

BUTTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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PLACE 1901 Lowell Ave.

Butte

DATE August 26, 1980

Batt J. Michelotti  
Interviewee

Ray F. Calves  
for BUTTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Melissa Uggetti  
American Studies

a Perspective on Growing up in Butte  
in the mid 1950's to early 1960's.

~ Growing up in Neighborhoods in Butte.

Jim Michelotti grew up in McQueen, and spent some time in Meteorville. McQueen consisted mainly of Austrians and Italians. The neighborhood consisted mainly of immediate families. All the activities in the neighborhoods revolved around families.

The neighborhoods each had their own Grocery stores. Instead of going to the store like we do now, you would just take orders and then the groceries would be delivered to your home. There were never payments for grocery at the end of the month if you had the money you could pay but if you didn't then that was fine.

~ Competition between Neighborhoods in Sports

Baseball was a big rivalry between neighborhoods. All of the games were played in the same place. Everyone attended these games, and everyone celebrated after the game at the McQueen Club.

- The CYO league - (Catholic Youth Organization) - consisted of nine Catholic gradeschools. Holy Saviour the school Jim attended was one of the smaller schools. Other schools involved were St. Johns, K.C., St. Mary, St. Lawrence, St. Joe.

## ~ Religious Background

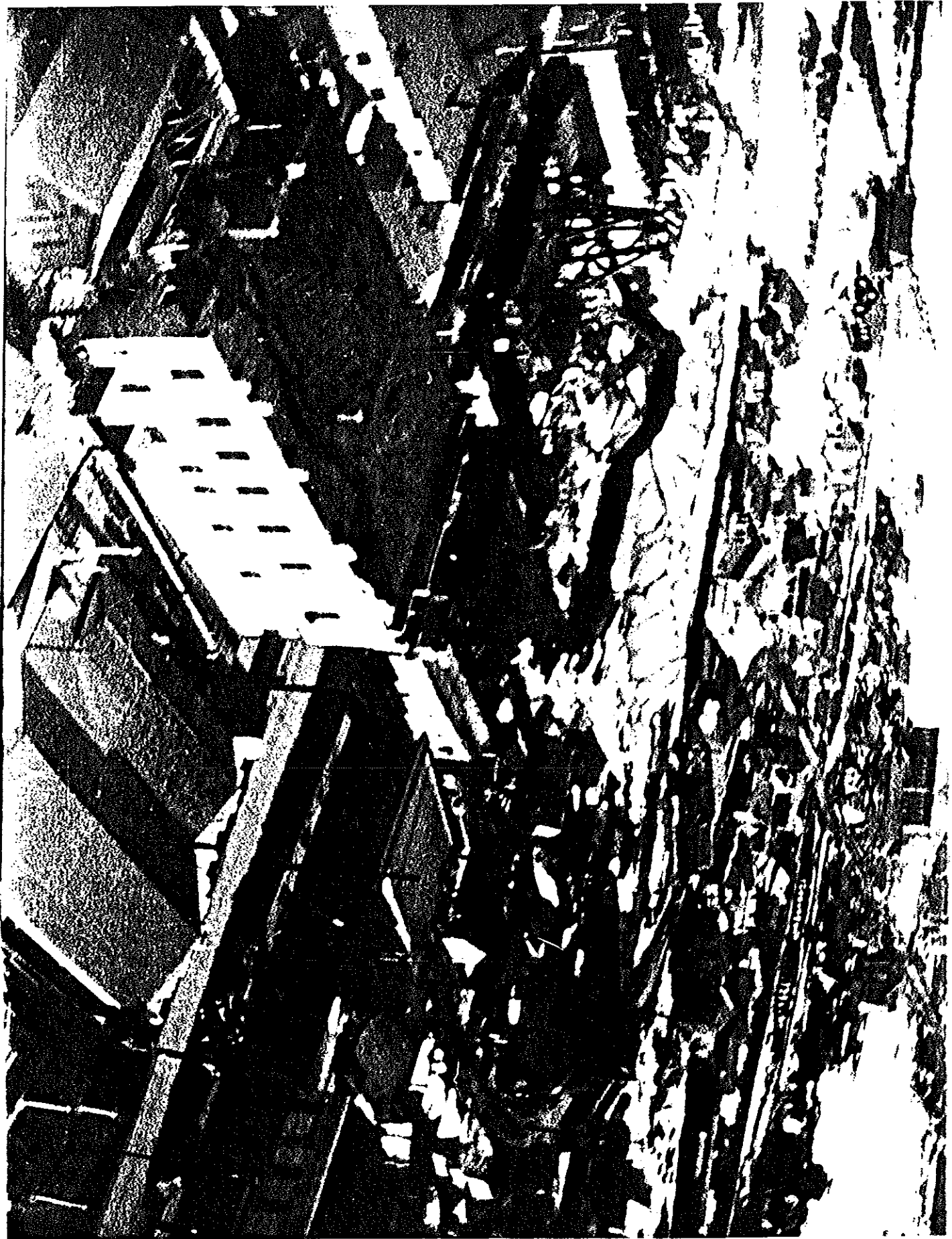
People went to church more often. The church had many activities to participate in. The church was a very important part of the neighborhood. Butte consisted of many neighborhoods and each neighborhood had its own church.

