

ALLIANCE Turtle, Barbara C.
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REMINISCENCES

OF

BARBARA C. TURKLE

Turkle, Barbara C.

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Interview by
 Harriet F. Miller
 January 29, 1976

Prepared by the Rodman Public Library
 for the Oral History Project, Alliance, Ohio.

1979

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This virgin land was in the vicinity of the American Steel
Foundries and Waybrecht Lumber Yards. Later Samuel Cassaday

MILLER: Today is January 29, 1976 and I am talking with
Miss Barbara Turkle. Barbara would you like to tell me what
your occupation is, at the funeral home?

TURKLE: I'm the Secretary-Treasurer of the corporation.

MILLER: Fine. And the name of the corporation?

TURKLE: Cassaday and Turkle Incorporated.

MILLER: Cassaday and Turkle Incorporated which is a very rep-
utable and long time member of the Alliance community as a
funeral home. We notice right a way that there is quite a
similarity there between your name Barbara Turkle and the
name Cassaday and Turkle Funeral Home. Would you like to ex-
plain what connection you have both with the Turkle name and
Cassaday?

TURKLE: I would be glad to. It's even more so because my
name is Barbara Cassaday Turkle. My mother was Ada Cassaday
and my father was Edgar Turkle. My mother was the daughter
of Daniel Brinton Cassaday and she was an only child.

MILLER: I see. Let's go back and take just the Cassaday
family for now because we have quite an interest in them in
the history of the Alliance community. Let's go back to the
first Cassaday to come to Alliance. He was?

TURKLE: Well as far as we know in about 1821 the Cassaday
family first moved to the Alliance area. Samuel Cassaday
and his family came here from New Jersey. They purchased about

eighty acres of land for a total of \$400.00 or \$5.00 an acre. This virgin land was in the vicinity of the American Steel Foundries and Weybrecht Lumber Yards. Later Samuel Cassaday purchased additional acreage adjoining until at one time he owned all of the land from Union Avenue to Mahoning. From Patterson Street on the north to Cambridge on the south. He is said to have built one of the first frame houses in Alliance. The location of which was at the spot in which the Christ United Methodist Church Education Building now stands.

MILLER: And of course if this was in 1821 this was prior to the time there was even an Alliance because at that time it

TURKLE: And Freedom.

MILLER: And Freedom Street. And of course to appreciate this, one would have to realize what they called at that time virgin land is very much the heart of Alliance. With the large manufacturing industries that you've mentioned situated on that land now. And the sum of \$400.00. For how many acres? Did he have eighty acres? Why it's many, many, many thousands of times that value now. Well Samuel came here first and had this property which is a considerable amount of property if he owned from Union Avenue to Mahoning Avenue. That's quite a large....

MILLER: Isn't that wonderful. So there is quite a connection here now with the business starting out not really as a funeral

TURKLE: Quite a tract.

MILLER: Acreage. Yes. At that time we think he was living in a frame house, which would have been the first frame house here.

TURKLE: One of the first I think that they, at least this is

what it's said to have been. One of the first frame houses in Alliance. Prior to that time the settlers had lived in log cabins around here which they constructed from the timber from the land they had to clear.

MILLER: And it could be that Samuel and his family lived in a log cabin before they managed to build their frame house too.

TURKLE: Very possible.

MILLER: And of course if this was in 1821 this was prior to the time there was even an Alliance because at that time it was three separate communities. Fascinating. Well then what happened to Samuel?

TURKLE: Well Samuel and Hanna had Joshua. One of their sons was Joshua. And in 1881 he and his son William bought the furniture and undertaking business of George Sharer located on the present site of the G. C. Murphy Store on Main Street. And Joshua was by the way one of Professor Hartshorn's first students when he opened his select school in Mount Union in 1846. Joshua also went around on horseback to recruit students to come to the college in that time.

MILLER: Isn't that wonderful. So there is quite a connection here now with the business starting out not really as a funeral home huh? As a furnitures store. And then undertaking business as well. Why do you suppose they were connected with the furniture store?

TURKLE: Well this was the history of the business as they were

called, undertaking establishments were always part of a furniture store because of the fact that the cabinet makers made the caskets that were used.

MILLER: This of course would be different from the funeral business today would it not? I bet that Cassaday and Turkle doesn't have a cabinet maker on the premises anymore. So the Turkle, well, through your family background as a Cassaday now there is a connection with two Alliance businesses. One being the funeral business that still exists and the other the furniture business as well.

TURKLE: Yes, yes. And now the furniture business that was down on Main Street afterwards where the Murphy Store is was then, my Grandfather built, Grandfather Daniel Brinton Cassaday and Joshua, built the building which is next to the Alliance Hardware and where is now used by the Armed Forces.

MILLER: For their recruiting.

TURKLE: Their recruiting. That was a five story building, furniture store there. They also had, they sold chinaware too. China. That was a china store, part of it, was a china store. And a lot of people in Alliance their Haviland China came from that store.

MILLER: Oh, that's quite a well known name to collectors now too. Haviland China. Well then that building would have been located next to the Spring and Holzworth Company.

TURKLE: Yes.

MILLER: And in my recollection people who talk about Spring

and Holzworth which was a very well known department store always mention the fire.

TURKLE: Yes, late 20's that was.

MILLER: Had this building of your grandfather's been damaged?

TURKLE: No. It wasn't damaged.

MILLER: That's amazing because it was close to that other.

