

Marianne Picinich

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for

Southwest Seattle Historical Society

by

JonLee Joseph



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Interviewed by: JonLee Joseph

1st Oral Interview

Seattle, Washington

JonLee: I am meeting with Marianne Picinich, Seattle, Washington. She was born and raised in Riverside, Washington, which is right along the Duwamish River under the Spokane Street Bridge, going to West Seattle. And today is March 14, the year 2001.

JonLee: We're live.
So would you tell me, you've written this beautiful four pages, that I'll make a copy of and include with the interviews so it stays with it. But when I met you at the bowling alley you were telling me how it was such a strong neighborhood, this Riverside. And could you talk about what it was like growing up there?

Marianne Picinich: Well, It was like growing up with a great big family and everybody knew each other. Nobody locked their doors. It was just like I said, one big family.

JonLee: And the area when you lived there was primarily Croatian, Yugoslavian?

Marianne Picinich: Mostly, uh-huh. But there were a few others that were not Yugoslavian.

JonLee: So, do you remember Croatian being spoken?

Marianne Picinich: Yes, quite a bit.

JonLee: And you learned--

Marianne Picinich: Well, I understood it. I couldn't speak it, but I could understand everything.

JonLee: Now, you have the marvelous good fortune to have the same family name as the man you married.

Marianne Picinich: Yes, that's right.

JonLee: Which is highly unusual.

Marianne Picinich: It really is, especially with the name Picinich, you know.

JonLee: So, was he a neighborhood person, too?

Marianne Picinich: No. He came from Yugoslavia when he was eight years old. He lived in New Jersey until 1939 and that's when he came to Seattle.

JonLee: He came during the War years?

Marianne Picinich: Well, it was before the War. '39, the War was '41.

JonLee: So, I want to go back to Riverside, because when I look at it now, it's hard for me to see that it was a neighborhood. And yet I see stores with signs still on them, they aren't open anymore like Budinick's store.

Marianne Picinich: Popich's is demolished and it is now more commercial than residential.

JonLee: So, the businesses were down there. There was the fruit company, the canning company. There was fishing along the river, there were people who lived on the Riverside and houseboats?

Marianne Picinich: Yes, all the way up to Brickyard. Well, probably quite a ways up the river.

JonLee: And the brick yard was still active when you were there.

Marianne Picinich: Yes.

JonLee: Would you talk about what your mom and father did? How your father earned a living?

Marianne Picinich: My father was a fisherman. They only fished in the summer and fall. This all took place during the Depression years. My mother started to work at the National Fruit Canning Company to help with the income. The cannery was owned by the McCaffrays. My mom was well liked and soon advanced to Supervisor. She did the hiring and therefore, hired many people from Riverside. The work was seasonal from June, starting with strawberries until the apple season, which ended around November. I worked there in the office during summer vacation.

JonLee: Now, what happened when you were young and your mother went to work and your father was out fishing? Who took care of you? And you had a sister?

Marianne Picinich: Yes, and a brother.

JonLee: And a brother. Who took care of the children?

Marianne Picinich: Well, my mother was home, because, see, it was part time work and seasonal and the fruit came in at three and four in the afternoon so she would work nights.

JonLee: And who would care for you?

Marianne Picinich: My sister and my brother. And then my dad was home on weekends, you know.

JonLee: So it all worked out.

Marianne Picinich: It all worked out.

JonLee: Or there were neighbors--

Marianne Picinich: And my neighbors, well, my grandparents just lived right behind us and they watched over us, too.

JonLee: Now you said in what you wrote, too, that people in the neighborhood made wine. Would you talk about that? Where did they get the grapes? Did they go east of the mountains on a trip to get them?

Marianne Picinich: No, no, I think they used to go down by the train stations, 'cause the trains would come in from California, or Eastern Washington. They'd go down there and buy the grapes. They'd come in big carton boxes.

JonLee: And then, make it in their basement?

Marianne Picinich: Yes, everybody made it--

JonLee: A vat or some old barrels--

Marianne Picinich: --barrels.

JonLee: And then they'd save bottles and cork them. And what's this reference you have about --

Marianne Picinich: About the chickens?

