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(SNP086) Herman Mace interviewed by Dorothy Noble Smith, transcribed by Peggy C. Bradley

Herman Mace

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ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM
SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK

NARRATOR: Mr. Herman Mace
INTERVIEWER: Mrs. Dorothy Smith
PLACE: Grottoes, Virginia
DATE: March 28, 1978

TRANSCRIBED BY:
Peggy C. Bradley
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D.S.: This is an interview with Mr. Herman Mace, who had lived in Madison Run.
Isn't that correct?

H.M.: I think that's what they called Madison Run.

D.S.: And who is now a resident of Grottoes.

When you were growing up, did you have very large families?

H.M.: It was thirteen of us.

D.S.: Thirteen. Did all of them live?

H.M.: Indicating yes.

D.S.: All of the children lived. There was no problem with childhood diseases?

H.M.: No. All living yet.

D.S.: That's wonderful. Now, what kind of a house did you have?

H.M.: A log house.

D.S.: A log house. How many rooms? Do you recall?

H.M.: It was about eight or nine.

D.S.: Eight or nine rooms. That was a big, log house, wasn't it.

H.M.: Yeah. It was big.

D.S.: Uh-huh. The kitchen was the main room, though, wasn't it? Where everybody settled around.

Your nearest neighbor was how close?

H.M.: Well, let's see. About a quarter of a mile, I reckon.

D.S.: A quarter of a mile. Uh-huh. And that was about the way it was throughout your area? The homes were about a quarter of a mile apart.

H.M.: That's for some of them. Some of them lived on back in the mountain. We lived at the foot over here.

D.S.: Yeah. She lived at the foot.

All right. Now, how about school? Where was your nearest school?

H.M.: It was down the road here about a quarter of a mile from where we lived.

D.S.: Quarter of a mile. Was it nine months out of the year?

H.M.: Uh-huh.

D.S.: It was?

H.M.: No. Let's see. It was - I believe it was seven months.

D.S.: Seven months?

H.M.: I believe it was.

D.S.: Do you recall what they taught?

H.M.: Nothing much but 'rithmetic and spelling, reading, writing.

D.S.: They stressed the Three R's. Reading, writing and arithmetic. That was good because the arithmetic was needed, wasn't it?

Now, when your family, - they had a garden, right?

H.M.: Yes.

D.S.: What did they raise?

H.M.: Well, they raised everthing they'd need during the winter - potatoes. We canned a lot of stuff.

D.S.: Yeah.

H.M.: Beans.

D.S.: How about the cabbages? Were they nice and big cabbages?

H.M.: Grewed big cabbage.

D.S.: Big cabbage. That's been true throughout the whole mountain area. They all raved about the size of those cabbages.

H.M.: We grewed some.

D.S.: What did you do with the cabbages and turnips and so during the winter?

H.M.: Buried 'em.

D.S.: Made a trench in the ground?

H.M.: Buried 'em.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Did you put straw under them?

H.M.: Put straw under 'em, covered 'em up with dirt.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Did you put straw on top?

H.M.: I don't remember. I don't believe we did.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Do you recall how big a garden it was?

H.M.: I expect that garden was half as big as this lot.

D.S.: Did you have a plow?

H.M.: Plowed with the horses.

D.S.: You plowed with the horses. How would you plant the corn? Do you know?

H.M.: Well, they used to plant it, I believe, a foot or six inches wide, and ever thirty-six inches, they called it a check, and drop it in hills.

D.S.: You did? Do you know what some of the people did? They used to use the stones that were in the ground, and planted the kernels right next to the stones. They said you could see it grow right up. But you plowed it just -

H.M.: Plowed it.

D.S.: the same as regular. Did you open up new ground when the other was used up?

H.M.: Yeah. Sometimes we cut off some and planted it.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Yeah. Were there any diseases particularly that you recall anyone having?

H.M.: Not that I remember. The flu is all I remember -

D.S.: Yeah.

H.M.: of any of 'em havin'.

D.S.: Yeah. Did you have a doctor that would come when you were all sick?

