

Jasmine and Everitt Larrow/TC1992.0006
Mad River Valley Project/VFC1991.0004

JB Jane Beck
JL Jasamine Larrow
EL Everitt Larrow
Place Waitsfield, VT
Date 01/23/1992

JB And make sure that it's loud enough. Why don't we start with you both saying your names and let me see if that's picking it up.

EL Well my name is Everitt, but everybody calls me Jack.

JB It looks good.

JL My name is Jasamine Larrow.

JB Great. And we're in Waitsfield and it is, January 23rd. Right. So you said you were born at the Fuller house.

JL Yes. I think that's what they called it.

JB Right in, Waitsfield.

JL Waitsfield. Um, hum. [1.29]

JB And you were born up near Rupert Blair?

EL Yeah, in East Warren.

JB Well that's a, better, see I have two towns covered here. How about some of your earliest recollections growing up here.

JL Well one of my first ones is the 27 flood. And we lived in what we called the Wimbel house, I don't know what they call it, it's right near, it's across from the paint store almost. Well it was right next to the Fuller house. [2.02] And, I can remember part, the flood, and I can remember we lived in the downstairs apartment, and I can remember my mother making me get up on the bed in the bedroom, so they'd know where I was while they were picking things up to leave the house, cause the water was going by the window sill on the outside. And I could see rats floating in the window, by the window there. And my father had a Dodge truck, because he run the stage, so he backed that up in the water, and they loaded what they could in, and than they made, made me get in, we went in the truck and we went up to my Uncle Charlie and Aunt Minnies and that was up where Ruth McGill did live. At the other end of the village, this side of Cory's garage.

JB Okay.

JL On the right going up. And I can remember after I went to bed, seeing boats go through the street, they

were out, I think it was out in _____ some of them were out with boats. [3.06] Checking places. So we stayed there and than the next day, when we could see the house, our barn had gone off, and it was down by the covered bridge here in Waitsfield village, and I had a _____ rooster and he was up on the roof.

[3.23] Crowing. So my father went down and called Vicky, and he flew over on my father's shoulder, so we got him, but he went down the river and the next day we see my bedroom was gone, it was tipped, and than my mother took a look at the house and she said, no way, there was oh quite a few inches of mud, the cellar door had come open, so we never went back in there.

[3.49] But I remember them out at night, and I can remember the water, going right up and down the main street.

JB How old were you than? [3.56]

JL That was in 27, I was nine. But I can remember it real plain.

JB Oh yeah.

JL And I can remember staying up at my Aunt Minnie's upstairs cause they made me stay upstairs. And, cause

they wanted to be sure where I was I suppose. And, than, we stayed there awhile and than we came down to Lizzy Anna Livingstons, in the old hotel. And stayed there until we could find a place to live. And than we went down to the apartment across from the garage, and than we went over where _____ Gaylord and Julia Gaylord now lives. [4.32] And than my father bought the house where the teddy bear store is. All Things Bright and Beautiful. So that's where I really grew up. I think mostly. And my father worked in the store across the street after that.

JB Oh he did.

JL Ah ha.

JB And that's another subject I'm interested in, are the old stores.

JL Yup, my father worked there and one of my girl friends Catherine Newcome, her father worked in Jones' store.

JB ah ha.

JL And, another girl friend Madeleine one of my bestfriends her father worked in Carl Long's store. So we girls had it made as far as the stores. To go and get candy or ice cream. Ha! Ha! If one father

didn't do it, another did. So.

JB And those were the old general stores.

JL Yes. Yeah. You went in and told him what you wanted and they went and got it for you, you didn't go and help yourself. [5.24]

JB Yeah. Well and one of the things I, I had never thought about but it was when they went to self service, you know, and put in the extra shelves, that the old stove went out and the place that people gathered.

JL They pumped gas at the store. [5.41] Right on, it was almost on the sidewalk. Cause we could roller skate on the cement sidewalk. That's where we'd roller skate. And than they, where the little park is now, there was a tennis court, and we used to go over there and play tennis, and I could go right out my kitchen door. And I can remember my mother kept school girls. And that was all black top, so you could run across it, you know, and my mother was in a play the country school they used to have, down to Moretown, so she had gone for the day, and than we

were going down to the play at night, and so one of the school girls that my mother had, Ellen Verno, we come home and my father come over from the store, so we had our lunch and we girls were supposed to do up the dishes. Well my father went in the other part of the house, so I thought it was a good time to get out of there, so I went out the side door and across the tennis court and went to school. Well my father said, he came out, and Ellen was putting her coat on, my father said, where do you think you're going, and she said I'm going to school. And he said, no you're not, the dishes are going to be done. [6.46] And she said, your daughter is no better than I am, and if she don't do them, I'm not doing them. And he said, I'm telling you right now, I'll settle with her tonight, but you're doing the dishes and I'll help you, so they did the dishes. Well, she come down the school and she said, are you gonna get it when you get home. Well of course I was quite a lot younger, than she was, but I worried all afternoon.

JB This is your sister?

JL No, just a girl that stayed with us, boarded and went

to school. [7.14] And, but they were supposed to help with the work, you know, too, so I worried, but when I come home there was a note on the table, come over to the store. [7.23] And well, I went over, but I had my orders that I was to go home and set the table, and I was to be ready to do the dishes all by myself after we ate supper. And he worked till six in those days. And so I had to set the table and get ready and I had to do all the dishes all by myself that night. So that didn't pay. Ha! Ha!

JB Ha! Ha! Ha! [7.46] Do you remember any of the funny things that happened in the store? I often think the store was, the center of humor in a town.

JL Well I remember there was a kid here that, they sent him over to get, was it stripped paint, Jack? They sent this kid over to get some stripped paint. Well he went back and told them they didn't have striped paint. And than they sent him back, something about, what was it, about the stove pipe.

EL Stove pipe wrench.

JL Wanted a stove pipe wrench. And that poor kid they just kept him going after things like that, you know,

and I can remember hearing them tell about this kid coming in, and asking for striped paint. Ha! Ha! Ha!

And I can remember when they used to deliver the gasoline, there was a Frank Hand his name was and he always had this black cocker dog with him and we youngsters always liked to go over and play with that dog, while he was filling the tanks of gas, you know.

But I don't remember too much that went on in the store, cause I wasn't allowed over there too much.

[8.51]

JB I can imagine, yeah.

JL But I knew a lot of people because living across from the store people used to come and do their grocery shopping, you know. So, I remember a lot about that.

But, and I always lived right on that, this corner down here, that's where I grew up. So that a, it was a lot of fun.

JB Well I bet. I bet.

JL I was an only child, but I never was alone. They always had a crowd around.

JB And you took in, boarders.

JL School girls.

JB Yeah. That must of been fun.

JL That was fun, yeah. In fact, I don't see too much of them now, of course they were older, I was down in the grades. And they were in high school. But, I suppose they were like older sisters, maybe. I guess they bossed me around a little bit. Sometimes. But I remember we had this one school girl, and a friend of mine Charlene Leno, had come and stayed with me and the girls would go home Friday, usually after school, and than they'd come back Sunday night, so Charlene and I had been to youth group, and we'd come home and we were in my bedroom, down at the, where the teddy bear store is, and or the Christmas store, I don't know what it, they do call it now, but [10.04] anyway we were in the bedroom and we knew Ellen had come back, and her boyfriend had brought her back, so we snuck out into the little hall, and when he went to kiss her good night, we turned the light on. [10.16]

Oh was she mad. I guess you know she was hopping mad, but. Ha! Ha!

JB Oh, dear.

JL I guess we didn't always behave the way we should

maybe.

JB Ha! Ha! Ha! [10.27]

JL But it was nice. And Fletcher Joslin had a sister Elizabeth, there was, a little older than I was, and she used to come down when she was able to, after awhile she wasn't able but when she was able to. And mother said she heard her set on the steps one day fighting, so she thought she'd listen to see what the argument was, and we were arguing over whose father had the most money. And we were arguing over who had the biggest feet, and of course I was arguing mine were, but my feet were a lot smaller than I imagine her father had the most money, too. But we argued and my mother let us argue over it. [11.07]

JB Well how did you two meet?

EL Well I met her when I came down to Waitsfield to high school I used to drive, well I rode with other people driving cause I wasn't old enough to get a license of my own, and we drove six miles and I had to walk a mile and nine tenths, to get my ride. When I met her when I, was in high school down here.

JL But we never went out together.

