

# 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](http://www.thehistorycenter.net)  
[archives@thehistorycenter.net](mailto:archives@thehistorycenter.net)

### **2018 - Seniors - Generation to Generation - Oral History Project**

The *2018-Seniors-Generation to Generation Oral History Project* includes seven\* interviews recorded in May and June of 2018. The interviews were conducted by The History Center Youth Ambassadors. Teenage youth from Tompkins County interviewed senior adults about their lives and memories from childhood through adulthood. The 2018 Generation to Generation project prioritized stories and memory sharing about living, working, and studying in Tompkins County; as well as sharing memories on specific personal lifetime events that connect to Tompkins County history. Multiple narratives share experiences of being a child during WWII; and multiple narratives include memories of life before immigrating to Tompkins County. Most interviews in this collection also include archival files of “pre” and “post” interview questionnaires completed by the interviewee participants. This project was supervised and coordinated by The History Center Youth Education Director Carole West. *A project of The History Center Youth Ambassadors.*

*Trigger Warning(s): evacuation experiences of WWII, discussion of life under Soviet occupation, lack of access to food*

#### ***Interviews with:***

##### **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*

##### **Eniko Farkas (44 minutes)**

Eniko Farkas immigrated to Tompkins County as an adult. Farkas grew up during the Soviet occupation of Hungary during the mid-twentieth century. Farkas describes her experience living under the communist regime, including limited access to supplies, food, and certain activities. Farkas also speaks on her formal education, time at Cornell, and her experiences volunteering in the Ithaca community.

*Trigger Warnings: discussion of life under Soviet occupation of Hungary, lack of access to food*

- *Recorded: 05/20/2018*
- *Name of Interviewer: Lily Mueller*
- *Audio File: OHTC\_2018-5-20\_Farkas-Eniko*
  - *Digital Format: MP3 & WAV*
- *Transcript File: OHTC\_2018-5-20\_Farkas-Eniko\_Transcript*
  - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the 2018 - Seniors - Generation to Generation - Oral History Project*

### **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*

### **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*

**Mimi Melegrito (101 minutes)**

Mimi Melegrito describes her upbringing in the Philippines, and her childhood experience growing up in small agricultural towns. Melegrito explains what led her to, despite her rebellious tendencies, become a minister and attend seminary. Melegrito also explains many traditions she continued after immigrating to Tompkins County and how these practices helped her adjust to the U.S. and find a community.

- *Recorded: 05/20/2018*
- *Name of Interviewer: Jesse Larson*
- *Audio File: OHTC\_2018-5-20\_Melegrito-Mimi*
  - *Digital Format: MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC\_2018-5-20\_Melegrito-Mimi\_Transcript*
  - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the 2018 - Seniors - Generation to Generation - Oral History Project*

**June Morse (59 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*

**Randolph “Fluffy” Saccucci (32 minutes)**

Randolph “Fluffy” Saccucci shares about his childhood in Ithaca attending K-12 in schools. He also talks about his time working his way up through multiple careers. Saccucci speaks about his life within the world of professional music, and his music tours and performances in the U.S. and Canada.

- *Recorded: 06/09/2018*
- *Name of Interviewer: Charlie McCurdy*
- *Audio File: OHTC\_2018-6-9\_Saccucci-Rudolph-Fluffy*
  - *Digital Format: M4V & MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC\_2018-6-9\_Saccucci-Rudolph-Fluffy\_Transcript*
  - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*
- *Recorded as part of the 2018 - Seniors - Generation to Generation - Oral History Project*

**\*\*Satomi Hill**

In the archival files for this collection a one page “pre-interview” worksheet was found completed for Satomi Hill, however as of 5/3/2023 no other files regarding this interview have been located. Satomi Hill passed away on November 19th 2020. Anyone with

knowledge on if this interview took place, or if files of the interview are still in existence are encouraged to contact The History Center archivist.

*CITATION FOR THE COLLECTION*

“Seniors - Generation to Generation” Oral History Project, 7 oral histories recorded in 2018 by Youth Ambassadors of The History Center in Tompkins County, Generation to Generation Program, The History Center in Tompkins County. Oral Histories of Tompkins County Audio Archives, Ithaca NY, 2023.

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