



**Vietnamese American Heritage Foundation
Oral Histories Project - Pilot Program**

<http://www.vietneseamerican.org/>

Dear Volunteer,

Thank you for your interest in The Vietnamese American Heritage Foundation Oral History Project! We appreciate your help in our efforts to preserve, promote and celebrate Vietnamese American heritage. In this packet, you will find everything you need to conduct a quality interview of your parents and relatives.

We are currently recruiting volunteers to take part in the pilot project. You will be pioneers of this project by helping us refine our online training method with this packet. The primary implementation of the project will begin in August of 2010 after we have received the 2009 Collective Philanthropy Project Award Grant from uNAVSA (Union of North American Vietnamese Students Associations).

The following task list will guide you through this process. The entire process, including the training, interview and transcription, will require a time commitment of approximately 10-15 hours total.

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Materials can be delivered in person to Jason Wang at UT Austin (972-948-1198) or mailed directly to:

**The University of Texas at Austin
Center for Asian American Studies ATTN: VAHF
GRG 220, Mailcode A2200
Austin, Texas 78712**

Thank you for participating in this monumental effort to preserve a critical chapter of our collective history.

Sincerely,

The Vietnamese American Heritage Foundation

Oral History Training

Introduction

Oral history is a field of study and a method of gathering, preserving and interpreting the voices and memories of people, communities, and participants in past events. Oral history is both the oldest type of historical inquiry, predating the written word, and one of the most modern, initiated with tape recorders in the 1940s and now using 21st-century digital technologies.

Oral history documents particular aspects of historical experience which tend to be missing from other sources (personal relationships, domestic work, family life, etc.) ~ Perks and Thomson, *The Oral History Reader*

Oral history collects memories and personal commentaries of historical significance through recorded interviews. An oral history interview generally consists of a well-prepared interviewer questioning an interviewee and recording their exchange in audio or video format. Recordings of the interview are transcribed, summarized, or indexed and then placed in a library or archives.

These interviews may be used for research or excerpted in a publication, radio or video documentary, museum exhibition, dramatization or other form of public presentation. Recordings, transcripts, catalogs, photographs and related documentary materials can also be posted on the Internet. ~ Donald Ritchie, *Doing Oral History*

The idea of *self* is a narrative phenomenon (how we create a sense of self through what we remember, and what we leave out). Identities are fabrications...both invented and constructed, but this does not mean that they are not meaningful; in fact they reveal a particular experience amidst a number of contexts. ~ Storrs

Common Vietnamese American Narrative Frames: (1) Nationalistic/anti-communism (2) Narratives of war (3) Journey for Freedom

Guidelines

1. Understand the subject.

Conduct some background research about the subject you are interested in at the library, on the Internet, or by visiting a museum or archive. Knowing more can help you ask better questions and yields a richer interview. Please read the timeline we have provided. Additional information can be readily accessed through a quick Wikipedia search.

2. Have a structured line of questioning.

Structure the interview in a logical manner. Think of the interview as a story with a beginning, a middle and an end. Build on your questions and link them together in a coherent manner. We have grouped a set of questions in a manner which may help specifically with the subject of this interview.

3. Ask open ended questions (how, what, why), rather than leading questions (do, did).

What enabled you to endure the hardships?

How did you feel when you first arrived at a refugee camp with no belongings?

How did you feel when you were forced to leave your home, knowing that you might never come back?

What prior information did you have about Texas before arriving?

4. Improvise.

Know which questions are important, but do not feel bound by your list. The questions are designed as a bare backbone structure to help you focus and guide the interview. You should be able to ask relevant questions about details to inspire emotions and details.

5. Be active but not controlling.

Participate in the conversation without dominating it. Try not to interrupt but do not be afraid of silences — give the person you are interviewing time to think and respond. Be alert to what your tradition-bearer wants to talk about and be prepared to detour from your list of questions if he or she takes up a rich subject you haven't even thought of!

6. Maintain appropriate body language.

Show genuine interest in the story and listen carefully to what your interviewee is saying. Keep eye contact and encourage him or her with nods and smiles to acknowledge that you are processing everything.

7. Be sensitive.

The idea of this project is to facilitate a meaningful conversation between two generations. It is your chance to connect on an emotional level. Allow the interview to speak freely about their experiences. Be prepared to show compassion as their stories may often be quite emotional. If the interviewee is hesitant to share intimate details, try to guide the conversation without pressuring them or making them uncomfortable.