EL At that time you drive up what is now Route 100, well I guess it was than, but, drive to Warren and there was about oh at least ten, maybe twelve operating farms from here to Warren, and these four, maybe five covered bridges between here and Warren, back in the, well that was 36, and 38 in there some place. [12.08]

And there was, the road was dirt than, when I came home from the service and started working for _____ Hunter, the black top started right by Cory's place. [12.17] Now Cory's garage on the left there, but on that hill some where. And the bypass wasn't in in Warren than of course.

JL Well that was long after we were married. Cause we've been married fifty-one years. Isn't that terrible.

JB I think it's terrific.

JL A long time.

EL Back in, Waitsfield had the first fire truck in the valley here than, and we had to, tend all the fires in Warren, and Fayston, and Moretown. [12.55] Besides our own. And the town still owns that old truck, it's a 1944, and the town still owns it, now.

JB Is that right?

EL They just use it for parades and stuff. But it used to cold sometimes going up in Warren, in the wintertime, the way the roads were than, had to put chains on the truck, to get up some of the hills, I hope nobody has to go through that again.

JB Well now you grew, you said you grew up on a farm in East Warren.

EL Yes.

JB Right near Rupert Blair was it? Or?

EL Well, it's, you turn by the four corners there, one goes to Rupert and one goes to Alpine Village, and one goes to Prickley Mountain, it was right on the, corner there where you turn to go to Prickley Mountain. You turn left by the turn that goes up to Rupert, turn left and than turn right to go up to Prickley Mountain, the house is right on the corner there.

JL There's a trailer in there the Catlin boy lives there now. [13.57]

EL My dad came from Ferrisburgh, and bought that farm there I think it was, two hundred and fifty acres in it, and there was, ten head of cows, cattle there, he bought the farm and the land and the farm for 12

hundred dollars.

JB Gee. When was that?

EL Oh, gee I don't know what time he did come, he bought it before I was born.

JL They were married in 1910. And Everitt was born in 13. So it was shortly after 1913, I would think.

JB Some different now. Well I think it was Alden Bennis that talking about, riding the traverse sled down, no wait, he was brought up by his uncle, right, Chase.

JL My aunt and uncle. Um, hum.

JB Yeah. Riding the, the traverse sled down to school. And once he took a John Spaulding on it, and I guess John Spaulding would never ride on a traverse sled after that. [15.04]

JL I've ridden down that hill in a cart with him.

JB In a cart?

JL In a cart, yeah, oh boy. See it was my Aunt Elna brought him up, and so we used to be up there a lot, and my cousin Leona, and Roger Bettis from Montpelier would come out with their father and mother, and Alden and Leona, and Roger and I would sort of pair off, well Leona and Alden we were going to ride in the cart

down the hill a ways, and we got in an argument over who would go first, but Alden and Elizabeth went out, Alden, not Elizabeth, Alden and Leona went out, so they went down, they had to pull the cart back of course, for us, so Roger and I went down and when we got down, we met my Uncle Frank coming with his Essex car, and he had a bear on it, he caught a bear. So we got a ride back. So we harassed them cause they had to walk back and we rode back. [16.03] And they had a bear rug made out of that. And they lived in Montpelier, and there's this little _____, oh he was a cutey. We used to come up to their house quite a bit, he lived in front of them, and when my Aunt Mildred didn't want him to go in the living room, she couldn't watch what he was doing, she'd put this bear rug in the archway, afraid for his life for the bear rug and he would not go any farther than the dining room, when that bear rug was in the archway. But that's how, we got our ride back, because Uncle Frank gave us the ride back, and we didn't have to pull the cart.

JB Yeah well, Alden said that, often his uncle would take

the traverse back for him, if he was going back up the hill in the middle of the day. [16.50]

JL Did he tell you about picking wild strawberries?

JB No.

JL All the four of us kids used to go out when we'd be up there on Sunday and pick wild strawberries. Oh, it took a lot of a shortcake you know, and my Aunt Lena would make the best shortcake and of course on the farm they had the whipped cream, oh she was a cook, and we'd, I don't know how many wild strawberry short cakes. But you don't hear of kids picking wild strawberries, maybe they don't have them anymore.

[17.15]

JB Oh they do. Yeah. Yeah. We have a whole pile. I used to make my kids do that. But I was, it's funny I was talking with Mr. Wallace about that this morning and about, how it used to be such an enjoyable thing to do and now, nobody does it. [17.36]

JL We loved it. We'd pick and she'd cook and we'd eat. Ha! Ha! Ha! But we always had every Sunday when we were home, Sunday night was a potato salad and a, a white ground cake with thick, thick whipped cream on

the top of it. You don't hear of anything like that now.

JB No, no. No.

JL They live different.

EL I remember when I got old enough to drive to school, I could drive up to a gas pump, and get five gallons of gasoline for a dollar. [18.14] It didn't cost much to get back and forth to school than.

JB Yeah. Well now when you had your farm, did you make the transition from horses to tractors or had that already been?

EL No we never had a tractor on the farm. We always had, well three work horses, and a driving horse we kept. Four horses, and in the wintertime nobody drove cars back on them, only when it was, possible to operate them, but, there was always enough in the house back than so you didn't have to go to the store every day, sometimes, if it was too weeks we got by.

JL I didn't like that idea. [19.04]

JB Well you were, an in town girl.

JL We always had our car out all year round. And I remember I went up one weekend and he and I and the

hired man and Betty went to a dance down in Warren village, and they had to leave their car over at the four corners, way over, top of Pike hill, and I never was used to that, and we had to walk and they carried a lantern, and the mud, oh the mud was deep, and ha, we were going along, and Jack said to his sister, Betty, don't go so fast with the lantern. Well she was kind of mad so, she told him to take the lantern, well she took a step and the mud was so deep, her foot came right out that boot, so she wasn't too happy. Ha! Ha! Ha! But people wouldn't walk like that. And than we lived up on the Lovett farm, that was in, the winter of 42, but we, I didn't stay there long either, that was worst to get to than the other one, in those days they didn't keep it plowed like today they think they got to drive home, you know. [20.14] But we lived up there just one winter and Elliot Maxwell and Marjorie were staying for the weekend with us, and we went down to the village to a dance, and we'd come home and we made the hill up by Rupert Blairs' cause it was the second place beyond him, where we lived, well we got up above him all right, but after awhile

we couldn't go any farther, so Jack said, to me, you get under the, steering wheel and you drive the car and Elliot and I will push to get it going, but he said if we, when we get it going, you keep it going. Well, I thought all right, so they pushed, and I got it going, it was going pretty good so I just stepped on it, and we got up to the house and Elliot and Jack weren't on the back. Ha! Ha!

JB Ha! Ha! Ha! [21.00]

JL Ha! Ha! Oh they weren't happy with us at all when they got up there, they had to walk up but he said keep it going so that's what we did. Ha! Ha!

JB So, when you were first married, you went up on, your farm in East Warren? And than?

JL 19, that was, we were married New Years Eve on 1940. And his father went to legislature, so we went up on the farm. [21.28]

JB And I suppose in those days when you went to legislature, you lived in Montpelier all winter.

EL Yeah. We came home weekends. Sometimes we'd, but there in the winter we, my father always had two cars, and he'd leave one car down to Warren village because

they did plow Route 100, than, so we could with the horse down to Warren and take the car and go where you wanted to go. But we always had one car at home and one car in town.

JL But she asked you about legislature and he lived, they had an apartment on School Street in Montpelier. That winter. [22.03] And than the place burned.

JB Oh!

JL Merrill Cattin, come in the driveway.

JB You mean the farm burned?

JL The farm burned. Everything.

JB Oh!

JL Yup we didn't get much of anything out and Merrill Cattin was coming out of his sugar place, it was late that year, it was something like the sixth of June, and he drove in the yard, Jack's cousin was over visiting, and she said, what's wrong with him, and I said, I don't know, he was blowing the horn, he come in and he said, the house is a fire, and I said, it can't be. He said, it is. Well we went in and two rooms was burnt completely off. And than they discovered the other end of the barn was a fire.

JB Oh my gosh!

JL So it, the whole thing went within, what an hour,
Jack?

EL Yeah. There was no fire equipment here than.

JB Ah!

JL So it just went like, _____, we lost everything.

JB Gosh. That was in what 41?

JL June of 41.

JB Oh geezers.

JL Yup June of 41, and we couldn't find an apartment so
we lived with my folks for a year. Until we could
find a place to and he stayed up on the farm that year
cause they, you had cattle brought in, didn't you?
Renting it out to somebody. You had somebody with
cattle there. I can't remember who.

