

RECORDING MADE BY ELIZABETH ANDERSON- 1981

[Words I'm unsure of, or was unable to decipher, I've put in square brackets in blue, with either a question mark, or ellipsis highlighted in yellow. More than three dots highlighted means two or more words are missing. NL]

A = Elizabeth Anderson
MF = Mabel Fraley
JS = Jessie Stitely

A: This is a tape made with Mabel Fraley Townsend [and Jessie Stitely] on June 9th, 1981

A: I've brought some pictures along. Now you told me about the manor house that you all used to live in the Manor House.

MF: I was born there.

A: When did your family move there?

MF: These days I can't tell you.

A: About when?

MF: I was born in 1899 and they had lived there before I was born; 'cause my grandfather and grandmother lived in the house when mom and pops got married.

A: Are you the oldest child?

MF: Yeah I'll soon be eighty two this February.

A: And they lived there because your grandmother and grandfather lived there.

MF: Yes. My grandfather had the store there on the corner

A: The company store?

MF: I can't remember what they called it. I had all that down and on the day of the sale, it either got stolen or sold. I had a shoebox full I saved for thirty years. But there wasn't a damned thing in it about the manor house and my grandparents livin' there or not. And my husband bought me a book or tried to get me a book and he couldn't. [.] he tried three years to get me this [.] of Catoctin, because I thought there'd be something about the manor house. But there wasn't. So I [sold them at the store. Somebody bought 'em?] and a woman there, a school teaching friend, got me one, the one that bought Mr Tank's place. She and I were good friends and she bought me one, but she didn't know []. All I could think was [Mill town power?] []. wasn't a damn thing in there about Catoctin right as it is. And was. Isn't much now but [the day they came to] that manor house I thought they were gonna repaint it - were gonna rebuild it. You say you didn't hear that?

A: I don't know. I haven't heard anything about that.

MF: I heard that. I hope it's true because up the road I had letters after he died. And he'd written to [.] beggin' him to retain the manor house and keep her up and the house would have been a wonderful attraction here. Why, it would have been the landmark of years and years. of. . . my grandfather I don't know when he moved there. But he and my grandmother moved there when poppa and momma got married down in Orford in church. Reverend McGill married momma and poppa. And I was born that next year – yes. [.] kidding Mama. She said it was three months before she got pregnant with me. Because she was married for a year and it was three months before I was procreated. . . Anyway, [.] we moved away from there, I don't remember when we moved 'cause I was too young. I might only have been two years old, when we moved out of that house

A: Do you remember living in it at all? Do you remember what it was like on the inside?

MF: No, but we moved down to the rectory and I remember the store. Why I played up there for years when I was growing up.

A: Well, I have some pictures here. These were the pictures that were taken of it.

MF: Yes, I had those. I had a beautiful one like that big framed one. A man came to get some of my history at the store. And I told him, I said, "You take 'em out here on the porch, you can have 'em". But I loaned them to the Star paper in Washington and I never got 'em back. All my current history.

A: Do you remember anything about how it was laid out inside?

MF: I certainly do.

A: When you go in the front door. What was it like?

MF: One great big hallway all the way back to the kitchen. It was as long as from here to that house. You could have turned a four-horse wagon round in that hall, it was so large. 'Course see, I don't remember when I lived there, but I used to go up and play with the people that lived there. They had two children. Bob and Liz

A: Was there a living room on either side?

MF: Whatever you wanted – a dining room and living room. The people that lived there, they had colored slaves they called them, a man and his wife, and they lived down in a little house right down below the manor house. They had a dumb waiter that came up in the center of that hall and delivered things to the dining room. Now that didn't exist with the Carrs 'cause they were only superintendants. They didn't own it see, but I remember the dumb waiter and I remember the colored man and his wife. And they had a little baby and that baby was as white when it was born, and it had got black. I never forgot it.

A: Did the dumb waiter go from the second floor to the first floor or down into the basement.

MF: They had it in the basement. That's where they cooked.

A: Oh. They cooked in the basement.

MF: They cooked in the basement. Mr and Mrs Carr. They cooked for them, honey, but they didn't have great big doings like they had previously, 'cause as I said they only managed the furnace. They ran that.

A: On the second floor, can you remember how many bedrooms it had?

MF: 'Bout five.

A: Did it have any bathrooms?

MF: No, pitchers. I don't remember being on the third floor, even when I was old enough to play with the kids. But we used to rollerskate in that hall.

A: How did they heat it?

MF: Fireplaces.

A: All fireplaces. They must have had some big fireplaces. Look at the size of the chimneys.

MF: Oh they did. I said they had huge fireplaces.

A: Did they have wood paneling and beautiful wooden floors?

MF: Yes, beautiful floors.