H.M.: Uh-huh.

D.S.: Do you recall his name?

H.M.: Whistler. Dr. Whistler.

D.S.: Dr. Whistler. Where did he live?

H.M.: Grottoes.

D.S.: In Grottoes. And you phoned him and he'd come?

H.M.: No. You'd have to ride a horse to see him -

D.S.: Uh-huh.

H.M.: and tell him. And he'd come.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Would he come anytime of the day or night?

H.M.: Uh-huh.

D.S.: You know, those doctors were simply wonderful, weren't they?

H.M.: Yes.

D.S.: I wish we had doctors like that now days. Do you recall any herbs that were used by your mother when you were sick?

H.M.: Well, they had sarsaparilla they used. They used burdock.

D.S.: What did you use it for?

H.M.: Kidney trouble.

D.S.: Burdock?

H.M.: Burdock. They used -

D.S.: Uh-huh.

H.M.: sarsaprilla, too.

D.S.: For kidney trouble?

H.M.: Indicating yes.

D.S.: Sarsaprilla?

H.M.: Wild cherry bark. I've seen 'em use that for colds.

D.S.: Wild cherry bark. You'd make a tea out of that and drink it?

H.M.: Drink it for a cold.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Was there any use of gingseng?

H.M.: I never did know of it. They had what they called a ditney grew in the mountains.

D.S.: Ditney?

H.M.: Uh-huh. Used that for the flu. That would make you sweat. Make a tea out of that and make you sweat.

D.S.: Oh. What did ditney look like?

H.M.: Oh, it was a little bush grew up with little fine leaves on it.

D.S.: Uh-huh. And you'd take the leaves -

H.M.: Take the leaves.

D.S.: Would you dry them or use them just as they were?

H.M.: Well, usually they dried 'em. They'd gather them during the summer and dry 'em in the winter.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Were any poultices used?

H.M.: Yeah. They used dogwood bark to make a poultice.

D.S.: Uh - that was for a cold, right?

H.M.: No. That was fer if you got a cut on your leg or something and got infection. They'd use that poultice.

D.S.: Now, how would they fix the dogwood bark?

H.M.: I don't know how they fixed it.

D.S.: Grind it, do you suppose?

H.M.: Cooked it some way or another, I guess.

D.S.: You know, all of these things are being proven to work. And doctors now wish that they knew more of these. And you don't recall how they fixed it at all?

H.M.: Indicating no.

D.S.: O.k. Can you think of any others?

H.M.: Well, if they wanted tea to drink, they gathered goldenrod and juniper.

D.S.: Goldenrod and juniper for just regular tea?

H.M.: That would make tea. Goldenrod - a lot of people gets it yet. That's a right good drink.

D.S.: What did you say beside goldenrod?

H.M.: Juniper.

D.S.: Juniper. That was just tea to enjoy? Right?

H.M.: Uh-huh.

D.S.: All right. Now, did you raise any cattle?

H.M.: Yeah. We had some cattle. Just run them loose in the mountains.

D.S.: Yeah. This is beef - beef cattle?

H.M.: No. Milk cows, mostly.

D.S.: Milk cows. And, of course, hogs.

H.M.: Yeah. Had some hogs.

D.S.: Uh-huh. What did you do with the milk?

H.M.: Well, my mother would take it and make butter and -

D.S.: Uh-huh.

H.M.: what they call cottage cheese now. We called it spear case.

D.S.: Uh-huh.

H.M.: Made that.

D.S.: That was good, too, wasn't it?

H.M.: Yeah.

D.S.: Did you take anything into the stores to sell like any of your butter or eggs or things of that kind?

H.M.: Yeah. They used to sell butter.

D.S.: Did you get credit for those or did you get cash?

H.M.: You'd just trade it.

D.S.: Credit. And against that a ledger was kept and you could buy your coffee and sugar and -

H.M.: That's right.

D.S.: What else would be bought? Kerosene?

H.M.: Kerosene.

D.S.: Cloth? Did your family make - your mother make your clothes?

