Sheryl Throckmorton (ST): I'm in Poway, California with Nona Andrews she's being interviewed by Sheryl Throckmorton. I understand by your questionnaire you first attended campus in 1931. Now was that before or after they moved the campus to it's present site?

Nona Andrews (NA): About, the year that the campus, the present site campus began classes it was all new construction. It wasn't finished yet.

ST: So you, so you started on the new campus?

NA: Yes.

ST: K, let's see. Now I, let's see. Now what, let me see now. What was your most vivid memory of attending school there?

NA: Well, I, that's very difficult to say. Most surprising thing for me I think was that I learned that it was possible. I wasn't a bit sure that I could got to college, and take those classes, and do the work required, that was a surprise.

ST: So that, oh, that oh that brings up...So it's like being a woman back then weren't sure if you'd be going to college or if you could do it?

NA: Well, I really can't say that that entered into it. Going to college was easy because jobs were not very hard well there... I mean they were very to get there just weren't very many jobs. So if you continue going to school was an actual progression and expenses in those days were not very great so everybody went, a lot of us went to college I'm sure for that reason. But we might have wanted to go to work but we couldn't.

ST: So since jobs weren't really available you deiced to further your education so that maybe when your education was finished maybe there will be more opportunities after that?

NA: Well, that's certainly a theory yes.

ST: Ok.
NA: You understand that at that time the school had just been given permission to delete from the title the word teachers. Before it was, when it was on the old campus it was a state teachers college and when they moved up to the new campus it was San Diego State. But the theory still was that we were all going to be teachers. So, of course, we've got a job out, I mean everybody needed a teacher. Schools were always open so much that assumption was there. Get a degree, get a certificate, get a job no problem.

ST: What a, was there a large population of women at that time going to school?

NA: Yes, I think it was probably fifty-fifty.

ST: Cause I'm curious as to what opportunities were like for women in those days. Like you said you got to go to college because basically there was no where else to go at the time cause jobs were scarce but other than were there any opportunities for women or were they kind like stays at home?

NA: No, not really. No, you could be a teacher, you could be a nurse, you could be a stenographer, I suppose possibly you could be a book keeper. But no, a woman would work and then she got married and that was that.

ST: Was there a, do you think that there was any like prejudices against women going to trying to get a higher education?

NA: Absolutely certainly. Women been discriminated against since the beginning of time and it's still going on no matter what now makes [unintelligible]. Women are still considered as degrading. They don't get the same pay for the same job. Men, just without even thinking are making remarks about women that are demeaning and pejorative. It's a rare man that doesn't do it. So there was prejudice certainly.

ST: Did you personally run into it did it have any kind of...

NA: I married a man whose favorite saying was women were smart on paper.

ST: Oh dear. Oh, did going to college and being a women at that time did it make you want to work harder at school or should I say did you have to work harder?

NA: No I don't think so. But I think that was an individual matter.

ST: I noticed in the questioner that your family moved out here in 1922 do you happen to remember why they said you moved to California?

NA: Yes, I had a, my older sister was living in San Diego and she kept writing home, do come and visit, and this, and it's wonderful, and it's that, and the other thing. So my parents decided to make a trip to San Diego and that was the end of that one, never returned to Colorado.
ST: How did your family fare during the Depression. I mean was there-
NA: Badly.
ST: -hardship?
NA: Badly, very badly.
ST: What did your father do?
NA: My father was a carpenter, but worse than that he was a union man and San Diego
was not a union city.
ST: So things got rough from...
NA: Things were very rough, yes.
ST: Did you have to move because of like hardships or?
NA: Yes, we did. I would not be able to recall all the times but we would live
someplace for, until the land lord decided he'd rent to somebody that paid the rent more
promptly and then we'd find another place.
ST: Did your mom have to, perhaps, get a job during those times?
NA: My mother worked occasionally not very much. She worked one time I remember
as a cashier in a restaurant. We lived in Ocean Beach and she, the restaurant, was in San
Diego and in those days that was a long distance. So you'd travel by street car and took
half an hour to do seven miles. But she, but for the most part no she did not because jobs
weren't that [unintelligible] for a woman [unintelligible].
ST: Because things were tough how was college paid for? I mean did you have to get
a job or...
NA: My first year I was the recipient of a check every month from an anonymous
benefactor. This had been arranged by one of my high school teachers and every month
the check came in. And I anticipated, I had been lead to believe that would have this for
all four years. It was good only one year and I was rather devastated to learn that it
wasn't going to continue. But the hard part financially was over cause by then I'd learn
you sell your books to buy the new text books and you don't by new, you buy used so
that it didn't cost really so much to be a sophomore as it did to be a freshman because
experience had taught a lot. I got a loan and right now I couldn't even tell who'd agreed
the loan but it was for hundred dollars and I paid it off after I was out of State, after I had
had a job. I'd pay ten dollars a month or something like...I wish I could remember who
made that loan to me but I don't.
ST: Did you ever find out who your benefactor was?