A: What kind of mantels on the fireplaces?

MF: Great big mantels and they had big fireplaces. They weren't like they are now. They were huge. They had to have 'em big, Betty. Those were big rooms. They were very big. These Two on this side and two on this side - they had to have them to heat them. My grandfather and grandmother lived on the first floor. They didn't go upstairs. They lived there 'cause there was only the two of them. My grandfather and grandmother had one side – one bedroom here and my father and mother had this one and then they had a kitchen to entertain. They had a nice big kitchen in the back.

A: Yes that shows that here. There was an area back here behind. That was the kitchen?

MF: Yes, that was the kitchen. A big kitchen. They used to cook for – I guess hundreds of people came and went. But I never got the history of that previous [..].

A: And it had a little porch out on the front.

MF: That's a great big porch about the size of the house – the length of the house – width of the house, rather.

A: And it had a beautiful shrubbery.

MF: Oh my, the [.] in the spring it was fantastic beautiful.

JS: [unclear]

A: Say what you want to say. No one's going to hear it but me.

JS: Now Mabel was talking about. On this side of the house was this enormous big room well this big room is on this side, but the dining room was there and I took piano lessons there. And this walk up here, this was all lined with what do you call it?

A: Boxwod?

JS: Mm hm. Boxwood. That met you at the entrance where the Catoctin Hollow road goes up. That was turned outwards. I was only about six or eight years old, and I just loved running up [..]. And this porch was the whole [length] as you said, of the house and this part was where Mrs McDaniel she had her piano and the woodwork over at the manor where all these fireplaces were, was the most beautiful thing you ever saw. They were mostly [..]. The ktichen part or anything, I don't know anything about that, but I do know that it was all like it was engraved. . . carved.

A: Was it like that around the top of the rooms too? All sorts of carved wood up against the ceiling?

JS: Uh huh and the ceilings were terribly high and . . .

A: Were they frescoed? Did they have . . . was the plaster like it was like carved?

MF: They had those up like that about half way, d'you remember Jessie?

JS: Yeah.

MF: And the most beautiful wood – carved, but . . .

A: That's wainscoating. About half way up the room?

MF: Half way up – it was beautiful wood.

A: Carved wainscoating

MF: That's it. But I don't remember what they had from that up, do you? Plaster walls . . .

JS: I think they were – they looked more like a stucco wall in a way.

A: Did they have wallpaper or anything, or was it painted?

JS: It was painted. What I remember. I don't know . . .

MF: I don't know stucco. I know it was painted, but I don't know if it was stucco.

JS: Well, it was a rough finish. It was a textured finish

MF: What was on the wall, was all rough finished, but a very, very expensive kind.

JS: Yeah. And like I say it was a paradise and the room that run off from it . . .

MF: Do you remember when the Carrs sat down and ate?

JS: Who?

MF: The Carrs. My dad knew him.

JS: Mrs McDaniel gave me music lessons.

MF: The Carrs stayed there before that.

JS: The McDaniels are all I can remember. And she gave me music lessons. I was only about six, seven years old. and I liked to run up that path and everything. I got such a big kick out of that.

A: Now this was before Bill Renner lived there, right?

MF: The old man and I got him in that house. But [.]

A: He tells a big story about it . . .

MF: Yes, he does. But he come to the store and begged me one day, and we had a telephone that you sat on the bannisters – one of those wall telephones, and called up Mr Jacques and got him in that place and he wouldn't let anyone else move in. I never had no good for him. No way. He got all this history. He must have gathered it up [voice confusion]. He knew nothin' about the furnace.

JS: It was the one thing that made daddy mad was that they would listen to the tales of Bill Renner would tell. . .

MF: I got jealous because nobody ever came to ask me anything – I've been livin' on an island – I saved me history, 'cause I was interested 'cause it was my birthplace, you know I thought . . . Pop was interested and he wanted to retain for the future []. And I was hoping I would save the day with this book. But Bill Renner was only a tenant in the house for a while and he thought he owned it.

JS: He was camped there for a long time.

A: Well I can say one thing, it's just a sin, the state of everything . . .

[voice confusion]

JS: The roof went bad on him . . .

MF: My father [unclear].

JS: By the time you were born. You can still remember maybe big parts of it there, Betty?

A: I remember parts of it being there, yeah, and it looks to me like more of it is falling all the time.

[Voice confusion]

MF: . . . They'll have to restore it. They'll never pay any building, not the way it is now. I haven't seen it for years.

JS: Now when Bill Renner was there, I went there to dance. He'd open it up for dancin'. And at Christmas time it would be and everything. And he had the [. . .] players and everything in there. Boy it was square dancing and that was when . . .

A: But you never got beyond these front rooms.