H.M.: Made our own clothes.

D.S.: Yeah. Uh-huh. They made nice clothes, too, didn't they?

H.M.: Uh-huh.

D.S.: It is really quite an amazing thing what those women were able to do, isn't it?

H.M.: Well, they had an old sewing machine.

D.S.: Yeah. Uh-huh. Could you sort of tell me what would be a typical breakfast that you would have?

H.M.: Well, gravy, eggs, mostly for breakfast.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Did you eat any beef?

H.M.: Oh yeah. Sometimes we'd have steak for breakfast.

D.S.: Oh, that sounds ideal. Now, you had this spring that had very, very good qualities to it, didn't you? You still have rights to that spring?

H.M.: They let us have a key to go up there.

D.S.: Yeah. Now, you bottled it and sold this or what did you do?

H.M.: We used to.

D.S.: Yeah. How would you bottle it?

H.M.: Glass bottles. Gallon jugs.

D.S.: In gallon jugs. And where would you sell it?

H.M.: I think they were selling it - some in Washington and Pennsylvania.

D.S.: How would - you would take it down to the train then -

H.M.: Ship it.

D.S.: and ship it there. Have you any idea how much they got for it?

H.M.: I don't remember no more. I believe somethin' like a dollar a gallon.

D.S.: A dollar a gallon. That didn't even pay for the bottle.

H.M.: I think that's what they got. That's been a long time back.

D.S.: Yeah. Right. What was that spring supposed to have?

H.M.: You ain't got them analyses here, have you?

? : I think they down at the house somewhere.

H.M.: It's got radium and I don't know what all.

D.S.: Uh-huh. It's supposed to be very good for your health, isn't that it? How is this -

H.M.: It'll kill eczemer. It's been tried on that - or poison ivy. It'll kill it.

D.S.: Really?

H.M.: Wash in it, it'll kill that.

D.S.: Isn't that wonderful. You don't drink it then?

H.M.: We drank a lot of it.

D.S.: Yeah. Uh-huh. How was it discovered? Do you know?

H.M.: That's how it was discovered. My uncle, he had eczemer. The doctor tried everthing on him, and we could not let him have no water cause they called an extract of the mountain or somethin'. And he got to washin' at this spring. He got to gettin' better. So he showed my granddaddy where it was at and what it was doin'. So he went on up the mountain and found it. And it killed that eczemer on him.

D.S.: Yeah. So it was your uncle that discovered it. And it hasn't been that long in the knowledge of people, has it?

H.M.: It's been about - my granddaddy owned it all. It's been a good many years back.

D.S.: Speaking of your granddaddy, how many acres did you have, roughly?

H.M.: I wouldn't know, now. He owned a lot back in these mountains.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Did you feel that you got a good price when you sold it?

H.M.: I don't think we really ever got anything for some of it. The heirs, after he died, I know they got some. But, my daddy never did take nothing.

D.S.: He didn't get anything?

H.M.: He wouldn't take it - what they offered him. He wouldn't take it.

D.S.: Why?

H.M.: Because it wasn't worth it. They didn't give you nothin'.

D.S.: Oh. Well, did they give him a home?

H.M.: No.

D.S.: They just moved him out?

H.M.: Moved him out. Set him out in the road.

D.S.: That's the way the most of them did that.

H.M.: Yeah. They set all these people out back in the mountains - in the road and tore the houses down.

D.S.: Yeah. Have you any idea where - like of an evening when you all would be sitting around, did anybody tell you - tell how the family came to be here? Where they came from originally? 'Cause the name Mace is not that common.

H.M.: Well, they - all I ever knowed, they came from England to start with. They first come into West Virginia, and one of them stopped over in West Virginia, and the other one come on over here - two brothers.

D.S.: Uh-huh. You don't know when it was?

H.M.: I don't know when that was.

D.S.: Uh-huh.

H.M.: But, I can tell you where you can get all the information you want, if he's down there, is Roy Mace.

D.S.: Right. Uh-huh.

