

Otis Wallis/TC1992.0022  
Mad River Valley Project/VFC1991.0004

JB Jane Beck  
OW Otis Wallis  
Place Waitsfield, VT  
Date 01/23/1992

JB And we're just to get a, make sure it's working and  
get a level. Okay. Fire away.

OW My name is W. Otis Wallis, Waitsfield, Vermont.

JB It's perfect. [2.33] Well why don't we start with,  
where you were born, and some of your early memories.

OW Well I was born right here in this house, in  
Waitsfield, and it's been in the family since 1865.

JB Is that right.

OW And, my grandfather bought it, years ago, and my  
father was born here, and all my brothers and myself  
were born here. And, of course years, years ago, my  
great, great well I don't know how many greats,  
Jonathan Wallis was the one that come over the  
mountain, here in Waitsfield the old Northfield  
Waitsfield road, which is all pretty gone, now. And,  
he built a log cabin, he and Black Sam, a little  
history with the Black Sam, and years ago my

grandfather's I guess probably it would be the five  
greats grandfathers showed up in Woodstock,  
Connecticut and in 17, let's see 1728, with four  
slaves. [3.58] We never could go back, we never knew  
where he did come from but we kind of figured he come  
from down south, and they were black smiths, and David  
Wallis, who was the one that'd come, in Woodstock,  
Connecticut, and he married Mary Anderson, and they  
had five children, and the one of the branch we come  
from was Jonathan Wallis. And then they moved from  
Woodstock, Connecticut, up to well it's Brimfield,  
later on that was subdivided into two towns, which  
really they were located in Holland, Massachusetts.  
[4.46] They lived there, he was, quite important, he  
was a selectman, he did a lot of community work, there  
and then later he branched off and come up to  
Weathersfield, Vermont. Which is right on the  
Connecticut. And in Weathersfield [5.06] they lived  
about thirteen, or fourteen years. And then he come  
here to Waitsfield around 1802, and with him he  
brought Black Sam, and they built a log cabin. [5.20]  
This was.

JB This was David Wallis?

OW No this is Jonathan.

JB Jonathan.

OW And, in, after a few years, they built a house, in fact I could take you right to the cellar hole, right where the house is, and they lived there, and his son, which was Joseph Wallis, lived there and then, Joseph Wallis had a, some sons, one of them was Otis Wallis, and which I'm named after. He owned the, down and bought, what was, Everitt Palmer's place and they lived there for a short time, and then they moved here in my place and they bought this in 1865. [6.08] And, that's a little history of some of the family.

JB Oh that's fascinating.

OW And, Black Sam, lived to 98, and I think down there in Holland Massachusetts they said he lived to a hundred and two. But he'd buried up here in the corner of the common cemetery. Of course those days blacks weren't considered too much so they kind of moved them out to one corner. And of course when he come to Vermont, he had to give them his freedom. But Black Sam wouldn't leave him, probably he was too old anyway to go out on

his own. [6.45] And so, we've lived here, the family, for three generations. And I've got a niece that's now, is thinking she wants to keep the old place in the family. So we're negotiating now on some deals here at this place. [7.06] They, my earlier days, I can remember when the grass used to grow up here in the road, on Route 100, in the center of the road, and of course those days, nobody had very much money. But they were always self-sufficient, because they raised their gardens and they had their pigs, and they had the cattle and you know the hens and so on and so forth and their maple syrup. [7.38] And of course years ago they used to, that was their sugar, that they had, they didn't have white sugar back in those days. And we didn't, they had how they made their sugar, was usually, usually they took the, maple syrup, did it down, and put it into a big container, and then they would go to work, and after it hardened, and in a few days, then they would turn it bottom side up into a pan, and let the molasses drain out of the sugar. And, whatever was left the residual was pounded up, and granulated. And, I'll tell you that's a, that

syrup that comes from that, was beautiful molasses, beautiful molasses. [8.28] And, those days we had a lot of snow, and in fact I remember my father telling me about one time that they had so much snow one winter that when it come for sugaring, they had oxen, [8.46] and it took them all day to, to get the roads built from the house to the sugarhouse. Cause it was so drifted and so much snow and crusty. They, what they did we'd take one ox and make a path, and then they'd take another ox and make the other path, and wallow through until they got up to the sugarhouse.

JB And the sugarhouse was.

OW Way up in back. Um, hum. So, when they come to tap, of course my father tapped, as low as he could, on the trees, but when it come after the snow left, they could hardly reach the buckets. Ha! Ha! Ha! Cause they were so high up. [9.26] For myself, I went down here to the little one room school house, down here, it was called the north school, which was about a mile below me here, and I used to walk to school all kinds of weather, I was there, in the first two grades, my first and second, and then the third year I went up

here to the village. That was when they consolidated all the little, one room school houses into one. And that, also that was the time when the, well they had the four year high school, it used to be a two year high. And, the junior and senior year you had to go somewhere else, like out to Goddard, or to Montpelier Seminary. [10.21] And two of my brothers, one went to Goddard and one went to the Montpelier Cemetery, or Seminary, and my other brother Clifford, and I graduated from the high school up here. Those early, pardon me, (cough) those early days were, were hard days, but on the other hand they were wonderful days too. Of course everybody had horse and buggies and sleighs, cars nobody if anybody had a car, they always put it up in the fall, because they couldn't run it in the wintertime, cause the roads weren't plowed.

[11.05] And I can remember the, when they used to come down with the roads, they used to have these huge rollers, snow rollers, and that would just pack the snow down, and of course if it was a drift the roller went over the drift, so, I can remember up here on the hill, one year there was something like thirty six

cradle holes. Now probably some people don't understand what a cradle is, well a cradle hole is usually where the roller would go over the drift and then there would be a pocket down underneath, and as people travelled, with their sleighs, they'd go over the hump, and then they'd go over and then it, a little later it would form another one. [11.56] And I can remember there was thirty-six cradle holes here from my house up to the top of the hill. And what you would do, you just go into one, and then up, like this. Ha! They were rather amusing.

JB Sort of like a enormous wash board.

OW That's right. That's right. And of course all the, those days, the sleighs, the horse was off set, on the left side, because where ever the, when they turned out where the horse had a path to go in, and the other horse they met that would have the path on the other side, then they'd all go back in. As I said, those days were hard, and in many respects, but really wonderful, most everybody was in the same category, as

far as finances was concerned, as I said there wasn't much money. [13.00] To play around with. This probably was one reason like when in the depression of 27, or 29, rather, most of the people had plenty of food around here and I can remember at that time, many people would be walking the roads, men would be walking the roads, to get, you know, for to try to find a job, and those days, you could hire somebody for a week, for a dollar a week plus tobacco and board. I can remember my mother making sandwiches, and things like that, and setting them out here on the porch where these people could have something to eat. The times are very, very difficult. If you think you're in a depression now, you don't know anything about what a depression is like, I think most of the cities were the ones that were hit the hardest. And then of course when Roosevelt become president, he immediately put in the ccc and that' how all of our dams, a lot of the dams were built here, conservation dams, and like the water, in Waterbury with a little river project and then there was a WPA, which people worked for the WPA, on the roads, and doing that sort

of thing. [14.25] And, government paid them for that. That brought in, of course a lot of employment which helped a great deal, until, and then of course, later on the war come. I bought this place around 1936 from my father. The first two years was very, very difficult, and my father of course was had a lot of interest, public interests, he worked for the town, he was on the school board, in fact he was the one that initiated the high school up here. And, also he was quite prominent in the milk business. In co-ops and that sort of thing. And, I remember the first two years, I had a very difficult time, I graduated from the agri school over here at Randolph, and I spent one year at the University of Vermont. And, my father put my other three boys through college, but when I come along he told me he says well, he says, I haven't got any money, so he says you've got to borrow the money if you want to continue your education. [15.41] Well, I didn't feel as if I wanted to go out and borrow the money under the circumstances, at that time, so I went to work for my father for four years, before I took over the farm in 1936. And, the dairy was not very

good. I had a lot of old horse drawn equipment, and the pair of horses we had were along years. And then I went.

JB How many cows did you have?

OW Well, I used to, at that time, probably around twenty-five, then I increased it up about thirty-five milkers. Pardon me.

JB All of course milked by hand.

OW We milked sometimes we milked by hand, but mostly with machines.

JB You did.

OW We had, we had, an old, what we called an old empire machine. And, after we increased the dairy, why we had, pardon me as I put something in my.

JB Oh absolutely. [16.42]

OW Yeah my throat's getting kind of dry.

JB We can stop at any point.

OW Well you better stop right now. (tape off, & on again)  
[16.45] Otis Wallis bought, bought the, sold the place up there to Everitt Palmer's grandfather.

JB Ah ha. Yeah.

OW That's how that happened to be. Yeah. Yeah.

JB Yeah well the other thing I'm, before I go I should ask you, who you recommend? [17.16] (short pause)

OW All right. Well let's see, I was trying to think of some other things here.

JB Well you were saying when you took over the farm, how it was, with you had, a herd of thirty cows or so.

OW About twenty-five.

JB Twenty-five. And, you said the dairy was not in great shape.

OW No. That's right. And, well then I, well I see our farm, I took it over in 1936, and about, well two years, I run in the hole, financially. Not, very much. And when it comes to the third year, I told my father I says, I said you better take the farm back, and I'll go out, in fact I had a job offered me, which would be very good pay over in New York, and I wanted to, go over and take the job, and I told them I said well I'll pay off the bills. And, he says, well I'm too old, he says I just can't, I just can't run the farm. [18.34] So he said I wish you'd stay on one more year.

