

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **Rosie Syblik Janssen**

Mrs. Janssen moved to Sugar Land in 1945 at age 20 with her husband, who was a sugar boiler for Imperial Sugar. She still lives in the same house on 6th Street. "If you drink Sugar Land water, you'll never leave!" is how Rosie sums up her long life in Sugar Land. She retired after 21 years as a secretary at St. Theresa Catholic Church.

Rosie shares some stories about living and shopping in the company town; receiving delivery of milk, ice and vegetables right to your door; raising a daughter who graduated in 1968 from Dulles High School, and then she went to college where she was Valedictorian. The city broke her heart when City Hall was relocated to First Colony.

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Mrs. Rosie Syblik Janssen died on March 11, 2015. Her obituary may be found at:
<http://www.tributes.com/obituary/show/Rosie-Mary-Janssen-102276467>

Interview Summary

People (in alphabetical order)

Father Jackson – St. Theresa Catholic Church

Lad Janssen – spouse

Miss Prikryl – friend

Frances Tice – friend

Mr & Mrs. Vavrecka – landowners

Places / Businesses

Austin State College, Sherman, Texas

Brazos River

Clodine, TX

Columbus, TX

Dulles High School

Frost Ranch

Houston, TX

Humble Oil Company

Imperial Sugar Company

Palms Theater

St. Theresa Catholic Church

Sugar Land, TX

World War II

Events

Moved to Sugar Land from Columbus in 1945 where her husband worked as a sugar boiler for Imperial Sugar Company.

Rosie worked for 21 years as a secretary for St. Theresa Catholic Church.

Their daughter graduated in 1968 from Dulles High School and was as Valedictorian when she graduated from Austin State College.

Rosie still resides in the same house on 6th Street since moving there in 1945. She shares some stories about how it was a small company town where everyone knew everyone. Delivery of milk, ice and vegetables was common as well as the mail.

Her saddest memory of Sugar Land is the relocation of City Hall which still upsets her today.