

4C original 1676
TAPE #3 HAZEL STAPLETON 4-C 6-24-80 Side 1

DO YOU REMEMBER THE TEACHER'S NAMES? (JH)

One name was, um, Mrs. Harris. (pause) Uh, uh, Mrs. Harris, and Mrs. Hart, she taught that, too. Hart.

THE, THE, WAS THE SCHOOL IN GRADES? ONE, FIRST, SECOND, THIRD, GRADE, OR WHAT? OR WERE CHILDREN BLOCKED INTO BIEGER UNITS THAN THAT?

I think it was two floors to it.

TWO FLOORS.

Two floors.

DID YOU GO THROUGH THE GRADES, LIKE I SAID, HAZEL, OR WAS... ONE THROUGH FOUR BE ON ONE FLOOR, AND...(ES)

Let me see...

DID ONE TEACHER TEACH JUST ONE GRADE, OR DID SHE TEACH, AH? (JH)

One teacher, no she just taught one grade. Because when I went to school, I had to be there 9 o'clock in the morning, and I didn't get out until I think it was 3:30.

3:30. DO YOU RECALL THE DAILY ROUTINE THERE? OR. AND YOU THINK THAT ONE TEACHER TAUGHT ONLY ONE GRADE, LIKE FIRST GRADE OR SECOND GRADE OR THIRD GRADE.

I, I, I think so. I was so young. Well, I do know, let me see, my oldest brother went, they had a, a Mr. Hicks, he was the principal there, Mr. Hicks. He was colored. Mr. Hicks. Oh, there was, oh there was so many.

WHERE DID MR. HICKS COME FROM? DO YOU KNOW? DID YOU EVER KNOW?

Well, I don't know.

DID HE HAVE, DID HE HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION?

Oh, yes, he did, uh-huh. And I do remember he had two fingers off. And he was a light fella. Mr. Hicks. And we always called him, we kids would call him Mr. Professor Hicks.

MR. PROFESSOR HICKS.

Uh-huh, yes. (laughs)

WERE YOU AFRAID OF HIM?

Oh, no! We used to love him. Well, we didn't just say Professor, we were just little children, we called him so trying to be mannerly, calling him Mr. Instead of calling him Mr. Hicks, we called him Mr. Professor Hicks. He'd smile. Wonderful days.

DID HE LIVE IN BUXTON?

Yes, he stayed there, uh-huh.

colored

WAS HE A MARRIED MAN WITH HIS OWN FAMILY?

I don't know. And then there was another, a teacher ~~there~~, she was a Mrs. Blackburn. She'd been there quite a while.

SOME OF THE TEACHERS WERE WHITE, HAZEL? THAT YOU HAD?

Ah, let me see...

DO YOU REMEMBER ANY WHITE TEACHERS?

I don't, don't rememeber any, any white teachers.

CAN YOU RECALL AT ALL THE DAILY ROUTINE? AT SCHOOL? WHAT WAS THE..?

Well, when we first got there, of course, we had to hand up our wraps, take off our shoes and things, and then they would have, we had to say the Lord's Prayer. And then after that we'd start off on our work. We have a blackboard and all of that.

WHAT DID YOU HAVE PERIODS FOR SPELLING, PERIODS FOR ARITHMETIC...?

Yes, uh-huh.

PERIODS FOR READING?

I remember Della and I were in the same class, cause she, she took sick here in D.M., and when ~~she got~~ ^{we moved} back she was late going to school. And so the teacher kept her in, Mrs. Harris, kept her in, made her stay. So it made me kinda mad, so I went on the end of the room, asking what she kept my sister in there for. Then I met her about, say about 40 years later. And we just laughed and talked about it, she said that was just the cutest thing, course, I was mad, keeping Della, keeping my sister after school. (laughs)

What did, AH DID, WERE YOU GIVEN RECESS PERIODS?

Yes, at ten-thirty.

DID, DID, WHAT DID YOU DO IN RECESS? I SUPPOSE...

Just played, oh, just played all kinds of games, ah,...

WERE THE GIRLS AND BOYS SEGREGATED FROM ONE ANOTHER? DURING RECESS?

No, I think all played together.

PLAYED TOGETHER.

Yes. We all played together.

OKAY.

