Theodore Gulhaugen Oral History Interview, 1980

Overview of the Collection

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Creator</th>
<th>Gulhaugen, Theodore</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dates</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>1 sound cassette</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1 compact disc</td>
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<td>Collection Number</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summary</td>
<td>An oral history interview with Theodore Gulhaugen, a Norwegian immigrant.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Repository</td>
<td>Pacific Lutheran University, Archives and Special Collections</td>
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<td>Archives and Special Collections</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pacific Lutheran University</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12180 Park Avenue South</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tacoma, Washington</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>98447</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Telephone: 253-535-7586</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fax: 253-535-7315</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:archives@plu.edu">archives@plu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access Restrictions</td>
<td>The oral history collection is open to all users.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Reference</td>
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<td>Sponsor</td>
<td>Funding for encoding this finding aid was provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.</td>
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Biographical Note

Theodore Gulhaugen was born on August 21, 1893 in Drammen, Norway. His parents were Andres and Josephine Gulhaugen, and there were twelve children in the family, including Theodore. Andres was a foreman at a planing mill. In February 1911, Theodore decided to immigrate to America. Going to America was a common subject of conversation at that time, and one of Theodore’s brothers in America sent him a ticket. Theodore traveled to Seattle, Washington, where his brother and Pastor Bergesen met him. The first Sunday Theodore was in Seattle, he attended church, and later decided to enter the ministry. He attended Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota and was ordained in Kennewick, Washington. From 1916 - 1917, he worked at a mission station in Alaska and then went on to serve various congregations in Kennewick, Pasco, Washington, Grand View, Washington, Yakima, Washington, New West Minister, BC, South Bend, WA, Raymond, Washington, Astoria, Oregon, Cathlamet, Washington, and Chinook, Washington.
In June 1921, he married a woman from Ballard, Washington and had six children: Martin, Grace, Elaine, Rumar, Kathy, and Theodora. Theodore was later called to Sacramento, California, where he remained until 1962 before coming to Trinity Lutheran in Tacoma, Washington. In Tacoma, Theodore has held Norwegian Christmas services and taught Norwegian at Franklin Pierce High School and Tacoma Community College. In 1976, he served on the welcoming committee and arrangement of a banquet for King Olav, who came to Seattle to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Norwegians coming to the Northwest. Theodore has also returned to Norway and continues to remain in contact with his relatives there. Theodore is very thankful for his Norwegian heritage, but has always felt welcome in America and believes he has had a good life here.

Lineage


Content Description

The interview was conducted with Theodore Gulhaugen on April 22, 1980 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Tacoma, Washington. It contains information on personal background, emigration, life as a pastor, teaching, meeting King Olaf, and Norwegian heritage. The interview also contains articles on the American Lutheran Church (The Lutheran Standard, April 1, 1980), the five generations of the Gulhaugen family to enter the Lutheran ministry, the Gulhaugen family's 75-year legacy at PLU, and Theodore Gulhaugen being PLU's oldest Homecoming alum (Mooring Mast, October 19, 1982). The interview was conducted in English.

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

There are no restrictions on use.

Administrative Information

Custodial History

The Oral History collection project was started during an experimental course on Scandinavian Women in the Pacific Northwest. Students in the course were encouraged to interview women and learn about their experiences as immigrants to the United States. The project was continued and expanded with support from the president's office and by grants from the L.J. Skaggs and Mary C. Skaggs Foundation, from the Joel E. Ferris Foundation and the Norwegian Emigration Fund of the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The project was directed by Dr. Janet E. Rasmussen. The collection was transferred to the Archives and Special Collections Department.