JS: Those two front rooms. I never got beyond them.

MF: My grandfather was postmaster in his store and my father worked over at the [. . .] He helped with the chemistry, which he had never studied, but he helped over there.

JS: as a kid because I know many a time when I came out from taking them music lessons, I can say you have no idea just by lookin' at the pictures, the length of the house and the length of the porch. I learned from one of that porch to the other where I hid. Mrs McDaniel used to send me inside and she laughed and she'd say, "you can do [the can?] dancing if you want to." But it was just fascinating there. The picture is beautiful, but it gives you no idea of the size . . .

A: I think this one gives a better idea of its size, than this one does, because you can see the back part of it.

JS: And Mrs Walker used to . . .

MF: And the strawberries right down planted to the left. On the corner. I have some pictures upstairs yet of the store and the whole shop here. D'you remember that, Jessie, the shop? Where the horses carried wood down, all the wood down off the mountains

JS: No, that was before my time. When you said shop, I was thinking about when they had the stave mill.

MF: Well the stave mill came later but they used to haul the wood off the mountains and and ship it out from there.

A: Here it is! Here's a picture with the manor house in the background and I assume that's the store over there. Can you see that well enough, Mabel? See the manor house there in the back?

MF: That's the shop – no – that's the store, honey. That's the store, and that's part of the old shop here.

A: 'Cause you see, here's the manor house

JS: What was the shop here? What was that?

MF: Well, that was where they stacked.

A: What did they do there?

MF: They hauled lumber down off the mountains and shipped it out by carloads honey. The train came in and took 'em.

A: Is any of this part of the Blue Mountain Iron and Steel Company? What's this building?

MF: That's part of the old steel mill isn't it?

A: I don't know.

MF: Yes. It was called the Blue Mountain Iron and Steel. That's it.

A: Well the Blue Mountain Iron and Steel took over after the furnace shut down. That's the same building here?

MF: That's the same building.

A: What did they use it for when it was Blue Mountain Iron and steel?

MF: Well they must have had a store and a post office there before, honey. It was before my time.

A: that was afterwards, this was later

A: What did they use it for when it was Blue Mountain Iron and steel?

MF: Well they must have had a store and a post office there, honey. It was before my time.

A: This was afterwards. This was later. This would have been when you were a kid. Because that was after the furnace shut down.

MF: My father ran a business there and he had to move to build a store. And it was vacated. I don't know what they did before then, financially.

A: I guess this is – this must have been about the time your father bought that building.

MF: What building?

A: This. The old store building.

MF: No he built one down here in [. . .].

A: Oh, I thought he'd bought the old building and tore it down.

MF: No, no, they made him vacate, after years of no activity.

A: This is a new building up here then. That isn't part of the old building?

MF: No. Poppa built that . . .

A: Oh! Somebody told me that was the old store building from up above and he'd moved it, or bought it and tore it down. Then this is a completely new building?

MF: They moved in the new store. I was there and put the first shelves. First shoes on the shelf.

A: And that was a completely new building?

MF: It was a new building. He had to move out. Closed the Post Office. We didn't have any postal service and he [.] at his own risk.

A: I wonder what happened to the old building then.

JS: Now tell me this, Mabel. Do you remember this? I heard my daddy and I also heard Helen talk, like on the other side of the road, where they kept their horses and wagons.

MF: They had a stable over there, dear, for the horses, mules and wagons

A: Which other side of the road? You mean the other side of 806?

[Some confusion while they are looking at the picture]

JS: Pa said one time, "whatever happened to the building over here?"

MF: They tore those down.

A: Here's a building here. Was that the stable? You see this is the manor house. Would this have been the stable?

MF: No the stable was to the right, honey. It was across the road from the store.

A: You mean this store was on the left hand side as you go up what is now the 806?

MF: That's right. It was right on the corner of the manor house, honey. The furnace was to the left too.

A: I know where the furnace is to the left. Here's the furnace. Here's a close-up of the furnace.

MF: This is behind the store across the road. They had horses and mules.

[confusion while they are looking at the pictures]

JS: What's this here?

A: That's the train tracks. The street or up there's now where there's the trolley tracks.

J: Is that what this is, Betty, the trolley tracks?

A: Same general area. Now they ran a train up there.

MF: They had a trolley track. You remember the trolley track don't you?

JS: Oh honey, I remember that. . .

A: That was on the other side. The trolley was over here.

MF: No it was over here. . .

A: See here's the tracks.

MF: Pardon me; you had to cross the road to get to . . .

A: Yes they crossed the road right up here . . . Right this side of Tumbleweed is where it crossed the road.

JS: Not the trolley.

A: Well the train did.

JS: Now maybe what you're talkin' about . . . [unclear]

A: Well didn't it go up over here?