8. Take breaks.

Interviews usually range between 1-2 hours but may run longer. Be prepared to take a break to charge batteries, change tapes, transfer files to a hard drive and grab a snack if you need to.

You can read more about oral histories from the Smithsonian Folklife and Oral History Guide

<http://www.folklife.si.edu/resources/pdf/interviewingGuide.pdf>

Interviewee Pre-Interview Biographical Information Form

Thank you for agreeing to be interviewed for this oral history project. The goal of the project is to collect and preserve the life stories of Vietnamese Americans. We ask you to fill out the following information form to help prepare for your interview. Your responses will help us ask you questions more relevant to your experiences.

Contact Information:

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Mailing Address:

Biographical Information:

Date of Birth:

Place of Birth:

Other places lived in Vietnam:
(Include duration of each location)

Occupation(s) in Vietnam:

Occupation(s) in US:

Religion (if any):

Ethnic Background:
(ex: Vietnamese Chinese, Hmong)

Refugee Camp (if applicable):

Date of arrival to US:

Cities and States lived in US:

Education:

The Interviewing Process

Note: We strongly recommend filming interviews on video camcorders. The videos may be used in a future documentary. Additionally, interviews of your family members speaking about their journey can be converted to DVDs and passed down to future generations in your family. However, some people may not feel comfortable in front of a camera and should not be pressured to do so.

Pre-Interview Preparation:

1. **HAVE 2 FORMS OF RECORDING EQUIPMENT**
 - a. It is important to have a backup in case one fails to function.
 - b. We have had previous cases of data corruption or accidental deletion.
 - c. We can convert most recording mediums (discs, diskettes, tapes) to digital files, but would prefer not to.
2. **Acquiring video recording equipment**
 - a. Use your own video camera or borrow a video camera from VAHF
 - If borrowing equipment, email us and we will make arrangements.
 - b. The Advantages of having the interview in video:
 - Ultimately, having a video to pass down to future generations of the family is very powerful, more so than an audio recording.
 - Video may capture subtle emotions which will not be noticeable through audio.
 - c. If the interviewee is uncomfortable with video, use two sets of audio recorders.
3. **Acquiring audio recording equipment**
 - a. Audio files are easier to work with when transcribing and take up less space on the hard drive.
 - b. Sources of audio recorders (All files must be able to transfer to your computer):
 - Microphone in your laptop – if there's a mic, it can record.
 - External microphone for computers (plug-ins)
 - Digital audio cassette recorder
 - Digital audio recorder (typically not uploadable to a computer)
 - Audio files should preferably be saved in .WAV format. (www.zamzar.com)
4. Interviewers should review the interviewee's **biographical information** before beginning the interview.
 - a. Participants should write down any memories which they would like to share (which otherwise might be missed or only lightly covered during the interview).
 - b. The interviewee form will provide you with a basic background of the person you will be interviewing, which will help structure and shape the interview.
5. If there is a language barrier, we can arrange to have a **translator** present while you interview.
6. Set aside at least **2 hours** for the interview. We do not want to rush the interview.

Post-Interview Forms and Checklist:

- Thank the interviewee for their time and participation
- Label the audio/video tapes
- Fill out all remaining forms
- Pack all forms/equipment
- Re-charge and return borrowed equipment
- Make a digital copy of your interview so you can transcribe it
- Mail in forms and digital copy of interview to VAHF

The Vietnam War Timeline

<http://www.english.illinois.edu/maps/vietnam/timeline.htm>
[Abbreviated from Public Broadcasting System's "Vietnam Online" section.]

Early 20th Century

French conquest and colonization- Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos re-named *French Indochine*, favored rapid urbanization and growth of working and middle class.

1930s

Societal changes allowed for new pan-communal religious movements such as the Cao Đài and Hòa Hảo in the 1930s and 1940s that were nationalistic.

Growing hostility toward French rule: Intellectual revolutionaries began looking for ideologies in other countries, Communism was attractive. French suppressed Communist uprising and killed and incarcerated thousands.

1940s

France allowed Japan to station troops in Indochina, which resulted in food shortages and monopoly on exports.

Viet Minh emerged as broad-based organization for independence. Ho Chi Minh came to power—independence was the priority, not communism.

2 million people had starved to death—Viet Minh attacks granaries and distributes rice to the people, recruit local soldiers.