NA: Yes I did, inadvertently. I, his wife sent me some clothing some used clothing and she wrote a note and included it. So that's I knew who the benefactor was. He was a San Diego man and I never saw him. I'd see his name in the paper occasionally and about fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, years ago his name was in the paper he was going to be celebrating his seventieth birthday at such and such a place. At any rate the name was there I knew the birth, when the birthday was and I was able to get an address from somewhere. So I wrote him a note as my first opportunity to thank him for the money that he had given me. And I told him that I thought perhaps he might be interested to know that I was now in a position to help other young people train to get an education. I gave him that as a seventieth birthday present. But I didn't identify myself in any way just my name and so on. But he got busy, and looked around, and did some sleuthing, and he found my address, and I heard from him again.

ST: That's pretty neat.

NA: It was nice.

ST: Lets see, so when you graduated San Diego State what happen to your life then? Did you find a job or was there opportunities at that time?

NA: Well, you see I wasn't going to be a teacher. After two years I was called into the Office of the Dean of Women who asked how serious I was about my desire to be a teacher. And I wasn't very eager at that time, I'll tell you, because what I had to do message you know how to classes, and how to teach music, how to... And the students for my college you see and they were devils. The discipline, how do you discipline your, a class of twenty year old were your classmates? So I wasn't sure I wanted to face this. I wasn't realizing that time that disciplining a class of eight ten year olds would be different but at any rate she pointed out that, there more teachers than there were jobs. If I wasn't really that keen on it maybe I would like to change my mind and go for a secondary degree, which meant going up to LA or getting... you couldn't get a secondary degree in San Diego at that time.

So, but I was willing to go along with it and get finished with these method classes and practice teaching my classmates. So I wasn't gonna, I didn't have a teachers certificate, I wasn't going to get a job as a teacher. I got a job as at the library at San Diego City Library system. I did civil service, I'd taken the examination, I'd taken other civil service exams this was the first one that came through. And the work was to ask as page and it paid 25 cents an hour. And I worked sometimes three hours a night and then take two nights a week. I wasn't really getting very rich but whatever it was I was grateful for and happy to have.

ST: So since you didn't get that much pay were you still living with your parents at that time?
NA: I was living with my sister, my sister's house. My parents were living there too but it was my sister's house. Yes, so I was still living there.

ST: Oh, so the financial hardship had to do moving in with your sister your family was like still in the same house.

NA: Well, I never would have been able to go to school if it hadn't been for the kindness of my sister. She my last year in high school I was living with her and she was working in San Diego so she drove me in and dropped me off at the high school and she picked up in the evening and took me home. And she not only gave me board and room but she give me clothing and other things that I needed to have. She lives out in east San Diego so that it was very convenient to go to State from there. So I lived on her house in 48th street all the time that I was going to State. So it was just natural to stay there, besides she had just given birth to twins and twins keep you up at lot at night. So we took turns, she slept one night and I got up when they cried, and the next night I’d slept and she got up. So in away I was learning my keep there too.

ST: So when were you able to finally choose to leave the family nest?

NA: Well, I left about six months after I graduated from State. Took a bus, a cross country bus, and went to Washington D.C. and I was married there.

ST: Right now as I’m attending school we’re having a shortage of classes because of the budget. What was the main concern of students when you were there?

NA: Well, we didn’t have the shortage of classes. I never had heard the expression of crashing and nobody ever had to do it I’m sure, and we didn’t have any problem parking. Of course, most students didn’t have cars but those who did could park down at the west end in a muddy place and there was no great problem. I think financing probably was the biggest concern at general. Some people dropped out because although the fees were not very much if you didn’t have that much money they were impossible. So I think that the concern then probably was getting more money.

