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## **A note about transcriptions:**

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Interview by Steven Schoenherr, August 1, 1973, 1:00-2:30 p.m. in Milford, Delaware, with Mrs. F. A. Webb.

Q The kind of things we're interested in are basically your experiences, not so much facts and figures--these kind of things we can find out from the documents. But what we're interested in is your attitudes, your impressions, your memories. These are the kind of things we'd like to preserve on tape. So to start out could you tell us simply something about your life? Just start with your name, how long you've lived here, just a brief biography.

A I was born in 1891 on the 27th of December, and I have been happy all my life. I can remember my dad telling me, "Sarah, I wish I could see things the way you do, because you see beauty in weeds." Weeds are pretty unless they're in your garden or someplace they shouldn't be. Some weeds are pretty.

Q Have you lived in this house all your life?

A Oh, no. My mother died before I was three years old, and my father married five years later, a widow woman with three older children. And my stepmother asked my grandmother if she would take care of my sister and I for one week--they were going to butcher hogs, and of course in those days that meant, oh, about a week, because they generally had oh twelve or fourteen, maybe more. And we came to this house to stay with my grandmother one week, and we stayed eleven years. Now, we come with the intention of staying one week, but our grandmother asked if we could stay another week. I was going to school and we could go to school, it was so much nearer. We didn't have to walk so far. From my father's home we had to walk about two and a half miles to school, and here we only had to walk about a mile--not quite a mile.

Q Which school was this?

A This was Kirby's School.

Q A private school?

A It was just a country school. There was...well, the school wasn't graded. There was some beginners, and there was some that maybe was fifteen or sixteen years old that went to that school because there was--I can remember several--young men, the size you are now that was attending that school when I first started.

Q This was a one-room schoolhouse?

A A one-room schoolhouse, yes.

Q Could you describe what it was like inside?

A There was a coal stove in the center of the school and there was blackboards up front...a long bench that was the length of the room, and when we went to class, that's where we'd sit.

Q Did you have a desk?

A And the desks were ordinary desks where the seat would turn up. Of course it had the inkwell in the center...but two could sit at each of the desks. And I can remember so well one teacher that gave us so much work to do that I could never get it all finished. I'd have to stay in noons and recesses to finish the work. Not that I had to stay in, but I would do it in order to get the work that she wanted us to do finished. And every night I prayed, I prayed just as earnest as I could that it would rain so hard the next day that my father couldn't carry me to school. That was a terrible thing to do, and it's certainly a blessing that the Lord didn't answer my prayers, because it would have been a flood all the time. Wasn't that a terrible thing to do?

Q Oh, not really. Did you have the same teacher for a number of years?

A I had the same teacher for about five years, and that teacher lived at her home, and she walked about three mile night and morning. That seems impossible now, but she did. And she walked through the woods...a long distance through the woods. There was a road, just a road where they hauled wood out. But that of course was a shorter route.

After my grandmother's death...I lost my sister the same year, and I was...well, it was just a terrible thing because we had such a wonderful time together and if I hadn't been going to get married...I don't know how I could've...I just, I was in a terrible way. The older you grow, I think the easier things are.

Q These kind of crises...or the death in a family--is this what you're referring to? The older you get, what do you mean the easier things are?

A Well, I think the easier...you're more able to take things. I don't know just how to explain it, but I have always found that as I grow older the easier things are for me to do, like getting a Christmas dinner. It's much easier for me to get a Christmas dinner now for my family than it was forty year ago.

Q You have the experience, I guess, and you just know how to do it. Is this the reason?

A Well, that's one thing. And after I was married, we lived on a farm.

Q Nearby in this area? You lived on a farm in Thomsonville here?

A About three mile from here. We had a pair of horses and a pair of mules. And my husband's father lived on a farm adjoining the farm where we lived and when we needed more teams, we could use his horses...no tractors.

Q Can you remember when you first got a tractor?

A I can't remember the year.

Q Was it like in the 1920's...or before World War I?