EL I don't know.

JL And than he worked for Merrill Cattin part of the time
cause he wanted to be up where the cattle were.

EL I think so, cause my father had an auction and sold
off all their cattle and horses. And sold everything.

JB So you were able to get the animals out of the barn.

EL Yeah cause it was in June.

JL June the first part of June.

EL So they weren't in the barn anyway. [23.41]

JB Hum.

JL We had a new puppy and I remember the first thing he took was, he put the car over on the cross road, and he went and grabbed the puppy and put the puppy in the car, and I can remember that.

JB Did you try and get stuff out of the house?

JL Tried to but you couldn't. [23.56] There was a washing machine, it was a, a nice new one, his mother had got after she got the Delco, and they kept it in the back room, well when I wanted to wash, it was on a Monday, I couldn't get that thing over the step that come into the house part, he'd have to bring it in, or the hired man. Well, during the fire, we had been washing, Arlene and I, and we were frying salt pork, and so than when we discovered there was a fire, Arlene and I took that washing machine an picked it right up, and took it off the porch, why we couldn't of done it, you know, but my mother, this Arlene that came over, his cousin from Bristol, and I, wasn't a cook anyway, and I still am not, but I had an awful

time frying donuts, and in those days you made donuts, you know, so I learned to make donuts, and but I couldn't tell about the lard too well, so, Arlene had said, well you put one of these wooden matches in the lard and when it's ready, it will light. And than it will go out. So that's the way I fried donuts. Well my mother heard that the, got the word that, the house was a fire, she said, I know it, I knew it, Arlene Rockwood is over there, and they're frying donuts. And that lard is exploded. Ha! Ha! [25.09] Ha! Ha!

She knew that that is what happened. Cause Arlene was there. But we weren't frying donuts. But she knew that that lard had exploded. So that's the way I fry donuts, by putting a match in the lard. She didn't think it was too good an idea. Ha!

JB Oh but what an awful experience. Our barn burned but, not a house. And, um.

JL Yup, you loose everything. If it gets started. There was a _____ cloth, well like the one we have on our mantle, [25.45] but I can't remember either the cloth came out of the _____, one or the other. [25.50] I don't know if they ever had part of it or not, but I

remember one or the other came out, and the other didn't, I don't know where we had the key but. And I had moved the, well my daughters using the bedroom set, Jack's folks had bought a new bedroom so, they hadn't had it very long, one of our daughters likes older things so she's got it, but it had a, dresser and a chest and a bureau, and a bed in those days. I had, the bedroom was so small that I had moved the dresser, in the other end and I guess you know that went, but the other pieces came out and she's using it.

JB That's wonderful. So you did save a few.

JL A few things. Yeah. But not, not very much. The stove and the kitchen chairs were old, they were Jack's grandmothers and Jack's father later bought a camp and the last I knew they sold it with the camp but a. Somethings came out but not, our wedding presents were all in the part that burned first.

JB Ah!

JL So they all went. Everything. They were all gone before we.

JB Even knew the fire was going.

JL Knew of the fire.

JB What a shock.

JL It wasn't very pleasant. But there's worse things
than that. [27.06]

JB Well did you, than find work on other farms for
awhile, or?

EL Yeah. I worked for Fremont Lovett that had a farm up
in East Warren, he was a, he lived in New York, I
worked there for a couple of years, and than I, had to
go in the service, shortly after that.

JL 44.

EL I went in the service in 44.

JB And than when you came out is that when you began to
get involved in Mad River? [27.55] Or?

EL Yeah shortly after that I, when I first started
working there, I worked weekends and holidays. Cause
I was working at Bowen Hunter's mill and I was the
plant foreman there for ten years, but I worked up
there on weekends and than after I didn't go back to
the mill anymore I worked the Mad River old time for
three or four years but I, didn't like working there
in the summer so, I started looking after, Toby's

property, for him up here.

JL But he was missing in action in the service.

JB You were!

JL Our daughter Audrey was born.

EL The 31st of March in 44, I think it was.

JL No. You went in May 44, it was March of 45. After he went in, Audrey, he went in in May, Audrey was born in October, and in March, well I got ahead of my story, Bob Bisbee that used to live here, he had a brother David, and his mother had got a telegram that he was killed in action, and than maybe a day after that, this Glennis Weston now, she was Glennis Martin at the time, had gotten a telegram that her husband was missing in action, and Unis Farr in those days, if somebody was killed or missing, she would get the message and she'd bring the message to you, on a, I don't know others but on a paper to me, so I said if Unis Farr every comes to my door, I'll drop dead.

[29.39] Because she wasn't in the habit in coming to our house, you know, well one morning I was getting up, getting Audrey up and I had her in my arms, and I was coming downstairs, and the door was right at the

front of the stairs, and the door bell rang and I opened it and here stood Unis Farr, but she never said a word, she didn't come in, she didn't say a word, but she handed me this paper, and it said, that he was missing in action and that if anything occurred within so long, you would here. But I didn't hear anything.

But his said, missing. And, I can't tell when it was probably six weeks after.

JB What did you think?

JL You don't think. [30.19] You're, you don't remember, I just remember that she didn't say anything or come in, and that bothered me, to think that she didn't at least come in. But in just a few minutes my mother, I lived with my folks at the time, down here at the corner, and my mother had heart trouble, and so this, Doctor Shaw that they talk so much of, lived down below us, here, and somebody, maybe she did that, had gotten word to him, because the next thing I saw was he was running up the driveway with his little black bag. And he came and stayed all morning with us.

[30.52] And, I remember that part of it, and I

remember my Aunt Lena coming and Haddie Dana and quite a few. But I don't remember too much about the day, but as time went on, I didn't hear anything, and didn't hear anything, and finally one night, my father had a barbershop, and he came in quite late some nights, from that, cause they, played cribbage a lot, and one night about midnight when he got home the phone rang, and they asked for me and he said, well she's asleep, but I will take the message, and no they couldn't give it to him, so he called and I went down to the phone, it was, Western Union, and they said, we have a telegram from the War Department, that your husband is back with his outfit. And, she was really nice, oh she was nice and she finally said, now I'm not sure that you're getting this, so I'm gonna repeat it over again, so she repeated the whole message over it, and the next day I. [31.55]

END OF SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO

JB Well now where you? Ha! Ha!

EL I was a POW but.

JB You were?

EL Yeah, but that, at that time, they didn't put you in concentration camps or anything I just had to, oh, do what they told you to do.

JB Where were you?

EL In Germany.

JB In Germany.

EL Yeah. _____, Germany. [.20] But I wasn't.

JB And was.

EL I wasn't abused by them.

JB Was this in the battle of the bulge? Or?

EL After the bulge. Shortly after the bulge.

JB Geepers.

JL So we've had a life. I can tell you.

JB So how long were you a POW?

EL Well, my records somehow got destroyed, and this wasn't confirmed until, oh it was just about eight or ten years ago, I went to Congressman Jeffords, and had to sign permission for him to have my records searched so he finally found the available records and, in St. Louis Missouri, that's where the, all the records are now, and he got in confirmed and I don't know when it, I don't remember when it was, but, with his help he

got it confirmed that I was officially declared a POW.

[1.25] And, I don't know what year it was, but, they had this, big celebration down to the, it used to be Forties and now it's _____.

JL I think it was three years ago.

EL And they were [1.42] seventy others from the state, and they assigned me these POW plates, you notice on my car, it says X-POW on the number plate.

JB I'll look.

EL And everybody thinks you don't have to pay for them, but it didn't cost anything to get them, but you have to registration just the same. That's about all I ever got out of them.

JB How were you captured?

EL Well it was on a patrol at night, and I think the, officer in charge was a little over aggressive, he, our assignment was go to the top of the hill to see what was between us, and other outfits and we took us right through the German lines, and they let us go and when we tried to come back to our outfit, we couldn't, it was impossible. [2.37] But I don't regret any of it, I didn't get abused. You didn't get the best of

food nothing like they fed afterwards. But I survived it.

JB Were you scared?

EL Well, yeah. [2.53] A little bit. I trusted the German soldiers more than I did the older Nazis there. But they didn't abuse me or anything. I was awful glad to see American troops again.

JB And, and you then were liberated by American troops?

