

DOCUMENT NAME/INFORMANT: ROSIE ELLA KEWAYOSH (side A)
ELIZABETH MAY ISAAC (side B)
INFORMANT'S ADDRESS: R.R. #3
WALLACEBURG, ONTARIO
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HIGHLIGHTS:

- General reminiscences of their lives.

Patricia: In your mother's house?

Rosie: No, no, I don't even know who that was. Didn't see right, I guess. I'm (inaudible).

Patricia: Did your mother have help when you were being born?

Rosie: Huh?

Patricia: Did she have help when you were...?

Rosie: Oh yeah.

Patricia: And where did you go to school?

Rosie: That Number One school.

Patricia: Up at the front?

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: And you had to walk to school?

Rosie: Yeah. (laughs)

Patricia: Tell me about your journey to school. Was it hard?

Rosie: Oh yeah, it was really hard. (laughs) We had to start out at seven-thirty to get over there, you know.

Patricia: What time did school start?

Rosie: Nine o'clock.

Patricia: And far in school did you go?

Rosie: Just second grade. (laughs)

Patricia: What kind of a house did you live in?

Rosie: Oh, just a one shack house, (laughs) shanty I guess, or whatever you call it. (laughs)

Patricia: Did you build it, like, did they build it?

Rosie: Yeah, we build it. We had (inaudible) on there though, you know.

Patricia: Were there ever more than one family living in...?

Rosie: No, just one.

Patricia: Just your family. Okay, can you remember the first time you saw a doctor or a nurse?

Rosie: I don't. (laughs)

Patricia: But you didn't see one till you were older?

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: And how far was the nearest neighbor from your house?

Rosie: Oh about, let me see, about a mile.

Patricia: And was there bush from your place to the next house?

Rosie: Yeah. Joe Sands used to live just a little ways from us, you know. That's the only one we had as a neighbor.

Patricia: And how about this church, was it here?

Rosie: No.

Patricia: No.

Rosie: I live way over there. I just came here when I got married, on this side. (laughs)

Patricia: So was there a church around where you lived, or did

you have to...?

Rosie: No, we used to go to that Anglican Church, yeah.

Patricia: You had to walk from the Sny all the way...

Rosie: Well, we had a horse and buggy, you know, that my parents used to go shopping, you know, to go some place, you know.

Patricia: Where would they go shopping?

Rosie: (Inaudible).

Patricia: Was that (inaudible) there?

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: When did they get (inaudible)? Was it brand new?

Rosie: I think it was brand new.

Patricia: How about your, like your food? Did you buy most of your food from the store or did you plant?

Rosie: Oh we used to, Jeffery used to kill a cow, you know -- we had lots of meat that way. And we had a lot of chickens, we had a lot of eggs. We didn't have to buy no milk and cream, and all that stuff, you know.

Patricia: Oh.

Rosie: Yeah. We were almost living on chicken all the time (laughs) and beef.

Patricia: That's pretty good. Did you ever go hunting?

Rosie: Oh yes. Josh went all the time.

Patricia: Who's Josh?

Rosie: Josh White, that's the one who raised me, you know.

Patricia: Oh really?

Rosie: Yeah, that was a friend of my father that got my mother and me, before she went over there. Yeah.

Patricia: So he would go hunting.

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: Did he... What did he use, a gun?

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: Did he have a bow and arrow?

Rosie: Well, no, not a bow and arrow. He just had a gun and traps, you know.

Patricia: Oh, he'd go muskrat hunting.

Rosie: Yeah, muskrat hunting.

Patricia: Did you eat the muskrat?

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: How would you cook that?

Rosie: Roast it. (laughs)

Patricia: Did you ever boil it?

Rosie: Well, they used to boil it and fry it sometimes, you know. You can cook it in a different way.

Patricia: Did you ever eat the tails?

Rosie: No. (laughs) He doesn't like the tail. I just like the hind leg, hind quarters, you know.

