

Oral History Tape Recording Release Agreement

I, Ruby Bodiford, hereby give and grant my tape recordings and their contents to Dr. Suzanne Marshall, Assistant Professor of History Jacksonville State University, and authorize her to make them available for scholarly research purposes.

INTERVIEWEE Ruby Bodiford ADDRESS P.O. Box 126 Odenwille, Al. 35120  
INTERVIEWER Kristin Beister  
DATE OF INTERVIEW 2/28/93  
NUMBER OF TAPES 1

DATE OF AGREEMENT 2/28/93

SIGNATURE OF INTERVIEWEE/DONOR Ruby Bodiford

Outline of Taped Conversation

Kristin Beisler  
HY 455

for  
Dr. Suzanne Marshall

1. Introduction with Ms. Ruby Bodiford
  - A. Where she was born, and how, details concerning the doctor
  - B. When she was born
  - C. Names her parents
  - D. Generally describes the conditions of the farm
  - F. Gives overview of life at school
    - a. Where she went, elementary and high school
    - b. How she preformed
    - c. The teacher who boarded with the family
  - G. Details the morning's activities
  - H. Describes the farm after her father's death
2. Asked to give details of cash crops on farm
  - A. Lists specific crops
  - B. Gives acreage of cotton grown
3. Asked to describe cotton picking
  - A. Details experiences in the fields
  - B. Describes heat, physical pain
4. Asked about beginning school late because of cotton picking
  - A. Describes not attending until October
  - B. Gives details of differences in the Blount Co. school system
5. Asked to detail routine of days and weekends
  - A. States when she arrived home
  - B. Lists chores parents were involved in
  - C. Describes chores, bringing wood, drawing water
  - D. Lists activities of the weekend
6. Asked about her friends
  - A. Describes the similarities

- B.Emphasizes that they were not isolated from others
  - C.Gives name of her best friend, describes the family
- 7.Asked to describe parents
- A.Describes lack of communication with the world
  - B.Mother's love of Birmingham Post
  - C.Lists duties of father on the farm
  - D.Describes mother washing clothes
- 8.Asked if mother made all the clothes
- A.Describes the sewing machine
  - B.Tells of her own sewing
  - C.Lists the teachings of her mother
- 9.Asked to give details of a hail storm
- A.Describes father in the field during the storm
  - B.Describes the storm and father's bald head
- 10.Asked to detail Sunday, church
- A.Details the day, Sunday school
  - B.How church was not a social place
- 11.Asked to relate an important event - Christmas
- A.Tells of the scarcity of toys
  - B.Importance of Christmas and Santa Claus
  - C.Placement of Christmas tree, receiving gifts
  - D.Describes the toys received, store bought
- 12.Asked to remember anything about the Klu Klux Klan
- A.States knowing of their existence
  - B.Could give no specific details
- 13.Asked of Roosevelt
- A.Tells of reverence toward president

- B.Listening to him on the radio
- 14.Asked about receiving electricity
  - A.House wired
  - B.Story of lights being turned on, their fear
  - C.Gives her age
- 15.Asked to relate the first airplane she saw
- 16.Asked if they ever had a car
- 17.Asked of the shock of moving to the city
  - A.Enjoyed conveniences
  - B.Gives date of move relative to marriage and birth of child
  - C.Describes Birmingham in the 1950's, riding the bus
- 18.Asked if she missed the farm
  - A.Relates the selling of the farm
  - B.Missing the farm
- 19.Asked to give differences after beginning of WWII
  - A.Limited cotton growth, plowing some under
  - B.Rationing
  - C.Tells of some who went to war and returned
- 20.Asked to give her opinion of the Germans at that time
  - A.Expressed belief that they were terrible
  - B.Condemned the leaders
- 21.Asked to describe meeting Hubert Bodiford, husband
  - A.Grew up together
  - B.Noticing him at nineteen
  - C.Married at twenty-one, average age
- 22.Asked to tell what they did together
  - A.Movies