JS: The trolley went back here and then it crossed right by [..], right across there. Then there was a little station built there because . . . [voice confusion]

A: Oh then it's down this way from the bridge?

JS: Oh, Yes.

MF: The trolley station was right above the old shop. That was the old shop.

A: Wasn't there a trolley track over here too? Why was there one on both sides of the road? There was one over here wasn't there?

MF: No, it's always been back here.

JS: I bet you anything this was connected with the furnace. That has to be.

A: Well, didn't the trolley run down through here?

JS: No, right down through there across the road . . .

A: Oh, it came back across the road . . . oh, on both sides Oh I see.

[voice confusion]

JS: And you went on down, where the [.] is now, and you passed the monastery as you went into Frederick before the telephone [.....], because the trolley would go by there and then we'd get off at [..], the market. I remember when you was in hospital, I used to ride it and get off this street and walk on over to the hospital.

A: Do you remember it looking like this?

MF: The damn thing was up there when I was a kid. My mother used to tell me . . .

A: But there isn't anything up there . . .

MF: Not now, but there was. She used to tell me that would get me if I wasn't good. Yes, I remember that, very well.

A: But it wasn't operating. Do you ever remember it operating at all?

MF: It was before my time.

A: Do you remember any kind of activity around it or anything. It just sat there?

MF: It was when I lived in the manor house and I don't remember Betty.

A: It closed down they say, in 1906. That's when it was sold. Of course, it may not have been operating for a while.

MF: You'd have to get that from the courthouse.

A: That's the date that it was sold for the last time. But of course it may have been out of operation before that. I don't know

MF: At the time it was dormant, until the time stave mill came and bought the timber and then they put a stave building up there you see.

A: Did they use these same buildings?

MF: They didn't use the furnace at all. They used this over here and the railroad tracks.

JS: [too faint] But I do remember the stave mill.

A: Well, there's a lot of buildings there aren't there? This is on the back here behind it?

MF: I remember being in there once, but not when it was in operation.

A: It was just an empty building?

MF: Sightseeing place. [...], He's not there anymore is he? Oh yes he is.

A: Oh yes, he's right there in that picture.

F: It looks like the one that mom used to tell me would get me if I wasn't good

A: I wonder what the story was behind the Indian.

MF: [...] I've forgotten. You see I was going to write this book. But I had to go to the courthouse and spend hours getting dates and things. I had everything but the dates, and that's very important when it comes to history.

A: Then they took all this high stuff down, and then later it looked like this. Now which part of it did they tear down? This was the foundations for the furnaces that are back behind. Because this is the same view as this building.

MF: I don't remember Betty. There isn't any of that up there any more.

A: Some of this back here I guess.

MF: I don't remember when they took that down.

A: Because this is exactly the same view. The track goes up and this building's a little further north.

MF: I wasn't concerned about history then.

A: These were above it see? They were closer to the Catocin Hollow road.

MF: There were houses up back to here.

A: There were?

MF: Not back to here but to there. Do you remember those two houses that were over above the pond Jessie?

JS: Now the house that I remember was where Earl and Katie Cardy lived in. By that time this was all gone here. But there was like a big hill and they lived up that on that hill.

MF: And they had two Annie [.] and her husband lived in one and . . .

JS: Katie's mother, she took me up there one time. And scared me almost to death. We only had a little path to walk through and she knew she'd better hold my hand or my daddy would have killed her and she took my hand and said she was going to see her mother, and she walked round this pond, and this thing you know, and I was a 'cryin' and going on, and coming down the road, she said, "Don't tell your daddy" and I said Daddy would [.]].

A: [laughter]

MF: [.] lived behind. She's still livin'. She and I went to school together.

JS: What I can't place. What I can't explain is, like none of this – what I remember is almost like what you see up there today. But yet, the ground on top of that where Katy and Earl Cardy lived, how did that get there?

A: You see they built Fifteen. Fifteen wasn't back there.

MF: They tore all those down . . .

A: They graded all that off to build that road, for one thing.

MF: They closed that pond off you know. That's been [.]]. Even I should remember that.

A: What d'you mean?

MF: The pond!

[Voice confusion]

A: If you're talking about the pond that was right up there. I remember that. It's still there.

JS: But this house . . .

A: You mean it was built close to that?

JS: The house I'm talkin' about – the location of it would seem like it was right on top of where the furnace was.

A: It was probably back in there a bit further, but of course they've changed the whole contour of the ground by building Fifteen. They cut through there to build Fifteen – rearranged that dirt.

JS: And I had tried to picture that 'cause I went up there to play with Maddie and Wayne so much.

A: The only road there at that time, would have been Catoctin Hollow Road.

