

Code	517035
Subject	George Hoy
Date	6/24/2008
Interviewer	Mickey Krivak
Special Notes	Inn Keeper of the Inn at Brandywine Falls

minutes:

Intro: George Hoy born in Cleveland, now 81 years old, owns and runs bed and breakfast, The Inn at Brandywine Falls

1 prior employment

inspired by bike trip to Ireland, impressed by the helpfulness of bed and breakfast owners.

While living in Hudson, the Towpath Trail was being planned as centerpiece of park

Historic property leasing structure, structures may not be demolished, but no funding allotted for upkeep. Hoy's obtained

4 lease for Brandywine Inn

invested money and time to renovate structure, opened Inn in 5 1988

6 History of the Wallace Family—Family who built the house/Inn impact of canal on local mills; old town of Brandywine Mills

7 now gone, only two houses left

Inn originally built circa 1848, Greek Revival, identical house across street burned as fire exercise when rt.271 built

"Our ideas, money, resources, energy to turn Wallace house into a Bed and Breakfast" "Only crazy people with resources

9 can do this"

10 Renovations made to the house and outbuildings

11 Hoy and wife and family helped with work

daughter Susan is interior designer, who designed kitchen, son

12 ,liturgical designer, designed small barn

13 other son has blacksmith skills and designed sign,

14

Process for obtaining historic register status for buildings, 15 tax credits granted for renovation of historic buildings

how to make guests feel at home, "we are in the entertainment 16 business"

37000,00 guests have stayed over 20 years, 80% local, many

17 repeat guests

word of mouth best advertising, usually 12 to 14 guests at one 18 time, most local guests are celebrating something

more guests coming to stay while visiting Cuyahoga Valley

19 Park, advice and help with plans while visiting

20 Advice to guests on various hiking and driving routes

significance of various sites in the Park, why they are

21 important, not just beautiful

22 creation of Hale Farm and Village

so many things to do and see in the park, not just one

23 significant thing

Books George has written about stories guests have shared and recipes- Name of books: Inn Good Taste, Inn Joy Ment, The
24 Peninsula Python
25 stories are lighthearted and/or humorous
George writes based on stories heard around breakfast table,
26 wife Katie adds appropriate recipes
27 self published, does not use big book chains
books sold at Inn and in National Park Visitor Centers,
28 Learned Owl in Hudson, sold over 6000 copies

How the Inn is utilized other than a bed and breakfast:small
29 meeting groups under 12 people, small weddings under 40 people.
30 not conducive to school class outings
31 tried musical weekends, but not economically feasible
32

Member of Cuyahoga National Valley Park Association which is
33 volunteer group that supports Park
History of founding of the Cuyahoga National Valley Park
Association and short history of park creation, Gerald Ford
34 resisted signing bill
How wife Katie became involved with Cuyahoga National Valley
35 Park Association

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37
38

Fundraising of the CNVPA, people need to feel connected to
39 Park in order to support it
40 idea to let people sponsor one acre of park
41 Trail Mix Store was developed by the CNVPA
42 importance of Seiberling, Regula, and Debo
43
44

George's personal satisfaction from the running the Inn and
45 the being part of the CNVP "Katie and I leave in Paradise!"
move from Hudson, decision to open bed and breakfast,
46 influence of family
great place for children and grandchildren to visit, frequent
47 guests have become good friends
48 "we get enormous psychic income, I get hugs!"

Background information on the book he wrote-The Peninsula
49 Python
50 Harry Potter and Peninsula connection
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53 George reads his book *The Peninsula Python*

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57 end
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