

Interviewer: Elizabeth Anderson

Interviewees: Clinton and Josephine Miller; Mark, Patsy and Lloyd Hoke

Elizabeth Anderson: This is a tape made with Clinton and Josephine Miller and Mark and Patsy Hoke and Lloyd Hoke on November 9, 1981.

Unknown Speaker: [indecipherable]

EA: No, I asked Mark if what if, do you know about your relatives, your ancestors?

[CD is garbled and is hard to hear]

Lloyd Hoke: -always wanted to go down there, you can go down through Charlestown into Winchester on Route 9 and hit Route 50 and hit-

Unknown Speaker: [indecipherable]

LH: -Yeah I mean in the mountains.

EA: Wonder how he got down there in the first place.

LH: Well that's where he was born and raised, grandfather, my grandfather.

EA: They were Dietz's?

LH: Yeah.

EA: What did they do down there? Did they farm or what?

LH: That I do not know, I don't know.

EA: You don't know whether they had worked in some furnaces?

LH: Now that's what-

EA: Before!-

LH: No-

EA: Like the other-

LH: No-

EA: His ancestors that knew about furnaces in like Pennsylvania-how did they know there were in Pennsylvania? Did they have relatives up there? How did they know there was a furnace up here, if they were way back in there in-?

LH: Well they nothing else but to head north-

EA: They just started out walking as young men?

LH: Yeah, him and his brother Joe. That's like-that's his daddy's name.

EA: Yeah, Joe?

LH: Joe Dietz. They separated right down there at Worman's Mill. Got in some kind of argument and he headed for Sparrow's Point, Bethlehem Steel.

EA: Which is that the brother?

LH: Yeah.

EA: Joe?

LH: My grandfather, Charles, worked right here.

EA: He came up this road?

LH: Yeah, worked here at the-

EA: Charles Dietz?

LH: Yeah, worked right here at the furnace.

EA: How long did he stay here?

LH: Not very-I don't know how long, see I don't know how long.

EA: Did he get married here?

LH: No.

EA: He was single then, he was just young-

LH: That's right. He boarded in a boarding house, up in the mine banks somewhere. Where was that at? The boarding house?

Patsy Hoke: Well there's one up there at [indecipherable].

LH: Alright and the store isn't right here where it is now. It was somewhere else.

EA: Yeah, it was up the hill.

LH: Okay but the church wasn't up this road, looser or something.

EA: [indecipherable]

LH: [indecipherable] or something, our church.

EA: Right.

LH: He went to church here. And that year [indecipherable] work or something. Then he walked to Plank in Pennsylvania, that was beyond Gettysburg and Victorsville, right into Pine Grove, then he worked the Plant Grove furnace.

EA: And this all before he was married?

LH: Yeah, and then that's where he met my grandmother. They got married in Plant-Plant Grove, Pennsylvania.

EA: You don't know what year he got married?

LH: No. I don't-

EA: You're, what-

LH: See I was born in '21-

EA: You were born when old-

LH: And he was workin-

EA: How old was your mother, over her brothers and sisters bout that time? Was she the youngest child?

LH: My mother was yeah.

PH: She was the youngest girl.

EA: The youngest child? Then Mim's father would have been Mim's father, is that right? Was your mother's brother?

LH: That's right.

EA: Mim's father was older?

LH: By much older yeah.

EA: And were there even older ones yet?

LH: Yeah. She had about eight or ten, Nanny had-

EA: So-

PH: Her pappy was about 82 when he died.

LH: Yeah.

PH: His name was-

EA: So your mother was pretty young when you were born?

LH: My mother was twenty-one because I remember-

EA: So she was born in 1900?

LH: Yeah and I was born in 1921.

EA: Okay she was born in 1900 so she probably had brothers and sisters that were born in twenty years-five before that-

PH: Twenty years even.

LH: That's right.

EA: About 1880 or something.

LH: Uncle Mark and them yeah.

PH: Yeah he was the oldest.

EA: They would've probably born in 1880 so he probably got married at that time then so he'd probably born about '55 or '60 1855 or '60 cause he was probably 20-25 when he got married.

LH: 1885 or '60.

EA: Somewhere in there-

LH: That's right.

EA: And so well that-at that time that would've been when this place was really operating up at the Conkels.

LH: See that's why I wanted to go down to Wardensville to see if there's any of his relations still livin, you know any-any-any I went down when I was only about five years old with Aunt-Aunt Edna, five or six.

EA: Do you know what his mother's maiden name was, he was a Dietz?

LH: That's it.

EA: That's it. That's as far as you know?

LH: Yeah. My great grandmother's name was a Griffy.

EA: They were in Pennsylvania?

LH: Pine Grove.

EA: Yeah.

LH: Then they-I don't know, I don't know if, I doubt they quit. I think the furnace shut down-

EA: Yeah.