So it was five stories and it was built by, this would have been your great grandfather and your great, great grandfather.

TURKLE: No my grandfather and my great grandfather.

MILLER: Great grandfather. Father and son who built the building as a furniture store and also carried on the undertaking business there too. That would have been the first location then.

TURKLE: No that was the second location. See where the Murphy Store was was the first location.

MILLER: Yes, I'm getting confused here. All right Murphys was the first location and then this was the second.

TURKLE: Yeah.

MILLER: And then from there do you know where they took it?

TURKLE: Then the furniture store stayed, was a furniture store, but as they called it in those days the undertaking rooms were 31 North Linden. Down, well what's there now? The recreation down, or whatever they call that down there now.

MILLER: I see.

TURKLE: The bowling alley.

MILLER: Yes, Cornie's Restaurant used to be there in that building.

TURKLE: Yes, uh huh.

MILLER: And there is a bowling alley called something like Alliance Recreation there now. Which would have put it close to the railroad tracks.

TURKLE: And before that I think it was the Ford garage was there many years ago.

MILLER: Interesting. Would that have been the location that I recall hearing someone else talk about the funeral parlor or undertaking business being there and also a watering trough for the horses?

TURKLE: I don't know that. I don't know that.

MILLER: Well that's before your time.

TURKLE: The cars were kept there. I know they had the ambulance service there and also the funeral cars there. But most cars for funerals were hired. There was a livery in Alliance. And most of the, the family cars and the cars that are now owned by funeral homes were at that time most of them hired. From the livery service.

MILLER: So they didn't maintain a fleet they rented them, when they needed them.

TURKLE: And the reason that it was not called, I mean they were not funeral homes in those days was because nothing, all the work that was done and the funerals were held in the homes, then.

MILLER: I see. So the undertaking aspect was simply the handling perhaps of the body and the providing of a casket.

TURKLE: Yes. That's right. funerals were always black.

MILLER: And then the livery service. people quite a different

TURKLE: Yes, uh huh. trying to know that they were being rushed

MILLER: Isn't that interesting. You mentioned also ambulances. This is something now that we don't find associated with too many funeral homes anymore do we? I'm sure that there were some

TURKLE: No. No, very few funeral homes now; there are a few around that have their own ambulance service. But this has been found, it was a great, one of the things that we wanted to get out of the ambulance business for, a good many years ago was the fact that we felt that we could give much better service on funerals. Because we always had to be on call for ambulance service; it meant that we could not devote our time to the funerals. in a car they were always taken

MILLER: Yes. ambulance because this was the thing that was to be

TURKLE: So we were very happy when this was taken over. By an ambulance company.

MILLER: Yes. The use of an ambulance and the use of a hearse would it ever have happened that they were one in the same vehicle? Did they use them for different things?

TURKLE: Sometimes some people did. We never did at that time, we always had a straight ambulance it was called. And it was painted maybe blue and white or red and white or some other color, other than funeral cars.

it all, that other funeral homes also, I mean other funeral

MILLER: Yes.

TURKLE: And of course at that time they were always black. Any cars that were used in funerals were always black.

MILLER: I would imagine it would give people quite a different sort of a ride or feeling to know that they were being rushed in a hearse somewhere.

TURKLE: That would be true.

MILLER: Than an ambulance. Oh I'm sure that there were some that used them interchangeably. When we were talking a while ago I think you mentioned something about the ambulances that distinguished them definitely as ambulances. You were talking about ambulances that were used to take home the new babies and their mothers from the hospital.

TURKLE: Yes, at that time the mothers stayed in the hospital maybe ten days to two weeks and they never went home, very seldom that they went home in a car they were always taken home in an ambulance because this was the thing that was to be done, because they didn't move around like they do now days, when the babies are born.

MILLER: It was quite a different attitude toward having a child; than what we realize today. You had mentioned in the early years too the undertaker was an undertaker only and provided much more limited service than the funeral home does today. Do you recall when this started to change?

TURKLE: Our funeral home was started, we went into that place where we are now in 1927. And this was about the time that it all, that other funeral homes also, I mean other funeral

establishments became funeral homes about this time.

MILLER: Were there any, well any reasons that they decided to take it out of the home? Were there perhaps laws passed that pertained to having bodies in the home?

TURKLE: No. I don't know that. I don't know that part of the story at all.

MILLER: Because we've all heard in the past of people who had had the funerals or the bodies lying in state in the home, whereas this just is something unusual today. Then, I am sure it was quite common but today it would be very unusual to have this happen. Well interesting change in our ways. Funeral services have changed and the services provided by a funeral home too. There is so much more it seems done today than they would have in those earlier years.

TURKLE: Yes, I think I believe that there are, I think it's either 99 or 100 details that are taken care of by the funeral home for the family that they are serving. And that would consist of for instance the filling out of the death certificate, giving the newspaper notices to the newspaper and then making all the different forms for veterans and such things. And I think there are about, they have counted at least 99.

MILLER: There's quite a bit of legal work involved here.

TURKLE: Not legal work, it's getting ready for the form filling really.

MILLER: Yes. That's involved at that time. And even sending the notice to the newspaper. Well who would think of that de-

tail at a time like that and yet how important it is.

TURKLE: That's right.

MILLER: I would imagine you get a lot of phone calls from those who are, haven't read it in the paper and save the family from getting all of those phone calls too. Yes. Plus the support given at this time too. And handling of the arrangements with the minister.

TURKLE: And the cemetery.