A It was...I'm sorry, I can't remember what year it was, but I think it was before World War I, because at that time...there was another terrible thing, I expected my husband to have to go and I had two babies. At times I thought, well, it would be better if we didn't have anything...maybe he wouldn't have to go if my father wasn't able to take care of me and take care of my children. Now maybe I was selfish, but I just thought if I didn't have anything, maybe he wouldn't have to go. Was that being selfish?

Q Oh, I don't know...I can't tell. Evidently he did not go in the army.

A No, he didn't have to go, but his name was the same as another fellow down in Sussex--this is Kent County. Well, in Sussex County there was a man that did have to go and we would get his mail, and several times we had to go to Milford to get it straightened out you know because he was in Sussex County and we lived in Kent County. But he had to go.

Q What was the feeling in this area about World War I--about America becoming involved in a war in Europe. Did the people support the war, did they think it was a good thing to do?

A Yes...I didn't mind doing without sugar and doing without things if it was a help. I was willing to do anything that would help. And I wanted...well, later I wanted to take two orphans and raise them. But my husband wouldn't agree to it; he said that I had done enough and he didn't want me to do it. I had four boys of my own and my neighbors that lived on farms on both sides of us had sons and they were at my house every day of the week, two from each family. He thought that I had done plenty.

Q What kind of crops did your farm grow at that time?

A Wheat and corn. We didn't grow soybeans at that time. After we bought the tractor we grew string beans.

Q Did you have any livestock?

A Yes, when we first started we bought nine cows. That was all we could afford to buy. And about seven year after we was married anthrax struck us. We was the first to lose a cow and we lost all the cows we had--we had nine; they all died. And one of our mules; we had fourteen head of hogs and they all died with anthrax. Well, that was another thing that wasn't easy, but....

Q Did you get any money back from...did the Government pay you for the cows?

A Oh, no, no. We didn't get anything. We just simply lost them.

The state veterinarian name was Dr. Eaves and he came to the farm several times and we had two veterinarians from Milford to find out what the trouble was. There was several other farmers that lost at the same time--we was the first that lost, but they lost after that. But it wasn't anyone I remember that lost all that they had...all the cows that they had...we were the only ones.

Q What was it like living on the farm, being a farmer's wife...was it hard work?

A Yes, it was hard work but I loved every minute of it. Later we sold milk, oh about 5,000 bottles a season. And I loved it. The more milk bottles I had to wash the more money we'd make. I had chickens and turkeys and ducks and geese, like farmer's wives did at that time. And we didn't pen the turkeys up like they did, or like I did, later. When we was first married I had seven turkey hens and one gobbler, and those turkeys just run loose. They would go half a mile away and make a nest in the woods, and if I was lucky enough to find the eggs or to find the nest, and if you work with turkeys you learn how they do. And I could find their nest in the woods, bring the eggs to the house and set 'em. We didn't have any incubators at that time.

Q So you raised the young turkeys yourself?

A They were all set under the old mother hens. The chickens, the eggs were set under the hens, and the turkeys, the ducks and the geese...there was no incubator. About maybe ten years after we had farmed then we learned of incubators and bought...the first one was a Buckeye, I believe...about that size. I thought it was wonderful. And the next year I had one that was about three times that size. I used to set the clock at night because I was so afraid that something might happen to it. I'd get up and watch it certain times. But I loved to do it. I always....

Q Well, evidently you did a lot of this...the work...you washed your clothes by hand?

A Yes, washed the clothes by hand. I didn't wash clothes on a washboard, only a short time. My father bought me a washing machine and brought it down; and it was one of the kind you push it with your foot. I can't remember the name of it, but you hit it with your foot. But I couldn't get the clothes clean, and I would cull out the things that wasn't very dirty and wash in that; but the real dirty things I washed on the washboard. But I made sure that he didn't see me washin' on the washboard after he had bought me a washer.

Q You had a refrigerator then?

