

Interview with Chester T. Glidden b. December 6, 1901. February 10, 1978.
Conducted by Laurie Ann Radtke. Tape #65 Transcribed by Laura Wadsworth.

LR: When did your father, do you remember when he started developing...

CG: No, but the, when that site was recorded would indicate about when he started developing, I would say about, the West end of Lake Shore Drive ended at the Hermitage, when I first remembered.

LR: So it was always... Lake Shore Drive was there, though, already.

CG: Yes, they called it Lake Shore Drive...or what did they call it...(indecipherable)

LR: So Sheridan Beach already had homes on it, like the Wellins' home before your father began?

CG: Um hmm, there were more...well the Wellinses lived there the year round, but, uh, there were...most of the other places were summer places.

LR: And areas like Long Beach and Duneland Beach had...was empty?

CG: No, there was nothing here then, the road ended at the Hermitage and they ran a horse drawn bus out there twice a day, I think, and they had a manager built at the end of the road and they feed the horses and they stayed there an hour or two and then they went back to town. And then they would come out again in the afternoon. And that developed piece by piece from about the Hermitage up to about South 14, it was, until Lake Shore Drive was constructed and then from 14 to the end of...to the beginning of Long Beach then from Long Beach on out piece by piece. See each of these was developed...this Shawmut Park addition was first, and then...

LR: What was your father's name?

CG: Orrin S. Glidden.

LR: Warrin?

CG: Orrin. O-R-R-I-N S. And then he ran a bakery in the alley between 6th and 7th, on the West side of Franklin Street, until he retired and then sold that out, that was during World War I. Then he sold the bakery, and came up to work full time on the Beach area.

LR: Why did he decide to go into real estate development?

CG: Oh, I suppose because my grandfather had had a similar...had some lakeshore property in Lakeside, Michigan. Do you know where Lakeside is? He owned some land out on the lake up there and then subdivided it and sold it for summer cottages. I imagine that's what influenced my father.

LR: We have a picture of the Shawmut Hotel.

CG: Do you? The seven stories?

LR: Yeah.

CG: Yeah, I lived in that a few years.

LR: You did?

CG: Yeah.

LR: How old were you when that was completed?

CG: I don't know...10 or 11 maybe...8, 9, 10, or 11 somewhere in that area.

LR: Did that attract a lot of tourists to that area?

CG: No, not particularly. That was just an experiment, I mean, my dad did a lot of...well, he thought that would be a hotel, it never worked as a hotel, it was finally rented out as apartments. I mean each floor was rented as...for the summer as an apartment. Now, it's torn down.

LR: Do you remember (indecipherable) as a hotel, what it was like?

CG: Well, it was more...there was a dining room and kitchen on the top floor, and then the...each floor was...it wasn't rooms, it was apartments. Like there would be 6 apartments and then the top floor was a dining room and kitchen and you could get to it from the back...you could get to the top from the back on this little...on this Uplands Road and around there. Or you could get in from the front, there were steps all the way up the front...well, your picture showed that, didn't it? You know. Then in about...after Sheridan Beach was sold out...Sheridan Beach was pretty much just the two sides of Lake Shore Drive, other than this one addition, this Uplands Road thing. But Long Beach there, they started developing the property from Lake Shore Drive, not just the beach property.

LR: It was developed as a residential area?

CG: Summer resort, really. There were very few people that lived out here the year round. There was very few people from Chicago.

LR: Was it a popular idea with the rest of the town to develop the beaches like your father was involved in?

CG: The rest of the town wasn't much involved in it...uh, as far as developing it..the rest of the town...a lot of the townspeople bought lots out here and uh, held them for...well, they were speculating, they made money on them I think through the...through the years. And a lot of local people built summer homes out here, too, and then some of them would rent them during the summer. This originally was a resort here. Rest of the homes, during World War I a lot of the homes were built with car factory rejected lumber. Lumber that was shipped in to the car factory for building freight cars and they rejected it as not being good enough quality, so then it was re-sawn and built into summer cottages...used for summer cottages, 'cause lumber was hard to get during the World War...World War I.

