

Transcription: Anne Pritchard Oral History Interview (Part Five—The Ryder Collection)

PK—Patrick Kinghan (Interviewer)

AP—Anne Pritchard (Narrator)

**00:00**

PK: But, this is the perfect segue into the last thing we want to talk about, which is the collection itself. So, how did the collection sort of come about? I'm sure, like, like was it like purposefully collected to go to a museum, or was it just "oh I found all these things?"

**00:19**

AP: No. It, this again was my grandmother, who was a very organized person—very meticulous. And she—it's her hand writing on many of those things—and she labeled like that, the little insulin vial, and, you know, somehow she must have in the back of her mind realized that some of these things would be important for posterity. And, so she—and even all those journals. You know, all the journals with all the food and, you know, how many ounces and what Ted's weight was, and all this. So, she collected all those through the years, and they were in a couple of boxes and when...and so then when both my grandparents died, my mother—well let's see, I don't know—somehow they ended up with my mother who was the remaining, you know, person in the family who was alive, and she, they moved up here to Vermont, right up the hill from where I live. And so they lived in those boxes—they just stayed in the boxes—and my mother, for whatever reason, just couldn't quite...didn't know what to do with them. And so, when she died, they came down to my house. And so they lived in my...in our attic for—

**01:46**

PK: —sure—

**01:46**

AP: —a number of years. Upstairs in the attic.

**01:49**

PK: Amazing.

**01:49**

AP: And one day, I thought, "I am gonna...it's time to clean out this little attic." It's just a little place. And that's when we started...over the years, we had talked about "we really should find a place to put all this stuff." And we had looked through the boxes a little bit, but never read everything—never really unpacked everything because it was very neatly put away. And, but anyway, it was my sister-in-law, Jackie Shadford, who finally went on the internet and found the Banting House. Because we didn't know that the Banting House existed.

**02:24**

PK: Sure!

**02:25**

AP: We went “woah! This might be the place.” And then I wrote the email, and Grant replied, and the rest is history.

**02:34**

PK: Yeah. That’s fantastic.

**02:36**

AP: And we were looking. All along, we kept thinking “there must be a really important place that we could send this to.”

**02:42**

PK: Yeah. Yeah, well thank you for keeping it, ‘cause that—

**02:45**

AP: —it seems like a good fit. Yes it seems like a really good fit.

**02:48**

PK: It definitely does, yeah. It’s fantastic. Yeah, so, what does this collection being at Banting House and now being sort of put on exhibition, what does that mean to you?

**03:00**

AP: Oh I’m really excited about it. I’m really happy, as are my brothers, Jon and Steve and Jackie—my sister-in-law Jackie—and Susan, and my husband Dan. We’re just excited and a little bit relieved that these things have arrived in a safe place where people will take care of them and really, you know, they’ll mean something.

**03:32**

PK: Yeah.

**03:33**

AP: And so we’re excited.

**03:34**

PK: Yeah, that’s wonderful.

**03:36**

AP: And the fact that you’re doing an exhibit is really great.

**03:39**

PK: Yeah! Well, thank you for coming on and talking to us about all this stuff, this is really really interesting.

**03:47**

AP: You're very welcome.

**03:51**

PK: Hi everybody, Patrick here. Anne was a delight to speak with and we're so happy she could share her insights on Teddy and the collection. To learn more about this incredible story click the link below.