

T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History Collection

ABSTRACT

INTERVIEWEE NAME: Vera Payne

COLLECTION: 4700.2501

IDENTIFICATION: Mossville, Louisiana resident

INTERVIEWER: Douglas Mungin

SERIES: Mossville History Project - Oral History Day

INTERVIEW DATES: January 24, 2015

FOCUS DATES: 1950s-80s

ABSTRACT:

Tape 4419

Born north of Mossville in 1944 to Morris and Irene Prater; oldest of three sisters; father's work at a plant; mother a homemaker; grandparents Earthy and Eunice Prater; maternal grandparents Sophie and Joseph Vincent; family's move to Mossville in 1952; Prater Road named for grandfather Earthy; family names; original families; property ownership; neighbors; the Paradise Club; memories of building the house in Mossville; hurricane Audrey and seeing water in every direction; many homes built on piers, but some were not; childhood home; father took up gardening late in life; mother a fantastic cook, making things like banana pudding and potato pies from scratch; church attendance; leaders at Mt. Zion Baptist Church and Willow Springs Baptist Church; Jim Moss's mill and post office; memories of the elders in the community, such as Walter Smith and Pete Moss; grade school and college memories; career as a nurse; working in California; moving back to Mossville in 1978 and building a home there; continuing education; local businesses and canteens; generational differences; what "home" and "community" mean to her.

TAPES: 1 (T4419)

TOTAL PLAYING TIME: 25 minutes

PAGES: 3 pages index; 23 pages transcript

PHOTOGRAPHS / PHOTOGRAPHER: Two photographs of interviewee taken during interview. Photographer Kyle Tanglao.

OTHER MATERIALS: Biographical data form; Interview questions (2 pgs); Correspondence; Newspaper articles (6 pgs)

RESTRICTIONS: none