LR: When did this area begin to reenter the residential from the former resort?

CG: I would think about 1919, 1920, 1921 was the first start. I moved out here in Duneland in 1923 and there were only two year-round homes in 1923. And, uh..I think my folks lived at Stop 17 in 1919, 1920, and that (indecipherable) year round.

LR: Were you involved in it with your father, you know, when you were old enough to help him?

CG: (indecipherable) about '23. Mr. Harold Mathias and I were involved with Clyde H. Carlson, you know that's John's father...he was selling...a real estate contractor for the sale of property in Duneland Beach. But I was not a part of the Long Beach company. My father originally owned the property that was Long Beach and then he took as a partner Mr. O. W. Gato and they formed the Long Beach Company, and then Mr. Gato bought my father's half interest in the Long Beach Company in about 1921, so from then on...and then later he took in Mr. Clarence Mathias as a partner in the Long Beach Company.

LR: What did this area look like before it began to be developed, was it...did they have any use at all, did they sand mine it, or...(indecipherable)

CG: They sand mined the...sand mined coming in from the Michigan Central, from the 12...where US 12 is now, they came in from that side and it wasn't too extensive because they loaded the cars by wheelbarrow and by hand, there were no power equipment for loading in those days. And..um...now where remember where Michiana Products used to be, where Woodruff is now? That was once all a city dump in there. The grocery stores and everybody hauled out their garbage and refuse and just dumped it on the ground, didn't have to cover it or anything else. When I was oh...14 or 15, we used to go out there with rifles and shoot rats, they were just full of rats. I imagine they covered it up before they built Michiana Products in there.

LR: How long did it stay a dump?

CG: Why, I don't know really when they stopped the dumping there, they just drove in and dumped the stuff all over the area there.

LR: Did the site ever have any value as a farm or anything?

CG: No, the land where the Long Beach Golf Course is now was farmed...they raised rye on it during World War I, it was...the fairways were rye fields in those days, but there was no corn, the land wasn't rich enough for corn. And Long Beach was started progressively, there were the Polks, the Highlands and the Terrace and the Gardens and the (indecipherable) and starting from the West, they developed one piece and sold it out and then developed another piece, built the roads and sold that out, developed another piece coming up this way, up to here, this is the end of Long Beach. And then this is Duneland Beach from here to...from 31 to the...approximately the state line, and then that's Michiana Shores, Indiana and Michigan from the state line East. Duneland Beach was owned by, I think my father owned it at one time to the Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company, or...the Great Lakes Sand Company or something...it that was you have a record of? I could get...I think it was the Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company. They used to come and..with big boats

and pull up close to the shore and suck sand up off the bottom with pipes, they'd lower the pipes into the water and then start the pumps and pump sand and water onto the deck and then the water would run off and they'd load the sand and take it back to Chicago. And I believe the Pitt Companies finally got legislation passed to stop them from pumping sand off of the...out of the lake bottom because it was...well, we didn't know about the environment in those days, but actually, they said it was destroying the beach, but I think it was a competitive proposition as well as an environmental thing. So when they stopped them pumping along the front of Sheridan Beach, my dad went to them and said well, if you buy this, which...this amount of acreage, I don't think they can stop you from pumping sand in front of your own beach, so they bought this acreage that's now Duneland Beach and eventually they stopped them pumping there, too. I think about 1919 or '20 Theron Miller bought what the piece that's now Duneland Beach and subdivided it. And he was a little advanced in his thinking, he did not sell anything on the beach side of Lake Shore Drive. There was $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile of beach and it was all open, no buildings on it and never will be. He just privately (indecipherable) and that was all, they all had to use the beach.

