I said I'm going home and I was not well right at that moment because I'm a sissy, stay with it because it's fun because we tried each pack like the Camels, Lucky Strike, Chesterfield and so forth but I did and left and went home and my mother said you don't look good Shirley what's the matter? Oh I just don't feel good and she smelled the smoke and she said what's going on? And I told her, I let out the cat. Well she was pleased that I told her because she said I was sick from the inhalation and so forth we were caught I don't know the punishment that the Gillespie children had but my dad gave us

a good talking to no spats that night but a good talking to and after that we didn't go into the store and we didn't have any cigarettes but we had a heck of a good time trying out all of them. In fact, most of them liked Lucky Strike the best because they seemed to be the strongest. I preferred Chesterfields; they seemed to be a lighter cigarette at that time, so quite an experience.

Then we didn't have holidays up there of course except for the Fourth of July and one day my father which he always did early in the morning go to work in his usual butterfly pants, gray boots, hat and shirt well anyway he came home with quite a few packages and that was strange because there weren't any stores around for us. So on the Fourth of July we were kind of sad my brother and I because in Ogden we had great fireworks in the park and we had a streak of fun fireworks well that evening my father said now I want you to look over at that mountain at such and such a time. Well what would I look over there for goodness sake? Let's go find the kids and play ball. Well all of a sudden from out of the mountain were brilliant sky rockets, colorful, all kinds of wonderful fireworks and colorful showing off all of the valley pretty soon everybody who was in Stanley at that time I still say there were 10 people were in the street clapping and singing *God Bless America* and all of these songs and trying to sing the *America the Beautiful* and so forth and *Yankee Doodle Dandy* of course but we had a good time thanks to my father. He had gone up early, climbed the mountain set everything up in his very scientific way engineering way in circles, striped forms and so forth and the whole city was very pleased with it and I think I understand now they still have this experience every year, but my father started it, Mr. Lindford started it, but anyway that was fun for us.

Adriann asked me about why do people come here and I was not thinking very well because of course they came for the mountains. There was at that time built a dude ranch near Alturas Lake it was a you had to enter an old frame gate, as you entered in through the right there were about half a dozen cabins connected, wood cabins connected with the prettiest white curtains in the window and these were similar to what we have today in motels as we have today in motels. Then you walk quite a ways down and there were three pools, beautiful swimming pools. There was a tennis court, several courts, but I remember the tennis court because people were playing then. Then you walked further there was a section for the horses these corrals and dogs I saw lots and lots of equipment and I learned that this was they called them the dudes, the wealthy people from the world stayed and they had a massage parlor there and a dietician and all of this fancy living but people came there also to climb the great Sawtooth Mountains they came from all over the all world. I remember this one man talking to several others that they were there...the Sawtooth were the hardest, most difficult mountains that he had ever tried to climb, more difficult than the Swiss Alps but he said that they were also the most beautiful because of the many lakes that you see and the experience of the growth, the wild flowers and so forth. So that was the main stay there and I suppose this is where some of the fancy pickups came in to Stanley to pick up their cigarettes.

Across from the dude ranch was a huge, huge farm and it was owned by a family named Williams and I don't know how I became acquainted with the daughter of the owner but maybe the few school days that I attended there or she came in with father to buy provisions at the store but she invited me to come up and stay one weekend that was lovely. You climb quite a ways up to get to the house because it was up on the hill because down below was the

great farm and I was invited to ride on the haystacks, to ride the horses that I did not do very well so we played games instead but then at her bedroom on the second floor and it seemed like it was close to heaven and you could look out and the stars were bright and pretty as diamonds and you could reach them. The sky so blue certainly has changed these many years because of pollution hasn't it? So that was lovely. But you had to go up at night and you still had to climb down stair and go outside to the outhouse which wasn't very comfortable but that's the way they lived. Well I had a lovely weekend there. I only saw her one other time isn't that strange? However I do understand that the William's farm is still and I hope to see it or perhaps the Williams have already been contacted to talk about Stanley, I hope they have. Then the other farm that was interesting was right down in Lower Stanley across from the little store and gas station and it was called the Roy Farm and I understand that some of the Roy's are still there I'm anxious to meet them. At that time a lady, middle age lady and her daughter were the only inhabitants of the farm. Well this daughter was just beautiful she was tall, she was more like a Norwegian beautiful long blonde hair and long, long thick braids clear skin, blue eyes, nice figure but she never was about she never came out of that area however we learned later while I was still there that somehow she met a man from Chicago and married and that he was an extremely wealthy man. I haven't heard anything from the Gillespie's because they're long gone now but evidently it was true it would be nice to know what happened to her then as I said the other farm or ranch, the society gals called it their ranch was very beautiful. These were the people I mostly had experiences with and became friends with.

