

**THE CENTER FOR ORAL HISTORY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE
of
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI**

Recording Log

Interviewee: Walter Eley Ross Sr., commercial fisherman in the Mississippi Sound for fifty-three years, retired

Interviewer: Barbara Hester

Date of recording: March 15, 2012

Recording format/notes: Recorded digitally in one file

Recording length: 1 hour, 15 minutes

Location: Mr. Ross's home

Subjects/Topics: Commercial fishing, multigenerational fishing family, sailing schooner circa late 1800s, oystering in Pass Christian, Mississippi, Hurricane Katrina, marketing catch, boats, Blessing of the Fleet, St. Michaels Catholic Church, Biloxi seafood factories, contested oyster reefs between Mississippi and Louisiana, regulations, Hurricane of 1947, changes in equipment for shrimping, equipment in oyster factories, mouth of Mississippi River, Head of Passes, Southwest Pass, Pass A Loutre, South Pass, mud lumps, depth sounder, buoys, freight boats working for factories, shrimp nets, surviving sinking of boat, races, shrimping, protecting boats in hurricanes, Hurricane Camille, BP Deepwater Horizon oil disaster, BP claims

Time/ Counter	Topic
Track 1 of 1	
0:01:20.8	Fifty-three years as a commercial fisherman
0:01:52.8	Father, mother, other family
0:03:21.2	Grandfather's sailing schooner, late 1800s
0:05:04.8	Grandfather shrimped, oystered, circa late 1800s
0:05:34.3	Lucrative oystering, Pass Christian
0:05:56.4	Hurricane Katrina
0:06:06.4	Marketing oysters
0:07:01.9	Oystering boat

0:07:28.8	Blessing of the Fleet
0:09:04.9	St. Michael's Catholic Church, the church of the fishermen
0:09:30.8	Hurricane Katrina
0:11:23.4	Biloxi seafood factories, oyster grounds contested between Mississippi and Louisiana
0:14:48.4	Regulations
0:17:36.5	Father's fishing, sailing schooner
0:18:21.3	Hurricanes in the old days, before warnings
0:18:57.3	Equipment for shrimping on sailing schooner
0:20:26.8	Marketing catch in the old days
0:21:16.3	Factories, equipment in factories
0:25:11.3	Working on father's boat
0:26:42.6	Danger from equipment
0:27:30.7	First boat, 1952
0:29:19.4	Shrimping
0:29:56.9	Depth sounder
0:30:29.4	Mississippi River, mouth of river at Gulf of Mexico, three passes
0:31:07.3	Depth recorder, buoys, mud lumps
0:33:59.4	Freight boats, worked for factories
0:34:57.2	Shrimping equipment, circa 1965, nets
0:39:07.2	Repairs to fiberglass boat
0:29:38.1	Surviving sunken boat
0:42:45.0	Children not fishermen

0:43:41.0	Boats
0:45:51.1	Races
0:47:09.2	Regulations
0:48:07.3	Cyclical nature of shrimping
0:49:12.8	Types of shrimp
0:51:21.5	Changes in equipment
0:53:29.6	Hurricanes, protecting boats
0:56:43.2	Hurricane of 1947
0:58:49.5	Family of origin
0:59:45.7	Dances of youth
1:01:11.6	Hurricane Katrina, 2005
1:02:23.0	Hurricane Camille, 1969
1:05:29.0	Taking care of boats in Hurricane Katrina
1:06:18.8	BP Deepwater Horizon oil disaster
1:06:47.8	Claim filed with BP
1:08:13.0	Vessels of Opportunity
1:12:50.7	Future of commercial fishing