[tape ends/microphone stops]

NA: Jump her, of course it was a lot suit, it was a lot simpler as far as the curriculum as concerned because you were going to be a teacher and that was that. You took education this, and education that, and education the other but you took whatever you needed to fulfill your major. But your major was very limited too, you know. It could be English, it might be foreign language, it might be since they add...it could be social sciences, but remember we’re talking about an elementary school here for the most part because that’s what the certificates were at that time. The state could give it couldn’t go any higher than... I don’t think we could even go to junior high, 6th grade and that was that. So we didn’t have to worry about, are we going to get astronomy this semester or were going to get that science course. We got them there weren’t that many to compete.
ST: So, so there were about 3,000 students you said? So it’s kind of a little more intimate than it is these days.

NA: Yeah, yeah.

ST: Where it’s just basically bodies walking around. Oh a, teaching, you mentioned earlier that it’s a little different; I mean a lot different than it is today. Do you think that students have really changed since then or is it just, trying to say like the press making it seem really bad?

NA: Of course all I know is what I get in the press because I have no association at all with the schools, but I don’t believe anybody ever came onto the campus or high school with a gun, or with a knife, or with a brass knuckles. There was no graffiti as I remember. We wore uniforms and if you didn’t wear uniform you went to see the girl’s principle. The boys didn’t have to wear uniforms but they did in a way because they had to meet the approval of peers. It certainly was a violence. I never heard of a teacher being raped. I don’t think any body was ever mugged on campus, or being shot from somebody on campus shooting off. Of course most mothers were at home on those days and I think that that’s a problem today. I think that it’s better to give up the extra TV, and the VCRs, and the other car and let mom stay home to take care of the kids they can’t raise themselves.

ST: So you think that the change in financial situation where the mother can no longer stay at home has had a big effect?

NA: Well, what else? What do kids need drugs? Well, there’s something lacking in their lives and telling them just say no isn’t supplying that lack, you have to build them with whatever it is they aren’t getting. If a girl was pregnant in high school believe you me she disappeared. She went to Florence Critenman [spelling of unsure], and hid her face, and then she never saw the baby and she probably never came back to school. You have to remember that my class really a product of the Victorian days cause our parents were born, and grew up, and married, and raised their children while Victoria was till pretty active, and the hang over was there.

ST: I understand that things got a little sort of wild in the thirties with, you know, prohibition and did you, well, what should say... What was your social life like back then like in your college days?

NA: Well, of course I was a barbarian I couldn’t afford to join a sorority. But we barbs stuck together. I worked on the Aztec so the staff are the people that worked on the Aztec got together occasionally for some socializing. I can remember one year we didn’t go to school on Washington’s Birthday and there was snow in the mountains. And we went up to the mountains in the snow, and nearly froze to death cause we didn’t have proper clothing. Another time we went down in Geroves Canyon [spelling unsure of] to a barn. I don’t know whose barn it was. I don’t know why it was such a desirable place and we were trespassing. We had no business there at all and I don’t know what we did, but the
barn was there so we went. We used to take the ferry over to Coronado once you paid a nickel and got on you could stay on all night long, and we did. And we might take a little food with us, again there was nothing to do but talk and hang out. But we did more than once have a ferry parity. Five for five cents it wasn’t a bad evening. I can remember that we used to go to the ball room in Mission Beach. The big bands would come in and you know they’d be touring and would be there for one night, or two nights, or the weekend. So we’d go there and we’d dance. What else would we do? There always movies, we’d go up the beach, we did not drink. First of all it wasn’t legal so it wasn’t easily available besides it was expensive. So we didn’t drink. Any body that wanted to drink, and there were some who did, could get in the car and go down to Tijuana wasn’t such a long trip, no problem at all.

ST: So probably the speak easy type thing is not, perhaps, as active because there was always Tijuana? The, you know, the illegal places that you can go get a drink.

NA: I didn’t understand your question.

ST: Well, as I understand it back then because of prohibition there were places like a speak easy were you kind of a secret...

NA: In this country.

ST: Yes.

NA: But you didn’t have that problem down in Tijuana.

ST: Yes so I was wondering do you think perhaps there was less of them because of Tijuana, or was there still a population of them?

NA: Well, I think there was... Yes, I think that was probably, there may have been a speak easy in San Diego I wouldn’t know cause they cost money. And I’m sure they’d cost a lot cause they were doing something illegal so they had to protect themselves. But the people from Hollywood used to go down to Mexico because they could drink legally there. So Tijuana was definitely an attraction if you wanted to drink.