LH: -In Pine Grove then he moved to Corduroy and that was it.

EA: He followed furnaces wherever he went, that's the kinda work he did.

LH: But I don't know what was down in West Virginia maybe logging or I don't know but I know it was-

PH: He worked at the furnace.

EA: Well what did his brother do the one that went to Sparrow's Point?

LH: He worked at Bethlehem Steel.

EA: Did he just stay there then-

LH: Yeah.

EA: -all the time, he just stayed with that place-

LH: Yeah.

EA: They must've had some injured. Course that was where you'd go to get a lot of work.

LH: Well you didn't have no work then.

EA: Do you know what kind of he did here?

LH: At here?

EA: Yeah. What type of work was he-just out in the mountain cutting wood or?

LH: Yeah, yeah.

EA: Or was he here in the furnace itself?

LH: I-in the mountains-

EA: Or a mechanic.

LH: No no no, just a labor. Did they have coke up in the mountains?

EA: Charcoal?

LH: That's it.

EA: They went up there and they cut wood and brought it in-

LH: Made charcoal.

EA: -and made those charcoal lumps.

LH: I wish-I wish, I honestly wish that you all could go up and see the one at home. I'm serious.

EA: Yeah, I'd like to go up and see it.

LH: I'm serious. I promised Uncle Bill for six years-

PH: I know.

LH: The wagons and all are still there. Ya know the band wagons? Man I used to ride them and played with 'em.

EA: Have they done any restoration work up there or is it still like it was.

LH: No-

EA: It's in pretty good shape?

LH: Yeah that state-

EA: It was never let it go down?

LH: They might of.

EA: Now I've been over to Hokewell, which is out by-

LH: Pennsylvania.

EA: -Philidelphia, Hokewell, Pennsylvania.

LH: I might've, I know of it.

EA: Yeah, yeah. And that one's pretty good shape and what didn't fall down they restored.

LH: No they had a thirty foot wheel in there.

EA: Yeah they gotta big wheel at Hokewell as well.

LH: Now they threw an electric motor on it so it'd run.

EA: Yeah.

LH: Just like a steamer.

EA: Cornwall is never Lebanon right?

LH: Yeah five miles south of Lebanon.

EA: How close is that to Allentown?

LH: Oh that's a way way from Allentown.

EA: Allentown's a lot further?

LH: Oh my yes.

EA: I think I'm gonna have to go to Allentown then because I'm finding out that the Moravian Church records are all in Bethlehem which is right near Allentown.

LH: That's three hours.

EA: How long does it take to drive to Lebanon?

LH: Forty-five minutes, well not to Cornwall.

PH: About an hour away?

LH: Yeah about an hour away.

EA: Yeah.

LH: Hour and half away.

EA: Yeah.

LH: I mean it's beautiful they got-they got dollies in there and all. Actually when the war came around and-

EA: Yeah.

LH: -I wish I knew the dates but I don't.

EA: Well ya know.

LH: Where is the-the church book is I don't know about the furnaces and all that.

PH: [indecipherable]

LH: The history of the furnaces. Cornwall had the Bert Furnace I remember that when I was raised, the North Cornwall Furnace and the Anthracite Furnace, about three or four there.

PH: Yeah [indecipherable].

LH: Now they've torn down three of them and left the one and now the state runs it.

EA: I've gotta book about Hokewell. Lizzy sent the book about Hokewell about the-a lot of the things that went on at Hokewell are similar to the ones that went on here, ya know?

LH: That I know of, I know of the dirt road, ya know off of-

PH: Yeah.

LH: -we used to go sledding. There were things up in the mountain, what do you call them?

[indecipherable] charcoal.

PH: [indecipherable]

EA: Well..you don't remember when you started coming down here, what was down here? Was there anything left at all or was it all more or less-

LH: Well I'm gonna tell you the truth. I lived up north with some people and I came down in 1945 was it. I never recognized the furnace until Bobby told me that was the furnace, all I seen was wall.

EA: All grown up I guess?

LH: Growing up yes.

PH: In Charlestown [indecipherable].

LH: Then we moved down this old house here. I rented it from Mr. Freddy for what \$12?

EA: Which old house?

PH: Across the road [indecipherable].

EA: But you lived here what right here where Bubby lives?

LH: I lived up [indecipherable], yeah up there with Millie and them. Til it got sold. So I found a job that was important?

EA: When you got back from the service?

LH: That's right, cause she didn't want to go up home. Yeah her and her mother.

EA: What-

LH: Then grandpappy left and the furnace shut down he then went to the Cornwall Mines. See there was an open pit and there was two under I worked underground and they worked in the open-open pit.

EA: And they kept on operating even when the furnace shut down?

LH: Hundred years.

EA: What did-

LH: Now they're closed down.