LR: What were some of the um...how did you entice people to build off...like Long Beach would be developed and Sheridan...

CG: Oh, it was word of mouth advertising, I think. People came out and other people came out. A good many Chicago Politicians came out in those days, Aldermen, Judges, and so forth, they brought their families out...there wasn't any high pressure selling. I have some...an article put out by one of the Indianapolis papers years ago, if you'd like to see that...or have you seen it?

LR: No, I haven't...is it on the beach, or...

CG: The development of the beach, yeah. Pictures and...see, Gato, Mr. Gato...part of this is...well, some of the architecture was Spanish and English, the...Mr. Arndt built...do you know where the Swiss Chalet is? That was his idea. That's authentic Swiss architecture, incidentally. The stones...do you know why there are stones on the roof? The shingles aren't really shingles, they're long, what they call shakes, they're real long, split pieces of wood and then these cross pieces are saplings that are pegged in there to keep the shakes from curving up and then they put the stones on them to keep them down. And that's the way they did it. Where St. Lawrence...do you know where St. Lawrence Avenue is? It's at Stop 24, that was all...that was an open ditch that drained the...

LR: Did you have to do a lot of draining and dredging out in this area to develop it?

CG: Nope, no. The back part was swampy, but you see, this was never...this shows St. Lawrence Avenue, but this was never platted because this was the drain from the property just North of the Mission Central, it all drained out, it was what they called 3 mile Creek, it ran into Lake Michigan, and it was just open, and the water ran. Then in 19...oh, in the '30s, under WPA, they put tile in and covered it all and made a road over it, so it's now a road instead of a ditch. Back in the '20s sometime, before Long Beach was a year round community, the drain under Lake Shore Drive plugged up and the water backed up, and finally, in the Spring, it just washed out the pavement, and there was a high hill on the West side here, and there was a high hill and we used to put a pump in the lake on some scaffolding, and... a centrifugal

pump...and pump water up and wash down the hills...it was like two fire hoses running out of the end of this pipe with troughs...a trough about this wide and this deep to run the sand away from the hill. So this was all washed down to lake level when the road went out. So that year, I washed the...ran the hoses into this hill and washed the sand down to build this grade up, and if you notice, even today, there's a dip...a dip in that road down there. That's because we never could wash the water high enough...or wash the sand high enough to meet the rest of the grade, The roads in Long Beach were built mostly with lake gravel. And they hauled it out with...they'd have three or four teams working and they'd drive down into the shallows and fill the wagons by hand. Then they'd hitch all the teams to one wagon and they'd pull it up and there was a tunnel underneath Lake Shore Drive, they'd pull it up to the beach and under Lake Shore Drive and come around onto Lake Shore Drive 'cause of the steepness of the hill and then they'd unhitch and take all the...take all the teams back up and fill another wagon until they had three or four up on the pavement, and then with one team of horses they could pull that load of gravel to where ever they were building the roads, that's the kind of gravel in the roads. And they were graded with a slipscraper is? It's like a big wheelbarrow that you hitch one horse or a team to and the...well, it digs it in and then pulls up on the handles and that...it slips along until he's ready to dump it and then pulls up on the handles and dumps it. That's the way they worked, they would grade it..fill the...cut the hills and fill the valleys with a that...with a team.

LR: This area was developed...when it was developed, most people already had cars?

CG: No, not too many cars...there were...yes, I guess there were cars, but we didn't use them anything like they do today. I mean in 19...even in 1921, I played high school football and basketball, and we went...like to Dowagiac we went on the Michigan Central to play the whole team...on Michigan Central. We made one trip to and played in Niles...Michigan Central to Niles, then we took an inter-urban to South Bend and played them on Friday night, then we took another train from South Bend to Valpo and played in Valpo on Saturday, then we took an urban over to pick up the South Shore and came back to Michigan City. There weren't...you didn't go anywhere, with the buses...the roads weren't good enough really to have any transportation other than inter urbans and the railroads. I don't imagine many of the people that came out here drove out. In the early days, they would come out on the Michigan Central or South Shore.

