

Interviewee: **Grafton Young**

Interviewer: Jackie Shropshire Simms

Date of interview: 2003-07-01

Location: Buncombe County

Audio and Video Log [40 minute long interview]

1:00 Joining the Navy, early experiences

3:45 Navy was segregated and continued early experiences

7:40 Realized Navy service was after World War II

9:15 War memories

10:00 What Mr. Young and his family did during WWII

14:00 Segregation before and after WWII and Mr. Young's Navy services

16:00 Work at the tannery

20:00 Did not worry that US would win WWII

21:00 Not much difference between before WWII started and after it started. Poor before, during and after

22:00 When WWII started – memories

24:00 Bombing of Pearl Harbor brought people together

26:00 End of WWII and impact WWII had on him

28:00 Thoughts for current youth

29:40 Work at VA hospital

35:50 Still a long way to go (African Americans)

37:00 Memories from Navy – Norfolk, VA

Biographical data:

Battalion: Navy, USS Valley Forge

Highest Rank: 1st Class Steward

Date of Enlistment: March 12, 1946 through January 9, 1948

Stationed: Bainbridge, MD basic training and onboard ship