Patricia: Were they tender?

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: What was your first job?

Rosie: Baby sitting.

Patricia: Baby sitting.

Rosie: Yes, Arlene Commands(?) -- that was Josh's daughter. She came down, she was living down Detroit. She came down and got me to stay with her. She was working, you know, and I had to baby sit for her.

Patricia: How did they live there compared to how you were living here?

Rosie: Huh?

Patricia: How did they live in Detroit?

Rosie: Oh, they lived pretty good, you know.

Patricia: Was it kind of like how it is today?

Rosie: Yeah. She used to work, and she used to buy everything, you know. A lot of things.

Patricia: When you were baby sitting in Detroit, did they have hydro then?

Rosie: Yeah, everything. Oh yeah.

Patricia: And how did you live here? You had just your wood stove and ice box?

Rosie: Yeah, wood stove, ice...

Patricia: Did you have an ice box?

Rosie: I don't think so. They had a building outside there, you know, and in the wintertime they just use the, leave the meat in that little shack. It was all frozen, you know.

Patricia: How about in the summer?

Rosie: Summer? Oh, they used to have that... just an ice box, you know, where you put like butter, cream, milk, and...

Patricia: So you used to make you butter and...?

Rosie: Yeah, we used to make butter.

Patricia: Was that hard?

Rosie: No. You should see her when she uses two quart sealers. She was just shaking it like that and after a while you see that butter form up right in the middle there.

Patricia: How much cream would you have to use to make about a pound?

Rosie: Oh, let me see now. Well she used to make about a half a pound for that two quarts of cream. And there would be buttermilk.

Patricia: Buttermilk?

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: When did you get married?

Rosie: Oh, I got married early, you know.

Patricia: How old were you?

Rosie: I was 16. (laughs)

Patricia: And where was your wedding, was it in a house?

Rosie: No, Wallaceburg.

Patricia: In a church?

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: Who was the...

Rosie: Well, my husband was 29 and I was only 16. (laughs)

Patricia: Who was the minister, or you don't know? Did your family and friends come to the wedding?

Rosie: Yeah, just my mother and that Josh, you know, just witnesses.

Patricia: Did you have a honeymoon?

Rosie: We were too poor. (laughs)

Patricia: Your marriage wasn't arranged, like... You know how sometimes people arranged their marriages for their kids. Yours wasn't like that, you just met him and...?

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: Where did you have your kids?

Rosie: In this house.

Patricia: In this house?

Rosie: Yeah, my mother just took care of me, you know.

Patricia: Was it hard?

Rosie: Not really. (laughs)

Patricia: You had a couple of them in the hospital though?

Rosie: Just Leona.

Patricia: Just Leona.

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: How was it different?

Rosie: Well, when I had Leona... Well, my mother was sick that time, you know, she was in the London sanatorium and... She was home, all right -- that's before she went over there. But she was getting sick then. And she told me, "I don't think

I'll be able to take care of you," she said. So they took me to Federal Hospital (inaudible).

Patricia: Did you bring your children up the same way your mother brought you up?

Rosie: Oh, I have to correct them, you know. (laughs) Oh, my mother used to work all the time too, you know, in Aldernack(?) Hospital and things like that, you know. She used

to go to different places, you know. I did that too, when Donna was small, you know.

Patricia: Are there any traditions that you still hang on to?

Rosie: No, not really. (laughs)

Patricia: Would you be able to describe a typical day?

Rosie: Huh?

Patricia: Would you be able to describe one day when you were growing up, how it was, like from when you would get up in the morning?

Rosie: Oh yeah. We had to do chores before we go to school too, you know. Do something anyway before you go. (laughs) Feed the chickens or...

Patricia: Milk the cows.

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: What would you do for entertainment?

Rosie: Oh, in the summertime we used to play around all over, swimming. There was a lot of water then in (inaudible). (laughs) Then we'd go for boat rides.

Patricia: Who owned the boat?