ST: Still is today. Now a days when were in school there’s like, you know, clicks of people, groups of people that you know certain cheerleaders, sororities, fraternities, the bad kids. What was the population like back then in college?

NA: Same thing there were clicks there were the sororities that were considered top notch and there were others that were the same as two of the fraternities. First off in those days they were all strictly local, they weren’t national. Some of them have since affected but at that time there was just local so... The girls of this sorority would give a dance and that fraternity would be invited those things, you know, clicks is a good word for it.
ST: Basically, I guess I'm just kind of interested during those days, you know, how people got through their days actually with the Depression going on. Just how families got through it all.

NA: Well, there were bread lines. You could go stand in line and come home with the prescribed amount depending on the size of your family. People earned welfare. The social workers would come and look the situation over and ultimately the male, the head of the house, would receive a check for x number of dollars. But don't forget that you could get bread for five cents a loaf if you took yesterday's bread. For twenty-five cents you could buy quite a lot of round steak [? sounds like]. Prices were cheap, I mean it didn't cost so much to live. You could get a meal at a restaurant for fifty cents; you could get several courses for that. Not in San Diego, but when we lived in New York in the late 30's there was a place we used to go to, a French restaurant where the meal cost seventy-five cents if you had a glass of wine. It cost fifty cents if you had a glass of wine. The wine cost twenty-five cents if you didn't have the wine you still paid seventy-five cents for the meal and just didn't have anything to drink. But this was several courses you start out with some kind of appetizer then soup, and then your entrée, and then a salad, and then desert. Fifty cents, seventy-five cents. So you didn't need to earn a lot of money because it didn't cost you a lot to live.

ST: The only problem was that you couldn't find a job to earn those few pennies that you needed.

NA: Well, a newspaper cost three cents.

[microphone was covered again]

ST: So about six months after you graduated you got married?

NA: Ummm.

ST: Did a, did you ever work during that time or?

NA: During the six months or after?

ST: Well, after you were married?

NA: Yes, I did. Was in Washington D.C. remember I told you I had taken some other civil service examinations? Well, the first job I had in Washington was a patronage job and I had to write back here to San Diego and I wrote to somebody whose name I was given but he would belong to the wrong party. He was a Republican. The Democrats were in power so I had to do something else, but I did get a patronage job. And then after about six or eight months of that I got a better job, a better paying job, as a result of the civil service examination I had taken, and I worked at that job for about six months or so. When I was married my husband was a student and when he finished and go his degree he went to New York to get his job. And after he had been there for six months his, he
got another job that paid him enough so I could afford to quit my job in Washington and we could both eek out on what he was earning. And I got a job up there too I worked in a real-estate office in the Treasures Office doing clerical work filing, typing, that sort of stuff. Then my husband was sent to Germany as a student and the company paid for wives to go along. But when we came back the war had started, although this country wasn’t in it the war on in Europe. Job’s were not very easy to get. I tried to get a job at Pratt and Whitney up in Connecticut. Defense work on they were really hiring but they were not hiring married women. So even then you see.

ST: So when America did get involved, I mean the war, when the defense plants really started did you look into that again or...

NA: No, but by that time I had a child so again I was discriminated against, no job. But believe me the unmarried women in San Diego were working at Convare [spelling unsure of], everybody was working at Convare. It was working 24 hours a day and anyone who wanted a job could have a job.

ST: So your husband had a job at that time that, that would support you and your child?

NA: By that time he was in the Navy. So yes, he had a job that supported us.

ST: And so you basically had to stay at home and take care of everything.

NA: Yes, I stayed home and took care of the child.

ST: So it sounds as though, well let’s see, did you earn a degree from State?

NA: A degree?

ST: Yes.

NA: Yes.

ST: But you never really used it in the sense...

NA: Well, I did not receive a certificate a teaching credential so I didn’t use them. I guess the probably the answer is no I didn’t ever use the degree but I certainly used the information I picked up while getting the degree.

ST: So it did have a positive effect on you.

NA: Absolutely, I took one year of German and that was my sophomore year so that would have been 32. 1938 I was living in Germany. I took Spanish in high school and in college. I’ve forgotten how many years it’s been, 1948 I was living in Argentina. So the languages were beneficial, very.
ST: So you think the college experience was definitely a positive one even though you didn’t get so far as doing, you know, teaching or getting that out of it you still got something out of it.

NA: I got a great deal out of it, yes. And you don’t stop learning once you get the degree you know. Now you’re ready to start learning.