1945

Ho Chi Minh declares independence: Following the surrender of Japan to Allied forces, Ho Chi Minh creates the communist-led Democratic Republic of Vietnam, uniting the smaller political parties.

British Forces Land in Saigon, Return Authority to French

1946

French and Vietminh Reach Accord: France recognizes Vietnam as a "free state" within the French Union. French troops replace Chinese in the North.

Negotiations Between French and Vietminh Breakdown

Indochina War Begins: Following months of deteriorating relations, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam launches first attack against the French.

1947

Vietminh Move North of Hanoi

French General Valluy Fails to Defeat Vietminh

1948

The anti-communist State of Vietnam has the support from US, France, Cao Dai, Hoa Hoa, Catholics, and court officials.

1954

Battle of Dienbienphu Begins

French Defeated at Dien Bien Phu by 40,000 Vietminh

Geneva Convention Agreements Announced: Cessation of Hostilities in Vietnam. Vietnam is divided into North and South on the 17th Parallel. People who wished to move had 300 days- more than 900,000 move South, while 130,000 move North.

1955

US-backed Ngo Dinh Diem Becomes President of Republic of Vietnam

Viet Minh begins a radical campaign to redistribute land to peasants and imprison and expel thousands.

1956

French Leave Vietnam, US assumes responsibility of training South Vietnamese

1957

Communist Insurgency into South Vietnam: Communist insurgent activity in South Vietnam begins. Guerrillas assassinate over 400 South Vietnamese officials. Armed companies are organized along Mekong Delta.

Terrorist Bombings of Americans in Saigon.

1959

Weapons Moving Along Ho Chi Minh Trail: North Vietnam forms Group 559 to infiltrate cadres and weapons into South Vietnam (Ho Chi Minh Trail)

Diem Orders Crackdown on Communists, Dissidents, non-Catholic religions

1960

North Vietnam Imposes Universal Military Conscription

Kennedy Elected President: John F. Kennedy defeats Richard Nixon

Vietcong Formed: Hanoi forms National Liberation Front for South Vietnam.

Diem government dubs them "Vietcong."

1961

Battle of Kienhoa Province: Guerillas defeated by South Vietnamese troops.

Vice President Johnson Tours Saigon

1962

US Employs Agent Orange, military advisors increase to 16,000 in an attempt to stop the spread of Soviet and China-backed Communism in Southeast Asia

1963

Battle of Ap Bac: Vietcong units defeat South Vietnamese Army (ARVN)

President John F. Kennedy Assassinated in Dallas

Buddhists Protest Against Diem: Protesting Diem's intolerance for other religions, Buddhist monks set themselves on fire in public places.

Diem overthrown and executed by South Vietnamese military operatives

1964

South Vietnamese General Nguyen Khanh seizes power in Saigon

North Vietnamese open fire on a US warship in the Gulf of Tonkin

1965

US declares war, marines arrive at Danang

US begins a heavy bombing campaign, lasting for 4 years, destroying much of both North and South Vietnam.

1968

North Vietnamese launch Tet Offensive, a strategic failure, but a psychological victory, ultimately leading to the withdrawal of US troops

MLK Assassinated in Memphis

Richard Nixon Elected President

1969

Ho Chi Minh Dies at Age 79

1970

Cambodian Leader Prince Sihanouk overthrown in military coup

Kissinger and Le Duc Begin Secret Talks

Number of US Troops Falls to 280K

1971

Thieu Re-elected in South Vietnam

1972

Nixon Cuts Troop Levels by 70K

B-52s Bomb Hanoi and Haiphong: In an attempt to force North Vietnam to make concessions in the ongoing peace talks, the Nixon administration orders heavy bombing of supply dumps and petroleum storage sites in Hanoi.

Break-In at Watergate Hotel

Kissinger Says "Peace Is At Hand": Henry Kissinger and Le Duc Tho reach agreement on several key measures leading to a cease-fire in Vietnam.

Nixon Wins Reelection

1973

Cease-fire Signed in Paris

End of Draft Announced

Last American Troops Leave Vietnam

Kissinger and Le Duc Tho Win Peace Prize: The Nobel Peace Prize is awarded to Henry Kissinger (U.S.) and Le Duc Tho (North Vietnam). Kissinger accepts while Tho declines because Vietnam did not have peace.

