

**Darien, Illinois  
Oral History Project**

**Interview with**

**Ron Jung**

**Conducted by Deb Barrett**

**October 1, 2014**

**Indian Prairie Public Library  
Darien, Illinois**

**Today is Wednesday, October 1, 2014. I am here with Mr. Ron Jung at the Indian Prairie Library in Darien, Illinois. My name is Deb Barrett. Mr. Jung was born in 1931 at Hinsdale Hospital. He has lived in this area all his life, and is here to share his memories.**

**Family History: Coming to America and Settling in the Area**

**So, Ron, you were born here. When did your family first come to this area?**

They came in the 1800's.

**Was it your grandparents or great-grandparents?**

It was my great-grandparents and grandparents.

**Where did they come from?**

They came from Germany. On my mother's side both my father and mother came from Germany as little children. They grew up in what is now a non-existent town anymore – where Butterfield Road and Midwest Road intersect.

**That's OakBrook Terrace now.**

Yes. The town was called Utopia. But it's not there now.

**When did Utopia vanish?**

I can remember in the 1950's, yet, there was an auction barn there and some other small businesses. And that's about all that was left.

**There are several small towns that have vanished, including the town of Lace.**

That was about the same.

**Why did your ancestors come here?**

They liked the farm in the area and just liked being out in the open. There was restrictive living in Europe at the time, and that's why most of the German immigrants left.

**How did they choose this part of the country? Do you know?**

I really don't know.

**Where they farmers in Europe?**

Their parents were, yes.

**So they understood farming and family farms. When you were born, where was your families living?**

Mostly in Hinsdale. My grandmother and grandfather on my mother's side lived over in what is probably Westmont now – 63<sup>rd</sup> Street. And they kept that farm until 1937. They still owned it until 1947 when they sold the farm.

**Do you remember the boundaries of the farm – what they would have been today?**

Today it's 63<sup>rd</sup> Street where there's a little pond on the corner where the creek runs through. It's Muddy Waters' pond on the corner and the creek there, and it ran all the way back to Clarendon Hills Cemetery on that line, and then ran up maybe a quarter of a mile and back to Clarendon Hills Cemetery again. It was 80 acres.

**What did they farm?**

They had potatoes – it was unusual, but they had potatoes. They had corn, barley, wheat – all kinds of grain. They had pigs, chickens, horses and cows. My mother used to take milk to sell down to Westmont to the train station a couple of times a day.

**Who did she sell it to?**

Well, they picked it up there. My grandfather must have had a connection with a creamery someplace. They'd put it on the railroad and took it wherever they took it. I have no idea where, but they probably took it to Chicago.

**What about the grains and the animals?**

Well the animals they kept some for them, and sold others to people who wanted to buy them. They had locations where they'd sell them to wholesalers who would process them. But the ones they kept as their own, they slaughtered their own animals, cured the meat – smoke it. They'd brine some of the stuff in salt brine.

**Growing Up in the Area**

**As a child did you grow up on the farm?**

No. I grew up in town. We visited every weekend. I'd play with the chickens and everything that was out there.

**Were you in an apartment or house?**

We were in a house.

## **What was your house like? What do you remember as a kid?**

Well, my father and mother got married in 1928 and started building the house. We're a family of carpenters. My father was a carpenter, his brother was a carpenter. Their father and uncles were carpenters. I'm also a carpenter. My brother is a carpenter. They were a family of carpenters, so they built their own house.

### **By hand.**

By hand – all by hand. And this was unusual. They say it's a Sears house, but it isn't a Sear's house. They got the material through Sears, Roebuck. All the wood and everything to complete the house were delivered on a railroad siding in Clarendon Hills. They had so-many days to haul it out of there. And they constructed the house from there.

Then the big Depression hit. My dad's father had peritonitis. He was alive one morning, in the afternoon he was getting sick, and by evening he was dead. His mother and two sisters still lived there in the original house. So we had to pack up and leave and take care of them. It was hard living then in the 1930's. Not only was it the Depression, but there was hardly any work. So they survived and about 1937 one of the youngest sisters was going to get married. So he thought he'd move back to town, into the house in Clarendon Hills. So I started first grade in Clarendon Hills; I'd finished kindergarten in Clarendon Hills. Then I went to Hinsdale High School after the Clarendon Hills Public School.

### **So your dad went to live on the farm?**

No, he went to live in town in Hinsdale.

