TEMPE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

INTERVIEW #: OH-272

NARRATOR: Dale Shumway

INTERVIEWER: Aaron Monson

DATE: August 11, 2008

DS = Dale Shumway
INT = Interviewer
_____ = Unintelligible
(Italics) = Transcriber's notes

Side A

INT: Today is August 11, 2008, and this is the Tempe Historical Museum's city building renovation interview with Dale Shumway. Let's begin.

I'll start by asking you some simple questions. Can you tell us where you are originally from and how long you lived there?

DS: Taylor, Arizona. I was born there and lived there 'til I came to Arizona State in 1948.

INT: What exactly was it that brought you to the Valley, and more specifically, to the city of Tempe?

DS: Just to come to Arizona State, to attend college.

INT: What did you study at Arizona State?

DS: I majored in Agronomy.

INT: Since I'm not entirely familiar with Agronomy, do you mind . . . ?

DS: Agronomy is the study of agriculture and soils and associated things. I don't know the exact definition of it, but that's where the concentration was.

INT: When you graduated from ASU . . . . Actually, what year was it that you came to ASU as a student?

DS: I started here in 1948. I took two years out to fulfill a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Canada, and I came back and graduated from ASU in 1954. It was Arizona State College in those days.

INT: When you finished school, what path did your career take after that?

DS: I was employed by a company called Producers Cotton Oil Company, which is a company that operated cotton gins throughout the farming areas of Arizona. And the following year, I became a manager of their gin west of Tucson in a place called Avra Valley.

INT: How long were you in those professions?

DS: I was employed by them from 1954 until 1960. And at that time, I was admitted to the University of Arizona College of Law.

INT: Can you tell me a little bit about your interest in law studies and kind of the form of your education?

DS: Well, I'd always wanted to be a lawyer, from the time I was a little kid. I had two great-uncles who were lawyers in Phoenix, the firm of Jennings Strouss. Jennings was my great-uncle. And I had always thought I would like to follow that profession, but it took me a lot of years to find my way into law school.

INT: Was there a particular area of law or a type of lawyer that you were leaning towards, in terms of your studies?

DS: Not at all; at that time I just wanted to be a lawyer.

INT: What year did you finish law school?

DS: I graduated from law school in 1963.

INT: Can you tell me a little bit about your career path then, or your jumping into the business of law, I suppose, after graduation?

DS: I worked for several years as an Assistant Attorney General for Arizona. In fact, I worked for them even after I became Mayor, I continued to serve as a Special Assistant. And I think the last case I argued for them was in 1974, I believe. I had some cases in the Supreme Court that I had to complete, and that's the way it went.

INT: What exactly was it that kind of motivated you or pushed you into politics, I suppose, from working as a lawyer? I know that you were elected Mayor in 1970.

DS: Well, that's kind of an interesting sidelight, because I had no intention, I guess, to get into politics, except I saw the opportunity to run for the City Council in '68, and I had some

persuasion from a number of people to get me to do that. I ran in a field of fifteen for four available seats, and I came in fifth.

Then I got a bunch of people pushing me to run for Mayor in '70. I went to a meeting one night, not knowing what they were talking about. And as they talked about a survey they had run, they thought they could defeat the incumbent Mayor, who was named Elmer Bradley. And I guess I said, "So, you can." About eleven o'clock at night, they suddenly pointed their finger and said, "And you're our candidate." And I said no, and I continued to say no. They called me several times, and finally on the day the petitions had to be signed and filed, I told them yes, at noon. And they went out and got the petition signed and filed by five o'clock.

INT: What was it that changed your mind, since you had initially said no?

DS: Well, I guess I just thought they had exhausted their time and so I could say yes, but I found out they could do the job. So it was fine.

INT: Let me ask you a few questions that are a little more general about the city of Tempe. What are some of the changes that you have seen happen here since you first moved to the city?

DS: Dramatic. I came here in 1948 to go to Arizona State, and Tempe was a little community. It was entirely contained within the area north of the railroad track, west to Priest Road, and east to Rural Road, and there wasn't much beyond that. There was a few places, like Rural School was up here, that was a little outside of that perimeter, but not much. Well, what has changed? Today, it's a city of 160,000 or whatever the population is, and encompasses a vast area. And, of course, the changes in Arizona State and what it's become today. Downtown Tempe, the changes there are dramatic, it was nothing in those days.

INT: How would you describe the effects of population growth in Tempe, since you touched on how dramatically it's grown? How did the city handle the population growth in the years that you were serving as Mayor, and kind of in general?

