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(SNP126) Everett Wampler interviewed by Paul Lee, transcribed by Sarah Vaughan and Jeanette Shapiro

Everett L. Wampler

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Interview with Everett Wampler
Part of the Shenandoah National Park Oral History Collection, SdArch SNP-126
(SC# 4030)

Interview conducted at Unknown Location
By Paul Lee on October 1, 1974

Transcribed by Sarah Vaughan and Jeanette Shapiro,
September 2003-January 2004

Key

[PL:] Interviewer, Paul Lee

[EW:] Interviewee, Everett Wampler

[Notes regarding transcription technique]

[inaudible] Unable to understand more than one word

Total interview length: 01:25:13 min.

[Begin audio file, 00:00:01 min.]

PL: This is an interview with Mr. Everett Wampler, his recollections of Black Hawk Hotel, Shenandoah National Park, October 1st, 1974.

EW:...well if you were going question me, then maybe I could answer better than know what to talk about. [laughs]

PL: Well we were talking a little bit about it, on the way up, uh...sort of uh, curious...I was curious to know when the thing got started.

EW: Well...now, that's something I can't tell you.

PL: Yeah. When were you there, as a boy, or...?

EW: Yes. When I was a boy [inaudible] ... I had my eightieth birthday not long ago.

PL: Uh huh.

EW: I was out there with my grandfather, and me and him were [inaudible], and he stayed there and of course a lot of others [inaudible] and... So, I was just a boy and it looked like it fell to my lot to go around and stay with him.
[inaudible]

PL: Mm Hmm.

EW: Even around here at home, he would, uh...he'd drive around on a horse and buggy [a horse and buggy], and I always had to go with him, because he was old and I was just a young fella' and didn't have anything to do, but go with him. So, that's about when I was there and about seventy some years ago...

PL: Mm Hmm

EW: but when it started before that I don't know.

PL: Uh huh

EW: But I do know that it was there a good while, because there's two rows of

houses [inaudible]. Yeah, this was the little road I think...

PL: Ok, alright I...

EW: And up in here was what [he called the round house], but that's more of a hexagon shape. Ours was kind of in the center of this lawn. See this row of houses went up here and circled and come back and I'd come down here to this hotel. That was a...that was the best hotel [inaudible]. And this other...well it was called just a little drive or alley or something. One of them come up right along here, you can see this rock wall, and if you notice [inaudible]...

PL: Mm Hmm, mm hmm.

EW: Well that was the second building that stood on this lot. Uh, now I knew I had another picture...

PL: So there was a, uh, hotel there, before this one?

EW: It showed in the picture, but I don't remember ever seeing it...

PL: Hmm

EW: That, and it sat long ways, like this way, and when I knew it...there's a big flat rock right out in near this drive, up around there, and you could see this wall...a rock wall, right there. That's why I knew it was the same spot.

PL: I see, yeah.

EW: And it made this circle and come on up this way, and then it circled around, and the spring was right...up in here, there's two springs.

PL: Yeah, alright...I found two.

EW: Then there's...

PL: yeah

EW: And then this other alley, or just like a little alley or drive around in here [inaudible] behind this hotel, and then got into this road that come on up from the horses...you know where that is.

PL: Yeah.

EW: Uh, let's see here. What's it called now?

PL: There's a Payne's Run Road...

EW: That's right.

PL: Uh

EW: That's right

PL: Mm Hmm

FW: That would come on up, go on up, across Skyline Drive.

PL: Yeah

FW: Right straight across the drive and down over on Sugar Hollow, that's what we

always called it.

PL: Were there two roads that came up? I...There's the one road now that's in good shape, you could drive a car up it today, it's in that good of shape...

EW: Uh huh

PL: And it comes within, oh I would say, a hundred yards of where a lot of the buildings were. But then, when I was walking around I found another road, that has been abandoned that also appeared to come up, and it came up above the, uh, where the hotel and everything was. So were there two ways to get up to it, from say down here?

EW: Well, yes. But the one I had in mind you would turn left, if I remember there's probably some old apple trees standing around in there, and there's an orchard there, and this road would come up from the [horse field], turn left and went around, and come on up to where those springs were.

PL: Mm Hmm...Ok, yeah that...

EW: So this, there was one road though, one that run up on this side and made the circle up there at the springs, and come back down here and they both come out on the same road, you could [run it] across the mountain.

PL: Right, they both came out at the same place on top, up near where Skyline Drive is. Did they both...

EW: Well, no [coughs] the one did [inaudible]

PL: Mm Hmm

EW: This used to be a little incorporated town there [inaudible]

PL: Well, where the hotel was?

EW: Yeah, I don't know whether it went on that way for awhile, and then something happened, I reckon, that just probably didn't justify [them] to have an incorporated town up there anymore.

PL: Was it called Black Rock?

EW: Yeah, Black Rock Springs. That's all I ever remember [inaudible], you see there are several springs around there...

PL: Mm Hmm

Female: They had a post office there didn't they?

EW: Well, yeah, I think they did. You see, they had a little store there too.

PL: A Post Office in Black Rock Springs, Virginia. I'll be darned, that's a very...

EW: And, let's see this... This [up near our house] down in here [inaudible]. This is on [inaudible] road on the lower side of this hotel, I think.

PL: These are some of the cabins here?

EW: Yes, that's what I was trying to find out. That was a, probably, that was the lower road...

PL: Mm Hmm

EW: [inaudible] that went around to the left and come up this way. And then this was the hotel, stood along in there, right in the turn of the road.

PL: Uh huh

EW: You said something about a hundred yards, but this hotel wasn't a hundred yards from that road come up it was just close enough to make it bend and turn in the road and go on up over the mountain to the right. But then, this other road, where the springs were, there was a little road that went up to the left and they come together up there before you got to the Skyline Drive.

PL: Ok, I don't know. Let me see if I can sort of draw what I saw. I was up there this past summer and it's been awhile since I was up the fire road, the road you can get through on a car; but, if this would be...say this is the valley. Then up here, is the Skyline drive, we came up the Payne's Run Fire Road, and right when you get pretty close to the top the road makes a sharp curve this way and then it just sort of winds around and comes out at Black Rock Gap, on the Skyline Drive. And, right where this road makes a sharp turn, you can see an old road that goes back in this way, and all the buildings, the foundations anyway, appear to be in this area. And, I walked around in here, and the springs about right...well, yeah. Here's where you leave the Payne's Run Road, and you walk back and the spring seems to be about right there. And then I went up above the spring and on back, and I picked up another road that took me all the way down here, this road, this is still the top of the mountain, it seemed to go down, and then it seemed to wind down this way somewhere, and where it went I don't know.

