

FOURTH OF JULY



1974

ES: Well, Fourth of July was always a big day, just like it is now in Ridgewood. ... And Father—people used to decorate their houses that were on the line of march. And they always went down past our house. I have pictures somewhere the way Father has the whole house—the whole front of the house decorated—and with flags and bunting and so forth. And there was always a great big party and a wonderful parade. ... And we thought it was wonderful in those days. And they really went out; all the different organizations were represented. And it was a very fine shindig. Well, those are the kind of things that interested us in those days. And then we had fireworks afterwards.



1994

DP: ... Can you tell me about any Fourth of July celebrations that you remember? Any of them outstanding in mind?

MC: No. See, I don't remember any Fourth of July celebrations until—oh, until I was—after I was married. I remember one Fourth of July particularly. We lived on California Street at the corner of Heights Road. And my father brought home a whole carton full of fireworks and set them all off. I remember it largely because my mother didn't approve of it. I was meant to be wildly excited about it. I really wasn't but my father had a good time. But that's what people, at least in Upper Ridgewood, did; they celebrated their own Fourth of July.