B.Parties

23.Asked of his job

A.Describes his farm - Boysenberry

B.Tells the entire berry farming process

C.Tells of his chicken farm, the part she played

24.Asked where they lived when married

25.Asked to describe wood stove cooking

A.Lists the differences

B.Relates the entire process

26.Asked about canning, the food available

A.Pressure canning

B.Describes what and how they canned

C.Gives the pea thrashing process (Begin Side Two)

D.Relates the slaughtering of hogs, preservation

E.Lists store bought items, the grinding of cornmeal

F.The importance of the trip to town once a month

27.Asked of the credit problem

A.Tells of her fathers success

B.Cash basis

28.Asked of the first time she went to town

A.Describes travel

B.The movie seen

C.List all they could buy for little money

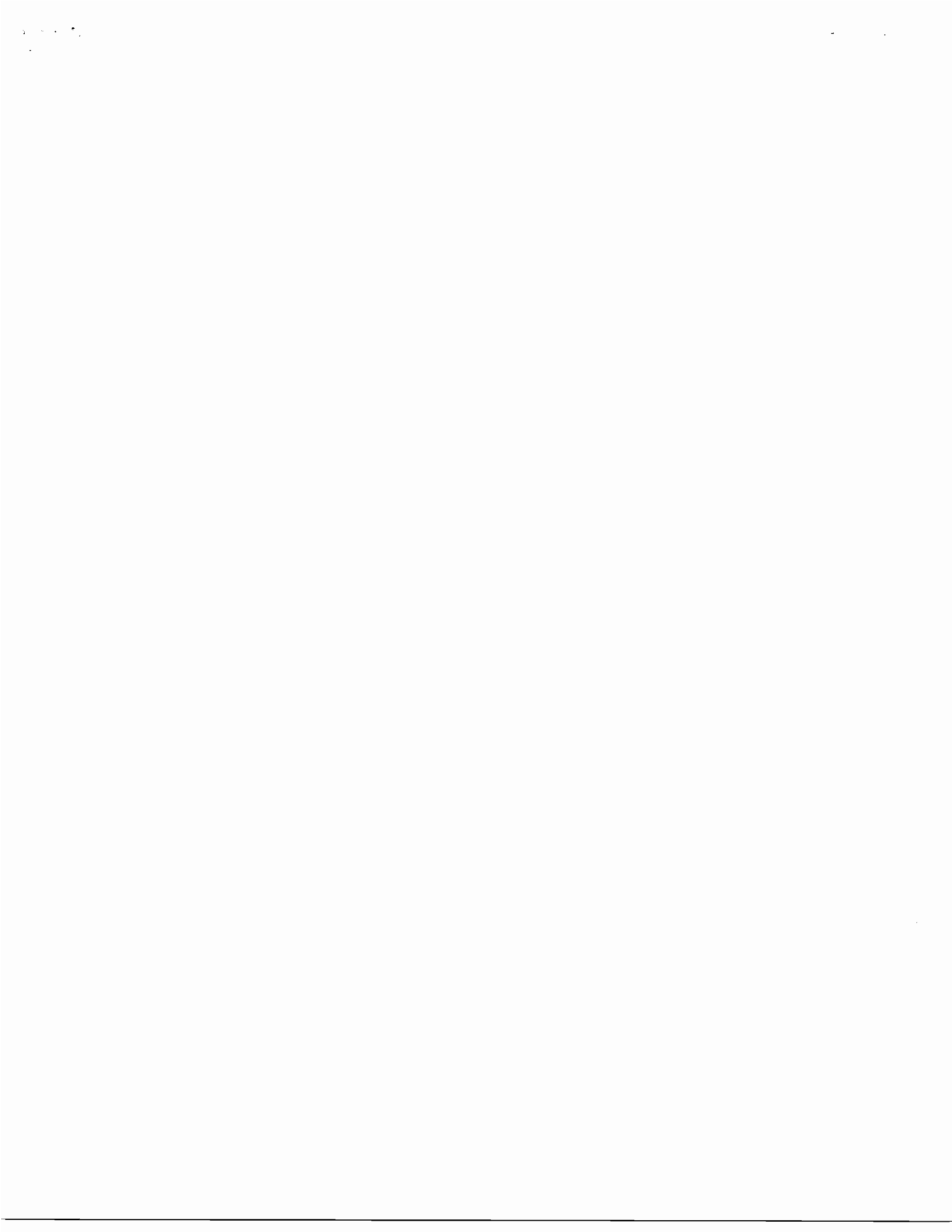
29.Asked to relate the Bodiford's family store