1974

Thieu Announces Renewal of War

Communists Take Mekong Delta Territory
Nixon Resigns, Gerald Ford assumes the Presidency
Communists Plan Major Offensive

Fall of Saigon

1975

Communist Forces Capture Phuoc Long Province: The South Vietnamese Army loses 20 planes in a failed effort to defend Phuoc Long, a key province north of Saigon. North Vietnamese leaders interpret the US's complete lack of response as a sign to move more aggressively in the South.

Hue Falls to Communists

Communists Take Aim at Saigon: The North Vietnamese initiate the Ho Chi Minh Campaign - a concerted effort to "liberate" Saigon. Under the command of General Dung, the NVA sets out to capture Saigon.

March 31: Communists captured Saigon

April 30: Fall of Saigon, Last Americans Evacuate

1976-80

Pham Van Dong Heads Socialist Republic of Vietnam

In Vietnam, there are food shortages, economic sanctions, and widespread famine. South Vietnamese forced to re-education camps, subject to starvation, hard labor, and political indoctrination (340,000 people). Trafficking refugees began to become a business; asylum-seekers pay an inordinate amount of money to the Vietnamese government and traffickers to escape.

First Wave of Refugees 1975-1978: 175,000 urban middle class in the south of Vietnam leave. They are relatively skilled, urbanized and flexible, and many leave on planes to refugee camps in Southeast Asia.

Second Wave of Refugees 1978-1997: 400,000 boat people flee increasing political repression in Viet Nam. They are less well educated and have a more rural background experienced persecution in Vietnam. They experience

trauma on the high seas, and harsh conditions in refugee camps. By the time this group of Vietnamese arrives in the US, many Americans are growing weary of refugees. Anti-immigrant sentiment is fuelled by a declining economy, which leads to attacks on Vietnamese in several communities.

Guam accepts 130,000 Vietnamese when the Philippines refused them/
France and Canada also took some refugees, but many nations felt that this was an "American problem"

"Boat people" (1976/1977) went to Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore and the Philippines, Hong Kong. Refugees journey overseas in overcrowded and unsafe boats in search of a better life. The "boat people" included individuals deemed "enemies of the state" expelled from Vietnam.
1979 Geneva Conference set up legal departures: Orderly Departure Program (ODP) and screening process to separate "political" refugees from "economic"