JonLee: Yes, please. Let me see, [reading] "The Yugoslavian families made their own wine in the early Fall and fruit flies were everywhere. They had to be careful where they buried the grapes. If the chickens ever discovered them, it was a show you wouldn't want to miss." What was that about?

Marianne Picinich: Well, most of the families raised their own chickens. When the people made their wine, they had to get rid of the--

JonLee: The pulp.

Marianne Picinich: The pulp, whatever you'd call it--

JonLee: --the stems--

Marianne Picinich: -- from the grapes. Uh-huh. They had to bury the pulp. So I guess, once somebody buried it close to the chicken coop and the chickens got a hold of it. And it was a riot, you know.

JonLee: Were they drunk?

Marianne Picinich: Oh, yeah, naturally! Because they were picking at the pulp and once they started it, they just couldn't stop.

JonLee: Fermented grapes, oh, I see. You had drunk chickens.

Marianne Picinich: Drunk chickens, yeah. So they always had to be careful. Once that happened then they wouldn't bury the pulp too close to the chickens.

JonLee: What kind of games did you play down there as a child?

Marianne Picinich: We really didn't have toys. But we played Kick the Cans, 'cause we always had cans. And then we used to play Bottle Top. I don't know if you remember, but years ago we always got the milk in glass bottles, and they were always topped with a bottle cap.

JonLee: Now, I was asking you about--

Marianne Picinich: The games we played. Okay, so I told you about Kick The Can and also, Bottle Tops. Like I said, years ago when they made milk, they put them in glass containers, quarts or half a gallon. But to seal it, they would put a little top, flat top on it, to open it. And so, us kids would play, we called it Tops. So we'd put them down and whoever could get the other guy, you get to keep the tops, you try to get as many as you can.

JonLee: Those were the milk bottles that where the cream rises to the top.

Marianne Picinich: They had the cream on top, yeah you could see the milk on the bottom, it wasn't homogenized.

JonLee: And it was delivered.

Marianne Picinich: Well, we bought them in the store. Oh, yeah, I'm sure they were delivered also, but we always bought them in the store.

JonLee: And that was Budinicks.

Marianne Picinich: Budinick's and Popich, uh-huh, both of them. And even Tom, the Greeks, they sold milk, too. But they didn't have as many grocery supplies because they were more of a restaurant and bar, too.

JonLee: So, three stores. Could supply the needs of the neighborhood and make a living?

Marianne Picinich: Uh-huh.

JonLee: Did they give credit during the Depression?

Marianne Picinich: Yes they did.

JonLee: Was it paid back after the Depression?

Marianne Picinich: Oh, yes. I'm sure.

JonLee: And so, what schools did you go to?

Marianne Picinich: Well, I started at Holy Rosary here in West Seattle, in the first grade. And the tuition, I think was like three dollars a month, which now it's about three hundred a month. But anyhow, in the second grade I went to Youngstown, because we couldn't afford the tuition. Later, I returned to Holy Rosary School and completed the eighth grade there. We didn't have to pay tuition.

JonLee: Were most people in the neighborhood Catholic?

Marianne Picinich: Most of them were.

JonLee: And they went up to the Holy Rosary Parish?

Marianne Picinich: Yes.

JonLee: Did that mean on Sunday that people didn't drive and just had their Sunday dinner and went to church, went to Mass.

Marianne Picinich: Went to Church and it was a holy day, not like to day, you know. The stores were closed.

JonLee: The stores were closed. So they had, families had to plan ahead for their meals. And as children, did you have church clothes?

Marianne Picinich: No. Well, not church clothes. But, being that you go to Catholic school, we had uniforms. And then we had a Mass, I think it was a 9:00 Mass for children, so then we usually wore our uniforms to church.

JonLee: Now, how did you get from Riverside to Holy Rosary, 'cause that's quite a ways?

Marianne Picinich: Well, went by bus, later my dad bought a car and he drove us.

JonLee: So you went to Youngstown and then you went to where, West Seattle High?

Marianne Picinich: No, no, I stayed in Holy Rosary and graduated from the eighth grade and then I went to West Seattle High School.

