

# Finding Aid to the East Bay Regional Parks Oral History Collection

---

## Descriptive Summary

**Title:** East Bay Regional Parks Oral History Collection

**Date Range:** 1978-2017

**Collection number:** [Accession 2010.27](#), [2014.51](#), [2015.2](#), [2021.8](#), [2023.10](#), [2023.30](#), [2023.35](#)

**Extent:** 2 boxes

**Repository:** County History Center, Contra Costa County Historical Society, 724 Escobar Street, Martinez, CA 94553, 925-229-1042

**Physical location:** Clipping File Room, Contra Costa County History Center

**Legal status:** public

## Information for Researchers

**Access:** Collection is open for research.

**Publication Rights:** [Contact the Contra Costa County Historical Society for publication permission.](#)

**Preferred Citation:** Suggested citation of these records is: [Identification of item], East Bay Regional Parks Oral History Collection, Contra Costa County Historical Society.

**Scope and Content:** Oral history transcripts of interviews with Dollie (Arata) Thompson, Stella (Arata) Perata, Ollie (Damiano) Renzenbrink, Elinor (Arata) Corsi Girolami. Linda (Corsi) O'Rell, Norine (Corsi) Dolyniuk, Elmer "Jack" Lougher, and Amelia (Ginocchio) Peel .

## Arrangement of Materials

Transcripts of interviews conducted by Traci Parent:

- Dollie (Arata) Thompson and Stella (Arata) Perata on August 17, 1978. They were daughters of Eugene and Onorina Arata of the Arata Ranch, Somersville Road, Antioch, California.
- Ollie (Damiano) Renzenbrink on Aug 21, 1978, former resident of the Mount Diablo Coal Field, Contra Costa County, California, regarding the Buffo (Buffa) and Damiano Family History.
- Gertrude (Anderson) Young on February 5, 1979, former resident of Somersville, regarding the Mount Diablo Coal Field.
- Elmer "Jack" Lougher on Jan 18, 1988, Mt Diablo Coal Field Descendant, regarding George Hutchinson et al. of the Coal Field.
- Leo Iacona on March 10, 1997, Former Ranch Hand at the Arata Ranch, Somersville Road, Antioch, California.
- Elinor (Arata) Corsi Girolami on September 9, 2003, regarding the history of the Arata Family and the ranch on Somersville Road, Antioch, California.
- Edwin Mortimore on August 30, 2005, regarding the Mortimore and Jones Families of Mount Diablo Coal Field.

- Linda (Corsi) O'Rell and Norine (Corsi) Dolyniuk on August 4, 2017, granddaughters of Eugene and Onorina Arata, Arata Ranch, Somersville Rd, Antioch

Transcripts of interviews conducted by Karana Hattersley-Drayton & Joan M. Cohn:

- Stella (Arata) Perata on August 3, 1979, daughter of Eugene and Onorina Arata of the Arata Ranch, Somersville Rd., Antioch

Transcripts of interviews conducted by Karana Hattersley-Drayton and Cathy Green:

- Elmer "Jack" Lougher, June 17, 1979 at Somersville Hotel Site in Somersville Townsite, Mount Diablo Coal Field, Contra Costa County, California
- Amelia (Ginocchio) Peel, February 17, 1981, former resident of Nortonville, Mount Diablo Coal Field, Contra Costa County, California.

Transcripts of interviews by Karana Hattersley-Drayton:

- Ivor Pimm, August 10, 1989, Pt. Pinole.
- Jean (Gidley) Kennedy, June (Lawton) Finch, John Nye, Helen (Petrich) Moore, Mrs. Gladys Berk, Mr. Robert (Bud) Van Proyeen, Mr. EP Taipale, Mrs. Cynelle Carrick, Mr. Fred Petrich. Pt. Pinole. August 1989.
- John Nichols, March 17, 1992, Land Management Specialist, provided an inventory of features and resources at Pt. Pinole Regional Shoreline.
- Ida (Cardoza) Taylor, July 1996. Morgan Territory.

Transcripts of interviews conducted by Susan Imboden:

- George Coles, October 19, 2013, Brooks Island Archaeological Project, Richmond.
- George Coles, September 23, 2013, Brooks Island Regional Preserve, Richmond.
- Katie Wolfman, March 11, 2012, Alvarado Girl Scout Day Camp at Alvarado Park, Richmond.
- Mary Cozzo Schaeffe, and Al and Mike Bruzzone, January 4, 2011, Alvarado Park, Richmond.
- Jimmie Rampoldi, July 14, 2011, Alvarado Park, Richmond
- Joe Meneghelli, June 23, 2011, Alvarado Park, Richmond

Transcript of interview conducted by John Waters & Traci Parent:

- James M. Reynolds, October 15, 1992 & November 12, 1992, night shift foreman, Roberts Brothers Silica Sand Co. Mine, Nortonville.

Transcript of interview conducted by Kevin Turner:

- Jack Phillips, October 28, 1985, Former Hazel-Atlas Glass Co. Employee.

Transcript of interview conducted by Jocelyn Real:

- George Cardinet, Regional Trails Advocate, August 28, 2002

### **Indexing Terms**

Oral history, Arata ranch, Antioch, Mt. Diablo Coal Field, Alvarado Park, Brooks Island, Girl Scout Camp, Somersville, Nortonville, Pt. Pinole, Morgan Territory, family history.