EA: They took that out of there and took it somewhere else.

LH: See Bethel Steel just went, I don't know-

EA: They took the ore away. They did that here ya know? They hauled it down from here for about ten twelve years and hauled it to Pennsylvania after Throt bought this place.

LH: See the ore from old pit-we're gonna have to ride up there someday and you can go look at the open pit. I worked underground, 3000 feet down.

EA: You didn't see any pits around here that they're weren't still any pits around here when you came here did it look like that too?

LH: You mean that big?

EA: Well there was some pretty big pits here at one time I mean-

LH: Is that the one back here with ore in it or what?

EA: Well I don't know they're all up here towards the mine bank.

LH: I've never been up there.

EA: Supposed to be.

LH: I've been up there, there's only one here and one here I didn't know what they were.

EA: Yeah. See a lot of that was filled in when they built 15.

LH: Yeah.

EA: Yeah. I see.

LH: I was hoping to get down to Forgesville, it's-it's not that far. You it get's from-there still has to be some relatives living.

EA: Yeah it would be interesting to know what they did down there or why they left down there

LH: [indecipherable]

EA: Why they came to an iron where there was just iron working both of 'em. Whether they had some interest in it over there or.

LH: Obviously they didn't have no work down there.

EA: Yeah that's probably-

LH: [indecipherable]

EA: That's probably it.

LH: I don't know, I can't, I can hear grandpappy say when he worked at Catoctin Furnace, lived in a boarding house, went to church, I always wanted to bring him down, ya know he was.

EA: But you couldn't. There was a couple boarding houses so I understand.

LH: He said the mine bank they could walk the mine bank-

EA: Well that was-

LH: -[indecipherable] lives.

EA: Yeah, yeah. But that's all you remember him telling about down here, he didn't talk any-

LH: He took the picture of the my-of the furnace. Bubby had a clock, Mr. Anders.

EA: Yeah.

LH: He recognized it right away like that.

EA: Which picture was that? Was that-

LH: That's everything was there, they had everything ya know not just what's there now they had things out of-

EA: Yeah. Wonder inf Mim's still has that picture?

LH: Can't find it.

EA: Is that right?

LH: She can't find it.

EA: Gosh.

LH: It was a pretty picture it was hanging-used to hang on the wall and Mr. Anders-Mr. Anders took it along I didn't know came up with that woman he lived with.

EA: Yeah, yeah.

LH: [indecipherable]

EA: What a-you-you remember what it looked it? It had three furnaces didn't it?

LH: That's exactly right had sheds and-

EA: And one was a real big one a modern looking one than the other?

LH: Yeah.

EA: Yeah. I've seen it, a copy of it, a picture similar to it. I should've brought some pictures

[indecipherable] I forgot.

LH: You see the picture of the town that Joann took?

EA: Just recently?

LH: She-no no way back-way back. She gave me one and I had, when I lived over there I had a, never forget it either, Barry and them was staying and somebody from the Washington Post or something took a picture of that house she reproduced it for me.

EA: I don't know, I don't think I've seen the one she took.

LH: I think they're up there somewhere.

EA: Okay.

LH and PH: [indecipherable]

LH: Where did Joann get that?

PH: I had it. I had it out the newspaper.

EA: Is that right?

LH: [indecipherable]

PH: Right out the Sunday newspaper, ya know like [indecipherable].

EA: Yeah.

LH: [indecipherable] got this out the paper?

PH: Yeah, yeah.

LH: The Washington Post?

PH: Oh that one! No no no! I was thinking that one. Let me see.

LH: [indecipherable] that's the one you got from Joann.

PH: This is the one Mr. Enkels gave Clint or something. She bought it from someone else, I got that out the people and she enjoyed doing that, and she sat down-

LH: [indecipherable]

PH: You know what daddy said [indecipherable] cause he built these houses here, but this is the one here where the Sweeney's lived in. [indecipherable] mother.

LH: [indecipherable]

PH: [indecipherable] mother.

LH: Well that's where Beverly lived. No! No that's Aunt Joan's house.

PH: [indecipherable]

LH: [indecipherable]

PH: [indecipherable]

LH: This house wasn't here long.

PH: Yeah that's right.

LH: This-this place here.

PH: That's right.

EA: And they always kept the white fences?

PH: Oh yes, we went inside and out every year see.

LH: Used to paint these [indecipherable] say Lloyd you ain't doing too much.

PH: [indecipherable]

LH: Mr. Fraley-

PH: But we had more than some people had. We had to divide the house off at the garden in between that house and the one on the right there was a white fence and an old gate.

EA: Yeah.

LH: You know it's funny this place.

PH: [indecipherable]

LH: The fireplace ya know. I don't know why.

PH: Cause she [indecipherable]

LH: The one over there?

PH: No.