A Oh, no, there was no refrigerator; we had a ice box that would hold a hundred pound of ice. You could put a hundred pound in. You could put more than that but you wouldn't have room on the shelves to put your food in. But it was all right to keep the milk. But before that we used to hang the butter--now in the wintertime I made butter, but in the summer we sold the milk at the beach. We delivered it twice a day, morning and night

down South College. And during the depression we furnished people with milk all summer. They didn't have any money to pay us; they didn't pay us anything. They would order vegetables and chickens, eggs, and of course we had it...potatoes, sweet corn. But they didn't have any money to pay us. But they all did pay us, except one...there was only one fellow that didn't pay us. Of course it was a year, oh some of the people paid us two year later. But the one thing that I did hate was when they ordered chickens, want 'em Sunday morning, and they didn't know how to dress those chickens. I had to dress them. And that I didn't like because if I had of been buying something and knew I couldn't pay for it, I'd have learned to dress those chickens myself. I didn't like that, but of course I did it.

Q Did you have much free time for recreation?

A Well, I always was able to go to church every Sunday and take my family along, the children. I can remember so well one of my neighbors came in church late, and after the service she said, "Sarah, I wouldn't of been here today if it hadn't been for you. But when I saw you go past and I said she's got three babies to get ready; if she can get ready and go to church, I'll go." She said, "I was late, but you was the cause of me going." And the chautauqua used to come to Frederica. My husband and I was sponsors for that. We used to attend that. That was in the wintertime.

Q What was this, in Frederica?

A They called it chautauqua. It was plays.

Q Did you go once a week?

A No, we went every night for about a week. Not on Sunday, but during the week.

Q Did you learn a lot from them? Now they had plays, and then did people also come and talk?

A Oh, yes, yes. It was a good entertainment. They had plays... that only lasted two or three years--three or four year.

Q Did you have a radio?

A Yes, our first radio was a table model and we had earphones to listen. And I can remember our neighbors used to come to hear different things. And one night, they was, oh, several of the neighbors was there listening to the program. It was hooked up with the battery on the outside of the house--I don't know just how, my husband had it. But anyway, I had an old cord out and I had it on the battery of that Ford some kind of a way, and everybody was listening to the fight when the cats began to fight and they knocked the wires off, so there wasn't no radio until they went out and put those wires on.

Q What kind of programs did you listen to?

- A Oh, I can remember listening to the expedition down the South Pole, Byrd. And there was programs then, a few.
- Q Was that exciting, listening to the expedition?
- A Why, sure it was, yes indeed, to find out how they was getting along, how they was doing.
- Q It would be almost like watching the space missions today.
- A Yes, I enjoyed it just exactly the same that I do...just exactly the same. I enjoyed it just as much as I do now and I was anxious to know just how they was gettin' along.
- Q Do you remember getting your first car...or your husband getting your first car?
- A Yes, the first car was...I remember the first car I ever saw. Would you like to hear about it?
- Q Yes, I would; please tell me.
- A I was going to the country school at that time and I heard a terrible noise...oh, a terrible noise. I lived in that house, looked in that window and saw two colored--a boy and a girl--that was on their way to school. I hadn't left the house yet. But they was on their way to school. And they heard the noise and they started to run and they run just as fast as they could to keep ahead of it. And Mr. Thompson had a bird dog that would bite everybody that come near. But those two run right by that bird dog and you couldn't have hired me to have gone anywhere near his...because he was chained. But they ran right past him and about the time they ran past the dog, I saw the car. It was one seat, like a buggy, didn't have any top, about not much longer than that piano, maybe not any longer. That was the first automobile I'd ever seen.
- Q Did it scare you?
- A No, no, it didn't scare me, but I was scared when I saw the children run past that dog because I thought something terrible would happen. I thought they would get bit, but they didn't. I guess they ran too fast.
- Q What kind of car did you first own, a Ford? Did you go driving on Sundays or Saturdays?
- A Oh, yes. It had a top with isinglass for the windows, and we thought it was very nice. It was at that time.
- Q Do you think the automobile has really changed how people live in the country?
- A I didn't understand that.