ST: Now your mind is open wider.

[tape stops and restarts]

NA: Leading along those lines when I was at State. And I don’t think anybody else, but I want to tell you a board over view everything tonight I have to do this in Spanish and I got to finish that book report, and I got to get that collateral reading done for my history. We were concentrating on the immediate need and not being philosophic about what the whole situation was.

ST: So though, you know, there probably was discrimination at the time you weren’t, it wasn’t primary on your mind. You just wanted; you were just there to go to school.

NA: To fulfill the immediate goals yeah.

ST: Did you have to work going to school?

NA: Yes, when jobs were available I worked [tape stops]

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TAPE 1. SIDE 2

NA: … worked as. When the Federal Government got programs that would provide funds for students I worked on campus doing various things doing clerical work at the registers office. I worked on a switch board as a relief operator. I worked in the gym, the women’s gym, one semester just handing out clean towels. I worked for, at least one semester, in the lost and found office which was a chair and a table in the Office of the Dean of Women, but I got paid ten cents and hour for that. For any job that was available that I could do I did, yes.

ST: So all four years you were there were you working?

NA: Well, really it was only the last three. The first year, don’t forget I had my benefactor, twenty-five dollars a month is quite a lot of money. Besides Franklin Roosevelt hadn’t been in office in 1931 but in 1932 then things started picking up so that
there was money available to not only for student but for grown men working on the WPI, or the CCC, and other work, make work, programs.

ST: Yeah, there is some evidence of that on the campus benches and-

NA: Yes, there’s a lot.

ST: -the Aztec ball...

NA: My father worked on the campus and I’m sure that some of his work probably is still there. He worked on the Aztec Shack not the, so that I know is gone. But no the Shack, I don’t know when it disappeared but it really was a Shack. It was one layer of lumber on the underside, and the same layer of lumber on the outside, and unpainted. It was crude and unfinished because it was temporary. I didn’t know it was temporary but the authorities did. But he did some work there and possibly some other places on the campus, some of it might still be standing, but he worked there. We rode together for one semester at least.

ST: So, because of your family’s financial situation you were working to pay for college or to help out your family, I mean...

NA: Both.

ST: Both. So, well yes construction would be a low at that time I was gonna say...

NA: Well, it certainly wasn’t paying the way it is today and don’t forget he was not working for really for a contract he was working for the WPA, and that was a set figure the government set the figure.

ST: Through the hardships were there any like, ok I understand you lived with your sister and her family that unfortunately is a hardship you did have your, your family have kinda like its own place. Were there any periods of time that you found where you just kind of look at each other and think that your not even gonna make it through?

NA: No, it was never did, the subject never came up.

ST: Do you have any fond memories of the Depression? Did it teach you anything?

NA: Yes it indeed. It taught me to be very how I spend money to avoid going into debt.

ST: Some people say that, you know, hardship brings families together was that true in your case?

NA: No, I don’t think so.
ST: Family situation kinda stayed the same or perhaps worsened?

NA: About the same.

ST: Oh, I see. What, oh, getting back to the campus or the school what on your first day of school when you walked onto that new campus do you happen to remember what was going through your mind?

NA: Well, I was over dressed I can tell you that. I was dressed for the coldest winter weather and I wasn’t, in September out at San Diego State College is not really the coldest month of the year. So I quickly learned that leave the woolens at home and get back into cottons. The first several days of course are not really classes it with orientation, find your way around, attend lectures on this subject, and that subject, and this start link letter it tell you what you could expect in the way of hazing as freshman, and have somebody else give you a pep talk about the athletic defense, make your way around. We probably spent five days out there before classes really started.

ST: Did you have any impressions? I mean it was a brand new campus and here you are going to college in sort of the days of hard times, isn’t there something you felt when you stepped onto that campus?

NA: I have no recollections of that kind.

ST: On your questionnaire, transportation at state, you have on here hitched a ride. Now in my mind hitched a ride means you have your thumb out and a street corner...

NA: Well, I was on the street corner and it wasn’t necessary to have the thumb out. At the time were talking about San Diego had a very good street car system but the system that served San Diego, east San Diego ran along University and terminated at Euclid. But when State opened up the present campus the trans- the bus company, street car company put a bus on that had it’s run from Euclid and University down Euclid to El Cajon and then out El Cajon into the campus. There was nothing else out there. Nobody ever got a board that bus that didn’t have the college or the street car as a destination except me and I lived at 48th and El Cajon. So I might be standing out there waiting for the bus and somebody would come along and say are you going to school and that was the extent. I wasn’t standing out there hitching from anybody that came along it would always be a fellow student who would recognize. Nobody else had business out, going out that direction. There was no business there were no houses. It was emptiness between Euclid and what is now College Avenue, nothing.

