

SUMMARY OF TAPE H108 INTERVIEW WITH TED HANDWOERK

June 29, 1976

Interviewer: Jane Jeffrey

Ted starts the tape with his family history from his grandparents' life as farmers in Ohio. His parents met and married in Ohio. Ted was born in Ohio in 1899, one of three children. The family relocated to Colorado in 1902.

For one summer, Ted's father farmed the Molly Brown summer ranch at Wadsworth and what is now Yale. Ted, his brother, sister, and Molly Brown's son, Laurence played together on the ranch. It is interesting to hear about Ted's parents' concern when the Titanic sank in 1912; then their relief that Molly Brown had survived.

This tape tells about the early times in Lakewood, Colorado. Ted's memories are of the Lakewood School and Wheat Ridge High School. He also reminisces about the early pioneer families in Lakewood, including names such as Robb, Howell, Cramer, White and Devinney. Colfax Avenue was a gravel road at the time that went all the way to Golden, where it became Golden Road.

Leisure fun for youths included baseball, fishing, and other games after farm work and other chores were finished. The Methodist Churches in Lakewood and Wheat Ridge provided many social activities. Many of the men were involved with service organizations like the Masons, Knights of Columbus, Whitman Lodge; and most of the men were members of the Grange. There were dances for young people.

In 1933 Ted married Margaret Malmgrem, who was from Leadville. They had one daughter who died in 1955. Ten years later Margaret died, and Ted spent most of the intervening years alone. At the time of the interview, however, his 95-year old aunt was living with him in the house that Ted had built in 1932. From childhood he had gardened, and Jane praises his wonderful garden and yard.