LH: [indecipherable]

PH: It might have before we ever got it tore it out of it [indecipherable]

LH: Yeah I had it open-I had it open once.

PH: Yeah that's how ours was we had a fireplace [indecipherable]

LH: [indecipherable] right there. I opened it up to put the-

PH: That's right this is the one on this side.

EA: Mr. Stitely, the Stitely that lived in here, what was his name?

PH: Elsworth.

EA: Elsworth Stitely. I bet he [indecipherable] the furnace.

PH: I wouldn't doubt it. That's why I like to have my buddy Chaucly he knows him more than I did because I don't know much about him.

LH: [indecipherable]

PH: Like I said when I lived there the school wasn't up there, the furnace wasn't.

LH: What wasn't?

PH: These old houses used to be back here where Father [indecipherable] and all lived in. They were all ready to just move down.

LH: I see the foundation back in-

PH: Yeah.

LH: [indecipherable]

EA, PH, and LH all talk at the same time-[indecipherable]

PH: [indecipherable] lived up there, her sister died up there.

LH: -that spring-

PH: [indecipherable]

LH: -walked over the foundation.

EA: Well I wonder if this-do they have a lot of pictures up at Ackers? Up at Travis'?

PH: I don't know [indecipherable] I know they had that one cause [indecipherable] had that made and Beverly said she'd like to have one.

EA: Well he's not all that old, is he?

PH: Who?

EA: Chressler?

PH: Miller?

EA: Yeah.

PH: He's, oh I guess he's sixty [indecipherable] something like that. I don't know who-

EA: His wife was Bill Renner's wife's daughter right?

PH: No no no no Bubber.

EA: Oh, Bubber is-

PH: Bill Renner's stepson. She was married to a Tressle, Tressle, a Tressle.

LH: [indecipherable]

PH: And he died and then she married Mr. Renner and she had Kathleen the one that has the post office out at [indecipherable] Rocky Ridge over there on the corner.

EA: Yeah.

PH: That's his sister.

EA: Well probably a lot of the pictures then they would have up there Renner would have.

PH: I wouldn't doubt it. I bet he would have a few. But this one here I got out of the Baltimore paper.

EA: No there-

PH: I kept that. And it was all tore and pasted underneath and Andre said don't worry about that I'll get it. So she ran off cause she wanted one for herself too.

EA: Yeah, she can do that type of stuff there.

PH: Yeah. [indecipherable] it don't question the same, but she just takes time cause she won't do it when she [indecipherable].

EA: Yeah.

PH: Cause I had my brother Bubby [indecipherable] I'll show you again.

EA: K.

PH: [indecipherable]

EA: Well I can gather some old pictures of them I wonder if she'd have copies made.

PH: Oh yeah, of course she would. If you give them to me I'll give them to her. [indecipherable]

EA: K, cause that would be great ya know cause this is the type thing that I wanted-

PH: [indecipherable] cause when I seen that I thought I lived in the other house it was in real good shape then. We had that log back there to the fish pond and next. And I said Joann I'd love to have that [indecipherable].

EA: Somebody told me that when the people rented the houses they had to, each individual had to whitewash their house by the 30th of May, did you ever know that?

PH: Yes indeed, everything had to be snow white on the outside, the fence, our house, clothesline, post and everything. That was all done before the 30th of May. The outside toilet

and all of that. Any building that had the [indecipherable] whitewashed. Everything was snow white by the 30th of May. Why I don't know.

EA: Well that was part of the deal when-

PH: Even our inside when we were kids. My mother whitewashed the walls, ya know the bedroom walls and everything was lye. But then they go on and they got going on some kind of pavement and you take it over top and it was about that thick when Bobby'd take it off, ya know to put the base the board on. What a mess. And in the kitchen-oh my the kitchen was green like cloth that was all the way down our kitchen, course we washed that out every year, spring and fall.

EA: Well he bought it then or did he buy or?

PH: No my daddy did.

EA: Your dad bought it.

PH: My dad did.

EA: In 1923 when they came up for sale.

PH: He bought him cause his mother got him the money. I think he said he only 3-400 dollars then, ya know.

EA: Jessie Stitley said she thought her father paid 350 for that one down here.

PH: It was around something like that ya know, that's a big house up there on the hill. Course that's got four bedrooms [indecipherable] in the back part.

EA: Yeah. Was that part on there-

PH: Yeah.

EA: -or did he add that?

PH: No, that was always on there. Course that's where we always kept our-that's got a big cover and that's where we kept out canned food, top to the bottom filled. Kept all of our stuff back there, our dried beans, stuff hanging up on nails in bags and silver cans and all. Then we had a cave outside back in the-course that was nothing [indecipherable] spring, that was nothing but bank back up on the hill now. That was nothing but all level. We had a narrow path that went up the spring and the state took all that dirt. They want it froze and it goes to state. I said today they would've paid you for it. He gave it to him, ya know, to get it taken away [indecipherable] the grass.