Now there wasn't very much activity or fun for everybody but the summer time there was a rodeo and not until I was old enough because my father was very protective of did he take me to the rodeo because you had to sit on the fence or stay in your car to see the rodeo and they were real cowboys and they had the old shirts with the kerchief tied around their neck and were there bucking broncos and some people were hurt but it was quite exciting finally when I was old enough to go because my brother used to tell me all about it because of course in Ogden during the Pioneer Days we did have rodeos but they were more commercial type but this was the real thing, real wild horses trying to be tamed so that was the big event for us.

AH: Can you tell us what the weather was like?

SA: The weather was quite unpredictable. In the summer time of course it was very hot because we lived more on the plateau, the Upper Stanley is more on the plateau and there's all this dry, dry earth coming on the west side and around our area. Of course we had no trees, no shrubs and no flowers in that little area and of course away from it was all sage brush. So we had these hot days and these horrible winds and they were ferocious blow, ferocious and blew dirt. It was dirt, the windows would be covered you couldn't see through them. Our little cabin of course was not very secure for protection so that became quite a difficult situation to clean up after so that would happen several times in the summer time. Then on occasion we would have these horrible rain storms, lightening and torrential rains and you think that your cabin was going to fall apart but that did cool down things for a while but you really couldn't tell but other wise early fall was nice and when we first came there in May/June it was lovely weather.

I don't ever remember wearing a coat, isn't that strange? Except up around Ririe Lake when we went up there in the late evening and fortunately I never had bad cancer problems on my



skin because I didn't wear shirts all the time. We had these hats but the weather was because of the amount of heat that we had forest fires were prevalent and they would come very close they would be on the east side of the river however and those mountains or quite far away on the west side and that smoke and the ashes in the morning mother again would say well we've got a sweep up to do and opened up the back door and the ashes were just about a 1/2" thick all over again on the windows and came inside our house so then you had to be inside and being inside what could we do? Well Doris my friend would come over and at that time we had the Sears catalog and Montgomery Ward and in those they had paper dolls shapes so we would cut out the paper dolls and go through and cut out the clothes we would put on these paper dolls or we would play with my own little house that my father brought my doll house, we would read, play silly card games but we couldn't go outside. My brother would just go sulk and read.

AH: Tell us what kind of wildlife you saw?

SA: Well the wildlife that I saw was a bear or two about once every summer tied up to a post down in Lower Stanley across from the little store and I think it was more of a gimmick for people to stop and buy their gas there and their Crackerjack and so forth. These were black bears and they were mostly small and I never saw a large one but around Stanley no I never saw any wildlife of course to me the fish were wildlife and of course we saw salmon and trout and it was a wonderful experience to see the returning of salmon from the ocean to come back to spawn to -- these salmon you probably now this story they return to spawn again they travel all the way back from the ocean and it was wonderful to see them come up stream and you would really watch a little family. It was kind of like sentinels they cared for their mother and go by her so that no other fish will come by and eat the eggs or hurt her in any way so that was quite a lot of learning of course the sad part was upstream they built a dam, they put nails on it and rocks. I don't know how they held the rocks on but these salmon had to get up over that little barricade as water was coming down they had to jump up and go over but so many, many could not make it and would get caught in the nails and the debris. There would be people on the side with their nets or their pole to go fish the fish off of the barricade and that was very disheartening to us. My brother and I would cry out to them to not do that to let the fish go and they would show off the big salmon that they caught, the boys, I don't know it was very sad for us. Then also one of the pleasurable times to do was to go up to Bear Lake in the evening, several times of course one of the parents would take our gang up there for a little picnic late in the day and we could stay and watch the sunset and they would go on the canoes across and have a good time. My brother and I we enjoyed very much just seeing the beauty of the lake and there was a dog there that loved to play catch with him. You'd throw out a piece of wood and he'd go swim and bring it back to us and that was lovely. Otherwise we'd just stand and admire the beauty of the lake and the surroundings.

At that time people were so respectful of the area and the lake and 40 years ago my husband and I returned to this area I whisked my daughter who was five to see the where I was when I was five years old because they'd heard so much about my life, we stayed at Red Fish Lake oh it was terrible. We heard boom boxes and screaming and vulgar laughing it broke up my heart to see how disrespectful they were to this gorgeous nature that they were around they were spoiling it. I don't know if that still occurs of not but it was heartbreaking to me because it was so gorgeous and so quite no matter what your thoughts were or your problems

you could just go there and you were renewed from the beauty and the feeling of spirituality and the respect that people had had. I hope that has come back.

AH: Now in some of your pictures you guys are wearing some interesting clothing, can you tell me a little bit about what you wore?