JS: You see it wasn't Catoctin Hollow Road. We only had paths.

A: It was a dirt road wasn't it? Couldn't you go up it with . . .?

JS: You couldn't have run up it with a horse [.....]. You just walked up a path.

A: But there was a road just in front of the manor house which would have continued on up the mountain, towards where Akers is wasn't there?

JS: Well, it probably was that.

A: That would have been Catoctin Hollow Road. Of course the other road wasn't even there then. So, you see, Everything was rearranged and located.

MF: I guess that's what gets me all . . .

F: Mr [..] would have bought it, I wish he had, but his wife died very sudden. He died coming in from New York when he [toppled?] from a cliff. He always wanted me to marry him. And he was a lot older than me, and he took me down to his cabin one time down on the river and I wouldn't go without my sister with me.

I was afraid. Let me tell you when it was. When Roosevelt made his nationwide speech for re-election that's how many years ago it's been, and we were down at the river and we sat down and watched the television, them were a rarity. And [..] he cooked this – what do you call 'em – cookout, and Gladys got drunk as an ass.

[laughter]

He packed up the grill and I helped him in and we had this cookout and then this colored woman got us some beef and she had us a lovely meal and Gladys said "Get rid of the damn colored woman" I was so embarrassed with her I didn't know what to do. [Sadly, I can't decipher the last bit of this anecdote – too much hilarity and voice confusion!]

A: Let me finish with this. This is an open mine. This where they used to mine stuff?

F: That's up at the mine base, honey.

A: This says south of the Catoctin furnace. That couldn't be right. It has to be up the other way. Do you ever remember any of those big mine pits being open like that?

MF: Just about. They weren't in operation, but I remember them being there.

A: You see, that's an awful long way. Look at the size of those mules down there. That's a long way down.

MF: It was honey. But I don't remember ever being near them or anything.

A: So you don't remember. Here's another one with an old Biggles steam shovel down there. This is Harriet Chapel. And this is the house where you lived back here – the old rectory?

MF: Yes.

A: I know you must remember this wall . . .

MF: Stone fence we called it.

A: When did they take that down?

MF: I don't remember.

A: That's even before the narthex was built. Is there a narthex on there?

MF: Reverend McGill had that church there.

A. And none of this was back here? This was prior to the time that the arches were put in there. The stone for the arches which building did that come from? That came from one of these stone buildings up here at the furnace.

MF: Oh I remember who donated those. A Mr [.] Martin up at – who mid-summer put the arches in and they were donated by the furnace when they tore that down.

A: When they tore this building down?

MF: When they tore the building down. They came from the furnace. I remember that. ' Course I was only young, but I remember him working on them stones. He worked like a dog. I used to go in there and see him

A: So this picture is older than that. This picture was taken by . . .

MF: That must be a hundred and twenty five years old. You know it couldn't have been 'cos I'm not that old [laughter]. But I mean the church the way it was then and the rectory and the stone fence and all. But as far as puttin' the stone in from the furnace, I remember when they put that in it. Was that in before they remodeled the church, made it larger or anything?

A: I don't know.

MF: I don't either. I can't remember. All I can remember was him fixing it; taking all the stones down from the furnace part.

A: One of my neighbours, not too far from me, followed me this picture the name escapes me right now, but he lived back there on Huntlow Bridge. And he was a man nearly a hundred years old when he died. And I've had this picture for ten years.

MF: Well I know it's old, Betty because that Reverend McGill had . . .

A: I would say this picture was probably made about 1890.

MF: Easily. What is that? A barred gate wasn't it?

A: It looks like metal. It may have been made at the furnace, because it looks like a metal gate of some sort. Now this building back here, which was the rectory at one time, do you have any idea about when that was built?

MF: When poppa bought it, honey, I was too young to . . .

A: Was it pretty new then?

F: Well, it wasn't brand new, but it wasn't as too bad, not as bad as it is now.

A: It had a big porch on both sides. Doesn't have that porch there on both sides now does it?

MF: Yes, it still has it. We always called this the alcove?

A: And you all bought that and moved in there?

MF: I don't remember when we moved.

A: Well that was in the early 1900s.

MF: It had to have been, 'cos I was born in 1899. I know I was born when we moved there, but I don't remember when.

A: You were pretty small when they did that.

MF: I was very small.

A: And that's about the time that he put the store up down here and started operating the store down here.

F: Not immediately, but soon after that, because it changed hands, honey, the store [. . . .] wasn't it Jessie?

JS: Yeah, that's right.

F: And he failed; he didn't make a success, and then they sold it to the stave mill company in Pennsylvania. Mr Jackson, remember? He bought it and his wife moved down here and she moved up to the house next to . . .

JS: The Historical society bought it now – next to Gerry.