DS: Well, they've handled it very well, because they had good city government. But the city government that they had really was managed—they don't say it that way—but the Manager form of government was very strong, and there was good management in the city, and that management directed things in a proper way. And, thankfully, the politicians didn't get in the way of it.

When I came on the Council, we had an Interim City Manager, his name was Ken McDonald, a wonderful guy. And he then became the City Manager, and he was the one that really managed the growth of this city.

INT: Can you tell me a little bit about some of the people, as best as you can remember, who served with you on the City Council or in City positions?

DS: Well, Ken McDonald was City Manager. He really was the driving force. He brought in excellent people. He had Don Hull, who was the Planning Director, excellent. He had Scott—what was his name?—who was the Building Department. He had Ron Pies, who was Parks & Recreation. He had Art Fairbanks, who was the Chief of Police. Grover Serenbetz, who was Public Works.

And those were the people who were really around him that managed the things that have grown—public streets and parks and recreation and proper zoning—those were the people that really managed the things that made this city the way it is today.

The Council had some good people on it that supported that kind of government. And there was Arthur Livingston, who was on the Council with me; and Dorothy Nelson was on the Council; Dick Neuheisel was there; Harry Mitchell, who's now in Congress, was there, he was elected with me, in the same year I was elected Mayor, he was elected to be a member of the Council; and Tim Kincaid was on it. You know, there was just good people. Bill LoPiano, who also later served as Mayor, he was on the Council with me.

INT: How would you describe the relationship between the members of the City Council and you, as the Mayor? Was it generally good, or friendly, or tense?

DS: It was good, sure. No, it was never tense; it was good. We were in sync with each other. Sometimes there was differences of opinion, but not acrimoniously. There was nothing there that caused problems.

INT: When I interviewed Richard Neuheisel, he told me that at the time, in the late '60s and early '70s, a lot of the City Council members were a relatively young age, considering their role in the City administration. Do you feel that being maybe a little on the younger side, in terms of the Council, helped push a lot of more progressive legislation, like the downtown redevelopment, city building, and city planning?

DS: I don't think we were that young. I was 40-something when I was elected Mayor, so, comparatively . . . I'm now a little older than that, by the way.

INT: Well, I suppose coming from . . .

DS: No, I think the real thing—and I don't know what he said, I have no idea—but, to me, the motivation that caused the development of downtown Tempe, the whole structure of downtown, the zoning, all the things that make Tempe what it is today, were motivated by the good City Manager form. And when you have a good City Manager, professional people—that's who they were, they were professionals, they were not politicians—and they are the ones that really motivated the things that happened. Certainly, the City Council was able to put the stamp of approval on those kinds of things, but that's where it came from; it didn't come from the City Council. What's happened in Tempe did not come because of the City Council; it came because of good management.

INT: Can you describe a little bit in 1970, when you became Mayor, the overall climate of the city? What was Tempe like in 1970?

DS: Well, Tempe was positioned to be the growth center of this Valley. In the years that I was on the Council, four years, we had agendas almost every time we had the City Council which contained numerous zoning cases. The city grew from where I told you it was in earlier years. By the time I was on the Council, this area now was developed, but it wasn't far. It didn't go beyond Rural Road, it didn't go much beyond Southern. There was one little subdivision beyond Southern, it was where the Library is, there was a development that surrounded that, over to where the Post Office is. Beyond that, there was nothing.

And so, the city then began to grow rapidly. So when I was on the Council, we often had City Council meetings that went 'til 2:00 a.m., because there were just so many zoning issues, so many proposals for development.

INT: What would you say was the biggest challenge that you faced serving on the Council? Or if you prefer not to think in terms of an individual, maybe challenges that the Council faced?

DS: Well, the Council just faced the challenges of meeting the growth potential that was coming on the scene. And they were constantly taking care of things which involved zoning changes. They were constantly facing Parks & Recreation's matters. They were constantly busy with the infrastructure, through the streets and storm drains and the things that had to be created for the infrastructure.

I used to . . . . Living right behind me, right over there in that house across the alley, was the former Governor of Arizona, Howard Pyle. He was a dear friend of mine; he's now gone. But Howard, he told me one time, he said, "I'd always know when you'd had a hard night at City Council, because your suit would be hanging on the back porch." At that time, those "no smoking" laws weren't in effect, and sometimes I came home a little saturated with cigarette smoke and I would hang my suit out on the back porch.