EW: Yeah, it came into the road then come up the Payne's Run.

PL: Oh, so it came back and joined this road then?

EW: Yeah

PL: I see

EW: [inaudible] the road went around below an orchard.

PL: Mm Hmm

EW: I don't know whether you can see it now, but there was one there...

PL: yeah

EW: [Inaudible] but they didn't get along out there, among themselves. This other man, that used this other road, that lead off to the right, I don't know whether he built that road himself or not, but they had a fence between them. And this man spilled over to the left all the time by himself, I mean he had a bowling alley over there, and he had a little grocery store, and they had a wire fence between these main buildings over here along... They'd go around here, but he wouldn't work with them, somehow or at least they didn't work together.

PL: uh huh. This was up at the Black Rock Springs area?

EW: yeah

PL: Mm Hmm

EW: And so, that's why I always thought that they didn't work together, and I don't know, I just suppose I didn't know I was just a little fellow [inaudible]

PL: yeah

EW: ...just hear them talking and I knew where it was, and these other buildings here. This looks familiar here.

Female: Well this man you're talking about was Mr. Miller, from Port Republic.

EW: No, well [inaudible] I don't know where he lived.

Female: Well, down there somewhere.

EW: Yes, it was an old man by the name of Bob Miller...

PL: Bob Miller.

EW: Yeah, but I don't know... Of course that was a long time ago. He doesn't live anymore. And here's a fellow that's running this bowling alley, over on his side of the fence and he had a little grocery store over there. And then over, where they had this wire fence that went up between and then I reckon the company, they built a bowling alley. So, I don't think they worked together long, but anyway they had two bowling alleys there.

PL: I'll be darned.

EW: And there's plenty of time they could do their bowling, if they worked together. They had two bowling alleys there. They had two springs...

PL: I'll be. Well what were the minerals in the spring, why was it such an attraction?

EW: Well, I always thought one was iron, or something like that, it looked kind of the water was, kind of red looking and some people would go out there, just for this particular water. Go out there and wash in it, or bring them some home, something like that and use it for cleaning purposes, or anything they wanted to use it for.

PL: Do you...the park still gets calls today from some people. I don't know if you know Roy Sullivan, or not. He's a ranger up here, he's been in Shenandoah quite some time and he still gets calls from people who remember the spring, and would like for him to bring them a gallon or two of the water from it. He's done it, he's done it a couple of times.

Female: [inaudible]...he had a sunk [inaudible] disease, right beneath his wrist and he would [inaudible] go up there and get that water [inaudible] and he did and it healed.

PL: I'll be darned. So it was a medicinal spring, that was the attraction for it, then I guess.

EW: There's that mineral spring up there, where the two...it was right there at these rock [cliffs] probably one of them on one side and one on the other, I don't know.

PL: So [Miller] owned the one, and the company owned the other, or...

EW: [inaudible] I'm not certain which way that was, but they were both there close together, and after they got into squabbling, they wouldn't work together, then they got to digging. Now I think [?] dug first and he got the water away from the spring [?] got the water, dried up their spring. And so it went on like that

awhile, and then the spring company, they got to digging, and they got their water back, and that's the spring that's there now down to the right, that's the [walled up], I don't have a picture of it, I don't believe...

Female: Well, let's see. The picture of you and Ms. Western and all that group of people, weren't you sitting there on that spring?

EW: Well, yes I was. That time a whole group of youngsters who'd go out there on Sunday and take their dinner along. So I did one time, go out there, we all just lined up around this spring and took a picture, I expect there were eighteen or twenty of them. You know, just stand up close together to get their picture. Now it's kind of way the young people used to do, unless they had to go on a horse...drive a horse and buggy, that's the way we got there.

PL: Yeah.

EW: And then that made me think about, is another, there's kind of a livery stable down here, right down below that hotel. I could...I saw the buggy wheels and the wagon wheels in order to be sitting there, where somebody's unhooked their horses from it, and had a stable down there and they'd put their horse in the stable there to feed him or something like that, and there's a spring down there, you could water your horse down there, and keep him there as long as you wanted to stay. So that's kind of where that went on...

PL: Was the Payne Run Road, or that other road, was it used a lot by people, just, crossing the mountains, say going to Richmond?

EW: Well...

PL: Or was the hotel a more or less just a resort hotel?

EW: I think the hotel was more of a summer resort. People would go there, and then you'd see these other caverns along here, they were owned by individual families. My grandfather, well both of them...my grandfather Wampler, he had a house, of course that doesn't show on here, but it was on that upper road.

Female: I don't think I have a picture of the upper road, haven't been able to find one of those...

EW: Well...

Female: Wish I could.

EW: I'd be interested too.

PL: Well I just stumbled across the upper road. Evidently, that was the one that was abandoned after the park was established, or maybe even before the park...

Female: Well, you can find foundations which match these pictures.

PL: Oh yeah, my gosh! I found a lot of foundations...that's what kept me going, I kept finding one after another, after another, and pretty soon I thought I was on a road.

Female: What we don't have a picture of is the ones at the top of the mountain, up there next to the Sulfer Spring. Did you find the Sulfer Spring? That's just off Skyline Drive....

PL: No

Female: Not but a few hundred feet.

PL: Oh, no, no I haven't seen that one. I didn't go up there.

Female: Right at the very top...

PL : Mm Hmm. So there was a...

Female: Now there's a house, that was up in that area, that I don't have a picture of.

PL: I suppose the foundations have probably been graded over too, when they put the drives in.

Female: Well you can tell where the houses are.

PL: Oh you can?

Female: Yeah.

PL: Well...

Female: It's also [inaudible], anymore than the old general areas.

PL: How many people do you suppose lived up there? On the average...

EW: Well, I wouldn't be surprised if there were...20 houses. I mean, stuck around a little ridge. As you can see here, I don't know if you noticed this, or whether no one ever told you, but this is that first hotel.

PL: Oh

EW: And you can see right out, right out here, this hotel went long ways, or this....is this is the other way. This is the second one, this one, I reckon, was torn down as far as I know it was and that one was rebuilt, and there'd be a lot of people go out there and stay there on Saturday night [inaudible] it was kind of a recreational center, people would just go there to have some kind of...something going on.

PL: Mm Hmm

EW: And they'd stay there, but then there's another little house up there, where there's...[inaudible]. Oh, right in here. This little house right in there was called the "Round House" but that was kind of in the center of this campus. [There were rural houses] down the road and then rural houses up here on this side. And my grandfather both [inaudible] was on the upper road right out there close to the springs. Alright? That's the reason I knew it because [problem in tape] around eight or ten hogs and I always had to go up and stay with him.

