



What is an oral history?

The Oral History Association defines oral history as an interview process to gather and preserve meaningful information about the past.

Why is the Village doing this project?



These interviews are intended to gather information about life in Troy and why people live in the City of Troy. Your interview may be used as a resource for the Village's summer exhibit in 2026.



What do I do before, during, and after an interview?

- **Before your interview** you will need to fill out a "Biographical Form." This form will include providing your contact information and answering questions about your life in Troy. We want you to share information you are comfortable with sharing, so it is your choice on what stories and memories to talk about it. We will use this form to create thoughtful questions for your interview.
- **During your interview** the person conducting the interview will review and have you sign a "Release Form" that does three things: 1) proves you consent to doing the interview and having it recorded, 2) gives THV permission to use the information you supplied in the interview, and 3) gives your instructions how to store your interview and how future researchers can access your interview. Your oral history will be recorded and may take up to 90 minutes.
- **After your interview** you will be given the opportunity to review your transcript. During this time, you can correct the spelling of names and places, as well as choose to omit names of people and any other confidential information. You will receive a transcript of your oral history for your own use. You may make copies of the transcript to distribute as you wish.

What should I consider?



- **Benefits:** You will have your story recorded and preserved to share with others, and your participation will contribute to the knowledge of the events and people you discuss.
- **Confidentiality:** To contribute to research, the oral history is not going to be kept confidential. However, your release form allows you to control who can access your oral history.
- **Risks:** There are no physical risks associated with this oral history. If some of the topics or questions that arise during the interview make you uncomfortable, you are free to refuse to answer any question.



Ready to get involved?

Visit our website to fill out your "Biographical Form" or pick one up at the Village. Questions? Call 248-524-3570 or email info@thvmail.org.