DID YOU BRING A LUNCH TO SCHOOL? DID MOTHER PACK A LUNCH FOR EVERYBODY? (ES)

Yes. But. I'd get so homesick, and the place we'd call Well's hill, which is not very far from, ah, from, ah the place we called Swede town. And I had to come up on this hill and stand and look way over to see our house. Before I could eat. I, cause I couldn't swallow, I...

REALLY?

Just so homesick.

DID THAT LAST FOR A LONG TIME?

well, then after, then the teacher would let me, come away with my lunch, come home with my lunch. I, I just had to, that's why I had to come home, cause I wasn't doing no good in school for griev- ing about home. So they gave me fifteen minutes extra to go home. Then sometimes I would take my lunch and it didn't bother me. But my trouble was I was bad about, sometimes I would get hungry, and my mother would fix me a sandwich and I'd found some dogs on the way to school, I thought was hungry, and divide my lunch up with them. Yes.

THEN WHENIT CAME TIME FOR YOU TO EAT, YOU DIDN'T HAVE ANY. (ES)

And you know, I'm the same way now. Right now I got three cats that I'm taking care of. I don't allow em in the house. I take care of them cats. One I took care of all winter.

HOW DID, AH, HOW DID THAT AFFECT YOU WHEN YOU RAN A BARBEQUE STAND IN CHICAGO?

Well, I loved it, I did. Cause I liked to have the public, and it was fun, I really did like it. Very much. But it was hard work, at itmes, but it just, it just was fun. Meeting people. Then of course then when the neighborhood began to change.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, HAZEL, BEGAN TO CHANGE?

*When we had a
the... it got
and it*

Well, ah, looked like the good class moved out. And then a bunch of people and things kind of took over. So we had ~~time to get out~~ when I did. Now it, all the neighborhood began to change. When we first get the place, it was a hopping *LOVELY* neighborhood.

YOU ENJOYED IT.

Yes.

MOSTLY A colored.

Well, it was mixed. But so many of the buildings there begin to go over to colored. Then the whites would move out.

WHERE WAS THIS, HAZEL, WHAT WAS THE ADDRESS? THE STREETS?

58 east 50... ah... 58 east 59th street. West 59th. But when we had the place oh it, oh it was nice, cuase, it wasn't no swell niighborhood, but it a bunch of working people and people who kept their places up. A nice bunch of people. But towards the last it beginto get bad! Stick-ups and things begin to occur.

DID YOUR, DID YOUR HUSBAND HAVE A JOB OUTSIDE OF...?

No, no. We just had that place. He took care of it at night, and when there warnt one of us, we'd have help. We had one, tow girls on the weekend and someone had to be downstairs in the day. I was with the girls in the daytime. In case if they got busy, I would help them. After all, when you had business, you had to watch your money, too.

HOW MANY PEOPLE COULD YOU SERVE THER, OR...?

Let me see...One, two, we had four tables and a counter. Counter's about as long form this door to that mirror there. And it would hold, hold eight chairs there. Eight, ah stools.

WHAT KIND OF FOOD DID YOU SERVE?

Ribs, barbeque ribs. Barbeque. And beef. And hot dogs and _____. And fried chicken.

BARBEQUE CHICKEN?

No, just fried. Uh-huh.

JUST FROED. HOW DID YOU COME...HOW DID YOUR HUSBAND COME ABOUT GETTING INTO THAT BUSINESS?

Well, now, ~~let~~ me see, he used to go up there, and get barbeque. So the woman said, well, I guess I only got thirty more days here. She said she had to move. Say that that the place was condemned. So she let he found out who had the place and we got it real, very, very cheap. Course he spent lots of money on it, getting it safe. But, ah and when we first started off, ah, we had to use gasoline and oh, we had some very, very narrow escapes. Then finally we got gas in. And then it was something.

YOU MEAN GASOLINE TO COOK? FOR YOUR STOVE? (ES)

*repetitive
address*

Yes, oh. One time we, I think we used every dish towel/ we had. I was just staring ~~straight/and/lookin/~~ to sleep and didn't know it, And they had just run water in the sink, and just kep on pouring it on there. And put it out. And my husband could take this gallon can of gasoline off the stove, yes I forgot that. Well when we had a barbeque, we has, we had a big fire. Awful big fire there. And what made it so bad ~~by being in a condemned building~~ we couldn't get no insurance on it. So my brither Compton and my brother Johnny and Jeanette, they all came over, and the boys got the p~~a~~ce fixed back up, and we went back into business again. And we had several fires, but we were able, amanged to put them out. And then after ~~that~~ it was time to kind of get to me. Cause I got so I couldn't sleep at night. It made me nervous, so. After he died, I stayed ~~there~~ *kept* there for two years.