EL Not exactly, but I knew they were close and they were only, five guys around me, and the guy that was guard of me had a, one of our service rifles, he was a medic, and he wasn't supposed to be, he wasn't even supposed to carry a rifle. And I didn't think he knew much about it, so I just, one day I said well I guess this is it. And I got a hold of the rifle and him, and took four other guys that had a, mortar in place there, they was dropping mortars on the American troops and we headed down the mountain, back down over the hill, and came to the hundred and fourth timberwolf outfit. And they asked a few questions, finally I convinced them I was a GI and than after about another two weeks they got me back to my own

outfit. [4.16]

JB Gee that's quite an experience.

JL That's what makes me think of these people that you saw on television, that they're husbands, you know, went over there to the war but, they weren't gone that, I feel sorry for the men, but the woman oh they had to get counsel, and in groups, we didn't have any council or any group or, like our minister never even came to our house, Reverend Strickland, he never showed up at our house, so you didn't even have a minister that, came to you, but these people had groups, you know.

JB Did you give up hope, or?

JL Yeah. You do sometimes. When you don't hear any thing, you know, cause you don't know.

JB And it was six weeks?

JL It was about six weeks. [5.06] Which wasn't as long as some were, because I don't think Gladys Brown found out for quite awhile. But finally I think it was, one of the men that was on the plane with Stanley, they finally got in touch with and he said he did, he went down with the plane. But there was a long while he

was missing, and she didn't hear anything you know, she had three little boys. And, so I really felt sorry for her, and of course Dorothy, of course, we got the word the David was killed. So, but it's not a very pleasant, but there were three hear in this, here in Warren and Waitsfield within I would say five days, maybe, cause there was Dorothy and than there was Glennis, and our house. It's not a very pleasant.

[5.54]

EL But we were lucky we, I got, we were, the first day of July, we, they announced on the ship out, well when we left for _____, France to come home, [6.10] or we didn't know where we were going, they'd say the, the general _____ was approximately five hundred miles from _____, France, and it was going about five hundred a miles a day, and on the first of July, they had made an announcement, the general Brooks is now approximately fifteen hundred miles from Newport, West Virginia. And that's a pretty good feeling when you, we thought we were going to Japan. From Germany to Japan, but. And the day I was supposed to, after we got in, Newport News, went to Patrick Henry, and they

gave you a thirty day recuperation furlough to come home. And the day I had to go back with my furlough was the surrender of Japan. [7.00] Never did go back to, didn't have to go to Japan, and I'm glad I didn't go in the Pacific there, European _____ was bad enough.

JB Boy.

JL If anything goes wrong we've had it. Ha! Ha! I said some families it seems though.

JB Yeah it does seem to run in families.

JL Yeah it does. Yeah. All your debt, boy, we've had it. Ha! Ha! But I guess it turns out all right.

JB Well you always, keep hoping.

JL It's a good thing you don't know I guess, what's ahead of you isn't it.

JB Yeah. The people that have a second sight or something, you know.

JL I don't want it.

JB I don't want to know.

JL Nope I don't either. My mother always said, if I knew when I was gonna die I wouldn't be there. Or where I was gonna die, I wouldn't be there. [8.06] I guess

it's a good thing we don't know.

JB Well I guess there have been a lot of changes in this valley.

EL There sure has. Used to be a farming community but. It's not a, maybe, three, maybe possibly four, operating farms in the town, now.

JL We used to swim in the river, I took swimming lessons from Elton and Unis Farr, down by the bridge and the sewers in it. [8.46] But we're living. Most of us that took the lessons are still alive. Today they would, well they wouldn't believe it. But that's where we took our swimming lessons.

JB And I guess there was, you must of used the river for, fishing and.

JL Yup.

JB Earl Fuller told me that, the river used to be a lot higher.

JL Right.

EL Yup.

JL I can remember. Yup.

EL I remember.

JL It changed course.

EL During the time I worked for Mad River, they had a big storm one winter, I don't know, the valley would just come to a halt if this ever happened today. But I had to stay at Mad River all night, four thirty in the afternoon it started snowing, and I stayed on the mountain with a machine all night, keeping the, keeping trails open, so we could get a, machine to the top of the mountain and the next morning to clean the lifts out, and the next morning at seven o'clock it had snowed forty eight inches, over night. [9.58] But, we came out of it all right, but I don't know what they do with a snow plow like that, now.

JB It might be.

EL Not that quickly.

JB Yeah.

JL Did Otis Wallace you he used to teach dance, give dancing lessons.

JB No he didn't tell me that.

JL I took dancing lessons from Otis Wallace, can't tell when it, it must of been in the spring and summer, ten cents a lesson.

JB Is that right. [10.24]

JL Yup. There was quite a group of us, and at the end of it, a number of weeks, we had a big party. It was down where the town clerk's office is now. That used to be the town hall, and we could go in there, anytime we wanted to. And he gave dancing lessons, in there.

JB What kind of dancing lessons?

JL Round. Round. The waltz, and the fox trot, and he could dance. Real good dancer. But I took dancing lessons with Otis Wallace, than our school orchestra we used to have our practice in there, cause I played in the school orchestra for a long time. And that's where we'd go and have Mister _____, used to come from Montpelier, once, on Wednesdays. And we'd take lessons and than the ones that wanted to, and than after school, we, for an hour we had orchestra practice down there. [11.15]

JB Well, from talking with a number of people, there was quite a bit of music in this valley.

JL There used to be yeah.

JB You spoke about, going to dances in Warren, and a number of, well Raymond Gove, I guess was a good fiddler. And, Earl Long, he remembers some of the old

songs, still.

JL Sure, I see Earl once in awhile. [11.42]

EL Fred Smith was another one.

JL Yeah. And Doctor Shaw's wife used to play the piano, and Fred Smith's mother used to play the piano for dances, Hazel Bragg, Catherine Johnson's mother used to play the piano very well too.

JB I wonder if it was Hazel Bragg, do you remember her name was Elloe Wakefield.

JL Sure. [12.04] Went to school with her.

JB Did you?

JL Sure.

JB I loved her. I just thought she was terrific. And, she was talking about a woman in Warren, who we were always gonna go over to see, that played the piano, and that sang parodies. Do you know who she might of been?

JL Who would that be? In Warren. [12.28] I don't know.
Elloe could do it all right.

JB Oh she sure could. I have several, I should bring them over to you, several recordings of her.

JL Oh I'd like to hear her.

JB And also wonderful stories.

JL I'd like to. One night, she and Barbara Story, came here, and played cards.

JB Yes.

JL But Elloe stayed with me one, one weekend when I was growing up, she lived in Warren than, before they moved to, was it Hancock or Rochester, they moved to.

JB Hancock.

JL Hancock. Hancock. And I was, my freshman year, Edwin her brother was in my class.

JB Yes I knew him too.

JL You did. I was friendly with Edwin, yeah. And he was, he's my age. Well he's passed away, hasn't he?

JB Yes. Yes.

JL Elloe is gone. I don't know.

JB Elloe is gone yeah.

JL About her sister. [13.23]

JB I didn't know her sister.

JL I can't think of her name, Stella, maybe.

JB Maybe. I knew her. Her daughter Faye.

JL Faye and Bonnie.

JB Yes the niece. Bonnie was.

JL No Bonnie was Elloe's daughter. [13.35] She had a daughter Bonnie and Faye and she had three boys.

JB Yeah. She had six children I think.

JL Oh she did. I knew she had the three boys, and the two girls.

EL Did Elloe's mother played piano?

JB Yes.

EL At some of the dances.

JB I think she came from a very musical family and she was terrific.

JL Oh she was funny, wasn't she.

JB Oh just cracked me up.

JL Oh she was great. Yeah. And Edwin was full of it too. We were just down Sunday to Barbara Story's seventh birthday party, at Hancock, but I didn't know Edwin's wife, but as she was leaving, somebody told me who she was, and Barbara said, gee, I wish I'd of thought of that. But I never met his wife, but I knew him real well.

JB I met her once. I think. [14.22]

JL But, (Chimes ringing) Edwin was in my class, and Elloe went to school down here in high school awhile,

and I was friendly with her, we used to, I never went to her house but she came to my house and stayed over.

And as I say she was here once since we lived here. Played cards. She loved to play cards. And when we'd be down to Barbara Story's once in awhile she'd come up. She lived up the branch too. And.

JB Yeah well I remember I met Barbara Story at Elloes. And she was reading some of her poetry, the telephone, one.

JL Well she just had her seventieth birthday, Sunday.

EL When I lived at, and grew up up in East Warren, Elloe used to have these kitchen parties there, kitchen junkets they called them, and like Fred Smith and one of the Shaws there.

