

Basic Detail Report

Title Interview with Rena Koopman

Date 2007 June 7

Primary Maker Rena Beatrice Koopman

Medium digitized audio cassette tape

Description Audio cassette tape of an interview with Rena Koopman. She was interviewed on June 7, 2007 by Bruce M. Stave at the Connecticut Historical Society in Hartford, Connecticut. Rena was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in 1945 while her father was stationed with the Air Force at Fort Indiantown Gap. Her parents are Georgette Fox Auerbach and Richard Koopman. Georgette is one of Beatrice Fox Auerbach's daughters. Rena has five siblings. In 1947, her family moved to Auerfarm in Bloomfield, Connecticut, where they lived for a short time. The family then moved to Brookside Boulevard in West Hartford. She attended the Lloyd H. Bugbee School and Oxford School for Girls in West Hartford. In 1963, she attended Vassar College. She discusses how her father was the Farm Manager at Auerfarm when the family lived in Bloomfield. In the 1940s, her father was a Superintendent at Connecticut Valley Shade Tobacco. She describes her memories of her grandmother, Beatrice Fox Auerbach. She describes the weekly Sunday lunch the grandchildren had at her grandmother's house. She recalls her grandmother's household staff. She describes her travels to England and Ireland with her grandmother. She discusses BFA's friendship with Eleanor Roosevelt. She describes her memories of G. Fox & Co. Rena worked at G. Fox in various positions during the summers and on school breaks.

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She describes her memories of Hartford and the legacy of Beatrice Fox

Auerbach. She ends the interview discussing her travels after college and her

family, the importance of this oral history project, and the sale of G. Fox to the

May Company.

Dimensions Duration: 1 Hour, 13 Minutes, 27 Seconds