

Rohnert Park Oral History
Sample Questions

1. When and where were you born?
2. What did your parents do for a living?
3. If you grew up in Rohnert Park, what are some of your early memories of the city?
4. What were your experiences with/in the schools (as a student, parent, or teacher)?
5. What were your experiences with the public library?
6. What roles did the library play in your life and in the broader community?
7. What section(s) did you live in and how did that shape your experience of RP?
8. How did the planned nature of the town impact everyday life in RP?
9. What role did churches or other religious institutions play in your life in RP?
10. What was your first job in Rohnert Park or in the area?
11. How did Rohnert Park change over the first decade or two that you lived here?
12. What do you think are some of the major milestones in the city's history during your lifetime? Could you talk about your perspective on these events?
13. What's the relationship between Cotati and Rohnert Park?
Change over time?
14. What's the relationship between Sonoma State and RP?
Change over time?
15. How did the construction of the Hewlett-Packard Plant influence RP (1980s)? How did its closure in the 2000s affect the city?
16. How have real estate development and suburban growth affected RP?
17. How did the construction of the Graton Rancheria casino impact Rohnert Park?
18. How would you describe local politics in Rohnert Park and how have these changed over the time you've lived here?

19. How would you describe Rohnert Park's place in Sonoma County today? What's the city's relationship to Santa Rosa and the rest of the county?
 20. How would you describe Rohnert Park today to someone from another country who has never visited the city?
 21. Is there anything important about RP's modern history that we didn't ask about?
 22. Who else should be interviewed about the history of RP?
Why?*
- (We may not be able to get to everyone, but future projects may want to know.)