Sallie Wade

October 4, 1982<br />Interviewer: Dr. Thomas J. Blumer<br />Interviewee: Sallie Harris Wade<br />Transcriber: Sarah Moore

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NOTE: [00:00:00:000] [Note that the recording starts at the 8 seconds mark.]

TB: [00:00:08:000] So he was a pretty old man?

SW: [00:00:08:000] Yes.

TB: [00:00:08:000] And he cut wood—

SW: [00:00:08:000] Yeah, he cut wood.

TB: [00:00:08:000] And that’s how he made a living?

SW: [00:00:08:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:00:19:000] Did your daddy [Benjamin Harris] ever do that sort of thing?

SW: [00:00:19:000] My daddy did cut wood.

TB: [00:00:19:000] Oh did he?

SW: [00:00:19:000] The Indians would cut cordwood and haul it to town and sell it. To make money. Back then, though the mills weren’t run like they are now. Used the wood and coal to run the mills with then. And they could sell all the wood to the cotton mills where they could get good [money] out of that. And then [inaudible].

TB: [00:00:53:000] Right, right. So they all did that?

SW: [00:00:53:000] A lot of them on the Nation did that. That’s where they made a lot of their money.

TB: [00:01:02:000] Sure. How did Taylor George die? Where you there when he died?

SW: [00:01:16:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:01:16:000] What happened?

SW: [00:01:16:000] He’s old I reckon.

TB: [00:01:16:000] He just got old? What about Betsy [inaudible]. Can you tell me her story? Now she was kin to Doris?

SW: [00:01:44:000] No. She was kin to the Chief up there on the Reservation. She was his aunt.

TB: [00:02:09:000] Oh, you mean Gilbert [Blue]?

SW: [00:02:09:000] Gilbert. Yeah. Gilbert’s mama and her were sisters.

TB: [00:02:17:000] Okay. She was from the George family?

SW: [00:02:17:000] Um-hm.

TB: [00:02:17:000] And what was she like? Can you remember anything about her?

SW: [00:02:29:000] She was just ordinary people like people are today. She would work in [her] home and did her own work, you know. She lived alone until she died. When she got too old she came to me and I kept her until she died. She died in my house.

TB: [00:02:51:000] Oh, did she?

SW: [00:02:51:000] Yeah, I took care of her until she died.

TB: [00:02:51:000] Tell me about that day? The day she died?

SW: [00:03:00:000] I don’t remember too much about that, but I know she was sick. About a month she was down [and] I had to wait on her, because she couldn’t walk. The day she died well I had [her] there in my home. Everybody came to help take care of the funeral, you know I couldn’t do that because—but Lucy [Starnes] did, her sister.

TB: [00:03:27:000] That’s right Lucy was her sister? I see. Now she stayed with John Saunders a lot?

SW: [00:03:41:000] Yeah. She did stay with him in her younger days, I guess. I didn’t know anything about that part for a long time. I know she was married to Uncle Bob. I know that.

TB: [00:03:58:000] When they were younger?

SW: [00:03:58:000] Yeah.

SW: [00:03:58:000] And then when they separated, I guess that is when she stayed with him. Then she left him for a long time, John Sanders, because she stayed not far from my house. Across the hill over there in her own house.

TB: [00:04:19:000] She had a little log cabin?

SW: [00:04:19:000] Yeah. And then she got sick and went and stayed with Landrum [Landrum George] and Elsie [Elsie Blue George] a while. Then one Sunday morning she got sick and wanted to stay with me. So I brought her home. And I kept her until she died. She didn’t have no children.

TB: [00:04:41:000] No. None of her own?

SW: [00:04:41:000] Uh-huh.

TB: [00:04:41:000] You didn’t know Billy George?

SW: [00:04:41:000] No.

TB: [00:04:41:000] That was Lucy’s daddy?

SW: [00:04:52:000] Yeah that was Lucy’s daddy. I don’t remember seeing him.

TB: [00:04:52:000] He had died before Lucy, before you?

SW: [00:04:52:000] Before I ever—

TB: [00:04:52:000] Remembered?

SW: [00:04:52:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:05:03:000] Did you know Lucy’s mama?