MILLER: And the cemetery. It's quite a bit. 100 different details, to coordinate. Quite a service. Let's see now, we've gotten down to Daniel your grandfather in the Cassaday and Turkle Funeral Home but we haven't yet come to a Turkle on the scene.

TURKLE: Well my mother, as the rest of the family had, went to Mount Union and there she met a young man by the name of Edgar Harold Turkle who was from Fairview, Ohio, which is down the southern part of Ohio. They courted and were married in 1905. My father was working on a newspaper in Pittsburgh after they were married, and they moved to Pittsburgh. Well my grandfather needed help in the furniture store. So my father came, they came back to Alliance to live and my father went in business with my grandfather. And then in 1914 they formed a partnership. And it was then Cassaday and Turkle and from then on, from 1914 on.

MILLER: Which has become the name that we recognize today. I think this brings out the second time, we've mentioned

Mount Union College. First with the, Joshua who went out on horseback and helped recruit students. So he was a Mount Union graduate, or a Mount Union student. You mentioned your mother Ada attended Mount Union College, your father Edgar Turkle.

TURKLE: And then Betty's daughter, Barbara Donaldson, whose name now is Taylor. And Barbara went to Mount Union. And passed on a receipt from Mount Union College dated spring of 1873, that my grandfather who was Daniel Brinton Cassaday had paid his spring term to Mount Union in 1873.

MILLER: 1873. Do you remember how much he paid?

TURKLE: It didn't say on the receipt.

MILLER: Oh, too bad.

TURKLE: I'm so sorry about that.

MILLER: Well we know he paid anyway.

TURKLE: Yes, it said it was paid.

MILLER: I can imagine that is considerably different from what the tuition would be today. Now in addition to your mother and father you attended Mount Union did you not?

TURKLE: Well all four of us attended at some time or another. The four children that is.

MILLER: Now we have to see now. So this would be Edgar Harold Turkle and Ada Cassaday Turkle had four children.

Let's make sure we get their names.

TURKLE: There is Rebecca who is known as Betty Turkle Donaldson. She went to Mount Union. And then I went and then I think Brinton went but he just took music because he went to Carnegie

Tech. And then Ted went to Mount Union too. That's Edgar H. Jr. C. Y. Kay family.

MILLER: Junior, right. So that would be another generation of the Turkles.

TURKLE: And then Betty's daughter, Barbara Donaldson, whose name now is Taylor. And Barbara went to Mount Union. And then Ted's boys, two of Ted's boys went to Mount Union. So there have been five generations I think of students at Mount Union.

MILLER: Of Turkles.

TURKLE: Of Cassaday decendants, yes.

MILLER: Who have gone to Mount Union. But how interesting not only were they, you would have to consider them one of the first families because they were settled here before this became Alliance. This is our first certainly, first college and how closely they were connected with the development of both. Interesting. Well then we have the funeral home now with your father in partnership with your....

TURKLE: My grandfather.

MILLER: Yes, grandfather; would have been his father-in-law.

Now what happened after that point? This would have been, the business would have been located now, at the current....

TURKLE: No, no. The business was locatted at the, the funeral business was located at 31 North Linden until 1927.

MILLER: I see.

TURKLE: And at that time the home, where the funeral home

now is on South Union, 75 South Union, which had been built by the C. Y. Kay family.

MILLER: This was the home that they had built at 75 South Union and we recognized the Kay name; I think mostly because of Gertrude Kay. We have heard her mentioned and as a matter of fact the Library has one of her paintings. But she was quite a well known illustrator of children's books.

TURKLE: And a writer. And the woodwork and the carving on the

MILLER: An artist, and a writer as well. And I believe your brother Brinton who is also connected with writing and illustrating children's books has mentioned her as one of his inspirations.

TURKLE: Yes. She helped him a great deal with his getting started in his work.

MILLER: So the Kay family built this beautiful home. It then went to....

TURKLE: The D. W. Crist then bought it from the Kays.

MILLER: This would have been Dillon W. Crist.

TURKLE: No.

MILLER: No?

TURKLE: Well, it would have been Dillon's father. Now I don't know whether, they always just called him D. W. and I don't know whether his name was Dillon or not.

MILLER: Okay. So it would have been his father.

TURKLE: Yes. It would have been his father that bought the and comfortable home. Okay. So now during your father's time

home then. 1927 was when they, Cassaday and Turkle bought the home there.

MILLER: So that's a house that has a history behind it too.

It's nice to see that it is still around because many of the other beautiful homes of Alliance are gone.

TURKLE: Well we've tried very hard to keep it up. Because it is, the rooms are beautiful. They are large and they are; it has high ceilings. And the woodwork and the carving on the woodwork is particularly interesting. Sometime when you are in you should notice that. At the top of the pillars in the south room; the large south room have little cherubs at the top of each one of those pillars is done by hand.

MILLER: And this is something well worth preserving because you just don't find it in homes anymore.

TURKLE: And the leaded glass in the windows in the parlor is lovely too.

MILLER: It's a large double door on the front of the house and the leaded glass in the evening when the lights are on it, I've driven by, it sparkles. It sparkles, it's just beautiful. And there is something about the chandelier that hangs on the porch too, that only brings that out.

TURKLE: I'm glad you mentioned that because that's relatively new. We think that it adds a great deal.