INT: How long have you lived in this house, if I may ask?

DS: I built this house in 1972. I was Mayor at the time I finished this home.

INT: Is there one accomplishment from your time as Mayor that you're most proud of?

DS: Well, hanging over in my law office is a plaque—I wish I had it here—but it was a plaque they gave me when I finished, and it contained the accomplishments, some of which are these:

Kiwanis Park was created in that period. That came about through an interesting thing. Across the canal from Kiwanis Park, to the west, was a foundry. It belched a lot of smoke, and it was not very clean. Someone purchased the piece of land where Kiwanis

Park is, all the way back over to Rural Road. And they came in for a zoning plan, which would take the houses and put them clear up against the canal. And the City Manager and his staff began to look at that thing, and they finally recommended that we not approve a residential development up to that canal. And we were able to persuade the developer—I believe it was Hallcraft Homes, I can't remember for sure—to provide the land for Kiwanis Park. That's how that park came about. Have you been there, to that park, and they've got those lakes in it?

INT: I have.

DS: Those lakes were the drainage for the storm runoff from that residential area. And have you played golf on the golf course south there, Ken McDonald?

INT: I have not yet, but will, hopefully.

DS: Well, go out there and do that, because that came about the same way, and Ken McDonald Golf Course wraps around the power plant. So there's a two-mile park, from Baseline Road clear to Elliot Road, that encompasses Kiwanis Park and the Ken McDonald Golf Course, and all the lakes within it are storm drainage lakes. Those are probably the two greatest accomplishments that I feel came about, because they became permanent things. I mean, they're there for posterity. And you look at those and say "Wow! What would the city be without those two things?"

And, of course, the Rolling Hills Golf Course came about in that same period of time. That was a creature that Ken McDonald had a committee that fashioned that.

And most of the storm water drainage system north of the canal, out by the park, were all put in at that time.

And downtown development, the renewal of downtown Tempe.

Those things all came about in that period of time, and they have really cast the city in the light that it is today.

You know, downtown development, downtown is the center of this whole Valley, it's the greatest place. The only thing we missed was getting the University of Phoenix stadium there. But the urban renewal came about in a period where there was a lot of opposition to urban renewal. But when McDonald came up with a plan, and it was studied out thoroughly, eventually we accomplished it, and look what it is today, it's a beautiful place.

INT: Since we're on the subject, I have a set of questions specifically about Mill Avenue and the downtown redevelopment. Can you briefly describe what Mill Avenue was like when you first came here? Maybe when you first came to school, and then when you served as Mayor?

DS: Well, in those days, Arizona State was not a very big school. I came to Arizona State in '48, and I think there was less than 3,500 students. I don't know the population; you can get it from the records. But it was just a little school. And downtown Tempe was a place you didn't really go. There was a theatre there; what's the theatre's name, something-Arts?

INT: I can't think of it.

DS: It's right down there by the Ira Fulton School of Engineering. It's still there. But that was the only theatre in town. And Laird & Dines Drugstore was on the corner of Fifth. And across the street were sleazy bars, and in the days that followed, it kind of became a bikers' hangout. It was a pretty poor place, there wasn't much down there. Dana Motors was a Chrysler-Dodge dealership down below there. There wasn't anything down there. They were old buildings, everything. Nothing there. First National Bank was downtown. But there wasn't much there.

INT: It's been now nearly 40 years since the redevelopment process kind of kicked off. What's your opinion of how downtown Tempe has developed over the last 25 years or so?

DS: It has developed into an excellent place. Today, it's the centerpoint. Now they've got the big high-rise condos there, and you've got office buildings, and it's just a good city now.

And the beginning of it was the downtown urban renewal, which at that time was pretty poorly thought of by people. Conservatives didn't want much to do with that; it was really a liberal proposal. And I think that there was quite a difficult time selling that by the management, and it started very small.

INT: Do you generally feel like Mill Avenue today has lived up to or developed in the way that it was proposed in the 1970s? How does it differ now from what was originally . . . ?

DS: Well, I don't think you can even imagine what it would be in 1970. In 1970, the plan was probably just to clean up the city, but was the expectation that there would be 20-story condos at the corner of Mill and University? Doubtful. Was there any thought that there would be, that the university would take ownership of things like the Cornerstone and establish the Ira Fulton School of Engineering? Probably not. Was there any belief that somehow the Town Lake would come? There had been an earlier guy try to build a lake down there. I don't remember who that was, but years before, there had been an attempt to build a lake east of the bridge, against the north side of the river. You may have found something on that. And that failed.