LR: I was just wondering because I know the town had quite a few livery stables, if this area ever had it's own?

CG: No, we never had livery stables, as such. They had temporary stables that they built to house these draft animals that they used in (indecipherable)...a lot of the high hills were washed down into the land (indecipherable) pumping water out of the lake and then washing the sand across Lake Shore Drive and then onto the beach that made the...over there at Stop 20, it was a high hill that was washed down till it was level enough so you could go out and at Stop 20, that's Golden Gate, there was a ...they built a dance pavilion originally on the South , uh, North... Southeast corner of Golden Gate and Lake Shore Drive and the office was on the other side and they built a pier out into Lake Michigan. That didn't last very long because the ice would tear it up every year.

LR: Did many people out in Long Beach build private piers?

CG: No, not too many. They would only last the one summer then the ice would take them out (indecipherable) pull them up.

LR: Was there much of an erosion problem then?

CG: No, not until the first erosion I remember was 1929. In November of 1939. We lost 13 houses in Sheridan Beach or in Long Beach...

LR: Was that a particularly hard winter that year?

CG: The water was high that year and there was a big storm. And, of course, there were no sea walls then. Nothing of...no protection at all. It just undermined them and they'd collapse. Then everybody had to start putting in the seawalls.

LR: What did they build the seawalls out of?

CG: Steel. They were, uh...steel piling was driven down into the clay. They held pretty well, then they were capped with concrete. That's what most of these places in here yet today. Occasionally one of those will pull out. Do you have questions?

LR: Yeah, when Sheridan and Long Beach were being developed and that type of thing, was it always...is Sheridan Beach part of the Michigan City town.

CG: Sheridan Beach is part of Michigan City, Long Beach is a separate town. And, uh..Duneland Beach is unincorporated, Michiana Shores is incorporated as a town, and Michiana Shores, Michigan is a town.

LR: Why is Sheridan Beach part of Michigan City and Long Beach wasn't?

CG: That's as far as the city line went. The Long Beach...Long Beach in those days was just so much acreage, just like you have south of town, I mean, city limits go so far and then...It wasn't developed fast enough so that they took it into the town. They had their own water system, in fact, they had their own school until it was incorporated into Michigan City Area School System.

LR: Long Beach did?

CG: Long Beach had their own school.

LR: High school, too?

CG: Nope, no high school. Kids from Long Beach went to City school, but they paid tuition, the township trustees paid tuition for them.

LR: When your father was developing, did anyone ever realize how popular living on the beach would be.

CG: No, no they didn't see it. He didn't see it as a year round community, he saw it simply as a summer resort. See Lakeside was a summer resort back in

1900 and 1, 2, 3, a good many people from the University of Chicago came out there as a summer resort. Fact I have a history of Lakeside if you'd like to read it.

LR: When you were growing up, did you use the lake a lot? I know a lot of kids that grew up in town didn't get out to the lakes very much.

CG: Oh, yeah, we...(indecipherable) and I lived on the beach and uh, oh fished and we had...we had a motor boat that we had to keep in the basin and I bought it with Liberty bonds that I sold that I got working during World War I. After we'd run the boat for awhile, it would sink, 'cause where the shaft went through, the packing boxes leaked and we'd get it pumped out and get it up and then the motor wouldn't run and then it was just a combination of running the boat and then having it sink and then working on the engine. There weren't many boats in those days, not motor boats...I mean not the ones we have today. There were some canoes, I had a couple canoes in the later days 918, 19, 20.

LR: Did you belong to that one canoe clubs that...

CG: (indecipherable) do you know the name? Yeah, I did when it became a tennis club, I belonged to it. It was a canoe club originally, but they had a tennis court on the side and they gradually faded out the...people don't use canoes much anymore, but it was a tennis club in those days (indecipherable)

LR: What was that like? Did you have regular meetings, or...