JL Ben Shaw.

EL Ben Shaw, he was to play, and they'd play all night long for three dollars a piece.

JL I couldn't get over it.

EL And he used to go to different houses every Saturday night, after you got your chores done with a pair of horses, and put them in the barn so it would be warm to come home with, but you get home in the morning in

time, to start chores again. It'd last all night.

JL I went up to my cousins, _____ and Glennas they lived in Warren village, Charlene and I went up before I knew Jackie, but I knew Erma [15.48] his sister Erma, cause she was in school than, here, but we went up, my cousins and stayed over, for the weekend, and they were going to this kitchen junket, they called it, which I had never heard of, and it was up at his folks house, and this man came, and we got in this, I don't know what you'd call it, horse and, it wasn't a sleigh, it was something, a lot of people could get into, and they had, robes, and we got in, and he took us with horses, up to his folks, and I couldn't get over it, cause they danced in the living room, and I thought boy I can't imagine my mother letting them dance in our living room. I couldn't get over it. Because they were dancing in the kitchen, they were dancing in the living room, and all this food, I'd never seen so much food. And the, put the coats on the bed in those days, and that bed, I don't know who you ever found your coat, when you come to go home, you know, but I never forgotten it, and I don't know

what time we got back to Glenna's but I was so cold.

Oh, it was cold. [16.51] But we went and that was my experience with a kitchen junkets, but I didn't know him than. But I knew Erma and she was home. But that was quite a, I got that lesson.

JB Well they were great fun, I guess.

JL Yeah but can you imagine they just moved furniture out.

EL The woman would take sandwiches some of them would take cakes and you, they'd stop two or three times, have an intermission like, and everybody would have something to eat. And they'd go back at it again.

JB Well.

EL There never was any problem.

JB Was there singing as well as fiddling? Ever?

EL Was what?

JB Was there some singing as well as fiddling, did, who was it was telling me, oh, I guess it was Earl Long, said his father had a wonderful voice and he used to play I guess.

EL Oh yes some of them used to sing along with them.

JB Cause a lot of those old songs are, are gone, and I,

one of my hopes was to find some people that would remember them.

EL They'd take up a collection to pay the music and you didn't have to spend any money out of pocket money, and you just had a ball. [18.00]

JL Well it was, that was my kitchen junket experience.

JB When did they stop?

EL Oh dear. I guess they started, fizzling out along at, 38, 39, in there some where.

JL Oh it was before that.

EL Was it?

JL Yes. Before that I don't know. Cause that was the only one I ever went to. And that would of been in, the winter of 32, yeah, 1932. That winter. Maybe, January of 33. [18.38] Because I know that's when I was a freshman in high school. I went up to Glennas and spent the weekend. And that was a big treat to go to Warren and spend the weekend in those days, you know, and she wanted us to come out and go to the, kitchen junket, which I never had been to.

JB Yeah she was your cousin.

JL She was my cousin. Yeah. Yeah. And she taught

school up there in Warren.

JB Oh she did.

JL Yeah. And she'd had taught in East Warren, and maybe that's how come they went up there, I don't know, but this Mr. Murray, came with this, I don't know if it's a bob sled, I don't know these names, but, we all got in this bob sled or whatever it was, with robes, and coming home, I thought I'd freeze to death. Oh it was cold. I wouldn't do it now. Ha! Ha! [19.24]

JB Yeah Thelma Neill I talked with her, and she spoke about, going down one night, from I guess there farm, her parent's farm and.

EL Probably.

JB And, they'd get all hot and sweaty and than they'd, down in the town of Warren, and than they had to go home.

JL Go back home. [19.40]

JB She said that it was mighty cold.

JL I can remember I don't know if anybody ever mentioned when we had medicine shows here.

JB Oh tell me about that, yeah. [19.50]

JL Well we used to have medicine shows and they'd come

and stay a week. All week long. You, from I don't know as we had them Sunday, I guess Monday through Saturday. [20.00] And they'd sell this kinds of medicine as I remember it, and they'd have a good show, it was really good, and than they would vote, I don't know if you bought something you have so many votes for different ones, And I can remember one year they had it, I won this big lamp, the homeliest lamp you ever saw in your life, oh it wa terrible, but I won that and we'd go every night, you know.

JB Well now how did you win it?

JL Well, as I remember it, as they bought, they sell this medicine, different kinds of medicine they would show, and you'd get so many votes, I guess as you bought medicine and people could vote, the first night I guess they put names in and than from in, you vote, that, the rest of the night you'd vote for whoever you wanted to, different ones would vote you know, and I don't know what you got some votes when you went in, I don't know just how the votes did go, but I know we just kids loved to go you know, and you'd see a different show every night.

JB What kind of a show would you see? Sort of a variety show?

JL Yeah variety show, yeah.

JB And what kinds of things would they do?

JL Oh, they'd play musical things and a comedy act, and some would sing, and, it might be a little sketch, or skit, or whatever you'd call it. It was all a variety of things.

JB And would they be here for five days and than go to Warren for five days or?

JL I don't know if they went to Warren or not. Do you remember them Jack?

EL No. [21.25]

JB Earl Fuller spoke about, remembering medicine shows.

JL Yeah I do. This is when I was quite, well, before I was out of school. Because I remember going to them, and we looked forward to them, coming every year, you know, we had down at the Odd Fellows hall. Where the theater is now. Valley Players.

JB Yeah.

JL That's where we'd go and they had the stage of course, and oh it was a big treat. We looked forward to them

coming. And it was a variety show, was what it was but they'd sell these different rubs and supposed to be pain, take care of pain, and cough syrup and my folks weren't enthused with the medicine, cause we weren't medicine people, we don't take medicine unless we have to. But a lot of people would buy that stuff you know. And, that was kind of interesting, every year they'd have it. We had fun. [22.14]

JB Another thing speaking about medicine that I've been interested in is the old remedies. And, it sounds like you probably didn't use many of them but, some of the old remedies really seem to, people swear by them.

JL There's a book on television, they're advertising, now, that, if you have, what is it, a toothache, rub ice on the palm of your hand, maybe you've seen that.

JB No I haven't.

JL They've had it on, I thought I might, I might like it, and it tells oatmeal is good for poison ivy and.

JB Ha!

JL That same idea.

JB So probably, it's from the olden, yeah.

JL It might be fun to have one.

EL We lived in East Warren there, the, I was born at home. And, I recall Doctor Shaw lived just below us here, now, and he used to come all kinds of, all times of the year, he's come up in East Warren, if you had to go with a horse, but than back in, 37, or 38, he started doing some of his calls with a car. He had this old, I think it was, maybe it was a thirty five _____, and he'd go as far as he could go, [23.30] with his car, in the springtime when it was muddy, and he'd grab the satchel and take off afoot. But, I don't know people would do today when they was an accident or a sickness.

JL A dollar for a house call. [23.44]

JB Ha! Ha! Ha!

JL To go to his office it was fifty cents.

EL He'd get his car stuck in a ditch, you know, and all the neighbors knew it was his car, and they'd take a pair of horses over and get his car out of the mud for him, and he kind of expected that but he'd come regardless of the weather. And he had six miles to go. Or maybe more from here to East Warren it must be, seven or eight miles.

JL He's a pretty good old guy.

JB Well he was the one that, Otis Wallace said, came across the culvert just before the road went out.

EL It probably was, yeah.

JL Yeah it would of been, I would think, they came from Roxbury, over here to live. I don't remember what year it was. I have no idea what year, I remember when they came here, they had a parrot, and we kids used to like to come up and the parrot talked and we used to like to come up and talk to the parrot.

[24.34] I can remember that. So I wasn't very old. And this was a pasture. When I was growing up up here. And I remember when I was quite small, Catherine and I and a group would, our mothers would pack our supper in a shoe box, not a dinner pail, a shoe box, and we thought it was a big treat to come up here and sit in this pasture, and eat our supper. And we'd play up here awhile, and than we'd go home. And I remember when I was growing up, I said, if I ever had a house, I'd like it up there. Never thinking I would. But, I've got it. [25.11]

JB That's great.

JL I don't know what my folks would think if they knew it
but, I always thought I'd like a house up here.

JB That's neat.

JL Because we used to come up here and play and we'd come
up and have our supper and.

EL Remember when they, anybody ever tell you that, these
box socials they used to call them, the girls would
pack a, like a shoe box, with sandwiches, and things
in the box, and they'd have a, they'd auction them
off, and whoever bought this lady's box, or a girl,
woman's box, you could sit with her and have your
lunch. [25.44]

JL But they'd trim them all up, decorate them up.