So, I did. And I broke even that year. And then of course World War II broke out. And, then things got better. I had a little experience there because I had got within twelve hours of my private pilot license, and of course I would, been in the ROTC up there at the university, well of course they kept deferring me, until finally they put me at one eight, and in the mean time my father was on the racing board, and working for the government there, I mean, he didn't get any money out of it, but, everybody put in, you know, their effort, and so they put me in the one A, and my father challenged it, and the first thing I knew, one day there was an FBI man showed up here, and I, he sat right over there in the chair that you're sitting in, and I never got such a Scotch blessing from him, from anybody, like I did from him, and he told me well he said, you're not any better then anybody else, and I says that is correct. But, when he got through, I told him, I said now look it, I says if I go in the Army, and I'm going to be, go drafted, I says I'm gonna sell all the cattle, I'm gonna sell everything here, cause I'm not gonna ask my father to

run it, at the age of 74. I says he can't do it because there's no help, and that sort of thing. [20.14] So, I says this is just, in other words, I says the production of the farm, is going out, in the meantime I had built it up quite a bit. And he finally set there in the chair and he thought a bit, well he says, Mr. Wallis, he says, somebody has got to raise food for the Army, so he says I think you'd be more important for you to stay here. And, so that's how I never got into the, into the World War II. And, that was a little experience here, and then after he left here, he went out and he sat, about two hours out here in his car making out papers, and so on and so forth, and immediately after that I was put into one M, which, that's how it comes, I didn't get into World War II. So, and then of course I was married, in 1943, to Elsie Farnham Wallis, and I got acquainted with her back in 1933. She taught school up here and home economics for a year and a half. And, then she went from there and went to Middlebury and taught in Middlebury for nine years. [21.30] And, in the meantime, I'd go over and see her once in awhile,

finally we ended up getting married. In 1943. So, my wife used to live here since, I think it was kind of hard for her at first, because she didn't, wasn't used to the farm. [21.45] Life. And, but after a year or two, she got acquainted to it. And, I don't think she's ever regretted it. Ha! Ha! Ha! And I farmed it right up to 1968 which I was beginning to have a lot of back trouble. And, the doctor told me I just got to get off the milking cow and also the tractors. Course it was injuring my back, So, I had to quit farming at that time. And, I went into some other things. [22.15] Too. In the meantime I'd been director of several cooperative creameries. Over here at one, is Mount Mansfield. It used to be in Waterbury. And, then, they united with the Co-op in Stowe and I was a director at that, and then I was a director of, of the, Barre Co-op out there to Barre which made Real Ice Cream [23.06] for several years. I've been a director of the insurance company the co-op of Vermont Co-Operative Fire Insurance Company over here in Middlebury, and I was put on that in 1945, and I've been a director of that since.

JB Is that right?

OW Um, hum. In fact I'm one of the oldest directors there. [23.23] I can't say as I go along sometimes with these modern ideas. I'm a typical Vermonter. I've always said that Vermont was a good state till about 1950 and then when all the flatlanders come up here, they changed everything all around. And, I'm one that's very independent, the fact is that I, I believe that if you own a piece of property that you have the right to do what you want to with it. [23.52] I'll go along with maybe some regulations but, I think things are just going a little too far. [24.00] And, in fact I'm negotiating now with my niece and we're running into all kinds of problems now. So, I don't know how it will come out with, because there's so much state regulations. I think it's, I think this is kind of been very, very difficult for Vermonters. Because they have been so independent, and we've always felt that, one owned a piece of property, it was their property to do whatever they wanted to do with it. And as long

as it didn't interfere too much with the neighbors.

[24.34] And usually neighbors were, were always very good. If you made a deal with a neighbor, you shook hands and that was the deal. Nothing had to be written down very much, and if a deed was ever made out and it was always usually made out in the town clerk's office, and you didn't have to go to some lawyers or something like that. So, many Vermonters, underneath are, are rather sore. But as I've always told, many of them, I says well, you want to remember you're about in the same position that the Indians used to be, I said, white man come here took your land away from, took the land away from them, I said, there's only one person that, really paid for the land and that was William Penn down in Pennsylvania. And, I says the rest of the time, I says, the white mans grabbed the land and I says they never lived up to a treaty, at any time. [25.33] Some of them think maybe Saint Francis up here, who was the chief of the Abenaki's, they may think he's kind of a kook, but on the other hand I have a lot of respect for him. Maybe he's a little bit ignorant and maybe we all are a little

ignorant. But, underneath we had very good morals.

[25.57] And years ago, you never thought of a murder here in the state. If it was, it might be one, maybe in two, or three years, or something like that. Things have changed drastically. And I expect probably the reason, well it would be due to the fact that so many people have come up here that have money, and usually when there's people that have money, well then you bring in the other trash. [26.26] But, it comes, I say most Vermonters, it's very, very difficult, for them. Because they have been very, very independent. Better shut it off again, so that I can. I remember my father years ago, of course he graduated from the Montpelier seminary, and then he went to business college over in Albany New York, so he had a pretty good education, for that time. And but one particular night, I think it was around Halloween night, this fellow come up with a load of brick, on his wagon, well it got late at night, so he unhitched his horses and left the wagon, right there by cemetery. Ah, seminary. And, the next morning, the man had his cart, his load of brick, they were up on the ridge pole of the dormitory. Ha!

Ha! Ha! [27.27] The cart was up there strattled the bridge pole with all the brick on it.

JB Ha!

OW That was one story. And then another story years ago, these were all, these were all good practical jokes, and they happened. One particular fellow up here, in the valley, he come down and he was one of these fellows that liked to drink pretty well. And, he come down to the one night, one evening, down to the village to get some groceries, and so the boys thought they'd have a little fun, so on his wagon and the hind wheels are all, were bigger than the front wheels, so what the boys do, is take the hind wheels off the, off the rear, and put them on the front and the front on the rear, well when the old fellow come out of the, of the store, he got in to his wagon to go home. And, as he went along the road, somebody over heard him, well he says, dolly, he says, when we get up this hill, he says, we'll travel right along. But in the meantime he thought he was going up hill all the time. Ha! Ha! So, but another thing too, to get back to, the old life,

everybody worked very hard, most everybody was up at five o'clock, or six o'clock in the morning, they either worked in the mills or they worked on their farm, and they worked right up until, eight o'clock at night, and sometimes longer. And especially when it got to sugaring, I can remember myself I did most of my work, my wife and I, and I'd get up in the morning and milk the cows, and then I'd go and gather some sap, during the day and then I'd come back at night and do the chores and then I'd go back up the sugarhouse and maybe boil, to one, two o'clock in the morning. And then of course then we had to get up in the morning, at five or six o'clock and do the same thing. Chores. And, I don't think people realize what it was to work. It didn't hurt anybody. It was a good thing. It kept you out of mischief. Especially the younger boys. And usually in high school up here, they'd always have about three weeks vacation, in the spring of the year so the boys could help their fathers on sugaring and that sort of thing. And, then they'd go back to school. As I say, it was a good life, but a hard life. But it never hurt anybody. And,

we never thought of welfare. Usually I was overseer of the floor for several years, here, and if anybody had trouble and they had to go to the hospital they didn't have the money, they'd call on the town, you know, for funds. And then it was up to the overseer to, have them pay it back. And try to find a job for them or something like that. And usually people, also helped out by giving food, and things like that. And, it was, it was a good system, because we knew the people, we knew what they could do. And, to help them out and that sort of thing. And I knew at the time when this welfare business, and the government has control of it, that it was gonna be an expensive proposition. And it has proven that way. We never thought of any hand outs. As I said, if you, if you're troubled the neighbors tried to help, all they could. And, it, sometimes it, it almost brings tears to you. Because the change is so different. It. [31.55]

END OF SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO

OW Well I had here, I had a hundred and eighty four acres on this farm. [.13] And then I had, a hundred acres up

on the mountain passes that I used to, we used to drive our cattle up there. In the summer time. Dry cattle, that was young cattle. And that was right up on the mountain here, on the, between Waitsfield and Northfield. And it was almost to the top of the mountain. And, we used to drive them up there in the spring of the year, we always had a hell of a time to, getting them up there, because after the cattle been in the barn, you know, they're pretty frolicy. And, my brother and I, we used to have to chase the cattle all around to try to keep them, keep them straight. And usually by the time we got them about to the foot of the mountain, they were ready to want to lay down and of course you couldn't, you didn't want to have an animal lie down because if you did it was pretty hard for them, you couldn't get them up. So we have to sometimes, be rather, a little bit strict with them. And, drive them to keep them moving. [1.12] And then we'd get them up there, and then in the fall of the year, we'd go up and pick them up, and bring them back down. [1.22] And, so we could barn them you know for the winter. It, and then later on, I sold that, a

hundred acres up there to my brother, and originally, that was originally one of the, first Wallis property.

JB Yeah, was, when you're grandfather first bought this farm, how big was it then?

OW He had sheep, he had sheep, he raised sheep until Australia took over the market. [1.58] And then of course the, the sheep market went all to pieces.

JB And that was what about 1880?

OW Ah! My father had, when he took over the farm he had, some sheep, and a few cows, and then he changed it over to dairy, I guess at that time he had some Jersey, mostly Jersey cows. And then later he went into Holsteins. I, one day I was in the town clerk's office and I was going through some of the records up there, and I found, come on to the records, tatoos of the different families, evidently near as I could figure, I think most of them, kind of put the flocks together, and each one of course had their tatoos on the, each animal. And I imagine in the spring of the year, or fall of the year, they would, sub-divide them and shear the sheep and that sort of thing. But you'll find up there in the town records where the different

families had different tatoos, and it was quite interesting to see the different tatoos. And, the.