PL: Mm Hmm

EW: [There was somebody else there too]. The only thing that seemed interesting to me was, you see I was just a young fellow a boy of around eight or ten years old, I couldn't sit down and be still. Now, I'd go off somewhere, now I wouldn't go away and leave, but I'd go down here at these [inaudible], stay around down there. Down around there was this little store, he'd [grandfather] get after when I'd come back he'd get after me to know where I had been. Sometimes I didn't want to tell him because I thought he was going to give me a scolding, because I was gone too long.

PL: Yeah [laughs]

EW: So that was interesting, but all this other's just real interesting [inaudible.] But I was talking about that road that went on up across [around back of the houses] and the spring and I was up that road many of times by myself and just doing around, seeing what I could see, and all that kind of thing. Then, I'd run up on somebody else I know a little bit and well, I wasn't in that very big hurry to come back. So, [inaudible], and that's why my grandfather would get after me because I was gone too long, and he didn't know where I was.

PL: Well they said, I read somewhere, that people often took hikes from there and went up to places like Calvary Rocks, do you remember ever going up to a place like that?

EW: Black Rocks it's called.

PL: Black Rocks.

EW: Yeah. I've been up there [inaudible]. Yeah, I go up there and then this little group of people, or youngsters would go out there sometimes on Sunday. Then they'd walk up from, say along Skyline Drive there, where they [leave that]. The road went up over the mountain and across, they'd walk up, and there's a path went up to the top of this mountain. Great big pile of rock up there, still up there I reckon.

PL: yeah. Oh yeah!

EW: Well that's what they called Black Rock, now I don't know...

PL: Yeah it's still called Black Rock. There was another place they called Chimney Rock and there was a bridge, a wooden bridge, that went across. Now I don't know if that was put in right after the park was established and then torn down or if that was there a long time ago, but you could look down... it's a rock, and then there's like a chimney coming out, and the only way you could get over onto the chimney would be to walk across the bridge or a rope or something like that. And we weren't sure if that was used when the hotel was there or if that was used later, after the park came in.

EW: Oh I don't know, I just don't remember seeing that [inaudible].

PL: Well it was pretty far away, I think.

EW: Well, I think they ought to have set it about two or three miles from the spring up to this Black Rock, the big pile of rocks up there. And I think they [talked like] one time, that it was just like a solid rock, and said so many times as the lightening would strike that rock and break them [inaudible], and broke up like that. I don't know that's just hearsay. Could be too, that high point there that the lightning would strike it.

PL: Mm Hmm. I wouldn't be surprised.

Female: Tell him about that marker he said was on top of the mountain to mark the three counties

EW: Well I remember that, I don't know if he ever found it or not. There's a... a square just like a square stone, just set up there like there's three counties marked there, the corner stone there. It had on the one side was a "A" for Augusta and another on the other side "R" for Rockingham and there's two sides for Albemarle. And Augusta and Rockingham cornered there, of course Albemarle was right straight across. And I said I'd been there in three counties just in about oh a

couple minutes time. See just say the stone set there I just get around there and walk around the stone with three counties [laughs]. So I remember that stone but I lost it now I don't know where it is.

PL: Probably with a map you could, you know, someone could figure it out, and maybe find it. Unless someone's taken it up, I don't know about that.

EW: I've got a, a road map, like a, you know these gas station maps. And so there's three counties right there, but then I don't know what it might show on there, Black Rock Springs, someplace. I expect it does.

PL: I'll be. Yeah. As being an incorporated town?

EW: Well it was one time, but it wouldn't now.

PL: Oh, no. Well this would be an old map, so it, you know.

EW: I know it's on the map, I got it upstairs somewhere. I'd have looked it up but I didn't just think about it. [Inaudible] look to them just like Black Rock.

PL: Yeah it does, it does look something like Black Rock.

EW: Well I went up there a lot of times, there was kind of a path that went from the spring all the way out to the left to the road at the top of the mountain, on up to the rocks, they back here somewhere. Went up there and here's rock and I don't know what was there so was over on the next ridge.

PL: Maybe it sort of followed the...what's now the Skyline Drive, that path.

EW: Well I suspect it do now, let's see this.

PL: Because you come pretty close to Black Rock on the drive. You can get within a mile of it on the drive.

EW: It comes all around. Lots of good ways up that too, but I don't know just how far. And another thing I reckon I could tell you about that out there, I've often thought about it. After they had such a struggle there all the time, fighting among themselves, there's a big fire come and just wipe the whole business off the mountain.

PL: When would that have been? When was the fire?

EW: Oh. Well I don't know just how long. It was before Skyline drive was put there. But, I don't know why, but I just often thought maybe that's the reason the thing burned out.

PL: Yeah, yeah.

EW: But, the way it come, the fire come up. I wasn't out there, at that time, I believe the fire come up on the east side of the mountain, maybe come across the Skyline Drive or the ridge up there someplace and come on down and just wipe the whole thing off and kept on going. [inaudible.]

PL: Oh my gosh. [inaudible]. So, I forgot what I was going to ask now. Did you have anything else?

Female: Tell us about what was in the hotel, Mr. Wampler.

PL: Oh, I know what I was going to ask.

Female: Can you tell us what was in the hotel? What did the inside of the hotel look like?

EW: Well, there's a... I don't know how appear now these two top stories or the people just say it or stayed there, some of them, you know, might have stayed there overnight or [inaudible] long like a real motel. I mean, kind of turns now. It had a dance hall down here on this first floor, that's what you see. Of course, I had never been there, course I would have never thought anything about it, but it would be a lot of people would come out there and stay there on Saturday night, or something of that sort. Had a good many people. It was more or less a place to go and it had been for... but they don't have now, to have so much more now than it did then.

Female: Was there a dining room in it?

EW: I imagine, I imagine there was. See this down in here? This first floor was just like an open space, hall, and then the people up here would have a dining room up above here. And then this third story up there, some of them, people probably just stay up there and, long as they want to be there.

Female: That would be bedrooms then? Bedrooms?

EW: Yeah. I imagine they had a dining hall there someplace. Of course, I don't know how many people would get their meals there, some would and maybe some didn't.

PL: Besides the dancing and things like that, what other things were there to do around there for the people that either stayed or lived up there?

EW: Just whatever they wanted to, I reckon.

PL: Yup, yup.

EW: I don't know whether they ever had church service or not. People just come and go, it was more or less just kind of a resort, just people coming in and out.

PL: Yeah. So if there were, they would probably hold the services in the hotel somewhere? There wasn't a church?

EW: No, there wasn't any church there.

PL: Do you know anybody that lived there year 'round, or was it just a summer...?