So was there a belief at that time that it would be what it is today? I don't think so. I don't think in anybody's wildest imagination you would have believed that what has happened there—with all the commercial buildings, all the office buildings, all the condos, which make living in downtown Tempe possible—I don't think there was ever a

dream that it would be that extensive. I think that kind of folded itself in as the environment was created by the urban renewal that cleaned up the city.

INT: I know that you said, looking back in the 1970s, you wouldn't have had any idea how it would develop today, but if you could look at Mill Avenue and maybe predict or guess where it would be in another 20 to 30 years, how do you think it's going to continue to evolve over time? Especially given the incredible growth of the university and the Valley itself?

DS: I just suppose there will be more—there will be more office buildings, more structures—that bring people here. The light rail, I think, will change dramatically the complexion of that area. I can't imagine it won't, because it's close to downtown Phoenix, it's close to the airport, its proximity to all those things makes it viable for development. I would think it will.

INT: What changes would you like to see along Mill Avenue in the next couple of years, maybe in the short-term—five years, ten years at most? Is there anything down there right now that you want to see differently?

DS: The only thing I would say is continued management of the growth, proper management. I was somewhat involved with the proposals around the Monti's development. I dealt with a lawyer in Phoenix who was handling that, and I don't know where that's gonna go. Have you had that brought to your attention?

INT: A little bit.

DS: There's a proposal for a high-rise that surrounds the old Monti's, and would leave Monti's in place. I just think that a good City Management and Council will continue to monitor the growth and make sure that the things that are done are pleasing and proper. They've got to get the mill done, somehow that's gonna have to happen, and that hasn't been able to be completed yet.

INT: Let's go back to your time on the Council and serving as Mayor. What was the biggest innovation that came out of your time serving as Mayor, if you can pinpoint one?

DS: I don't know what you mean, innovation?

INT: Maybe a progressive bit of legislation, or maybe in a broader sense, a major project like redevelopment of downtown, something that . . .

DS: That's what I said a minute ago—urban renewal of downtown Tempe, the Kiwanis Park, the golf courses, the constant monitoring and managing of growth to make the subdivisions right, new parks—those are the things that I think cities are designed to do.

INT: Is there one thing that you wish you could have accomplished serving on the City Council, but for whatever reason, was not able to?

DS: No, nope. I have no regrets.

INT: What would you say are the city's strengths today, overall?

DS: It's a good place to live, and the business climate is good here. The university enhances a lot of what happens in Tempe.

INT: Conversely, what would you say are some of the weaknesses or challenges that the city faces today?

DS: I don't think it has particular weaknesses. I think its purpose is to provide the kind of environment that brings good family, good homes, good opportunities.

INT: And if you looked at the city in terms of an organization, city administration I mean, how would say that it's changed over time, specifically since you began serving?

DS: Very little. It's still got a good City Council / Manager form of government. That's what its Charter says it will do, and it does it.

INT: I asked you before where you thought the development of Mill Avenue would, what it would kind of evolve into over the next few years. If we look ahead into the future, in the scope of the city of Tempe as a whole, how do you see it developing over the next 20, 30, or even 50 years? Sometimes when we ask people to look ahead to the bicentennial, 2071, no one ever wants to look ahead that far, but . . .

DS: I won't be here, and you won't either. (laughter) Well, I just think that the role of city government is to monitor the proposals and make sure they're good. And what they'll be? I just think there'll be more office buildings; there's several that have been proposed, I've seen plans that show various buildings. There may be some more living quarters. There's been talk of making the mill into something, and I guess that's been a complex engineering plan. So I just think that those things will happen.

You know, I can't look out that far, but I could look and see what's happened to it in the 40 years since I served as Mayor. And when we adopted the urban renewal plan, that was simply to clean up the downtown and make it a viable place. Well, it brought in developers, it began to bring in the things that have evolved today.

You probably haven't interviewed Ira Fulton, have you?

INT: No, not yet.

DS: Are you going to?

INT: It's certainly on the short list.

DS: You ought to do it, because Ira Fulton, I knew him as a kid here. His mother had a little sandwich shop on the west side of the street, just west of where the Ira Fulton School of Engineering is today. Well, could he have ever believed that would occur? I doubt it. I know Ira personally, and how could he ever have believed that someday there would be an engineering school, right across the street from that little sandwich shop, named the Ira Fulton School of Engineering? Probably not.