MILLER: It does. It's quite a gracious home and I think probably the character of the home lends itself to the funeral business too, because it's a very open and a very gracious and comfortable home. Okay. So now during your father's time

then the move occurred to the present location. Your father in spite of the fact that he started out in journalism found a vocation I think in the funeral business. At least this is what I understand from what little I've been reading and talking to people who knew him. He did quite a bit for the business and was very active.

TURKLE: Yes. Not only in the city as far as the funeral business in Alliance but it really went as high as the national level because he was quite active in the national organizations. And during World War II he was appointed to one of the Boards and he went to Washington and worked with the Army, the memorial service with the Army. Particularly in returning as they called the repatriated. When they would return the boys who had died overseas and they would bring them back to Alliance. I mean to the local cemetery. And he was very active and worked very closely with the government on this.

MILLER: And that would have been quite a job making those arrangements to bring bodies back from foreign soil because you get into....

TURKLE: Well you had to work so closely with the government and the Army on that.

MILLER: Yes.

TURKLE: But there was a very good relationship there with us. And he also was the President of the National Selected Morticians for a year and then was on the Board and worked nationally as well here. His scope was broad.

MILLER: Indeed it was. The National Selected Morticians

is the professional organization for people in that field is it not?

TURKLE: Yes. *har one.*

MILLER: Yes, I have seen that name before. Interesting. I think he not only was known in his own profession but if I remember right he did quite a bit in the community as well, was he not?

TURKLE: He was very, very outgoing and he loved people and he loved community work. He liked being in the limelight anytime that he could be. He enjoyed it. He was on the Board at the College, the Board of Trustees at the College. He had been President two different times of the Chamber of Commerce. And many, many things that he was in. His last big project of course was the hospital which he, at that time when it became the Citizen's Hospital Association. And when they built the hospital he was on the, now this is not now, the business.

MILLER: In otherwords these became the subjects at the
MILLER: No, I understnad.

TURKLE: This was when they, in the 40's I think in the late 40's and the 50's when they did this, the remodeling of the hospital. And the great disappointments when one of the levies didn't go through to get money for this project. But he was on the building commission for that.

MILLER: And I'm sure with four children to sit around and give opinions, it was probably a pretty lively discussion. Well your father then was active right up until the time he passed away?
MILLER: This would have been the period when they built the largest building that belongs to that hospital.

TURKLE: Yes.

TURKLE: There were a couple of years there after he stayed at home. He asked me one time, he said, "when somebody asks you how he is, what do you say?" And I said, "I just tell them
MILLER: We are currently adding on to that building. *Because*

TURKLE: Yes. But then there was an addition between the two.

MILLER: Another one.

TURKLE: There was an addition that was put on there. When they rejuvenated the old part of the hospital there. This really is the third time that they have done something to the hospital.

MILLER: I don't think unless someone has been involved in it they realize how much labor there is involved in getting a levy for funds to pass.

TURKLE: That's right. In our household we ate and slept and thought all the time about what kind of a bed was the best kind of a bed, a hospital bed, and whether this one was better than that one and whether the tray would be this kind or that kind. And this went on day after day and day after day until all of these things were decided.

MILLER: In otherwords these became the subjects at the dinner table.

TURKLE: Well, yes, they were.

MILLER: And I'm sure with four children to sit around and give opinions, it was probably a pretty lively discussion. Well your father then was active right up until the time he passed away?

TURKLE: There were a couple of years there after he stayed at home. He asked me one time, he said, "when somebody asks you how am I, what do you say?" And I said, "I just tell them you're fragile." He said, "well that was a good idea." Because

he was not going to business at that time. At that time he had turned the business over to my brother Ted and to me to take care of the whole way through. But he wanted to know what was going on every minute.

MILLER: I'm sure that he had to have reports.

TURKLE: He did.

MILLER: Well, since it was so much a part of him and he was such an active person too. The fact that he was physically restrained probably didn't keep him from being interested in what was going on. And he then passed away when?

TURKLE: In February, 1971.

MILLER: 1971. Your mother followed him?

TURKLE: Three years later.

MILLER: Three years later. Then your brother now, Edgar Jr. is in charge of, he is the President of the corporation.

TURKLE: He is President and General Manager of the corporation.

MILLER: And your title is....

TURKLE: Secretary-Treasurer.

MILLER: Secretary-Treasurer. Now you have a partnership that involves outside of the Cassaday and Turkle family because you have a different Vice President.

TURKLE: Well, but that's not part of the corporation, that's just an officer.

MILLER: Oh, I see. I see.

TURKLE: As an officer, but not part of the, the family still

owns. The corporation is still. Quota Club. That I did.

MILLER: Holds title too. I understand. I understand. You mentioned now that your job is secretary-treasurer. And I think Barbara you've held that position in other areas of the town haven't you? Because you like your father have been active in the community and involved in several different organizations. And we talked about the sorority, the Tri Deltas,

TURKLE: I think that what I mentioned was the fact that, most every organization, I'm a joiner. And whatever organization it was I think I've been treasurer at some time or another. Very few times have I been President because I don't like being President but I don't mind being Secretary or Treasurer.

MILLER: But there is a lot of work involved being Secretary-Treasurer and it implies a person of responsibility.

TURKLE: Well, I've always felt I think people who live in a town and who enjoy the comforts and all the things that we have. Well for instance the things like the Community Concert Association and the YW, womens, I'm talking about women now as far as the YW and the YM and all of these things. Right. I think that it behooves any of us to take part in them. And I think that we should give of ourselves, in those things.