ST: Yes, I saw a picture of the school back then it’s like nothing. Unlike today where it’s filled up. Getting back to the Depression era I was just, now a days kids, to escape life, some unfortunately take drugs. Did you have, did you ever want to kinda like escape for a while, you know just mentally escape? I mean not necessarily chemicals, but like a was there something that you enjoyed doing that was sort of like an escape from the daily hardships or just to forget about things for a while?
NA: No, I don't think so. The escape as I saw it, and I think probably a lot of the others did, was get the degree and get a job.

ST: So basically school was just on your mind and as long as you had that other things just kinda washed away. I see you got to listen to the radio every day was that kind of an escape?

NA: Of course there was no television so I, yes the radio was certainly a great source of entertainment.

ST: Was that kind of also an escape for a while? I mean did you, I mean did, did they have kind of cereal shows back then?

NA: Oh yes, oh yes. And supposed it could be called escape I certainly didn't consider it that at the time but there... One Mans Family was extremely popular. I remember a show called Mysteries and I can't quote them to you because those I didn't listen to. There were children's programs in the afternoon, 4 o'clock, something like that after school. These were cereals in the same sense that they had the same characters that had assorted adventures daily.

ST: I know some year that New Deal programs you see was beneficial. I understand it was beneficial to your father was it beneficial to you as well?

NA: Yes indeed all those jobs I had on campus paying twenty-five cents and hour came from the New Deal.

ST: How were the faculty at that time, were they just there to teach you or were they there to help you, perhaps, help you cope with the Depression?

NA: Well, it's a matter of which individual were are discussing. I don't suppose you know the name Harry Stemmas [spelling unsure of]? Well, he was not very much older than the students at that time but he was teaching psychology and they think that... Of course we had great psychology classes. I think we had one psychology, psychology one and psychology two maybe. But he took an interest in his students and he got publicity in the Aztec once when said if you're lonesome, if you'd like to meet somebody, if you like to have a date wave this copy of the Aztec. Well, now you know nobody on campus was going to try to do that but Harry was trying.

ST: So nobody waved their Aztec?

NA: I'm not going to say nobody did but who, who'd let down defenses to that extent?

ST: Was there any, did you have, besides this gentlemen did you have any favorite teachers or ones that you really remembered that left a great impression upon you?
NA: No, I can't say that I had a favorite. This is going on the tape? Then I'm not going to say it. There were people in the Education Department that I intensely disliked and still dislike the Department of Education because I think it has no function at all. You teach people who are going to go on teaching something of substance. You get them thoroughly grounded in their subject. You don't teach them how to teach. They either know how to teach or they don't, and the requirement of the Department of Education are ludicrous.

ST: Now a days what they do they, you graduate you're major and then you go on to a credential program. I guess that's in a sense what you'd rather see that...?

NA: I would rather see the Department of Education wiped out.

ST: Now according to your questionnaire, I was looking here, you said that during the Depression that you had some hardships but then I noticed that you also had some, basically all the luxurious of that day.

NA: Well, we didn't consider them luxuries. Today I will grant you yes, the telephone was a luxury but we always have a telephone. Sometimes when we went across the street and go to the drug store and use that phone. Water we had, but that's still a luxury today in many parts of the world. We had electricity but everybody did. Maybe in that other parts of the country but in San Diego this was simply common standard of living practically everywhere. Everybody had electricity, everybody had indoor plumbing, everybody had a radio.

ST: How about a refrigerator and a washing machine?

NA: That's my sister. She lived [unintelligible] so she had them.

ST: So she married well?

NA: She worked hard too.

ST: What did she do?

NA: She worked as a receptionist in a doctor's office. You said she married well. She was married to a Navy man. That was being well married in those days in San Diego. It was the Navy that kept San Diego from knowing what the Depression really was cause there was always a pay roll. Twice a month the Navy was paid and well spent money on food, and paid the payment on the car, and all the rest of it.

ST: So going to...you said you, well....you said you... You didn't really say that you said that there was any memorable experience at that time but it, your situation, going to the school your situation in a sense approved and definitely a benefit to you?