CG: No. We just went down on Sundays, early and played tennis and had breakfast. We took turns playing on the court, it was the only play court around here.

LR: Did they have any other organizations like that so people could enjoy the beach?

CG: I don't think so. I don't think too many people were...I think went into the park in the old days, but they used to walk mostly. Do you have a record of when the Franklin Street Bridge went out?

LR: Yes, the United States Steamer...

CG: Ran into it?

LR: When do you think the lake began...the popularity became really strong and people began to use the beach more?

CG: (turn off the machine, I want to ask her....)

LR: (indecipherable) had a dance pavilion? When was this?

CG: It was way back...1917, 18. Here's the...here I told you about stop 20, and this is the dance Pavilion there.

LR: Did you used to get big bands, or was it just local.

CG: No, I remember they had...

Unknown Male Speaker: They didn't have recordings back then.

CG: We had a band from Kalamazoo, I remember once. The band platform was built up under the ceiling, you had to have a ladder to get up on the stage. Do you remember that? George Johnson built it and when he got the thing built?

Side two of tape

LR: Was it as popular as the Oasis was later on?

CG: No, it wasn't really a public event...it was more in the area to stimulate...more like a country club...dancing. They used to have, well, they had the Oasis, then there was one on Hudson Lake, too...I don't know what...

LR: Did it have a casino?

CG: Yes, Hudson Lake. I guess the public could come to these dances, but it wasn't popular like the Oasis.

UM: That thing that you told me about, where...he was working in the check room, and men wore straw hats in those days, and they had so many coats and hats and they had no place to put it. So this guy came in kinda late and Chet threw his hat up on top the top of the pile, he came to get his hat...no, during the time that they were checking things out it slid down on the floor and he and his buddy, a young kid, they stepped on it and smashed it to pieces. They were trying to figure out what they were going to tell the guy when he came to get his hat.

CG: All we knew was number...like number 212 had a busted hat. When he asked for 212 we both started...we both broke up laughing. That made him mad, boy.

LR: Did they serve liquor here, at the...?

CG: No.

UM: That was during prohibition, wasn't it?

CG: No, but my dad wrote all his own...deeds, there was a restrictive covenant in all the Long Beach deeds...that no intoxicating liquor will be sold, drunk, or given away on the premises. That was even in the residential.

LR: You couldn't have it in your homes?

CG: That was the way it was written. Don't tell me they didn't, though.

LR: Long Beach didn't have any trouble with bootleggers, then did they?

CG: No, well, this was before prohibition.

LR: Well, the county was a real strong...this used to be...from Detroit to Chicago was a bootleggers run.

CG: Oh, yeah. Anybody ever tell you about the plane that landed in Lake Michigan?

LR: No, when did a plane land in Lake Michigan?

CG: During prohibition. They were running it from Detroit from Chicago, and the plane had failure...engine failure or something, down there at Stop 14 right where Long Beach stops....starts, and they landed on the ice and two guys in the plane came in and the police picked them up and they said we got to go to Chicago and pick up a part before we can get the thing going, so they got on the South Shore and beat it, and the kids from...you know where Hungry Hollow is? They all started out over the ice and they got into the plane and found it was full of bootleg liquor, so they started carrying it out in bags before the police ever knew what was in it. They had it 'purt near empty of all the bootleg liquor, finally the police got aware of what was in there, and I don't know what they did, probably kept people from going out there, it finally drifted out off the ice, for one thing. Nobody ever came back to claim it.

LR: Did people...I know out in Beverly Shores (indecipherable) they all used to have gliders, early gliders...plane, you know, (indecipherable) was there anything like that?

CG: No.

UM: No, I don't think the hills were high enough here.

LR: How high were the hills...?

CG: Oh, they were pretty high before we washed them down.

