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Mr. & Mrs. Antonio Gatti

[0:00:00]

Interviewer: Mr. Gatti, where were you born?

Mr. Gatti: Pagimorele *[phonetic]* [0:00:03].

Interviewer: Pagimorele *[phonetic]* [0:00:06].

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible]* [0:00:10].

Interviewer: *[inaudible]* [0:00:12].

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Interviewer: That's in Ambrosia, right?

Mr. Gatti: In Ambrosia, that's right.

Interviewer: Right. What year were you born?

Mrs. Gatti: What year?

Interviewer: What year?

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible]* [0:00:21].

Mrs. Gatti: 1886.

Mr. Gatti: 1886.

Interviewer: 1886?

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Interviewer: Okay. And Mrs. Gatti, what year were you born.

Mrs. Gatti: Same I think.

Interviewer: Same year in the same town also?

Mrs. Gatti: Same town.

Interviewer: In the same town.

Mrs. Gatti: But I was born in 1891.

Interviewer: 1891?

Mrs. Gatti: Yeah.

Interviewer: All right. Mr. Gatti, what did your father do in Italy, how did he earn a land?

Mr. Gatti: Farm.

Interviewer: He was a farmer?

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Interviewer: Did he own his own farm?

Mr. Gatti: A little big – not much – a little big farm.

Interviewer: Did he own it?

Mr. Gatti: Yeah.

Interviewer: He did own it. He didn't work for anybody else?

Mr. Gatti: No, no.

Interviewer: Okay. How about your father Mrs. Gatti?

Mrs. Gatti: They're just a farmer and they have nothing.

Interviewer: He's just a farmer? He works for somebody else?

[Cross talk]

I see. Now, when you were in Italy as a youngster, did you go to school?

Mr. Gatti: No.

Mrs. Gatti: No. We – no.

Interviewer: You never went to school?

Mr. Gatti: No.

Interviewer: Were there any schools in the town?

Mr. Gatti: There was a school. It was too far.

Interviewer: It was too far?

Mr. Gatti: It was too far.

Interviewer: I see.

Mr. Gatti: The space like a day *[phonetic]* [0:01:22] it didn't dress, you know, *[inaudible]* [0:01:26].

Interviewer: Yeah. And that was the days when you weren't have interested in *[inaudible]* [0:01:30].

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Interviewer: What did you do – was this the same case with you Mrs. Gatti?

Mrs. Gatti: Nobody in the town going to school one day *[phonetic]* [0:01:37].

Interviewer: You never went to school...

Mrs. Gatti: No, because I work in the farm.

Interviewer: You worked on the farm. Did you always work on the farm too Mr. Gatti?

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Mrs. Gatti: Yeah. All my life.

Interviewer: All your life?

Mrs. Gatti: Yeah.

Interviewer: How old were you when you started working on the farm?

Mrs. Gatti: When I work on the farm, when you start to stand up, you start to do something.

Interviewer: Oh, really? As soon as you can walk, that when you start working.

Mrs. Gatti: *[inaudible] [0:02:00]* to do, take care of the kids. So if you come going out, look to share *[phonetic] [0:02:06]*...

[Cross talk]

All the way you got something to do, even to stay home, you got to do something.

Interviewer: There's always something to do?

Mrs. Gatti: The little takes care – the big one takes care of the little one but out.

Interviewer: This is – in other words, the older children always look at after younger children...

[Cross talk]

Now, when you were in Italy as a youngster, did you ever leave the little town where you live and where you were born? Did you ever have any reason to go to any other town?

Mr. Gatti: Well, as far as you have to go with something *[inaudible] [0:02:42]*. When you go into town, you know?

Interviewer: The only time you go into town is only going to church?

Mr. Gatti: When we're going to church, you know, going to town, going to church, you understand, go home *[inaudible] [0:02:50]* around the town, you can ride home because we all got something to do, you know, instead of walking around to take care of the cow and all of that stuff, you will understand what you *[inaudible] [0:03:03]*.

Interviewer: You have to take care of the cow...

[Cross talk]

The same thing with you there Mrs. Gatti?

Mrs. Gatti: Same thing.

Interviewer: Now, when did you first start thinking about coming to the United States?

Mr. Gatti: Eighteen years old.

Interviewer: When you're 18 years old?

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Interviewer: What year was that? Do you remember?

Mr. Gatti: I remember – I don't remember the year when it was. You see I've been eight years in this country, I went back in 1912.

Interviewer: You were in this country eight years, then you went back in 1912?

Mr. Gatti: Yeah. I went back in 1912...

Interviewer: Then you came here in 1904?

Mr. Gatti: I come here 1904, right.

Interviewer: 1904?

Mr. Gatti: 15 of May in the Sanctimonies *[phonetic]* **[0:03:47]** and get up in *[inaudible]* **[0:03:48]** station.

Interviewer: Uh huh. Really? Tell me, why did you come to the United States?

Mr. Gatti: Well, there's a lot of people talking about United States *[phonetic]* **[0:03:54]**, you know, what is it and then I started *[inaudible]* **[0:03:59]**. But then my father he earned money, and he give the money off to somebody else *[phonetic]* **[0:04:05]**, you know, I lend the money and, you know, and then I came in this country in 1904.

Interviewer: In other words you heard other people talking about the United States?

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Interviewer: Did you have any friends here in the United States before you came here?

Mr. Gatti: I don't know no body.

Interviewer: You don't know anybody who was here?

Mr. Gatti: Anybody.

Interviewer: How about you...

Mr. Gatti: **[inaudible] [0:04:23]** to somebody that serves as our relation over here and they give me an address, you know, as you got the **[inaudible] [0:04:32]**. Me, I never know. I never see it before.

Interviewer: I see. How about you Mrs. Gatti, when did you first start thinking about coming here?

Mrs. Gatti: Well, when they come back **[inaudible] [0:04:44]**.

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: When I went back in 1912.

Mrs. Gatti: Then he was young and I was young. So the five who was really **[inaudible] [0:04:52]**. And we were a good friend like September or the **[phonetic] [0:04:54] – [inaudible] [0:04:59]**. One year after he comeback **[inaudible] [0:05:04]**.

[0:05:05]

Interviewer: Uh huh.

Mrs. Gatti: And then **[inaudible] [0:05:09]** how long you're going to stay?

Mr. Gatti: 15 months I've been there.

Mrs. Gatti: 15 months.

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Mrs. Gatti: And then he come back to this country then. So I want to stay home myself and I was in Maryland **[phonetic] [0:05:19]**.

Interviewer: Yeah. All right, now, getting back to 1904 when you first came to this country. How did you make arrangements to come here? Do you remember that? Where did you have to go to sign the papers and everything else and where did you buy this **[inaudible] [0:05:36]** ship ticket?

Mr. Gatti: I went – well, you go into the – we go in the city at that time.

Interviewer: Which town was it?

Mr. Gatti: They call Santa Mari *[phonetic]* [0:05:44].

Interviewer: In Santo Mari *[phonetic]* [0:05:45]?

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Interviewer: And this is where you...

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: So they represent you *[inaudible]* [0:05:49] anybody understands that if you want to come in to this country, you take care of your passport *[inaudible]* [0:05:57] they give you direction, you understand? Where you want to go and everything and then get your passport. And when it is ready, the ship is ready *[inaudible]* [0:06:06] you come even yourself because you never grow up in the – you were raised in the farm, you don't know nothing *[inaudible]* [0:06:15] right in the neighbor *[inaudible]* [0:06:21].

[Cross talk]

Interviewer: No, you went to Naples to get a ship?

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Interviewer: Is that – all right, now...

Mrs. Gatti: This is the men that I take care all the group, you know.

Interviewer: Yes. It's like a travel agent or some sort of...