H.M.: Now, he's got a lot of old papers and stuff way on back.

D.S.: And he lives in Grottoes?

H.M.: No. He lives - you was up my house, wasn't you?

D.S.: Yeah.

H.M.: Well, right on down the road from there, he lives in a trailer. Now, a big old log house - that was there in the Civil War. You noticed that, I expect, when you come up there.

D.S.: Yeah.

H.M.: That old house was there in the Civil War.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Speaking of wars. Were the people around you very patriotic? Did they go to wars?

H.M.: Yeah they went.

D.S.: Yeah. Uh-huh. Now, what did you all do as young boys when you had a chance to play?

H.M.: Oh, we had a swimmin' hole. We went swimmin' during the summer.

D.S.: You did?

H.M.: Durin' the winter, we'd hunt. I had dogs - two dogs.

D.S.: What would you hunt?

H.M.: 'Coons. 'Possums.

D.S.: Uh-huh. How about fishing? Was it any good?

H.M.: Oh yeah. Did a lot of it.

D.S.: Did you play marbles?

H.M.: All of us played marbles.

D.S.: Pitch horseshoes?

H.M.: Pitched horseshoes.

D.S.: What did you do at Christmas? How did you celebrate Christmas?

H.M.: Well, mostly they'd just all - play organs and things.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Know any of the songs they sang?

H.M.: I don't know. They sung about all of 'em, I reckon.

D.S.: Would they play guitars and banjos?

H.M.: Mostly organ. Some of 'em did play a guitar.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Was there much dancing done?

H.M.: They used to have what they call square dancin'.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Yeah. And then everybody in the whole area would all get together and you'd have these square dances?

H.M.: Yeah.

D.S.: Did you do apple butter boiling?

H.M.: Yeah. We did that.

D.S.: All right. Tell me about the apple butter boiling. How was that done?

H.M.: A bunch'd gather up and boil apple butter.

D.S.: Yeah. Only in the day time or in the evening?

H.M.: Well, usually they'd run 'til about twelve o'clock at night.

D.S.: Yeah. Did you play music while it was going on?

H.M.: Oh yeah.

D.S.: And was there a lot of eating?

H.M.: A lot of that.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Much drinking?

H.M.: Some drinkin', yeah.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Did they have the custom that if a paddle touched the side of the kettle, you got a kiss?

H.M.: Yeah. Had that, too.

D.S.: Wonder how many times that was done deliberately?

H.M.: I imagine many of them.

D.S.: While I'm thinking about it, was there much moonshine made in this area?

H.M.: On back in the mountain, it was.

D.S.: Uh-huh.

H.M.: They used to make it up there.

D.S.: Do you know the names of the hollows where it was made particularly?

H.M.: Well, one holler was Gundo Holler.

D.S.: What?

H.M.: Gundo Holler.

D.S.: Gundo Hollow? Uh-huh.

H.M.: On the mountain there - I don't know what it was called up in there. Some of 'em lived up on top of the mountain.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Yeah. Did you ever visit any of those people up on top of the mountain?

H.M.: We used to run - my daddy used to run a sawmill back in there. I'd see 'em often.

D.S.: Oh great. What was their lifestyle like in comparasion to yours? Was it as good?

H.M.: Well, yeah. They had plenty to eat.

D.S.: They did.

H.M.: Uh-huh.

D.S.: How about their school?

H.M.: They had a school there at the foot of the mountain -

D.S.: Uh-huh.

H.M.: that they went to.

D.S.: Was that open seven months out of the year, too?

H.M.: I think so.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Wasn't it hard to get to that school when the snow was deep?

H.M.: They walked.

D.S.: Yeah.

H.M.: The teachers and all walked to school.

D.S.: Sure. Uh - oh, what haven't I asked about - church.

Did the people go regularly to church?

H.M.: Yeah. Most of the time.

D.S.: Was it non-denominational or did you have a special -

H.M.: Well, they just went to most any church.

D.S.: Did you have a tax collector come around?

H.M.: Yeah.