MILLER: It seems that it might help people who sometimes criticize or don't understand or complain, to come and take a part in it and perhaps they might find that it isn't as easily done as they think it is from their outside vantage point. Do you want to name some of the organizations? We talked about the YWCA, what about Quota Club? members then

TURKLE: Yes. I was President of Quota Club. That I did. Well I've been quite active in the alumna of the sorority at the college that I belong to; Tri Delta. Through the years I've done that, and still kept up my interest with the....

MILLER: We were talking Barbara about your activities in the community. We had mentioned the office of treasurer you had held and we talked about the sorority, the Tri Delts, and we were going to mention some of the other organizations.

TURKLE: Well the Mount Union College Women, I've been active in that and had an office one time in the National Cabinet of the Mount Union Women. And they're the group that takes care of the booths for the football games. They have given to the college through the years over a hundred thousand dollars.

MILLER: Oh, that's wonderful.

TURKLE: For one of their projects.

MILLER: If they take care of booths at the football games, that's a working group. Energetic.

TURKLE: Right.

MILLER: Let's see what about the Alliance Woman's Club?

TURKLE: Well I've been treasurer of the Alliance Woman's Club back in the days when they did not have an Executive Secretary as they do now. And I kept all of the books. And sometimes I had quite a time with them.

MILLER: It would be because that's been quite....

TURKLE: Of course there weren't quite as many members then

as there are now.

MILLER: But it's a business operation and....

TURKLE: Yes it is.

MILLER: And the bookkeeping would have been quite a sizable job there. What about, you had referred to Woman's Division of the Chamber of Commerce. You are currently active in that organization.

TURKLE: Yes, I'm Vice Chairman of that as of now.

MILLER: Anything else?

TURKLE: Well I'm a member of Coterie which is one of the oldest women's organizations in Alliance. And Quota Club, I think I've mentioned that before.

MILLER: You've been an officer in Quota Club too?

TURKLE: Yes. I don't want this to sound like an obituary.

MILLER: Or to perhaps sign different papers and things.
MILLER: Oh, we're not, oh my goodness no. No but these are things that document a woman's role not only in a business in Alliance but also her activities in the community too.

You had mentioned that in connection with your profession you had attended some schools of management?

MILLER: Isn't that amazing. It was rather far sighted for
TURKLE: Yes. These schools were held particularly, they were held in Evanston at the National Foundation of Funeral Service. And they were for women in funeral service. And they dealt with, people; your conduct with people and also from the business end and most every, it was very short. Very short school term. But it was quite enlightening both times that I went. I enjoyed it very much too.

MILLER: And these were just for women in management. Do you remember when they took place?

TURKLE: Well one of them was in 1956 and then the other one that I went to was in the late 60's. They still have them, and there were many wives there of funeral directors who wanted to know the business and how to manage it. It is an excellent place for any women who is interested in the funeral business. I do not have a license; a funeral director's or an embalmer's license. If I were younger I would have a funeral director's license because I could get that without getting an embalmer's license. And I really should, as I say if I were younger and active in the business I would have one. Because of the laws in the state of Ohio are such that it has to be a funeral director to do many things, you have to have a license.

MILLER: Or to perhaps sign different papers and things.

TURKLE: No, no.

MILLER: No. Just simply to do some of the services.

TURKLE: Yes, yes.

MILLER: Isn't that amazing. It was rather far sighted for them to have schools of management for women in the 1950's because that was kind of ahead of the sudden interest and women's lib and women involved in managing things.

TURKLE: Well the National Foundation of Funeral Services are very far seeing and a progressive group of people....

MILLER: Must be. This is obvious, from what they were doing

here. Do you find many women involved in management of funeral homes?

TURKLE: Not too many. Not too many that I know of. But there might be more than I know. But I don't think that there are very many. Sometimes a wife takes it over after, if her husband is deceased she will take over the business, and run it. And sometimes they do an excellent job.

MILLER: But as a profession it has been one that has been more geared toward a man.

TURKLE: Yes, yes.

MILLER: And less participation from the woman. This of course did not happen in your mother's case, she was not a partner or involved in it in any way at all. But yet you are through the, more of the office functions through the office management and secretary-treasurer. Do you think that there will be more involvement on the part of women as time goes on?

TURKLE: I hope so.

MILLER: Do you see it happening?

TURKLE: I hope so. I think so.

MILLER: Well it seems as though there aren't any doors closed to women these days.

TURKLE: No.

MILLER: In any profession. Some of the things that your father did in the funeral home operation. We had talked earlier, about many of the first that he brought in the develop-

ment of this service. I think you mentioned that he was the first to call it a funeral home.

TURKLE: No, I think, as I remember, I think that when we moved up on Union to that I think that it was the first funeral home.

MILLER: I see.

TURKLE: That was the thing. Now there were other ones through the country. Now one of the things that we have had here that we do which he started was what we call the Cassaday and Turkle Provident Trust Fund. Now this is set up with both banks in their trust departments so that the money goes directly there. Older people it appeals to. And people who want to feel that their funeral is paid for. And they come in and we sign a book, we give them this book telling them that they can get the money out any time that they want to by writing a letter, and we ask them to file 15 days for this and if they should need the money at any time it can be taken out of the bank. It draws interest and is used for their funeral at the time that they're gone. And this has been something that a great many people have wanted to do. They also can make payments in the amount of \$25.00 each, whenever they want to add to whatever amount they put in.

