

Basic Detail Report

Title Interview with Haydee Montalvo-Feliciano

Date 2000 May 16

Primary Maker Haydee Montalvo-Feliciano

Medium digitized audio cassette tape

Description Two audio cassette tapes of an interview with Haydee Montalvo-Feliciano. Interviewed by Ruth Glasser and Amanda Rivera-López on May 16, 2000. The interview was conducted in Spanish. A transcript of the interview is available in both English and Spanish. Haydee Montalvo-Feliciano came to the United States in 1956 and lived at 66 Main Street, Hartford. Her older brothers came to the United States in the 1940s to work in tobacco, then later at Weaver's Chicken. Her brothers faced discrimination working at the tobacco farms. The tobacco camps were worked primarily by Puerto Rican and Jamaican immigrants. Her family lived in a barrio of San German, Puerto Rico on a coffee farm. Haydee was the 20th of 22 children. Haydee's mother never attended school, so after coming to the U.S. Haydee would teach her mother about what she learned in school. Once in the U.S. her mother worked as a laundress for the single men who immigrated and needed help. She discusses her family's education and housing situations. She discusses Sacred Heart Church in Hartford. She discusses how Olga Mele and Father Andrew J. Cooney assisted the Hartford Puerto Rican community. She discusses her childhood in Puerto Rico living in the country, the games the children played, and where they went to school. She then describes her experience arriving in New York and the

Basic Detail Report

differences from Puerto Rico she experienced. She experienced difficulties in

school because she didn't speak much English when she arrived. She explains

that she was bullied in school and was nicknamed Ida [in reference to Idaho

potatoes] by the other students, rather than addressed by her name, Haydee.

She attended Barnard Brown School and Weaver High School. She explains her

experience with school. She discusses the difficulties with the police and the

lack of interpreters, which led to one of her brother's being arrested for not

wearing a shirt in a grocery store. She worked in a tobacco camp as a teenager,

and she discusses the discrimination she saw and experienced there. She

describes her experience working as a volunteer interpreter for the Puerto Rican

community. She worked at the municipal hospital in Hartford. She describes the

Puerto Rican radio station in Windsor and the Hispano Market on Park Street in

Hartford. She also describes how she met her husband and shared information

about his family. 2013.27.5.1a-d: two digital files, J-card, and tape 2013.27.5.2a-

d: two digital files, J-card, and tape

Dimensions Duration (tape 1, side 1): 46 Minutes Duration (tape 1, side 2): 45

Minutes, 54 Seconds Duration (tape 2, side 1): 47 Minutes, 12 Seconds Duration

(tape 2, side 2): 47 Minutes, 13 Seconds Duration (total runtime): 3 Hours, 6

Minutes, 21 Seconds