Rosie: Huh?

Patricia: Who owned the boat?

Rosie: Josh. One time we were playing in that water with the canoe, you know. And I don't know, all of a sudden that wind was getting strong, and stronger -- it push us right on the other side. And we couldn't come over -- they call us to come home and we couldn't come over, couldn't bring the boat over. (laughs) When we got home we got whipped pink. (laughs) The wind was so strong, you know, you couldn't bring the boat back. (laughs)

Patricia: How did you and... You had brothers and sisters?

Rosie: Yeah, Jack, Audrey, and Josephine, Willard.

Patricia: How did you get along when you were growing up?

Rosie: We get along pretty good.

Patricia: Did you fight?

Rosie: Oh yeah, once in a while. (laughs)

Patricia: Do you know your grandparents' names?

Rosie: Oh, Bessy Denans, that was my grandmother.

Patricia: Bessy Denans?

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: How about your great-grandparents? Do you remember theirs?

Rosie: No, my grandmother she died when I was small.

Patricia: So you...

Rosie: John George, that was my grandfather.

Patricia: John George?

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: Was he from here?

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: Your meals were pretty good then?

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: You always had meat?

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: How did you get your animals, your cows? Did you buy them?

Rosie: Yes, we raised them, you know.

Patricia: Do you remember how the council was run?

Rosie: Council?

Patricia: Yeah.

Rosie: No. (laughs)

Patricia: Was there a chief?

Rosie: Huh?

Patricia: Was there a chief?

Rosie: I remember Alan Isaac was the chief. George Isaac.

Patricia: George Isaac?

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: When did you first get your hydro and stuff like that?

Rosie: (inaudible) same year (inaudible). If you wanted that, you know, (inaudible).

(Break in Tape)

Patricia: And this is a grace by Rosie Kewayosh spoken in Chippewa.

Rosie: (Says a grace in Chippewa).

Patricia: Were there any dances or any... Like we have box socials now, you know. Were there any things like that where a lot of people came together?

Rosie: Oh yeah, they used to have those things but we didn't, you know, but we didn't hardly go any place.

Patricia: How were your holidays? What were they like? Christmas?

Rosie: We just had a feast at home. (laughs) We would cook goodies. (laughs)

Patricia: Did you ever see those kinds of things, like all the time?

Rosie: Oh yeah, oh yeah. We used to get bananas, and oranges, apples.

Patricia: How about pineapple and...?

Rosie: Everything, you know. They had everything in the stores, all kinds of mixed nuts too, you know.

Patricia: How it is now, they had...?

Rosie: Yeah, it's about the same, but everything was cheaper that time than it is now.

Patricia: This picture, what is that of?

Rosie: That's the church over there.

Patricia: Who's singing in it?

Rosie: Let me see now.

Patricia: Is that Wilkie?

Rosie: I think so. Well, there's Jimmy there someplace. Let me see with my glasses. (laughs)

Patricia: Is that your place here?

Rosie: Yeah, let me see. Yeah, by the telephone over there. (laughs) She put the red hood on there and then (inaudible). "I'm going to take a picture. Hold that (inaudible)." (laughs) That's Jimmy, and there's another (inaudible). I don't know what's his name now, I forgot. It's a white man anyway. They went to Mexico that time.

Patricia: When was that?

Rosie: Oh, let me see now. About, maybe about eight years ago.

Patricia: And who are these two little babies?

Rosie: That's Victor Anthens's granddaughter, and Tina Wilkie's little girl, yeah.

Patricia: She's big now, isn't she?

Rosie: Yeah. And that's one of Wilkie's too, Carla. Oh, this is Joey, and Jimmy, and Elsie, and Norman Simpson from Rama. They were singing at the church, you know. There's

Norman Simpson over there, we (inaudible) there. (laughs) And that's Jessie Green here again, and that's two ladies -- that was Mrs. Mary White. And this lady used to live over there -- I don't know what was her name. We used to call her (name) in Indian anyway. And that's Silas Fisher and his wife, and Brenda Sands, Julia, and this is Simon.