MF: Yeah. Next to Gerry.

A: That's the [Statler?] Arms.

MF: I guess these stone houses, Betty, were built before they tore the furnace. They weren't built since the furnace was gone.

A: Oh no, they are old. They are very old. They were built about 1770 – the stone houses. They were built when the furnace was early in operation.

MF: Did you know how I bought the one that Gerry lives in now. I told you I guess. I said I bought that house from Alan Amish for two hundred and fifty dollars over the telephone for Mr Antioch Jacques. Two hundred and fifty dolloars dollars, that's what it cost. I'd swear to that and I wouldn't lie. He wanted the house. He wanted to buy it and [..] He worked like a horse and two hundred and fifty dollars then is the equivalent to two hundred and fifty thousand now. He was always grateful because he fixed it up and kept it as nicely as he could, because at that time they didn't know things [.....], Betty.

A: Now he's Mark's father's brother right? Mark Hoke's uncle, Uncle Harry? – Do you remember any of this?

JS: The stone arches were put in when father Damuth was here. [Too faint] . . . the same thing that grumbles now were grumbles then, because somebody had left the church some money and Father Damuth took it and had the arches put in it and the grumble part that I remember[.....] and then in the middle of the church was this round [..] stone. They couldn't understand how they were going to heat the church with this thing in the middle [.....].

A: Well if the church building was stone, then what was this back wall made out of? Was this made out of stone too?

JS: No.

A: It was a wooden wall? I wonder why they had a wooden wall on one end of it.

JS: I don't know. Can't you remember Mabel, this little place here? That's the only place where the Preacher had to go to change his vestments. There was just the one little door there he had to go through . . .

A: He had to go outside then? He couldn't stay inside the building to change his vestments?

JS: Yes. There was a door on the inside

A: Oh, the door went through to the inside.

JS: There was a door that went to the inside, but this door was here on the outside, but there was one door that he would have to go in through there.

A: Was this stone?

JS: It was frame.

A: And this whole end of the church was frame?

JS: This, from here back I can remember was frame. And this – Betty, [Too faint] that stone.

MF: Very vaguely, I can remember. No that don't look familiar at all. The only stone I can remember came down along the side of this house. Was there stone there?

JS: Yeah there was stone there. We used to climb up them.

A: Do you remember the gate?

JS: The gates that I remember were two. Is that two? No, I don't remember the one gate, but like I say we had no entrances. You walked straight into the church. And this little fence wasn't erected back here at all. And that is where he would go and put his vestments on. But Father Damuth I can remember never put his stole on until he came out in the church part and then he kissed the stole and put it on. And that's the only way he'd ever give communion. When he'd come here to [..]. But the one big gate I don't remember that. I remember two opening, and they seemed like a really heavy metal.

A: This looks like it's pretty heavy here too. I have a notion that this gate or some of it came from the furnace. This building here – there are a lot of questions in my mind about that building.

JS: There is in mine too.

[A couple of sentences difficult to follow as they are identifying pictures and making odd comments.]

A: But it was a long time ago. it was about 1906 or so.

JS: I'm just trying to think – there was some kind of thing out in front of here, they had iron posts because . . .

A: To hitch horses to maybe?

JS: Oh, that's what they did. I'm glad you said that because (... and ... Wanamaker) they lived across they were (... ...) and I would get up there and some others and we'd go over there and we'd call it skin the cat, we'd get on that fence and boy we'd get the biggest kick out of that. But I don't see a picture of that

A: Well, it's probably out of the picture. Here's something here. The edge of something.

JS: That could have been it. I'm glad you said that. That was probably what it was used for – hitching posts.

A: And then there wasn't anything – I mean the church sat here like this – and the next thing now, of course, is the store. And there was nothing else there, where the present parish house is. That was just an open yard there?

A: And then the next thing now of course is the store. And there was nothing else there, where the present parish house is. That was just an open yard there.

JS: There were [..] in the left hand corner [..].

A: This left hand corner where it sits now?

JS: No, up high in the left hand corner.

AF: [.....] I didn't pray to the Lord. Did you ever pray to the Lord?

JS: Not really no.

A: And it just had other pews?

JS: Yeah. I can't describe them now.

MF: They weren't as good as the new ones.

JS: No, and they weren't shaped like these and they didn't have no kneeling things, you know.

A: they weren't nearly as comfortable. They used to make very uncomfortable church pews. (...) Go to sleep

F: [.....] seventy dollars for a pew and poppa [.....]. I never sat in a front pew in my life to keep somebody else happy

A: I wonder how they made the money to build that rectory building.