JB So your grandfather had marino sheep then? [3.22]

OW Um, hum.

JB And, you, what a hundred and fifty or something like that, a large?

OW I don't know, I never knew how many sheep he did have. I know my father got awful fed up with it, because he said come lambing time, they had to bring in the lambs and they'd put them behind the stove to keep them warm and so on, and the next thing was, you got the mother sheep to own the sheep again. [3.48]

JB Yeah we went through all that.

OW And they, I guess sometimes, and I guess he got pretty well fed up with it, and that's why he went into dairying. Ha! Ha! [3.58] And of course, years ago, of course, people had, most of them had just a few animals, a few cows, and they would make their own butter, and of course that was before the days they had creameries. And, they would usually during the wintertime they'd store the butter down the cellar,

and then in the spring of the year they'd sell it. Go out to the city and sell it. Or it would be shipped off to the bigger cities. I remember my father telling one time that, he had a whole bunch of butter down in, in the cellar and a skunk got down there, and they, he was puzzled, he didn't know just what to do, and finally a hired man he suggested he says, why don't you get a barrel, and we'll have one end open, and we'll put the barrel down there, so that's what they did. They put the barrel down there, and they went down and just gradually tried to coach the skunk into the barrel, they got the skunk into the barrel, and then they put a cover on it, immediately over the barrel and lugged the barrel and the skunk outdoors. And then when they got outdoors, they just let the skunk go. [5.14] But, at that time, he said I had all my winter supply of butter in there, and he said of course you can imagine it that skunk ever let go, what would happen to the butter. So. Ha! Ha! [5.28] So. Well it is hard, you know why I tell some of the new people that come here, I says I can remember when the grass used to grow up here in the center of the road.

And, it's kind of hard for them to believe that. I think, the new road, the tar paper road was put through around 1940, I think some where in there. And, it was a blessing when they did because the roads would get so wash boardy. [6.09] And the dust would fly and of course then we'd beginning to have more cars, and all that dirt during the summer would, and the wind would take it, and just fly it over on to the fields of hay, the grass, and it was almost impossible to, to sell a cow because after you milk the cow for two or three years, and you fed him that hay with all that dust on it, their teeth it would grind their teeth down. And a lot of people would think when they come to buy a dairy cow, well that must be an old cow, which it wasn't. And, but, I can remember at that time, that that wind would take that stuff and just blew it right over in just waves over onto the field, and it was awfully dirty, and dusty for haying. So I was very glad when.

JB What about the.

OW When the tar road went through.

JB What about the flooding and so forth? Before the damns

and stuff, was there a lot more flooding? Or did?

OW Well of course we had the 27 flood.

JB Do you remember?

OW Oh yes, I remember the 27 flood very well. [7.16] Very well. It did a tremendous amount of damage here in Vermont, it took out most all the bridges. In fact, the culvert out here, where my brook is, it took that out. It took out about thirty, or forty feet of the road, and it was due to the fact that we had so much rain, that a lot of the twigs and you know some logs and things come down the brook, and block the culvert. Well there was regular lake out back there, and finally the road let go, and it took everything right out, you see. And I think old Doctor Shaw was the last one that went across that the, on the road, and he went across just before that thing went out, he had his old horse and buggy, of course those days the doctor used to go around, to their patients. And they had their horse and buggies and they went around and delivered babies and things like that. And, lots of times, the doctor would get some money and a lot of

the times he'd get commodities. [8.22] Like potatoes, vegetables, and that sort of thing, to pay him. And I can remember old Doctor Shaw up here, he was very good on medicine, very good, but a damn poor man when it come for surgical, or anything like that because he was kind of dirty. He wasn't too careful with his instruments. And I remember going in to the office one day up there, and in fact I had been working up in the woods and something happened, so, this was on a Sunday, and I went up to the old Doctor Shaw, and he was examining me for a hernia, which I had, and he was punching me, and so on and so forth, and I was standing up and all of a sudden I went black, and I fell right over and went right into a chair. And old Doctor Shaw and the first thing I knew he was waving some, spirits of pneumonia under my nose, and I kind of come to, and God he says, I don't think you slept well last night. Ha! Ha! Ha! [9.26] Ha! Ha! So, anyway, it ended up that I, I did have a hernia, so. Ha! Ha! But anyway, and I can remember going in his office and he had shelves and he had big jars, of pills, different kinds of pills and you know, things

that are for medicine that was in them, and if you wanted any pills or anything, he'd dole out some pills and hand them to you. You didn't have to go to a drug store or anything like that, as a matter of fact we didn't have a drug store around here. [10.03] And, but, the doctors were, were very, very good. If you called on them, boy they would be here. That's different than it is today. If you have something you got to take the ambulance, or go up to the hospital, cause the doctor doesn't make local calls. I guess very rare, but I guess once in awhile they do it, if they have to in an emergency but, it's very rare.

JB How about home remedies? There was a lot more of that and many of them were very good, \_\_\_\_\_.

OW Well a lot of them come from the Indians. The Indians had a lot of home remedies. [10.49] In fact, penicillin was one, I don't know what, I don't know what the herb was that had the penicillin. But, it was something in it, I don't think the Indians knew what it was, but they knew that it helped them. [11.07] So I think you find a lot of those remedies come from Indians. They were picked up by the native people.

[11.19] And, actually you take the Iroquois Indians, they were the first really democratic government. In fact, I've heard that Benjamin Franklin got a lot of his ideas from the, from the Iroquois Indians on how they performed their government. [11.42]

JB Hum. You were talking about Doc Shaw coming across the bridge just before the twenty-seven, I mean the.

OW The 27 flood.

JB In the 27 flood, can you tell me a little bit more about the 27, what it was like right here? Just, did the river, it must of been a raging torrent.

OW It was. It was, flooded right up. Well up to the road here, all the meadows were flooded quite deep. And, up on the flat, up there, just, south of Waitsfield, north of Waitsfield village, that was all flooded, in fact when I remember the next day when I went to high school, I had walked to high school, I was walking through mud prit near up to my knees. I think they closed the school for a short time but after the water had subsided, that whole flat was just nothing but mud. You wouldn't know hardly where the road was.

JB And you weren't worried about this house, though?

OW No. No. No. This house, there was up there in the village, they were quite worried about that, because the water did come down into the village there.

[13.02] And, it was very rapid. I think it did move some of the buildings a little bit, but not very much, the, it took out most all the bridges, down through here, and you, if you had to get over here to the other side, you either had to go around, like down here to Moretown, and then go around that way, and in fact, in fact right after the flood, my father had to go down to Boston and the only way he could get down to Boston, he had to go over the hills to get there.

[13.44] He had quite a time getting down there. And getting back. Cause he'd been on some milk business or some kind for the co-op. And, it was a year or two there, it was very difficult because of the road conditions. And of course over there, Waterbury of course they, it did tremendous amount of damage there. In fact a lot of people lost their lives. Because I heard a story where a person told me that they'd see a house going down the river and there would be a light on it, and then of course when they went over the

Bolton dam down there, where the power, why then, that destroyed the house. And usually they drowned themselves. [14.34] So, there was quite a lot of people that, went down, in the flood. It, and then of course they had that school there, and that, got quite a lot of the children too, a lot of children.

JB What school?

OW Well that was around Bolton. [14.50] In Bolton there. I think there was quite a few people that lost their lives there. It, it was in a very unusual storm, I can remember my father was up at the school house, cause he was a school director, and my mother called him up, and told him she says I think George you better come back home. Because she says I don't think you're gonna get back home if you don't. And so immediately he, he unleased the horse, he had a wagon at that time, and he got home just in time before the, the culvert went out. So, it, everything really it was a mess. [15.40] Like any other flood, when anything happens like that.

JB Well I've seen a lot of photographs.

OW Yeah. Well they took out, of course the railroad tracks, they took out every thing up through here,

yup.

JB The other thing I'm interested in is many farmers did other things like logging in the winter, and to bring in, you know, some extra cash, and I wondered did you focus pretty much on farming or would you occasionally take a load of logs to the mill or?

OW Um, hum. That's right. We did. [16.26] Um hum.

JB To the Ward mill, or?

OW No, usually there was a mill up here, and there used to be a mill down below here, down near where Albert Turner, there was the mill down there that was run by Mister Sever. And he used to saw out lumber for you know, for the farmers for their own use, as well as sell some lumber from them. Yeah, it was, at one time, there was a lot of mills up through the valley here. I think there was three or four mills here in Waitsfield and I think at one time there used to be about six or seven up there in Warren. And, of course, what they'd do, in the, winter time, they would cut the logs of course in the fall and then they would haul them down

and they'd start stacking them up in the yards before the mud season, and of course most all the mills had big log yards that they would store, and then during the spring when there was high water, which would run you know, the turbines or something, for the power, they would saw out the lumber, you see. And, I can remember years ago, when I was a kid I used to sleep up in this room up here, and I can remember the boards, teams, there would anywhere well probably ten or fifteen of them, and I can remember they would go up by here about four o'clock in the morning in the winter time, and I would listen to them and each one had a different sounding bell, and you'd hear this ding, dong, ding, dong, and then the next one would be another different tone on the bell, going up by so actually you could tell well who'd going up by here, and most everybody knew everybody, in the valley, and knew their names, and that sort of thing, which now I, I don't think I even know one percent, or even less than that, of the people here. But, I can remember at four o'clock in the morning seeing those teams go up by, hearing them, and of course those days, we had

what the old cow, the old feather bed mattresses, and my mother was always one to take up the mattresses and fluff it all up and when I was a kid I used to run and jump into the bed and all the, you'd settle right down in there, and you were nice and cozy in those, goose feather beds. [19.15] And, but I can remember those cold, cold mornings I would say there, oh boy how lucky I am. Ha! Ha! Ha! [19.22] Ha! Ha! And then at usually about four, five o'clock at night, you'd see those loggers come down, with a load of logs. And, then of course they would unload their logs at the mill and then they'd have to put up their horses, and be ready for the next morning to start out. And most of the logs were coming up, in Fayston and North Fayston and Center Fayston, and South Fayston, and some here in Waitsfield. [19.50] So, it was a hard life. But a good life.

