

1794-13-10-01/02

ORAL HISTORY BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

NAME: Lola Colette
(first) (middle) (last)

(NICKNAME:) _____ (MAIDEN NAME:) Truesdell

MAILING ADDRESS: 146 Third Avenue Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
(city/state/zip)

DATE OF BIRTH: 11-25-17 BIRTHPLACE Gary, Indiana
(city/state)

SPOUSE: George Colette

MARRIAGE DATE: 12-27-37 PLACE: Fairbanks

CHILDREN: George, Jr. Lucie Kenneth

ALASKAN RESIDENCY: 1922-1926 1935-

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION: Bookkeeper and more

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT IN RELATION TO ORAL HISTORY:

Lola Colette's father, Archie Truesdell, was among the first six professors at the Alaska Agricultural College and School of mines in 1922. She talks about the campus and people involved then as well as the town during the four years the family lived in Fairbanks. The family left in 1926. Colette returned in 1935 to attend the University of Alaska where she met her husband. During the second world war, the couple ran the only steam laundry in town, laundering bedding and towels from Ladd Field in addition to serving local customers. She comments on wartime blackouts, the effects of the war on employment, housing and availability/scarcity of goods. Also mentioned are the two fires of 1946. The tapes end with the 1967 flood.

INTERVIEWER: Margaret Van Clive

DATE OF INTERVIEW: Feb 3, 1994 TAPE NUMBER: 553

Some names mentioned on tape

Earl Pilgrim
"Cappy" Pilgrim - first wife
Mr. Marchand
Florence Holmes
Barbara Lindberg
Ruth Joy
Carl Erickson
Bev Birklid
Jim Philleo
Edgar Philleo
La Dessa (Hall) Nordale
Lola Tilly
President Harding
Archie Truesdell
Jack Shanley
Bobby Sheldon
Hering family
Dr. Bunnell
Jean Bunnell
Mrs. Bunnell