

Interviewer: Eric R. Bruder

### INTERVIEW AND TAPE SUMMARY

Name: Edward Asadorian

Date and Place of Birth: 2-21-1921, Granite City

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

Interview Date, Time, and Place:

11-14-2001, 6:30 PM Mr. Asadorian's residence

Interview Summary (attach additional sheets, as needed):

We conducted the interview in the home of Edward and Mary Asadorian. About 10 minutes into the interview with Edward, Mary came in and became part of the interview.

Edward spoke of his father's decision to come to America. He also talked about his family, how he married his wife, and very briefly about his job in the post office.

We also spoke about food. We also spoke about how tradition is passed on to the children.

They also spoke of the close relationships they have enjoyed through out the years, with the various Armenian priests. They also spoke about the importance of retaining the Armenian language.

We also spoke about Church practices and his opinions about how a church should give back to the community.

Note any special circumstances involving the interview:

As this interview was conducted in the early evening, we met with the usual distractions. The phone rang a couple of times, and during these interruptions we paused the tape and the interview.

During the interview, Mrs. Asadorian is sometimes busy working in the kitchen, which is also part of the recording.

## Biographical Summary

### Edward Asadorian and Mary Asadorian

Mr. Asadorian was born in 1921 to parents that were both Armenian. His father and mother lived just outside of Lincoln Place, but that was definitely his main stomping grounds.

He attended Washington Elementary, then Granite High. He served a term in World War II and was married in 1947 to Mary Kambarian. He served as a board member and treasurer of the Armenian Church for 18 years while in Lincoln Place. His first job was with General Steel Castings Corporation and he worked there for eleven years. The next job he landed was his last, he retired a federal employee with thirty-seven years in at the Post Office.

He has three children Edward, Arthur, and Melanie. They live in close proximity to him and for that he is grateful. His wife Mary is also Armenian and was part of the Lincoln Place project.

While in his home, Mr. Asadorian told me about many experiences he has had. From job discrimination, to his trip to Armenia with his daughter Melanie, his time serving the Armenian Church, his relationship with various members of the community, and his support of people living in destitute conditions in Armenia.

Mrs. Asadorian was also part of the interview. She shared many stories about visiting priests, her grandchildren, the language, and how important church is to her. Mrs. Asadorian also remembers Lincoln Place as one big family. She relates times when she would be disciplined by more than her own mother. She has fond memories of the community center and Miss Prather, while Mr. Asadorian has less of an inclination

towards Miss Prather, since he was not a resident of Lincoln Place, as a youngster.

Apparently, if she didn't think you lived in Lincoln Place, then the center was not for you.

Together, they gave fascinating testimonies of their lives as children and parents and grandparents. The spectrum of events has left them rich in love and appreciation for all the things that faith and family have brought them.