JB Yeah. You hear that over and over that. Those loads must of been big loads.

OW Um, hum. Yeah, they were. And in the spring of the year, of course, sometimes the hills you know, got melted off, the snow would and they'd have to team up.

In other words, if they were in a line, why the first fellow that had to go up the hill, the others would take their team off and hitch on ahead, and pull them up the hill. And then they'd all come back and take the next one. Where ever the ground got down to where there wasn't any snow on it. [20.35] And, usually, especially those that, hills that are on the south side, you see, where the sun could get at them. Cause that was always the first, of the snow to go, and they used to haul logs right up, just as long as they possibly could, you know. And, of course it was easier to put logs on a sled then it would be on a wagon.

JB Yeah. [21.00] Yeah. Here on the farm, what did you, you had cattle, and or cows, and you grew hay, and did you grow corn, potatoes?

OW Oh yes. We raised some potatoes, father used to put in an acre or two of potatoes, and then he'd take them out to Montpelier and sell them. Yeah. I used to have to pick over potatoes in the winter time and sprout them and that sort of thing. And get them ready for market. Of course there was awhile after my father took over the farm, he raised hogs, and and usually he

butchered, and I remember we used to have a track out here in front of the garage, and the hogs would hang in there, just for oh maybe, twenty four hours or something like that, and then, when it come night, he would, get the wagon out, and put the hogs, you know the meat, on the wagon and cover it all up, and start from Montpelier. And he'd get out there, he'd get out there to Montpelier, this was during the summer time, of course, and he'd get out there in Montpelier and deliver his hogs around four, five o'clock in the morning. [22.24] And they'd come back home. And the reason for that, they did it at night because of the temperature you see, cause it got to warm during the day. [22.33]

JB So he would butcher probably in the late fall? Of the year?

OW Um, hum. Yeah. That's right.

JB How many hogs did he?

OW That I couldn't tell you. I couldn't tell you.

JB Did he have ducks and geese and?

OW No we had, we had hens, we didn't have very many just

mostly for our own use and maybe oh if we had a few dozen left we always took them up to the store up here, and sell them, you know or trade them in for groceries. [23.05] Of course those old days the grocery stores they always had a, a you, you had boxes of cookies, I can remember those boxes, oh there would be about that square, and you'd go in and help yourself and put them in the bags and they'd weight it up and that was it. And you'd buy the flour or you buy your sugar. Most all of that stuff was, just the essentials that you really would buy. Because most of the vegetables and things you always raised yourself. And, it was, and it had flour come in barrels, or sugar come in barrels, and they would just simply scoop it out, put it into a bag, and if you had coffee, well you always, they'd grind the coffee right there and put it through one of those big wheel grinders and you just have some coffee. [24.05] But as I say, most of it was like essentials, like sugar and flour, and oatmeal. But they were all, mostly in bulk. Of course it's a lot different today, and because now a days they put it in the box, and they put, put a

paper in there, and then they have to have another paper, and by the time you get through most of it's paper. And, that you buy. Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! But, I suppose, I don't know maybe it, maybe it wasn't as sanitary, I don't know, although I don't know if anybody had any more bugs those days as they have now.

JB You could get into it a lot easier, you know those \_\_\_\_\_ . Ha! Ha!

OW That's right. Ha! Ha! That is right. [24.54] And of course as far as entertainment, we all had our entertainment, we usually had plays, and they had, dances, maybe once a week or once in two weeks, the old fashioned dances and maybe some of the modern dances. And, everybody went to them, old and young, and we had our good times.

JB Did you used to have them here?

OW What do you mean?

JB Did, I've heard.

OW Oh you mean kitchen junkets?

JB Kitchen junkets, and.

OW No we never, father and mother never believed in them here, in the house. I've been to some of the old

kitchen junkets. [25.35] The only trouble is there, that sometimes the liquor got to flowing pretty heavy. But, my father and mother kind of looked down on those things. They thought they were kind of rude.

JB Ha! Ha!

OW So, if I ever went to one, they never knew it. Ha! Ha!  
Ha! [25.55]

JB One of the things that has interested me too is the change over from you know gradually the tractor came in and a lot of people had horses along with tractors and then gradually made the switch over, and I know you said you, when you took over the farm you had two or three horses and how about making that switch over, and you, you were talking about, oxen and, sugaring and I've heard about the difference how the oxen plodded through the snow and the horses you know, but.

OW That's right.

JB But at the same time, you could, the horses knew every tree to stop at, and then was bring the load back to the barn, and to the sugarhouse, without a word.

OW Um, hum. Well, I used to like to drive oxen. [26.53]  
They were really wonderful in the woods for, for

logging. That sort of thing cause you didn't have a lot of whiffle trees and things like that to deal with. And, usually oxen were ones that, well they were slow, and lots of times you take a pair of horses and if you got a good pair of horse where they were really get right down into it and do steady, which was rather rare, most of them lots of times they'd get down in and then they'd begin to jump or they'd go back and forth like this, oxen wasn't that way, they would just really get right down into it and really pull and put the effort into it. [27.35] They were slow. But, I always loved them. They were always gentle. Very good. And they were very good in snow. And, most everybody had oxen in those days. Rather than horses for you know, for hauling and for everything. Except to for logging, they used them, you know driving back and forth or something like that, of course.

JB Well did you use oxen for sugaring?

OW Oh yeah. Yeah. We.

JB How late did you, when did you begin to really switch over all to machinery?

OW Oh about the same time when I took over the farm. Back

in 1936, I would say. I had, I didn't have a tractor until probably 1940, or something like that, I couldn't afford one. And I was always one, I was always brought up, my father brought me up don't buy anything unless you can pay for it. And, this is one reason I think by so many farmers in those days stayed in business, because they were conservative, and if they figured they didn't have the money they just didn't buy it. I think that's half the problem today with the farmers. When times are good, I think they go out they buy a lot of machinery, equipment which is very expensive, and then they get themselves into a bind and then they loose everything. [29.11] But, it's different, it was a little different attitude, in those days. Everything was I say, more or less was done with a handshake and that sort of thing, you made deals with your neighbors and so on. And, you did it with a hand shake and everybody lived up their obligations. But today, of course you've got to have every thing written out and you got to have it, tighter then a bark to a tree. [29.42] Otherwise. You just loose out.

JB And those changes really.

OW You probably had that same thing over there in your New Hampshire.

JB Absolutely. [29.54] But here, it seems like the start of most of that was the development of the ski industry, in this valley is that, would you say that was the \_\_\_\_? [30.06]

OW Yeah, it really, the big change was, starting about 1950. I think some of the people that come up here, the first ones that come up here, like Allan Clark, and the Williams, and Henry Perkins, and some of them, I think they come up here, and they thought, Vermont was a wonderful place and they really, they really joined in, with the Vermonters and took more or less the Vermonters ways, and I think about ten years after that when we got another influx of people coming up here, and that's when the thing begun to change. With all regulations and that sort of thing. As I told Allan Clark one day, if I mentioned his name, I saw him up at the shopping center one day, and of course he's been in on this project, with my niece here, and we were talking about it, and God he says, there's so

much regulations now, he says, it's a lot different that it used to be. I says yes, it is Allan, and he was feeling that, beginning to fell like, you know like the rest of us, we Vermonters, I said, well Allan you're not a Vermonter, but I says, you're beginning to think like a Vermonter. [31.40] And, he kind of laughed. But. [31.49]

END OF TAPE

JB And, it's a, it's a nice perspective to bring to bear on the whole valley. And I think from an outsiders point of view, you looked at the valley and what you seen as the ski industry and the new people that it's brought in, you know those kind of changes. [2.47]

OW Well I wondered just how long the ski industry would be here though. I wonder. I wonder sometimes if the ski business went out, what would happen to the state. Cause they get a tremendous amount of revenue of course. And, of course taxes in our town have gone up tremendously, when you get into the education part of

it, I feel just like this, I don't think they're getting one bit better education now then they did years ago. [3.30] I can remember in one school house down here, I was down there for two years, we had a teacher that had, well they had about thirty children, in the school and went from one, from first grade to eight grade. And, she taught the whole business. One teacher. And I think most of them, knew how to simple problems, mathematics pretty well, at lease they learned how to read, and write, and they knew geography pretty well, and history, those practical things. I think they're better educated in some ways then they are today. [4.23] I think we've got away from the fundamentals. I notice when I go up here to school, when they opened here for the new addition, you didn't see anything on the bulletin boards of exams with problems or anything like that, you didn't see that, all you see is the kids of where they painted something. And that's about all you see, and you just wonder when you go in there is that all they're teaching. Now, I'm gonna give you an example. Several years ago we had a, I'm not gonna give the

name, it was before the Newtons' come here, the party that owned the place over here, and they had a daughter who's in the sixth grade. [5.14] And she come up here, and come to me one day, and she says well we're having a bike-aton, and she says, it's for charity purposes, and she says for every mile that I go, what will you contribute. I says, I'll give you a dollar a mile. So she went off and she come back late that afternoon, she come back she says well I went twenty-eight miles. I says okay, I says what do I owe you? Mr. Wallace I don't know. Well now I says I told you I'd give you a dollar for every mile you went. Now I says what's that figure. She says I don't know. Well, I was exasperated a little bit at first, cause I figure in the sixth grade you'd, at least you knew your multiplication tables, you knew some of those things. So, that Sunday, this had happened on a Saturday, that Sunday I went up to church, which my wife usually and I go to church most every Sunday. [6.20] And of course lately I haven't because of her, but I cornered the superintendent, after church, we were walking down the, walk there, and I says, Mr.

