

Katharine Shepard [1989]

Side 1:

[1/4] This is the anniversary of her engagement. She was interviewed by Norma Snap in 1989 (see photo).

[1/12] She graduated in 1931 and joined the Junior League, working in the Baby Home on Merrimon Ave (later home for Asheville Biltmore College). A grant of \$15,000 was given to build the home but this was lost due to the Depression. A request was made and another \$15,000 was given from a trust. The first baby was named for Mrs. James. Later when Katharine was in Florida she learned that some "adopted" babies were being sold. The policy was changed. [Mrs. James]

[1/100] The Arcade is described with its gift shops and business offices.

[1/113] She started to work with Girl Scouts while in college and revived it when she returned (see enclosure). A pet show was held on the top of the Arcade. The renewed city interest is described. [Marcellus]

[1/203] The old Battery Park Hotel drew local residents as well as vacationers. People let their servants go and closed their houses and spent summer months. Later people went to Maggie Valley. [Dr. Battle treated Mrs. W. H. Vanderbilt for malaria. As the area fascinated her son, he returned to build the Biltmore House. The street in front of the new Battery Park Hotel was named, by Grove, in his honor - see Asheville: The Tuberculosis Era by Irby Stephens M.D. 9/85 North Carolina Medical Journal] [Dr. S. Westray Battle, Mrs. Watson]

[1/227] It is said that the Battery Park Hill was lowered in order to build a "skyscraper" as a memorial to Dr. Grove who was flattered at the prospect. The dust from scooping dirt covered areas of the city for a year. [Dr. Edwin W. Grove]

[1/251] Her brother was drawn to the fire which consumed the partly demolished building and the man he was with was killed. [William Bynum]

[1/298] Because of bank failure the arcade was not completed as planned.

[1/318] The George Vanderbilt and Battery Park Hotels were once the center of social and business life. They are now used for older residents.

[1/335] When it was proposed that an apartment building be constructed on Macon Ave. residents signed petitions to stop the plan. It was only after it was agreed that the architectural plans follow the design of the Bynum house that it went through [Longchamps Apartments]. People do not realize that there were sleeping porches on the front (the enclosed picture shows a woman shaking a rug out) and most of the houses had outside porches. Even after patients were cured of TB they did not dare move to lower altitudes. [Ronald Green, Stewart Rogers]

[1/436] Outdoor schools are described. [Arabella Ketcham: In Eleanor Stephen's abstract, the teacher's name is spelled Arabelle Kitchin. Unable to verify.]

[1/514] Sanatoriums were not allowed inside city limits. Doctors came in on stretchers, recovered, and remained to practice.

Side 2:

[2/7] She reviews story about her father's dairy which was ultimately responsible for the situation of the Oteen Hospital (see tape I, side 2 #158 by Norma Snap).

[2/93] The Farmers Federation was formed and the system her father instituted was continued. Her father sold his farm to the National Dairies in 1927. At the Valkyrie Dairy on Leicester Highway "the people were pasteurized rather than the milk" (see enclosure). [Jim McClure]

[2/152] The Bynums became and remained Republicans because their grandfather was Chief Justice of North Carolina who was determined to have a two-party state. She voted Republican in 1932. [Calvin Coolidge]

[2/207] The effect of the Civil Rights Act on Asheville is discussed. [William Bynum (her brother)]

[2/231] Household help during the Depression (also see tape 1, side 2 #303) and today described.

[2/329] The National Education Fellowship Fund in Aurora was given in her name. She was president of the AAUW there for 2 years.

[2/355] Her mother was the 2nd president of the AAUW in Asheville. The city wanted to name the Claxton School for her as she was the first woman in NC to be on a school board. [Florence Bynum]

[2/385] She attended St. Genevieve's. [Mother Mabel Monk]

[2/423] Her father died in 1964 before the city bond-burning ceremony in 1976 but is given credit (see enclosure) for his leadership. He also wrote Destiny, and books are given in his name to the UNCA Library (see enclosure). [Curtis Bynum]