EW: Well, yes there was one family. Called them the name of Black[well.] His house was on up above here. I don't know who this man is. That looks like a wall there along by where that hotel is. Yeah, you see a row of houses back there. That's part of this upper row, and this I think is on the north side of the wall where the road goes up in there.

PL: Yeah

EW: All that, I know people would go out there on Sundays just a whole crowd of people coming in and out of this thing, just to have someplace to go and get together. A lot of them would go up to Black Rock just to see a pile of rock.

PL: People fished any up there?

EW: Well, I don't know. There's fish up that creek, but now whether they'd fish or not. Like I was, I didn't have time to fish.

PL: Yeah, yeah

EW: I didn't know anything about fishing anyway.

PL: Well I guess today a lot of people have cabins in the mountains. A lot of people use them as hunting cabins.

EW: Well they do. Well I'm not sure, I don't know all, but they do have hunting cabins all across the mountain.

PL: But nobody used their cabins up here at Black Rock exclusively for that?

EW: No, no I don't think so.

PL: What about the forest, is it any different now then it was then, was it still pretty forested back then or was it pretty cleared off... in the mountains?

EW: Well, it was cleared off around, all around this building up in that kind of like campus area, like over at the other, and that was nice green sod up there! I don't know whether they had any lawnmowers or not but that was, this was clean. Of course, I reckon people just maybe tried to clean up in front of their houses going up against the bank. I think there's a path... well I don't know whether you can see it here or not. But there's a path come down to these steps on back through this campus up by this round house, they call it, and come on straight on up to that spring, where there's up there now, you'll see kind of a path through there. At least it's like a path, supposed to be.

PL: How far would you say it was from the hotel to the spring?

EW: Oh, it wasn't very far. People carried water from all around the springs, I mean up to these houses on both rows. So how they had to have water then.

PL: What, less than a hundred yards, or so?

EW: Yes.

PL: Okay I think maybe I found what I thought was the site of the hotel then, when I was up there. It was a big foundation, it was bigger than most of the others.

EW: Well I'm pretty certain this wall right here that you see it's not that first hotel, and isn't the second [?].

PL: Would you have any idea when that second one was built?

EW: On the same spot.

PL: When? Do you know when?

EW: No, I don't know when, but I know that. Just right by, you went around that end of this hotel, this first one, stood long ways. And the second one stood this other direction. Like this is higher ground up here then down here but right here comes this road in, and that's the same road that comes in right here. You can see this wall, this rock wall right there, and it's the same wall that you see right here. I'm pretty sure of that, and there's a big flat rock, and the road, when you come up over, I think you'll see that flat rock right in there.

PL: Yeah I wish I had had the pictures with me when I went down there.

Female: The hotel, the first foundation you come to if you come in off the fire road, and you see it up against the mountains, so actually the foundation is not so large, but it's that very first one.

PL: Well if you go right to the end, if you stood like on that road off the fire road, you walk right straight back, you come to a foundation, too. I mean, without even turning right or left you just go straight, the road ends, it looks like there's a foundation there.

Female: I think this must have been Miller's[?] store, what have you. You see he was to the left, right. So I think Miller was on the other side there, because that was still there when I was a child, I can tell you I remember, I must have been six or seven at this point. And I can remember those foundations. I mean not foundations, buildings. I remember getting underneath this sort of a porch and my mother screaming at me to get out from under there right now because a rattlesnake would get me.

PL: So when the fire came through did it burn everything down or?

EW: It was everything, I think. I don't know whether that... it might have left this one house up by where this one man lived in, Black(well.) I couldn't say, but everything else that I know of to think of just was swept out.

PL: Did anybody rebuild after that or...?

EW: A couple people did. My grandfather rebuilt afterwards. And he went out there for a while, but after the park came in and took it over, it was, I don't know what came of the building, who tore it down or what happened.

PL: I think the CCC did a lot of the tearing down of the old buildings after the park was established. Whether they would have done it down there, I don't know. But they did it, I know up here, near Big Meadows and that area they tore down a lot of the houses.

EW: See that Big Meadows, that was up on top of the mountain [inaudible] down Skyline Drive.

PL: So I don't know.

Female: Can you tell us a little about the church that was down at the bottom of the mountain, right on the other side after you cross the Skyline Drive?

EW: Yes, I know where it was. You know, if you go down, cross the mountain, Skyline Drive, cross the Black Rock Gap, there's a little church built down there right on Mormon's [?] River, right in the corner. That road that comes, the road come down, Skyline Drive, and then the corner of this road, I mean where the cross and the Mormon River, there's a little church built there. And people used that there for a good many years until they all had to move out, and probably some before, or just got careless and quit going to church, but some of them went for a good while.

Female: The churches around would take turns in sending somebody out there for preaching.

PL: Yeah I think a lot...

Female: It was the Brethren church.

PL: Oh what, what church?

Female: The Brethren.

PL: The Brethren church.

EW: Church of Brethren, [inaudible] there's two churches. Pleasant Valley Church down there of the Brethren and the Middle River Church of Brethren some ways they, they got together and they put up this church over there. People there on the mountain needed some kind of a building or church, and so the people come to church pretty well for a good while. Finally, they got so that, they didn't keep it going, and finally the church just went down.

Female: It was called Wayside, wasn't it?

EW: Yes, Wayside Church.

PL: Wayside Church of the Brethren.

EW: [inaudible] on down along Skyline Drive or Black Rock Gap.

PL: Is that foundation still there, do you know?

Female: I can't find it but I guess I just, maybe this is just my problem.

PL: I don't know, __[?] here has done an awful lot of looking around for old cabins and stuff in the park, and he's done a lot more than I have, but one thing I noticed in my looking around is that it seems like the hardest things to find are churches and schools. I don't know. Everywhere there has been a church or a school and I've looked for it, I've never been able to find it. Now some of the missions that were up there, now they are an exception I think, there were some Episcopal missions and maybe some other missions up there that had a lot of buildings, but it seems like maybe the churches were completely removed, I mean everything was removed, and maybe there wasn't much rock foundation on them or anything like that. But up here at a place called Nicholson Hollow, which is up in sort of the north end of the park, they had a church, and we took a gentleman down there who had lived there when he was young. He showed us where the church was and you could see absolutely nothing to tell you that it had been there. Maybe that's the reason.

EW: Where the church was, I was over there a long time ago. Few times I had church service there, of course there wasn't very many people there [inaudible].

PL: Did many people live on up in the mountains there from Black Rock?

EW: Well, a few, not a whole lot, but there was several families.

Female: Who lived in that house there close to the church? It's still standing.

EW: I believe it was a Bia [Via?] , I'm not certain. I mean that was a familiar name over in there, Bia.

PL: Bia, yeah.

