

Code	517034
Subject:	Siegfried Buerling - 517034
Date:	23-Jun-08
Interviewer:	Amy Sumen
Special Notes:	
Minutes:	

0 Siegfried Buerling / DOB/ Born Germany / Move to Canada / meet wife/ come  
1 to Cleveland  
2 First year in Clev. Hts/ move Chesterland/ then here (Peninsula Area)/Start  
3 work Western Reserve Hist.  
4 Cabinet maker/ hired temporary work with WRHS/  
5 was done with work at WRHS/ Job hunt, WRHS called back/  
6 Workers at the WRHS/ connected the museum to the library  
7 Inherit the Hale Farm/ pay salary through HF/ Assistant worked for HF and they  
8 went to work  
9 Not much to do at HF/ Penney was Assistant Director/  
10 He and Penney tried to get HF going/ only house and parking lot/ two barns/  
11 care takers opinion/ other cent. Towns  
12 They asked to get the cent. Village going. Put in a loom they put together/shut  
13 down for winter  
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9 went out to find spinner/ many people visit/ 1960 start 1961 loom and spinner/  
10 More people came/ build a blacksmith shop/  
11 caretaker was getting upset so left/ Bill Penney in charge/ Peninsula had a  
12 church they wanted/  
13 use funds to buy church/ trustees will not let fix church so move it to HF/  
14 Start of open air museum/ trustees said ok to pioneer village/ first house  
15 offered/ Peninsula would not let church go  
16 Peninsula would not let church go/ Worked with Peninsula Heritage/  
17 County would help with the church for Peninsula/ No church for HF  
18 a second house given/  
19 Penney leaves/ Buerling in charge/ laid village out  
20 looked into townships for layout/  
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19 Jager house and salt box house open/ closed in winter / moved other buildings  
20 opened new buildings/ formed policies about moving buildings/  
21 Got a church from Streetberough/ becoming more and more popular/ special  
22 events/ animals obtained  
23 breeds used by J. Hale/ get short horn  
24 trustees endowment not big enough/ things going well/ special events /1970  
25 banner year 1974/ business gets slow  
26 People could get show stuff for free at parades.../ could not afford to get rev.  
27 war men/  
28 HF did several things no one else did/ great blacksmith/ early Am. Industry/  
things made on HF  
1972-73 Henry Lucas (county fair) getting railroad going from Clev. To Akron/  
Study railroads/ could not do...  
able to pull train together/ difficult due to problems/ got it going for a new  
weekend concept/  
B & O would not renew contract/ Park came in to help/ Siberling and Regula  
helped out with train

Siberling met about railroad to save tracks/ Bill Bertsal (park sup.) friend of  
29 Buerling/  
management contract with park and railroad/ picture of bringing people into  
30 park/ fight to keep track/ 1.7 mill dollars  
railroad saved for use/ John Debold came in to help and take over/ struggle  
31 continues on railroad, contributors  
32 contributors/ new board/ railroad struggles with salary pay  
33 Mr. Agustus/ HF did well and more buildings moved in  
Life started changing in 1980/ New director wanted first person/ Not designed  
34 for first person / fine collection of items

35 fine objects into houses/ Richard Erling/ No concept of village/ Buerling retires  
36 Buerling retires/ Get involved in Prez. Garfield's house/  
37 Director of properties for WRHS/ in charge of buildings/  
38 Summit county felt HF should be part of them not Cleveland WRHS/  
Buerling moved out to HF to help HF become part of Summit County/ Member  
39 of community/  
40 park was not popular back then/  
could not be in first person/ used objects so moved objects out/ Erling  
41 reassigned/  
asked Buerling to consult on HF/ HF back to where it was/ financial suffering/  
42 fine order of things in paper/  
Now HF is not first in newspaper but coming back/ New director likes HF so  
43 coming back/ transition with park service  
Little Peninsula church started the support of park/ Cuy. Valley Association/  
44 Park federation  
45 Cuy. Valley Nat Park into being/  
46 30 - 40 sheets of names from businesses in favor of park/  
HF will be shining again/ change is needed/ work closer with park and railroad/  
47 everyone work together  
close knit group with historical places and park work together as a unit of  
48 publicity  
49 If not for Nat. Park service, not able to maintain/  
50 Railroad will help with coop of Park Service  
Park is the big umbrella over things to see/ John Debold was arriving and  
51 Buerling let him in his office (funny story)  
52 Debold let into office by Buerling and that is how they meet/ buried in cem.  
Lou Albert comes in/ Siegfried took them around to meet everyone and see  
53 everything, meeting lots of people  
Buerling loves his life and would not change it/ stubborn to do things his way  
54 because he believes in what he does

55 answer to first person not working/ nothing later than 1850 in the HF village/  
building cannot be zeroed in to a specific period/people find first person hard  
56 (school kids)/ too hard to keep with time/  
People did not get it and most did not like it/ Some places can pull it off, but it  
57 does not work well/  
show how people really lived you would have to show the lousy times too/  
58 language as well and hard times  
labor laws will not let us do things like they did/ waist of nat. resources/ too hard  
59 to do first person

maintaining first person impractical/ only first person in one house and is very  
60 expensive/ has to be correct to time

61 someone might be able to see that not every little thing is to time

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