Mr. Gatti: That's right. That's right.

[Cross talk]

Interviewer: That's what he wants?

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible]* [0:06:33] like, you know.

Interviewer: Yeah. All right, now, when you got to Naples, was the ship there ready for you to sail?

Mr. Gatti: No, we wait about two days.

Interviewer: You had to wait two days?

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Interviewer: All right. Now, where did you stay during those two days while you were waiting?

Mr. Gatti: I live in the hotel.

Interviewer: You stayed in the hotel?

Mr. Gatti: All groups, you know, all the...

Interviewer: All of you stayed together...

[Cross talk]

How much did it cost for your ship to...

Mr. Gatti: We don't know.

Interviewer: You don't know how much?

Mr. Gatti: Because he pays for everything the man in charge, you know, who understand **[inaudible] [0:07:01]** soon watch for all the group, you know what it is?

Interviewer: I see. Uh huh. All right, now, do you remember the name of the ship that you sailed on?

Mr. Gatti: It's called Sanguel Tardo, Sanguel Tardo **[phonetic] [0:07:11]**.

Interviewer: Sanguel Tado **[phonetic] [0:07:15]**?

Mr. Gatti: Oh, yeah. That's right.

Interviewer: Was it an Italian ship?

Mr. Gatti: **[inaudible] [0:07:18]** the people who work there, they started talking, I tell them some town before in all different nation to get it **[phonetic] [0:07:25]**.

[Cross talk]

Interviewer: Italian *[inaudible]* [0:07:27].

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible]* [0:07:27] that's how you got...

Interviewer: Through the Italian *[inaudible]* [0:07:31].

Mr. Gatti: Yeah.

Interviewer: Okay. Now, what was it like a board ship? What were the conditions like did you all have the – your own cabin? Or would you...

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: ...onboard the ship.

Interviewer: Really?

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Interviewer: Could you describe to me a little bit? What was it like...

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible]* [0:07:51] the side understanding them in *[phonetic]* [0:07:57] like two storey high or three storey high and understands the *[phonetic]* [0:07:59]...

Interviewer: Was there a bath *[phonetic]* [0:08:00]?

Mr. Gatti: ...and they have a gesture in the room to – by the way they understand to clean up *[phonetic]* [0:08:04], you know, they wash the floor and all of those stuff *[inaudible]* [0:08:07].

Interviewer: In other words the bunks were sucked in...

[Cross talk]

Mrs. Gatti: Yeah.

Mr. Gatti: And one of the *[inaudible]* [0:08:17].

Interviewer: About how many of them were in the compartment that you were in? Do you remember? Like how many people were in there? Compartment – in the compartment where you were.

Mr. Gatti: **[inaudible] [0:08:29]** huge compartment.

Interviewer: Did they have the men and women separated or was everybody together?

Mr. Gatti: Well, the first time I come in I have my own room there **[phonetic] [0:08:38]**.

Interviewer: About few women.

Mr. Gatti: About a few women. The second time when I come back there was a lot of women there. When my first time it wasn't many women there – no women there. And now there's so many women **[inaudible] [0:08:49]** first time.

Interviewer: But did they have the women separated in the different compartment?

Mr. Gatti: Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah. They're in different compartment **[phonetic] [0:08:57]**.

Interviewer: Yeah. Were there many children?

Mr. Gatti: Well, the second time when I come back, yeah.

Interviewer: But not the first time?

Mr. Gatti: Not the first time.

Interviewer: Were there mostly all Italians who were travelling on the ship?

Mr. Gatti: Well, the first time it was not only Italian, very few – very few people in different nation **[phonetic] [0:09:12]**. The second time was a lot mix **[inaudible] [0:09:16]** different nation.

Interviewer: Yes.

Mr. Gatti: Like Poland and Irish another Germany, some of them are Italian but all are talking the same thing **[phonetic] [0:09:26]** because some people have go to school, people who go to school can talk, you know, and understand **[phonetic] [0:09:30]**. People who haven't go to school they

just didn't know nothing, it's just the way their race like the inside the bar they understand there was same body *[phonetic]* [0:09:40].

Interviewer: Uh huh.

Mr. Gatti: You can't even talk a good night to them *[phonetic]* [0:09:43].

Interviewer: Yes.

Mr. Gatti: Because you never meet nobody with different language you see *[phonetic]* [0:09:47].

Interviewer: Yeah. They just...

[Cross talk]

Now, how long did it take the ship...

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: The first time it take 21 days, 21-day and 22 night.

[0:10:00]

Interviewer: And how many stops did it make?

Mr. Gatti: No stop the first time.

Interviewer: You came right straight here and right back home.

[Cross talk]

Tell me what was the food like aboard ship during...

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: Not that bad.

Interviewer: What sort of thing did they feed you?

Mr. Gatti: Well, it have – it have a *[inaudible]* [0:10:18] right in the ship.

Interviewer: Oh, they carry the large animals...

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: ...first time. The second time 1912...

Interviewer: They had a refrigeration the second time.

Mr. Gatti: Yeah. Refrigeration the second time, so even...

Interviewer: Well, what did they do? Just slaughter the animal aboard ship and...

Mr. Gatti: Some day they slaughtered two, some day – some day they slaughtered one. *[inaudible] [0:10:39]*.

Interviewer: Yes. What else did you have besides meat?

Mr. Gatti: Tuna fish, lettuce, unions and *[phonetic] [0:10:53]*...

[Cross talk]

Interviewer: How about macaroni?

Mr. Gatti: No, macaroni.

Interviewer: No, macaroni?

Mr. Gatti: No, macaroni in all of the day *[phonetic] [0:10:59]*. *[inaudible] [0:11:04]*...

Mrs. Gatti: Rice.

Interviewer: Rice.

Mr. Gatti: Rice?

Interviewer: Rice, uh huh.

Mr. Gatti: And rice. We're like an army mix soap *[phonetic] [0:11:11]*, *[inaudible] [0:11:11]* everyday, you know.

Interviewer: When you eat – how did you eat? Did you go to the dining room and eat? Or did you...

Mr. Gatti: Lay down on the floor like a pig.

[Laughter]

Interviewer: You stay on the floor and eat?

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Interviewer: Well, how did you get your food? Did they bring it to you or did you have to...?

Mr. Gatti: No, no, you guys on the line. In the *[inaudible] [0:11:27]*.

Interviewer: What did you have to get your food in?

Mr. Gatti: You have a pan but – you have a deep pan in different size *[phonetic] [0:11:33]*. With the big one with the soap, you understand and the small one put some meat into the – second size you put the meat and the little one you put – you understands layers something like that on like sour *[phonetic] [0:11:48]*.

Interviewer: Right.

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible] [0:11:52]* each person.

Interviewer: Uh huh.

Mr. Gatti: But nobody might have it...

[Cross talk]

...coffee in the morning, bread.

Interviewer: That's – so you have a breakfast, coffee and bread...

Mr. Gatti: In the morning.

Interviewer: What kind of lunch did you have?

Mr. Gatti: Lunch?

Interviewer: Yes.

Mr. Gatti: No lunch in the morning.

Interviewer: No, I mean, in the afternoon at noon time.

Mr. Gatti: Oh, in the noon time, it's the same thing *[inaudible]* **[0:12:15]**.

Interviewer: What did they give you to drink?

Mr. Gatti: Drink? Wine.

Interviewer: Wine?

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Interviewer: Okay. Now, look, you said you have the name of a man that someone had given you in the United States that you were – supposed to go to see.

Mr. Gatti: Well, see, this man was...

Interviewer: Well, first of all, who was it that gave you this name?

Mr. Gatti: Elaine *[phonetic]* **[0:12:40]** a woman.

Interviewer: A woman.

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible]* **[0:12:41]** in this country.