## ~ Do you wish your kids had the same opportunity to grow up in McQueen as you did?

Yes, Jim and his wife tried to structure their life and neighborhood like that in McQueen. It was a lot easier to grow up in a neighborhood where everyone knew each other. The kids could see the closeness between families. You grew up having very deep roots. His four boys do not have very strong bonds between many of their relatives, because society is so spread out. It was much better when there were close ties between families and families could depend on each other. Given the chance to go back to the old neighborhoods that existed in Butte, he would. It was the ideal way for families to grow up and the closeness they had with it.

## ~ Friends from Then and Now...

Friends Jim had while growing up, he has remained close to, and they will always be his friends. Everyone else he has just become

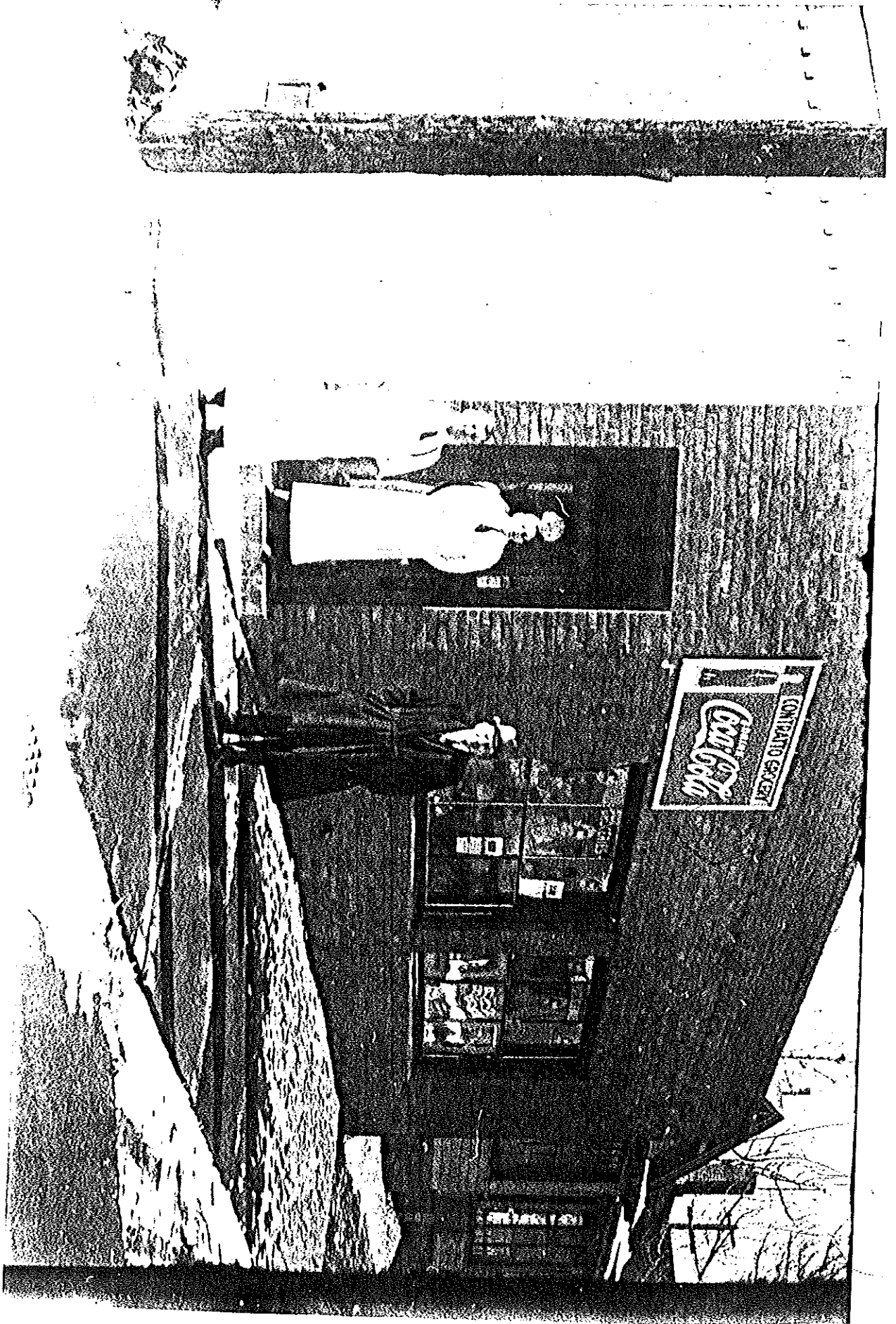


*McQueen*

Holy Saviour Church











Holy Saviour Class 1952  
Holy Saviour School





BUTTE



McJannet