SW: [00:05:03:000] Yeah, I knowed her. Lucy’s mama and my grandmother were sisters.

TB: [00:05:17:000] Right, Emily Cobb?

SW: [00:05:17:000] Yeah. They were sisters.

TB: [00:05:17:000] Right. What was Lucy’s mother’s name?

SW: [00:05:17:000] Peggy Jane [George].

TB: [00:05:17:000] Peggy Jane?

SW: [00:05:17:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:05:30:000] Okay. Oh, so they were sisters? And what happened to Peggy Jane?

SW: [00:05:30:000] Well, she lived on with Lucy until she died.

TB: [00:05:43:000] Oh I see. Now how about her son JP [John Pierce George]?

SW: [00:05:43:000] Well he stayed around here. He stayed with [inaudible] until he died, you know later. That hadn’t been too long ago. But he was pretty old too when he died.

TB: [00:06:04:000] Is that right?

TB: [00:06:15:000] Do you know how to make ash bread?

SW: [00:06:15:000] Ash cakes you mean? Yeah, I do.

TB: [00:06:15:000] How do you do that?

SW: [00:06:24:000] Well you have to have a fire place to make ash cakes. Burn your wood and make good, heavy ashes. Clean the bottom of your fire place out good and clean. And just make your bread up. Put it in there and put the hot ashes over it. Cook it. Then when its cooked, then you got to wash the ashes off of it and let it dry. That’s the way I cook mine.

TB: [00:06:55:000] Good?

SW: [00:06:55:000] But, I ain’t been able to have ash cakes since I been over here lately because it’s always the heater or something, you got the heat by now.

TB: [00:07:07:000] Right. Oh you didn’t have a fireplace at the other place?

SW: [00:07:07:000] No. We were fixing to build one though, but the house burned down before I got a fire place.

TB: [00:07:20:000] I see, I see. Did you burn you pots in the fire place?

SW: [00:07:20:000] Um-hm. That’s where I burnt mine. But I’ve seen Evelyn [Evelyn Brown George] burn pots outdoors. I don’t see how she could burn them outdoors in the wind. I never do that. Because they will crack; if the winds hits them hard enough they’ll crack.

TB: [00:07:44:000] Right. They get cold?

SW: [00:07:44:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:07:54:000] Tell me what happened with Della [Della Harris]. Can you do that? Where you down here when she died?

SW: [00:08:08:000] No, she wasn’t down here. She—they had moved up way on the other side of the river bed that’s going towards Fort Mills. And they were living up there. He [David “Toad” Harris] had went up there to tend to a ferry and they had moved. They say—and I don’t know how it happened I know what happened the day she died. He had come home from the ferry. They said he was mad. I guess he was drunk. So he called her in the bedroom and when he did, well he shot her. I don’t like talking about that because that’s these kids grandpa you know.

TB: [00:09:02:000] Right, and they just feel bad.

SW: [00:09:02:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:09:02:000] Yeah. Well, did the police come and get Toad?

SW: [00:09:02:000] Yeah, he went to the pen [penitentiary]

TB: [00:09:12:000] Oh, did he go to jail?

SW: [00:09:12:000] He went to the pen.

TB: [00:09:12:000] Oh.

SW: [00:09:12:000] But they won’t let him catch him, but he did, he went to the pin.

TB: [00:09:12:000] Yeah.

SW: [00:09:21:000] Yeah, he went to the pen for it. Because she didn’t die for about three or four days after she was shot. Because when he shot her, he shot the baby too. And they had to take the baby because it was already dead. And she lived about three or four days after the baby was buried. But he went to the pen for it.

TB: [00:09:52:000] How long did he stay in jail?

SW: [00:09:52:000] Until, grandpa was tending to his kids while he was in the pen. And grandpa said he got where he couldn’t tend to them. They got too rough for him. So he begged them to let him out so he can take care of his kids.

TB: [00:10:08:000] Now who was grandpa?

SW: [00:10:08:000] Grandpa Taylor.

TB: [00:10:08:000] Oh, Taylor George took the children?

SW: [00:10:08:000] Yeah, cause, see that’s his daughter

TB: [00:10:08:000] Right, Right. Oh, I bet the family was upset.