F: Do you know that poppa he kept that church for a good many years. I never knew so much until after he died, but I saw what he paid for a new organ, paid dues and he furnished coal and wood for the – Momma would cut fuel and go over there and make a fire on Sunday morning for church, many a times. She could tell you that. They didn't have no money, and I was treasurer and I used to sit and count pennies, after Sunday School – pennies! We were lucky if we took in a hundred pennies in on a Sunday, which is only a dollar. Do you remember that honey?

A: But pennies went a lot further then!

JS: Kids of today would just as soon throw a penny away.

F: Turn their nose up at 'em.

JS: You know you can't buy a candy bar for twenty-fivecents

A: Did you ever hear anybody talk about when they built this house back here, how they raised the money or who did it or anything? Did you ever hear your father say anything about it, or Jessie, your father?

F: Betty, I think it was in conjunction with the church, just like . . .

A: I know it was the church because it was built as a rectory.

F: They used it for some church purpose. I don't think anybody ever lived in the house that I remember ever seeing before poppa bought it. Maybe they had to sell it, I don't know, but they didn't use it.

A: You mean that it wasn't used as a residence?

F: I don't believe it was. I'm not sure.

A: I always understood that the priest lived there.

F: I never heard of any priest – could be. I have a typewritten letter – I've still got it from Bishop Murray beggin' poppa to loan 'em a horse to get a minister, a priest to come up here once a week and take him to three parishes. I remember that. I don't remember any man until Reverend McGill took over. He and others. Do you remember Reverend McGill honey when he took over after [.] not Father Treder maybe. That wasn't that far back.

A: Well McGill lived down here at Auburn when he served this church didn't he? And that's when the church records burned when part of Auburn burned is what I've always understood. You see an end off of Auburn caught on fire one time and Mr. McGill's – the different books were in it and that's why there's no records back beyond a certain point.

JS: [.] same thing happened when Father Damuth [was here] because they had no records.

A: That's because he didn't write them down. It was either Father Damuth or Dr Treder, who didn't write anything down. It was Father Damuth who didn't write anything down. Father Shaffer told me that. It isn't that anything was destroyed; it's just that he never wrote anything down. But the other man, actually, there was a fire. You know this happens to a lot of old churches. [voice confusion]

MF: And young Clarence – young feller. And he had three charges up here and that was Smithsburg and where was it?

JS: Smithsburg, St Stephens and here.

A: Bernard Jennings had Smithsburg.

JS: And then when Dr Treder came, he had Smithsburg and St Stephens, Harriet Chapel and once a month we'd get [.]

MF: Who was that young man honey? [voice confusion] – Jennings did he come . . .

JS: He was here when daddy died.

A: He was here just before Father Wolf.*

MF: That's what I wondered.

A: He was just before Father Wolf – Lloyd Wolf.

JS: The one called Clarence, the young feller. He didn't stay no time at all. You know, he wasn't here . . .

MF: I remember his wife. She was a singer wasn't she? Her and I sang Silent Night. I played it on the organ one Christmas. The one Wolfe, not Father Wolf, the last one, Clarence. There was only he and his wife. Margaret told me last week that Father Wolf, the current Father Wolf, the son, is up at his grandmother's. She's ninety-six years old.

JS: [Noreen Schultz] still works for her.

A: Yeah I know she does. She still [.] for them.

F: And she's ninety-six and her son's living with her and he's still [..]. And as soon as she's gone, the son will [..] some place. And the other one has a baby and is not married. Old Father Wolf would have turned over in his grave.

A: Did you say that you think this building back here was used for something for the church, but it wasn't used for somebody to live in?

MF: I'm not positive about that. But I never heard of anyone living there, dear. . .

A: Do you think it was built as some sort of parish house maybe?

MF: I think it probably began as that. I tell you, I didn't know about it. I never heard of it . . .

A: It's laid off inside like a residence isn't it? It always was. It's got individual rooms and upstairs. It looks like a residence on the inside.

JS: I never heard the word parish house until Dr Treder came here.

A: I'd love to know who built that. You don't know if anybody in your family ever looked back to see the history of this house?

[* According to http://www.emmitsburg.net/history_t/archives/gateway/chapter9.htm, Rev. Clarence E. Wolfe preceded Rev. Warren E. Damuth, who was appointed in 1921 and served until his death in 1947. He was followed by Rev. Treder, then Rev. Jennings. Rev. Lloyd L Wolf was appointed in 1956.]

MF: Nobody ever took time to do that, Betty. I didn't have time you know, or was able, because I wanted to have – you've got to have dates on things like that if you want to compile anything.

A: Look how little the tree is – our beautiful tree.

JS: It is little! Look at it now!

MF: Just shows what time does. That's the oldest picture I've ever seen of it. That one I've never seen, but that's the old company [..]. What is it? Blue Iron . . .