INT: I want to ask you one specific question. Tempe today is obviously a landlocked city. Having done a few interviews of other former Councilmembers and Mayors, there was some discussion about annexation and issues that the city faced—should we or shouldn't we annex areas of land that are now Chandler or belong to Phoenix such as Awatukee? Do you have any experience or any opinions on that? I think that occurred in the late '60s and early '70s.

DS: Well, it was interesting. Somehow, there had become what was called a gentleman's agreement that Mesa would only go so far, and Tempe would only go so far, and we would only do certain things. One day I got a call from the Mayor of Mesa. He said, "I've got a bunch of people pushing me to have us annex *(recording quality and volume greatly diminish)* land down south of"—I don't know where it was, Guadalupe or somewhere—"to go clear west to Rural Road." It was Jack Taylor _____, and he said, "I don't want to do that, so would you get _____." So we got together, and very quickly we annexed all of that, clear south _____. And that stopped that movement pretty much.

Then there was a desire for the people in Awatukee to have us provide sewer and, of course, water, to them. And we considered that very carefully, and finally, based upon a lot of things, we said we wouldn't do it. Looking back on it, I wish we'd have annexed clear to Williams Field Road, I wish we'd taken all around Awatukee. But at that time, the financial requirements for that were big. And the topography of the land was such that about where that canal is, by the park, the flow goes north from there and south from there, so you've got a drainage problem. There used to be an old canal, you'd probably know where this is, but if you go south on Rural Road, on the east side of the road, there's kind of a parkway along there, and underneath there is a canal. It's not a canal, it was a drainage ditch, _____ far away from here. But when they first began to develop this Valley, it's hard to believe this, but the water table was very shallow. And so they had built a drainage canal that drained off the water. And it was the same over in Phoenix, _____. And it seemed like they called it at that time Canal _____, I don't know, the canal was right along it.

(recording quality improves) So anyway, the problems with annexing out there had with them the complications of where do you go with sewer? If you build out there, are you gonna pump the sewer this way, over the divide and run it down, or are you gonna build a new system out there? The same with water, where do you get the water? A lot of Awatukee didn't have water rights. I don't know whether you know anything about the water rights; do you?

INT: Just a little bit.

DS: Well, the water was tied to the land, and the land was irrigable land, and that's where the water rights were. Land that's desert had no water rights. And you could not serve . . . you could not take the water out of the irrigation district and transport it and use it on arid land, there were some restrictions.

So there were a lot of complex issues that couldn't be solved, and as a result, when that came about, we turned it down. Looking back on it now, I wish we hadn't, I wish we'd have got it, and it would have been part of our city. It fits our city, it's not Phoenix. Maybe Awatukee wouldn't have been part of us either, because it's across the freeway, but it's more closely aligned here than it was over there. But we didn't do so, and now we're landlocked.

INT: Let me ask this. Can you relate any funny story from your time in office? Maybe a public address blooper, or a funny moment at a Council meeting, or an interesting encounter with somebody?

DS: I don't think I can. I don't think there any funny moments. Enjoyable evenings, lots of enjoyable evenings, but no.

INT: Okay. Well, what do you mean by enjoyable evenings?

DS: I enjoyed the interchange with them, I enjoyed the association with the people. They were good people to work with, and I had no animosity.

INT: What's your experience with the relationship between the City of Tempe and Arizona State University?

DS: It's always been excellent. There's never been a conflict that I know of. We had a great association with the presidents of Arizona State in the days I was Mayor.

Well, I'll tell you a funny story, now that I think of one. There was a man named John Schwada, he was the President of Arizona State, _____. He was a good friend of mine. But when ASU finally got some Bowl recognition, we were gonna play Missouri in the Fiesta Bowl, so the booster group—what's that called?—anyway, they decided to charter a plane and fly back to Missouri to kind of drum up the spirit. So at that time, Arizona State had a coach named Dan Devine. _____ Well, I'll tell the story in a little more interesting way. We went back there, and _____ _____ let all those people in Columbia, Missouri know that we were _____. And it ended with a news conference, a live news conference. I can't think of the name *(long pause)*, it was a coach, I can't come up with the name, I'm sorry. But there was a coach who had been in Missouri that was here, and there was a coach that had been here that was there. And I made the statement that, "Frankly, they got the better of the deal," and . . . . Anyway, by the time I got home from that trip—Schwada had been president back there *(chancellor at the University of*

Missouri in Columbia), he had come from there to here, and I had said, "Frankly, they got the better of the deal,"—and when I got home, Schwada called me and said, "Man alive, you told that story on the news, and by the time the news was over, I got calls from everybody." He and I had a long laugh _____.