EA: Well do you remember up a the Manor House, of course you remember when that was in perfect shape.

PH: Oh yeah. Oh yeah cause we used to go up there and the Manor's used to have a Christmas party on the third floor all decorated and the fireplace going, yeah, we went out there a lot.

EA: What was-I mean how was it on the inside? I mean was it painted or papered?

PH: Paper beautiful, you'd tell to have the fireplace and mantle and oh my they was beautiful.

EA: Nice floors?

PH: Oh my yeah and beautiful home. We used to go there every morning and get Evelyn and Junior and them and walk on to the school. Then we used to play the hidey-hoops and stuff in the evenings and go around the bushes and-

LH: [indecipherable]

PH: Oh did you find it? Where was it at then?

LH: [indecipherable] this is the one that is still intact, ya know, just like a museum right now.

PH: Yeah she might be able to get the information about the [indecipherable].

LH: This is I mean this is some reading in there, but it's mostly about the churches and-

EA: Yeah.

PH: Well I don't know what had just been looked at-

LH: It's a shame they tore that down I used to play in that. [indecipherable] That was a 20-30 something road and they tore that down. Now you talk about a historical place.

PH: They was up at the manor house [indecipherable]. They boarded and saved everything up there.

EA: Yeah that's what I understood.

PH: Ya know cause mom told us about that.

LH: There was a ore-

PH: The slaves-

LH: Ore [indecipherable].

EA: [indecipherable]

LH: [indecipherable]

EA: That was anthracite, an anthracite furnace and they never had anthracite down here. You're talking about something I don't know about.

LH: This-this is what they had down here.

EA: Yeah, charcoal. Charcoal furnace.

LH: Now this was where Mim and I was born in what they call Burt Cornwall. It's named after a god in England, ya know, Cornwall is an English name.

EA: Yeah, oh yeah.

PH: Ya know the stuff where Bubby's living go [indecipherable] and he knew all about this stuff course my mother told me too.

LH: This is-listen-listen-

EA: Oh he did? Is he still-

PH: Oh yeah he's still livin.

LH: This is beautiful inside.

EA: Is he-does he remember things?

PH: Oh yeah. [indecipherable]

EA: Well Clint Miller did too.

PH: Yeah.

EA: [indecipherable]

PH: Yeah.

LH: This is the one I love coming up home from Mary's-

PH: [indecipherable] I imagine you did being a young boy.

LH: We used to play there man all day.

PH: These houses up there we used to go up there everyday and get ya know pick up walnuts and-

LH: Up where?

PH: Back up here they had you and Charlie used to take us kids and get all the chestnuts.

EA: How many houses were back there?

LH: Oh, course I don't know it was five six or what.

EA: You don't-was there anybody living in them then?

PH: No, nu-huh.

EA: They were all space?

PH: We used to [indecipherable] a lot em were falling down.

EA: Log houses?

PH: Yup everything was whitewashed.

EA: So that was all part of this complex too?

PH: Yeah. Ya know cause Katie Carrigan used to come down to [indecipherable] and they lived up here one time years ago. I told Chuck his mother and father used to live over there, his sister lived up [indecipherable].

LH: See we need to get to the history of the furnace. It was built by Peter Grubb and-

PH: That's what I said she can take the book and read though. That way you can get [indecipherable] out of it.

LH: [indecipherable]

PH: Yeah, yeah.

EA: Well you know you get ideas. I looked in these others to get ideas and things to work out on this.

PH: [indecipherable]

LH: [indecipherable]

PH: You have it then?

LH: What?

PH: [indecipherable]

LH: Where?

PH: Up there.

LH: I was livin in [indecipherable] old one one time on a swing.

PH: No I mean us! My mother.

LH: When I come down yeah. [indecipherable]

EA: Well down here on Blacksmill Road now were there houses down in there too? Do you remember?

PH: Yeah, they saw they were haunted.

EA: Cause there's-

PH:[indecipherable]

EA: Course there's ones down there where people are now.

PH: Yeah the barracks [indecipherable].

EA: Well were there Nick's buildings back in there when you were young or were they put up later?

PH: These right back here?

EA: Yeah.

CD BREAKS AND A NEW INTERVIEW BEGINS AT 26:56

EA: Don't let this thing bother you, it's harmless. And no one hears it but me. It's just for me, just for keeping me from having to write a lot of stuff down that I find very bothersome when I talk to people when I write all the time. Now what I'm trying to figure out what you remember about the furnace up here if anything. What it looked like when you were a youngster.

Clint Miller: Well it's all quite different than it is now. That is the shop is on the other side of the road and the old stable [indecipherable]-

EA: Mule barn or whatever it is.