EL But you never, you never knew who's box you was
getting. It might be, some grandmother you had to sit
with but that didn't matter. It was always fun.

JL Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! [25.56]

JB Did that happen to you?

EL Oh once or twice it did.

JL Yeah well now you feel different, you're a
grandfather, don't you?

EL Yeah.

- JL Ha! Ha! It makes a difference. I missed out on those, we didn't have those.
- EL It seems like they used to, have them at the schools and they'd give the money to the school for operating expenses I guess. I never knew where the money went but you could buy a box for maybe fifty cents or thirty-five cents. [26.25]
- JB And I understood thought, that if you had a girl friend usually she'd whisper to you which was her box.
- EL Yeah. [26.32]
- JL I never got in on those. I think, being in the village I think we missed a lot of the things like that. Cause our school didn't have those and we didn't have kitchen junkets. We had things at school, but not that, it was more of a dance, you know, or plays.
- JB Well it was easier in a sense for you to get together, cause you were all here, and you had to make an effort.
- EL Yeah. (chimes ringing)
- JL Now we could go in the town, where the town clerk's office is now, anytime we wanted to, we didn't have to

have chaperons. And, well my mother could look and father could look across of course in the windows.

JB Ha! Ha!

JL Cause I lived so close, but, there was so many of us that played instruments we'd go in there, sometimes and one would play awhile, and we'd dance and than somebody else would play awhile, and we'd dance. We had enough that played trumpet and violin and piano and that so that we had a good time and night after night we'd be over there. Till maybe ten, ten thirty and nobody worried about us that I ever knew of.

[27.35]

JB Yeah. I guess it was very different, and you knew everybody.

JL Yeah of course we didn't have cars to get around in much either, the parents took us, and I think that made a difference maybe too, if we went, you know, like to Moretown or somewhere, or if we went to the movies, different parents took us, we weren't often in cars by ourselves. And we walked where we went the ones here in the village and we always went in a group. You know, you never went alone, you were

always in a big group. [28.05] Four, five boys, four five girls. And I don't know, I never knew that my folks worried about me. If they did they never showed it.

JB Well they probably didn't.

JL Times were different of course. But we had a good time. And we all got together.

JB Well back to the, the ski business, because it seems that, that was when the, the changes really, was that when the changes started coming in?

EL Yeah. But I, of course Mad River was the first area that started here, I think they're still using one lift that was put in back than.

JB That's what I understand.

EL A single chair. But, even that is changed, I, I remember that when I started working there on weekends, of course _____ the area weren't here than, so they got, [29.09] bigger crowds and you know sometimes there was two hundred people waiting in line to get on the big lift there, it was like a, never ending process, to get them up the mountain, you know.
But.

JB Did you help clear the trails is that what you did?

Or?

EL When I first started there, I worked on the lift, and done errands for them because they had, no facilities, everything had to be taken up from the local stores here because they didn't deliver. At the area than. So on weekends I'd, have all these errands to do in the morning and than I'd work on the lift. I'd start doing errands at seven in the morning and I didn't have to start on the lift till usually nine o'clock, so. Pick up the bread and the, cakes were all made in town here, and the bread man left the bread at McHarrons store. Cause they didn't deliver up there than. In fact I think when I, I don't think that 17 was open any further than the lift when I started working there.

JB Oh really.

EL But I don't remember.

JB And it must of been all dirt road, too.

EL I think it was yeah. [30.30]

JB Who. Who started Mad River?

EL I don't know the first one I remember was, what the

heck was his name?

JL Rollin.

EL Palameno. Rollin Palameno.

JL Palameno.

EL Yeah. He's, he put in, extra lifts there, than, he was a, great manager, or I thought he was, he didn't, run in debt any more than he had to, not like they do now. If he had a good year, he'd escrow some money, so if they wanted to expand they didn't have to borrow money and they didn't have to pay interest on it. So. I thought he was a pretty good manager, I guess maybe he wasn't liked the best of any of them but. And than I think Jack, Jack Murphy was manager when I started working there. [31.31]

END OF TAPE 1

EL Was all that, cause he started working there I think when the life was first started.

JB George Neill.

EL Yeah.

JB At Sugarbush?

EL No Mad River. [2.25]

JB At Mad River.

EL Yeah.

JL He lives in Warren village.

JB George Neill. I should write. Yeah, Allen Clark was also suggested to me.

EL Yeah. He, I think he was assistant manager there for a few years, when I was working there. [3.02] I think. I pretty, I know he was. Yeah. I think he still skis there.

JB Is that N E A L, or N E I L.

JL Neill.

JB And relation to Thelma?

JL I don't know. If they're related or not.

EL No I don't, I don't think very, I don't think they are.

JB I think it was, your cousin who spoke about, riding the shovel down, at Mad River, did you used to do that?

EL Yeah. No, I didn't, and I remember a lot of them did it at Mad River but they put a stop to it, they thought it was too dangerous.

JB I guess you get going.

EL You see because they, the insurance company might not

like it. [4.01] If anybody got hurt, I guess they, was a chance there they might, the company might not pay for their accidents if they happened. And they used to, they didn't allow them, jack jumpers or anything like that on the, on the slopes than either.

Nope. [4.25]

JB You must of grown up doing that?

EL Yeah. They were awful hard for me to ride, I could ski better than I could ride one of those things. Some guys were pretty good with them.

JB Now had you skied, growing up did you ski some?

EL Oh yeah. When I was growing up on the farm, I used to ski. In the fields where it was all open.

JB Did you make your own skis? Or?

EL No.

JL I had a good pair of skis.

EL When I started skiing, they didn't have these harnesses or boots, you know, you just had a strap across the _____ and they were kind of [5.03] and they were kind of hard to control, so, you'd get out in the field, and you was all set, because. [5.12]

JB Did a lot of people do that than?

EL Oh yeah.

JB Cause I sort of felt, thought that it had been.

EL And it, the kids in the wintertime, cause you didn't have any where to go, a group of kids would get together, and have sliding parties at night, and than some of their folks would invite you in for hot chocolate, or sandwiches or something, it was cheap fun.

JL We did that. [5.38] Used to slid down Broadville's Hill. One night the traverse ran into a wood pile, down by Kenneth Bacus's, it a wonder we weren't killed.

EL We used to ski about our slide, about, two miles or so up in East Warren, there, and I remember this Raymond Gove you mentioned, he used to, he thought a lot of a team of horses, he always had a nice team, sometimes when he knew we were sliding, he'd, had this sled, he'd hitch the horses to, he'd put bells on them in the wintertime, so they'd jingling along and he'd come down and hitch the toboggan, behind the sled and we'd pile in the sled and he'd take us back up top of the hill there. He's the only one that ever did it,

[6.20] but I remember he used to do it, he's, he's
Thelma Neill's brother that you mentioned, and Robert
is another one that lives down in Moretown now.

JB Yeah he's been suggested to me to go talk with. And I
guess he knows old songs as well.

EL Oh yeah.

JL Oh he can sing too. [6.44] At the Masons' Christmas
party this year he recited a poem that he learned back
in school, gosh it's long, it's really a good poem,
that he learned way, way back it must be in the
grades, cause we didn't do that in high school. Two
years I heard him different times down there. And he
it's about Santa Claus, it's really good.

JB And I guess you used to, or Earl Fuller told me about,
Christmas, in well I guess in Warren, where you would
go to the community house and have a big Christmas
tree and everybody came.

EL And that was down in what they call the town hall,
down in Warren.

JL We used to have it in the church here.

JB And the whole town would turn out?

JL Yup, most all of the town peoples would turn out, we

had big trees in the church and they'd have popcorn balls for the grown ups, and candy bags for the kids, and than the little babies would get oranges, from the cradle roll they called it from the church. And we used to have a great, time, yeah we'd have Mildred Perkins used to be one of them that made popcorn balls and we'd, the kids would draw names, [8.00] and we'd have packages. And it was fun. Yeah, I don't know if they still do that in the church here or not.

They don't get together like they. Now, we always had a, New Years Day we had our annual church meeting.