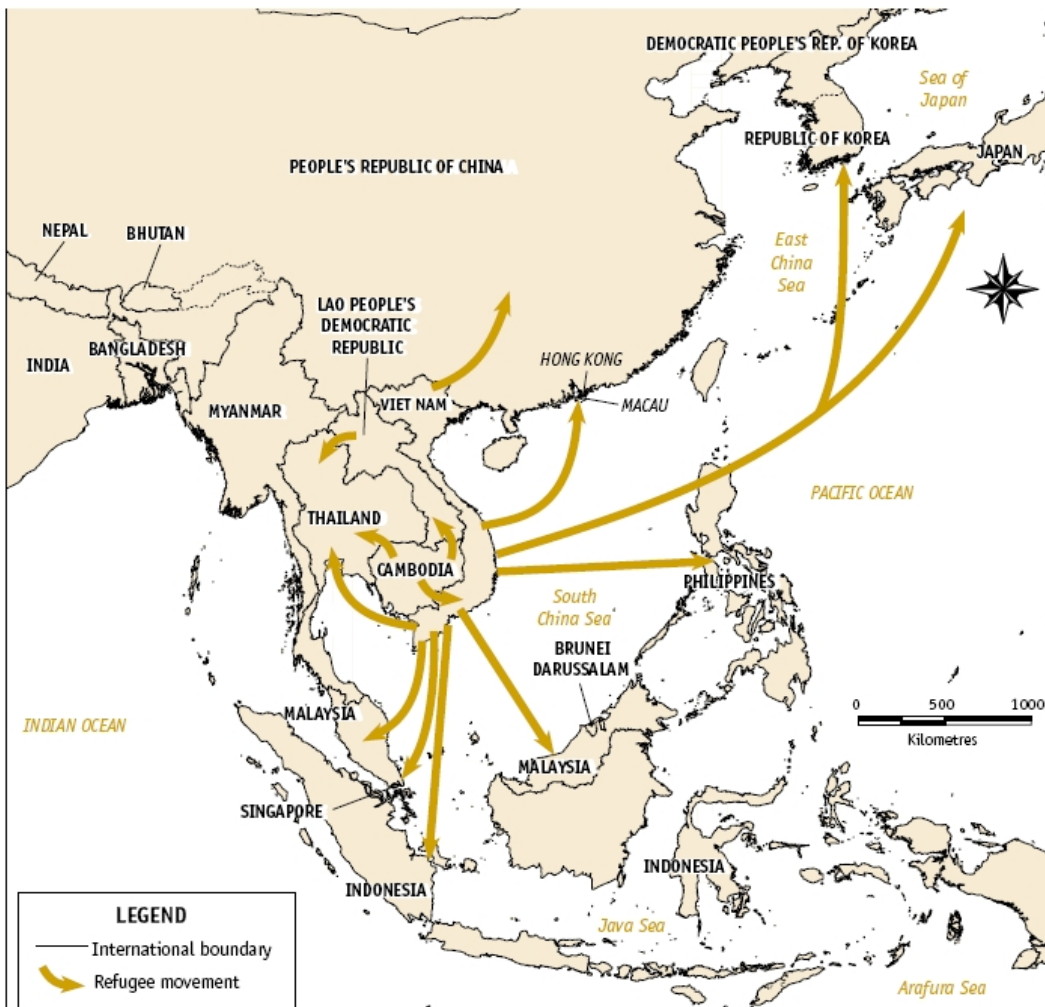
1980-85

Governments become increasingly concerned about the large numbers of refugees arriving in their countries. Thailand begins turning away boat people, so they walk across Cambodia to board ships and escape. Malaysia considers boat people illegal immigrants; many ended up in Hong Kong. 10,000 Lao and Hmong become illegal in Thailand. 360,000 Cambodians were repatriated from Hong Kong.

Jimmy Carter Elected US President
Vietnam Granted Admission to United Nations
Relations Between Vietnam and China Deteriorate
Vietnam Invades Cambodia
China Invades and Withdraws from Vietnam
Ronald Reagan Elected US President
US Offers Asylum to Vietnamese Political Prisoners

1990s

U.S. stopped accepting refugees from Cambodia in 1994 and Laos and Vietnam in 1997



Sample Questions

Read this list of questions before your interview and adapt them to your needs. Listen carefully to the person being interviewed and ask follow-up questions. Do not get too focused on asking all the questions listed in each paragraph. These questions should guide the discussion, not structure it. Some questions might be asked in a different order. Take brief notes on the questions during the interview, and write down time stamps every 5 minutes.

Personal History

Q: What is your name? Where and when were you born? Where did you grow up? Where have you lived?

Q: What are some of your childhood memories? What games did you play when you were a child? Did you sing verses when you played games? What were they? What kinds of toys did you play with? Who made them? Did you make any yourself? How did you make them? What kinds of materials did you use? What kind of home entertainment was there? Was there storytelling? Music? Were there craft traditions? Describe these traditions.

Q: Describe your hometown where you grew up — urban neighborhood, small town, rural community, suburb. What was it like? How has it changed over the years? What brought about these changes? What did people do for a living?

Q: From your childhood community, what places stand out most in your mind and why? What were your neighbors like? What kinds of local gatherings and events were there? How did you celebrate Tet? Birthdays? Funerals? Other special occasions? What stories and memories come to mind?

Q: Do you know a traditional skill, how to farm, make clothes, cook? How did you learn your skills? Who taught you? When?

What is the most challenging or difficult part to learn? What are the most important parts of the tradition? What is its history? Do you know how and where the tradition originated? How has it traditionally been practiced? Has your community changed it over time?

Q: What jobs have you had? What education have you had? What was school like? Were you encouraged to learn? What do you think about education? What do you do for a living now?

Family History

Q: What do you know about your family name? Are there stories about its history or origins? Has it changed? Why has it changed? Are there any traditional first names or nicknames in your family? What are they? How did they come about? Are there any naming traditions for children? What are they?

Q: What languages do you speak? Do you speak a different language in different settings, such as home, school, or work? Is there a certain language used for specific expressions, jokes, stories, celebrations? Can you give some examples?

Q: What stories have your parents and grandparents told you in the past? Do you know any of their stories? What about your more distant ancestors?

Q: Which occupations have your family held in the past? Parents, spouse, children? How much education has your family had?

Q: Do you know any of the relationship stories of your family? How did your parents, grandparents, and other relatives come to meet and marry?

Q: In Vietnam, or America, does your family hold reunions? When? Where? Who attends? How long have the reunions been going on? What activities take place? Are awards given out? Is there a central figure who is honored? Why? What sorts of stories are told at these events?