A.Describes the store in grandfather's basement

B.How it came to be

C.Lists items he carried

30. Asked to give opinion of the Depression
- A. Admits her unawareness
  - B. Father getting meal for cotton, pooling cotton
  - C. Situation of the community
  - D. Greater wealth of the Bodifords
31. Asked to list changes of the 1940's
- A. Lists some changes
  - B. Tells of greater number of farmers
  - C. Describes hiring out to other families
  - D. Truck farming
  - E. Prosperity of father
  - F. Closeness of community, lack of enemies
32. Asked to relate sicknesses, home remedies
- A. Details the making of three home remedies
  - B. Describes living conditions
  - C. Lists diseases they had, relates to case of the measles
  - D. Describes her mother's care for her
  - E. Briefly mentions father renting half of his property
  - F. Immunizations, hookworms
  - G. Sanitation and outhouses
33. Asked about living conditions in Birmingham
- A. Describes the project
  - B. The move to the barracks near airport
  - C. The move to Odenville and why
34. Asked about the union Mr. Bodiford belonged to
- A. When he joined
  - B. Striking in the 1960's





Siblings  
 Virginia Peoples 25  
 Ellen Payne 30  
 Edna Miller 33  
 Jessie Mamm 35

50 Shiran Dec.  
 22 Paula Oct  
 54 Hugh Aug.  
 64 Ken March

**INTERVIEWEE BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Name: ~~Ata~~ Ruby Jewel Glenn Bodford M/F male female

Address: PO Box 126 Odenville AL 35120

Phone number(s): 629-6261

Approximate age or date of birth: 65 May 27 1927

Mother's Name: Lula Dollar Glenn m. 22. m. 26

Father's Name: Lee Glenn (Andrew) m. 40 (m. 40)

Places lived and when: Blount Mt. Birmingham '52 - Odenville '59  
m. 46

Education: High school 12th grade taught 47-

Religion: Missionary Baptist

Business, political and social memberships (past and present)  
usually demo but rep some

Present occupation: Center Manager for the Aging

Former occupations: Teacher - Store Clerk 61-62

Special Skills: Sewing Crochet Gardening Canning Freezing

Major Accomplishments: 4 kids

National Events in which interviewee has participated: \_\_\_\_\_

State Conventions for Aging

Local Events in which interviewee has participated: Sunday School Teacher

County Contests with the Aging - Holiday Parties Parties Manday

National born U.S. citizen? Yes No aff. to m. - w. church missionary PTA, room mother's

Naturalized Citizen: Yes/No Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Country from which he/she emigrated: \_\_\_\_\_

Documents, photographs, and artifacts which are in the possession of the interviewee:  
✓ \_\_\_\_\_

Individuals recommended by the interviewee who might be candidates for an oral history interview: had memo - see box

Additional information: took care mother till nurs

Dad died when she was 19 with other sewing him.  
no transport - horse buggy no power, well water, outdoor toilet  
 (Hubert 82 Sept. 29 died) 2. intro. is ~~off~~ raining, no transport B.S. found truck. threw away toples

AsL about the cutler crop of \$52

still no car

⊗ ride bus to work in B-ham

63 Falcon first car till 74 went out

Quite the home make-