Acquisition Information

Theodore Gulhaugen Oral History Interview, 1980
http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv49251
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http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv49251

Related Materials

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Processing Note

The interview was conducted by Donna Mallonee using a cassette recorder. A research copy was also prepared from the original. To further preserve the content of the interview, it is now being transferred to compact disc. We deliberately did not transcribe the entire interview because we want the researchers to listen to the interviewee’s own voice. The transcription index highlights important aspects of the interview and the tape counter numbers noted on the Partial Interview Transcription are meant as approximate finding guides and refer to the location of a subject on the cassette/CD. The recording quality is good

The collection was transcribed by Mary Sue Gee, Julie Peterson and Becky Husby.

Bibliography

Rasmussen, Janet Elaine. New Land New Lives: Scandinavian Immigrants to the Pacific Northwest

Detailed Description of the Collection

The partial interview transcription highlights important aspects of the interview. Numbers may be used as guides to important subjects. Two numbers separated by a slash indicate that the first number is for cassette and the second for CD.

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<th>Container(s)</th>
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<td>Cassette</td>
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| 37, side 1   | 004/02: PERSONAL BACKGROUND
Born Drammen, Norway, August 21, 1893. |
| 37, side 1   | 007: PARENTS
Andres and Josephine |
| 37, side 1   | 012: BROTHERS AND SISTERS (see attached)
12, seven boys and five girls. |
| 37, side 1   | 024: FATHER
Employed foreman. Planning mill also a filer. Lived on Halmen (?) Island in the Drammen River. |
| 37, side 1   | 039: GRANDPARENTS
Maternal grandmother lived with them (kind, patient). |
<table>
<thead>
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| 37, side 1  | 059: BACKGROUND FAMILY NAME  
Difficult to trace family name. |
| 37, side 1  | 064/03: ARRIVED U.S.  
February 1911, age 17 1/2. |
| 37, side 1  | 071: WHY HE CAME TO THE U.S.  
"It was in the air," "common subject of talk." Brother in the U.S. sent the ticket. |
| 37, side 1  | 086: FEELINGS LEAVING NORWAY  
Didn't realize what was happening. Left from Oslo, Norway. |
| 37, side 1  | 103: KEEPSAKES  
Mother knitted socks, Bible, and catechism. |
| 37, side 1  | 112: TRIP OVER  
February, weather severe big waves. Mostly Norwegians. |
| 37, side 1  | 120: IMMIGRATION  
Seeing the Statue of Liberty. Examined for illness. |
| 37, side 1  | 125/04: TRAIN TRIP  
Brother and Pastor Bergesen waiting for him in Seattle. |
| 37, side 1  | 134: LEARNING ENGLISH  
Evening school Drammen, knew a few words. No real problem. Attended school in Seattle. |
| 37, side 1  | 148: FEELING AT HOME  
Took that for granted. |
| 37, side 1  | 151: CITIZENSHIP  
Very 1st year he could. Brother and family helped him. |
| 37, side 1  | 154: BROTHER'S EMPLOYMENT  
Sawyer in Mill (Seattle area). |
| 37, side 1  | 160:  
Married June 1921. Met wife in the Ballard area. |
| 37, side 1  | 167: CHURCH LIFE  
Went first Sunday in America. Met Pastor Bergesen again (people mainly Norwegian). |
37, side 1

172: CHILDREN (see attached)

37, side 1

191/05: ENTERING MINISTRY
Seemed to be a natural thing. Ordained at Kennewick attended Luther Seminary - St. Paul.

37, side 1

205: ALASKA
1916-1917 worked at Mission Station, world by itself at that time. Traveled from Nome to Teller, Alaska.

37, side 1

242: SERVED VARIOUS CONGREGATIONS
Kennewick, Pasco, Grand View, Yakima, New West Minister, B.C., South Bend, Raymond, Astoria, Oregon, Cathlamet, and Chinook, Washington.

37, side 1

290/06: CALLED TO SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
Until 1962 then Assistant Parkland Trinity Church. Sacramento congregation gave them tickets to Norway.

37, side 1

300: MAJORITY CONGREGATION NORWEGIANS
Important for immigrants to find a church. To find congregation and join them together.