### **The house that you lived in – the house that your dad and family built – tell us about the house.**

It was a two-story Georgian with wood shingles on the side. There were three bedrooms upstairs and a bath. Downstairs had the kitchen, dining room, living room and a sun parlor.

It had a thing called an octopus coal furnace for heat. The reason it was called an octopus was all the duct lines were all over the basement and you could hardly walk through there! I remember dragging coal down through the side window and into the coal bin, which was at the foot of the stairs. I had to carry that coal to the furnace and stoke that into the night, and haul the cinders out in the morning and start all over again!

We didn't have a hot water heater. They had an arm that went to the furnace that heated the water up. So we only had hot water when the furnace was going! But it was okay.

We didn't have any snow removal in town. There was no such thing as snow removal, so you were on your own. But we survived. We were in the wide-open spaces up there on the top of a hill where we lived, anyway, so we shoveled what wasn't blowing.

But it was quiet and peaceful.

And with my two brothers and the neighbor boys we managed to go fishing about every day down along the railroad tracks in Clarendon Hills. They call it Blue Lake now. You can't even get near the water anymore, but we were fortunate to go fishing everyday.

**So were you the oldest?**

I was the oldest of three.

**How old are your brothers in relation to you?**

There are three years difference from me to my next youngest brother, and six years between me and my youngest brother.

**And you said you went to school in Clarendon Hills.**

Yes, Walker School in Clarendon Hills.

**What do you remember about the school; about your classes? Do you remember how many kids were in your class?**

There weren't too many in there – maybe 25 at the most; first, second, third and fourth grade. It built up a little bit – there was first and second grade in one room, second and third in another. They divided them up.

**So for a good part it was two classes together.**

Yes.

**How did the teacher handle two classes?**

I don't know. She didn't seem to have too many problems.

**How did the teacher teach two different classes?**

I don't know!

**Did he or she teach one class and give the other class work to do?**

I think they did have some things to draw or stick with your glue – paste or stick your finger in the ink well!

There was a little bench that folded up into the front of the desk behind. There was a little spot in the desk where you could put your books. The ink well was in a tray on the top and you put your pencil and pen in there. It seemed like they furnished a lot of stuff when I was going to school.

**What kind of stuff?**

Paper, glue.

**So they had it and you didn't have to bring your own.**

Yes.

You could buy milk. They'd come and deliver milk. It cost about 2¢ for white milk and a little bit more for chocolate milk. You'd bring your own lunch – they didn't furnish any lunch.

**What kind of lunch did you normally bring?**

Oh, a sandwich of some kind – whatever we had. And we used to walk, I don't know how many blocks – it was quite a ways from the school – every day. They showed us once how to cross the tracks in Clarendon Hills and that was it. After that we were on our own.

**So you had to cross the railroad tracks to get to school.**

Yes. On the way home we used to stop at the Post Office. We didn't have any mail delivery, so we'd pick up the mail on the way home from school at 3:00 and bring the mail home with us.

**You knew who the postman was.**

Yes, we knew him.

**And he knew all the families.**

He knew all the families. And we had one drug store. The postmaster's wife had a little grocery store in the front of it and the post office was in the back. They'd sell meat and slice stuff of a big roast. The bread came in there and vegetables – a little bit of everything in there. They had two stores most of the time until the 50's and then we had three grocery stores. We had two gas stations, and eventually in the 50's and 60's we had three gas stations. Now we don't have any, and there aren't any grocery stores in Clarendon Hills anymore either!

So out this way there really weren't any stores. The only stores were in Downers Grove, Westmont, Hinsdale and LaGrange. Those were the only places.

**This was farm country.**

We used to go on Saturdays to Downers Grove to go grocery shopping and get out supplies for the week and bring that home.

**Were there any chain grocery stores or where they independent?**

There was Piggly Wiggly, National, Kroger's, Jewel, A&P. There were two or three stores in every town. The gas stations were here and there. Gas was pretty cheap -- 25¢ a gallon.

**Your family had a car.**

Yes, my father had a car.

**Do you remember what kind of car he had?**

He had a Chevrolet in the 30's. Then he did some work for a Ford dealer in Hinsdale and they owed him money, so he got a new Ford! And that only cost \$850!

**This was still during the Depression.**

It was still considered the Depression. It was the last 30's. Times were still tough.

**I think they talk about the Depression ending in 1941.**

It was bad.