JonLee: Was that when it was in the castle building? Was that when it was situated where the Lafayette School is now?

Marianne Picinich: Yes, uh-huh. Wait, not where the Lafayette School?
No, no, right where West Seattle is right now.

JonLee: Okay, because there was an old West Seattle high over there.

Marianne Picinich: No, I think that was before my time.

JonLee: And when did you graduate?

Marianne Picinich: 1941.

JonLee: Were you still living at home when you finished high school?

Marianne Picinich: Oh, yes.

JonLee: Was that the way that children did, they stayed at home until they got married?

Marianne Picinich: Well, mostly, yes they did. But then I graduated in June of '41 and I was married in August of '41 so, you know, I didn't have much chance to move or go anywhere.

JonLee: So, how did you meet your husband if he was born and raised on the East Coast?

Marianne Picinich: Well, when they came over here, they came and lived with their cousin, no, his dad's cousin, who was good friends of my parents. So then one Sunday they came over to visit and that's where I met him.

JonLee: And he had his eye on you and you had your eye on him.

Marianne Picinich: Yeah, we just clicked right away.

JonLee: Did you?

Marianne Picinich: Yeah we did.

JonLee: And there's no relation, because you have the same last name?

Marianne Picinich: No, no, uh-uh. In fact, there were other Picinich's in Riverside, but they weren't related to us. Picinich is like Smith and Jones here in America.

JonLee: Did he, in 1941 then, did he go into the Service?

Marianne Picinich: No, he didn't. We were married then, in August and the War started in December 7th. But then he didn't have to go right away, 'cause he was working in the shipyard. And then we had a son the following September and he didn't have to go because he had a child and wife. But then after a while, it started getting worse, where they started drafting more and more people. But he didn't have to go because he had a sinus problem, so they wouldn't take him for that reason.

JonLee: What did he do at the shipyard?

Marianne Picinich: He was an electrician.

JonLee: You said something before we had the tape rolling. Would you mind repeating it, because when I look at the picture of you and he, I see a man who looks very happy. And you said he had a wonderful sense of humor.

Marianne Picinich: He did. Yeah, Matt had a wonderful sense of humor. He was always happy and joking with people. Everybody loved him. And me, too. [laughs]

JonLee: You said he was also kind.

Marianne Picinich: Oh, he was so kind and gentle. He never would hurt anyone, you know. He was just, he just loved life and loved to do good for people.

JonLee: You must miss him.

Marianne Picinich: I really *do* miss him. It'll be five years in August that he's been gone. But it's never been the same. Never will. We had a great life. We were great friends and we just had a great time together. And after he retired it was even better, we both golfed and so we'd go on different golf tournaments, like down to California or wherever they were. We really enjoyed our life. We bowled here in West Seattle. We just did a lot of things together. We enjoyed each other's company. We enjoyed all of our children and grandchildren.

JonLee: How many children did you have?

Marianne Picinich: I have four children, and I lost two you know, with the stillborn. And have seventeen grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.

JonLee: Woo!

Marianne Picinich: Whoa is right! Still sending birthday cards and things.

JonLee: Now, when you were first married, did you continue to live in Riverside, you and your husband?

Marianne Picinich: Well, we did just for a short time and then we bought a home in Gatewood Hill. When we bought the home, my parents said, "Oh, that was so far." They just couldn't believe that we'd buy a house so far away. But then they got used to it and they moved to West Seattle, too.

JonLee: Did they move close to you in Gatewood?

Marianne Picinich: No, they lived up by Morgan Street. And then later they moved to Manning.

JonLee: Where's Manning?

Marianne Picinich: Manning is between Genesee Street and Admiral Way.

JonLee: When you talk about Riverside you get a certain glow about you. What is it about Riverside that's so different from any other place you've lived? I know that you were raised there, but, what is it? Is it because you knew the families in the neighborhood and it was an extended family?

Marianne Picinich: That's right.

JonLee: Everybody kept an eye out?

Marianne Picinich: Yes, everybody watched over everybody else. It was close contact. You knew everybody and everybody took care of everybody else.