SA: I wore overalls most of the time during the day to play because as you walk through the brush the ticks wouldn't get onto your legs. Sometimes a little shirt or hat and of course it was interesting my mother still insisted on keeping starched pretty little dresses in case we had to go someplace, well on occasion we did and it was fun to dress up but other wise you wore overalls so did other girls or they'd wear shorts sometimes that wasn't in my class. I was a little chubby girl so I stayed away from those as well. Andrew had to wear sturdy shoes because of his walking now in front our little cabin or 2-by-4 as I call it we were right on the street.

It was dust, dust constantly so again you needed sturdy shoes to walk around and of course a heavier type if we were going to go walking to a lake and so forth and as I said before I don't remember wearing really a jacket at all because we were –

[SECTION 2 ENDS]

AH: The reason why you guys were up there in the first place was because your father was building the roads and such can you tell us about the construction crew and how you moved all that equipment up there and a little bit about all that stuff.

SA: Yes should be the total story but I'm diverse because of my wonderful memory well my father as I said was a civil engineer for the Bureau of Public Roads at that time which is now called the Department of Transportation and he would send out from the district office which was located in Ogden that would be Idaho, Utah and Wyoming. In the winter time they did drawings, preparation or schematic drawings where the roads would go, very detailed of course because they had the surveyors go out years earlier to find which is the best route and what the problems were to construct a highway. My father as a young man started in 1915 as a young surveyor and worked his way up so he became as I said a construction engineer but he was a surveyor too. They would plan all of what they would do, how many miles or the project would be for the months that the weather would permit construction. The crew from the office would be my father, big boss, and of course an accountant, secretary to keep in touch with the main office and an aide then there had to be bids taken by contractors, now at that time the Morrison Knutson Company in Boise got the bid for this amount of highway construction so they provided all of the equipment that is the steam shovels, the trucks, the graters, and lots of the crew. My father was the supervisor of course they had the plans but then his crew, my fathers crew, had to set this up too so he was responsible for the building of it. The equipment was very interesting of course bringing over steel for the bridges well of course they had to use dynamite sometimes to cut out certain parts of the earth to provide for the road to be built. Then after that you see we had to carry away all the debris and refine it or keep what they wanted to use as the layer for the road. Then there was the grating. Then they measured the amount of earth because it must all be the same so the equipment came from Boise and a lot of the crew. Then of course the actual design was done by the office in Ogden under the direction of my father. Then even building of the bridges I believe there are several pictures that I've given I'm sorry they're not larger I had some wonderful

ones that the Bureau of Public Roads had taken and a few years ago since it was turned over to the Department of Transportation they went through all these files, went way back and cleaned out files because this was no longer a study and when a newer person in that department and he knew my father had worked on this project so he brought me these marvelous pictures of the same-- in my little book very enlarged and framed. But the University of Utah learned about my fathers work from 1915 and I had to write up his biography and history and give material as possible for it and that's now turned over to the university. But it was very exciting to see the steam shovels of course picking up the earth and dumping it into these big trucks, then being of course Mr. Lindford's daughter was being very important when my father permitted us to go with him to see some of the construction which he didn't really very often do we were introduced to these operators and so forth and one time Mr. Knudson was there a very handsome man I remember looked a little bit like my father, very distinguished and I was excited and he asked me if I would like to work on one of the big trucks and I said, "Oh that would be fun to do." So he sat me in the big chair and of course he did it, the work, I pretend, I thought I did it getting this big scoop of this steam shovel to go way down, oh the noise you can't believe it was deafening pick up the earth and then you move it over and get it right into the truck and they applauded me for my work, that was Mr. Knudson's. My husband just told me that Morrison Knudson I think went broke or out of business or something but it would be interesting if they had achieved to know how many miles they had completed that year because generally they set up that they had to complete so much. And I remember my father on one of rare occasion when we were with him speaking to them and they had progressed or something and he was a tough, tough, tough, tough director and boy did they get on the ball. I believe the bridges are still intact and they were beautiful at that time.

Going back to clothes my father of course had been up and down the areas from Challis well really Salmon City then and of course I had to eat someplace, mother never gave him a lunch we don't know what happened anyway he loved lemon meringue pie and it so happened he told us about this wonderful farm with this lady that made lemon meringue pie and had invited us as a family down some Sunday well and that's when I got dressed up. We were scrubbed from head to foot, I had the shiniest face and the cleanest hair and the prettiest starched dress, in those days you had puffed sleeves and a little belt and kind of a full skirt -- my grandmother was a seamstress so I had really pretty clothes -- I had my Sunday shoes of all things to go to a farm. But her house, in this ladies home you had one room with about four tables with the prettiest cloths with the prettiest clean curtains which of course we could not have in Stanley and we were served dinner and this wonderful lemon meringue pie she made especially for my father. And I was complimented on my pretty dress so we did dress up once in a while but normally it was play clothes.