Female: How do you spell their name?

EW: B[V?]-I-A is the way you spell it.

Female: That man that came across and built over here, back in the mountains, in the school [inaudible]. What was his name?

EW: Harris

Female: No

Other Female: You thinking about Mr. Marshall?

Female: Yes

Other Female: Wasn't Marshall

Female: Mort[?]

EW: That's right, Mort. Bob Marshall was Morton's father. Morton[?] was raised out there in the mountains. I don't know if he ever went to school or not. He just had a way of getting along, he was kind of a smart fellow. I know he didn't have an education because there wasn't any school out there. Few people went to school. Harris I was thinking about, they lived over on the mountain across the Mormon's [?] River there from the church on up on the mountain there, he died out there, and then his family all moved out over the park took over.

PL: This, this house and the church are both in park boundary now.

Female: No, I don't believe so, I believe they're out, just out.

PL: Okay.

Female: Yes, they are, I'm sure, 'cause I've walked down the fire road and you just get outside the park boundary.

PL: So what the Mormon River fire road, or...?

Female: No, going on, well across from Black Rocks right down the mountain there from Black Rock across the Skyline Drive and coming east. Be right at the foot of the mountain, right along Mormon's River is where this cabin is, and Mort Marshall's cabin that he is speaking of is about a half a mile upstream, north, of the intersection there. And Mr. Walker owns land on Pasture Fence Mountain and the Harris that he was speaking of was people that lived on his property, that's right isn't it?

Other Female: That house is still standing. [Inaudible]. About two years ago, on the Fourth of July, [inaudible].

Female: Used to be a nice spring there.

Other Female: Still is.

EW: The spring is still there, everything's just gone down in bad shape.

PL: This land that you own is right next to the park, is that it?

EW: Well, yeah, we always had to go through the park we went over by, say from here, our paths run past Black Rock Springs, across Black Rock Gap and on down the mountain to the other side. That's the way we used to always go. Still go out there on occasion.

Female: And where the fire road ties into White Hall. It goes on across the lower end of the mountain to White Hall and it goes right through his place. And also my father owned land that was beyond his two places further on I guess. There was someone else in between your'all's and ours, who was that, Groves maybe? Who has the place right next to you, going south, on the south side of your farm, your mountain land?

EW: Well it's, hunt club now, and then there's another man come in there from, I don't know where he come from. Bought that and then this...

Female: Well the land your dad used to own is where the hunt club is now. We sold it some years ago. I can't think what the name was between it but there was one place between where he owned and what we had.

EW: It was a long time ago they called it a Rhinehart [?].

Female: That's it.

EW: There wasn't two places between where she's speaking of.

Female: Right, that's it, Rhinehart.

EW: Course they an older people and they been gone for a good while. [Inaudible].

PL: Well I'm kind of running short on questions here.

Female: Well, I think we covered it pretty well.

PL: Do you think those slides, might...

Female: I was thinking about... well you see these pictures, well of course the slides were made from these pictures. Plus a few more, I had some slides that were made after the fire.

PL: Now I know we have these, I've seen all of these pictures, and the park has

Female: Well you should have, you've seen everything I have.

PL: Yeah, yeah. But I know these are in the system.

EW: There was one picture that I started to tell you awhile ago about. About this livery stable that's one of them. Show the walk down here where there's livery stables right down below this hotel.

Female: Now that was one of the Maury[?] pictures and I don't have copies of those with me.

EW: Well, what I was thinking about, I could see the pictures of these buggy wheels and wagon wheels there where this livery stable was. But that was on down, you couldn't see anymore than just the wheels on the [inaudible]. So, and that livery stables on down too, so didn't see that but I've seen it a many times.

Female: I can set the projector up and...

PL: Yeah, I'd like to see that myself.

Tape I, Side B

PL: Most people just used them for the summer then?

EW: Most of them, you see, they weren't built, like, for winter, just a, just a weather boarded house, something like that, like for heat, coal heat.

Male: They were all timber. All frame.

EW: Course now that man, that Blackwell[?] lived there all year round.

PL: He was a [inaudible] caretaker.

EW: I reckon you could call him that, I don't know what he did. He just, somebody stayed there.

PL: He worked for the company, in other words?

EW: I imagine so. There was rather a little road that went around back of these houses. There's a sulfur spring up there, and it's kind of a level place, I've been up that way many times. Go up there to have something to do, I didn't know what else to do with myself. It was all interesting to me at that time.

Male: You ever tasted sulfur water before?

PL: Yeah.

Male: Oh, it's terrible huh? My mother's home was over on While Sulfur Spring, and there are great sulfur springs there and I had a sample of water and it made me so sick. I never could stand that. It's terrible.

PL: Now I did drink some water out of the spring up there when I was up there this summer, and it was still trickling out, and so on, but it didn't taste bad to me, so it must not be sulfur. At least the lower one, although it could be, although it could be, it could be iron and sulfur both, it looked like, it was kind of a...

EW: Well, I don't know if that... it never tasted like sulfur water. Iron, now I don't know what you call it, it was just kind of a free stone or water like that or what.

PL: Well all around it, I don't know back then when you were there, but when I was up this summer, course lot of leaves had fallen down there, and the mineral deposits were on the leaves, and it's sort of a reddish yellow color that's all built up on top of these leaves. And at first I thought sulfur, but I said no, that's almost too red for sulfur, I said it must be iron, and I couldn't make up my mind. Then I tasted it, and it didn't taste like sulfur at all, so, I guess it probably was iron.

EW: Well it must have been iron then, all right.

PL: Yeah, I don't know.

EW: 'Cause that would look more red, I think.

PL: I was waiting for a bad, bad taste. That's what I expected with sulfur, and it didn't taste bad at all.

Female: It just tasted metallic.

PL: Yeah, it tasted metallic, that was all.

EW: [Inaudible.] That might be where the sulfur spring is.

PL: No, I haven't found that one yet, I'll have to go back and look around for it.

Female: That's a definite sulfur spring there.

PL: Yeah [laughter].

EW: Did you ever find that stone I was talking about?

Female: No, I haven't been back up there to look, really.

EW: Oh well.

Female: Mr. Sullivan was going to look for that but I don't know if he did or not.

PL: I'll have to ask him, if I see him.

EW: I don't know whether or not but I remember just that stone was like a marker of some sort, but it was up there. I don't know whether it's still there or they moved, build that other road or not.

PL: It just didn't have anything but the letters on it?

EW: Just the letters. Had, just like a square stone 'bout that big a square, both sides, and there's three "A's" on it and one "R." "A" for Augusta County, an "R" for Rockingham, and two sides then for Albemarle.

Female: Well I've got a stone over here.