JonLee: Would you describe for me what happened in warm weather when the children would go swimming? Had that old bachelor who had a houseboat? Did he have a houseboat down there?

Marianne Picinich: Well, I'm not sure. He maybe did. His name was Mr. Mackie and that's the only name I know him by. But, he was there everyday and he'd get corks from the fishermen, corks that they didn't use anymore. He'd put them on string and tie them around the kids' waist for all those that couldn't swim. And he was really wonderful. Kinda like a old life guard, you know, watching over everybody.

JonLee: Did the river flow fast there?

Marianne Picinich: No it didn't.

JonLee: And in the summer it didn't, probably in the fall it would.

Marianne Picinich: No, not at all.

JonLee: Was there easy access to the river?

Marianne Picinich: Yes, it was just east of the General Construction Company.

JonLee: And you could just walk along the bank?

Marianne Picinich: Yeah, and there was a dock there and a beach. So all the ones that couldn't swim too good would just stay in the shallow part. My cousins, the Sardarov's, lived down in Brickyard which is a few blocks south of Riverside. And they dug out or did something, like made a big hole. So then at high tide the water would come in there, it would be

like a heated swimming pool. It was really neat. They put diving boards there and it was really nice. A lot of fun.

JonLee: Oh, my. So it was a mix of salt water and fresh water wasn't it?

Marianne Picinich: Yes.

JonLee: It was all salt water coming in with the tide.

Marianne Picinich: Yes, uh-huh.

JonLee: But the Duwamish itself is a fresh water--

Marianne Picinich: Oh, it's fresh. The Puget Sound and mouth of the Duwamish is salt water but as you go up the river it becomes fresh water.

JonLee: Still, what a wonderful idea to do that. So you have started having reunions of people in Riverside, because you liked Riverside so much that you want to keep in touch with some of these people?

Marianne Picinich: Everybody did, everybody always said, "Oh, we should get together." And everybody always talked about it, but no one ever did anything. So that one year, in 1971, my cousin Mary Anne Hobson and myself, (she was a Sardarov by the way), we said, "Why don't we have a Riverside reunion?" And we thought, "Gee that's such a good idea." And we kinda talked to other people and they said, "Oh that'd be great." So, we went ahead and did it. And the first one we had was at Guadeloupe Church.

JonLee: 35th.

Marianne Picinich: 35th, uh-huh. And we had over three hundred people there. We had dinner and dancing and music and everybody had such a good time. So, then everybody start asking, "When you gonna have another one?" We said, "Well, five years." So we waited 'til 1976. But then they always said, "Well let's have one sooner. We should have it every two years." But we never did have it every two years. We always waited for the five years. But now there's so many of them that have passed away. The last one we had there were about a little over two hundred. And now, I've talked to people about this one coming up and everybody's all excited about it, they all want to come. Our children--

JonLee: When is it?

Marianne Picinich: It's gonna be on April 21st. And it's gonna be at Renton Senior Center.

JonLee: And you said your children are coming?

Marianne Picinich: Oh *yeah*. Everybody brings their children. Because there wouldn't be that many left now. So everybody has their children or relatives come.

JonLee: And then they can meet the people you were raised with.

Marianne Picinich: Oh, yes. In fact, my children look forward to going 'cause they get to see the people their parents were raised with.
[pause]

JonLee: Now, when I look at a map, I see that the railroad went through there. How often did that railroad go by? Was that ever a hazard for children playing?

Marianne Picinich: No, it wasn't that often. I mean, we'd hear the trains go by, but not often. I really don't know why they went through there, but probably for commercial reasons, uh-huh.

JonLee: Now, I met Alice Kirschner. She's the person who recommended that I speak with you. Do you remember where she lived? Was she a friend of yours?

Marianne Picinich: Oh yes. Exactly. Yes, although, she never played with us too much. But I think I was kind of a tomboy and I played baseball with the boys down the field. A lot of other girls did too. But, I knew who she was, she was a Peterson. And her house still exists down there.

JonLee: She showed it to me, she took me on a tour. She said her, she was an only child and her mother was overly careful with her. So she never was allowed to go down to the river to go swimming.