Adriann this has been a great experience for me. I think of Stanley so much and I have many, many, many experiences and I have lived in Europe, I have lived on the east coast but Stanley was always in my mind for relaxation, comfort, good people, good living, and a beautiful childhood. It has been quite an emotional retake for me as now I am 84 years old but it had also been a wonderful experience and I thank you for it.

AH: Well Shirley thank you so much for your time and your memories it's great to hear the history on a place that I've grown to love so much.

[SECTION 3 ENDS]

SA: And he loved his work I've never seen anybody so excited to go to work and he did not retire until he was 72 and if you ride on I-15 down here in Utah and down in southern Utah through St. George all that area he worked on the construction there on both of those and preplanning. He did a wonderful job and had many honors from the government. Now there is one picture that I think represents his enthusiasm that I say, "There goes day off to work ready to go." He did not like sitting in the office and planning he wanted to get out into the world in the field. He was so loving of his country and the animals he told us it was deer season and you could choose your deer so he took a rifle along and this was over in Idaho City area and this doe came up right close to him and he said he could've popped her and he said that the animal looked in his eyes and he said he couldn't, he couldn't harm an animal.

But he was a great, respected person and an engineer and he did a great job in fact he worked Hailey to Ketchum those are my fathers jobs and over from Ketchum over Galena and down into Stanley. Then work from Chalice down to Stanley so you go on those roads and of course one thing he always taught was to respect the earth and when he'd come to Galena Summit and stop he would have us get out and count all the little streams, the silver coming down from the great Sawtooth Mountains to say this is where the Salmon River begins.

Then one year I always wanted to follow the river to the ocean and one year my husband took me up on it and we started in Stanley and of course it starts up in Jackson too in those great mountain we followed it to the connection of each river into the Columbia, the Columbia it was up into the Mukilteo in Washington area and then we crossed a bridge we saw that this great body of water goes into the Pacific and I was just so satisfied I said, "It was a wonderful experience and to respect. We must respect our earth and appreciate it." I thank my father for all he did for my brother and me in learning about the beauty of the earth and how to care for it. We can build things on it but don't destroy.

AH: Just a couple more things that Shirley wanted to add. What else did you guys do for fun as kids?

SA: Well since my father was a construction engineer my brother decided that that's what we would do, that is to build roads, so we had a sand pile outside by the backdoor and we built the roads and had the hills and of course we couldn't have dynamite but we used matches and we didn't have the cranes to carry the steel across the river of course for the bridges but we sure had a lot of fun. My brother of course was the chief civil engineer and it was lots of fun.

I thought you'd like to know what happened to the Lindford's after Stanley. My mother was happy to be back in Ogden in her lovely little modern bungalow and until my brother and I went away to college she remained just a housewife, not just a housewife, and a busy lady then she returned to teaching school and retired at 62 when my father retired at 72. They had a lovely sweetheart live. It was lovely to see them in the winter time dressing up very fancy. My mother looked so beautiful with her special evening dress it was called, not gown, and my father in his beautiful blue navy suit and his maroon polka dot tie and they headed for Salt Lake City to the capital to attend the hotel in Utah for the big contractors ball they had each year, they were surely sweethearts.

Then my brother followed my father's footsteps and went to the University of Utah and graduated in Civil Engineering after which the war called him to the Navy. He served in the

Pacific Ocean Theater as a Second Lieutenant and after war he entered the University of Ann Harbor Michigan and worked until he received a Master Degree in Civil Engineering and on his thesis was the highest they ever presented A+. The University of Utah invited him to come back and teach there and he taught there until his death at age 55.

I of course went from the stage of Stanley to the stage University of Utah in productions and vocal workshop. I had a very beautiful voice and was studying to have a vocal career. Attended conservatory in Philadelphia and I made my operatic debut in Baltimore, Maryland singing in "Hansel and Gretel." Then I had studies in Italy and loved the singing but I didn't think a career in that situation would be very stable but I loved teaching and I returned to Salt Lake where my parents had retired. I attended the University of Utah graduated with a BS in Elementary Education, taught for 21 years, 4<sup>th</sup> graders. Often in the summer time when we returned to school and talked about our summers I would often tell them some of the stories of Stanley and they couldn't believe that we couldn't have fun without TV, games and so forth. Then I married in 1961. We have one daughter, and my husband is an artist and was working in Utah as an appraiser so he too was involved with road building.

Well we had a wonderful life in Stanley and I hope everybody enjoys the beauty of the earth and what it provides for you and is taken care of. Thank you for listening to my little story.

[END OF TAPE]