NA: With out a doubt.
ST: Your, did your prospects on life improved because of this school?

NA: Well, I'd think yes in fact.

ST: Even though you didn't use your degree per say for, you know, you didn't go into the teaching...

NA: Well, I was not credential but I have taught for many years. When I lived in Germany I went to a Germany public high school and just spoke, just talked with some of the students that were studying English but their English teachers had studied in English, they had English accents. So it will give them a familiarity with different accents and a group of women volunteered we'd talk about anything. We did their homework frequently. It would have made no different they were hearing American English. For ten years I worked at UCSD again with language. Foreign students who felt that their English needed a little pull string, a little help somewhere, or if not the student the student's spouse, in one case a mother. So I have taught but I have not been a credential teacher.

ST: So even though when you went to the dean that day and you were kind of down on teaching you've seemed to of turn back to teaching.

NA: Well I've just done it my way. I didn't do it the School of Education's way.

ST: [Unintelligible] to that sometimes. So according to your questionnaire it says your career objective was just to earn money. So you didn't really have any clear goal as to how you wanted to do it you just...

NA: Well, I'll tell you when I got married my husband said to me why don't you make a career out of being a wife. So I did.

ST: I guess in those days that was what you were supposed to do. Going back through time you know, 30's, 40's, 50's what kinds of changes have you seen through all these years? Right now, of course, we're in a recession and things are going bad again, but have people or, people really changed through out the years? Have you seen a change in people?

NA: You know it's very difficult to answer that question and I would say yes. But it maybe that I was simply ignorant when I was younger. My recollections, the politicians really were not so sleaze as they are today. Obviously we didn't have the negative television adds because we didn't have television. I don't remember anybody using the radio, any politician using the radio. They got out on trains and did whistle stops, and had meetings, and posters, and what not. But it could be that they were just as dishonest at they are today. Certainly we had scandals; Eisenhower lost his right hand man because of a scandal. Before that, back in the 20's, the tea pot dome [sounds like]. So maybe they haven't changed maybe they've always been good, bad, short, tall, pink, and blue. I don't know.
ST: So perhaps the media might have changed the perception perhaps? Made it more known to everybody that perhaps people didn’t necessarily change it’s just we can see the bad more?

NA: I think it is easier, yes. Especially with television a man stands up and revels himself very quickly, but not everybody sees.

ST: From the time you’ve graduated until now how’s your life gone since then? I mean was your life ever as hard as it was during the Depression?

NA: No, no, no.

ST: The Depression was the hardest time? Did things get progressively better or were there some stumbles in there?

NA: No, my husband was a San Diego native. There aren’t very many of them. And he went to State for two years and then he dropped out and worked for a year because he intended to go to George Town which had a school of foreign the service. He wanted to travel and he had to do it at somebody else’s expense so the government seemed like a good way to do it, go into the foreign service. And therefore he knew what he was going to study when he got to George Town and he followed the program, but one of his professors took him aside and said unless you have a privat income don’t go into the State Department. The pay isn’t enough. You will see people promoted over you and you will know that they are inferior to you but they can afford to support the job. So go into the privat, the foreign service of industry. So that’s what he did and he’d only been in this first chapter for six months when we had our first foreign experience. Then after the war again we had a second foreign, but we lived a lot of our lives over seas and this is rewarding in many ways. It also has another side to it you suffer a lot of losses that way too because you don’t have any roots. But each move that was made, each new location, was a step upward in satisfaction and in rewards, gratification. And so going through State was empathically a decided benefit to me. And it was upward, and upward, and upward.

ST: Let’s see... At the time you went to State did you have many friends who were attending school along with you?

NA: Well, yes because I had graduated from San Diego High School and most of those students on campus at State had at one time or another had graduated from San Diego High School. It was the only high school in San Diego. There was one out on Point Loma, there was one down in Chula Vista, Hoover had just opened, but still most of the students at State had come from San Diego High School so I knew a lot of them. You don’t have, I didn’t have time for a lot of intimate friends because there was homework to be done every night, there were other things to be done. But yes, I’d say I had a lot of friends. But I don’t know where most of them are today because I was away from San
Diego from 1935 until 1970 something except for short visits. And the ones who, the females that got married changed their name, a lot of them have died, many of them have moved away, so I don't know a lot of them. I've gone to the 50th reunion of the high school and I knew very few people, and I went to the 50th reunion at State and knew so few that I won't go back. My friends aren't there, they're strangers.