

**T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History Collection**

**ABSTRACT**

**INTERVIEWEE NAME:** Dorothy Hartman Felix and Evelyn Gasaway Shelton

**COLLECTION:** 4700.2468

**IDENTIFICATION:** Felix born in Bayou d'Inde, Louisiana, Shelton in Wiergate, Texas; both raised in Mossville, Louisiana; Felix an environmental activist and president of MEAN [Mossville Environmental Action Now]

**INTERVIEWER:** Jennifer Abraham-Cramer

**SERIES:** Mossville History Project - Oral History Day

**INTERVIEW DATES:** January 23, 2015

**FOCUS DATES:** 1950s-1960s; present

**ABSTRACT:**

**Tape 4404**

Shelton born September 24<sup>th</sup>, 1940; Felix does not reveal birthday; Felix's parents are Earl Hartman and Maureen Fischer Hartman, later Cole; her mother was from Lockport, Louisiana; Shelton's parents were Casey? Gasaway and Frankie Gasaway; both of their fathers were truck drivers for local industry, and their mothers were homemakers who later worked outside the home; Felix's grandparents on father's side were Allie Hartman and Tom Hartman; her mother's parents were Irene and Frank Fischer; her father's grandparents were Tom and Cora Hartman, and her mother's were [Lonise?] [Cotlong?] Lee and Jim Lee; Shelton's grandparents on her father's side were Bob and Lily Gasaway, and they lived in Wiergate, Texas where he worked as a barber; her mother's parents were David and Della Spikes; David was a freed slave from Georgia who came to Louisiana to work as a sharecropper; in 1943, Shelton's parents moved to the area for a better life, and her father started as a laborer at Cities Service [now Citgo]; Felix's father worked at a lumber company called [Sauter?] as a truck driver; her grandfather was a well-digger, horse-tamer, and also worked at a plant called Kellogg; Felix and Shelton discuss their parents' education, the formation of Mossville, growth, changes, growing up, school, community leaders, church, and what Mossville means to them; Felix also briefly discusses her involvement with MEAN [Mossville Environmental Action Now].

**TAPES:** 1 (T4404)

**TOTAL PLAYING TIME:** 37 minutes

**# PAGES TRANSCRIPT:** 36 pages

**PHOTOGRAPHS / PHOTOGRAPHER:** Four photographs taken during interview, including three with interviewer Cramer. Photographer Charlotte Willcox.

**OTHER MATERIALS:** Biographical data form (2 pgs-one for each interviewee); Interview questions (2 pgs); Correspondence (2 pgs – letter to each ee)

**RESTRICTIONS:** None