Interviewer: Oh, in other words...

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: ...cash to my father. She understands some division *[inaudible]* **[0:12:50]** New York, you understand?

Interviewer: Okay. So you landed in New York?

Mr. Gatti: Yeah. I land in New York. And it's a – I got on Bonar station train – Bonar station *[inaudible]* **[0:13:03]**.

Interviewer: Right.

Mr. Gatti: I got off in *[inaudible]* **[0:13:07]** station in Baltimore *[inaudible]* **[0:13:08]**.

[Cross talk]

...2:00 O'clock in the morning.

Interviewer: 2:00 O'clock in the morning, you went right straight to Baltimore?

Mr. Gatti: Yeah. Right straight to Baltimore, it aint that far *[phonetic]* [0:13:16].

Interviewer: Uh huh. You on someone else now. When you got to New York, when you first landed there, how did they receive you in New York? How did the authorities received you? Did they gave you a physical examination, they check...

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: ...eye *[inaudible]* [0:13:34] strictly, you understand. The doctor checking the *[inaudible]* [0:13:39] another member watching – understand may check up on you special eye *[phonetic]* [0:13:44] and you already understanding and also *[phonetic]* [0:13:46].

Interviewer: Did they hold you up at all in New York?

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible]* [0:13:51] going in the line. It was *[inaudible]* [0:13:55] time.

Interviewer: Uh huh. And after you went through all of this, what did they do? Put a tag on you?

Mr. Gatti: They put tag, that's right.

[Cross talk]

That's right.

Interviewer: ...saying where you were going to go, right?

Mr. Gatti: That's right. Where you got to go *[inaudible]* [0:14:07] you can't talk English, you can't still ask, you can say no *[phonetic]* [0:14:11].

Interviewer: So they put you on the train...

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: ...it's like they got us to the station with somebody who understand *[inaudible]* [0:14:19] understand to take the station. Do the *[inaudible]* [0:14:21] sit down, they understand.

Well, it was nice after awhile, you know, when the train was ready you come in and ride again, you know, just come and get in the train **[phonetic] [0:14:28]**. He said, "No way," and he said, "Somebody will get you in the station, it's all right, with these" and when you get into Bonar station, nobody around.

Interviewer: When you got the Bonar station in Baltimore there was nobody around.

Mr. Gatti: Nobody around at 2:00 O'clock in the morning, Sunday morning. And **[inaudible] [0:14:48]** you fall again, you know, he take the in the room and I was gate run and closed up the gate. The suitcase, you know, when it come day light...

[0:15:00]

...he call them on wagon **[inaudible] [0:15:03]**.

Interviewer: Yes.

Mr. Gatti: And they open the gate, bring it over **[inaudible] [0:15:11]** a man was over there he said, take this man to **[inaudible] [0:15:15]** he asked questions then he showed the **[inaudible] [0:15:18]** address, you know, who else got to go? Well, **[inaudible] [0:15:22]** understand open and I see him and he says that's all right, to give it to him **[inaudible] [0:15:26]**. I don't remember the number of the house but I think it's in the Forest Road the Bonar station after Forest Road.

And he picked up the money, conduct and understand dollar piece **[phonetic] [0:15:42]** \$1 bill a piece in **[inaudible] [0:15:45]**.

Interviewer: He charged you with \$1 each for...

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: To drive up there but he was supposed to take us, listen man, when you had to ride in the front of the house, you keep running along **[inaudible] [0:16:00]** we called him wood bury, basically a quarter stone **[phonetic] [0:16:03]**, it was eight house there but it was **[inaudible] [0:16:06]** because where is he – where is the – out to the city.

Interviewer: Uh huh. It was outside of the city.

Mr. Gatti: Other side of the city you see. When he get to Baltimore, it was a new station, you turn to left that's a false road right along the railroad to see –

to go Pittsburg *[phonetic]* **[0:16:23]**. But look over a quarter mile not quite after a mile and he comes in about eight house and he was standing last house *[phonetic]* **[0:16:32]** more house there before *[inaudible]* **[0:16:34]** and down there was stone house. And he's in the last house I see because after this eight house, he comes *[inaudible]* **[0:16:42]** quarter stone.

You see he build the house, when you started to dig *[inaudible]* **[0:16:46]** a good work, they close to the – put a stone. But there's a man, you know, when he passed by there, what do I know, why do you – there might nobody know and I don't say another thing just look one time and talked and that's it *[phonetic]* **[0:16:57]**.

When he *[inaudible]* **[0:17:03]** about half a mile, when he was close at mile, all remains he write – he read the paper on the porch *[phonetic]* **[0:17:10]**. He stop, he went across the road, he asked this old man where is this address *[phonetic]* **[0:17:19]**, he said, well, old man *[inaudible]* **[0:17:23]** all the way by, he said, where do you got to go, all the way back he said, it seem right in the *[phonetic]* **[0:17:32]** inside the *[inaudible]* **[0:17:34]** maybe around there.

Interviewer: Yeah. That's it.

Mr. Gatti: And after awhile me come out of there, he told something *[inaudible]* **[0:17:43]** he turn around horse and went back. It was all wood bushes each of the side of the road, you understand? *[inaudible]* **[0:17:51]** he get off and he asked for more money, *[inaudible]* **[0:17:58]** want to borrow money, all right, let's take this wallet of, have a change, you know, a 50 cents and a quarter dollar bill *[inaudible]* **[0:18:07]** pick up 50 cents apiece. When he go back go right there, just across the road *[inaudible]* **[0:18:14]**.

Now, when he hit lane *[inaudible]* **[0:18:20]** understand this people *[inaudible]* **[0:18:22]** the house, he asked him what *[inaudible]* **[0:18:26]** and I say he take a \$1 bill and back here where I've been *[inaudible]* **[0:18:32]** and he charge us more money, he take another 50 cents. *[inaudible]* **[0:18:36]** show the money *[inaudible]* **[0:18:38]** there is.

And he while that's *[inaudible]* **[0:18:42]** because he got to pay enough money *[inaudible]* **[0:18:46]** understand I give to him to take me up here. So just the jeep you have 50 cents, you don't understand let's make a \$1 yourself. That's a lot, you know, better forget about it, what are you going to do about it?

Interviewer: That's it, maybe he don't understand.

Mr. Gatti: That's right. What are you going to do about it?

Interviewer: Okay. Now, when you got to the place where you were going, how were you received by this man? Did he know you were coming?

Mr. Gatti: No.

Interviewer: He didn't know you were coming?

Mr. Gatti: No. Man he know or he come *[phonetic] [0:19:20]*, you know, and leave there, he leave from time to time, right in the middle of *[inaudible] [0:19:23]* in the middle of Baltimore.

Interviewer: The man that you were coming to see, lives in the middle of Baltimore?

Mr. Gatti: Yeah. *[inaudible] [0:19:28]* born in different place.

Interviewer: Oh, he have – he got...

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible] [0:19:39]* you know what I mean? He used to live there.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible] [0:19:45]* you understand?

Interviewer: Yeah.

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible] [0:19:48]* many don't know if he come in or *[inaudible] [0:19:50]*.

Interviewer: Oh, he didn't even know you were coming?

Mr. Gatti: That's right. But I don't know *[inaudible] [0:19:53]* because he was – he went getting the – he come in and this guy is trying to go into a *[inaudible] [0:19:59]* you understand because this take 14 months to come across, maybe it's what *[inaudible] [0:20:04]* right to him, you understand? *[inaudible] [0:20:05]* receive a letter, who knows.

[0:20:07]

Interviewer: Yeah. Well...

Mr. Gatti: Well, after – after – the next day I was going to see him because he...

Interviewer: Uh huh. You went to see him...

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: I went to see him because I have a letter with his wife.