Marianne Picinich: No, she never did. And she never played baseball with us. I think maybe they were just over protective of her.

JonLee: That's her thought too. So she missed out on some things.

Marianne Picinich: She really did. It was a great life.

JonLee: Is anyone left down there, from, you remember?

Marianne Picinich: Yes, there two of them that are left. Clara Plenkovich, she used to be a Zuvela. And she still lives there. She said she would never move away and

she's, I think she's eighty-six. And Katie Bussanich, she's used to be a Morin. She remarried after her first husband passed away. And she's about ninety-three or four and she's still living down there. Those are the only two that we know of. The rest are all other people that have come in since then.

JonLee: Does one of those women live in the white house with green trim?

Marianne Picinich: Yes. The house way up high on the hill?

JonLee: Is that Katie?

Marianne Picinich: No, that's Clara.

JonLee: It's beautifully cared for.

Marianne Picinich: Yes it is.

JonLee: Absolutely beautiful.

Marianne Picinich: Well, her children do it, I think. They have a hard time doing that lawn, though, 'cause it's on such a slope.

JonLee: But that's how that house is kept up and the lawn is how all the houses were kept up.

Marianne Picinich: They were *all* like that, right. It was so different.

JonLee: It was a different culture, a different style. Families didn't go out as much and they stayed home and took care of the lawn and they painted the house.

Marianne Picinich: On weekends, a lot of parents would get together and play cards. And the kids would go along play games

JonLee: Were there any halls that you met at, there? I mean where was a place large enough?

Marianne Picinich: Yes, well the one I mention in that write-up was the Morin's Hall and was right on West Marginal Way. They lived upstairs, it was like a big apartment house. And on the main floor was a great big room. If there was a party or any meetings, they'd always had them there. Then on Sunday afternoon, this Tumburitzza, Yugoslavian band, would come to practice. And everybody would come and sit on the stairs outside and listen to them because it was beautiful music. I always remember that.

JonLee: And you told me, too, that there was, you didn't think that they charged, it was just kind of a community service that they did.

Marianne Picinich: No, they didn't charge. And at one time, they also had a fish market in front of the meeting hall. But it was kinda separate from the hall, so they always had the hall available which was really nice.

JonLee: Is the hall still there?

Marianne Picinich: Well, the building is still there, yes it is.

JonLee: When we finish taping maybe you'll show me on the map. 'Cause I go by that way, that's how I go to the airport. What will happen? Is it because the Port moved in and took over the waterfront that that caused the disruption of the neighborhood or is it because people moved from the neighborhood out and were dispersed?

Marianne Picinich: Well, I know *my* parents wanted to buy a house when we were young, like in the seventh and eighth grade. My sister said, "If you buy another house, we're not moving, we're staying here." None of the kids, (we're all really close) and didn't want to leave there. Then the War started a lot of men were being drafted and had to leave. Then, people started getting educated, like they start working at Boeings and places and having more money and working more steadily and were able to save money. So, then they started, one by one, moving, to West Seattle or other areas which were nicer.

JonLee: But had they owned the houses there?

Marianne Picinich: Yes, they all owned the houses, uh-huh.

JonLee: And you told me, too, about a young man who was always studying, who became a doctor.

Marianne Picinich: Oh, yes, this was Doctor Vukov. And his brother owned a boat, fishing boat. In fact, my dad fished with them one year. My dad would say, when they'd get through fishing everybody would go to town or go somewheres. But Doctor Vukov always stayed there and he studied his books. He became one of the finest doctors. In fact, he was our family doctor until he retired. He's still living and he's in his eighties. But he was a wonderful doctor. He practiced in Renton and was very well liked by everyone.

JonLee: And he grew up there?

Marianne Picinich: He grew up there, uh-huh. [pause]

JonLee: Does he come to your reunions?

Marianne Picinich: *Absolutely.* He wouldn't miss them. Everybody comes, unless there's a reason that they can't make it. [pause] And a lot of other people that moved away from Riverside, started their own businesses, a lot of them became engineers at Boeing, probably retired after thirty or forty years from being at Boeing.