MILLER: This would be a wonderful thing for people who are farsighted enough to make such arrangements and don't want to....

TURKLE: And people who are in nursing homes. The state allows them so much each month for their personal needs. And

if they have no other need, if their needs are all taken care of this can be applied, their funeral can be paid ahead of time. It's something that people have appreciated very much, that have used it. It's legal.

MILLER: Well yes, it would be a very legal document.

TURKLE: Yes.

MILLER: And this gets into the professional funeral director's expertise in dealing with these different services. Do you find that more people at this particular time are willing to make arrangements for their funeral in advance?

TURKLE: Yes. The whole attitude has changed a great deal about that. It used to be taboo, the subject would be taboo and now it is not. And I think one of the things that has caused this is this interest that the schools and the churches have had on teaching their children and giving them the background of death and dying and of having these talks. They come and they go all through the funeral home, they're told every step that is taken and the mystery is taken away from it. Which I think is an excellent idea. They also are now, the experts are saying that it is better for, it used to be that children were kept entirely away from any thought of death or seeing the deceased or anything like that. Now they are urged to become a part of it with the family.

MILLER: Perhaps this is a return to the former cycle because of course when you mentioned it was an undertaking parlor and the funerals were held at home death was a part of the family at that time. Now when these things were removed to the

funeral home we went through this cycle when children were kept away from it. Now perhaps we're going back to....

TURKLE: Yes, yes, I wouldn't be a bit surprised.

MILLER: What perhaps was a more enlightened way of looking at it. And a less fearful way, because what we don't know about we tend to fear.

TURKLE: Yes, right.

MILLER: Yes, the subject of death and dying is currently very much of an interest. There have been several books, very fine books written on the subject.

TURKLE: In the schools for instance; at Kent and at Mount Union and some of the other schools are having classes in this too.

MILLER: And you had mentioned you even have high schools touring the funeral home.

TURKLE: Yes. Groups from the high school.

MILLER: Do you find that they come up with some interesting comments about this?

TURKLE: Yes, and their questions are very good that they ask. So this is, either Ted, my brother, or Doug Mehl who is associated with us, either one of them takes the groups through and explains all about it. They're given some of the documents and shown how everything is done. And I think this is the thing that has become quite prevalent, that now which used to be kept rather mysterious; as I said before the mystery has been taken out of it. Which is good.

MILLER: Right. Which should perhaps bring a more healthy approach to the subject.

TURKLE: I think so, I think so.

MILLER: Yes. It's interesting that even the subject of death used to be taboo and perhaps that's how we came to develop so many euphemistic terms such as passing away, going on or other terms to be used to avoid saying the word, too. Just out of curiosity since so many ceremonies these days are becoming changed or we are being encouraged to "do our own thing" so to speak. I think of this more in relation to weddings now because you see the young couple preferring to write their own wedding ceremony and have things done in a little different fashion. Has anyone requested a different sort of a funeral?

TURKLE: Oh yes. We have this. But when it comes down, almost always they go back to tradition. We do have some that are different, and some, and this is whatever the family wishes it's our desire to do however they wish.

MILLER: Yes.

TURKLE: Sometimes they want a friend to read something, some poem that the deceased has particularly liked or something like that which we do, and which we make arrangements for. But particularly the older people still go by tradition. They want that.

MILLER: Somehow I think at that time it's much more of a comfort. They look for strength in the traditional ceremony. And in it there is a great deal of strength too. Well let's

see, have we covered anything else that might have been under your father's administration and the funeral home? Let's finish off the business that we left sort of high and dry back here which was the furniture business. There was a period then when the Cassaday and Turkle dropped the furniture business.

TURKLE: The furniture business was known as the J. S. Cassaday and Son Furniture Store. It was never Cassaday and Turkle.

MILLER: I see.

TURKLE: The funeral business was the Cassaday and Turkle but the other was the J. S. Cassaday and Sons. And Joshua and his sons Daniel and Samuel were in business with him. In the furniture business.

MILLER: So at some point in time after your father Edgar became part of the corporation it was only a funeral home. And the furniture business now no longer exists.

TURKLE: Yes, because the furniture business was sold, I don't remember exactly along when that was but it was sold.

MILLER: Probably prior to 1927 because that would have been the time when the Turkle name was brought in.

TURKLE: Yes, I would think so. No it was brought in in 1914.

MILLER: I don't have all my dates down right do I?

TURKLE: 1927 was when we moved out to the....

MILLER: 'To the home on Union Avenue.

TURKLE: Yes, to the home on Union Avenue.

MILLER: Okay, we've traced pretty well the history of the funeral home and it's different locations. How about the home you reside in Barbara?

TURKLE: Well it's, my grandfather and grandmother built that in 1912 and our home when we were young was over on Overlook. And then after my grandmother passed on which was in 1928, 1926 we moved over with my grandfather into that home. He enlarged the house and we moved over with him. And I'm still living in the house.

MILLER: Which of course is just one block up from Main Street
MILLER: So this is the original, this is the original family home then.

TURKLE: Yes, yes.

MILLER: But then that property was sold to the government
MILLER: It goes back to 1912. And it's located, we should locate that now too.

TURKLE: It's across the street, it's a white brick house across the street from Presser Music Hall.

MILLER: Right, on Union Avenue.

TURKLE: Uh huh. On Union Avenue.

MILLER: Okay.

MILLER: Anything else that we missed in that history?