I don't make that story very good, because I can't remember the names. Too long ago.

INT: That's all right. If they pop into your head, just shout them out.

DS: His assistant was from there, too, Schwada's assistant. And Onofrio was back there; Onofrio had been a coach here, and he was back there. And this guy was here, and I said, "Frankly, they got the better of the deal." Anyway, so much for that story, because I can't remember.

INT: I'm gonna take this opportunity to quickly flip the tape over. I have just a couple more questions for you, and I want to make sure we don't cut you off.

(end of recording)

Side B

INT: Okay, we're back. I just want to ask you, how are you still, now that you're no longer Mayor or serving on the City Council, are you still involved civically, in any civic organizations or city committees, anything of that nature?

DS: No, I'm not.

INT: Were you ever, outside of the Mayor and Council?

DS: When I finished as Mayor, I was elected almost the next year to serve on the board of directors of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District. You probably don't know what that is. It's now the Central Arizona Project. But mainly it's a big canal that comes from the Colorado River and goes clear to Tucson. I was on that board, and I was elected president of that board. I served as president of that board for two or three years. When _____, Stewart Udall was then Secretary of the Interior, and I was pleased to serve as president of that board. So that's really where I went with my civic involvement after that.

And while I was serving as the president of that, I was called by the church and served as a mission president for them in _____, New York, so I went back there for three years. So I was back there almost immediately after serving on the Central Arizona board. So I was gone from the city from '94 until '97.

INT: When you returned, did you go back into the law business?

DS: I did.

INT: I understand your law firm is still running in Mesa.

DS: That's right, Udall and Shumway, still there.

INT: When did you start that law firm?

DS: We started that law firm in 1965.

INT: And what kind of involvement did you have in the law firm while you were serving as Mayor?

DS: I was partner in the law firm, in fulltime practice. Yeah, I was fulltime while I _____.

INT: And what role do you play in the law firm today? Are you still active?

DS: I'm what's called "of counsel," which means I don't contribute to the firm and don't get anything from it. I just have a small office there.

INT: What is it, then, that occupies your time today? What keeps you busy?

DS: Well, I have been trying to do some work called "A Life Story." See those books over there? There's two on the Mayor, and then those are other books that I've been putting together.

I served as what's called a regional representative for the church for a number of years, and have had assignments in Albuquerque and El Paso, and all the areas connected with them, so I traveled to those places a lot. I no longer do that.

My time now is working on that journal, working on a life history for my folks, and trying to leave my posterity with the knowledge of what I've done and what I haven't done. And my folks have _____. My family came to Arizona in 1880, they were some of the original people in this state, and _____ thousands of _____.

INT: Well, that's good, because I know there's a very small number of families who can trace their heritage back that far in Arizona.

DS: Well, I can trace it back. My great-grandfather came here in 1880, and _____, so that's _____ in Arizona.

INT: Where did they originally settle?

DS: In Taylor, Arizona. Well, Shumway, a little town of Shumway, that's to the north of Show Low. If you go north of Show Low, you'll come to the three towns of Shumway, Taylor, and Snowflake, and he settled Shumway. He was from Wooster, Massachusetts.

INT: As far as you know, or as far as you've studied, what was it that brought them here?

DS: Well, my great-grandfather was named Charles *(Shumway).* He had come to a place near Yorktown*(?)* in northern Illinois, on the Wisconsin border with Illinois. He had come there, he was right on the border north of Rockford, Illinois. And two missionaries from the Mormon church came by, and he joined the church. And he took his family and floated his possessions down the Mississippi River to Nauvoo. And he was there in 1844, he got there in '41, and in '44, a mob shot and killed Joseph Smith, and Brigham Young became the leader. And Charles was named to be the company commander of one of the companies. He left Nauvoo on February 4, 1846, which was a pretty cold time, because the river froze over the next _____. And he crossed the plains and settled in Utah, arriving there in 1847.

Well, I don't know whether you know much about Mormon history; got any knowledge of it?

INT: Very little.

