

## Oral Histories

Number: OH 98

Date: 1974

Condition:  
Poor

Holdings:  
WP Library

Initials: DP

Interviewee: Pangrazi, Speranza

Interviewer: Fred Blackburn

Abstract: Side A OH 98

00-178 She did not know her grandfather very well. Her grandfather was in Russia and served in the army against Russia. Speaks of his life there. Grandfather was wounded a couple of times. He was lucky. Describes her husband as small but strong. Talks of the history and different languages spoken during her father's time.

178-321 Flour was in short supply. They only received so much at a time. A couple of pounds a month. She hid it upstairs. She had plenty to eat, just her and her father at home. They raised a garden of potatoes. People had to work hard. The Government would take their potatoes and only gave m so much, but she also hid her potatoes. People had money, but not enough food to eat not enough flour and stuff to make good food.

321-330 Describes certain food she made. Speaks of living in the old country. The men stayed up in the hills to take care of the cows. Father kept books for the people who made cheese. During the war, the Russians checked on his books, so her father helped the people through his bookwork. People had to eat what they raised, as there was nothing available to buy. They did not have phones to communicate, had to use their legs. They heard by word of mouth about food coming into the valley, so she went to get some. She picked up clothes and food the solders left. Could not communicate with others well.

330-550 Several of the people were put in camps for being deserters until the war was over. A lot of people moved away, left their house and property and all. They were called refugees and lost everything. One of her teachers was considered a traitor when the was on earlier. Speaks of the ethnic clashes in the old country. Most kept to separate groups. Grandfather was sort of advisor in the army. He would go out and speak to different groups. People did not want to move, so soldiers would forcibly go in and get them. When her brother came home after 3 years, her family did not have enough food to feed him. Talks of various hardships the people endured.

Side B: OH 98

00-220 Belslack closed the saloon and turned it into a schoolhouse. She speaks of all the miners that came in to the area. Speaks of when Zia came over in 1913 and went to work at Crosscut mine. Mentions the Penasas who came from the old country. She did not know them over there. Her brother worked in the mine at Ouray. After 3 years he wrote to her. He wanted to go back to the old country but did not make it. He sent her a gold pin

and ring from Ouray. She still has it. It has quartz in it. Later on he sent her a package with shoes in it. He ask what size she wore and she sent the Italian size but they did no fit. The sizes did not correspond.

220-228 She speaks of where the Visintines lived, on the corner by Alta Cassietto. Her brother thought there were too many men and it was too big a job at the mine he worked in. He wanted to work at a smaller mine.

288-427 When she came over from the old country, people were mostly Catholic that lived here. Speaks of what she studied in school. Talks about her life in the old country.

Description: sound cassette (50 minutes)

Subjects: Side A  
Grandfather  
Life in Italy

Side B:  
Various memories  
Life in the old country