JonLee: Did people in that neighborhood tend to marry each other? Or marry out?

Marianne Picinich: No, they didn't. I can't think of anybody that married anybody from, no. We were really more like brothers and sisters.

JonLee: [pause] I'm just still trying to get a good grasp of the neighborhood. Do you remember the old West Seattle Bridge in the '50's? And the little Riverside Tavern on the bridge?

Marianne Picinich: Yes, that was Tom the Greek's.

JonLee: That was. 'Cause I remember that tavern.

Marianne Picinich: Do you?

JonLee: Sure, I was old enough. '50's and '60's. Old enough to go in there. And it had great big plants. It was an exotic place, it was wonderful.

Marianne Picinich: Yeah. When we went to get the bus, we'd have to get it right in front of his store. But to go to West Seattle, you'd have to cross the street, well, actually the bridge, to catch the trolley. 'Cause those were all trolleys when they first started.

JonLee: That's right. What ever happened to Tom the Greek?
'Cause when that bridge was hit, then that was the end of that. I know the Riverside Tavern moved down to Tukwila, I think.

Marianne Picinich: Oh. I don't know. I don't know what happened to him. But then, I think he was pretty wealthy. Because when he had the store there, he lived up on Palm Avenue, so he had to have been quite wealthy. He had a good business there. He had a restaurant, a tavern and a bar and a grocery store.

JonLee: Was it different than the one on the bridge? The one on the bridge was a different one?

Marianne Picinich: No, that was it.

JonLee: I don't remember the grocery store part of it. Maybe that was earlier.

Marianne Picinich: Well, it was just kind of a snack-- Yeah, maybe that was earlier. It was more like, maybe just candy and milk. Not a big selection like Popich and Budinick's.
[pause]

JonLee: Alice Kirschner brought a scrapbook of photographs to show. And it didn't look, there were some cars, but not many. Was that, West Marginal Way, that was a dirt street for a while and then it was covered with planks?

Marianne Picinich: Marginal? No. To my knowledge it was always cement.

JonLee: It was always cement, okay.

Marianne Picinich: But our roads were gravel, 17th and 16th. There were no sidewalks, they were just planks. And then we used to roller skate and go up the hill on 17th and roller skate all the way down on the planks. We had to be pretty careful.

JonLee: That could be pretty bumpy.

Marianne Picinich: Yeah. No kidding.

JonLee: That's what I was thinking of the picture of them, some pictures she showed me. Did many of the women work? Was it primarily women who worked in the fruit canning company?

Marianne Picinich: Yeah, that's right. And the men usually were fishermen.

[End Tape One, Side One]

JonLee: I don't have any more questions. Are there any more things you would like to tell me about Riverside or that you think we didn't cover? Because we just summarized, we skimmed.

Marianne Picinich: We just skimmed? Well, there's a lot of stories that could be told. I mean, I'm sure everybody could always think of something that happened down there. But, like I mentioned, there were a lot of good times, but there were also a couple of sad times. When the Budinick girl, Helen was killed. She was in the sixth grade. She and Frances were riding their bikes and was hit by a motorist. She died the next day and that was really a sad thing. [tape stops]

JonLee: So you were talking about sometimes some bad things happen. And that two girls were riding their bikes on the street and the motorist hit them

Marianne Picinich: Right. And Frances was hurt really bad and they didn't think she would live. And they said Helen would be okay. But the next day Helen died, 'cause she had all internal injuries. And Francis, her leg was severely damaged and she still lives to this day.

JonLee: Now, what did the community do when this happen? Did the motorist stop, number one? And was there--

Marianne Picinich: Well, I wasn't here when it happened. I'm sure he did.

JonLee: And what happened in the community.

Marianne Picinich: Well, everybody just felt really bad about it. You know, it was like losing one of their own family.

JonLee: Was there a funeral? Was it held--

Marianne Picinich: Oh, yes.

JonLee: Where was the--

Marianne Picinich: Holy Rosary.

JonLee: At Holy Rosary, okay. And the funeral home is the West Side Funeral Chapel.