**What do you remember from your family about the effect the Depression had?**

You had to scratch out work to make an existence. There wasn't work for anybody to do. My father's great uncle lived in Roselle and had a cabinet business. In order to get there my father had to take the Burlington to Chicago, and take another train out to Roselle every day. He had work for the government – some kind of radio cabinets or something. He didn't make very much money – nobody did.

**How long did he have to commute?**

I have no idea. He never said. But it was close to an hour into Chicago and then he had to go all the way out west again to Roselle which was probably another hour, so that was four hours a day commuting.

**Was it Union Pacific?**

I don't know what it was.

**Did he do that five days a week?**

Well, whenever they had work for him.  
And he worked for a golf course where he did maintenance for them during the Depression.

**Was that around here?**

Ruth Lake in Hinsdale. He looked for carpentry work – he was fortunate because he had a trade.

**You said his brothers – you said they were carpenters as well.**

Yes.

**So it was mostly working for these companies that had projects.**

Yes. And it didn't get any better until the start of World War II when he worked at the Douglas plant out at O'Hare field and built hangars. My father and uncle went there and built hangars for Douglas where they'd transport things.

And then things got slow and he got a job with General Motors in LaGrange. He worked the night shift down there for years – until about 1948. He thrashed a living out of a carpenter's existence, but as soon as the snow fell in the fall there wasn't any work to do. So he was usually off six months and worked six months.

**But you still followed him into the trade.**

That's right.

**How did you learn the trade? With him?**

Through him, yes, and the people he worked for. I went to carpenter apprentice school in Chicago.

**That was after high school?**

Yes, after high school. I was in the Air Force for two years.

**So you went to Walker School. And after Walker School?**

I went to Hinsdale High School. Then I went to the Air Force – worked a little bit and went to the Air Force during the Korean War. I got out of that and got married. We built the house we're living in now. I just kept picking up work for contractors in Hinsdale and Downers Grove, and traveled all over for fifteen years for one contractor. I had to travel for work and made a good living that way.

**Let's go back to your high school which was Hinsdale High School. It was not Hinsdale Central, but Hinsdale High School then. A lot of changes have happened at the high schools over the years. What was high school like for you? What do you see today that's different than what you saw?**

Well, everybody is getting delivered by a car! We didn't have that. If we missed the train we had to walk from Clarendon Hills to Hinsdale.

**You took the train?**

Yes. We had a student rate. And if you missed the train you walked.

**And it was a long walk.**



It was a long walk! Especially when it was cold.

**When you got to school ...**

Well, it was two stories then. You had your courses and five or ten minutes to make the next course. There was a gym session.

**Did you have a dress code?**

No, there was no dress code.

**But the girls all wore dresses.**

The girls wore dresses and the boys all wore pants, blue jeans. And eventually the girls could wear blue jeans, but at first they couldn't. Everybody was dressed neat, hair was cut, everybody was clean.

**Your teachers: Do you have any teachers you remember?**

I remember them all!

**Is that good or bad?**

It's good. They were good teachers. Some of them were just out of college – the women teachers. And some of them were there forever – they were old, but they were good teachers.

**How many students do you think were there at that time?**

Four hundred.

**And is that the same building Hinsdale Central is now?**

No. We didn't get a chance to move into it before we graduated, but it wasn't done. It was supposed to be done in 1949, but it wasn't. So we didn't graduate from there.

**Where was the old school?**

It was on Washington Street, about Second or Third. I think the junior high school there now.

**So they tore that building down.**

Yes. It was just an add-on piece back then to an old grade school. They incorporated that into the new building.

**So you never went to the new school; you graduated from the old one.**

Yes.

We had some sports activities there. I played baseball on the Hinsdale High School baseball team for four years.

**What was your position?**

I was an outfielder. I played ball in a league with Ford during the summer and we traveled around to towns to play with other towns – high school kids.

**That was with Ford?**

Ford and the American Legion sponsored it.

**So that's when you were high school age.**

Yes.

**But you decided not to go further or try further with that?**

No.

**It was just recreation.**

Yes. We always played in the neighborhood. There were always little neighborhood teams that we played off and on.

We played football out in the fields.

We built our own ball diamond and back stop.

**Wherever there was a field available?**

We had a lot of open space!

**So besides playing baseball, what else did you do when you had free time?**

I enjoyed fishing, so we'd go fishing.

**In that Blue Lake?**

In Blue Lake. Then we'd go down to Salt Creek. It was less polluted then.