DS: Brigham Young was a colonizer, and the intermountain West has probably hundreds of towns where they came to, settled by his direction, and the members of the church followed him, by direction. And so Charles was designated to go first to a place called Manti, which is south of Salt Lake. He was there for a while, built a grist mill and a saw mill. He later went to Payson, Utah, which is in the Utah Valley near Provo. Eventually he went north to place called Minden, which is up north in the Cache Valley, right across from Utah State University. And in 1877, shortly before Brigham Young died, he told Charles to come to Arizona.

So why did he come here? He came because he was told to go and settle _____, and that's how he got here.

INT: One more question, just to kind of wrap up the interview. Can you tell me about your fondest or best memory about living and serving in the city of Tempe? What about the city, what about your experience here, do you look back on and are really fond of?

DS: You're gonna perhaps be surprised at this, but my fondest memory was my association with this man Ken McDonald, who was the City Manager. I had great affection for this guy, because I saw in him the epitome of what a true Manager ought to be. He could come to the City Council with a proposal, with plans, he had visions, and he could present them quietly. In public meetings he never said anything unless he was asked. He was a quiet, quiet man, unassuming, and yet the motivation of the movement of the city was because of this guy. And of all the people I've ever worked with, he was probably the finest man I ever knew. And perhaps the thing I remember the best is—you know, obviously, working with LoPiano and Neuheisel and Dottie Nelson, _____ these were great people to _____, fine people to work with—but that's where the greatest joy I had in the city was _____.

INT: Just to wrap it up, I will ask if you have any final statements or final remarks that you'd like to make while we're recording?

DS: No, I've got nothing more to say.

INT: Okay. I want to thank you for your time and for your participation.

DS: And what are you gonna do with this now?

INT: This interview will be indexed and saved in the archives of the Tempe Historical Museum. It will be farmed for quotes and sound clips to be used in the new exhibit, because renovation will begin just after Labor Day, a $4-million-dollar renovation.

DS: Which, this museum over there?

INT: Yes, on Southern and Rural. And it will be kept for posterity, anybody who's doing any research on the city of Tempe. And we can also, of course, secure you either a copy of the tape or the transcript for your own records.

DS: You know how that came to be, don't you?

INT: Yeah. I've talked to Bill LoPiano, I've talked to Richard Neuheisel, but if you want to go ahead and tell us what you know about it?

DS: Well, all I know is, I just remember there was, the decision to make the City Hall downtown, and not over here, was made before I was on the Council, and there was a push to move it up here. And as I look back, that would have been a real mistake, because downtown Tempe would not be what it is today were it not for the Tempe _____. It's out of the center of the city, it's not where it is, but it's where it should be.

INT: Yeah, Richard Neuheisel told me a lot about the City Council meeting. Basically, I think he said it was Danelle Plaza, up on Mill, right?

DS: Yeah, that's where it was.

INT: Basically, just in a little strip mall storefront.

DS: That's where it was when I became the Mayor.

Oh, you've said plenty of things. There used to be a guy on the City Council, when I went on, he went off. His name was . . . oh, my gosh.

INT: We have a list of former Council members, I can bring it up on my computer.

DS: Oh, man, what's his name? _____ can tell me. He said, "Never trust a man who comes before you with a mustache and a diamond ring." I don't know what that had to do with anything, but he was a funny one, he was a cowboy.

Yeah, that's where we met, over there.

Oh, you know, you think about funny or strange stories. There was a proposal . . . . Oh, gosh, now I _____. There was a proposal . . . . I'll tell you the other side of it first. When I came on the City Council, the meetings were starting at eight o'clock at night, you'd have a City Council meeting, it starts at eight. Well, previous to that time, that was probably okay, because there wasn't a heavy agenda. But as the city began to grow and we had all these zoning cases, if the meeting started at eight o'clock, it didn't get over 'til the wee hours. So I had appeared many times before the Mesa City Council, which started their meetings at five, and so I proposed that the City Council move its meeting back to five, so that we could have a meeting and get finished at a decent time. Well, this brought forth a hue and a cry, that that was not a time to start the meetings. I've got, in that book over there, editorials by somebody that said why this will destroy family life in Tempe: if you hold the meetings at five, that will mean that families will have to forego family dinners, because they've got to go to City Council—as if everybody in town went to City Council meetings. So there was quite a hue and a cry, but I finally got them to do it.