SW: [00:10:21:000] They were.

TB: [00:10:21:000] How did your mama react to that?

SW: [00:10:21:000] Well, she didn’t like it, but there is nothing she could do about it then. He made it out like you know it was an accident. But he didn’t get by with that.

TB: [00:10:38:000] No?

TB: [00:10:38:000] Did Della look like your mama?

SW: [00:10:38:000] Yeah, they all—her and Aunt Wysie [Rachel Wysie George Brown] all looked alike. To me they did. Only my mama might have been a little bit taller than Aunt Dellie [Della]. And then Aunt Wysie, did you ever see her?

TB: [00:11:00:000] No, I’ve seen pictures.

SW: [00:11:00:000] Well she was a little smaller than mama too.

TB: [00:11:00:000] And those were the three girls? Wysie, Della, and Dovey [Mary Dovey George Harris]?

SW: [00:11:00:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:11:13:000] Now your mama’s name wasn’t Dovey.

SW: [00:11:13:000] Yeah, it was Mary Dovey.

TB: [00:11:13:000] Oh, Mary Dovey?

TB: [00:11:13:000] Oh, I see. So Taylor George really got him out of jail.

TB: [00:11:28:000] I see. How about the Canty brothers? Now everyone’s told me how they died. But what were they like? What kind of men were they? Let’s talk about Henry first.

TB: [00:11:46:000] What kind of fella was Henry?

SW: [00:11:46:000] He was just a natural, ordinary person like anybody else. Now he—I was going to say was Frank is the one that didn’t have children. But Henry’s got children. You know the twin boys, the Canty boys. I guess you know them. Well Frank he just went around. He married but he and his wife never stayed together. So he never had children. They just run around and drunk all the time.

TB: [00:12:24:000] You mean that’s Frank and—

SW: [00:12:24:000] Henry.

TB: [00:12:24:000] Dorothy? He never had children by Dorothy?

SW: [00:12:24:000] Unh-uh.

TB: [00:12:33:000] No. I thought Jenny was one of his kids?

SW: [00:12:42:000] Well, I didn’t know. They say she is, then they will say she ain’t. So I don’t know.

TB: [00:12:42:000] So Frank never had any children but then Henry had—well Henry had a bunch.

SW: [00:12:56:000] Because Alonzo, then the twins, then he had a girl.

TB: [00:12:56:000] I’m going to Chester tomorrow and try to talk to Henry. That’s the last of those, that bunch. So do you remember when they went to Columbia? When they went to that Kelly Institute?

SW: [00:13:21:000] No.

TB: [00:13:21:000] You might have been in Atlanta when that happened?

SW: [00:13:21:000] Might have been.

TB: [00:13:32:000] Tell me about peddling pottery, when you went out into the country. Can you tell me about some of the times you did that and who you went with and what happened?

SW: [00:13:32:000] Well, we would just go to people’s houses out in the country. Sometimes we would get money and sometimes they give us—those that didn’t have money they would give us groceries for the pottery. If they didn’t have money, they just swamp the pots too for groceries.

TB: [00:14:03:000] Like what would you get?

SW: [00:14:03:000] Meal, flour, grits, rice, meat you know. Because back then people raised and killed hogs. They don’t do that no more I don’t believe.

SW: [00:14:20:000] But you get good pay for your pots when you swap them like that.

TB: [00:14:20:000] Sure. How would they give you say corn meal? Would they just give a bag of it?

SW: [00:14:32:000] Sometimes they would give you a bag and sometime they would give you maybe a half gallon if it was a small pot [inaudible]. Rice, well sometimes they would give you a whole bag of rice. And grits and things like that. But meat and stuff, well they give a pretty good piece of meat. Maybe two or three pounds or something like that.

TB: [00:15:07:000] Right. Would you go in a wagon?

SW: [00:15:07:000] No, walk. Carry it on your shoulder and back.

TB: [00:15:07:000] Where are some of the places you went?

SW: [00:15:19:000] Well we’d go out towards to [inaudible] and all down around in there. And back to—

TB: [00:15:19:000] Yeah. Van Wyck.