**What sort of fish could you catch?**

Bullheads, blue gills, bass, crappies.

**Did you take it home for dinner?**

Sometimes.

**What about once you got out of the Depression and started to see things improve a little bit. What did you see in the way of businesses and things in the neighborhood? Did you see new businesses? Did you see the old ones expand?**

Some of them expanded and there were some new. They put a new gas station in Clarendon Hills in the 60's. They tore one down and rebuilt that. It was a Standard and now it's a cleaners in Clarendon Hills. They put a couple of more grocery stores in. One survived and tried enlarging it into the next block and eventually they all closed up. There's not that much really big business in Clarendon Hills. It's not really good business place, I'd say.

**Not that downtown area.**

Now there's a lot of smaller stores.

There was a restaurant went pretty big. A lot of little stores, and a lot of them closed up, too.

We did the house cleaning and lawn mowing. We'd earn a dime and walk to Westmont to watch Hop-A-Long Cassidy and Wild Bill Hickock.

**Where did you go to see that?**

The Westmont Movie Theater.

**Where was the Westmont Movie Theater?**

It was on Cass Avenue, south of the tracks about half a block down from the Catholic Church.

**About half a block from Holy Trinity?**

Yes, north of it and on the east side.

**So between the tracks and Holy Trinity on the east side of the road.**

Yes.

**What did it cost to go see a movie?**

Ten cents! But they didn't have ten cents to give us.

**And what could you see for that – one movie?**

A double feature, cartoons, newsreels. It was worthwhile. And if they had something of interest my mother and father would take the car out and we'd go there and watch it.

There were bingo nights and they had all kinds of knick-knack things to get you to come in there.

**Was it during the Depression that they used to give away dishes and things?**

It was the same time.

**When you were in high school did you date?**

Not really. When I got out I did. I had a friend from Westmont I dated for a little while. I gave her up.

### **Working Life and Military Service**

**So you went from high school and worked for a little while?**

Yes, I worked for a little bit doing carpentry.

**With your dad?**

Yes.

**Why did you go into the Air Force?**

The Korean War was started, and if you didn't have a place to go you were automatically in the Army. So I thought it would be best.

**You thought you'd have a better chance in the Air Force. Where were you inducted?**

At O'Hare field.

**Where did they send you?**

They sent me to Greenville, South Carolina – Donaldson Air Force Base. Then I went to Pope Air Force Base in North Carolina. Then I went to Fort Hood, Texas – I forget the name of the Air Force Base there. After all that time I managed to come back to Donaldson Air Force Base in Greenville, South Carolina. Then we finally got notice that we were going to New Mexico, and we went to Clovis, New Mexico – a fighter base in Clovis, New Mexico.

I was in communications. Everything was pre-historic. You had a crank phone, a field phone. You had wires you'd string between here and there, and rubber cable you'd bury in the ground. It was all ancient history. It's so much more efficient.

We had maybe 85 men in my unit.

All I can remember is doing KP every Friday!

**How did you end up doing KP every Friday?**

Well, I didn't have a good rank, and everybody had too many people with higher ranks than the peons – the corporals, which I was at that time.

**So you spent four years in the Air Force?**

Three years. The Korean War was over and we broke up in to smaller units, and I was fortunate enough to get out.

**When did you get out?**

1952.

**And you came back here.**

I came back here and started working on my house.

**You were not married at the time?**

We got married in Clovis, New Mexico.

**Was your wife from New Mexico or did you know her up here?**

She was from South Carolina.

**So she was from South Carolina and you traveled all over several places in the south. Why did you decide to come back here?**

It was better living here. We had construction and there wasn't much construction going in the other places I was at.

**So you had a better chance at making a good living here. And you moved up to Clarendon Hills, which is what you were familiar with.**

Yes. And I knew people who I could get a job with.

**So when you left and went into the Air Force and came back, did you notice any changes in the town?**

Not too much, really. There was a little bit of work on 55<sup>th</sup> Street and they made it from two lanes into three lanes with one wider lane, so it was still only two lanes wide. It went that way from the bottom of a hill that was 83, and there's now a bridge going over it. There was a two-way stop sign and then a four-way stop sign.

There were two lanes, tar and gravel, on Clarendon Hills Road up to 61<sup>st</sup> Street. Then there was gravel all the way to 91<sup>st</sup> St. 63<sup>rd</sup> Street was gravel, most of it, from Cass Avenue west. There wasn't much there.