UM: But, I don't think...even if they were 100 feet, that's not enough for a glider to go off of.

CG: No, no. They were covered with kind of this beach grass. We used to take a 2 x 6 and nail narrow stays on the front of it, like a ski and you could slide on that stuff if you had enough grass, you could slide down.

LR: When you washed down the hills, how long did it take you to wash down them?

CG: Oh, you'd be a couple months, all summer maybe, washing down the hills.

UM: Yeah, 'cause it was an awful lot...you had to keep moving the truck...

CG: Yeah, kept moving the truck around...

UM: Every time you'd get a spot washed, you'd have to move it to a higher place, and take that down, and gradually the whole thing would keep going

down...and keep, you know...start at the front end and take some of that down and work into the hill...keep working into the hill, you know.

LR: When they stop washing down hills?

CG: Oh, they must have stopped in the '20's.

UM: I don't know if...I can't seem to remember if they used that on this corner or not, here...uh, there was a ...I don't think this hill...well, it must have been pretty high, though, because it's a continuation of that one there, so it could very well have come up...the high spot probably was right out here in the middle of the street and then it tapered down over this way, see? So, I know Harvey Fryer...they washed that road through, I don't know when it was really...

CG: When did they wash it through?

UM: Well, when they put the road through. It was about 19...we bought the lot here, this corner lot here in '45, and then this road was already in, so it was probably...maybe ten years before that.

CG: '35?

UM: Yeah...they put the road through then.

LR: When did the Lake Shore Drive probably reach Michiana Shores?

UM: Gee, I don't know...they put it in in sections...

CG: Yeah, piece by piece...about 1923. See in the old days Grand Beach had a 27 hole golf course. Yeah, and they had a ski jump at Grand Beach, too. A great big one, I mean they...

UM: There was a big motel out there, Golf Motel. They'd have dance bands play there.

CG: They used to have ski meets there like they do at uh...what do you call it...

UM: Kerry...Kerry

CG: Kerry, yeah, over at Kerry.

LR: Grand Beach is in Michigan?

CG: Yeah.

UM: Yeah, we're only...we're only about three-quarters of a mile from the state line right here, yeah. Yeah the beginning of Michiana Shores, Michigan is the...where that road comes at an angle down to the lake, that's the state line there.

CG: Do you have the Dempsey and Carpontia stuff in...in your...?

LR: The (indecipherable) We have a little bit, I couldn't get straight information on that, though. Do you remember it?

CG: No, not too well. The guy that knew that's dead, was Harry Kramer...he had all the money and ...carried it around. But, Dempsey was about...where was it...first house in Long Beach

UM: It was that Japanese....Japanese...

CG: Tokyo and Peking were the two houses. One of the Nixon's owns one of them now and Vidal owns the other one. They were summer cottages then. Dempsey lived in one of them when he was training for that fight.

UM: I remember when the Sky Blue Arena was there, but it's been so long ago..it...I'm not too clear on it anymore. The highway was relocated after that, wasn't it?

CG: I don't know.

UM: Seems to me like 12 was a little bit farther to the South there, went close to the Sky Blue Arena, and then I think eventually they moved it a little bit closer to Josam.

CG: North? Could be.

LR: Was the Sky Blue popular, did a lot of people from...

CG: Oh, it was uh...oh...you can't say it was popular because they only had a fight once a year or something like that.

UM: I imagine they filled it up when they had...

CG: Oh, yeah. They had it completely sold out for the Dempsey fight, but then the Governor called it off, so that was a fiasco financially and in the...and then it went downhill from then. They just had...they had Benny Leonard and people like that...lightweights...weights...Sailor Freedman...

UM: Let's see...would you want to make a list of the stuff that we got here so we can be sure we get it back.

(break in tape)

LR: Why do you think it changed from...why did it change from a summer resort to year round residential?