Mrs. Gatti: Somebody look for you.

Mr. Gatti: His wife *[inaudible]* **[0:20:19]** because he live in the city *[inaudible]* **[0:20:21]**, you can't read or write. *[inaudible]* **[0:20:25]** even a number.

Interviewer: Well, when you got to this house that you were going the first one, did you spent that whole day in that house?

Mr. Gatti: When I got off the horse...

Interviewer: When you got off the horse...

Mr. Gatti: Yeah. I stayed the whole day there.

Interviewer: You stay there all day?

Mr. Gatti: Eat diner there and I'm board there.

Interviewer: Now, was the owner of that house an Italian?

Mr. Gatti: No, he's not the owner of the house.

Interviewer: What did he do? Rent the house?

Mr. Gatti: He rent the house.

Interviewer: Was he...

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible]* **[0:20:56]** rent the house during the day.

Interviewer: I see.

Mr. Gatti: Not many Italian that have a home *[inaudible]* **[0:21:00]**.

Interviewer: Well, he was Italian...

Mr. Gatti: He was an Italian, yeah.

Interviewer: Right. Now, did you decide to stay onboard room inboard in that house?

Mr. Gatti: That's right. I mean, I live there about a couple of years.

Interviewer: Uh huh. Now, how long were you in the house before you found a job?

Mr. Gatti: I find job somebody work they know to board was I understand **[phonetic] [0:21:24]**. And he **[inaudible] [0:21:27]** 1904 Baltimore went up **[phonetic] [0:21:31]**, burned.

Interviewer: Burned?

Mr. Gatti: **[inaudible] [0:21:36]**.

Interviewer: Uh huh.

Mr. Gatti: The best part of the city was...

Interviewer: That was about half of Baltimore, the city of Baltimore burned down in 1904?

Mr. Gatti: In 1904.

Interviewer: Yes.

Mr. Gatti: In 1903, 1903, between '03 and '04 **[inaudible] [0:21:51]**, it was '04 something like that because Peter Schrock **[phonetic] [0:21:55]** **[inaudible] [0:21:56]** because I've been working there for awhile **[inaudible] [0:21:59]** understand. Now, there's two men who work with Vigo **[phonetic] [0:22:02]** **[inaudible] [0:22:03]** place along the side of the river.

And he talk to the foreman, you understand, we got a boy who, you understand, he come across the ocean **[inaudible] [0:22:15]** give him a chance and give him a break, give him job. All right, he said, take your man tomorrow **[inaudible] [0:22:21]** dues.

Interviewer: What was the dues for?

Mr. Gatti: Well, just to – you have \$2, he'll give a job.

Interviewer: Oh, okay.

Mr. Gatti: You know what I mean?

Interviewer: Yes.

Mr. Gatti: \$2 on each person and then he give them a job *[inaudible]* **[0:22:35]** lay them off and hire some more men.

Mrs. Gatti: *[inaudible]* **[0:22:39]**.

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible]* **[0:22:42]** try to avoid, you know, and work 12 days *[inaudible]* **[0:22:50]** \$1.35 10 hours of work, hard work *[inaudible]* **[0:22:56]**, 12 days or 13 days under the membership of that and he let me off *[phonetic]* **[0:23:08]**.

I like to get a job but you can't find a job. It was *[inaudible]* **[0:23:14]** you don't know nobody. *[inaudible]* **[0:23:19]** house, he talk to the boss for a quarter stone, maybe – maybe change you understand, you know, *[inaudible]* **[0:23:28]** double wagon, I understand that was smallest stone you must take them to crushed, you know, just crashed them up, you know.

Interviewer: Uh huh.

Mr. Gatti: But he got too many men, we can't give him a chance. I stayed out of work for six months. Not six days, six months.

Interviewer: How did you live during those six months?

Mr. Gatti: Well, a lot of days look forward, you know, *[inaudible]* **[0:23:50]** too much. And besides that, you know, I have a little money. I don't have \$50 months for the sleep and washing my clothes. *[inaudible]* **[0:24:03]**, and I look around all the time, hey, I'm looking for a job, you know, to clean up a brick as what I see the Baltimore *[inaudible]* **[0:24:18]** went down and when it's burned up, you understand?

If somebody find a money, you understand to the big place *[inaudible]* **[0:24:27]** in the wagon and haul them away. *[inaudible]* **[0:24:32]** but about seven – about eight or nine days...

Interviewer: Okay. You say – you say you were cleaning up brick...

Mr. Gatti: I'm cleaning up brick, you understand because *[inaudible]* **[0:24:43]** clean them up, you understand...

Interviewer: Right. But yours is the big end *[phonetic]* **[0:24:45]**?

Mr. Gatti: Well, yes, *[inaudible]* **[0:24:47]** because they put them on the park.

Interviewer: I see.

Mr. Gatti: Reach them up in the park, you understand, the good brick, you understand *[inaudible]* **[0:24:52]**.

Interviewer: Yes.

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible]* **[0:24:55]** brick, you know what I mean?

[0:25:00]

And after we got laid off *[inaudible]* **[0:25:00]**. Yeah. I remember he called, John, John it's all I can learn first place John, he called me John. He's in there and he got nothing to do but somebody want to take me to the country. I couldn't understand. He write in a piece of paper, you understand *[phonetic]* **[0:25:15]**? That wide and that long.

And I take home and showed it to the boss, the boss *[inaudible]* **[0:25:25]** when he shut his door, he read pretty good, you understand what is it? He wants to take me on the country, in the farm. I like to go because there is a farm. I had to follow, you understand and get out. He say, why I didn't go into the farm, he can't talk English, you understand? You don't know what come as it is *[phonetic]* **[0:25:42]**. He maybe pushes you like a horse. You will work hard, you understand? I'm not afraid to work because I used to work when I was a kid.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Mr. Gatti: When he was going to do that work, you don't afraid to work because I never afraid to work *[phonetic]* **[0:25:54]**, I just still love working on. And I change my mind, I said, no, I'm not going to work. But he want to take me into *[inaudible]* **[0:26:03]** he said, you come tomorrow and let me know. *[inaudible]* **[0:26:09]** the country.

Okay. Let's start here and he write in the piece of paper *[inaudible]* **[0:26:20]** country to the farm and work because I work. *[inaudible]*

[0:26:25] nobody because I can't walk in with somebody I talk says I'm digging, you know what I mean?

Interviewer: Yes.

Mr. Gatti: I said, I'll go and six months I worked after a while I got a job over there. **[inaudible] [0:26:41]** you understand, **[inaudible] [0:26:43]** I don't know I bought a pine of whiskey.

Interviewer: You bought the fine whisky and a few cigars; it was for the boss in the farm?

Mr. Gatti: Five cigar and then fine whisky. I supposed to go and see him and bring in the morning down the **[inaudible] [0:27:05]** and feed the horse 5:00 O'clock in the morning **[inaudible] [0:27:10]** to hold the materials the biggest stone, you understand? The biggest church, you understand? **[inaudible] [0:27:16]**. Even the school was stone, all of – making them in a quarter and I don't understand this quarter **[inaudible] [0:27:23]**.

Interviewer: Yes. Right. The grand coast side...

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Interviewer: Right.

Mr. Gatti: And it was nice day, you understand **[inaudible] [0:27:30]** it was very far. Somebody come for me nobody **[inaudible] [0:27:34]** I remember it was four or five cigar I didn't understand all right. It makes a difference to me I want to take the job, you know, I want work.

It was starts to lay down, it was – I remember it was first Christmas, it was a little before – before Christmas **[inaudible] [0:27:49]**. And it was a nice day, in the morning when you get up, you have **[inaudible] [0:27:57]** on the ground.

Interviewer: What time of the year was it?

Mr. Gatti: Huh?

