



CLAYTON CENTURY
FOUNDATION

enriching our community, honoring our past

Clayton Interviews

Has your family lived in Clayton for more than one generation? Do you have a friend or neighbor who has been in Clayton for many years? Everyone has interesting stories to tell. We are trying to capture these stories and memories about daily life as a permanent record of our community.

Please consider taking some time to visit with someone you know. The Clayton Century Foundation – History would like to use excerpts of these interviews on the History website and in a Centennial publication. All proper credits will be noted.

Also, if someone has memorabilia...old photos and records...we would like to scan these and will return to you.

The best approach to an oral history interview is to ask open-ended questions and to focus on people's memories and experiences. Consider these questions as a springboard for planning your interview:

Name and a bit about the Family Tree:

First Clayton address and current contact information:

1. What's your first memory about living in Clayton?
2. When did you or your parents move to Clayton and what brought them here?
3. Tell me about your childhood home, neighborhood, school and friends.
4. Where do you remember going to shop – to play – to worship – or hang out/enjoy entertainment?
5. What special traditions do you remember in Clayton?
6. Were there any special teachers, merchants, community leaders, or even neighbors that you remember in a special way? What stories can you share about them?
7. Tell me about some of your friends and what you did around Clayton.
8. Describe your first job – was it in or around Clayton? What did you do with your first paycheck?
9. What can you remember about any local heroes? (School related, War service, community service)
10. Do you have any specific memories during wartime – World War I and II, Korea, Vietnam, Gulf War?
11. What were your favorite songs, books, movies and television shows? Do you have memories of Depot dances or other places in Clayton? Any encounters with local and famous artists?
12. What are some of the happiest times you've had in Clayton?
13. What haven't we talked about that you'd like to discuss in the time we have left? Are there any other Clayton memories you have to share?