37, side 1

316: CHRISTMAS
Norwegian service, otherwise service in English.

37, side 1

324: GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN
Norwegian Christmas services held every year.

37, side 1

333: PLU
Last 2-3 years held Norwegian Christmas services (see counter I-383, II-187, II-276).

37, side 1

341: CHURCH SERVICE
Describes differences and similarities to Norwegian service.

37, side 1

365/07: SALARY
Paid a direct salary. Earlier years people would bring articles to home.

37, side 1

383: PLU
Wife’s parents, Christensen, had ties to PLU. His kids attended (see counter I-333, II-187, II-276).

37, side 1

406: SECOND OCCUPATION
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Container(s)</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Would have been music. Played various instruments.</td>
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| 37, side 1   | 416: TEACHING NORWEGIAN  
Since 1960. Started Franklin Pierce High School (Parkland), later Tacoma Community College. |
| 37, side 1   | 442: MEETING KING OLAF  
1976 celebrating 150th anniversary of Norwegians coming to Northwest.  
Served on the welcoming committee and arrangement. Banquet at Olympic Hotel - Seattle. |
| 37, side 1   | 495: TRIPS BACK TO NORWAY  
Great thrill. Keeps in touch with relatives. (see counter I-290, I-519) |
| 37, side 1   | 504: IMPORTANCE NORWEGIAN HERITAGE  
Proud and thankful. |
| 37, side 1   | 519: FAMILY REUNION DRAMMEN  
Once when visiting (see counter I-290, I-495). |
| 37, side 1   | 527: KEEPSAKES  
"Not so much" should have done more. |
| 37, side 2   | 083/09: SPEAKING NORWEGIAN  
Children don't speak it, during time of war patriotic to speak English. America, good to him always felt welcome. |
| 37, side 2   | 120: WHAT STANDS OUT IN NORWAY  
Drammen very fine town. People are good. Family spirit. Church life in Norway. |
| 37, side 2   | 134: QUOTES NORWEGIAN TABLE PRAYER  
Before and after. |
| 37, side 2   | 165/10: LIFE AS A PASTOR  
Live close to God. Fighting evil, work towards the good. Growing in knowledge. |
| 37, side 2   | 187: PASTOR WANGEN  
Oldest Norwegian Lutheran pastor since 1920. His background, caretaker at PLU (see counter I-333, I-383, II-276). |
| 37, side 2   | 224: NORWEGIAN IMMIGRANTS  
Accepted life as it was, did not demand favors. Thankful for his life. |
| 37, side 2   | 276/11: Q CLUB (PLU) |
Received plaque 1976 for his interest shown to PLU (see counter I-333, I-383, II-187).

292: CHURCH CONVENTIONS
Minneapolis asked to conduct Norwegian Service. Pastor Bergesen attended.

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms:
Emigration and immigration
Family--Norway
Naturalization
Norway--Social conditions--1945-
Norwegian-Americans--Northwest, Pacific--Interviews
Norwegian-Americans--Social life and customs

Personal Names:
Gulhaugen, Theodore Rev.--Interviews (creator)
Gulhaugen, Elaine
Gulhaugen, Kathy
Gulhaugen, Rumar
Gulhaugen, Theodora
Pastor Bergesen
Wangen, Pastor
Christensen, Gertrude
Gulhaugen, Andres
Gulhaugen, Grace
Gulhaugen, Josephine
Gulhaugen, Martin

Corporate Names:
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church (Tacoma, Wash.)
Pacific Lutheran University
Trinity Lutheran Church (Tacoma, Wash.)

Family Names:
Christensen family
Gulhaugen family

Geographical Names:
Astoria (Or.)
Cathlamet (Wash.)
Drammen (Norway)
Grand View (Wash.)
Kennewick (Wash.)
New Westminster (B.C.)
Pasco (Wash.)
Sacramento (Calif.)
Seattle (Wash.)
South Bend (Wash.)