RAN IT BY YOURSELF, ~~with f/p/r~~ FOR TWO YEARS?

SO I just made up my mind. Said this is no place for me.

YOU SAID EARLIER THAT YOU HAD MAINTAINED VERY CLOSE TIES WITH YOUR FAMILY HERE IN DES MOINES.

Yes.

ALL THE TIME YOU WERE IN CHICAGO?

Yes, oh I'd come home so often/.

DID THEY COME TO VISIT YOU?

Well, yes, weel, but not as of~~ten~~ as I did because, now see, I was making more money than they was at the time, and then I took chances like at the lottery and things like that. I've been very lucky playin',

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Like, like the men mostly play horse races. Well, I played lottery.
Yes I did at that time.

OH, BINGO? (JH)

No...the lottery. And I was lucky! That's why I could come home
so often. And I, when my mother was sick, I helped my people here
a lot. Plus my money, you know, just came easy by playing lottery.
(laughs)

WHEEL, WHEN YOU CAME BACK FOR TRIPS YOU RODE THE TRAIN, I TAKE IT. (ES)

Yes, oh yes. Always came home on the train. Yes, only once on the
plane. And that was when I had my little dog, and my son said "Hey,
why don't you leave Chu-chu and I'll bring Chu-chu home next week."
I said no, indeed. She's going with me. (laughs)

SO YOU FLEW HOME. (ES)

Oh, yeah. Gonna fly my little dog.

WELL, HAZEL, IF I MAY I'D LIKE TO GO BACK TO BUXTON, PLEASE. (JH)

Okay.

FOR SOME IMPRESSIONS, WE'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT SWEDE TOWN THERE IN
BUXTON, AND...WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER ABOUT SWEDE TOWN?

Well, I, well they had no trouble there. It's all swedes mostly, up
there. And we was to pass every, well, pass, a, most on the edge of
it every day going to school, and we never had no trouble.

WOULD YOU DESCRIBE IT LIKE.. WELL THIS IS HIGHLAND PARK, AND SWEDE
TOWN WAS JUST A PART OF TOWN LIKE THAT. (ES)

That's all. It set up on the hill up over a, a reservior. Like a
lake. But no one didn't bother nobody...

WAS THERE ANY TOUGH PART OF TOWN, LIKE SHARPS END, OR COOPERTOWN? (ES)

Well, now Coopertown was, yes it was. But, only thing, we didn't have
to come in contact with. But there had been some killings going on,
just like any place else.

ONE OF THE THINGS WE'VE BEEN DOING, WE WERE READING FROM THE NEWSPAPER
ACCOUNTS. (ES)

Yes.

AND ONE OF THE NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS SAID "ANOTHER MURDER IN BUXTON". (ES)

Yes.

SO THERE MUST HAVE BEEN A TOUGH PART OF TOWN.

That was Coop... coopertown was the really, was a pretty tough place.

WHY WAS IT TOUGH, HAZEL? WHY WAS IT A TOUGH PART OF TOWN? (JH)

Well, I tell you, it's just like the tough places here in Des Moines.
Places I wouldn't even go to in the daytime. And Chicago the same way.

But that's where they all gathered. And ~~people~~ and they know, and people who lived in the other part of Buxton can't be bothered with all of that. They was off to themselves. I remember they had the, I knew the fella, he was a nice fella, and everybody was surprised when he had gotten mixed up, but he went down there they got to drink-in', and pulled him up out of the buggy. He went to grab the whip to hit this fella, and he pulled him out of the buggy and cut him to death. And his name was Andrew Blakey.

THEY CLUBBED HIM TO DEATH? (JH)

Cut 'im, to death.

CUT HIM. ES & JH)

Yes, oh yes they had quite a little bit of a, of that there. And another place they call greasy spoon, at Sharp End. Another little one. But Coopertown ws the worst.

WAS THAT WHERE MOST OF THE BARS WERE? (ES)

Yes, that I know of... coopertown. Well, I don't know if they had bars but they had quite a few saloons around.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A BAR AND A SALOON? (ES)

Well, I don't know. I only know the saloons, they were like a frame house, and I guess they had a door and ~~a~~ seats for the men to go in there and sit. I don't... remember I never was in one. I, I passed them.