Just a lot of small farms.

**Small farms and unpaved roads.**

Small farms and unpaved roads.

**So, did you raise a family here?**

Yes.

**Did they go to Walker School, also?**

No.

**You were living in Clarendon Hills, though.**

Yes.

**Change Comes to the Area**

**You made your living there. Change in this area really started happening in this area in the 60's. What did you see happening?**

Well, all these farms were disappearing. They were making subdivisions out of them. Between 75<sup>th</sup> and all the way down to 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, here and there they'd close the farms up, tear them down and put housing developments in them – both sides of the road. Pretty soon it got down to 75<sup>th</sup> Street on both sides. There were some bigger farms on the other side of the road by 75<sup>th</sup> & Plainfield. That whole section went down to what is Interstate 55 now, but was Route 66 then. There were bigger farms in there.

**When did your family farm get sold?**

It was in the late 60's or 70's.

**Was it a matter that nobody wanted to do it anymore?**

My grandfather was renting it out and thought it was time to get rid of it. There was a lot of upkeep and it was getting older. It was an old property when he got it. It was almost rundown and deserted when he took it over in 1921. He built it all up. The ground was all deteriorated. Now he was in it and corrected it. All my uncles and my grandfather, my mother and her sisters – that was their job.

**So the farm was sold. Your family stayed in this area?**

Yes.

**Where did they move from the farm?**

They moved to Westmont. My grandmother and grandfather moved to Westmont. They had a two-flat building there. They rented out the upstairs and they lived downstairs. He had another piece of property in the area that he acquired over the years – small housing places. He had them until they needed money and then he'd sell them off.

**You said when you worked a little, went into the Air Force and came out to work as a carpenter. And you worked all through the years as a carpenter?**

Yes.

**Did you work for somebody long term, or with projects?**

I worked for a small contractors for a while. Then went with a fellow who hired me for a few days. I stayed there for 25 years until he ran out of work.

**That was a nice few days!**

Yes. Then I was still working for him and he didn't have any work. And somebody asked me if I wanted to work for him, and I said yes. I asked the fellow I had been working for and he said, "Sure. If there's work, go." I hated to leave him after all that time. He was a good man. But I went to work for the other contractor and I worked for him for 20 years. So that was a long time, with odds and ends in between.

**Are your children still in this area?**

No.

**Have any of them followed you into carpentry?**

No. None of them. I was the last one – my brother was. But he moved to California and passed away.

**What do you remember about some of the building that went on out here, like the OakBrook shopping center, Yorktown.**

That was 1958. It was a nice secluded area, there were farms there. We used to go down to Salt Creek behind OakBrook shopping center. There was a spring there that bubbled out of the ground. There was the Mammoth Ice Company that was around the corner. The water they used to take out of there and go to Elmhurst until the town of Elmhurst got big. It was a regular spring, and the spring water would come out of the ground. There were two springs there.

**Where Spring Road is, probably.**

Yes, but you can't even see any of that stuff anymore.

### **What about things like Argonne Labs?**

Argonne Lab. Well, there was a small unit that was out on Archer Avenue that was part of the University of Chicago. There were buildings down there. My cousin who worked there in a secure area. Later on, before World War II, they started construction over here at Argonne.

### **At the site people know now.**

Yes, where it is now. People had farms there, too. And they bought the land and developed it. There was radiation. I worked there a few times doing carpentry. But they planted a lot of evergreens because it was just farms there and they wanted to disguise everything because there wasn't too much woods stuff. But just down on the bluff down there it was all open area so they did what they could and planted a lot of evergreens. So that's why all those evergreens have grown up.

### **Is there anything else you remember about the area changing?**

Well, just the way the roads are now. They were almost, you could say, nonexistent. Where I moved out there, there were two little gravel ruts. There was a little three-room house next door to me and that was it. That was the end of the road. The road went a little further but got smaller and smaller on the way down.

### **Until it just disappeared!**

Yes. And 59<sup>th</sup> Street didn't go through. It went to Bentley and you had to detour around. The same way coming up from Clarendon Hills Road; 59<sup>th</sup> Street went up to Tennessee. Tennessee wasn't there, Alabama – none of those streets were there. There was a big pond down there which the builder filled all in and built houses there. He must have known somebody! We used to go ice skating down there.

### **Impressions of Then and Now**

**When you look back on all the changes that have happened, what do you miss? What do you wish was still here? What's changed that you wish hadn't?**

Quietness.