Lincoln, I says, what the hell are you teaching these kids in school. [6.35] And he says what's your problem. So I told him. Well he says of course they haven't got into decimals. I says, decimals. I says, there's nothing to do with decimals. I says this is ridiculous. And that was the answer I got out of him. And \_\_\_\_\_ says, well he says we're trying to straighten [6.53] some of these things out. Well I says I think you better, I said, I'd like to know what the hell your teaching these kids. Well, that went on, well the, a few days afterwards I went up here to the garage here was a junior in high school, he was sit there by the register, and he was a working on his fingers and I says what's your problem? He says, I'm multiplying nine times nine. I says, eighty-one. He looked at me, he says, how in the hell did you know that? I says hell I remember those, I had memorized those things back when I was in the grades. Early grades. I said, don't they teach you people anything. Oh no they don't teach us anything like that. And, I don't give a dam, how good a building you can build, you can build a castle, you can build anything for

them, but it depends a lot on the child, the parents, and the teacher. [7.41] And I don't know as I can lay it against the teacher because I think you've got some good teachers, but, either the parents are to blame or the child doesn't want to take concentrate or do any of these things. And I think this is the trouble with the situation, you've got in education. They're not teaching the basics. And we're paying a hell of a bill. And we're not getting results. [8.11]

JB That's right. Well you were just saying about, building, you know, and mathematics and so forth, but in the old days you didn't have to be an architect either to build.

OW No, no. No, because I can remember in the old days down here at the school house, we had rows of seats and isles, I think there was two seats on here and then there would be an isle, and then another two seats after, and when the teacher would ask for a class to come up there, maybe you might be a mathematics or something, you always had the big blackboards up front. And, you'd come up and you'd sit in the seat up front, by the teacher and she would

explain things and be the blackboard and that, and of course another thing too, if the upper grades were up there, of course the lower grades back there, but you were bound to listen to what was going on, on the blackboard. And, [9.13] observing. And then she would, they would have their class maybe for, you know, fifteen or twenty minutes, and then she would, spell them, and then they'd go back to seats, and then there'd be the next class that would come up, you see. And, then she would go on maybe it might be reading or something like that or spelling. And, I'm not so sure but maybe they had a better education. I think now a days, the problem, I've read somewhere in the industries that now that the industry have to educate the kids before they, before they really give them a job. Because they don't have it. They don't have that background.

JB Yeah.

OW The old barn buildings, yeah, of course, well what they did, they'd make, you know, the sides and the ends, and so on and so forth, the carpenters would, and then when it comes for the, at the barn raising,

all they did was take long poles and they'd get the whole neighborhood. Everybody would come down and we'd have the barn raising. And of course, before the day was over, the barn was prit near all built. Kind of, cause they'd put up the sides and then the ends and then they'd put them together, and then they'd start putting the rafters on. And, then after that, the carpenters then would take over and you know, do the roofing. They used to put the beer out, and they had the hard cider, and a few other things like that, and the woman used to furnish the food, and things, they'd have a regular picnic at noon time, and feed all the help. And, they worked together. It's true. [10.56]

JB When was this place built?

OW That is a good question. I have an idea, I know David Simon was the first owner, of the place, of course then it changed hands from one to another, to another.

JB And that was when?

OW Around 1800. I have an idea the place was built shortly after 1800, part of it. Cause this house, part of it is plank partition, two and a half inches thick

plank. [11.33] I didn't realize it either, until I come to had a company come here to insulate the place. And so they took a few clapboards off and they went up there with a three inch hole, and they bored and they bored right into the room. And the guy come down off the ladder and he says, well he says, we can't insulate this place, cause there's no place to put the insulation. Ha! Ha! So, what it was, it was just simply two and a half inch thick planks, with lath on it and plaster inside. And, paper and the clapboards, on the outside. [12.08] That's all but, this is why it was very difficult, I had aluminum siding put on here, years ago, about three years I couldn't keep paint on this thing, it would start peeling, because you see the moisture from the house inside, you know, it would work and the paint would all chip off. And this is why I put aluminum siding on. And, that has been a big help too. And then part of the place is, on this side, it's what they call lathe and plaster and back plastered. And, so I have an idea that that section of the house was built first. Now when I don't know. I've tried to find out, but I can't find out. But I'm,

pretty sure it was shortly after 1800. And then this other place over here, was part of, at one time the land was part of this place, because this is made up of two lots. Lot 125, and lot 126. And the lots lines are from the Gaylord line, to my place and the Newtons is from Newtons and Pauls. So the, the line between Newtons and mine is not a lot line. They say they did it all but in kind of a squares like, years ago, probably if you looked up in the Waitsfield history you could see on the map, how that was broken up. And, sold off. I don't know. Of course General Waite, eventually owned the whole town, cause he was paid off because he was a revolutionary soldier, and he was a general. And he, in those days they paid them off in land. [14.01] And, I never knew just how, how it was handled after that really, he sold off parcels or rather later on, they come in and they divided it up into lots, I don't know. But I've often times wondered just how that was done.

JB Well I was interested in that the barn is connected.

OW Hum.

JB You don't see that too often. [14.30] Well at least

over our way, in the Champlain valley you seldom see that. And as you get closer to New Hampshire you see it more often.

OW Yeah.

JB And I was interested to know if you knew anything about that, or? Was it your, in your family when you connected them, or?

OW No. That was connected, I have a picture of years ago, of my grandfather, and grandmother, out here in the yard, and the buildings were about the same. The only thing is my father did raise this barn, he raised it, I think two, or three feet. Because it's, a little different now, where the barns joined together I notice, this barn seems to be up a little higher than it used to be. [15.22] But, the general lay out, is the same. And the house, that used to be on, where the garage is, it used to be all open for carriages and things like that. [15.35] This main part of the house, was here, which I shortly, I'm pretty sure the picture was taken very shortly after he bought the place, because the only way I can go at it, the, we have two big maple trees, one of them went down here a couple

of years ago. Fell down. And those trees were, were little tiny trees. And, then I went to work and when that tree fell, I counted the rings, and I think there was about a hundred and sixty rings, so that would bring it back pretty well to my grandfather's time. And taken, viewing the picture and viewing that, I think the picture was taken very shortly after he bought the place. And that's the only thing I can go on.

JB That's interesting. [16.35] Were there many barns attached to the houses, around here or?

OW Well there used to be quite a few, quite a few. Of course some of them have taken them down.

JB Yeah. Yeah.

OW But this, or this place originally, it's about the same as it was back at that time.

JB And was this the original kitchen here, from?

OW No, I think originally this porch, this out there, went up to this door, because I know there's another, when I put a register in, years and years ago, there was two floors. So I'm pretty sure that probably, now

what this room was, might of been a back room, or something, because my grandfather built the dining room, put the dining room on, and he also put the sheds on out back, cause you can tell because they're made of two by four. The rest of the building is hued timbers. Big huge timbers. If you went into the garage and you look up at the garage you could see, they're all huge timbers. And the same thing is in the barn. Wooden pins. [17.50] So, really it's, it's prit near the main buildings these are. Of course, we have a well, out here that was dug, about well I guess about fourteen or sixteen feet, and I see down in the cellar where there was some lead pipe that come in, they'd cut it off, so I assume probably, they had a kitchen in this part here, with a pump, in fact I've got two of those old pumps you know, that used to go up here, they're up there in the attic. I hate awfully to take, to move out of this place, I've got so dam much junk here, honest and truly it's, my niece, my niece told me, I says, it's something, I says, you're gonna have a hell of a mess to clean out up there. And she says, don't you throw one thing away. I want to know what's

there. Ha! Ha! So, I think she's gonna have one hell  
of a good time. Ha! Ha! [18.52] Ha! Ha!

JB Did she grow up here or?

OW Well, her father of course was born here, and then of  
course he was a, he went to MIT.

JB This is your brother?

OW Yeah. He lives down below here. And he graduated from  
that and then he went out to Missouri College and he  
was head of the electrical engineering in Missouri  
College, he was a professor out there and that's where  
they live and that's where she was born I think.

[19.22] I don't know as she was born in Missouri or  
just where for sure. But anyway, her brother and she  
was born there, and then I had one other brother that  
worked, was an organic chemistry in Princeton  
University, and he did a lot of medical research, and  
then my other brother, oldest brother, went to work  
for General Motors, and he was the second hand  
engineer in the frigedaire department out in Dayton,  
Ohio. So they all had good positions. And, I used to,  
somebody said well, they all graduated and of course  
they got their degree and they asked me what my degree

was? And I says, PdF, and he says, what the hell does that stand for? I says, P\_\_\_\_\_ Dam Fool. Ha! Ha!

JB Making the farm go is no foolery and.