Interviewer: What time of the year was it?

Mr. Gatti: 1904.

[Cross talk]

Interviewer: I know. But what – what month?

Mr. Gatti: Month – I don't remember but it was after Christmas day, very close, you understand...

[Cross talk]

...close to Christmas. I think it was two days before Christmas.

Interviewer: Uh huh.

Mr. Gatti: And so, I went down *[inaudible]* **[0:28:20]** bring that fine whisky far here to the – to that corner, to Mike store up here. I don't have to walk very far. *[inaudible]* **[0:28:29]**.

Well, I take a fine *[inaudible]* **[0:28:38]** John give to him, you know, because that's all the first thing I learn.

[Laughter]

Well, what you are going to do about it? I gave him the cigar and he said – and he talked to me *[inaudible]* **[0:28:49]** you can't do nothing *[inaudible]* **[0:28:52]**, that's all right. And by the week after that, you understand, he told the boys, you should bring the boy down and I'll give him a job.

Put me in the back room *[inaudible]* **[0:29:04]** crushed him up. And I've been working there, all winter. *[inaudible]* **[0:29:17]** wear gloves, you need a pair of *[inaudible]* **[0:29:18]** I went up to the shop, you know what I mean? *[inaudible]* **[0:29:22]** shoes, in two weekend month that's all, you got to sold *[inaudible]* **[0:29:26]**, that's all right. As long I work *[inaudible]* **[0:29:32]** because I got to have work. *[inaudible]* **[0:29:36]** understand to move around to pay the bill.

Interviewer: Yes.

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible]* **[0:29:42]**, you know, somebody taking away from the railroad. *[inaudible]* **[0:29:47]**.

Interviewer: How much were you making – how much do you own working in the farm?

Mr. Gatti: I make \$8.40 a week, 10 hours of work.

Interviewer: 10 hours a day?

[0:30:00]

Mr. Gatti: 10 hours – I got to work hard.

Interviewer: And how many days?

Mr. Gatti: Well, it's six days a week.

Interviewer: six days a week?

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Interviewer: Right.

Mr. Gatti: Six days a week and not eight hours.

Interviewer: 10 hours a day, six days a week?

Mr. Gatti: Making \$8.40.

Interviewer: Uh huh. Okay.

Mr. Gatti: That's a bigger pay.

Interviewer: That's a big pay.

Mr. Gatti: That's a bigger pay. What do you call *[inaudible]* **[0:30:25]** only makes \$2. You chip the stones, you understand? With the hammer, you understand? All day long in that day. *[inaudible]* **[0:30:32]** work eight hours.

[phonetic] **[0:30:36]**, you know, I stay all of 10 hours. The winter time is dark because you take – start at 7:00 O'clock in the morning, at five diner time *[inaudible]* **[0:30:46]**. With the winter time January to February to *[inaudible]* **[0:30:52]**, you understand? Before – at 4:00 O'clock *[inaudible]* **[0:30:55]** if its 4:00 or 5:00 O'clock it is dark, he'll keep you there.

Interviewer: You work in the dark?

Mr. Gatti: That's right. We work there, everybody *[phonetic]* **[0:31:05]**.

Interviewer: Okay. Now, how about when you work to the rail road, who got you a job at the rail road?

Mr. Gatti: Somebody worked there *[inaudible]* **[0:31:10]**, you understand? You know, going to start, you know, I met somebody and talk *[inaudible]* **[0:31:14]** tell you personally, you know. And he said when did you come in and work in rail road? *[inaudible]* **[0:31:20]** and I did take the chance when he take me to the boss, boss looked at me and he said, how old is that boy? He says, he's 21 and I was 21, I told a lie.

Interviewer: How old were you then, you're...?

Mr. Gatti: I was 19.

Interviewer: You're 19.

Mr. Gatti: Going 20.

Interviewer: Did he give you the job?

Mr. Gatti: The boss he said, he asked me, you know, I can't talk a little bit, he said, he's a good at work? Yes, I work. He said, you like work? He give me *[inaudible]* **[0:31:57]** send me down to the station *[inaudible]* **[0:31:59]** you understand?

When I went *[inaudible]* **[0:32:05]** you understand? Like I stood up *[inaudible]* **[0:32:08]** I wasn't that high. I was much shorter than him. It was too dark *[inaudible]* **[0:32:16]**, he said, how old are you boy? Boy? I don't understand *[inaudible]* **[0:32:21]** you understand? He told me next day, he said, when I call you boy, that is because you look like a boy and I said, *[inaudible]* **[0:32:31]** I don't know I said, I'm 21.

Well, all right, take my clothes. I take all the clothes, shoes, socks and everything like an army, examination. He never told me okay, he told me nothing. Take him back to the boss. Pete come in and he said, take him up to the boss, even him *[inaudible]* **[0:32:58]** send me to work and *[inaudible]* **[0:33:04]**.

When I **[0:33:06]** *[Inaudible]* in the farm one day. I gave it to him and he said, he opened up and he said, that's all right, he said, you want to start now? Well, why do I go home for? Take me to the toolbox, you understand? And he gave me the pick and the shovel, he take me to the game, you understand? And start to play in the game *[inaudible]*

[0:33:23] it's a little too many train **[inaudible]** **[0:33:26]** station to Baltimore. **[inaudible]** **[0:33:32]**, you work right there. Train leave and come, leave and come they **[inaudible]** **[0:33:45]**, and I quit.

Interviewer: How long did you work there before you quit?

Mr. Gatti: I worked there about – I work there a bit long. I work there about nine months and I went to work in the **[inaudible]** **[0:34:04]**.

Interviewer: **[inaudible]** **[0:34:08]**.

Mr. Gatti: I went – when I'm working – I quit **[inaudible]** **[0:34:12]** in the rail road but it wasn't too bad like I play on the sand, it was a little different here, you understand? **[inaudible]** **[0:34:20]** so many sketch, you know, so many train, you know what I mean?

Interviewer: Uh huh.

Mr. Gatti: It was a little more **[inaudible]** **[0:34:26]**, you know, more save, you know. I work there for about close to year, you understand? I have to sleep in the box of **[inaudible]** **[0:34:32]**.

Interviewer: You had **[inaudible]** **[0:34:35]**.

Mr. Gatti: That's right. I have to sleep in the box **[inaudible]** **[0:34:37]** because all the time I have a trouble, you understand? You can't go where you leave because one day you are here, one day you maybe **[inaudible]** **[0:34:44]**, you got to sleep in the box in the car. I used to like it but afterward I quit. I went back in the rail road again, up **[inaudible]** **[0:34:55]** station.

Interviewer: You went back to the – what, the BNO?

Mr. Gatti: No, I quit in the BNO.

[0:35:00]

I went back in Pennsylvania again.

Interviewer: I see, yeah.

Mr. Gatti: I got in the same place. I went up in Mount Roy **[phonetic]** **[0:35:06]** he called me to stay up and then I head to the station **[phonetic]** **[0:35:08]** up in the yard, up in the, you know, different boss. I used to like the job.

Now, I work there but it was six months and again, *[inaudible]* **[0:35:22]** put me out and then again, he put to do a tractor work down the yard.

And I work there but – I work there for two years. I got some to change my mind *[inaudible]* **[0:35:44]** Baltimore. I never know this people before. We got a site of all these people I never know before. They live different farm *[inaudible]* **[0:35:54]** to us.

Interviewer: Uh huh.

Mr. Gatti: And they got a job in railroad they work at the train. And they looked for me *[inaudible]* **[0:36:08]** accommodation because sometimes we spent right much longer, you know what I mean?

Interviewer: Yes. Uh huh.