ONE OF THE DIFFERENCES WE PICKED UP IN DOING SOME WORK ON _____, THAT WHEN WE TALKED ABOUT A SALOON, THEY SAID A SALOON WAS A PLACE WHERE IF A MINER DRANK, HE COULD GO GET A , HED TAKE A GALLON BUCKET HED GO IN AND FILL UP HIS BCKET AND GO HOME AND DRINK. RATHER THAN DRINKIN' THE BAR. A BAR WAS WHERE YOU D GO TO DRINK WHILE YOU WERE IN THERE. SO THEY MADE A DISTINCTION BETWEEN...

Yeah, but I, I, I do know that they could. I've heard them say I'm going to get a bucket of beer. But the saloons, I don't know, cause we when we went to school, we would pass, but no one wouldn't bother us. But I never was in one. So I don't know how they... *looked like...*

BUT YOU DID SEE MEN WHILE YOU WERE IN BUXTON, CARRYING BUCKETS WHILE THEY WERE GOING HOME.

Oh, yes, I ahave, nand I've seen 'em... yes I've seen 'em carrying home.

WHAT KIND OF BUCKETS WERE THEY, AH...?

Just plain little, about this high, granite buckets(?) - _____
??????

DO YOU REMEMBER WHETHER THERE WERE ANY IN THE TOUGH PART OF TOWN WHERE, WERE THERE PROSTITUTES OR THINGS LIKE THAT? (ES)

Well, no, I donm't. But I heard people say that sometimes the women would hide in the woods, and sometimes the constable would go out there, and they'd check everything, and back in those days I remember this woman, people'd say, oh, she's a bad woman, and I heard my aunt to my mother said "That's what you call a hooker." (laughs) So I learned it was a bad work.

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So that got on my mind, I guess for ... End of side one.

Side two Hazel Stapleton tape 4-C

My grandmother coming down the steps, I said "Mamma, mamma, here come a hooker." (laughs)

But I'd heard it back...but ^{we didn't} to really get a chance to see anything, know a anything about anything like that, cause we were too young.

ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE HEARD THAT WAS ON PAYDAY, WHICH WAS EVERY OTHER DAY, IN THE MINE, EVERY OTHER SATURDAY WAS PAYDAY, I GUESS.

Every two weeks.

YES EVERY TWO WEEKS. THAT A LOT OF THESE HOOKERS WOULD COME FROM ALBIA AND OTHER TOWNS, THEY'D BE THERE ON SATURDAYS.

I don't know how many, but I heard that word used, I heard them say that they wer over, that they were rippin' (?) the woods. _____ ses woods.

^{way up in}
WAY UP IN THE WOODS. WHAT WERE THEY DOING IN THE WOODS?

Now that I don't know cause we didn't see anything. They didn't allow them in town, so they had to go up in the woods.

SO THE MEN, IF THE WANTED TO VISIT A HOOKER, THEY'D HAVE TO GO TO THE WOODS.

And didn't many of them have a check because, ah, the police would, well not the police, but the constable, was on em so much. Bout the time when me and _____ were little, we'd ~~slip~~ go off someplace and have a little card game. Why they'd go up in the woods and have a little game, little ^{hooker} ^{poker} game, up in the woods.

A LITTLE GAMBLING.

But it was very quiet, ^{they say}

WAS THERE ANY OTHER GAMBLING GOING ON THERE IN BUXTON THAT YOU...

No.

CAN RECALL?

No. That's all.

JUST CARDS?

Thats all. Nothing else. And when we would go to school and see a card laying in the path, we'd walk way around. Scared to death of it.

OH, REALLY? (ES) (JH)

SO THERE WER DOMINOES, BUT NO CARDS. NO DICE EITHER. (ES)

NO. NO. NO.

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No. Nothing like that. No. Only could play dominoes. And we could draw little games. Something like tic-tac-toe round I go, yes something like that, make a big ring on the paper or something like that.

That's all I know anything about.

HAZEL, DO YOU REMEMBER A TIME WHEN YOU WERE A GIRL THERE IN BUXTON WHERE YOU WERE EITHER INJURED OR VERY SICK, AND YOUR MOTHER TOOK CARE OF YOU? DO YOU REMEMBER ANY SUCH TIME?