PL: Okay we'll come over there I just thought...

Female: Now there's our stock.

PL: Okay.

Female: Chose the day January the 5th 1989. And you'll notice on that that they had 1480 papers, at this point, see. Now this is a later share of stock. Now this was issued in um, what's the date on it? 1980, I mean, yeah 1980.

PL: So that would have been after the fire.

Female: So this would have been after the fire, and this was after they had, apparently some problems they had to straighten out, financially. Apparently the stock was reissued at this point. And this Mr. Patterson, you can see, was the, I guess he was president at that time. And if you notice the number of, the acreage had dropped. So apparently part of this land had been sold.

PL: We don't have pictures of any of these. The first deed we did, the second one you didn't, and this you did.

Female: Well this is just a deed. Let me see, whose deed was it, I'm trying to remember. It was Samuel Driver's. And that gives a pretty good description of his lot. Give you some idea...

EW: [Inaudible]. You see this rock wall right there, did you notice that? Rock wall [inaudible].

PL: Is that still there?

EW: I imagine the wall is there.

PL: Have you seen the wall?

Female: Yeah

PL: I think I saw it. I'd like to go back and look again.

EW: You see that? [inaudible] ...horses up that away.

Female: I'll let you hold it. That way you can talk into it.

EW: I'll talk into this thing.

Female: Yeah. Now here's another shot of the hotel, that I didn't have [inaudible]. Little, kind of a close-up, head on. You notice these walls, sometimes they're up, and sometimes they're down, seems to vary from year to year.

EW: That's, I've been to that, that's the [inaudible] I was talking about. That's the spring right there. And it might be that this is his house back here that you see. It was up on a bank. It wasn't level where that building was sitting. And this may have been the same drive (?).

PL: Are the rocks still there on the spring, like that today?

Female: Pretty much.

EW: [inaudible]

PL: Now I didn't see any rocks like that. Now, what I would have seen is more like, all this missing, and it would be like one rock, and there was like some metal rods running down through, but I didn't see any rocks around it like that. I mean, that looks like it would almost come up to your chest, or, it comes up to his neck. I didn't see anything that big.

Female: He told me it was kind of coming over the dirt there.

PL: It could have been.

Female: But I'm not positive either. I don't think I have a picture of the original spring, the one that they tore apart, and dug, diverted water from, that kind of thing.

PL: This would be, if you walked in from the fire road, it would be right on your right, you don't have to go anywhere you just walk right back the road.

Female: Right, directly back, I think. Now this [inaudible]. And this was his son Earl's, on the, sitting there on the rock. You don't have that picture where they're all sitting around the spring, like on a Sunday they went out there, and they were sitting around the spring.

Other Female: I don't have a slide made of that.

EW: Well we have that picture.

Female: We had that there.

[All speaking at once].

Other Female: Well I returned it. You still have it then. Now where was this, Mr. Wampler, do you remember?

EW: That was at Bob Moore's Bowling Alley (?) and this over to the right was his little store. See those both were together. And it was up on a ways like that and I remember this lattice-work around so it wouldn't go up on it. But that was on the slope of ground at, you go up the steps above here to get in there.

Female: Now this was still in existence when I was a child. It was under that porch that I went and my mother told me to get out. [Laughter]. And there was still jars of candy and tobacco and things of that kind on the shelves, as late as, oh I would

say 1935, or 6, 7.

PL: Was it still used as a store then?

Female: It was abandoned, but the merchandise was still there. If you'd like to interview the lady right behind that stump there in the white dress, you'll find her in room 14 in Rockingham Memorial Hospital right now.

EW: [Inaudible] that's just a group of people that gathered up there on Sunday, I reckon to come in there to have a place to go and took their picture, but that's on this, that path that leads from the spring down through the, through, it's kind of in the middle of these two roads, distance on each side, and that's where this house is.

Female: Do you know whose house that is in the background?

EW: To the left?

Female: Yeah.

EW: No, I don't. I don't believe I do, but that was on that upper row I think. I saw there's a lot of houses there that I didn't know who the people lived in. I reckon I wasn't so much interested in finding out, as I was just a youngster and running around everywhere, and if I knew who lived there it was alright and if I didn't so what? But I know there's two rows of houses.

PL: Was this right after the fire?

EW: Well I don't know. It could be, and that house back there, I don't know whether that was this Bob Miller (?) house I was talking about or not. This could be. I don't know whether that other house where that Blackwell (?) lived in.

Female: Mr. Blackwell's house did not burn, did it?

EW: I don't think so, that's the reason I thought this might be his house.

Female: The people in the foreground are Maury's. Lewis Maury and Miss Virginia Maury. And some in-laws [Inaudible]. Well I think the hotel foundation is right in the foreground.

EW: I believe you can see that path [inaudible]. Come down to the hotel down here and that other round house is up that path there someplace, and that other house way up there's probably Blackwell's house (?), it don't look like that other one that we saw. [inaudible] I don't know whether, who this man is.

Female: I think he's probably Walter Evans, Charlie Evans's brother. Did you ever know Walter Evans?

EW: Yes.

Female: Well I believe maybe that's him.

EW: I've seen Walter Evans.

PL: Walter Evans.

Female: [Inaudible] Now here we come to what it looks like now, and I think right there is where the spring must have been located they were squabbling over. They were digging and tunneling and what have you. This lady that lived next to me said that they put railroad ties up to hold it. They tunneled back to this side of the

mountain put railroad ties in to hold, support the roof, to get back to the water. I think that's probably collapsed on and that's the reason they did that [inaudible].

PL: How long ago was that?

Female: Oh two years ago.

PL: Two years?

Female: Yeah. I went out in the spring before the leaves got on the trees, my camera doesn't do very well with the leaves on the trees. And now this is the sulfur spring, which is supposed to (?). If you come down from the scouring drive (?) down fire lane if you look off to your right, you'll see the beginnings of the, an old road bed. And if get off [inaudible], and you get on to that old road bed, you'll find the spring, and it's pretty deep. It's not very far from Skyline Drive.

EW: [Inaudible].

Female: It's close to sulfur spring.

EW: I think I remember that spring

Other Female: It has a cement wall, it has a cement wall around it.

EW: Well I remember a spring but I don't remember about the wall. I know there's a little spring, right, you cross that creek after you cross Skyline Drive, is that the place down in there?

Female: It would be the first spring you come to after you cross [inaudible].

EW: Is it on the left side of the road as you go down?

Female: It's on the right, if you're coming back this way. It would be left going up.

EW: Well, [chuckles], don't make that different.

Female: Not on the other side of the mountain now, this is on this side. Yeah there is a little stream on the other side. Maybe that's what you're thinking about.