Q Has the automobile changed the way people live now? Do you think the automobile has....

A Well, yes. When we bought our automobile, we paid for it. I never bought anything except a sweeper that I didn't pay for. And that sweeper almost worried me to death. I paid \$68 for it and I worried about that \$68...I just worried about it. The farmers couldn't get along like that now...they have to borrow money, have things financed and all of that...but we didn't.

Q Do you remember getting the Sears' catalog and buying things through the catalog?

A I can remember that we'd always get a Sears' catalog, but I never bought very much from Sears. Ordered a pair of shoes and they didn't fit; that was the only pair of shoes I ever ordered. I always liked to see what I bought. I liked to try shoes on. I never had a corn or a bunion or anything on my feet; they've always been good all my life, but I think that's because my father was careful the kind of shoes I wore when I was growing up.

Q Do you remember any of the Presidents of the United States? Have any memories or impressions of them?

A Yes, when McKinley was assassinated--I remember that.

Q How did you find out about that, through the newspaper?

A At that time there was a post office right...just the next place down. There was a country store, and the post office was in the store...it was Thompsonville post office. And somehow it was... we got the news from the post office. We didn't get a daily paper at that time, but that's how the news came.

Q Do you remember actually hearing any of the Presidents speak?

A Oh, no, no, no. We just heard that he had been shot. No, there was no...that was long before there was radio.

Q Do you remember President Harding's visit to Milford?

A Oh, yes.

Q Did you see him?

A Yes, and his wife waved at me. I was standing out all alone on the lawn, and I know she was waving her bouquet at me because I was the only person standing there. And I waved back. That was quite a thrill. Then I went to Dover when President Johnson and Ladybird was there. Of course that hasn't been long ago.

Q Do you remember hearing President Roosevelt on the radio? His fireside chats? Remember President Franklin Roosevelt in the 1930's?



A Oh, yes.

Q When he spoke over the radio--do you remember any of those, or did you listen to any of those?

A I can't remember anything that I heard him say.

Q Did World War II affect your life any, the second world war?

A Oh, it certainly did. I had four sons at that time that I was sure that'd have to go, and the oldest one was...well, when they called him...it was only a short time after he was examined before he was called. And then I had three more and they was... we was just expecting them to be called because the two younger ones was 1A and we was just waitin' for them to be called. But the war was over before they were called. That's why they didn't have to go. I guess they was the right age. But my oldest son was in the Pacific. There's one of his letters. Maybe you'd like to read it.

Q He wasn't injured in the war, was he?

A No, no, he wasn't injured. He had a terrible accident before he went in the service. He was hauling logs in the woods alone and had his legs broke like that, and the bones pushed out through the flesh...terrible. Now he has a great deal of trouble with arthritis and back trouble. Maybe that came from the condition in the foxholes that they used to have to stay in and such as that. But he works every day. He works in Penney's in Milford. You may have seen him. He worked for Penney's before he went in the service and ever since he's been home.

Q Back in the 1920's, can you remember anything about prohibition?

A Prohibition?

Q The laws against drinking.

A Yes.

Q Did a lot of people have their own stills, or bootleg whiskey?

A There was one family that I knew of that had a still in the woods; I don't know where it was--I never was in the woods where the still was supposed to have been. I was always scared to death of a person that was drinking. And when I see a person drinking, a young man especially, I want to cry, because to me drinking is a disease; it's just like T.B. and I pity him for it. We never had no kind of alcohol in our house. There was no drinking. Coffee, tea and milk, but no wine, no liquors.

Q What do you think about these kids today taking drugs and so on?

A It's a terrible sad thing. I wish I could help them, and I have tried to help all that I possibly can.

Q What organizations have you been involved in?

A Oh, home demonstration club, and the Grange, and the church.

Q Do you think the church has changed over the years? Is it like it used to be?