No. I don't remember. I don't remember of me being sick. No time, but I'd have a cold, something like that, or a sore throat. But to be real sick, I don't remember.

No time (JH) ??

YOU DON'T REMEMBER ANY TIME WHERE MEASLES OR WHOOPING COUGH OR DIPHTHERIA OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT HIT THE CAMP AND SPREAD? (ES)

No, I don't. Uh-huh. I really don't.

DO YOU REMEMBER WHETHER THERE WAS, UH, CHILDBIRTH, UH, CAUSE FOR A LOT OF WOMEN TO DIE? (ES) OR, YOU KNOW YOU GET THESE\$, SOMEBODY DIED IN CHILD BIRTH, DIED IN CHILDBIRTH.

No, but I remember there was one family, that, practically all died out. I think they had something that they called the black tongue. ~~Reeses~~, I think. I think four or five out of that family died. Graveses

THEIR NAMES WERE THE GRAVES? CALLED THE BLACK TONGUE. (JH)

Yeah, that's what they had. But for any other diseases up there, I don't remember any.

WHAT WERE THE SYMPTOMS OF THE BLACK TONGUE? (JH)

That I don't know. I just heard em say that. They died so quickly, they said they had the black tongue. The whole family there practically died.

DID YOU EVER GO TO THE YMCA THERE IN BUXTON?

I don't remember ever going there. I think my mother took me to a, ~~we went~~ ^{seems like she took us...} to a little religious movie there once. Religious movie, uh-huh. t

WHAT ABOUT BAND CONCERTS, OR BALL, BASEBALL GAMES? (JH)

Oh, yeah, I didn't go to them, they had a nice baseball diamond there.

WHAT PART OF TOWN WAS THAT IN, HAZEL? THE BASEBALL DIAMOND?

Well, now I don't know where, it was not too very far from the depot.

DID YOU GO TO THE BASEBALL GAMES AT ALL?

No. We'd go to a circus, something like that, but...

YOU DIDN'T CARE THAT MUCH FOR BASEBALL...

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Well, no. Fact my father never take us to nothin' like that. I guess I was too young, anyway.

AND, YOU, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE GONE ON YOUR OWN?

No, no. We, my mother, she'd let us go picking flowers, but she didn't let us go to Buxton and run around. We did most of our playing right there out in the country, We went to Sunday school on Sundays, and when Sunday school was out, right home.

WAS THAT THE CASE WITH MOST FAMILIES, THAT, THAT THE CHILDREN WERE PRETTY MUCH CONFINED TO HOME? (JH)

Well, that I don't know cause we lived off kind of to ourselves, we lived out in the country. It was different.

DID YOU DO ANY FISHING? (ES)

Well...

DID THE BOYS GO FISHING?

Went to a
Yes, my brothers, two brothers, they'd go fishing. /In a little pond. People there had a ~~little~~ farm, with a big pond in it, named Curry's. And they used to go up there.

DID THEY HUNT? DID YOUR BROTHERS HUNT?

Oh, yes. My oldest brother. That's exactly what...he's just crazy about hunting. He jsut quit hunting here maybe about ten years ago.

WHAT DID HE HUNT?

Rabbits.

RABBITS, UHHUH

Oh, yes, he was a very good, very good hunter. And he loved to go fishing. And ther'ed be a place wheree he used to catch bullheads, they'd be about this long. And then there, and then there was a little red fish that the ponds were full of, that he'd catch.

DO YOU REMEMEBR WHETHER YOUR MOTHER WOULD COOK THE... IF HE WENT OUT AND SHOT A RABBIT, WAS THERE ANY SPECIAL WAY SHE'D TREAT A GAME... (ES)

Yes, she would take them.--. after they were cleaned and everything, she'd take the back, and cut it and split it. Split it on both sides and split the legs too. Soak it in salt and water.

WAS THAT TO GET THE GAMELY TASTE OUT OF IT? (ES)

Yes, that would help. Uh-huh, yes.

HOW WOULD SHE THEN FIX RABBIT? FRY IT? (JH)

Yes, fry it. Only way. We liked it. Salt, pepper and flour. And then sometimes during quail season, my brother would go hunting and bringa couple quails home.

QUAIL? HOW ABOUT PHEASANT, EVER PHEASANT? (JH)

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I don't remember ever catching those or anything like that.