Patricia: How long ago was that taken?

Rosie: I don't know.

Patricia: It really looks old.

Rosie: Yeah. Well, Jessie used to have one so she give it to me, you know. You know, this picture taken just two days after he died. Lorna Ann took that picture, you know, of us.

Patricia: Is this before?

Rosie: Yeah, two days after he died.

Patricia: After?

Rosie: Yeah, two days after.

Patricia: How did that happen?

Rosie: I don't know. He had a heart trouble, you know.

Patricia: Yeah.

Rosie: Yeah. It went so quick, you know. (laughs)

Patricia: He died and then she took the picture?

Rosie: No. Two days before...

Patricia: Two days before.

Rosie: Yeah, that's what I'm trying to say. (Break in Tape) ...from Rama, you know. (inaudible) there's Burton Jacobs (inaudible). You know what, that I couldn't think of, what's the name? Oh, Mrs. Fry, you know. I call over there -- she wanted to buy some corn, and that was that old lady answering over. I mean the old man, Scott Peters, you know. Oh, I couldn't think right away to ask for Caroline. Oh, I just said, "Is Mrs. Fry home?" Oh, she got mad! This is Jimmy Lennox and I don't know them other two. Josephine's daughter, and that's her husband Carlo right there. That's the church too, you know, there. This is Linda Gale's little boy. That's Tom Murray, Jimmy's son. And there's Jenny Lee, and there's these two, Arlene girls. There's me and Audrey there. (laughs) ...when she used to go to school, and then Gene Sands...

Patricia: (inaudible).

Rosie: Yeah, used to go to school with her, you know. That's Eleanor, Leona, and Lorna (inaudible). (laughs)

Patricia: He looks like a really tough guy.

Rosie: Yeah, their boy looked just like him.

Patricia: That's your mother?

Rosie: Yeah.

Patricia: What did you say her name was?

Rosie: (Inaudible).

Patricia: Oh yeah.

Rosie: Look at this.

Patricia: Who's that?

Rosie: That's Linda George's boy, the oldest one, Bing -- Bing they called him. That's Eleanor and Jenny Blackbird with Franky and Jimmy, and Leona.

(END OF SIDE A)

(SIDE B)

Elizabeth: Well, I'll start... When I was a girl, you know, we

lived in a house, you know, just a one room, one room upstairs. And then we had a wood stove and we burned wood, and we had to haul water from the river.

Patricia: Oh really?

Elizabeth: Yeah, in the wintertime. Used to go over there and, you know, make an air hole and break that ice and then get water from there. And it was kind of hard, you know.

Patricia: You had to boil the water?

Elizabeth: Yeah, had to boil my water and then everything froze. And we never had the fire all night long until the morning, then my dad would get up and make fire. And I mean we didn't eat like this, just... Like my mother used to make bread, you know. We didn't have meat all the time, not every meal, just like weekends we had meat. That's the only time we ate good, you know, like Sundays, you know. But all week we just ate potatoes and maybe beans and stuff like that because my dad used to have a garden.

Patricia: Oh really?

Elizabeth: Yeah.

Patricia: Was there a store?

Elizabeth: Store?

Patricia: Yeah.

Elizabeth: Oh, just at the four corners there was one, where Rosie lives now. That old man used to own the store there years ago. But he had everything in there really. Old (inaudible). And my dad used to hunt, you know, he used to trap and... We had muskrat, and muskrat meat, and... (laughs)

Patricia: When he hunted was that a big part of your meat supply?

Elizabeth: Oh yeah. We used to cook that muskrat meat, and we had... So we, you know, we didn't live like this the way we live now. The way I was brought up, you know... And when I went to school I had to walk to school.

Patricia: Where did you go to school?

Elizabeth: That school there, you know, that they tore down. Jim Daily was my teacher.