UM: Well, I think it...as Michigan City grew and people wanted a desirable place to live, the ones the option of moving out to the beach wanted to live out here permanently so they had to alter the homes to where they were comfortable for year round living. Put in insulation and storm windows and furnaces and remodeling and all that sort of thing because a summer home is built differently than what a year round home is, you know. So...and I would say as Michigan City expanded, why then there was more of a demand for these homes as a year round base for these people to live in because naturally the

sub divisions of Michigan City were becoming crowded so people moved out here.

CG: Well, there was the economics of it, too. I mean, you could buy a summer cottage out here in the old days for 5 or 6 thousand dollars. And, uh, live it in the summertime. And it just became too valuable finally to just live in for a couple months.

UM: Some of the people rented...lived in them in the summertime themselves and then rent them out in the winter. See, that's what they'd do...they still do that in Michiana.

CG: That's when they started fixing them up as year round places. John's right. Long Beach is not as well known now, because it is just a sub division, it's a part of Michigan City. For instance, you don't know any of the specific neighborhoods in Chicago, well, you know where there are, but they don't have a reputation. Well, in the old days, as a summer resort, we really had a reputation because a lot of people were coming in and out of here, transients.

UM: I would say that Chicago is the..really the source of...well, you could...if you looked through the Long Beach records and the Michiana records, and all the records, you'd find that, I'd say that ninety percent of the people came from Chicago. It was strictly a summer resort for people trying to get away from the congestion...they'd come over here and spend the summer and as they got to like the area and be near the lake, they wanted to live here year round, see. Lot of people are retiring over here now, not a bad idea if they want to get away from the congestion over there and come over here because of the...the air is cleaner and there is less congestion.

LR: Was there...when they were coming up was Long Beach was just known in the Midwest, then, in the summers, or did it have a larger reputation?

UM: No, I wouldn't say the whole Midwest, I'd say strictly in Chicago.

CG: Some from St. Louis

UM: Yes, some from St. Louis, and maybe a couple a Indianapolis people, but it's mostly Chicago...90 percent, I'd say.

LR: Was there any resentment when all these Chicago people started to move in..into the city?

CG: No, they were welcome, I mean there was a source of revenue for all the stores in Michigan City.

UM: No, it's a...through the years, have brought a lot of money into the area because people when they come they spend money and naturally they don't take it back with them, if they've spent it, they've left it here. And it's an increase to the economy of the area.

CG: Plus they hired a lot of people, domestics and gardeners and so forth.

LR: Do you feel that the higher (indecipherable)

UM: Well, a little more, I'd say the real estate is a little more valuable because of the lake this is the thing, the lake... there's a limited amount of lake frontage. So the old law of supply and demand is what governs here, you have a large supply, the price is lower, but if you got less a supply of lake frontage that drives the price up and the farther you get away from the lake, the land becomes less valuable, but it still is more valuable than what you might find, say for instance, down in the heart of Michigan City where it's older now, and it's declined somewhat.

LR: What do you think is going to happen to this area, I mean, you know, in the future.

CG: It'll stay residential.

UM: Yeah, I think people...the land is very valuable, becomes more and more valuable all the time, so in order to justify owning and maintaining a home, you have to keep it in top shape in order to get your use out of it, and you have to keep it modernized, I don't think that it'll ever become a slum area because of the value of the location being near the lake, I think it'll always be a good...a good piece of real estate out here.

LR: I wanted to ask you, was there a strong community feeling when it was first being developed...did the, you know, like now Long Beach is a town, was there always that town feeling even before it was a town, because they were from Chicago, was it sort of....

UM: Well, I think...don't you think, Chet, that it might be more attributable to the developers...They were responsible for putting swimming pools in and the golf course.

CG: Yeah, they built the country club and the swimming pool and so forth to tie it into a community.

UM: Now, it's more of a community spirit because the people are responsible for running it.

CG: The individuals, they live here, I mean it's their neighborhood now, in those days it wasn't....

End of tape