Marianne Picinich: Right, uh-huh, it was on California Avenue. And that happened in 1935. Then in 1937, the two brothers. Johnny, about seventeen and Buddy was in his twenties, went to Alaska fishing. Like a lot of fishermen either went

out in the Sound fishing, or up to Alaska. It was a real good year and that boat just took on more fish than it could handle and it sank. Everybody on the boat was gone. And it was such a tragedy for the Budinick family. To lose them. They had seventeen children. In fact, I just talked to one of the girls, Anna, couple of days ago and she said there was only four of them left now, out of seventeen. [pause] But everybody shared the happiness and the grieving and everything together.

JonLee: So the whole community would have gone up to the--

Marianne Picinich: Oh, absolutely.

JonLee: --memorial services.

Marianne Picinich: Oh yes. It was quite a tragedy.

JonLee: [pause] And when there was a wedding, would that have been celebrated at Morin Hall or that was probably in the church? Holy Rosary.

Marianne Picinich: It was probably a church and a bigger hall, 'cause the hall wasn't that big. When my brother was married in '39, my parents rented a hall for him, a bigger hall.

JonLee: And he would have been married up in the church?

Marianne Picinich: At Holy Rosary, uh-huh, oh yes. And then had a reception later. [pause]

JonLee: How was the feeling in that community about people who were not of Yugoslavian descent?

Marianne Picinich: We all mixed pretty well, actually. Like there was one fellow, his name was Irish, but we called him Shouty and all the kids were always afraid of him, because, if, the kids ran between his two garages, he'd always get mad at them. So everybody was afraid. And if I had to go to Popich's store, I hated to go that way, because I knew he would holler. But we all got along good, though, otherwise. Like the Olmsteads and Taylors. Taylors had a big family. They didn't mix with us as well, but we were still all friendly.

JonLee: 'Cause I remember asking you at the bowling alley when we first met, but I just wanted to do this now that we have the tape going. If you were aware of any descendants of the Duwamish Indians who lived along there.

Marianne Picinich: No, I wasn't.

JonLee: They'd already been moved out.

Marianne Picinich: No, I wasn't aware of any of them.

JonLee: They'd already been moved out, but they used to live along there.

Marianne Picinich: Did they?

JonLee: Oh yes.

Marianne Picinich: Oh, I didn't know.

JonLee: There was a village, site.

Marianne Picinich: Was there?

JonLee: When the Port was digging.

Marianne Picinich: When was that? What year?

JonLee: Four thousand years ago.

Marianne Picinich: Oh, four *thousand*.

JonLee: No, that village was still used, up until probably the time of, what, our pioneers, our white pioneers in the 1850's, '60's.

Marianne Picinich: Oh, I see. No, to my knowledge I don't think there were any Indians.

JonLee: None left there, okay? And were there ever any Black, African Americans?

Marianne Picinich: None, nope, not at all. No one else. I mean, like no Asians or Filipinos or Japanese or Chinese.

JonLee: They would have lived mostly in Chinatown. But during the War, they were allowed to work in the defense industries. That was the first time they could work as other than a cook or launderer or restaurateur, you know.

Marianne Picinich: Right. Well, we moved out of Riverside in '41 and you know, gradually people then started moving out. And then other races came in. There were a lot of Vietnamese and Asians and Mexicans that would come in.

JonLee: Are they still there?

Marianne Picinich: It was quite a mix.

JonLee: Is the mix still living there?

Marianne Picinich: You know, I really don't know, I go down and drive there, but I don't know who's living there.

JonLee: Do you have any friends left there? The two older women--

Marianne Picinich: The two older women are the ones we know. I belong to American Slavic Women's Club and every Christmas we bring poinsettias to the elderly ladies. We always go down there and bring them a poinsettia, but I never get a chance to see any neighbors.

JonLee: It's almost time for you to receive a poinsettia, isn't it?
[laughs]

Marianne Picinich: I don't know. I don't think I'm quite that old.

JonLee: You're not old, enough, okay. that's all I have to ask today, unless you have other things that came to mind.

Marianne Picinich: Well, no, not really.

JonLee: Okay, thank you very much,

Marianne Picinich: Okay, you're welcome.

End of Interview.