OKAY. BUT QUAIL YOU DO REMEMBER.

Yes, yes.

DID YOU BUTCHER ANY MEAT AT ALL?

Yes, on the thanksgiving. About two hogs. Mr. Curry, they had a farm. They were white. My father would help him to butcher. And then he would come down and help us. They would work together.

RIGHT. SO TWO HOGS ON THANKSGIVING. ANY...

Sometimes one on...sometimes one on Christmas. And of course they'd have a great big ham, and they'd take the kind of salt they used out of it, but kept the meat. They put it in a big box.. See in the wintertime kept it salted down in this box. And that was some wonderful meat.

DO YOU REMEMBER CANNING ANY MEAT?

No, we never did can any meat, but mostly just vegetables. And my mother used to, no it wasn't kraut, suace or kraut or sometihin like that...

SAUERKRAUT.

Yes, we'd have a big barrell of that. But she did, we did all our own canning, jellies, things like that.

DID YOU FIX ANY SAUSAGES OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT WITH THE, WITH THE MEAT, HAZEL?

Yes, we did, no we didn't have any sausage.

(Sister spaeking)

NO, I don't remember that.

JARS OF SAUSAGE, HUH?

Did she can 'em/ (to her sister)

Can what? (sister)

Sausage.

Oh, yes, ah, ah It was about this tall, and it was on the table. This round. And then run that meat through. I remember now.

OKAY. SAUSAGE?

Sausage, Yes, I remember that,.

Sister talking too low to understand.

Uh-huh.

DID YOU EAT BEEF? DID YOU EVER BUTCHER ANY BEEF?

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No. We didn't butcher no beef.

DID YOU HAVE, DID YOU HAVE BEEF AS PART OF THE FAMILY DIET?

Well, but we would buy it.

YOU'D BUY IT.

We could take a quatter, go down there and buy a nice big piece of beef. Called Blank's. (?)

DO YOU EVER REMEMBER GOING OUT TO EAT AS A FAMILY? (ES) TO A RESTURANT, OR...

No. Not, not no resturant. I remember ther was one family that lived way out a place near what they called Sharps End. She ahd us all out there. I don't know when it was. Christmas or Thanksgiving. But we all went out there. But otherwise, I don't remember going anybody's house to eat.

DID ANYBODY COME TO YOUR HOUSE AND EAT? (JH)

Oh, yes. (laughs)

A LOT OF PEOPLE?

Yes, yes, they'd always come around us when they wanted somethin to eat. (Laughs)

YOU MENTIONED YOU LIVED BY THE RAILROAD TRACKS. DID THEY HAVE HOBOES IN THOSE DAYS? (ES) DO YOU EVER REMEMBER A HOBO?

Yeah, but they never did bother us. Sometimes we'd see them over in the woods, see them making a fire over ther, but they never did bother us. Yeah, see them in the owoods. We wasnt scared of them. Didn't have no troubl back in those days. Just wrong people the ones that usually have their little arguments. Did their little damage. (laughs) But not, ah, but the men didn't bother us.

DID YOUR FAMILY HAVE ANY TIES WITH EXTENDED KIN? AH...PEOPLE OUTSIDE OF THE, OF THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY? WERE THERE ANY TIES OF THAT KIND WHEN YOU WERE A LITTLE GIRL? (JH)

No, no I don't.

WERE THEY PRETTY MUCH BROKEN UP? LIKE WITH THE KIN BACK IN VIRGINIA? (JH)

Well, no, well let me see now. My father, let's see, my mother had two two sisters there.

IN VIRGINIA?

Here, ah, here. That moved from Virginia to Muchakanak. Then from Muchy to Buxton.

See, I wasn't born in Much, I's born in Buxton. But when they left there, they all came to Muchy, her people did from Virginia, then from there to Buxton.

WHAT HAPPENED TO HER TWO SISTERS, EXCUSE ME, HAZEL,?

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WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SISTERS?

My mother's two sisters/? Oh, they both have passed.

THEY HAVE, BUT THEY, BUT THEY, DID THE THREE GIRLS LIVE AROUND ONE ANOTHER FOR MUCH OF THEIR LIFE?

Well, no, yes, now my mother's sister lived abou~~tt~~, maybe as far as from here to Corning from us. She, I think she had a couple acres. Yes. DID THEY SEE EACH OTHER FREQUENTLY?