OW Well anyway, I guess I fared out about as well as the rest of them. But anyway they, they had good positions. They did well.

JB When did you stop farming?

OW In 68. 1968. I had to give it up because I was having a lot of back trouble, in fact I have a little now, I have to be pretty careful. And, the answer I got from the doctor at that time, he says you either gonna have to get, you're gonna have to get off that tractor, milking, and stop milking cows, or else he says you're gonna be crippled for life if you don't. [20.50] So I took his advise.

JB Was it a hard piece of advise to take?

OW Well, I'll tell you, it was hard to see the cattle go. I told them when they took it, they'd take the cattle out, but I, I sold the whole herd, to a fellow on the west side of the state, and I sold him my milkers, and

I says well when you come to get them, I says, I'm not gonna help you, because I don't want to, I don't want to be around. And, so he took them. And I know several years afterwards, oh I guess about ten years afterwards I saw this guy, and asked him, I says, well I says, I suppose most all the cattle that you bought from me, I says are prit near gone. He says, nope, he says, they were a wonderful herd. And he says, I've got quite a lot of them left. [21.40] So I guess he was satisfied with them. And then the next year, I sold off my young cattle. And, in the meantime, of course I had been an agent for the insurance company down there, the co-op, and then I went into a business of selling travel trailers. I sold them for ten years. And, well here, here's a good example. [22.06] I went over to the Northfield Bank, of course I didn't have very much money, and I went over to the Northfield Bank, and of course I knew Richard Gaylord who was the president of the Northfield Bank and he was born right up here, next place above here, because this is the Gaylord place. I told Richard, I says, Richard I says, I want to borrow so much money. Quite a few thousand

dollars, cause I says I've got to buy these things and I've got to pay for them to come, and I says, I'm going into a little different business, well then, I'm getting my cart before the horse a little bit, how I happened to go into it, I went out to California, to Elsie's brother and sister were out there, it was in 63, and we went to the Sacramento Fair, and there they were selling trailers and campers and things like that. And I got quite interested in them. [23.00] So I told my wife coming back on the plane, I says, I think we ought to have one of those. I think I said it would be nice to travel around in. And I says, I don't know how you feel about it, well yeah she was okay. So fine. So I went around and went around some of the dealers and I wasn't too satisfied in talking with them and getting results, they didn't act to me as if they wanted to sell anything. And, finally I come home, and kind of disgusted, and I told my wife, I said, you know I think I'll go in the business. Well that was all right. She was willing. [23.36] So, as I say I went over the bank, and I told Richard, I says well, I says probably you want an arm and a leg. No.

No. He says I know you. Well I says, what kind of deal can we make? Well he says, we'll give you a six months loan, and the end of six months, he says, you pay us the interest, and if you can pay something on the principal. And he says, that will be fine. And he says, if you can't, we'll renew it. And, we'll keep doing it that way. I says, Richard do you want to take that kind of chance? He says, maybe I'm stupid going into something like this. No, he says, nothing ventured, nothing done. So that's how I started in the trailer business. And that's the way I did. And I, for a couple of years, it was kind of tough there because I wasn't known too much, and I hadn't advertised too much, maybe as much as I should. And then finally after that, the third and fourth year, then things begin to brake for me.

JB Did you do it right from here, or?

OW Yeah I did it right here, I had, I had this yard full of trailers out here. Ha! Ha! [24.43] And campers. It wasn't very good looking I'll admit. But anyway, I had a lot of fun. And, meeting people and doing things, and usually most of these trailers that come in here,

they bring them in, on a, on a flat bed. Be, it depends on the size two or three trailers at a time, and of course you always had to pay for them, and when they, we unloaded them, they'd leave and my wife and I would go out and we'd take the vacuum cleaner and we'd clean them all out, because they were always full of chink, chinking, shavings, and they never cleaned them out, and especially in the cupboards, places like that, and there would be metal chenkings and oh boy, I'll tell you sometimes it would be an awful mess. And then we'd put something down on the floor, you know, to, so people could walk in, and see them. And, I never had, I had two people come back, in all of ten years that I sold trailers, I always checked them out, very thoroughly, to see if everything was working, and I never had but two people that ever brought their trailers back, and I know one fellow in particular, Mr. Lord out here, in Barre, he bought a trailer from me, and I checked it all out, everything worked fine, the refrigerator and everything, and when he got home, he couldn't, he couldn't start his refrigerator. And, he says Mr. Wallis, I don't think you checked it, I

says, yes I did. But I says, you bring it back, I says I know what the trouble is. So, I just, we took the refrigerator out and tightened up, the thermal couple a little bit, because you're supposed to have that, a little more then finger tight, but not too tight. It had to be just about right, and I fixed that but the refrigerator \_\_\_\_\_ right, but [26.32] I never had any trouble with anybody. Never.

JB That's quite a record.

OW In the ten years that I had it. And then when it come 74, and that gas scare, I told my wife, I says we're just gonna dispose of things. Cause I says, I don't know, I don't like the looks of things. So I, dropped the price right down and got rid of them. The whole business. [26.58] And I did service work after that. And I liked working on the refrigerators and heaters, and things. And I've done that right up until recently and then the last few years I've helped people out doing that.

JB Well it sounds to me like you got a pretty good education on the farm, and.

OW Practical.

JB Practical, so that you could do something like that, I mean you had to know how to fix all kinds of things.

OW Yeah. Um, hum.

JB And, you must of, just absorbed that from the time you were a kid.

OW Well of course a lot of it, I got a lot of information from the companies of course, that made these things.

JB Um, hum.

OW As to how to repair and so on. And I'd study that, where ever there was problems I would study those things. I got along pretty good. In fact there a few years ago, a couple years ago, there was a fellow brought in a heater, and he couldn't, the pilot wouldn't stay on. The minute the pilot, well the pilot would stay on until the main burner would come on. And when the main burner would come on, the pilot would go off and then of course the main, but the main burner would go off. And I told him well I said bring it here, and in fact he'd broke the housing to his motor so I had to fix that, and so I fixed that, and I had quite a time with that thing, and I couldn't figure it out, and finally I took out the control, and looked at

it, and I noticed there was a little water coming out of it, so I took, blew the thing all out, and cleaned it all out, in good shape, put it back in and everything worked perfect. So evidently there was so much condensation within the controls so that it wouldn't operate right. Then a few little things like that you know. [28.59] The fellow had taken it to other dealers and they said they couldn't do anything. And, but I'm not one to give up. I like to know what, what does it. I'm sure I spent a lot more time than I ever, got paid for, but anyway I had the satisfaction.

JB Well I think that's something that \_\_\_\_\_[29.23] maybe come from farming, today everybody is concerned with the amount of time, and time is money, and in farming you couldn't or you weren't that concerned with that particular attitude.

OW Um, hum. Well, maybe my bringing up was a little different. Then it is today. Sometimes people you know, just throw up their hands and that's it, they don't want to put the time in, they don't want to bother with it. (tape off and on again) They wanted me to, come up and talk to some of the students, it was

a, fourth, and fifth, and sixth grade. And talk about some of the old times. I don't think the kids realize what they were like. And, I think she got kind of an eye opener too. On things.

JB Well the changes you've seen in your lifetime, are remarkable.

OW I think the change is, I think in this country the biggest change is really from, starting from World War I, right up to today. [31.00] Science has improved tremendously. Medicine has improved tremendously. I think, I think this is really, the big change. [31.21]

END OF SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO

JB Yeah. My great grandmother lived from 1870 to 1969. Through a man on the moon. And I always thought you know that was, that almost century was probably the greatest change from no electricity and no running water, to a man on the moon. [.30]

OW Um, hum. Um, hum. No I know, here this house, my father wired the house, and what they called open wire, and I don't know as you know what open wire means, but, that's where they use a single wire, and

if they run the wires, they run it, it was porcelains, little porcelain, it was about like this in here, and then there was little groves, and here a little grove, and you put the wire here and you put the wire here. Actually that's the safest wiring. Today. [1.08] It's considered the safest wire. And then when he went through a beam, if it was an eight inch beam, they had porcelain, which was a tube, it was knob on one end, and it was a hole of course and you put the wire and string the wire through it. So, that that wire went through the porcelain it didn't go through the wood. And, then sometimes if you went down through the partitions, they'd put in, put it through another kind of tube which is about that big. And, which was a very heavy insulation. Actually it's, that's the safest wiring today.

JB Hum.

OW Because you see today, your wire is right up tight, and they're in plastic. Of course years ago they used to have this BX cable, and they used to wire the barn, well a lot of barns burned. [2.10] Because of the BX cable, because the BX cable being in the barn, with

the moisture, would rust, and deteriorate the insulation, and then you'd get a short. And then, you get sparks. So they done away with that and now of course, everything now is plastic, which probably, is about as safe as they can get it. And this you know, separates the wires.

JB Hum. It's interesting. [2.36] What about water to this house?

OW A spring. Um, hum.

JB And did he put in the, the piping to the house, or?

OW My father did the plumbing here, years ago, putting in the bathrooms, and things like that. But first of course when you first come in here, you used to come into a tub. Years and years ago, all the water, used to run what they called through pump log. Probably you've heard that.

JB Um, hu.

OW And, that was very interesting you know how they made the pump logs. And of course what they did they made a rack, and the pump logs would be anywhere from probably from six to eight feet long. And they'd have the \_\_\_\_\_ order. I've always wondered how in hell

they ever put, bored the holes from one end and have it come out in the center of the other.

JB It's amazing. [3.33] I watched, a guy called Orin Dunn used to do that. And, God he'd go right through.