A To me, my way of thinking, the Ten Commandments are just as true today as they ever were. And the trouble with this country is that people don't abide by them.

Q Well some people say that Americans in general are becoming less religious. They still go to church but for some reason they become less religious.

A That's right. They have.

Q Can you think of any reason why this might be going on?

A Because they don't respect Sunday...work on Sunday. And people that don't want to work on Sunday, if they are working, they have to work on Sunday. There's plenty of people that have to work on Sunday that really don't wanta work on Sunday. There's young people that I know that have to work on Sunday because they have a job and it calls for them on Sunday and they have to go work on Sunday. And I don't believe in that. You may think I'm....

Q No, not at all. What about these "Holy Roller" religions? Some people in Milford say there has been an increase in this kind of religion. Do you think that shows that people are more religious if they belong to that kind of church? Have you ever seen preachers come through this area...

A No. Now, the Baptists, they come through here and have for some time with school buses and pick up everybody that they can get to go, and there is families that send their children--the parents didn't go, but they send their children. But I wasn't brought up like that.

Q What denomination is the church that you go to?

A Methodist.

Q Is that the Thompsonville church here?

A Um hmm.

Q Has your church become involved in a lot of social activities?

A Well, it's just a little country church. And there's so many people in this neighborhood--well, there's the trailer court a short distance from here, two trailer courts, and there's not any of the people in those trailer courts that come to our church. Now there has been a few that come once or twice or maybe they'd have company they would come. But they go to the base, or they go--if they go to church they go to some other church.

- Q What kind of people live in these courts--are they working at the air base?
- A They work at the air base, mostly. I don't know the people that live in the trailers. There's several trailers down this way. On this side of the woods there's several trailers, but I don't know any of the people.
- Q Have you travelled any in your life?
- A Well, not very much. Most of the states of the United States.
- Q Where have you been in the United States?
- A Well, I've been to Florida a number of times. My husband would fly years ago, and since his death I have flown quite a few times. I haven't gone every year, but most every year.
- Q Do you think there's a division between north Delaware and south Delaware? The kind of people that live down south and the kind of people that live in the northern part?
- A Well, there may be. The people that I know in the northern part of the state are Grangers and they're pretty much the same kind of person that I am.
- Q What about people that live in Wilmington?
- A All the people that I know that live in Wilmington are fine people.
- Q Do you know anyone who thinks there is a great difference between the north and the south part of Delaware? I'm thinking, you know, in the history of Delaware, ever since the Civil War, people have said that there is hard feelings between the northern part and the southern part of Delaware, or politics over who runs the state, this kind of thing.
- A Well, I know they have said that. I myself haven't got any hard feelings. I don't have many hard feelings toward any person.
- Q I just wondered if anyone in the northern part has done anything to you that would cause hard feelings.
- A No, no.
- Q A lot of people have also criticized the duPont family for running the state.
- A Criticized the duPonts for running the state...I know, but the duPonts have done a lot for the state. Or that's the way I feel.
- Q Do you remember when the highway was built?
- A Yes. They built the highway. And I can remember going down the

state in an automobile before that highway was built. Oh, it was just terrible.

Q Were there many paved roads?

A No, I can remember when there wasn't any paved roads, and you'd go out with an automobile and it was terrible. When my oldest son was going to school in Milford, I can remember before the school buses came, that when there was snow and the roads was bad he would drive horseback from about three miles from the farm where we lived down close to South Bowers up here and leave his horse at the store. Now maybe the school bus was going, maybe he got on the school bus, but anyway, he has rode horseback to get to Milford school, about three miles on horseback.

Q Do you remember when there were steamboats?

A Oh, yes. The John P. Wilson run from Lebanon, that's just not far from Dover, to Philadelphia. I can't remember how much it cost, but I can remember getting on the John P. Wilson and going to Philadelphia, take me about seven hours, one way.

Q Was it a nice experience to ride this steamboat?

A Yes, sure it was.

Q You didn't get seasick?