Well, there was a _____, Joe *Guiden or Glyda (sp?)*, old Joe, he didn't like it, he didn't _____. So along about that time, there was an issue coming up of a proposal for a development at the northeast corner of Baseline and College. There was a piece of land in there, and the proposal called for—this is Baseline, this is College, this piece of land, and this was houses, all around here, these were back yards, so the street was here, and this street was there, with houses backed up to this—the proposal was, and it turned out that it was HUD housing, assisted living, and they were proposing to put several apartments in here. Well, the whole neighborhood just came off the wall. And at that time, there was a Black law professor named . . . he was part of this development plan, what was his name? He was a law professor at ASU, and he was pretty well connected with some people in Washington. And so when this proposal wasn't moving forward, he said, "Oh, the City turned it down, the City turned it down"—that was before I went on the Council—"they turned us down." And he went to HUD and the Justice Department and got them to believe that Tempe had _____ bias, and all of a sudden, it was a real mess. And so I then went on the Council, and I decided "I've got to get that thing passed, because we can't have this hanging over our heads, we're trying to get federal funding for Parks & Recreation, for _____ ,and various things." And so I went to this guy, and I proposed that they put a street there, that he make it several blocks, that faced on that, so that the people who bought these lots would know what they're getting.

Well, it was at one of these meetings, that it came about that five o'clock time, and there was a lady that lived somewhere over in here, she would come to there to our hearing meetings and she would bring her kids. There would be very few people there, but that

old Danelle Plaza had folding chairs, metal folding chairs. So she would bring her kids, and her kids, with their toys, would pound on the metal chairs and make a nuisance. Well, finally the night for the final passage came, and that was before the Open Meeting Law, and before that we had pretty well decided as a City Council that we were gonna pass this _____ pretty fast. So the night that it came up for adoption, the Council chamber was full. Man, there wasn't room, they were standing in the halls, they were standing in the offices, _____. And when we had talked it to death for two hours, I couldn't get anybody to make a motion. We had all agreed we would pass it, but nobody would make a motion. And so I handed the gavel to Art Livingston, he was the Vice Mayor, and I said, "Would you conduct the meeting? I want to make a motion." So I moved for adoption of that ordinance. And right in the center of the room, down in front, was this lady who had brought her kids, and she stood up, and she said, "Mayor Shumway, you're a dirty son of a bitch." And Art hammered the gavel and told her she was out of order, and he instructed the police to take her out if she didn't shut up. So then we called for the question, and it passed seven-zip. Nobody would make the motion, but it passed seven-zip. So that's another funny one.

Anyway, so that's two that I can tell you that were funny, with "don't trust a man with a mustache and a diamond ring."

And so some of the Council got all mad about that starting time, so we changed the plan and moved it to seven o'clock, _____. Anyway, I gave a speech after, and this lady called me, _____, and I told her, "We don't have a ward system; each person on the Council is elected to represent the whole city"—and it's that way today—and I said, "When I was elected, I was elected to look at every plan and attempt to do what's best for the city, and so that's why I agreed."

You know, there's another thing I might say to you. As I look around the city today, after all these years, and I look at things which I approved over the objections of neighbors, I don't see a single one of them that's caused a problem. I don't know whether the others would agree with me on that, LoPiano and Neuheisel, but there's not. And generally when you've got a good city government, city staff, when you've got good, competent people in your city, and they study things out and bring them to the Council for adoption, generally speaking, they are good.

One of the last things I did—I was a zoning lawyer after I was on the Council, I represented many clients in zoning cases in the county, here, in Chandler, in Mesa, and various places—one of the last cases I did was this mortuary right down here on the corner, Carr-Tenney. That old piece of land had laid there, with trash all over the area, and during election times it was cluttered with signs. And the man who owned it was Dr. Tommy Hughes, _____, and he made a deal with Mr. Tenney to place the mortuary there, he _____. So I represented him, and I went before the Council, and the animosity around the neighborhood was just horrendous. And finally they backed away, _____ _____, let's do it. Well, we went forward with the plan, but we got a lot of flak. People just cried that

"we'd have dead bodies right behind the houses, this would just be horrible." Well, you go by it today, _____, a nice place, it hasn't caused anyone any trouble at all. And that's why I say, if you go around town, I can show you places all over this town where there was a lot of opposition, but with good planning and good things that you do to the sites, most of them are a plus. Anyway, that's my _____.

INT: Okay. I guess I'll ask you one more time if there are any final remarks or statements that you'd like to make while we're on the record?

DS: Possibly if I think for a long time, I could tell you a lot of stories, but I won't.

INT: All right. Well, again, I want to thank you for your time and your participation. This will conclude the Tempe Historical Museum's renovation interview with Dale Shumway on August 11, 2008.

(end of recording)

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