EW: Well, probably did.

Female: Well if you notice, you can see that it definitely has where somebody put a cement wall around it. We dug some of the leaves. We were having a real problem there [inaudible]. And the road goes right on down and begins to loop takes you on down...

Male: That's not the road you're talking about?

PL: Now this is the road. Now how come I didn't see the stream? This is an abandoned road, starts from Black Rock Gap, and you can get back into the hotel that way.

Female: Yeah, but there's two roads in there...

PL: It forks.

Female: It forks and I took the fork the other time that's the spring too. Then I

came home and accidentally stumbled on it. You have to come down the fire road and watch where you see the old road where it intersects with the state fire road. Get off immediately. People have slid down the bank there [inaudible]. At least it was a year ago.

PL: I'm going to have to meet you there someday.

[Inaudible].

Female: Now this is another spring which is, of you follow that road directly, it goes out and it kind of makes a turn and there's some housing sites up like this on the bank. And then there's this frame, the water's just running out from the wall. And if you look there you can see a pipe, did you find it?

PL: I think that's the one I drank out of.

Female: There's a pipe, about an inch or an inch and a half pipe.

Other Female: Isn't that it right there?

Female: Well, yes I think you can, if you look close, maybe.

Other Female: It looks like a pipe right here. Or is it a crack, in the rock?

Female: I believe the pipe might be a little lower down. Let's look at another shot or two here. Now there's one at the bottom. Now I don't know whether this is the same one Mr. Grabber (?) was standing in front of or not. You see, if you look right behind Dan there you can see some rocks and I thought maybe you could see the dirt away there and it would be something comparable to that. But it was on either side and it showed rocks and that's not there anymore.

Other Female: There's a thermos jug, see it's up on that rock. And then there's a main over there.

PL: Well that rock across the top looks very similar to the rock across the top of that, the other slide.

Female: Right, so it makes me think possibly that it's the same frame. Yeah it might not be they may have built those frames that, you know the rock works in several ways. Now Ms. Sudy (?) Gives a completely different description of the main frame. She said it had the platform, benches, where you could sit. A base, rock base. I haven't seen anything that would go with that, which makes me think that this was destroyed completely. And it was maybe higher up on the mountain, where she puts it higher on the mountain than this spring. But you see she's older and she'd remember further back. She probably remembers this spring before it was ruined.

PL: That's true, yeah, they probably...

Female: Can you remember what the spring looked like before they started digging around trying to divert the water, Mr. Wampler?

EW: Well a little bit. I don't know whether this could be possible or not. But after they got the water, then this other spring, it was more recently, it's got more of a wall to it. I mean whoever else of that crowd of young people that went out there on Sunday was just sitting all around it. There was wall out here and higher up on the side and that's where these people sit. I was out there with them at that time, with those youngsters running around. After I got a little older.

Female: You'd almost have to [inaudible], wouldn't you?

EW: Well I expect I would. That might be the spring.

Female: Now this is what happens to me when the leaves are on the trees. [Inaudible]. Now this is the one that is Auburn Mountain and had the water running out of that pipe. These aren't very good slides because the leaves are on the trees.

PL: Now that's the one I drank out of.

Female: Yeah.

PL: That's the upper one.

Female: Right, that's the upper one. That was a shot of Payne's Run that didn't turn out very well. That was down the mountain.

Other Female: You said that there were some colored people that lived there at the foot of the mountain, didn't you? Did you tell me that or was that somebody else?

Female: Oh there was a settlement of colored people lived down on Payne's Run, kind of at the base of the mountain there.

EW: Yes I know there's a, there's kind of colored settlement, you're going up past Harris town (?) a little bit, and that's before you come to the horse head (?). The settlement was a people that lived on this Payne's Run from route 340, between that and horse head (?).

Female: Well then I misunderstood you then...

EW: That's where this colored settlement was. I remember this.

Female: That's the Maury's again. The guy was trying to get me a close-up, a blow-up there. Didn't come out too well. Oh if you look in the background there you can see buggies. Notice the buggies? They look like boxes. I thought it was boxes, took me ages to figure that out. Now evidently those buggies were where the road was. [Pause] Now this is, I think this must be Solomon Garber, Mr. Wampler. I looked this up in the Garber book and the picture suddenly does look the same.

EW: Well it could be. I, well now you see this spring here has got more wall around it. But now what spring this is I don't know but that, that looks natural, I mean a place where you'd reach in there to get water out. But this spring, the wall around each side looks more like the ones where those youngsters were back there on Sunday. But the wall is us too high, because some of them was up on the back of this spring when they took the picture, so this must be that first spring.

Female: You think this might be the oldest spring.

EW: I believe so.

Female: Well I kind of think this might be a good possibility.

PL: You said that the, there was a controversy, and a lot of digging with the spring, was this, so one person could get the water and the other person couldn't, is that the reason they...

EW: Well, I don't know just what all caused it but I think that this was the first spring that Bob Miller was digging and he got the water away from the spring. Over on his side somewhere, then they got to dig another spring, and then they got the water back, from him.

PL: Well who owns the big spring there?

EW: Well Black Rock Springs owns it now. And they dug back up there in the mountain, probably where you was talking about this water coming out in pipes, see they got pipes back in there and pipes are down to this spring that's there now. That's the way I understand it.

[Inaudible]

Female: Would this be the same as Solomon, the one that Solomon is standing in front of now?

PL: Yeah, now see that looks like that rock across the top of the one today.

Female: Those two are the same aren't they?

PL: Those two are the same.

Female: But is it the same as [changing slides]... that?

PL: As that, hmm. Doesn't look as thick, does it? Nope.

Female: No sir, it doesn't.

[Inaudible].

Male: It looks so flimsy though, it looks like instead of falling in [inaudible].

Female: I can't... Dad says this is not the main spring, that this one was just behind somebody's house, so I don't know.

Other Female: Well there's a thermos...

Female: Yeah well that's my thermos, Joe (?). We, I always get some water when I go up. Dang water from this city, she thinks she's better for six months after she drinks that water. [Pause]. But I don't know whether this one would be the same one or not, this is a bit of a puzzle, really.

EW: That spring where I said about that iron water, was a spring just about that size, but then, it was a while back, I don't know whether or not that would be the same spring or not. Well now is that, does that look like a fence? Way up to the left of that spring up in the hill or anything, fence posts...

Female: No, I don't think there's anything like that left. There's a few walls around through there Mr. Wampler. But it's awfully hard now to put it together.

EW: Well I expect it is, yeah. Reason I thought a post up there it looked like something standing there, it was a tree about as high as a post would be.

[Changing slides]

Female: I believe that's it.

