

Remembering Parchment

Oral History Question Ideas

People Power Productions

The following are some questions to get you thinking about your own unique Parchment experience. If in your situation some of the questions don't have relevance to Parchment, feel free to skip them. In fact, please don't feel restricted by these questions at all. You can skip them entirely if you wish, and tell us anything you like about your unique Parchment experience:

1. What is your full name? When and where were you born? Where do you live today, and what is your personal connection to the Parchment area? What's the full name of your spouse? Kids? Parents?
2. How did you or your family come to settle in Parchment, and when?
3. Were there other family members in the area? Who?
4. What is your earliest recollection of Parchment? The very first thing you can remember? Any other smells, sights, sounds, or feelings that you can conjure up from that time?
5. Where did you live? What was the house like? How many rooms? Telephones? Indoor plumbing? Were there any special items in the house or something about the house or neighborhood that you recall?
6. What people do you remember coming in contact with in Parchment? Do you recall their names? Did you ever work in Parchment? If so, describe the job and your co-workers...
7. What were the personalities of your family members and/or neighbors?
8. What kind of games did you play? Where?
9. What was your favorite pastime?
10. Did you have family chores? What were they? Which was your least favorite? Did you receive allowance? How much?
11. What was school like? What were your best and worst subjects? Where did you attend grade school, middle school, high school, college? What were the buildings like? Who were your favorite teachers?
12. What sports did you play?

13. Do you ever remember any “hot issues” or unique challenges the city faced?
14. Do you remember any fads? Hairstyles? Clothes?
15. Who were your childhood heroes from the area? Important figures, leaders, or sports heroes from Parchment?
16. What was your religion growing up? What church, if any did you attend?
17. Were you ever mentioned in the newspaper in relation to Parchment?
18. What world events had the most impact on you while you were growing up? How did world events affect your family here at home?
19. Describe a typical family dinner.
20. How were holidays celebrated?
21. Do you have memories of unique festivals or gathering places, such as the community house, Kindleberger Park, carnivals, or KVP events?
22. How is Parchment different today from when you were a child?
23. When and how did you meet your spouse?
24. Where and when did you get married?
25. What do you consider a successful life and how has Parchment affected that?
26. What was your profession and how did you choose it?
27. What would you like people to remember most about Parchment?
28. What stores did you frequent in Parchment?
29. What impact did the paper mill have on you and your family?

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