A: Blue Mountain Iron and Steel, it was called. It was a company that was only in business for a short time. Apparently it wasn't in too good a shape, because they left the buildings in bad shape.

JS: According to Doug, he said – he tells a lot of things – he said his stories is altogether different to what Doug's daddy used to tell. He says that they called bankies or whatever, the whole some of the stuff came down. Do you remember where John Rices's store was? They headed down through there and around and he said there was a small track that these things ran on. And he said, they run back like they've been on Roger Penwell's grounds there.

A: Back where Roger lives now?

J: [..] daddy told me about that.

A: Do you remember that?

J: Because he said lots of times ... the furnace up here and he Bill kept telling me all kinds of different things which didn't correspond with Howard's [well he was older than the other Bill. . .] what he knew, because he'd worked in the mine. He knew what it was. So [.....] I guess the first colored person. [.....] of all time. Because he was trying to tell me somehow about – [I'm sure he can't recall anything so sharply . . .] cut through, where's there's a dip near the John Bight School. Now he said that his daddy said that they ran down through there and somehow came around, and he said from what he could understand that where the little tracks and things were, would be almost back of Roger Penwell's house. They go round there and then I was thinking when you were talking about the trolley tracks and I was asking about this other track – now I do remember [there] was a switch up here, and when the trolley ran there was still an extra piece of track.

MF: I remember that

A: I bet they could probably run the trains over the trolley track. They switched them off to the furnace . . .

MF: They switched them off right above the old shop, honey, I remember that. It had a switch.

JS: They had a thing that came down there, because it came right in -- almost touched the little station where we were standing right on the trolley. You ought to remember that. A little square building

A: I remember the trolley station. The trolley station was located right there about where that wide place is on the side of the road . . . where it would stop for colored passengers . . .

JS: a little square building.

[voice confusion]

A: They took the ore out up there at what they call the mine banks, right? In there, right behind John Rice's store. Wasn't that the mine bank? That may be some of these pictures are here . . .

[voice confusion]

A: Mabel what was located back in behind here, when you were younger? Was there houses back in there?

F: Not houses, honey, no more than there are now, but just the hill. There's still the hill. Big pile of shingle stones.

A: But no houses back in there or anything? And on down in back of where Louise used to live, down in there?

F: Louise who?

A: Fraley. Louise and Frank.

F: There were no houses down there. Not to my knowledge. 'Cos the people sold that land to people in Washington. They built that cottage themselves [..].

A: Do you remember when the slaughter house was built and all those different buildings there -- the rendering plant?

F: Don't remember when they first began it, because it began on an awfully small scale, but it eventually grew. The business grew [..]. I don't remember where he managed it.

A: But it started kind of as an offshoot of the store to begin with?

F: It had nothing to do with the store

A: Never had anything to do with the store? The store was a general merchandise store.

F: That belonged to poppa and Nick started out on his own.

A: Nick started the slaughter house business himself

F: He started that himself.

A: So he started building buildings back in there?

F: Buildin' buildin' buildin', buildin'.

A: When he first started out there was nothing back there in the way of buildings? It was just all open ground?

F: He bought some land down there at [. . .].

A: He used to have a rendering plant down here?

F: He built that and he built the house.

A: But you don't ever remember any old houses or ruins of old houses or anything back in there? Foundations or anything. Because I understand that at one time when the furnace was really operating that there were houses over in there. You know little houses that belonged to the workers.

F: I've never seen them ruins. I don't believe that could be. When Nick built those houses, nothing was ever built there before. Even on down at the end of the field, that he bought. Now there's people built houses on that. But Fraleys built one at the end of Nick's field and the ones on the hill there, I don't remember any houses.

A: Were there any houses back in here?

F: Three.

A: Three houses that you all were talking about before.

F: Not here, but . . .

A: Those three were kind of behind where the furnace was?

F: Up here. Who lived in that house? Straight up here and straight up there – quarries and shops, and . . .

A: Well there were an awful lot of people here employed here at one time. I wonder where they all lived.

F: They had to find other jobs, Betty, because nothing succeeded.

A: No I mean when they were working here. I wonder where they lived? Did they live on up further like Blue Mountain and places?

F: They took in Blue Mountain and I guess – I don't remember. But I know that today, they go out and work and they had [. . .]. Mama's brothers used to work. Brother-in-

laws at the furnace and they lived down the road here in this house that [. . .]'s daughter bought and her husband. They raised their family there.

A: A lot of people that worked in the furnace. Then when the furnace shut down, that's when a lot of them went to work for the railroad.

F: They had to honey. They only got two dollars a day. Any place they had two dollars a day.

A: And they were working on the railroad a lot of them when they had that accident.

F: Mom had a brother and a brother-in-law killed. Two brothers. . .

End of CD