OW Yeah. And, then after that father put in lead pipe, in fact I had a fellow come here one day and well he was a flatlander, come in here one day and he says, where do you get your water? I says, up here in the woods, the spring. Well what's it come through? I said, lead pipe. God, he looked at me, he says, look it, he says, you must have a lot of lead in your system. Well I says I don't know. [4.10] Maybe so. But, I says, I'll tell you, I says my mother lived to 91, my father lived to 78, and I says they didn't die of lead poisoning. And, and well he says, you must have a lot of lead. I says, look it, I says well water runs through the lead, after awhile, the water, puts a coating inside that lead, and I said, you don't pick up any lead. [4.41] And, but that's the way everybody had those things put. And I never heard of anybody dying with lead poisoning. The only time I've ever heard of anybody dying of lead poisoning, was back in

1847 when they begin to think we should, up to the north pole, I think it was England, and they put their food in lead containers, and probably you've read just recently they went up there to dig up one of the bodies. But anyway, that whole crew died, of lead poisoning. And they, they dug up, well this person bought it, they knew where he, where he was and evidently he of course he was frozen, and his body was.

JB Yeah I remember reading about that.

OW And they took samples and they found that it was, he had a lot of lead in his system and it was just due to the fact that the food fermented in that lead, and of course then that, that's how they got lead poisoning. But, now you take, another thing on this business of asbestos, I think, I think what they've done, actually is crazy. To take it out of the schools. There's nothing wrong with asbestos. [6.02] If it's not disturbed, to me, where as some of the towns have had to lay out thousands of dollars to remove it, I think there's worse, then it would be if they left it alone. I think if they gone in and just painted it, with some

material, to keep it, you know, from disintegrating into the air, I don't think there had been anything, any trouble. I fooled around with lead, with asbestos, a lot, never thought anything about it, really, in fact when I took my old furnace out, I had, it was all asbestos wrapping, I just took it down. [6.50] I don't know, maybe it affected me, but I, I don't think it has too much. Ha!

JB Ha! Ha! [6.56] (tape off)

END OF TAPE

OW George Bragg is on my mother's side, and he had a general store up there in Warren. And, you get an idea of what a general store is, is they had all these commodities, of course and the flour, you know in barrels, and cookies in barrels or in boxes or something like that, and they had a candy counter too. And, they always had a big pot belly, one of these pot bellied stoves, you know, and they burned wood in it you know, and it's always in the center, and usually every Saturday a lot of the workmen would come at night you know, and they'd buy a few groceries of

course and then they'd sit around the pot belly stove and I can remember going up there when I was a little kid, you know [1.01] and they would all be telling stories, or they'd be discussing politics or they'd be discussing this or that, you know, and of course they always had this, plug tobacco, and they'd always sit around the store and they always had a spittoon over here in one, one place and, and maybe on one side of the stove another one on the other. And, always, I can remember those fellows would chew their tobacco, and then they'd spit, they'd always hit the spittoon down there, I don't know how they ever did it, but they did anyway they'd always hit it, hit the mark every time. [1.37] And they'd tell stories, and this is just kind of a general idea, and of course he did sell kerosene, because they had to have it for lamps and things like that, he always had it out in the back room, and fill up the jugs. And, but anyways this particular time, my grandfather was robbed, one night, and he had a, in those days they had cheeses, you know they come in, well I would call them in wheels, probably be about, four to five inches thick, and maybe they might be,

well, fifteen inches in diameter, or something like that, and then if people wanted some cheese they always just sliced it off you know in a little square, it always amazed me, he'd always prit near hit it every time for a pound. But anyway, this particular time, the, he had a cheese, a big cheese come in, and evidently he set it up on the counter there, and that night it was gone. Well it went on, and went on and went on, and lots of times he would set out on the porch and he always had one of these long stem pipes, that he smoked, and but anyway, his friend who was, he was very friendly with the fellow, and considered him his friend, and finally this fellow come to him and he says, you know, he says, George, he says did you ever find out who stole that, that wheel of cheese, yeah, my grandfather says, yes. Well he says how did you know. He says I didn't, till just now, you're the one that stole it. [3.34] Ha! And, he says how did you know that? He says, I never told anybody. Ha! Ha!

JB Ha! Ha! [3.42]

OW And, he said and the guy pulled out his money, his pocket and got out his pocketbook and paid him for the

cheese right there. Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! So he tricked the  
guy right there. Ha! Ha!

JB That's a great story. I think in the Ripton store,  
there was a guy that, stole a pound of butter, and he  
put it under his hat, and the store keeper saw him,  
and so he drew him over, to the stove, and got to  
telling stories and you know just \_\_\_\_\_.

OW Ha! Ha! Ha! Well that's a good one. Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!  
Oh, boy! Ha! Ha! He must of had a good buttered face.  
Ha! Ha!

JB And then another one I heard was, in the Hastings  
store, the woman came in and she, there was one, hen  
in the you know, glass case, and she looked at that  
and she said Mr. Hastings, you got any others out  
back, and he said, well let me go look, you, you got a  
nice load of bananas in, go take a look at the  
bananas. So she went over and she looked at the  
bananas, and while she was looking at the bananas, he  
took the hen out and plumped it all up and then  
brought it back in and he said, what do you think  
about this one? She said, oh that's much nicer. I  
think I'll take them both.

OW Ha! Ha! Ha! [5.15] I'll take them both. Ha! Ha! Ha! Oh boy! Ha! Ha! Pretty good.

JB So I've been intrigued about you know, different stories coming out of the.

OW Sure.

JB General store and there are just the store was a place where practical jokes took place and they apt to.

OW Oh yes. That was, mostly their recreation, especially in the wintertime. Yeah. They always, he always had chairs around the old pot bellied stove, and I remember the old pot bellied stove, I guess it stood from the floor to the top of that other thing. And, of course they always burned wood, in those days. And of course, his daughter which is, Vaughn Drew, she used to run the Pitcher Inn, you know, and she would make up hats. She was a millinery, and she'd make up hats, and sell hats, and she had went into the store there for her little bit of business. [6.16] Yeah. Yeah.

JB So was her, was that the store that became the John Spaulding store?

OW No the John Spaulding store was tore down, that right side of him. Um, hum. That was right side of him. You

see, my grandfather deeded everything over to Vaughn Drew, and it was her daughter, and my mother and Vaughn Drew were sisters. And then, when Vaughn got along in years, her daughter Merle, come up there, and she was my cousin, and took over the place, and runned it, you know, and.

JB As a store?

OW No. As a.

JB Oh the inn.

OW As an inn. And then eventually Merle bought the Spaulding place and she had that all torn down so she could have a place you know for parking her cars and things like that. That's who that store got torn down.

JB Well now, was, the store that's there now, the Warren store.

OW That's across the road, that was, that was Roy Long's store [7.30] at one time.

JB Oh!

OW Yup. That was Roy Long's store I can remember one time, back years ago, (coughing and clearing throat) pardon me. When I was courting Elsie, I was going one night I went over to Middlebury and I come back, and

I, I got down into Granville, and I looked at the gas gauge and it said empty. [8.00] Well I stopped at a place and this was way late, probably about one or two o'clock in the morning, and I stopped there, but nobody come to the pump, and I said, well what the hell am I gonna do. I said I've got to go through Granville woods. And I in the meantime I had a little Chevrolet coup, a 1932, and I got, well I says, I'll guess I'll have to go as far as I can go, then I'll have to walk home. Of course it would be quite a ways to walk but that is it. Well anyway, I got through and I got through Granville woods and I got in there, by Roy Long's store, he was selling gas, I finally raised Roy up and got him, and he pumped up some gas for me so I could get home, but anyway, Roy says, what the hell you doing down here, this time of night? [8.50] Well I says I just been out dating. Ha! Ha! Been over to Middlebury dating a girl. Ha! Ha! And anyway he filled it up for me, and he was very good about it.

JB I'm sure that was the subject of much conversation the next day at the store.

OW It probably was. It probably was. Ha! Ha! Well Roy

was, Roy was worth quite a lot of property.

JB Well one of the things, yeah, that I've done with this project is listen to other tapes people have done and there were some done with Merle, his brother, and yeah, I gather and it, I think that tape I heard I didn't realize Merle had had alzheimer's, but you can hear the beginnings of it on that tape because he'll forget stories.

OW Yeah. Um, hum.

JB But, he talks about, Roy's estate, and he talks about what a great deer and bear hunter he was.

OW Oh they were. Yeah they were, they were a great hand to hunt, Roy and as well as Merle. Great hunters. Well in fact, Roy Long, and and Roy Eurich, and Roy Long and those are all neighbors pretty near up there. Up in the sugarbush area. [10.14] Yup. That's where, Ed's father lived up in there.

JB Yeah. Yeah. Yeah cause they were, second cousins I guess.

OW Yeah. Um, hum. Yeah. But, well Ed and I of course were related too.

JB Oh you are?

OW Oh yeah.

JB How are you related?

OW Well through the Richardsons'. Yeah. Through Uncle Judd. And that sort of thing. People. Well you know you go back, as a matter of fact I'm related to Fletcher, a lot of them are, in those days, they didn't go very far, they married somebody locally you see quite a lot of these families were inter married. So you were pretty well related to a lot of people around here. Yeah. [11.02]

JB Yeah.

OW See most of my ancestors well there's three branches come from the Mayflower.

JB Is that right?

OW Right. Yeah, yeah. And actually you know, you go down to the Mayflower, and I got the list of names but you didn't get the list of names of the women, but you know that first winter, there was only two women that lived through that winter.

