

Daniel Minze interviewing Esther Hayman Welch clip 1

Topic: New London Road

Interviewer: What were some other experiences that you had in the community regarding like your race.

Esther Hayman Welch: Um well I stayed sheltered in my community and my community was predominantly Black. Uh outside of my community, you had difficulties you know, so even like um you know just going over the borderline of my community you had difficulty, so it was so much to do in so much to give and share within the community. I did not venture out that much, uh, one of the things that I would venture out for were parades, and sometimes that was difficult, you know, so we had to we had to learn that. We had to learn that we weren't always accepted. And that you know you have to move along and be careful, so there were incidents. I only had an incident in, in, in elementary school that a young lady let me borrow her book when I was in the third grade or so, and then after I came back from recess the teacher told us all to empty our desks and I later found out that she had accused me of stealing the book, but I did not steal the book. She had given me the book and then other people chastised her for allowing me to touch her book and so, um, that was the experience that I remember vividly to this day. Uh, so never borrowed any more books, just kept it to myself and went on. But you know I'm a person and they taught me young to take lemons and make lemonade, so that's what I'm about.