

Basic Detail Report

Title Interview with Frances M. Gordon

Date 2006 October 9

Primary Maker Frances M. Gordon

Medium digitized audio cassette tape

Description Audio cassette tape of an interview with Frances M. Gordon. She was interviewed on October 9, 2006 by Bruce M. Stave and Sondra Astor Stave at her home in West Hartford, Connecticut. Fran Gordon was born in Tucson, Arizona on September 11, 1924. Her father worked for Southern Pacific and her mother was a teacher. In 1930, her family moved to El Paso, Texas. She attended Texas Women's University and majored in Journalism and minored in Photography. In 1945, Fran went to New York for a few weeks for training with Whelan Corporation. She was initially worked for photography studios in the south, but was asked to go to Hartford to hire and train women for a new studio at Brown Thomson & Company in September 1945. She stayed at the Heublein Hotel. A year later she began working at Sage Allen as Assistant Fashion Coordinator. Sage Allen had about eight models and G. Fox & Company had eight to ten models who worked the fashion shows at the Connecticut Room in G. Fox. After Fran married in 1947, she left Sage Allen as her husband didn't want her to work. However, she still produced fashion shows for Sage Allen. The models from Sage Allen and G. Fox would meet at Brown Thomson's for coffee. Fran married Monroe Gordon, who worked at Gordon Fruit & Produce Company on Church Street in Hartford. In 1954, Fran helped build the Connecticut Opera Guild with

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Frank Pandolfi and Edrie Van Dorn. Fran was friendly with Beatrice Fox

Auerbach's daughters. She discusses the changes in Hartford and spending time

on Front Street. She also discuss the Bushnell Theater.

Dimensions Duration: 1 Hour, 7 Minutes, 38 Seconds