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U.S. Department of the Interior

Cuyahoga Valley  
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## Farming in the Valley: 2011 Oral History Project

The following are transcripts from three audio clips in the **Sense of Community/Dances** section. Visit <http://www.nps.gov/cuva/historyculture/dances.htm> to view the entire page.

### Everett Dance Hall

*Marjorie Osborne Morgan recalls how Everett residents spent many hours together at the village dance hall (now the Everett Ranger Station).*

“In the big building down there on the corner, where the park has their offices now, that was a dancehall upstairs. Very beautiful dancehall. And downstairs in one end was the bar where you went in the bar and then up the stairs to the dancehall, and the other half my aunt and uncle lived there. That was a big deal on a lotta Saturday nights, too. Back in those days, they danced and danced on Saturday night. The dancehall was the whole upstairs, and it had a special floor for dancing, you know. It might have been oak, I’m not sure, but it was *fabulous*, and slick, you know, you could . . . and it was really, really great, I mean . . . But then downstairs they had a bar, and there were always those who abused that. Nine times out of ten, I guess, in the olden days, that’s before I could even start goin’ there, they always had some kind of a big fight of some kind and ~laughs~ people goin’ home with bloody noses, because that was one of the things they did in olden days. They’d have too much to drink and then they’d fight. I mean, that was their entertainment!”

### Street Dance

*Hazel Broughton describes how the Everett community often came together dancing in the road.*

“The best square dance I can tell you about is I experienced, was a dance, which was called a 'street dance.' And my father-in-law didn’t happen to call this dance, but it was at the corner of Everett Road and Riverview Road. Now they kept Everett Road open to Riverview and you could make a left and go to Peninsula, but you couldn’t turn right. That evening, it was a Saturday evening I believe, they closed the street off and we had a street dance. I had never been to a street dance. That was my first and only street dance. We just danced right in the street, and the orchestra was on a hay wagon.”

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## Hay Wagon Orchestra

*At the street dances in Everett, Jan Thomas recalls how the band played instruments on top of a hay wagon.*

“Hazel and Dewey Osbourne, he played the drums and she played the piano, and they were up on a, sometimes up on a hay wagon, and it was just fun.”