JB Is that right?

OW And, one of them was, Elizabeth Tilley, which I married John Alden, and they had a son and a daughter

and we come from the daughter's side, and in fact I know, Alden over here, to Rutland, one day, we belong to Good Sam club, and I asked him, I said, are you related back to John Alden? Yeah, he says, I'm a direct descendant. I says, I guess you and I are cousins. God, he says, are we barn yard cousins? Ha! Ha! Ha!

JB Ha! Ha! Ha! [12.12]

OW Ha! Ha! So, it really is surprising, but, the one that of course that married, Alden, Alden, John Alden, Priscilla Alden, Priscilla Alden, Elizabeth Tilley were really the two, there was three of them that got through the winter and one of the woman died in the spring. [12.36] So that left just two of the women. And Elizabeth Tilley married, and she had two brothers and they died, that winter. That was a hard winter for them, down there the pilgrims. It, most of them died. A lot of them. And of course they're buried, when they buried somebody they didn't let anybody know, or the Indians know, how many was being buried of course. And, it, it was quite interesting.

JB Yeah.

OW Yeah. So, but I never could find out where my \_\_\_\_\_  
Wallace showed up, I know he must of come from down  
south, [13.16] we did have a fellow over here in  
Huntington, that come, showed up one day to my  
brothers down here, and my brother told him to come up  
and see me, cause I'm more or less interested in  
genealogy, and he said that he was a Wallace, and he  
spelled it W A L L I S, and he says yes, he says,  
there's a lot, I come from the branch down there in  
Maryland, there's a lot of Wallis' down there in  
Maryland. [13.46] And he says I can remember somebody  
telling me that there was a branch, a person, one of  
the Wallis', went north with some slaves, and but he  
didn't know who it was, whether it was David or who it  
was. But we assumed that probably we come from down in  
Maryland way. Originally.

JB That would make sense.

OW Make sense.

JB And with \_\_\_\_\_.

OW Yeah with the slaves. You see. [14.15]

JB Did you ever hear any stories about Old Sam?

OW Well the only thing, that I ever heard about Old Sam,

Old Sam said nobody respected him. [14.27] And, I guess that probably hit him harder than anything else you see. Of course in those days they didn't have any education of course the slaves didn't and I didn't, I didn't realize that I run across an article here awhile ago, and down there, there is a cemetery somewhere down there, in, near Plymouth, I mean near Plymouth Rock, there, that where there's quite a lot of the Negroes were buried, you see. And, this woman that wrote the article, she was a black woman, and her name was Anderson, and I wondered lots of times, you see when David Wallis come to Woodstock, Connecticut, he married Elizabeth Anderson, Mary Anderson, I'll take that back, Mary Anderson, and I was wondering whether there was any connection because so many of the blacks took the original names of the, their owners. [15.39]

JB That's right.

OW And, I was wondering then, rather there was some connection.

JB Well you know I think I have bumped into the story about Sam, I don't know whether it was in Green

Mountain Whittlings or but I, I knew about him being here, and it would of been, in the early 1800's.

OW Um, hum. Um, hum.

JB And, \_\_\_\_\_, so I had [16.10] read about that in something and when I \_\_\_\_\_.

OW Well you see, Black Sam's name was Samuel Deering. [16.18] And he married, \_\_\_\_\_ he married and he had two children, [16.24] and one of them died, and he gave the same name to the second child. Now whatever happened to that I don't know.

JB And he was born up here? Or?

OW No, he was born down there in Woodstock, Connecticut some where. Or Brimfield, there in the area. So, we had records to show where he was married in the church and so on and so forth. And, that's about all.

JB Ha! It's interesting. Well it's interesting because up here you find that any black person in a town, immediately because of the color attracts stories, saying obviously they're different. [17.10]

OW Um, hum. Well I know, my father told me where Black Sam was buried, up here in the Common cemetery, he was buried in the corner. And of course they wouldn't

allow him in any of the rest to be mingled with the rest of course in those days, and father told me where he was buried and so I told my brother one day, I says, you know I think we ought to put up a monument for Black Sam. So, he and I got together and I had one of the monument people said he had a monument that he would sell very reasonable, and so we put one up and had it put on there. [17.43] And his name and everything and the dates and so on and so forth. So we got that done.

JB That's nice and his name was Sam Deering.

OW Samuel Deering.

JB And he died when roughly? Do you remember?

OW Well in 18, early 1800's. It was I think the Waitsfield book would tell that, you got a Waitsfield History, if you look it up on Wallis' and you'd find that, cause he come up with Jonathen Wallis, he was with him, and of course he had to give him his freedom, but he wouldn't leave them, I imagine a good reason why, because he was along in years. Cause when you're getting 98, and of course down there, in Brimfield they've got 102, so, but I think 98 would be

more.

JB You mean they said he lived to be 102.

OW Yeah, 102.

JB Oh my gosh.

OW Yeah. But, I'm sure the Waitsfield History says 98,  
and I think 98 probably would be more reasonable  
because I doubt really would know exactly, when they  
were born because the slaves I imagine. And he was a  
blacksmith, in fact he made all the nails for the  
house. [18.53]

JB Oh he was the blacksmith.

OW Yeah.

JB I \_\_\_\_\_.

OW Well both of them are blacksmiths. But, that was,  
David Wallis was a blacksmith himself.

JB That's who.

OW And he had these other slaves doing the work too.  
Black slaves. And Black Sam was a blacksmith also. And  
he would make, he made all the cut nails, you see, for  
the house. The first house.

JB I'll be darn. [19.11]

OW Yeah. My father told me that. Yeah. I could take you,

I could take you right up to the cellar hole.

JB Really and where, where is it from here?

OW Well it's right up, right up here.

JB So.

OW Just below the mountain.

JB Ah ha.

OW It's on Toby Richards. Up there.

JB I'll be darn.

OW Sometime if you have a little time I could take you up there.

JB Yeah I'd love to.

OW And show it to you.

JB And that was the log cabin?

OW No the log cabin was built first. And I don't know how many years they did live in the log cabin but not too many years. And then they built the house, up there. And, that's where they lived for a good many years. I don't know what ever happened to the house, the foundation is there and the cellar hole is there. And the well, although there is no water in the well now. But, it, and then father showed me where they had their potato field. And, up there in the hill, of

course it's all grown up to woods now. And it, you know I, sometimes I think it's kind of pathetic too if I climb around on some of these hills, and some of these places, I see all these stone walls, some of them are beautiful stone walls, and I says, my God look at the work they did when they come and clear that land. And you've got the same thing probably in New Hampshire, the same thing.

JB We do.

OW And way up on the mountains, the hills.

JB Yeah. Absolutely the old stone walls.

OW Old stone walls.

JB Apple, old apple trees, you know and some cellar holes.

OW Yeah. I can remember going up when I was, taking the cattle out years ago, my brother and I, when we were kids, the rock place, and they had a lot of apple trees. And they'd have pound sweets, alexanders, all kinds of, rome, different kinds of apples. [21.08] (clearing his throat) And there was one tree up there with pound sweets, and God it would be big, you know, big apples like that. [21.13] And mother would like

them, so we'd always grab a few of them you know. And, like kids, and we'd put them in the buggy or something like that, and bring them down and she'd make a baked apples, you know. And boy they were good. Those pound sweets. [21.27] Of course you can't get pound sweets now I don't think.

JB Yeah my husband's grandmother always used to make baked apples and she always used pound sweets, and she, my husband has been trying to duplicate and he says he can't quite get it. [21.42]

OW No. You can't.

JB And he's got a special source of getting pound sweets and.

OW I don't know, I don't know of anybody that raise pound sweets.

JB We found some. I've forgotten who he found that had them.

OW But I know there were an awful big apple.

JB They were big apples.

OW Big apples.

JB Do you know how she cooked the baked apple? Do you remember? [22.03]

OW I think she'd always put some maple sugar in them,  
take out the core and put some maple sugar in it, and  
bake them.

JB Yeah.

OW I think that was the only way, I.

JB With a little water in the bottom of the.

OW Probably a little water in the bottom. Yeah. Um, hum.  
Um, hum.

JB And he said that they were just.

OW Oh boy they were marvelous. They were really  
marvelous. Yeah. And I know also there used to be the  
Mills' family up there, she was quite an educated  
woman, too. Both he and her husband. And she'd have  
raspberries, and blackberries. And she'd raise a lot  
of those and she'd have some beautiful ones. And she'd  
always have one section over here, that was for the  
birds. [22.47] And then she'd have her section for  
herself. But she always had one section you couldn't  
touch those, that was for the birds. Yeah.

JB Oh gosh. Yeah. And berrying used to be thought of as  
such a wonderful time and fun and now you try and get  
people to go berrying and not much interest. [23.16]

OW That kind of amused me at one time. Jessie Cota, Jessie Armstrong, she used to live over here and then she moved up there in Center Fayston, they had a farm up there, and she went, she went raspberrying, or black berrying, and she was picking blackberries and all of a sudden she kind of heard a noise, a raspberry, I can't remember what it was, she heard a noise, and she looked up, here was this big black bear standing, just a few feet from her, he was in there getting berries too. See. Ha! Ha! Ha! He says I got out of there in a hurry. Ha! Ha! Ha! But he says, when I made a noise the black bear he stood up and I stood up and he says we were looking at each other. Ha! Ha! Ha! So, and anyway.

JB I bet they both ran.

OW I bet they both got out of there in a hurry. Yeah.  
Well it's.

JB Well I better. (Tape off) [24.15]

END OF TAPE