Mr. Gatti: And when he left to come in this country, my wife's mother give a accommodation *[inaudible]* **[0:36:16]** ride home on his way, you know, *[inaudible]* **[0:36:21]**. And I did met him to get to Baltimore *[phonetic]* **[0:36:26]** down town.

And when he see me in this train, I live up in the false road *[phonetic]* **[0:36:36]**, he live in the town. You see that day was off because everyone who are lost they go to work in the town *[inaudible]* **[0:36:48]** you understand me? Because they do the work. Because you can't do much in the day time, working at the time and you put the tie in and change the railings, you understand? Because more busy in the day time.

Interviewer: Yes.

Mr. Gatti: You see organization *[inaudible]* **[0:37:00]** you understand? Bigger crew, you understand? They're on parade to this job you understand? *[inaudible]* **[0:37:07]** more chance, you know.

Interviewer: But you go and do the job at night, is that right?

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Interviewer: In town?

Mr. Gatti: In town and that day was off because it working time for week, you understand? That day was off going back to work in the time but I didn't go back in time *[inaudible]* **[0:37:24]** it's true. So it's extra day when back

to work in the game where you belong *[phonetic]* [0:37:25] you understand? Our site.

Well, all the gang in the morning go home, wash up, oh they said, let's go down town, you know, down town, we have some friends, you know, you make friends and talk, you know, lets *[inaudible]* [0:37:40].

Interviewer: Your wife's brother down town...

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: ...he don't me and I don't know him. My mother was on the side and he know me and he looked *[inaudible]* [0:37:55] across in the corner over there. And he come right across and he looked to me and I look at him *[inaudible]* [0:38:02] what the matter? He said, did you know him? He live just such a farm understand the – over there.

All right. So they talked again. So he asked where is Ali, because went to the forest *[inaudible]* [0:38:21] I go home at night. And he say, he was over there in the corner over there board and I said, no, he's coming in last night from *[inaudible]* [0:38:29] Pennsylvania. He work in the *[inaudible]* [0:38:32] over there where he make a cook, you understand? He close up went over there, you know? And all come to Baltimore. He said, I'm going to wield tonight, I said, I'm going to live up there, you understand? The one that got – he got fine place *[inaudible]* [0:38:45] where you live?

He said, we got no place enough *[inaudible]* [0:38:48] where I live myself. He said, you want to come to see, you understand? But you got to come, well, he travel with car, went back to follow the road, he come with me. When I'm home, you know, I asked my boss, he said, look, he said, he look board, he said, Tony, he said, you know, I got no board, he said, *[inaudible]* [0:39:09] down stage some place in the floor, he said. He started to talk and talk. He have a son Nicky, his dead now.

[inaudible] [0:39:19] put Nicky, down of course down in the front room some place, you understand? I gave him his bed and I did. Couple of day, he got a job in railroad same place, you understand? Where I work, you know, not same gang, you know, different gang, you know.

I don't remember who was the *[inaudible]* [0:39:41] he work about a couple of years over there. Every time we talk, you understand? When I go back in Italy, he said, you got to come home on with me.

Interviewer: And he went back to Italy with you?

Mr. Gatti: Oh, yeah. We talked about it, when he went back *[inaudible]* **[0:39:58]** because he had a wife and children over there.

[0:40:01]

You see, you got to come home with me. He said, no, he says maybe someday. I don't feel like go back there *[inaudible]* **[0:40:08]**, you know. Okay. But it was June 1912. *[inaudible]* **[0:40:21]** too much work and when he put me to tract work I just go down and walk in the tract.

Interviewer: So, you've been working for the Pennsylvania railroad now for – what about...

Mr. Gatti: Yeah.

Mrs. Gatti: Many years.

Mr. Gatti: Many years...

Interviewer: About five or six – about five years then?

Mr. Gatti: Yeah. Oh, more than that.

Interviewer: Uh huh.

Mr. Gatti: More than that, all together. And when it comes June, one night was so hot, you understand? Luis come home, he said, I hate the summer, he go out in the bank you understand? To get a kittle *[inaudible]* **[0:40:51]**, Samantha was far he had to mike up, you know, up in the store, put there a cents under the pitch of beer.

Yeah. After awhile maybe you go and get another pitch of beer. She's not on the shade, you understand? *[inaudible]* **[0:41:05]** I want to go back in Italy, so you want to come home? *[inaudible]* **[0:41:09]** what's the matter? But he changed so quick. Well, that's what I feel about it, just like this.

He like to stay maybe all the summer. He want to go home on the Christmas. I said, look you want to come? And I'll go back home. Well, he come, you know, he changes his mind. And then July one day *[inaudible]* **[0:41:34]** get home...

Mrs. Gatti: July – July the 29th.

Mr. Gatti: July the 29th he get home. It was a *[inaudible]* **[0:41:39]**.

Interviewer: Your wife is digging for Texas *[phonetic]* **[0:41:42]** when you got there.

Mr. Gatti: All the gang. It was boss, you know, all the girls on the farm. And this gang, you know, it was family, you understand?

Interviewer: Uh huh. Yeah. Did they know you were coming home?

Mr. Gatti: He find that out in another men because he's brother missed a train...

[Cross talk]

He had a big case, you understand? You can't go through there, you got to check. I am the one who came to him and said, you can't go if you missed a train. You got to get it going. Before us to get home *[inaudible]* **[0:42:11]** Sasha come home, Sasha come home *[phonetic]* **[0:42:13]** and nobody believed.

And when I went home, he told me *[inaudible]* **[0:42:19]** day time.

Mrs. Gatti: It was about 11:00 O'clock.

[Cross talk]

Interviewer: 11:00 O'clock at night or in the...

Mr. Gatti: In day time.

Mrs. Gatti: In the morning.

Interviewer: In the morning?

Mr. Gatti: In the morning?

Mrs. Gatti: Yeah.

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible]* **[0:42:33]** road along the side there. And I see her, I see my family you understand? Because Italy, *[inaudible]* **[0:42:43]** long side, put

a party here *[inaudible]* [0:42:44] street. *[inaudible]* [0:42:47] close than that but he was farm and *[inaudible]* [0:42:49].

Okay. *[inaudible]* [0:42:57] you understand? Who founded me you understand this family? And then get along just like brother and sister all together you understand? *[inaudible]* [0:43:06] nothing at all. As far as to get my *[inaudible]* [0:43:12] somebody take money, you know, take them around.

After all you got his question every time *[inaudible]* [0:43:22] new underwear. No one – nobody – somebody got a little practice, somebody will look at you so much and I went big boss to tap you before you understand, you know what I mean?

Interviewer: Yes.

Mr. Gatti: And he said, no. I went home everything have to be – I step in his home because he went through right – no I have to go pass right in front of the house. And I pass there because a little packed I go straight to up stairs – up in the – my room – my home. And I talk to him you understand? *[inaudible]* [0:43:58] when you get married? Pretty soon. She break up.

26 – when he was 16 or 26 of July?

Mrs. Gatti: What?

Mr. Gatti: When I took to you.

Mrs. Gatti: 26 of July.

Mr. Gatti: 26 of July. I also went to pray in that time. *[inaudible]* [0:44:21] I go before. I see her brother and I asked where is your sister, he said, well, she went another time, you know, it was far, forget about it. *[inaudible]* [0:44:35] you understand? When you guys – then he said, look *[inaudible]* [0:44:41] we'll pray today.

The church is Blessed Mary *[inaudible]* [0:44:46] I have to go another farm, we pay for the wagon. We used to barrow wagon you understand? There is a church and I get down in the wagon *[inaudible]* [0:44:58] he's not ready, get down in there, pay the man, comeback and he said, who was his wife *[inaudible]* [0:45:05].