A No, I didn't get seasick the first time I went, but I did get seasick several times. But I'd go. And then the Frederica steamboat left Frederica and stopped at South Bowers, stopped at Webb's Landing first and we'd get on at Webb's Landing and go on to Philadelphia. But that was the easiest way to get to Philadelphia.

Q Did you ever ride the railroad? Did a railroad go from here to Philadelphia?

A Yes, in Milford. But any person down in this section would always go by steamboat. I can't remember what the fare was.

Q Was the steamboat usually crowded?

A Well, I never was aboard when it was too crowded; always able to get a stateroom.

You're talking about the people. Now I think that the people in Oklahoma are more like Delaware people than any place I have ever been.

Q Why is that?

A Well, I don't know, they just seem more like, well to me they just seem more like Delaware people. You find wonderful people, nice people, people that are ready to help you--or I have found them--any place you go. There's wonderful people all over the country. I mean friendly people.

- Q Do you think they were more friendly in the past than they are now, with big cities and turnpikes and everything?
- A Yes, well I haven't...conventions that I have attended different places in the country has been the Grange, and of course with Grangers from all the different states, and they all just seemed to be just the kind of person that I am myself. So maybe I haven't got any right to say anything about it. I only know such a few. But I've met people from all the different states in the United States.
- Q Do most of the farmers in this area belong to the Grange?
- A No. Not as many as there used to be.
- Q How often did the Grange meet when you were living on the farm?
- A Every two weeks.
- Q What kind of activities would you be involved in?
- A What kind of activities? Oh, last year we cleaned up a cemetery.
- Q Do you remember big occasions where the people would all get together to celebrate some holiday, or have a picnic, or....
- A Yes, one picnic I remember. We always had a church picnic and we'd go to the beach. But that year my class had asked, "Well, when we goin' to have a picnic? Are we goin' to have a picnic?" I said, "Yes, we'll have a picnic." And must have been during the depression because the superintendent announced that we wouldn't have a picnic that year. Well to me that was really terrible. I had already told my class that we was going to have a picnic. So I asked my husband, how about if we invite 'em down here, have a picnic down here. And it suited him all right, and I thought the boys can make the ice cream, and I cook cake and candy. So I invited them. Now I didn't invite the grownups only four teachers. That's all I invited. But all of the young people. And there was 63. And it was a right good picnic. Gave 'em balloons, and oh, we had games. But I had told them, and we had to have a picnic. I had promised them a picnic before he had said that we couldn't afford one this year, or that year. And they told them, some of them said, "Oh, Mrs. Webb, I never had so much fun in my life." So it was worth all the work.
- Q What do you think about some of these young girls nowadays, who believe in women's liberation. Do you think they're right?
- A No. They're not abiding by the Ten Commandments. Some of them.
- Q Some of the girls are saying that they don't want to stay in the house and cook. That they would rather go out and live by themselves and do the things that they want to do. That they don't want to do what men tell them to do, what their husband tells them to. That's one part of women's liberation.

- A Maybe some of those things are all right, but when people get married, they've gotta work together. It can't be a one way. I think you have to give and take.
- Q Do you remember any of the women's movements of the past--like in the 1920's, the suffragettes, or before World War I, any of these kinds of women's movements?
- A Oh, yes, sure there was. There always has been.
- Q Do you think they are the same kind of things that are going on today?
- A Just in a different way. There's just as fine young people today as there ever was. There's plenty of fine young men and young women, or just as fine young men and young women today as there ever was. Plenty of 'em. We don't hear very much about them. There's not very much said about them. It's the ones that do things wrong that we hear about.
- Q Have you known any--I don't know how to say this--"odd" characters that have lived in this area.
- A "Odd" characters? Well, there is in all neighborhoods, isn't there?
- Q Yes, and I'm just asking if you know of any--the kind of people that you knew, in your life, who seemed to you to be kind of odd.
- A Why certainly. And I might seem just as odd to them, or to anyone else.
- Q Can you describe some of these characters.
- A Well, I don't know as I can, because one of my daughter-in-laws one time called me and said, "Mom, I want you to tell me the worse thing..." that her husband had ever done. And my answer to her was, "I can't tell you, because I always try to forget the bad things. I just think of the good things that he did when he was growing up." I never had time to think about the bad things, I just had time to think about the good things.
- Q When I say odd, I don't mean bad, but eccentric characters who do strange things. Sometimes they're good, and sometimes they're bad. And I just wondered if you had known different types of these people, a hermit, maybe, who lives by himself....
- A Well, I've lived alone for the past 17 years.
- Q Well, I don't think you're a hermit by any means.
- A Well, I've had a lot of company--I haven't been alone. Always had company over the weekends, and every day I always knew someone from my family would be here. That really isn't living alone. My husband died about 17 year ago and I never thought of such a thing, that I would ever live alone, but I knew I