And everybody would bring pot luck, and my folks would go and all the, take your kids, and oh we'd have a great time, and than we'd have, they'd have the annual meeting. But they just had the annual meeting last Sunday they have it at church and than after church they have this dinner, and they have their annual meeting so they don't have the good time that, we used to have. It was just a day of good times you know. And I can remember the minister had children in fact, Bill was just a, a year older and Ivy was a year younger, so I was quite friendly with them, and they

would come to the dinner, but at the meeting, when the meeting was gonna start he'd go home and take a his kids, and we didn't like that and they didn't, but he said that they might want to talk about him as a minister, or his salary, or the parsonage or something and his children might come home and tell something that wasn't just right, so he didn't stay, he and his wife and they made the children go too. [9.15] Ha! But they stayed this minister stayed, so you see that's changed too. But, well we had, oh we looked forward to that, and my folks did too. It was sort of a, like a party. But I don't think they had those things like that, you know, like we did.

JB Well I think the, sense of community is, is very different or.

JL I think we've got a lot of new people here too, and my impression is they try to run things the way they've had it, and of course we don't like some of it, and I think that is one of the big, their ways are different than ours. So I think that makes a little friction [9.58] sometimes. Well, that's the way I feel about it. And I go to the store and don't know anybody

hardly now. And I don't like that we used to know most everybody. And that's changed so that. And you read the paper you don't know the names in the paper.

JB That's true.

JL So I guess that's the change.

JB Well Otis Wallace was interesting, this morning saying that the first set of people, that came up to I guess Mad River, fit in or made an effort to fit in, but it was the later people.

EL Yeah.

JL Otis Wallace's wife was my, one of my teachers in high school.

JB Is that right. Yeah, he said that she taught well here and than I guess in Middlebury, and he courted her I guess in Middlebury. [11.06]

JL Yeah I think probably he did, well I think he did some here because I can remember it must of been my senior year, advanced home ec class, child care, and I can remember the room we had it in, it was in the old high school, of course, and they were gonna have a base ball game and he used to come up and I don't know, I

think he must of, must of been an umpire, or something, because I can remember oh she was a good teacher, but she was strict, and I can remember we'd watch out the window for the, teams, the team that was coming to play, and I can remember if we see Otis coming, we'd say, there comes Otis. Well we had fun for a few minutes, but when she said that's enough, we knew that was enough. [11.45] So I think he went with her some when they were here, because I remember picking on her about it but we knew when to, and I can remember Miss Ryan, was one of the teachers we had at the time, and it was in French class, and we didn't like to have to talk French too much, in class, so anyway, the bells weren't working, one day and Sam Drew, that used to be in Warren he was in school here, and he was ahead of me, but he happened to be in my French three class, well, she'd had got done what she was going to do so she said, from now until the door opens, which when the bells didn't work they'd open the doors. She said, we're gonna talk French in school. Sam jumped up and he opened that door and he said, class is dismissed. Well that was the wrong

thing to do, ha, ha, but by the time everything got settled back, the door was open, so we didn't have to talk French, but she said until the door opens, she didn't say who had to open it, we will talk French, and Sam got up and opened that door, so quick, and he said, class is dismissed. [12.50] Ha! Ha! Ha! Oh!

So we had a lot of fun in a small school too. It's funny what will happen to.

JB Yeah.

JL A bunch of us went down one time in the lab and we should of known better. But my, uncle, well he was my Aunt Julia's second husband, he was janitor, he was an older man, and he used to pick on us kids and we did him, he locked up in there, when it come time to go out, we couldn't get out. So I wasn't as big as I am now, and so, Freddy Baird were elected to the windows dropped down, and we were elected to go out the window and get somebody to let the rest out, because we didn't want to be caught in there. Well just as I went to go in, you went outdoors, and just as I went inside, the principal was coming down the hall, and he used to get Winifred Farnsworth's name and mine mixed

up, and he called me Winifred, so it got where he'd say girly, to both of us, so he said, well girly where are you headed, and I said oh boy, I said to study hall, okay. (Bells chiming) And he went down the other stairs, well I headed for the study hall, I didn't look for anybody to unlock the door, and Freddy come on in behind me, so I said to him, you better get upstairs, well if we'd a stayed, Henry had gone, the janitor had gone and unlocked the door and let the others walk out the door. [14.16]

JB Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!

JL After we'd come up, it's a wonder we didn't blow that place up, probably with all those chemicals. [14.24]

JB Ha! Ha!

JL So we weren't supposed to be in there. But he thought he'd pick on them, but he waited till the last minute and than he appeared and unlocked the door and out they walked. [14.35] But, we had a lot of fun.

(tape off and on again)

JB Yeah his farm is.

EL I thought it was, I thought that was quite an accomplishment for me to, feel that he would go away

and leave me for two weeks, the first time they'd stayed off the farm in 18 years, he said. [15.01]

JB In eighteen years. And that was what in 1974, or so. Wasn't it?

EL I don't know. I don't really, recall what year it was. JBYeah, cause he talked about going out there, and that was the first time, he saw a trailers, or the.

EL Yeah.

JL What year did we come here, 68? Wasn't it before that?

JB Yes, actually, I think you're right, I think he said it was 63. [15.30]

JL I think maybe cause we moved here in 60, we sold, no we came here in March of 68, and we were down at the other house when he, yeah, it would of had to been in the sixties I would think, maybe they went twice. I'm not sure what they went twice.

JB Well, in what 63. He did mention that.

JL That sounds right. [15.51] Because we were down at the other house.

JB Cause he sold his cows in 68, I think he said.

JL She was a good teacher.

EL I'm always glad I did do that for him, because.

JL We had some good teachers. And some that weren't so good. She was one of the good ones. And than, another one was a good one was Ester Young. She married Kenneth Cota. And, she was good and she came to our fiftieth wedding anniversary.

JB Is that right.

JL I couldn't believe it. I knew they were invited but I didn't think they could come, but they're in New Hampshire, but they came, and I said it's something when you're married fifty years [16.35] and have your fourth grade teacher there.

JB That's amazing.

JL And than she lived up over us, after she was married, in one of my father's apartments, too, so. Maybe that's why I was close to her. And she was a good teacher. [16.52]

JB Yeah Mister Wallace was telling me that his grandfather, first bought that, that farm. [17.00]

EL Yeah I guess so, yeah.

JL I don't Otis ever lived anywhere else.

JB He said he was born there.

JL I would think maybe. Isn't that something.

JB Yeah.

JL I don't know how old he is.

JB In his eighties. I think.

JL I would think.

JB He said he was in school with, Earl Long, and Earl Long told me he was 83.

JL Is he eighty-three? His brother Charlie was in my class.

JB Yeah and I guess he knew songs too. According to.

EL Otis's brother was a, also he was a, professor, I think he taught, in Missouri or something.

JB Princeton. Oh that's right. Yeah.

JL Clifford.

EL Clifford and his other brother Harold, Otis didn't have any sisters, three boys, and Everitt was a professor at Princeton University.

JL Four boys.

EL Hun?

JL There were four boys. [17.54]

EL Yeah. And Harold worked for, General Motors, and

Clifford was a professor in Ohio, or maybe Missouri,
somewhere in the west.

JL I think it was Missouri. Everitt was at Princeton.

EL Who was the other brother?

JL There was Otis, and Harold and and Clifford and
Everitt, four boys.

EL Yeah. [18.24]

JB Yeah I guess they must of been very well educated.

JL I think Otis is the only one that didn't go to
college, maybe.

JB That's what he said.

JL I would think maybe, like, but I remember having.

EL I remember when Everitt was listed on the top ten at
Princeton University.

JL Is that right.

EL Cause we'd been down there once and visited him. And,
the student body voted for the professor of their
choice, but he was, on the top first one, they said
they got the most out of his classes than any
professor there.

JB That's amazing. [19.07] What a compliment.

EL Well of course Princeton is a big university anyway,

they've probably got two, three hundred professors there.

JL We went down there and visited after, Everitt always wanted us to come and I felt bad we never went, and after he passed away, we went down and visited Mary, and oh she was a riot. She was, I wish you could of interviewed her.

EL We went to Princeton once when Everitt was alive. We did.

JB Now Otis doesn't have any children does he?

JL Nope.

JB Cause he was saying that, I think his niece is going there.

EL Yeah.

JL I heard that she was. Is that Ann?

JB He didn't, I don't know.

JL It must be. Harold didn't have children, Otis didn't. And, Mary had Peter and Peter died. So, I think Clifford only had a boy and a girl. [20.00]

JB And, he was the one out in Missouri.

JL Um hum.

JB Yeah. Yeah.

JL Yeah. I heard that he wanted to put an apartment in there or something. But I was surprised that Ann was going have it instead of the boy. Something, maybe the boy wasn't interested, I don't know.