[0:45:09]

Mrs. Gatti: **[inaudible] [0:45:09].**

Mr. Gatti: Door locked. She's there **[inaudible] [0:45:13]** pick up and go home, you understand? We got ride home, we got to go home because all the men **[inaudible] [0:45:18]** around.

All right, I went up there and **[inaudible] [0:45:25]** I don't know he come in and I pray. I prayed that night and I see my little brother in the morning you understand? But he don't come in. When I said I go there and I'll come in over there **[phonetic] [0:45:35]** you understand? Talk to his brother, just what I say, I said I want marry – we bring her nothing. Along you can get along with her.

Mrs. Gatti: I got to get up stairs. I'll answer.

Mr. Gatti: That day we met again, you understand? Every table, I found a big bottle of wine you understand? **[inaudible] [0:45:58]**, somebody bring cheese, somebody bring ham...

[Cross talk]

Mrs. Gatti: **[inaudible] [0:46:11]** when the celebration all of the lady got married, you know what I mean?

[Cross talk]

And then it was my sister **[inaudible] [0:46:23]** he take me out of his horse and go **[inaudible] [0:46:25]** but he take me because we have a lot of garden stuff. And he have a bigger basket **[inaudible] [0:46:33]**. And then the place got a lot of celebration.

Interviewer: What is it going to have the celebration, where was it held?

Mrs. Gatti: In the town.

Interviewer: In the town?

Mrs. Gatti: In the town, yeah. And I not that town, it was another town, you know I mean?

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: ...party here, party to Wilmington **[phonetic] [0:46:52]** maybe more. We walk the transportation nothing.

Interviewer: You have to walk?

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Mrs. Gatti: Walk in a basket and hat, you know?

Interviewer: Oh, really?

[Cross talk]

Mrs. Gatti: I try to make the hat *[inaudible] [0:47:02]* he say take me to Arianna's *[inaudible] [0:47:02]* celebration. But he picked me by at...

[Cross talk]

Interviewer: What was the name of the town that you went to?

Mrs. Gatti: Mondono *[phonetic] [0:47:14]*.

Interviewer: Mondono *[phonetic] [0:47:15]*?

Mr. Gatti: Yeah.

Mrs. Gatti: Uh huh. Mondono *[phonetic] [0:47:17]*.

Interviewer: Uh huh. All right.

Mrs. Gatti: So after that is the position. So at last mass, him and my brother met us *[inaudible] [0:47:31]*, you know. I saw this the – just a lot of farmer *[inaudible] [0:47:39]*.

Interviewer: There are a lot of farm outside the town with the *[inaudible] [0:47:42]*?

[Cross talk]

Mrs. Gatti: ...pick the one; we celebrate in half a day. We supposed to go home *[inaudible] [0:47:50]* go home in the dark.

Mr. Gatti: We got home in dark, right. And...

Mrs. Gatti: Well, my...

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: **[inaudible] [0:47:56]** that's what he didn't understand, they talked about the all, you know, 15 months of being there **[inaudible] [0:48:02]** like my sister. That day, you understand? When I was on the way home, I asked her, you want to marry me? If you want to come here in this country? She said, I can't go to America you understand? I said, that's all right, maybe somebody will take you – take you in America.

It was like just a joke you understand? When we started to talk, oh, **[inaudible] [0:48:30]** about marriage in 40 days. After 40 days and I'll leave and I come back to this country. I left home at six October.

Interviewer: That was in 1912?

Mr. Gatti: 1913.

Interviewer: 1913. The 6th of October you came back to United States?

Mr. Gatti: Yeah.

Interviewer: How you got married? Before you came back?

Mr. Gatti: No.

Interviewer: No?

Mr. Gatti: I got married **[inaudible] [0:48:52]** in the Cristiana Street. When I come in, I left home 6th October, I went straight to Baltimore. I went the same place where he still left and have been working on the railroad, same gang. We don't need man. Well, I'll pick up new job in another site **[inaudible] [0:49:12]**.

And boss he told me to hang around, he said, I'll let you know if – I know **[inaudible] [0:49:19]** go back in Italy, you understand? I'm going to ask how long you're going to stay. He said, I'm going to hire somebody else. He said, because – it's all right.

I work about two, three – about three of four days I work in a digging cell **[phonetic] [0:49:35]**. At 12 midnight I go home, he said, boss want to see you tomorrow morning. It's all right, I'm going to work. And when I see the – I went back to my boss, you know, where I used to work before, when I left United States. He said, well, you like to come back? I said, well, I come to you as soon as I come in – I come back to this country, if I got chance, you know, I got **[inaudible] [0:49:58]**.

[0:50:00]

Well, now, he's going to call me, we call him Ric, you understand? This man he said, asked him *[inaudible]* [0:50:04] tools and everything. He said, hey Ric, he said, look, so you go back in Italy I don't like that. *[inaudible]* [0:50:15] right? You get down in the station and you give it a time or you don't get the money. He said, that man he said, *[inaudible]* [0:50:29] he want to work few weeks more to maybe another months something like that *[inaudible]* [0:50:33] understand.

And he said, you go, he said, so you going to go back to Italy? He said, when? I said, well, I don't know. He said, well, it's all right. He said, what's the difference a week or two week different *[inaudible]* [0:50:44], you get down *[inaudible]* [0:50:48] and get your money, you understand? Well, that man looked to me, he said, I didn't realize the boss is a fine man. People – you know what I mean? You understand? Because I have work in – I have job – I can work maybe month or two months and then I'm going to – you can meet the man, you can do – you want to work few more days and then – that's all right and he said nothing. What are you going to do? He's the boss, that's it.

And now, I got job *[inaudible]* [0:51:16] I went back in the railroad. And after awhile, when I come back in this country, I borrowed money and I don't have money.

Interviewer: You have to borrow money to come back?

Mr. Gatti: And I have no money to come back. And I borrowed the money to somebody else. Now I want to get – I want to get *[inaudible]* [0:51:35], I borrowed money. The man's name Pete come out *[inaudible]* [0:51:47], \$100. *[inaudible]* [0:51:57] take passport and then come across. And I get off in Philadelphia, *[inaudible]* [0:52:05] street.

Interviewer: So you got off in Philadelphia?

Mr. Gatti: That's right.

Interviewer: The ship came right to Philadelphia?

Mrs. Gatti: Yeah.

Mr. Gatti: Yeah. That's right.

Interviewer: Where did you get this ship, Mrs. Gatti?

Mrs. Gatti: Naples.

Interviewer: In Naples too?

Mr. Gatti: Yeah. That's right.

Interviewer: How long did it take you to come across?

Mrs. Gatti: About 15 days.

Interviewer: About 15 days? So the ship stopped at any place?

Mrs. Gatti: Yeah. Stopped another place.

Interviewer: Do you remember where it was? Was it *[inaudible]* [0:52:29]?

Mrs. Gatti: I don't know, some place I don't remember the name *[inaudible]* [0:52:33].

Interviewer: And it came on into Philadelphia?

Mrs. Gatti: Yeah.

Interviewer: Was Philadelphia the first place to stop in the United States?

Mrs. Gatti: Well, they stopped in New York *[inaudible]* [0:52:42].

Interviewer: Oh, it did stopped in New York...

[Cross talk]

Do you remember the name of the ship?

Mrs. Gatti: America.

Interviewer: America?

Mrs. Gatti: Uh huh.

Interviewer: Was it an Italian ship or an American ship?

Mrs. Gatti: America *[inaudible]* [0:52:55].

Interviewer: What year was this now?

Mr. Gatti: 1913.

Mrs. Gatti: 1912 or 1914.

Interviewer: 1913?

Mrs. Gatti: '14.

Interviewer: '14?

Mr. Gatti: That's '14, yeah.

Mrs. Gatti: 1914.

Interviewer: Right. Now, this was big – was this after World War I had started?

Mrs. Gatti: It didn't start yet.

