

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **Marjorie Bidwell Rozelle**

Born in Louisiana, Majorie spent most of her life in Fort Bend County. Her father managed the only grocery store in the DeWalt area from 1929 until it closed in 1940. Usually life in DeWalt was uncomplicated in this mainly poor ranching/farming community isolated from the larger communities. Ms. Rozelle shares tales of growing up as a “grocer’s daughter” with plenty of food and treats. She and her siblings enjoyed a few privileges such as riding neighbor’s horses.

12 Pages

⇓ *Scroll down for Key Words from the Interview.* ⇓

Marjorie Bidwell Rozelle died on December 16, 2014. Her obituary may be found at:
http://obits.dignitymemorial.com/dignity-memorial/obituary.aspx?n=Marjorie-Rozelle&lc=4219&pid=173513294&mid=6241660&locale=en_US

Interview Summary

People (in order mentioned in interview)

Mrs. Agnew

Antonio Arriaga - butcher

Bertha Davis

Mattie Elma Elliott Bidwell – mother

Mr. Bidwell

Norma Bidwell – sister

Miss Calloway

Daisy Pickett – housekeeper/cook

Dew and Hutchings – owners grocery store/ranches

Garbill – handy man

Robbie Louise Stokes Jones

T. C. Rozelle - husband

Dr. Carlos A. Slaughter

Alonzo Smith

E. B. Smith – assistant grocery manager

Elmer Smith

Jean Smith

Charlene Stokes

George Stokes

Places / Businesses

Cole Theater – Rosenberg, Texas

DeWalt, Texas

Galveston, Texas

Glenmora, Louisiana – birth place

Houston, Texas

Missouri City, Texas

Richmond, Texas

Sugar Land, Texas

Events

Father moved family from Louisiana to DeWalt Texas in 1929 to be general manager and bookkeeper of Dew and Hutchings grocery store until it closed in 1940. Marjorie seldom helped in the store but her sister Norma was excellent in ordering and maintaining inventory.

DeWalt was mainly a ranching/farming community with little social activity unless one traveled to a larger community such as Sugar Land, Richmond, Rosenberg or Houston.

The Bidwells were very active with their children including trips to Galveston, music lessons in the Heights, movies in Houston and dances in Missouri City.

Marjorie has fond memories of local housekeepers/cooks, handy men and local minority children who lived in the area.