TURKLE: I don't know whether getting back to the Cassaday, to my grandfather Daniel Brinton Cassaday, whether we got back to the fact that they sold their, when they built this home on Union Avenue they had sold their home at the corner of Market and Arch Street to the government and that's where the Post Office is now.

MILLER: Right. We had been discussing the properties there

and I think we left off somewhere around Christ United Methodist Church on Broadway, yes. Yes, I think that is an important part. At one time there was a home on the corner of Market and Arch Street.

TURKLE: Market and Arch, where the Post Office is.

MILLER: Where the Post Office is.

TURKLE: And that is where my mother lived there at the time that she was going to college. Was at that corner.

MILLER: Which of course is just one block up from Main Street in Alliance and not at all a residential district today.

TURKLE: No.

MILLER: But then that property was sold to the government.

TURKLE: Yes.

MILLER: And if I remember right you said that that house still stands.

TURKLE: Yeah the house is still, I think that the house is down at the corner of Ely and Garfield. Would be on the northeast corner. And has always been very well kept up.

MILLER: Anything else that we missed in that history? Of those families?

TURKLE: I don't think so.

MILLER: Pretty much covered it all.

TURKLE: Uh huh, I think so.

MILLER: I think it covers quite an interesting segment of Alliance history because it does go back not only to a

business in Alliance but to a very very early family.

TURKLE: I think another one of the first things, speaking of going back to that, my father, one of the firsts in Alliance was the fact that in 1932 we put air conditioning in that funeral home. And the Ohio, which was then the Ohio Public Service they didn't even have it. And they were the ones that sold it. We were one of the first building in Alliance to have air conditioning. And that air conditioning unit is still working and is still cooling that house beautifully.

MILLER: That's amazing. That truly is. Yes, that would have been quite a first for the funeral business too, and I would say quite a necessary one as well.

TURKLE: Yes, yes, yes. It was done of course for the comfort of the people. But that was 1932 with that air conditioning.

MILLER: That would have been quite a renovation too because you are taking an older existing building.

TURKLE: Yes, but these are units that are in each room. A separate unit that runs from one compressor which is in the basement.

MILLER: Oh. Well now that was a very clever way of doing it because otherwise you would of had to....

TURKLE: You see it isn't in the walls or anything like that.

MILLER: Yes, you would have had to done something.

TURKLE: When we had thought about replacing it we have been told to keep it just as long as possible because it does

a better job than any of these others.

MILLER: Well and there would be all of this renovation in going through adding duct work through the walls and everything. That was a very clever way of doing it.

TURKLE: Well that was the way they did it then.

MILLER: And must be an excellent piece of equipment to have operated that period of time. Interesting.

TURKLE: They're not particularly pretty but we had painted them to match the walls as much as possible, to keep them so they they don't stand out like sore thumbs.

MILLER: I've never seen them. That's how well they blend in. I've never noticed that they were separate. Interesting.

TURKLE: That was one of the firsts.

MILLER: Well your father developed quite a few firsts.

TURKLE: He had great great foresight. And he also had the courage to try things and to do things, to go ahead with things. And he kept up on the new things that came into the business, of any kind at all.

MILLER: And of course if he was involved with the professional organization at the national level he would of had access to a lot of ideas. And provided a lot too I would imagine. Anything else that you recall?

TURKLE: I don't think so, I think that's.

MILLER: Pretty much covers it?

TURKLE: I think so. I do wish I could think more of the,

some of those firsts but I can't.

MILLER: Well, a dynamic organization led by a farsighted man was bound to bring in a lot of firsts into the business and certainly we've enjoyed hearing about it Barbara. And we appreciate your taking time to come with us today.

TURKLE: Thank you very much.

MILLER: Thank you.