Patricia: Who?

Elizabeth: Jim Daily. Him and his wife.

Patricia: Were they from here or were they...?

Elizabeth: I don't know where they come from, they were from really, but they taught here. That's the only one, that's the only two teachers they had. And I used to walk to school. In the wintertime I walked, walked back again and that's quite a ways, you know. We used to live along Sny over there. You know where Jenny Blackbird lives now?

Patricia: Yeah.

Elizabeth: That's where we lived. And what I learned in school was altogether different than what they do now in schools.

Patricia: Did you learn just the basic stuff?

Elizabeth: Yeah, like they used to call it primer. That's supposed to be grade one, I guess, something like that, you know; they go by grades now. That primer and first book, second book, and third book, and fourth book, well, that's that -- it stopped. Grade eight I guess, now.

Patricia: So were there more than one class, one grade in your room?

Elizabeth: Yeah. We had two rooms in that school over there -- the junior room and the senior room. And after you get up to the second book then you go into this other room and they call it seniors. I used to go to school with Aaron and them. Oh, they're around my age now, the ones I went to school with.

Patricia: How far in school did you go?

Elizabeth: Oh, I went far as senior third you call it. I don't know what that is now, might be about grade six maybe, senior third. And then junior four and then senior four, that's the entrance class.

Patricia: Oh really?

Elizabeth: They called it, yeah.

Patricia: Did you like school?

Elizabeth: Oh yeah. Like children now they really have it easy, not us in those days. That was around 1930, around there. And boy, wintertime was hard, hardest time to go to school, you know, walking and...

Patricia: Were they able to clear the roads or were they all snow covered and icy?

Elizabeth: I don't remember. I don't remember whether they had a snow plow. I don't remember.

Patricia: It was just hard walking.

Elizabeth: But there were tracks, you know. Maybe they did have a snow plow a long time ago. Sleigh rides and all those sleigh rides, and they used to ride with a team of horses and...

Patricia: Horses too?

Elizabeth: They used to haul firewood in there. Oh, that was really interesting, sometimes I was (inaudible). I didn't mind it, you know, although it was hard. Now I think about it, now, it must have been hard, but we never thought of it. Even they used to call it cutter, you know, one of those they shaped like this -- they had runners under them.

Patricia: Oh, a sleigh.

Elizabeth: Yeah, with horses pulling it.

Patricia: Were the horses wild or were they...?

Elizabeth: And there used to be a lot of horses around here, you know, in the bushes in the summertime, and cows.

Patricia: Cows. Yeah, I was told about the cows, that if you had laundry on the line they'd come and chew your clothes up.

Elizabeth: Yeah. We used to go (inaudible). You know, people used to have a lot of crop on the island, you know. They used to make gardens. They'd go in there, they'd break the fence down. They'd go in there and they eat all the vegetables. Yeah, we used to have fun, you know. In the wintertime, you know, we used to have a sleigh. Used to ride in sleighs and...

Patricia: That sounds like fun.

Elizabeth: Yeah, it is.

Patricia: When did you first get hydro or like a stove, like that?

Elizabeth: Oh, around 1959.

Patricia: Oh really?

Elizabeth: That's when they first had electricity here. And we used to have a wood stove here and a box stove in there.

Patricia: A box stove?

Elizabeth: Yeah. You burn the wood.

Patricia: Oh, it's just a different...

Elizabeth: Yeah. Used to call it heater, you know.

Patricia: Did they keep the house warm?

Elizabeth: Oh yeah. That's really nice, you know. We had to (inaudible) Sunday. He's got that kind of stove. You know,

he's old fashioned still. When there was a fire in there, oh, that feels good, you know. Turn this on and kind of heater.

Patricia: Yeah, the food cooked on a wood stove tastes a lot different.