would mess up if I went to live with one of my sons--I'd mess up their home. I knew I could live with any of them, but I didn't feel it was the right thing to do.

Q Do you have any Negroes who live in this area? When you were talking about the car before you said that they went to the school that you went to?

A Not when I went to school, of course. But there's quite a few. Well, right in this neighborhood there's not very many. But I have always had wonderful neighbors. All my life, I always knew that if I needed one...well, now I don't know the people who live near me now, the ones who have just moved in the last two or three years, that live down on this side and down on this side. I don't know any of them. I don't know their names. But I have always felt that I could call any of my neighbors in the middle of the night if I needed help and they'd come help me. I know they would. I never visit my neighbors unless they're sick or I can help in some way, but that's what I call neighbors. Good neighbors, when you need any help they're ready to help you.

Q Have a lot of people in this area moved out?

A There's...well the people that used to be, of course there's not any left that's my age.

Q You must be one of the oldest people in this community, is that right?

A No, there's another man that's older than I am that lives not too far from here. And Mr. Kirby, Harris Kirby, and his wife--I'm a little bit older than he is, but not very much. They live at Ridges Heights. You came through that.

Q Do you think the town of Milford is changing?

A Oh, yes, it has changed. There used to be a hotel where Penney's store is, there on the corner, across from the bank. The first time I ever saw one man hit another man was in front of that hotel and it frightened me. I ran as fast as I could the opposite direction down the store. Because I never had seen a man strike another man before. And I've never seen anything like that happen in Milford since that day, and I was just a little girl.

Q Milford had some trouble a couple of years back over the school integration. A lot of people were really upset about that.

A Oh, yes, people were upset about it, yes. And the pictures that was in the Morning News, in the papers, oh my gracious, I don't know where they ever went to get some of those pictures they put in the paper. Pictures of the roads. I never seen the kind of roads that led into Milford like they had in the paper. I don't know where they went to take the picture of the roads.

Q Can you think of any other ways that this area has changed over the last fifty years?

- A Well, we used to go sleigh riding--we don't get to go sleigh ridin' any more. For one thing I guess we don't have the snow.
- Q You used to have more snow in the past?
- A Well, I can remember when I was young it seemed that every winter there would be snow and we'd get to go sleigh ridin' and that was a thrill. I enjoyed it.
- Q Can you remember seeing the first airplane?
- A Yea, sure. The first one that I heard I didn't see. But the next time I heard the noise; now it was the first airplane that flew over this section. And the next time I heard one I just kept lookin' and lookin' until I saw it, because I knew from the noise. And during the second world war we spotted airplanes. I got a badge for volunteer for 600 hours spotting planes.
- Q Where would you do that--your home here?
- A No, it was at a little building about three mile from here where they spotted planes and there was someone in that building on watch all the time. And all the planes that went over was put down.
- Q And you did that for 600 hours time?
- A No, I did that for 600 hours, that's the time that I spent. No, you didn't get any money for it. But I went certain days every week.
- Q Well, that's about all the questions I have, unless you have anything else to add.

End of interview.