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Interview with Rabbi Arthur Zuckerman, Shaarie Torah, 2009 (audio)

Arthur Zuckerman

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PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY SUSTAINABILITY HISTORY PROJECT Interview Index

INTERVIEWEE: Rabbi Zuckerman

Interviewer: <u>Austin Rosenfeld</u>

Date: March 6th 2009

Location of Interview: Shaarie Torah, in the office of Rabbi Zuckerman

Research Assistant: Dennis LaPrade

Interview Series: SUSTAINING NORTHWEST LANDSCAPES & COMMUNITIES

Recording Equipment: DIGITAL RECORDER (WINDOWS MEDIA AUDIO FILE) WITH AN

EXTERNAL, OMNIDIRECTIONAL MICROPHONE

Time	Notes
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00:01	Where are you from? Brooklyn, NY
00:03	Where was your education from? He went into childhood schooling through
	college. Mother-in-law and many friends said he should become a rabbi. He talked
	about his work before becoming a rabbi.
00:06	He gave a walkthrough of a Jewish Burial, giving statements such as, entering the
	world simple thus exiting the world simple.
00:08	What does it mean to be a Cohen? When handling a funeral, he has to be at least 8
	feet away from the body for purity reasons.
00:12	Describe the different type of caskets that can be used? He talked about no open
	casket showings, traditional mummification style. He then went into limitations of
	woods that can be used.
00:15	How does government regulations effect Jewish burials? Earthquakes and water
	tables require a cement foundation. Jewish law prohibits non Jewish members to be
	buried in a Jewish cemetery. He also went into several other Jewish regulations.
00:20	What are the types of tomestones that are used? He gives a description of
	tomestones and the importance of them.

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00:22	What is the separation between Shaarie Torah and other synagogue? He clarified the differences of different synagogues.
	the differences of different syndgogues.
00:24	He went into a personal moment and talked about his mother's Jewish burial.
00:26	How would you define sustainability? He talked about education is needed to
	begin to sustain. He also went into how it is a proper way to treat a body.