**And all the noise is from the people; the vehicles?**

The people and the vehicles; airplanes.

**So just in general, more crowded.**



Yes, more crowded. It was peaceful!

**Do you find any peaceful areas anymore?**

Oh, yeah, they're still around. If you can stand the dust!

**What changes have you seen that you think are good – that you're glad came about?**

I'd say the way the communication stuff is, although it's getting a little overdone right now.

**A little overdone, meaning what?**

This computer business – they're not secure. Once you start that you're into something where they can get into all your business.

**The more tied together everything is.**

Yes.

**Is there anything we haven't talked about that you want to mention or discuss?**

I'd say Clarendon Hills Road is pretty bad. It went so far. We used to take our bicycles and come up to St. John's Cemetery to see if there were ghosts I the mausoleum that was there! And there was a little pond there we used to fish at on the way. We'd stop there. Bicycle was our main travel. I didn't have a car until I was over 18 years old. We walked or rose the bicycle.

**Another thing that's changed. Everybody is driving or riding.**

Yes. And if we didn't any money to take the train and wanted to go swimming, the Belmont swimming pool was over there on the top of the hill at Belmont Avenue. We used to walk from my house in Clarendon Hills – Walk!

**And how far is that?**

I don't have any idea, but it's miles.

**You got a lot of exercise!**

Yes. Baseball.

**It was all that hard work and walking. Is there anything else you'd like to mention?**

I'd say that the way Clarendon Hills Road – all the housing that is built up along that, and Plainfield Road – all of the change. There was just nothing there all the way from Lyons. You could go in both directions on Plainfield Road and there was hardly anything. Just farm.

**Now it's all built up. There's not a lot of open land left in this area.**

It was one of the best crop growing areas in the United States; the richest soil. And it's all gone now.

**You've had quite a history in this area, just seeing all the changes that have gone on. We appreciate your sharing some of your stories with us.**

I forgot to mention that the radar dome was on 91<sup>st</sup> Street up on Cass Avenue. We had a full complement of people who worked there. There was a mess hall down there, a radar tower, a guided missile site, and it was all on 91<sup>st</sup> Street. There was nothing out there, too, when they set that all up. I worked out there in the mess hall, constructing the mess hall and officers' barracks. Out in the woods father there were about ten or fifteen houses where the officers had their families and lived there. Right now the government still has something up there, but that's where the Nike sites was – at the top of the hill on that curve of the hill where the Frontage Road is. But there were Nike sites were in LaGrange, Warrentville.

**People don't realize where all of them were. Which is how it was supposed to be.**

Just that the way the way people could go out and enjoy themselves. It's not like now where things are restricted. Nobody hollered if you went sliding down a hill. Now you've got to get permission to slide down a hill – even the village! Because everybody is sue-happy. Nobody ever thought of suing anybody.

**Because you were responsible for yourself.**

You were responsible for yourself. And that's the way it should be.

**Is there anything else you can think of that you'd like to add?**

Oh, just over there on Clarendon Hills Road and 55<sup>th</sup> Street, where the Country House now is, there was a little brick and stone building that used to sell fireworks. That was in the 50's. We used to take our bicycles from town, go up there and see what people were doing. Like I said, you could ride everywhere on bicycles.

That's all I can think of.

**Thank you for sharing your stories with us.**

Addendum:

Marion Hills Seminary: In regards to the Marion Hills seminary, the long distance photos included with my story of buildings. It was located off of Clarendon Hills Road between Rt. 83 and Clarendon Hills Road and 63<sup>rd</sup> St. and 59<sup>th</sup> St.

There is a double row of chestnut trees in line with 61<sup>st</sup> St., with 25 feet between rows heading east, to where the two to three story seminary stood, exit one way to 63<sup>rd</sup> St.

The brothers farmed most of the ground in that area, besides the area across from Rt. 83 and 63<sup>rd</sup> St. to the west. The nuns raised vegetables, chickens, and pigs on that side.

The brothers had an old dump truck that they drove to Clarendon Hills railroad siding, and unloaded coal by hand from a coal car, to feed the furnace boilers in the buildings, which were torn down when the area was changed to housing.

Hinsdale Airport: The airport was a small field with hangars, runways, and plane storage on the outside edge. They gave flying lessons and rented small planes. The area covered along Madison to 79<sup>th</sup> to Rt. 83 to the north quite a distance.