Culture and Tradition

Q: Does your family have any special sayings or expressions? What are they? How did they come about?

Q: How are holidays traditionally celebrated in your family? What holidays are the most important? Are there special family traditions, customs, songs, foods? Has your family created its own traditions and celebrations? What are they? How did they come about?

Q: Does your family keep an altar for your ancestors? What does it look like? What kind of traditions or celebrations do you maintain for the ancestors? How has it changed in the United States?

Q: What special food traditions does your family have? Have any recipes been preserved and passed down in your family from generation to generation? What are they? How were they created/started in the family? Have they changed

over the years? How? Have any of the ingredients been adapted or changed? Why? Are there certain foods that are traditionally prepared for holidays and celebrations? Which foods for which holidays? Who makes them? Are there family stories connected to the preparation of special foods?

Q: What family heirlooms and mementos do you possess? Pictures, figurines, jewelry? Why are they valuable to you? What is their history? How were they handed down? Are there any memories or stories connected with them?

Q: Do you have any photo albums, scrapbooks, home movies? Who made them? When? Can you describe/explain their contents? Who is pictured? What activities and events are documented?

War Experiences

Q: How did the war in Vietnam affect your family and community? Where did you live during the war? Where did you move? What occupations did you have during the war? Were you involved in the war? How? Were any family members involved in the war? How? What do you remember most about that time period?

Q: Did you ever come into contact with American soldiers? What did you think of them? Were you ever captured or held by enemy forces? What happened? What were you thinking at the time? How did you feel? Were you or anyone you know ever in a re-education camp? What was that like?

Q: Did you or your family suffer any disabilities or injuries as a result of the war? What was life like after the war? How did you rebuild your life? What was it like leaving your home and country? How did you feel?

Q: What do you think of U.S. policy during and after the war? Are you involved in politics today? Why or why not?

Immigration Questions

Q: Why did you leave to come to the United States? How did you leave? What possessions did you bring with you and why? What was the journey like? Which family members came along or stayed behind? Did you lose anyone in your family during the journey?

Q: Were you or your family in a refugee camp? What was that experience like? Did you choose to go to the United States? Why? How were you allowed to come to the United States? (ex: family sponsorship, refugee status etc.) What kinds of questions were you asked when you applied

to immigrate to the U.S.? Were you required to have a health inspection? What was that like?

Q: What were some of your first impressions and early experiences in this country? What happened when you arrived after you got through Customs and Immigration?

Q: Where did you first settle? Why? How did you make a living? Did your family stay in one place or move around? How did you come to live in this area? How do you feel about your decision to move to the U.S.?

Life in the United States

Q: What was the hardest thing about starting a new life? Who helped you find a home in the U.S.? How did you find a job? What are the occupations you have held in the United States?

Q: What are some similarities and differences between your old community and your new one? Do you have a funny or memorable experience of culture shock?

Q: Are you a citizen? Why or why not? Do you think of yourself as an American or Texan? Why or why not?

Q: Do you keep in touch with family or relatives from Vietnam? If so, who? Have you gone back to visit Vietnam? What was that experience like? Name a song or music that reminds you of Vietnam.

Q: What traditions or customs have you made an effort to preserve? Why? Are there traditions that you have given up or changed? Why? In your opinion, what will become of Vietnamese culture in the U.S.? Is it important to keep cultural identity? Why or why not?

Q: Are there any other memories you would like to share?

Remember to take a digital photo of the participant and record it in the photo log.

Post-Interview Forms

Interview Information:

Date and exact time of Interview:

Interview Format: Video__ Audio__

City, State:

Name of Interviewer:

Relationship:

Sound conditions (background noise etc.):

Other people present:

Notes and feedback about interview:

Photo Log:

Person photographed:

Photographer:

Date taken:

Location:

Photo conditions (light, weather, etc.):

General description (especially if they provided the photograph for you and you did not take it):

Different Genres of the Interview: (check all that apply)

Immigrated before 1975

Guam Refugee Camp

Boat Person

Orderly Departure Program

Special Forces

Amerasian

Humanitarian Operation

Former U.S. employee

Political Asylum

"War Bride"

Artist/Traditional skill

Public Figure

Recent Immigrant

Religious practitioner

Other _____



Vietnamese American Heritage Foundation Deed of Gift

WE, _____, hereby referred to as the interviewer, and _____, hereby referred to as the interviewee, hereby transfer, assign, and deliver all of the owner rights, titles, and interest in and of the property described below, including all copyrights, both common law and statutory, which the interviewer and interviewee may possess in said property as a gift to The Vietnamese American Heritage Foundation.