Elizabeth: Yeah, it tastes different too. My sister, you know, had that kind of stove. But since her house burned down, you know, (inaudible). She's got an electric stove now. I wish we, it was those days again, but I don't think it will ever be that way again. Everybody talked Indian; the kids used to talk Indian in my time.

Patricia: When you went to school that's the only language you knew, Indian?

Elizabeth: Well, we talk Indian, but our teacher didn't, you know, allow us to talk Indian, you know, at school all that time.

Patricia: You talked English at school.

Elizabeth: Yeah. But when you're out then you can talk Indian, and all the ones I went to school with they all talk Indian. But they're all, you know... There was Roy Johnson, I went to school with him and I (inaudible).

Patricia: Yeah.

Patricia: I went to school with them and Laura, Laura Kewayosh and Vera Kewayosh and Elvina and Roy, I think, for a while but then he quit. John, and Scott, and Herbert -- I went to school with him. And Robby Johnson, Mavis Jacobs, I went to school

with her. I can't think of all of them. And that old Freddy Sands Senior, I went to school with him, and Evelyn, and Jane, for a while. She was just starting then, she was kind of small. And Clayton Sands, Roselyne -- I went to school with them, but I didn't go to school with Joe and I don't remember him. Jimmy Briggan, I used to go with him.

Patricia: How about when you were in school and the teacher didn't let you speak Indian, how did that make you feel? Did it bother you?

Elizabeth: No. We used to get heck if we get caught, you know, talking Indian to each other if he's around, you know. But when he's not there we talked Indian on the sly like. And Mary Peters, I went to school with her. Some of them died, you know. That's all the ones that used to live back years is Mary Peters, and myself and...

Patricia: Oh, I know what I was going to ask you. When you

didn't have a fridge what did you use, an ice box?

Elizabeth: Yeah, we used to have an ice box but we bought ice. Jacob used to deliver the ice, milk and everything. We got our milk from them.

Patricia: Once a week or every day?

Elizabeth: Oh, I think about twice a week. We used to buy a big chunk of ice, you know, and we used the ice for something underneath there so it stay cool. That's the kind of ice box we had. But before, when I was a kid, we didn't have no ice box.

Patricia: Did you ever bury your... I heard that if you dig a hole in the ground and put vegetables in and cover it, that will keep.

Elizabeth: Some did that, yeah. Even some people, you know, like the old-fashioned kind of wells, they still put a string in there and let it, you know, down in the well there to keep it cold. And (inaudible), you know, outside, you know. But we didn't have no ice box in those days. We just keep our, you know, things, you know, in a cool place. And butter, we used to have butter and it all melted in the summertime.

Patricia: You used to make your own butter?

Elizabeth: No, we used to buy it.

Patricia: How much was it then, do you remember?

Elizabeth: Oh, it was really cheap, about 39 cents a pound. (laughs) Bread used to be about 10 cents a loaf, some... Before that it was even cheaper, 8 cents a loaf.

Patricia: But you made your own most of the time, eh?

Elizabeth: Oh yeah. And sugar was about 25 cents for five pounds.

Patricia: You're kidding!

Elizabeth: Oh, it was so cheap in those days. And milk was about 10 cents a quart. Milk, you know, they keep raising 15 cents, and 20 cents. Even meat, boy, now it's, when you buy some for \$10 worth you just get a little bit of meat.

Patricia: Yeah, little chunks of meat. When you used to eat the big meal on Sunday what kind of meat would have?

Elizabeth: Oh, they used to... Mostly get beef and mother makes soup, or hamburger, or sausages. But I never remember once that we had a roast. Maybe we did but I just don't remember. Now we eat that most of the time now. And turkey, once in a while we have turkey. Sometimes when we're invited

out somewhere and have a dinner and then we have turkey, like Christmas time, Christmas time and Easter.

Patricia: How were your holidays? Could you describe, like say when Christmas, everything you did, or how it was on Christmas to make it special from the other days?