D.S.: Did you have to put him up for the night?

H.M.: Yeah.

D.S.: Yeah. So there was no chance in saying we didn't have this. He knew 'cause he was living right in there, right?

H.M.: Yeah.

D.S.: Was there resentment about this tax collector or did you all sort of like him?

H.M.: What you mean?

D.S.: Having him come. Did you like him or not?

H.M.: Well, sometimes they was all right, and sometimes you'd get one that wasn't.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Yeah. So nobody really much resented him?

They quite resented them down in the central section. So maybe it was a different man that they had.

Roughly, have you any idea with the sawmill and the spring, how much income your father made?

H.M.: He didn't make a whole lot. He made a living.

D.S.: Was it a movable sawmill?

H.M.: It was moved about from job to job.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Would he have people helping him?

H.M.: Uh-huh.

D.S.: Employ them?

H.M.: Yeah.

D.S.: Did you ever work there?

H.M.: Indicating yes.

D.S.: That's why you're doing it now, right?

H.M.: That's what I started out doing.

D.S.: Uh-huh. If the Park hadn't come along, do you think that eventually you would have run out of trees?

H.M.: There's more trees here. It would have really been better if it hadn't because we've got stuff up in here just falling down. Timber going to nothing. And it ain't doing nobody no good. And, if they do cut any off, rather than lettin' somebody take it where it'll do 'em some good, they'll take it and burn it up. Set it afire and burn it up. Then nobody gets

nothin' from it. If they'd let somebody go ahead and saw it up and work it out, they'd at least get a little tax back out of it. They don't get nothin'.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Yeah. You were saying you used to do a lot of hunting. You had a rifle to do the hunting with?

H.M.: Rifle and shot gun.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Weren't they pretty expensive?

H.M.: What? The guns?

D.S.: Uh-huh.

H.M.

D.S.: The store that you used. Was it down in Grottoes or where was it?

H.M.: Grottoes.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Did you carry the things on horseback or--

H.M.: On horses.

D.S.: Yeah.

H.M.: Well, my daddy had an old truck and we used to use that.

D.S.: Uh-huh. What are your most vivid recollections of life there?

H.M.: Of what?

D.S.: Of your life there? Was it a lot of hard work?

H.M.: Oh, a lot of it was hard work.

D.S.: Your mother - did she ever complain about all the work she had to do taking care of thirteen children?

H.M.: Never did hear her complain.

D.S.: Uh-huh. And you can't recall any of the songs that they used to play or sing.

H.M.: Only Christmas carols, I reckon -

D.S.: Yeah.

H.M.: At Christmastime.

D.S.: Yeah. Did you exchange any gifts at Christmastime?

H.M.: Oh yeah.

D.S.: And how about firecrackers? Did you have firecrackers?

H.M.: Had firecrackers.

D.S.: That was fun, wasn't it? Did you ever hear the tune "Money Much"?

H.M.: Indicating no.

D.S.: "Leather Britches"?

H.M.: I don't think I have.

D.S.: I had never heard of them either until I was interviewing somebody from the northern section. They mentioned those two songs and I thought, boy, I wonder what they sound like.

Have you ever heard that song "Fox Chase"? Or the tune?

H.M.: Yeah.

D.S.: Yeah. That is beautiful. I wish we could get a recording of that.

Do you know of anybody who plays that?

H.M.: No. Most any of 'em who knows music plays that.

D.S.: Who?

H.M.: Most any of 'em plays that.

D.S.: Who does?

H.M.: Most any musician.

D.S.: Do you know of any?

H.M.: The one I know Roy Mace, down here, he used to play a fiddle. He used to play it.

D.S.: He did? Well, boy, then I have one more reason to get in touch with Roy Mace, don't I? O.K.

Could you tell me, and this isn't a very happy subject, but - about the funerals. When a person died, did they keep the body in the house?

H.M.: Uh-huh.

D.S.: And, did they make their own caskets or did you buy them?