CM: Yeah.

EA: Yeah.

CM: And then the casting house, bug casting house [indecipherable].

EA: Is that the casting house that they out back, that's the same one that they-

CM: No. That was over this way.

EA: That was over here against the other-

CM: [indecipherable] The new furnace and the old would do that.

EA: And those three, the three furnaces were there then? Still there? You remember when they tore the new one down then, all that metal and everything?

CM: Yeah...yeah, yeah.

EA: What-but it wasn't-you never saw anything in operation?

CM: In operation, no.

EA: Yeah well-

PH: But you were [indecipherable]

CM: No not up here.

EA: See it shut down in 1903.

CM: Yeah.

EA: Yeah so he would be [indecipherable].

PH: I thought he did though.

CM: Still mined some ore up there at the mine bank about that time.

EA: Just where was that mine located?

CM: Right back up in the houses somewhere.

EA: Like right back up above Bubby Sweeney's store?

CM: No, [indecipherable] after you go down to the hill there.

EA: Yeah.

PH: [indecipherable] You know where she lives? Big double house.

CM: Where John Bryson's store was.

EA: Okay, yeah yeah. Okay.

PH: You know where that stone wall is? That house.

EA: No.

CM: That front door right out there John's store is. Little cars go out there and wash it on the far side of the road. I figured I'd wash it then come on down then they'd ship that out too many.

EA: Well they-who-was there a road there where 106 is now?

CM: Yeah.

EA: Was that road up there? Of course it wasn't anything back up here where 15 is.

CM: No.

EA: That was-were there houses-do you remember the houses up here along 15?

CM: Yeah.

EA: Who-how many houses were up there?

CM: 1-2-3-4, four houses.

EA: And they were just individual houses like log houses?

CM: Yeah.

EA: Well do you remember the barracks where people lived? Where they like a lot of people lived in a like workmen up at the mine bank.

CM: Yeah that's that double house they called Warden House back then.

EA: Yeah, yeah. K, where was it?

CM: That's the one there at [indecipherable] long house there.

EA: So people still-people still live in it?

CM: Yeah. Yeah they-

EA: And that was the boarding house?

CM: [indecipherable]

EA: Did they feed 'em and everything?

CM: Yeah they fed 'em.

EA: Oh I see, I see. And most of the people I guess who lived there were like single men?

CM: Yeah.

EA: What-then your father did he work in the furnace? Your grandfather.

CM: No my grandfather did yeah.

EA: What was his name?

CM: Charlie. Charles Miller.

EA: Charles Miller. Did he have brothers that worked in or anything?

CM: Not that I know of, not that I remember any-any brothers on his side, probably had some, there's a lot of 'em. Joann knows a lot about the history she knows all of them. But I don't know any around there.

EA: But you don't know if your father worked there?

CM: No. I know he worked at the mine up there [indecipherable].

EA: And then they-the little carts and everything swung around down below like behind where Juanita Powell lives.

CM: Yeah.

EA: Came down through there. Where did-where did they load 'em I mean where did that connect and that was the railroad.

CM: Yeah.

EA: That connected with the railroad?

CM: Yeah, down here at the furnace and come all the way down.

EA: Came all the way down here and connected with the railroad?

CM: Down to the bottom down to right above the old church [indcipherable] the schoolhouse, ya know?

EA: Yeah.

CM: [indcipherable] the furnace.

EA: Oh I see. Is that where you went to school up there where that church is.

CM: No the school was back-

EA: It-

CM: -old schoolhouse burnt down.

PH: Then they built that one I was in [indcipherable]

CM: That one was temporary.

PH: Yeah. [indcipherable]

CM: Then they built this one.

EA: What was it a one school room back where you went?

CM: No, two rooms.

EA: Two rooms.

PH: One on one side and one on the other wasn't it? That's how we went.

EA: Tell me something, how about that Methodist Church back there, was it an old church?

CM: [indcipherable]

EA: Well the people that went to church did most of them go over here to Harriett Chapel?

CM: No, they was divided [indcipherable].

EA: But there was only the two churches, the Methodist and the one over here? There weren't any other churches around?

CM: No, no.

EA: Well do you remember the Manor House?

CM: Oh yeah.

EA: You've been in it I guess.

CM: Yeah.

EA: I understand it was beautiful inside.

CM: Oh yeah it was all based with that room down in the basement they was all rooms all storage rooms kitchen and all that was down there.

EA: Did somebody- somebody thought that slaves used to live in the basement. Did they ever live in basement or did they live in slave quarters?

CM: No I think they lived in slave quarters [indecipherable].

EA: Well-did you ever hear any stories of people any black people that were employed at the furnace when it was operating?

CM: No, but I remember one up there, the Carr who lived up there at the Manor House, he had a colored man there who took care of his horses and driving horses at that time.