Interviewer

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Interviewee

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Description of property:

(1) Audio or video-recording of oral history interview conducted by _____ on the date of _____ as part of 500 Oral History Project

(2) A photograph of the participant.

Other items if any:

Restrictions on access and use of properties listed above if any:

No Restrictions Restrictions in the form of:

The Vietnamese American Heritage Foundation here by accepts the above property, under the conditions specified above, from the Interviewer and the Interviewee.

Date: _____

Signed by: _____

Printed Name: _____

Representative of the Vietnamese American Heritage Foundation

Transcribing Guidelines

Transcribing the interview is the most tedious part of the oral history process, but in many ways one of the most important. A transcript provides future researchers a useful format to access information of historical interest covered in an interview. Typically it should take between 3-5 hours to transcribe each hour of speech.

Please follow the **format sample below** and the Transcribing Style Guide available here: http://www.baylor.edu/oral_history/index.php?id=23607

Reference Guidelines:

- Proofread your transcript.
- Check the format and make sure spacing and punctuation are correct.
- Check for consistency.

Brackets [] are to indicate notes and words not present on the recording and added to the transcript. If you are using a translator, or cannot transcribe in Vietnamese, please use these to indicate this, see below for an example.

The **em dash (—)** indicates a hanging phrase resulting in an incomplete sentence, a parenthetical expression or statement, an interruption by another speaker, resumption of a statement after an interruption, or a meaningful pause on the part of the speaker.

Do not use **ellipses (...)** in transcribing oral history recordings because they give the impression that material has been left out.

In the case of repeated words, phrases or syllables follow a middle course in transcribing these **false starts**, leaving enough to indicate individual speech patterns, or emphasis, but not stuttering unless it's intentional.

When **uh** is used by a narrator as a stalling device or a significant pause, you should type it. Do not type *uh* if the person repeatedly enunciate words with a hard consonant with an added, "uh," as in *and-uh, at-uh, did-uh* and so forth.

Nonverbal sounds or events should be recorded in parenthesis such as (laughs), (cries), or (knocks at the door).

When **speech is unintelligible**, you can make an educated guess and underline the questionable portion and add two question marks in parenthesis, for example: Maryville (??) or Mayfield (??). If you cannot understand, type (unintelligible).

If you are using a digital audio device, **record the time** about every five minutes. If you are using media disks record: *Track 1 ends; Track 2 begins*. If there is a pause, type *pause in recording*. At the end of the interview, type *end of interview*.

Please refer to the Transcribing Style Guide in cases not covered here.

Sample Interview Transcript

Name of Interviewer: Jason Wang

Method of Recording Interview: Digital audio

Name of Person Interviewed: Cam Doan

Name of Translator: Truc Nguyen

Location of interview: Austin, Texas

Date of interview: September 18, 2008

Name Transcript

Track 1 ends; Track 2 begins

00:01

[Truc is translating Jason's questions for Cam in Vietnamese and translating her responses to Jason in English. The Vietnamese conversation is not transcribed below.]

Jason When you were growing up, can you describe some of the things you did every day as a child?

Truc She says she when she was a girl she went to school and enroll in social studies, and her daily activities she working with a charity organization

Jason Can you describe what it looked like?

Truc She say she grew up in a city, Hanoi, and she moved to Saigon. She work in the hospital.

Jason You lived in a house? Apartments?

Truc She says she work in Hanoi, a big city in Vietnam, she lived in a house, there's no land, there's no landscape or shrubbery, just like in the big city. She worked in a business in the house.

Jason What kind of business?

Truc Bakery. And later when she went to Saigon they opened a pharmacy.

Jason Did you go to school as a child?

Truc Yes, she said she went to school and finished high school.

Jason Her elementary school, what time did you get out of school and what did you do after school?

04:07

Truc After school, she take care of her brothers and sisters--that's the time when she went to elementary school. She would go home and take care of her brothers and sisters.

Jason How many brothers and sisters did you have?

Truc Three brothers and three sisters.

Jason Where were you, how old in the family?

Truc She's the oldest one.

Jason What were some of the things that you had to do to take care of them?

Truc She take care of her brothers and sisters, like, give them showers, take them to work.

Jason Were your parents, did they run the bakery all day?