H.M.: Well, ever since I knowed anything, they bought 'em. But they used to -
my daddy made 'em.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Did everybody stay right at the grave site until it was all filled?

H.M.: Uh-huh.

D.S.: And then did they put up rocks and write on it, or did they buy monuments?

H.M.: Well, most of 'em just put up rocks for markers.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Yeah. Do you recall how courting was done?

H.M.: How what?

D.S.: Courting. When a fellow wanted to go around with a girl, how would he court
her?

H.M.: I don't know.

D.S.: How did you court your wife?

H.M.: That was done after the Park took over.

D.S.: All right. But you still kept the same custom.

H.M.: We'd go to the movies and things.

D.S.: So the parents didn't insist on chaparones?

H.M.: No.

D.S.: No. O.k.

What are some of the other things the people did? Can you think of anything
else that you would do? Like you say, you would go swimming in the summer.
Would this be on Sundays or -

H.M.: Saturdays and Sundays.

D.S.: Oh, you did take Saturday off, too.

H.M.: Uh-huh.

D.S.: Weeds still grow on Saturday, or didn't you worry about weeds?

H.M.: We'd get them out durin' the week.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Was it a one room schoolhouse that you went to?

H.M.: One room.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Do you recall the teacher's name?

H.M.: Burgess Tanner was my teacher.

D.S.: Who?

H.M.: Burgess Tanner. He lives in Grottoes.

D.S.: He does? How far did the school go? Through 8th grade or 7th grade?

H.M.: Seventh grade.

D.S.: Seventh grade. And, most of the youngsters went everyday?

H.M.: Uh-huh.

D.S.: Did you like school?

H.M.: I never did care too much fer it.

D.S.: But, you had to go, huh. Would your family buy the shoes at the same store that they would buy the kerosene and other things?

H.M.: Most of the time.

D.S.: So it was sort of a general store.

H.M.: Uh-huh.

D.S.: Was it a very large store?

H.M.: Pretty large.

D.S.: Do you know the name of it?

H.M.: Davis run it.

D.S.: Davis. Is it still in operation now?

H.M.: No. It's a store there in the building.

D.S.: How about visiting? You say you visited up there on the top of the mountain. Was it normal for people to visit back and forth?

H.M.: Oh yeah.

D.S.: What would you do if you were visiting - if you all decided to go and visit a certain family and they were busy - like shucking corn. What would you do? Leave or would you help 'em shuck the corn?

H.M.: Help 'em shuck it.

D.S.: Uh-huh.

H.M.: Then they'd come and help you shuck.

D.S.: Yeah. Did you dry beans?

H.M.: Dried 'em.

D.S.: And did you dry huckleberries?

H.M.: Dried 'em.

D.S.: You really did? You dried huckleberries? Cherries?

H.M.: Dried cherries and dried apples. Peaches.

D.S.: Peaches. Did you have a very large orchard?

H.M.: No. Just trees scattered around. A couple trees would be all you'd probably ever need if they'd bear ever year.

D.S.: Yeah. Did they dry peaches about the way you would dry apples?

H.M.: Same way.

D.S.: And, did they taste good.

H.M.: Oh yeah.

D.S.: I've heard that the huckleberries tasted good when they were dried. And, I guess - that's another question.

Did the people in the mountains set fire so they would be sure of having huckleberries?

H.M.: I've heered they did.

D.S.: Yeah.

H.M.: Burn it off to get the huckleberries.

D.S.: Yeah. It did increase the huckleberries. Do you know how much they got when they sold their huckleberries?

H.M.: Not very much - not over twenty-five cents a gallon.

D.S.: That was pretty much the same throughout the mountains - twenty-five cents a gallon. That's terrible for all that work picking all those huckleberries. When the chestnuts died off, did that hurt the people in the mountains?

H.M.: Yeah, a lot of 'em. See, they used to sell chestnuts. Had a good market on chestnuts.

D.S.: Yeah. Did they do much stripping of the bark for tanneries, or were there any tanneries around here.

H.M.: What? Chestnuts?

D.S.: What?

H.M.: What you mean? The chestnut trees?