JB It's nice though that somebody in the family was interested. [20.20] I think when.

JL Peter wanted it at one time but it didn't work out, he was going to medical school and he was gonna have, he wanted to come here and have his practice. But, than it wasn't work going through to well and than he had this kidney problem and died.

JB Oh! [20.37]

EL 22, I think he was when he died.

JB Oh!

EL And he was all through, went to Princeton University and than he went to, Grace, oh what is that college in Connecticut, he went, Harvard? I think it was that he. I know he died at Grace Memorial Hospital there was some to do about it. Cause he.

JB Maybe he went to Yale.

EL Cause he interned there or something when he was ill with a kidney defective.

JB God that was awful.

JL An awful nice boy he used to come to our house and watch Candid Camera on television. And, he'd come a lot, this one day, it was in the summer and he came, he has this heavy jacket on, I said, come in Peter, where did you get that heavy jacket, he said, I got my father's jacket on, I'm so cold. And he told us that, he was having a problem again, and that he was going to the hospital and he wanted to come up and say good-bye. And we said, you don't mean good-bye and he said, yes I do. He went to the hospital and never came back. So he knew that he was going. Such a nice fellow. Oh he.

JB Hum.

EL Well he had a memory, [21.44] he used to come up and watch that sixty four thousand dollar question, and I.

JL And Candid Camera.

EL And, I've never known him but a question coming up there, that he couldn't answer.

JB That's amazing. [21.52]

EL And he could tell you who's president picture was on every bill, United States bill, up to the thousand

dollar bill. [22.00] I can't remember who's on a penny and a nickel.

JB Ha! Ha! To get you to tell about him, because one of the things, this is an old poem, you'll see it in a minute but has all the names.

EL He used to run a little mill there, in Warren until his wife died, and than she ran it several years after he died, it was just, there was covered bridge right near the house there. Where there's a cement bridge now.

JL Is that Mary Edna's?

EL Yes. Mary Edna was his.

JL What a funny lady.

JB That's what I've heard. I've heard all, a number of different comments about her. Ha!

JL Yeah.

EL Yeah, you could grain in there, they had one of these grinding wheels and to take corn and oats in and they'd grind them with this old heavy stone, grinder and than bag it up and he'd put cotton seed and molasses in it, and you could take it back home.

[23.03] That's the only name I recognize here.

JL Yeah. I saw it, we don't do anything anyway. What was I gonna say about, oh, we, in forty, January 1st of 44, we went down to Hancock and boarded at _____, cause he was in one _____, and we knew he'd be going in the service and he was working [23.22] down there, so we went down there, and Ella lived and we stayed one night with him I remember and she had this boy and than she was gonna have Bonnie, I think Bonnie is the next one, so she come over, where we were, and wanted me to go over and take care of, I can't think of the older, well oldest one's name, the boy, but where we were staying the woman was older and she was very lame, and she had, one or two that would come in there for dinner from the one from the mill and one worked in the garage and of course Jack and I were there, and we had to pack his lunch, so when we went there she said that, she hated to take anybody but, to stay over but, that if I was willing to help her, we could, I could stay for nothing and she could use the help. And her son and his wife were there, but she didn't do much. So, Mrs. _____ didn't want me to, [24.13] do it, so I didn't well I was awfully

glad I didn't. Cause about that time there was something wrong with this boy, and I can't remember if he was infantile, but it seems as though it was spinal meningitis or something.

JB Yeah it was something, I don't remember but she did tell me it.

JL And they had to take him to the hospital and he was, bad for a long time, but oh didn't he even have a TB too I think.

JB I don't know.

EL Well remember that Parker and Slayton mill, I remember Parker and Ford had a mill and.

JB I think it was Parker's father. [24.42] Oh the Parker and Ford that had this Parker and Slayton.

EL Oh well. Parker and Ford, the Ford that went in company with him, still lives in Warren.

JL Emma Ford.

JB That's Emma Ford. Yeah.

EL She's husband of the Ford that run the mill with Parker.

JB Yeah.

EL I remember. But I'm amazed, unless there was another,

Alison, was his name, Alison, Bradley. I remember him. What was that, and than there was Nelson Bradley. Lived in Warren. I don't. But I think that was Alison that, had that mill, that grinding.

JB Yeah I think that's right, cause I think what Ed Eurich.

EL And his wife was Mary, Mary Edna they called her.

JL Who was the Mr. Brown?

EL I don't know.

JL It's no wonder he looks blue. [25.52]

EL There was another, another mill in Warren, and years ago they, they called the, oh, Neill, cause Elwin Neill that lived in town there, his father run that mill, other mill there and I think that was an old steam mill.

JL He tried to kiss his brother when he had his cold.
Ha! Ha!

EL When I went to work for Bow and Hunter there, they still had a, they operated that mill on steam power

JB Oh they did.

EL Yeah.

JB So most of those mills, after they were water powered,

than they became steam.

EL Yeah. When I worked for Bow and Hunter there, Ella Neill's father, Arthur, he worked up to, to the mill than and he was in his I don't know but he was seventy year than. [26.39]

JB At the Bow and Hunter?

EL Yeah. But he, filed, sawed and repaired, fixed belts and worked on equipment there.

JB Now this was the bobbin mill, right.

EL Yeah. But they had a steam engine there and I learned a lot about steam power from him, and the thing I recall the most was, he says, I don't know why they've gone out of steam power. I said, you take these locomotives on the railroad, those, one of those steam engines, on a railroad car, you could pull as many cars as they pull today. And now they have seven and eight diesel powered engines on them. Sometimes they might put two steam engines on the freight. [27.25]
But he said the, most, the best thing about steam, you don't have any, clutch, or no, _____ or anything. They'll start anything they can turn, they can start it from stop, just by opening the throttle and they

take right off, and there's nothing like that today, being operated, unless they got torque converters or something. Of course with the mill, these old days in the mill, you burned the waste, you burned the slabs and the sawdust and all that in your fire, so, didn't, actually didn't cost you anything.

JB How many of the mills that you remember in Warren, were water powered?

EL Oh it must of been, six of them, the last one I remember being operated was owned by Henry Brooks and it's, right in Warren village where the dam is there, where the covered bridge is there in Warren, that dam right there used to run that bridge, in fact I think they've got a generator now and they generate electricity out of it.

JB And what kind of, was that a shingle mill, or was that a?

EL A saw mill. They sawed lumber. Yeah.

JL Who was George Greenslip in Warren?

EL I don't know.

JL Was that _____ father.

EL It must be.

JB There was some thought that George Greenslip wrote that.

JL Oh I see it said George Greenslip, Warren.

JB Yeah.

JL On the bottom.

EL Yup. He probably was.

JL Elloe had this.

JB Yes.

EL It probably was _____ father, I don't know.

[28.59]

JL Ruth Greenslip would know.

JB Now, yes. It, what relation is Ruth Greenslip to Sh_____?

JL His wife.

EL She's. Marcini I guess his name was.

JL Right.

JB But he's dead right.

JL Yes he died. He died in Bradenton Florida when we were down there. My cousin came over to our apartment and somebody from Warren died down here. [29.25] And we had just seen George and Ruth at the town meadow fair, and.

EL George and Ruth.

JL I mean _____ and Ruth, and Marcella, and Jack said,
I bet it was _____ Greenslip and sure enough it
was. So he died in 89.

JB Yeah. Ruth Greenslip.

JL Now that would be _____ wife. [29.56]

EL And, and this George might of been Sh_____ father. I
don't know. It might of been.

JL That poem would be good for her to have, that Lillian
Marsh wrote about Waitsfield.

JB Oh yeah.

JL I've got that.

JB Do you? Who's Lillian Marsh?

JL She used to teach here.

JB Oh!

JL And she lives near Rochester.

JB Is she still alive?

JL She's still, last I knew she was still alive.

JB Would she be good to talk with?

JL I would think maybe. She taught here and she wrote a
poem and she got about my father working in the store
or on the stage.

JB Oh I'd love to see that.

JL I know where it is, it was read at our anniversary.
Let me think a minute. [30.40]

EL Can I get you a drink? A cup of coffee?

JB No, I'm. I. (tape off and on again)

EL Not many places in the state it occurs like that. See
our representative has Fayston, and Waitsfield and
Moretown, and Warren. And they ship right down to
Addison County to the town of Granville. But when
they plow the state highway here, they plow in
Chittenden County, and they plow to Addison County.

JL I hope I got what I thought I had. [31.12]

END OF TAPE