EA: What was his name?

CM: Carr.

EA: When was that?

CM: I don't know back when I went to school was just startin school.

EA: He must've been one of the men that rented it then or lived in it after-after Throp bought it.

CM: Yeah [indecipherable].

EA: But you never heard any stories about black employees?

CM: No, that's the only colored man, the first colored man I ever saw.

EA: Yeah.

CM: [indecipherable] none around here at that time.

EA: Mr. Renner told some kind of-I found out that there were some black employees here, early.

CM: Might of been.

EA: You know like around 1800. Then Mr. Renner told some kind of-told me a tale about one of them they got mad at or something and they pushed him in the furnace. You never heard anything?

CM: No.

EA: Never heard that story? I thought that made a good story.

Josephine Miller: Sounds good.

EA: I know it's interesting.

JM: But isn't his story you told me about that man up there, the colored men, he polished his buggy or?

CM: He care of the horses and tended to driving em but when they go out.

EA: Well-

CM: And we'd go up to school and we get out to the side of the road, the stable was about that long where the upper gate gives in-

EA: Yeah.

CM: -little long stable there, couple horses. Ya know he always had that stuff shined up, the harness shined up, white horse, one of em was white horse.

EA: Well I understand Mary Martin she was-she was a Miller, right?

CM: Yeah.

EA: Alright, her mother, where her mother lived on Featherbed Lane, that was the slave quarter. So, Norah said, now I haven't had a chance to talk to Mary and I'm gonna go talk to Mary. Did you know that was the slave quarter?

CM: No, I never heard anything about the slaves being around here.

EA: Well somebody's buried down there in that cemetery.

CM: Yeah.

EA: And they've been identified indefinitely as people of negro origin. The Smithsonian has identified them as that. And of course it's perfectly possible-

CM: Yeah, oh yeah.

EA: -because a lot of furnaces did employ-

CM: Yeah.

EA: -a lot of slave labor about around 1800 early 1800s some time like that. Well what about the store now? You remember when the store was up here across from the furnace? But it wasn't near as big as it is now? Is that right or?

CM: It was bigger.

EA: Oh, it was bigger? Well Mr. Fraley just brought part of it down here then didn't he?

CM: Well the store was just in the bottom parts that was a two story building. The furnace had offices in-

EA: Oh.

CM: -on one end and then the rooms in there and upstairs the offices.

EA: Oh, I see. So then they tore the rest of it down?

CM: Yeah.

EA: And the part-the back part of the present store he brought that down-

CM: No.

EA: -did he bring that down in one piece?

CM: That was here, that was here. [indecipherable]

EA: Oh that was here?

CM: And he built that here, he had kept the store here then after the furnace went out of business then they grabbed that granite up there.

EA: Well where do they get that story that he-that the back part of it was-oh well maybe it was part of the furnace operation then, I guess it was part of the furnace operation. Or did he build it- did he build the whole thing?

CM: He built the whole thing, but that back part was there.

EA: The back part was there?

CM: He had a store there, he come down and built that front part. Oh, when he come down he tore down that store.

EA: I wonder-if that back part was there I wonder who built it?

CM: He probably built that part then, that was not in my time.

EA: Oh, that was before?

CM: Yeah.

EA: Well that might be the part that they're referring to that connected with the furnace.

CM: Yeah.

EA: And then he made it larger.

CM: That could've been there, that could've been there when he bought the place, so that store's been there ever since I remember anything.

EA: Well the Fraley's were always around here weren't they?

CM: Yeah.

EA: I know they're an old landowning family around here, I've run into their names-

PH: Didn't they rent this up here them people live in this before it was a store-

CM: Yeah.

PH: I thought it was May Kelley.

CM: [indecipherable] when he moved out and up [indecipherable].

PH: I was gonna say didn't May Kelley live with Uncle Herbert. I thought they said-

EA: Oh see-

CM: Heidi, Frank's wife's father run the compass area up there for the furnace.

EA: The big store?

CM: Yeah. Frank worked for him awhile.

EA: Oh I see.

CM: Of course when the furnace closed down then the [indecipherable] opened the store down here.

EA: Then this part that you say was here before, did somebody live in it?

CM: No, that was after Frank moved up there and left the store. When he moved up he fixed the apartment where Sweeney lives.

PH: And Charlie?

CM: Yeah, and Charlie, May Kelley was the first one who lived there.

PH: Yeah. Is that where mom and them [indecipherable].

EA: Then the back part of it was kinda-it was fit for someone to live in.

CM: Yeah.

EA: Fixed for someone to live in.

CM: Charlie Pikes lived there til, Bill Kelley was the first to live there.

PH: Yeah that's what mama said.

CM: He worked with Frank. [indecipherable]

EA: Oh I see. And then on up there was the mule barn.