PL: You have a lot of those that I've never seen, I'm sure that some of those aren't in the system.

Female: Well I let him have all of these to copy.

[Inaudible]

PL: Oh to Ray?

Female: Ray had them.

PL: Oh then they went out to a guy named Hugh Crandall, who is in charge of the slide file, and I don't think he copied them all. But I'm in charge of it now.

Female: Well, do you want to try again?

PL: Yeah, yeah. But yeah, some of those are good, I don't see why he wouldn't have copied those.

Female: Well maybe you'd like to have a copy of the pictures that they have. Ms. Wampler could you find the picture that you have of the group? Without much trouble? The postal card. The one that you showed us.

Other Female: That night you were up here?

Female: Right. Would you know where that is without too much problem?

EW: [Inaudible].

Female: Now I have a cousin who has a picture of a close-up of a group on that bowling alley. And you all don't have copies of that. I'll ask them if they'd loan it to you if you'd want to make slides from it.

PL: Yeah there's so many people who know a lot about the park before it was a park. I lived in an old house for a year one time and the ladies' husband had been involved moving people out.

[All talking].

Female: She had that in there.

PL: They keep it in there.

Female: Yeah they keep it in there.

PL: A ranger who worked here before, he, his name was John Dewes (?), and was from Dewes, Virginia down here, and he says he can remember his grandfather or his father, I forget which, going up to Black Rock. And he said that up at, there was a rock, I don't know if it was up at the Black Rock area, or if it was some other rock, where people would carve their initials and the dates and stuff like that in there. Do you remember ever seeing...?

EW: Well that was up at Black Rock, I'd hear of it. Some of them they'd go up there and they'd travel around scratching on rocks someplace put their initials on them.

PL: This was up at Black Rock, yeah.

EW: Yeah. But I don't know what they did to that. That rock is the one they call horse head. There was a rock would hang out there in the shape of a horse head. That's what they call it, where it got its name. It were, like a knight and come down, like a horse knight (?). There were these two trees would stand right up on top of these rock, just like the ears. [Inaudible]. It broke off and fell down.

PL: Oh so the horse head rock is broken off now? I see.

EW: I don't remember seeing when that rock...

PL: Did you remember ever seeing initials and stuff carved?

Female: Yes, around the horse head area. He's right there. People went there on Sunday evening for picnics, we used to go up there frequently in the summertime. They had that, the stream, Payne's Run, dammed. And it had a little swimming area. I guess the water was deep enough that you could swim out on the east side of the ford. And we'd have picnics there frequently. It got to be a bit rough and of course finally they put a chain up across the road and that ended people going into the area.

PL: That's, it's all set to be wilderness area now in here, if the bill ever goes through.

Female: Used to be a few stills up that stream too. Walk around that bend up there you can smell mash. I expect there were stills back, there were stills up and down that creek, weren't there, years back too. People made moonshine up in those valleys.

EW: You know something, [inaudible]. They'd recognize it, they was making it illegally, moonshine, [inaudible]. And so one time this, there was a man making it up there on the place up there where we put our cattle. And some of us went out there, they knew the man, I knew him too, but I never did see him making any. And somebody was going up through there, and he was going up in there and the man didn't know he was coming, and he heard him coming and he started to run. And the fellow saw him and said 'hold on, Joe come back here,' he says 'I know you.' Course after he knew who he was he come back. So that way I know they made it and they brought it over here to try to sell it, and they did sell it.

PL: There was quite a bit of that.

EW: Well they did, and I expect they still bought it someplace.

PL: Oh yeah, yeah I know that.

[Laughter].

EW: That's one thing I've always been glad I never did get started into.

PL: Guy named George Corbin who lived up in northern end of the park, and he said for a while that he did, he made some. And he said he was smart though, he got out while the getting was good, he figured that if he kept it up that sooner or later they were going to get him. So he stopped, he stopped on his own. He made it for a little while.

Female: for a number of years, one of the children in my rooms parent's had a still. The child was just an expert on how to make booze.

PL: Well I taught at Elkton high school for five years, and I could have bought some if I had wanted it bad enough, you know. In fact, I was offered some. Ha ha. They said, 'Oh, we'll get you some if you want it.' But I never took him up on it.

Female: You know if you value your liver, you leave it alone.

PL: Right, right. They showed me, I worked in the Smoky Mountains, one summer. And I don't think there was a park ranger down there that didn't know someone, who knew someone else, who knew someone else, that made it. And some of them were pretty good at judging the quality of it. And they showed me all the little tests you can run through to see if it's good. So that was the first time I ever heard or tried a

little bit of it. But I didn't like it I thought it was terrible. That was the only time I ever tried it. But yeah, I wouldn't trust just anybody with that.

Female: They used radiators.

PL: Well, anything else... we need to...?

EW: Was that, that map I was talking about showing you. That three corners of the counties there, up on Skyline Drive, or wherever that place was. But I happened to see the corner of this three counties there, or there's two counties. And so I think I could find that without very much trouble. I think it's just a, probably a map that you get at a filling station somewhere, get gas. Then I do have some other maps but, it just kind of shows the highway along the parkway or something like that.

PL: Yeah, I don't know if we've seen that one or not, but it might help us, yeah.

EW: Well I think I can go and get it if it don't take too long.

PL: Okay, fine.

EW: I thought about it before but then I always forget about things, when I ought to do something. [Inaudible]. That's the same bunch of youngsters. [Inaudible]. And so that's the same group that went out there around [inaudible]. It just got so that this same group would know where they were going and [inaudible].

Other Female: Are there any old chestnut trees in that area?

PL: I haven't seen any. Do you remember a lot of chestnut trees up there?

EW: Well, there used to be over on our place, but they, kind of a blight I reckon struck them they just died.

Other Female: I'll look these up see if I can find... I don't know if that'll help you or not.

PL: Alright.

Female: Well, they were sitting on main springs... and these are something else.

[inaudible].

PL: That's not a... Yeah this map isn't too specific, it doesn't even show... no it doesn't show it at all.

Female: I should have brought my map but I left it in the truck.

PL: Yeah, we have some pretty good detailed maps in the car. And I'm sure there's a...

EW: There'd just be a place up there where these three counties cornered. Of course the one didn't corner, it just went by. But there's two of them I know of, Rockingham and Augusta. That was what I started to get at.

PL: Well that ought to be easy enough to find, I think.

EW: Well I don't know, I know I saw it one time. [Inaudible].

PL: Okay. Well. Also in this interview was Lon Shackleford, Shenandoah National Park, Mrs. Wampler, and Mrs. Mark R. Flora. This point marks the end of the

interview with Mr. Wampler.

[End audio file, 01:25:13 min.]

End of Interview

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