AIR CONDITIONING, FIRST IN FUNERAL HOME.....	BarTurkle 31
ALLIANCE CITY HOSPITAL.....	BarTurkle 16
ALLIANCE HARDWARE.....	BarTurkle 4
ALLIANCE RECREATION BOWLING ALLEY.....	BarTurkle 6
ALLIANCE WOMAN'S CLUB.....	BarTurkle 20
AMBULANCE SERVICE.....	BarTurkle 7
AMERICAN STEEL FOUNDRIES.....	BarTurkle 2
ARMY RECRUITING CENTER.....	BarTurkle 4
CASSADAY, ADA.....	BarTurkle 1
CASSADAY, DANIEL BRINTON.....	
BarTurkle 1, BarTurkle 4, BarTurkle 11, BarTurkle 28,	
BarTurkle 29	
CASSADAY, HANNA.....	BarTurkle 3
CASSADAY, JOSHUA.....	BarTurkle 3, BarTurkle 28
CASSADAY, SAMUEL.....	BarTurkle 1, BarTurkle 28
CASSADAY, WILLIAM.....	BarTurkle 3
CASSADAY AND SON FURNITURE.....	BarTurkle 28
CASSADAY AND TURKLE FUNERAL HOME.....	BarTurkle 10
CASSADAY AND TURKLE PROVIDENT TRUST FUND.....	BarTurkle 24
CASSADAY HOME MOVED.....	BarTurkle 30
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.....	BarTurkle 16, BarTurkle 21
CHINA STORE.....	BarTurkle 4
CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.....	BarTurkle 2, BarTurkle 30
CITIZEN'S HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION.....	BarTurkle 16
COMMUNITY CONCERT ASSOCIATION.....	BarTurkle 19
CORNIE'S RESTAURANT.....	BarTurkle 6
COTERIE.....	BarTurkle 21
CRIST, D. W.....	BarTurkle 13
CRIST, DILLON.....	BarTurkle 13
DELTA DELTA DELTA SORORITY.....	BarTurkle 20
DONALDSON, BARBARA.....	BarTurkle 12
DONALDSON, BETTY TURKLE.....	BarTurkle 11
FORD GARAGE.....	BarTurkle 6
FRAME HOUSE, EARLY.....	BarTurkle 2
FUNERAL HOMES.....	BarTurkle 24
FUNERAL INDUSTRY.....	BarTurkle 6
HARTSHORN, PROFESSOR.....	BarTurkle 3
HAVILAND CHINA.....	BarTurkle 4
KAY, C. Y.....	BarTurkle 13
KAY, GERTRUDE ALICE.....	BarTurkle 13
LIVERY SERVICE.....	BarTurkle 6
MEHL, DOUG.....	BarTurkle 26
MOUNT UNION COLLEGE.....	
.....BarTurkle 10, BarTurkle 11, BarTurkle 16	
MOUNT UNION COLLEGE WOMEN.....	BarTurkle 20
MURPHY STORE.....	BarTurkle 3, BarTurkle 5
NATIONAL FOUNDATION OF FUNERAL SERVICE.....	BarTurkle 21
NATIONAL SELECTED MORTICIANS.....	BarTurkle 15
POST OFFICE.....	BarTurkle 29
PRESSER MUSIC HALL (MUC).....	BarTurkle 29
QUOTA CLUB.....	BarTurkle 19
RODMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY.....	BarTurkle 13
SHARER, GEORGE.....	BarTurkle 3
SPRING-HOLZWARTH.....	BarTurkle 4
TAYLOR, BARBARA.....	BarTurkle 12
TURKLE, BRINTON.....	BarTurkle 11, BarTurkle 13

TURKLE, EDGAR.....	BarTurkle 1
TURKLE, EDGAR H., JR.....	BarTurkle 12
TURKLE, EDGAR HAROLD.....	BarTurkle 10
TURKLE, REBECCA.....	BarTurkle 11
TURKLE, TED.....	BarTurkle 12, BarTurkle 26
WEYBRECHT AND SONS LUMBER COMPANY.....	BarTurkle 2
WOMAN'S DIVISION.....	BarTurkle 21
YWCA.....	BarTurkle 19
CASSADAY, ADA.....	BarTurkle 1
CASSADAY, DANIEL BRINTON.....	BarTurkle 1; BarTurkle 4; BarTurkle 11; BarTurkle 28; BarTurkle 29
CASSADAY, HANNA.....	BarTurkle 3
CASSADAY, JONAH.....	BarTurkle 3, BarTurkle 28
CASSADAY, SAMUEL.....	BarTurkle 1, BarTurkle 28
CASSADAY, WILLIAM.....	BarTurkle 3
CASSADAY AND SON FURNITURE.....	BarTurkle 28
CASSADAY AND TURKLE FUNERAL HOME.....	BarTurkle 10
CASSADAY AND TURKLE PROVIDENT TRUST FUND.....	BarTurkle 24
CASSADAY HOME MOVES.....	BarTurkle 36
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.....	BarTurkle 18, BarTurkle 21
CHINA STORE.....	BarTurkle 1
CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.....	BarTurkle 2, BarTurkle 30
CITIZEN'S HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION.....	BarTurkle 16
COMMUNITY CONSENT ASSOCIATION.....	BarTurkle 16
CORNELL'S RESTAURANT.....	BarTurkle 6
COTTRILL.....	BarTurkle 21
CRIST, S. W.....	BarTurkle 13
CRIST, WILLIAM.....	BarTurkle 13
DELTA DELTA DELTA SORORITY.....	BarTurkle 20
DONALDSON, BARBARA.....	BarTurkle 12
DONALDSON, BETTY TURKLE.....	BarTurkle 11
FORD GARAGE.....	BarTurkle 5
FRAME HOUSE, EARLY.....	BarTurkle 2
FUNERAL HOMES.....	BarTurkle 24
FUNERAL INDUSTRY.....	BarTurkle 5
HARTSONS, PROFESSOR.....	BarTurkle 3
HAYLAND CRINA.....	BarTurkle 4
KAY, C. Y.....	BarTurkle 13
KAY, CECILIA ALICE.....	BarTurkle 15
LIVERY SERVICE.....	BarTurkle 5
MEHL, DONALD.....	BarTurkle 26
MOUNT UNION COLLEGE.....	BarTurkle 10, BarTurkle 11, BarTurkle 16
MOUNT UNION COLLEGE WOMEN.....	BarTurkle 20
MURPHY STORE.....	BarTurkle 3, BarTurkle 5
NATIONAL FOUNDATION OF FUNERAL SERVICE.....	BarTurkle 21
NATIONAL SELECTED MORTICIANS.....	BarTurkle 13
POST OFFICE.....	BarTurkle 29
PRESSER MUSIC HALL (MUCH).....	BarTurkle 28
QUOTA CLUB.....	BarTurkle 19
RODMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY.....	BarTurkle 13
SHARER, GEORGE.....	BarTurkle 3
SPRING-HOLZWARTH.....	BarTurkle 4
TAYLOR, BARBARA.....	BarTurkle 12
TURKLE, BRINTON.....	BarTurkle 11, BarTurkle 15