Elizabeth: Well, nothing much but, you know, people used to... On Christmas day people used to invite each other to somebody's house, like your friend's house, and have a big dinner. And we had a, we used to have our Christmas holidays between Christmas and New Year's, same thing now, you know, and Easter.

Patricia: No Thanksgiving or anything?

Elizabeth: Yeah. But we never had like winter holidays, we never had that. And we never... Like the children go to school now and they take all kinds of... Even the activities they have now we never had that. We never done anything like that in school.

Patricia: Because when you go out in school for, like they have (inaudible) now. You'd go out and play ball or stuff like that.

Elizabeth: Well, we did in school. We did, you know, play like... But what they do now they go now, well, they got the gym over here. And even some of them go into town and all this stuff they do now. They even got a swimming pool. We never had those things. It's changed a lot.

Patricia: Yeah, it's changed a lot. How far away was your...? Like there's a house here and a house here where...

Elizabeth: Well, there was this house and that house over there, and that house way over there. A man used to live there, his name was Alfred Paul. That's the only house that was over there. And Leona's house, Shipmans used to live there, Moses Shipman. Evelyn Boil, her name was Shipman before. Do you remember Loden?

Patricia: Yeah.

Elizabeth: That was his wife and they lived there. And us over here. And that (inaudible) house over there where Bucky lives, his parents live there, you know, and his brothers, they all live there. That's the only house. It's just like a (inaudible) up here now.

Patricia: Yeah. Were there trees all over the place?

Elizabeth: No, not really. There used to be, this used to be a field, you know.

Patricia: Oh, a field?

Elizabeth: Yeah, used to be, used to call it farm area. You know, that belonged to Ira and he used to plant corn there. And then, oh, I don't know, that's when they were away

(inaudible) just a little bit over there. I can grow a garden (inaudible). You know, I don't know what he planted there. There's a house in there now. So that's all I can remember. That old (inaudible) that burned down, that was about over 100 years old they said.

Patricia: That old, really? I didn't know it was that old. How did it burn?

Elizabeth: (inaudible). They used to have doings in there, and they used to call it tea meetings long time ago.

Patricia: Tea meetings?

Elizabeth: They have, you know, they take stuff over there and cook it at home, take it over there and they eat for maybe a quarter a meal.

Patricia: Oh really?

Elizabeth: They had (inaudible), and speeches, and speaking, and singing, and just things like that. And if anybody want to do this they had to pay, see. Oh, they used to have a lot fun, you know. It was really interesting.

Patricia: Where would the money go? For the church?

Elizabeth: Yeah. It makes money for the church and other things, you know. They had, you know, to do that and then they... Well, they don't do that any more. Well, they might have supper once in a while.

Patricia: And this is the house you built?

Elizabeth: Yeah.

Patricia: You built it yourself like?

Elizabeth: Yeah, so it was just remodeled about four years ago or somewheres in there.

Patricia: When were you married?

Elizabeth: Oh, I have to think. (laughs)

Patricia: How old were you?

Elizabeth: Eighteen.

Patricia: Did you...?

Elizabeth: 1938. That's when we were married, in '38, August

21. Because my daughter, Joanne, will be... She's 38 right now, she'll be 39 in her next birthday. So then be another two years till my 40th anniversary.

Patricia: Really? Wow! Where were you married, like in one of the churches?

Elizabeth: No. At home, at the house.

Patricia: Who did your ceremony?

Elizabeth: His name was Weir, Reverend Weir.

Patricia: Was he one of the ministers at that time?

Elizabeth: He was a minister over here. He stayed in Sarnia, he lived in Sarnia, so he preached over there and he used to come down here.

Patricia: Oh, to the United Church.

Elizabeth: Yeah.

Patricia: Were there very many, like did you have your relatives come into your house?

Elizabeth: Yeah.

Patricia: What kind of gifts did you receive then?

Elizabeth: We didn't have any. (laughs) Just got married, that's all.

Patricia: Just got married and that was it.