Every day.

EVERY DAY. THEY WERE VERY CLOSE. (JH)

Until she passed. She's been dead now for quite awhile.

WHAT ABOUT YOUR FATHER? DID HE HAVE KINFOLK THERE THAT HE SAW?

Let's see, well, yes, he had a sister and, ah think two neices, and some nephews.

HIS SISTER DID...

Yes, yes she did.

TO, AH, IOWA FROM VIRGINIA.

Yes, and I think, let me see, was that papa's sister? That was his sister, Yes.

WELL, DID, DID SHE COME WHEN HE CAME OR DID SHE COME, FOLLOW HIM DOWN.

Well, now that I don't know.

YOU DON'T KNOW. HOW ABOUT YOUR MOTHER? DID THE GIRLS COME OUT ^{TOGETHER?} WITH THE OTHERS?

Well, I think, well it wasn't very long before they were all there. Least I heard my mother say.

DID YOUR MOTHER SEND FOR THEM BY SENDING...

Oh, no, n o. There was so many of them that came, the, the, they were... Let me see now, didn't the company send for them, Jeanette? Had em in the company pay so mnay of them's way there? Yes, htey came in droves. (Jeanette)

THE COMPANY? (JH)

So many at a time.

WAS THIS BECAUSE OF A STRIKE, OR...?(ES)

No, this was beaause they needed, they needed people to work.

AND THEY WERE MARRIED TO... (JH)

No, my mother wasn't married. She married in Muchakanak. And the...I think my father came first. But she didn't know him back in Virginia,

though, she met him after he, ah, was...

WERE, AH, WERE THE GIRLS PAID TO COME BY THE COMPANY? AH...

No, but I guess their parents, they came with their parents.

THEIR PARENTS...THEY CAME WITH THEIR PARENTS. DID YOUR MOTHER COME WITH HER PARENTS TO MUCHAKANAK?

I think so, yes.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR GRANDFATHER DID? WAS HE A MINER?

No...I don't know what he was.

DON'T REMEMBER.

Grandmother

But, I think it was...let me see now. I never heard my, ah, my father's mother. Yes, I did, I mean my father's mother's mother. My father's grandmother. Yes, cause I can remember when she died, my father's mother. But my other, it was her father, I think, I don't know what happened to him, but he disappeared, and he never find, he never was found again. Uh-huh Never found again, don't know what happened to him.

YOU MENTIONED A TIME OR TWO ABOUT SOMEONE WHO HAS ALREADY PASSED. WHEN THERE WAS A DEATH, DID THE FAMILY HAVE ANY PART IN FIXING UP THE BODY, OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT, OR DO YOU KNOW?(ES) OR THE MORTICIAN DID THAT?

Now I, no they would...let me see...Did they embalm the, I think they embalmed em there in the house. I think...

BEHIND THE HOUSE. (ES)

In the house, I think they did. Course, course when we went to the funeral, they was already, they had them already fixed up. I think they would take, I don't think they had no undertaker. I don't remember. But they would take and embalm em in the house. But they didn't keep em long. Cause you could go...if someone die, and you go to view the body, you'd always go to the home. Yeah. And they kept that room shut off. And jest let people go in and see them, and then they'd, ah, come on out.

DO YOU REMEMBER THE CASKETS, WERE THEY WOODEN BOXES, HOMEMADE BOXES?

They looked jest about like they do today, I think uh-huh. Wooden.

THEN THE FAMILY, AH, THEY WOULD SETASIDE A ROOM, AND YOU'D GO TO SEE THE BODY IN THE ROOM. (ES)

Yes, they'd keep the door closed, ans as you wanted to see them, they'd let you go on in and look at them.

THEN THE BUR...THEN THE SERVICE WOULD ALWAYS BE IN THE CHURCH? (ES)

Yes, that's right, at the church.

CAN YOU DESCRIBE SOME OF THE SERVICES? WAS THERE MUSIC? (JH)

Well, organ music, yes, uh-huh.

ORGAN MUSIC?

Jest sing hymns. Jest like bout, bout...

LIKE THEY DO NOW.

Acouple hymns.

IF A PERSON HADN'T BEEN A MEMBER OF A CHURCH, WERE THEY EVER
BURIED ANY OTHER PLACE, OR...(ES)

End of tape 4-C 6-24-80 Hazel Stapleton