Interviewer: It hadn't started yet?

[Cross talk]

Mrs. Gatti: We talked about it, we talked about it, we're scared, you know. But then the war started because I come in March, the war start like '15, 1915 started the war. I come '14.

Mr. Gatti: He come in the '14, the war started in the '14 – in the '15.

Mrs. Gatti: '15, something like that, yeah.

Interviewer: '15, okay.

Mrs. Gatti: So I get off 21 or March.

Interviewer: You landed in Philadelphia?

Mrs. Gatti: Uh huh.

Interviewer: Did anybody meet you in Philadelphia?

Mrs. Gatti: Well, someone come with me, my brother come with me.

Interviewer: Uh huh. Oh, your brother had been here before?

[Cross talk]

Oh, this is another brother?

Mr. Gatti: Yeah.

Mrs. Gatti: Another brother, yeah, come with me. But when we come through, we called him a *[inaudible]* **[0:54:02]**, when we come there he was ahead and I was back in. But I wonder it was in one place *[phonetic]* **[0:54:08]** he switch in another part, I guess to go through.

Now, my brother turn back and said, what's the matter? And I says *[inaudible]* **[0:54:19]** take care because somebody take care. It was him.

Interviewer: Uh huh.

Mrs. Gatti: It was *[inaudible]* **[0:54:27]**.

Interviewer: Oh, he was waiting for you then? He was in Philadelphia?

Mrs. Gatti: Yeah. Because *[inaudible]* **[0:54:33]** on his name, yeah.

Interviewer: Right. Uh huh.

Mrs. Gatti: So my brother *[inaudible]* **[0:54:37]** to do.

Interviewer: I see.

Mrs. Gatti: So I went home; *[inaudible]* **[0:54:41]** it 11 girls I'm the first to get married, no one, 11.

Mr. Gatti: She was the only girl.

Interviewer: Oh, really?

Mrs. Gatti: And then when we go all out, you know, boy come one by one, I was the late one to get out. And then they put them on the wagon, you know, put them on the court.

[0:55:00]

Put them on the court.

Mr. Gatti: I don't remember the day...

[Cross talk]

Mrs. Gatti: ...supposed to get off on a Friday night, Friday morning.

Mr. Gatti: One day late.

Mrs. Gatti: But then *[inaudible]* **[0:55:15]**...

[Cross talk]

...I think just the – I think I stay off the ship...

[Cross talk]

Interviewer: Uh huh.

Mrs. Gatti: Yeah. It was bad, boy everybody was sick.

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible]* **[0:55:33]**, I was right there and I stayed in the morning. And the night *[inaudible]* **[0:55:39]** had a fever. It was cold...

Mrs. Gatti: Bad day.

Mr. Gatti: Well, I walk, you understand? I go home in the night in the West Philadelphia *[inaudible]* **[0:55:51]** understand...

Interviewer: Oh, what were you doing? Living in Philadelphia then?

Mr. Gatti: No, I live in Baltimore.

Interviewer: You're still in Baltimore, yeah.

[Cross talk]

Right. Were you staying with friends in Philadelphia?

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible]* **[0:56:05]** his own friends. I was board with him, you understand? And that man *[inaudible]* **[0:56:10]** go home. When we find it out it was – my girls is going to come, of course *[inaudible]* **[0:56:16]** well, I stay a couple of more days *[inaudible]* **[0:56:18]** understand? I

take *[inaudible]* [0:56:20] you understand? Because you never BNO *[inaudible]* [0:56:23].

Interviewer: Yeah. Uh huh.

Mr. Gatti: And he was all right. I went down there, you understand? The ship *[inaudible]* [0:56:33]. Well, I don't know much in Philadelphia because I've never been there before, you know, and walk and walk and sooner I understand *[inaudible]* [0:56:44] I got cold and that night I had fever.

Now, in the morning just *[inaudible]* [0:56:49] you understand? My body. And I get up and feel pretty good. And I told Henry, he said, look come on *[inaudible]* [0:57:03] before 9:00 O'clock I was hungry you understand? *[inaudible]* [0:57:10] you understand? To go down – mode to go down and I started to cook *[inaudible]* [0:57:16], all right, what are you going to do? I don't know you understand? I've never been there before, you know what I mean?

And when somebody want to take care of you, you know, it's all right. But when I was down there, everybody was out in the morning as soon as it was daylight *[inaudible]* [0:57:36] street you understand? When he had the dog *[inaudible]* [0:57:42] everybody get off. I stayed there in Philadelphia, you understand?

Interviewer: Uh huh.

Mr. Gatti: Everybody get off, you understand? You got damn girl you must pick her up *[inaudible]* [0:57:53] you understand? *[inaudible]* [0:57:56] go through, it didn't run with the system *[inaudible]* [0:58:01] somebody take care her, you understand?

Interviewer: Yes.

Mr. Gatti: And still it get *[inaudible]* [0:58:10] everybody gone. Everybody go home before us in Baltimore because – well, after that the man get off the chair, he got half way to go to *[inaudible]* [0:58:22] he said, wait a minute, wait minute it's been late in the train, you understand? Now, because it was in the Saturday yeah?

Mrs. Gatti: Yeah. It was Saturday morning.

Mr. Gatti: Saturday morning and I have to wait till Monday. And he said, he got late you understand? And just come here *[inaudible]* [0:58:37] well, they goes out and sat down and just ask for few questions, you understand? If

you know me before, have we seen before *[inaudible]* **[0:58:44]** that's okay. *[inaudible]* **[0:58:48]** on the court because don't you think *[inaudible]* **[0:58:51]** you understand? You can't take him away with *[inaudible]* **[0:58:57]** walk. Well, trying to call you...

[Cross talk]

That's right. *[inaudible]* **[0:59:06]** we got to chase, you know, another wait. And he got on the court and he have about 12, 14 girl there, you understand? Take all time to stay all day. At 12 O'clock I go back again in the wagon and take me down to church.

Interviewer: What did you do? Make out the marriage license...?

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: That's right. *[inaudible]* **[0:59:28]** you understand? I went all to *[inaudible]* **[0:59:32]** on a company church. All girl, all of this copy, understands – when I went there *[inaudible]* **[0:59:39]** all along.

Mrs. Gatti: Oh, yeah, we take the wagon and we got to walk along...

[Laughter]

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible]* **[0:59:46]** freeze. And it was funny I have a man that have a four kids, nice looking girls, totally like you.

[1:00:00]

He come, you know, with some relation, some reasons tend to somebody, you know, *[inaudible]* **[1:00:08]** man. Well, not the priest of business and the priest – maybe it's her right to say something, you see. The girls like *[inaudible]* **[1:00:20]** like me.

Mrs. Gatti: It was 33...

Mr. Gatti: He told me, he said, look my friend. He said, now, you bought this up, where you go home tonight *[inaudible]* **[1:00:35]**.

Mrs. Gatti: Yeah. Four children man, you know, he was a widow.

Mr. Gatti: You know what I mean?

Interviewer: Yes.

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible] [1:00:43]* because you're on the street because we got priest *[inaudible] [1:00:49]* they take good care of you. They can pick up nice men, a good boy *[inaudible] [1:00:57]* when you go home, you can go before, you understand? Get married because no one try to *[inaudible] [1:01:06]* you understand? The next day because that's your children – that's your children, you got to take care of them. And he said, it's all right, he said, I'll take care. So okay.

That boy *[inaudible] [1:01:18]* when you go home it was five – it was six, six in the family.

Interviewer: Right.

Mrs. Gatti: More than six...

[Cross talk]

Mr. Gatti: *[inaudible] [1:01:31]* work.

Interviewer: That's right. So you got to go from not having any children to all of the sudden having...

[1:01:36] End of Audio