Elizabeth: That's all, no doings, no reception or nothing.

Patricia: Did you have a honeymoon or anything?

Elizabeth: Nope. (laughs) No, just got married, that's all. Got it over with.

Patricia: Is that how they all were?

Elizabeth: Well, that's what they do, you know, most of the time, you know. Not like they do now.

Patricia: No, they have a big party and everything.

Elizabeth: Well, some of them used to do that but not everybody. Sometimes they just get married and that's all. Well, they might have a little dinner. I mean they didn't put on a big party or a big show or anything like that. We were married first before Ford and Evelyn did.

Patricia: Oh really?

Elizabeth: Because they got married in church.

Patricia: How long after you were they married?

Elizabeth: I think... We got married in '38, I think they got married in '39.

Patricia: How about your kids? When you first had your kids, like, you had them here in your house?

Elizabeth: I had them at home.

Patricia: Did you have help, did somebody help you with them?

Elizabeth: Yeah. Well, they never used to go to hospitals years ago. They used to have their babies at home, because, you know, I guess that's the tradition. When I had Joanne -- that's when we used to live over there before we moved here -- that's where I had her at the other house. And I had a doctor there but he come in too late.

Patricia: Dr. who?

Elizabeth: His name was Dr. Roland, he was an Indian doctor.

Patricia: Oh really?

Elizabeth: He used to make house calls. We never used to go to town to see the doctor. He used to make rounds, you know, make house calls. So and Linda, I had her over here after we lived here. And so my mother and another lady there took care of me when she was born. And after that that's when they started going to the hospital then. Cap Clark was a doctor, (inaudible), and they used to go to Chatham, you know, she used to send her patients to Chatham Hospital. And then I had Willie and that's the first time I went in the hospital, when I had him, in Sarnia.

Patricia: When you had them here how was it different from the hospital? Did you feel safer at the hospital or, you know...?

Elizabeth: No, not really, no. It's different when they're natural born.

Patricia: Can you describe that how it was (inaudible)?

Elizabeth: ...you have them at home, see, but you don't (inaudible) anything like that. (inaudible) one time, sometimes not. Oh, is that what he said? Oh, they got that chair over there. Oh, my gosh! And they believed that they used to have us, you know, they keep you in bed for ten days. You can't do nothing.

Patricia: Oh really?

Elizabeth: That's how long they kept me in bed when I had my first child, Joanne. I was in bed ten days. I couldn't get out of bed and they wouldn't feed me.

Patricia: They wouldn't feed you?

Elizabeth: Just maybe a broth, or a tea, or milk and, you know. So if you eat anything, especially if you want to nurse your baby, well you got to eat, you know, really light.

Patricia: Yeah. Did you nurse all of yours?

Elizabeth: Yeah, because in those days everybody nursed their babies, nobody hardly used a bottle. Everybody nursed their babies.

Patricia: I did.

Elizabeth: Oh yeah, did you?

Patricia: I still do.

Elizabeth: Oh. That's nice, like there's very few that does that now. Yeah, I nursed them. Except her I used a bottle besides when I was, you know, (inaudible).

Patricia: When did they start eating, like food? How old were they?

Elizabeth: About ten days.

Patricia: About ten days old?

Elizabeth: Just to, you know, just to eat a regular meal then. That's the difference. I found out when I was in the hospital then, but after I had her, you know, they...

Patricia: Gave you food.

Elizabeth: They brought me food to eat and just had a regular meal. I don't know, I was more scared when I went in there when I was going to have her. It wasn't that hard.

Patricia: What were the average size babies you had, like how many pounds?

Elizabeth: Well, let's see, two, four, and six. Joanne was only about this big when she was born.

Patricia: Two pounds, like that? Wow!

Elizabeth: And she lived, she survived. She was really tiny, yeah. And then (inaudible) was four pounds. She was a little bigger, a little fatter. That's the one I had a hard time with.

Patricia: How about your six pound...?

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