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From Immigrant to Ethnic: Interview with Pauline Gugliemino by Joseph Conforti

Pauline Gugliemino

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Rhode Island College
ETHNIC STUDIES PROJECT

Oral History Interview # 12

with

Pauline Guglielmino

April 27, 1976

By Joseph Conforti

Tape 1 Side 1

- 7 She came from Sicily with whole family when she was 14.
- 18 Life in Italy: learned sewing, crocheting, knitting.
- 30 Father was coppersmith and had a store.
- 49 No work for women outside the home.
- 54 Description of home and village.
- 87 Trades of villagers: tailors, blacksmiths, carpenters, furniture makers and farmers.
- 116 Speaks of quota--they had to wait before coming to U.S.
- 127 Descriptions of festivals observed.
- 160 Schooling: up to 4th grade, couldn't afford more.
- 175 Also attended school in America, learned to read and write in English.
- 195 Family history.
- 232 Reason for leaving Italy: war with Africa, copper scarce. Had to wait several years before they could come. Brothers came first then sent for others.
- 254 Lived in Providence then Georgiaville. Brothers there because jobs available in mill.
- 301 Description of life in Georgiaville. People there mostly French, Portuguese and Italian. All got along well.

Pauline Guglielmino

- 328 Account of trip from Italy.
- 358 Lived in company housing, paid 94¢ weekly, earned \$24. weekly.
- 379 Moved to Providence. Lived on Federal Hill because her brother had house there, had macaroni store.
- 396 Her impressions of Federal Hill.
- 464 Church not very important to her personally.
- 483 Continued to work in mills until marriage.

Tape 1 Side 2

- 1 Feasts important on Federal Hill. Then they were stopped by bishop and are only now starting to be revived.
- 34 Lived on Federal Hill for 4 years after marriage.
- 82 Moved to area of Chalkstone and Academy. Was Irish and Italian area.
- 94 Lived on River Avenue several years. Disliked it because even though people were mostly Italians they weren't friendly.
- 102 Moved to Eagle Park. Had market downstairs from home. Eagle Park was Italian then. Her children helped in market. Had business for 35 years.
- 165 Changes in Eagle Park--people withdrew, coming of television.
- 200 Feels Italian neighborhoods have lost their friendly atmosphere.
- 221 Her children still live in area of Eagle Park. Sees them often, stays in touch with her brothers. Likes Italian music, reads Italian newspapers. Still has fond memories of Sicily but probably won't return because she has no relatives there now.