D.S.: No. Just regular bark. Strip the bark from the trees and sell it to the tanneries.

H.M.: Oh, checkin' 'em. They used to.

D.S.: Uh-huh. So you did have tanneries down here?

H.M.: Had one at Port Republic.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Yeah.

H.M.: There was one at Elkton.

D.S.: How about the mills. Would you take your grain to the mills?

H.M.: Take it to the mill.

D.S.: Would you give the miller ten per cent or would you pay him?

H.M.: They give him so much wheat for ever barrel of flour. I don't remember how it was.

D.S.: I think it was probably ten per cent because that was pretty standard. Was the mill fairly close? Like the foot of the mountain?

H.M.: The mills were all down here on the river.

D.S.: Uh-huh. Once you discovered - once that spring was discovered, I imagine that everybody was quite delighted, weren't they? 'Cause this meant extra -

H.M.: I don't know how - see, when they found that, I wasn't born.

D.S.: Yeah. I wonder how they advertised it to let people know.

H.M.: I had an uncle something wrong with him. And he got that water from the spring and that's how it got started.

D.S.: I see. Where did they get the bottles?

H.M.: I don't know. Some fella from up there furnished the bottles. He'd ship 'em here and we'd fill 'em up and ship 'em back.

D.S.: Uh-huh. And only for a dollar. That seems terrible. I wonder what you'd get for it now?

H.M.: I don't know.

D.S.: You're still allowed to go up and get it. Do you do it very often?

H.M.: We haven't been for awhile. We used to.

D.S.: Is it still fun to go back and see it all?

H.M.:

D.S.: Would you go back if you could?

H.M.: What?

D.S.: To live there?

H.M.: Oh yeah.

D.S.: You would.

H.M.:

D.S.: Uh-huh.

H.M.:

D.S.: So then you just moved the saw mill right down here, is that it?

H.M.:

D.S.: If it was a portable saw mill, you'd have brought it along.

H.M.: See, they wear out. That was wore out.

D.S.: Oh. So then, where did your father get the money to get a new saw mill?

H.M.: He had enough saved up.

D.S.: Well. I've sort of run out of questions to ask you. And you never elaborate.
All you say is yes or no.

H.M.: Talk to Roy. He can tell you.

D.S.: Would he be there if I stop by?

H.M.: I don't know. I imagine he would.

D.S.: Well, I certainly do thank you very, very much for this information because, as I say, we have never been able to interview anyone from this area.

Did you ever go like over to Charlottesville or traveling that far?

H.M.: Yeah. It's just across the mountain.

D.S.: Would you go over there for any particular reason, like if there was a fair or -

H.M.: No.

D.S.: If anybody was particularly sick, would they take them to Charlottesville?

H.M.: Yes.

D.S.: Well, I certainly thank you. And you've been a tremendous help to us.

D.S.: All right now, this is the contents of the health mineral water made by Col. Henry C. Jennings, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. This is actually the Mace spring water, right?

H.M.: That's right.

D.S.: Radioactive

Each inactivated one cubic centimeter of sample shows no gas production.

Chemical analysis - here we go.

Ammonia chloride, potassium chloride, sodium chloride, calcium chloride, calcium sulfate, magnesium sulfate, iron sulfate, aluminum sulfate - my goodness. Manganese carbonate, silicon, sulfuric mercurium sulfate, bromide, arsenic, iodine, lithium. As the medicinal properties of this mineral water have had favorable results in many instances, we are especially interested in having absolutely correct results and they are submitted herewith.

You have a remarkable mineral water. The best for diseases of the skin we have ever analyzed.

That is very interesting. Thank you so much.

There is one thing I was wondering. Have there been any other springs located that have these contents?

H.M.: Plenty of other springs up there, but that's the only one. That comes right on the side of the mountain.

D.S.: You had another spring that you used at your home, didn't you?

H.M.: Oh yeah.

D.S.: Yeah. And that's where you kept your milk and butter and -
Well, that's very nice. Thank you ever so much.