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Title: Yuriko Furubayashi Interview Narrator: Yuriko Furubayashi Interviewer: Naoko Wake Location: Kailua, Hawai'i

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## <Begin Segment 5>

NW: So, your father, when he was still back in Hiroshima, when he was a young man, did he have experience doing farming or was he . . .

YF: I think he did. But also worked for a brewing company, shōyu and all kind of stuff. He works around, you know. I guess, cleaning, he wasn't a brewer but, you know, some, he didn't have special skill but work around, you know. And then also farming too because he was, that time that he lived in, although the father was a small, that small town Japanese school principal, that's what I heard, but he wasn't, my father wasn't working as a teacher . . . and they're all farmer's kids there. That's where the father was teaching Japanese. So he did farming too, so you know, being a contract worker, he thought the farming's gonna be over here, it's gonna be like that. But you know, he started to work on a plantation, well. So, I think the farmers' kids, they feel that if they don't have a job and you know in Japan, you have few siblings and then you have small land, normally, the farmers don't own the land, you know? There's a landlord [who] own the land. And they don't have revenue, enough revenue, that's why they go out and seek another job. So he came to Hawai'i. And then also, his brother, younger brother came too, and he went to Hilo, on the Big Island. And they had plantations and pineapple fields and stuff. Now his younger brother was different from my father. He was very intellectual, so he writes letters for everybody. In Hilo, I understand, he was writing letters to the Japan family, and he take care of the people like the father did.

NW: I see. As educator.

YF: He used to come here and, you know, he was very different from my father. My father was quiet and he was satisfied with working in a plantation. But this uncle, he worked in a plantation, but he was connected to the Hongan-ji and take care of those plantation workers because he was, I think, educated. Like because the father was educator, right? He was an educator. So he writes letters for everybody and each, lot of things.

NW: Maybe keep family together.

YF: Yeah, yeah, yeah, that was the uncle. My father wasn't like that. Anyway . . .

NW: Did you have non-Japanese friends when you were little, I mean, I'm thinking of, did you, you know, have a friend who were Causcasians, did you have a friend with Chin-, I mean, of Chinese, or . . .

YF: Yeah. I had friends when I went to school, from Laie to Kahuku school. My classmates, you know, all mixed, right? Filipinos and white, Caucasians and Japanese and I had, across the street, had this Caucasian family. And I was a good friend of the girl, in the same class as me.

NW: Right, right, did you . . . yeah.

YF: And then I, my sister then was very close to a lot of Filipino families, and Filipino friends but I, my friends were limited to the ones that go to the Hongan-ji, all Japanese, and then some other friends, I guess.

NW: It's interesting.

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