CM: Yeah.

EA: It was there too in that same area and.

CM: Right across the meadow from the old store and the Manor House.

EA: And that was torn down to build the wall that's presently around the Manor House, is that right?

CM: Could of been, I guess.

EA: That's what Mr. Renner said.

CM: Yeah.

EA: So I guess-

CM: [indecipherable]

EA: Yeah he said Jakes told him that if they tore the mule barn down they could have his stone to put up that wall. Well Renner said when he lived there all it needed was a roof, all the Manor House needed was a roof, but they still left it fall down.

PH: You know that's a shame.

CM: Yeah, that's all-

EA: I just seen it-

CM: Jakes had fixed it up ya know he fixed up everything.

PH: That was a beautiful house, I played in [indecipherable].

EA: You remember the shrubbery when it was dug up.

CM: Yeah.

PH: That was beautiful too wasn't it? In the front?

CM: Yeah.

PH: [indecipherable]

EA: Big-big boxwoods and everything. He said they bloomed.

CM: [indecipherable] clear on down to the road there to the mountain.

PH: We used to play and hide in those bushes. Play hide-and-go-seek.

EA: Gosh.

PH: Roll down the hill-

EA: What other buildings were around the Manor House other than, ya know, like in the yard were there-

CM: There was a nice house right outside the right side of the back [indecipherable] the kitchen, the kitchen was in the basement, added a kitchen later the shop owner [indecipherable]. Then they had a stable down there, corn grip, and I don't know what that storage shed looked like [indecipherable] ya know, that was in the back there the spring house. The spring house sat there [indecipherable] a little stable that kept the ground along the road. That was a nice house [indecipherable] that was the only buildings they had all down the hill down the way there.

EA: I asked Marg and she said she remembered about this that everyone kept everything whitewashed, like the fences and everything. And they all had to keep everything whitewashed by May the 30th.

CM: Yeah.

EA: Do you remember when the individual people bought these houses?

CM: Yeah.

EA: When they came up for sale. Did you buy this one or did your father but it or?

CM: No, my wife's father bought this.

JM: We came across this [indecipherable].

EA: Oh did you?

JM: [indecipherable].

EA: 1923?

JM: My grandfather [indecipherable]

EA: Jakes.

CM: Jakes was his name.

JM: Yeah we had that one and we found [indecipherable] or something.

EA: [indecipherable] Jakes and Stanley Harbor.

JM: [indecipherable]

CM: Oh for \$25.

EA: Oh, this was an expensive one. Jessie Stitely said her father paid 350 for that one.

JM: [indecipherable]

EA: I was gonna say this one was really-

PH: [indecipherable]

EA: This was stone, is this stone.

CM: No, this is log.

PH: I thought because they was so big.

EA: That thing run out. What about, what did you do for entertainment?

PH: I hate to tell you what we did.

JM: You better turn the tape recorder.

EA: No, don't turn the tape recorder off.

JM: Well be careful about what you say then!

EA: That doesn't make any difference!

CM: Well we didn't do much around here.

EA: Well George told me about Kris Kringling.

CM: Oh yes.

PH: I wish they still had that.

CM: [indecipherable]

PH: I tell ya that was the most beautiful thing to do.

EA: Everybody dressed up.

CM and PH: Yeah.

EA: Went from house to house.

PH: Better than Halloween.

CM: Yeah, down there at MacFerson's [indecipherable] always had a big dance and everything down there they did.

EA: Is that right?

CM: Yeah.

EA: That was-who was-Ms. Louise' father was living then?

CM: Ms. Louise was living.

EA: The doctor-do you remember the doctor?

CM: Yeah.

EA: That's Clem's great-grandfather?

CM: [indecipherable]

EA: Is that right? Did he practice medicine, did he work on any of-

CM: No, nothing [indecipherable]

JM: Must be a story behind that [indecipherable]

CM: Yeah.

JM: And laugh about that.

CM: [indecipherable] He'd go out there and stand early in the morning [indecipherable] and I walked out and said-I took off. He had a gun too.

EA: You were just a kid too?

CM: Yeah.

EA: I guess he looked worse to a kid than he really was.

CM: [indecipherable] he had that gun and out early about 6 o'clock just about daybreakin.

EA: Were there-there were a couple of old mines that they opened up along there or something weren't there?

CM: You had to go back into those old mines.

EA: Where were they located exactly?

CM: Back in the place down in there [indecipherable].

EA: Yeah, you mean right back-

CM: Where Sam's place is now. Down where Clem lives now right back of the house there.

EA: Oh in the back of the house?

CM: Yeah.

EA: What'd they take fill dirt out the road here and fill them up?

CM: Yeah. Stumps and everything.

EA: Oh I see- Well I'mma-

RECORDING ENDS