

T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History Collection

ABSTRACT

INTERVIEWEE NAME: Nell Byars

COLLECTION: 4700.0830

IDENTIFICATION: Wife of Dr. Vance Byars, World War II Veteran

INTERVIEWER: Adele Foster

SERIES: Military

INTERVIEW DATES: June 30, 1997

FOCUS DATES: 1940s-1950s

ABSTRACT:

Tape 1193

Byars' birth date, place and family information; occupation of her father; how her father came to American and settled in Louisiana; how her parents met; a car accident and the long term effects on her father and family; her father's shoe store in Baton Rouge; religious affiliation of the her family; where she attending elementary school; the depression; her mother's role as family provider after her father's death; housecleaning; how she spent her time in the afternoons; attending Baton Rouge High School; graduation with caps and gowns instead of the traditional clothes; making wedding plans; arranging aspects of the wedding; the effect of the war on her ability to obtain a wedding gown and photographic film; how she met her husband; dating; following her husband to his different post so that they could see on another on weekends; obtaining housing with other army wives; meeting up with him prior to his shipping out; what her thoughts were prior to their marriage knowing he would be sent overseas; writing to each other during the war; what Baton Rouge was like during the war; friends who were injured or killed in the war; her husband's return after the war; her husband having nightmares of the war; finishing his education; employment; building a home and having a family; going back to work after her first child was born; her husband's decision to attend medical school in New Orleans; moving to New Orleans; working with her husband after his practice was established; her grandchildren; her views on today and the discipline of children; living in New Orleans.

TAPES: 1 (T1193)

TOTAL PLAYING TIME: 1 hour, 3 minutes

PAGES TRANSCRIPT: 38 pages

OTHER MATERIALS: Handwritten index of tape

RESTRICTIONS: None