SW: [00:15:19:000] Well a lot of times most of them would [inaudible] Van Wyck. But that was pretty rough stuff then. We had to walk so [that] sometimes we wouldn’t get back home until dark.

TB: [00:15:40:000] No, I can imagine. Now you never went as far as say Gastonia?

SW: [00:15:40:000] No. Not walking.

TB: [00:15:40:000] Did you ever go in a wagon?

SW: [00:15:49:000] Oh yeah. We went in wagons to Charlotte and all around. Camping. I used to love go with them when they’d take [a] two horse wagon up [inaudible]. And they’d take their wagons and they’d cover the wagons. Go and cover the wagons. Stay all night. Sell pots, two or three days you know like that.

TB: [00:16:16:000] I bet that was fun.

SW: [00:16:16:000] It was fun. We young children would go along with the old folks just for fun. Me, Sallie [Sallie Brown Beck] and Lilly [Nora Lillie Blue Blankenship].

TB: [00:16:28:000] Sallie and Lilly. Now who was Lilly?

SW: [00:16:28:000] That was Chief Blue’s daughter.

TB: [00:16:28:000] Oh Lilly Nora? Was that her name?

SW: [00:16:38:000] No.

TB: [00:16:38:000] No. That was by his first wife?

SW: [00:16:38:000] Yeah. Aunt Min [Minnie George Blue].

TB: [00:16:38:000] Oh I see. Yeah. What was Lilly like? She died young.

SW: [00:16:50:000] Yeah. She was a nice little girl too. She was funny and she had a pretty good education too.

TB: [00:17:01:000] Oh did she? Where did she go?

SW: [00:17:01:000] I guess, school here on the reservation.

TB: [00:17:01:000] Oh I see. What happened to her?

SW: [00:17:12:000] She had children. And every child would die. They wouldn’t live over maybe two minutes or something like that after they were born. And the last one she had died. And the doctor said it called its dad’s name before it died. And when he died, well she died about two hours after it.

TB: [00:17:38:000] Yeah. Who was the father? Who was her husband?

SW: [00:17:38:000] Farris Blankenship. He was a white man.

TB: [00:17:47:000] Oh, okay. And he called his daddy’s name?

SW: [00:17:47:000] That’s what the doctor told. And he said then that something would happen. So it did.

TB: [00:18:01:000] Oh isn’t that a shame. Oh that was tragic wasn’t it?

SW: [00:18:01:000] Now she is buried with that baby in her arms. But she [inaudible] whole [inaudible] of them. Four of them down there in old grave yard. We don’t have a grave yard down there anymore. It is at the church now.

TB: [00:18:15:000] She lost four babies right after they were born? And then this last one.

SW: [00:18:15:000] She had five children. None of them lived.

TB: [00:18:25:000] Isn’t that sad. That’s a sad story. I never heard that story. Never.

TB: [00:18:25:000] So you went up there with Lilly Blankenship?

SW: [00:18:25:000] Um-hm.

TB: [00:18:35:000] Yeah. Oh, I bet you had a high old time in that wagon.

SW: [00:18:35:000] We did. But we didn’t get out to sell any pots. These grown folks did that.

TB: [00:18:46:000] You just played in the wagon?

SW: [00:18:46:000] We just fooled around.

TB: [00:18:46:000] Where would you sleep?

SW: [00:18:46:000] We’d sleep in the wagon.

TB: [00:18:46:000] You just stayed right in the wagon?

SW: [00:18:56:000] Yes.

TB: [00:18:56:000] Tell me about your brother Joseph [Benjamin Joseph Harris]. I don’t know a thing about him. Could you give me a kind of biography of Joseph?

SW: [00:19:08:000] Well he was just an ordinary boy.

TB: [00:19:08:000] When was he born?

SW: [00:19:08:000] He was born in April the 16th. I don’t remember the year now. I can’t remember the year [1906].

TB: [00:19:26:000] And he was just an ordinary little boy?

SW: [00:19:26:000] But he worked now. He worked until he died too. He was working when he—he was working down there at the mill when he got sick. And they took him on to the hospital. He lived through the night and died the next morning.

TB: [00:19:53:000] Stroke?

SW: [00:19:53:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:19:53:000] Now he had a family.

SW: [00:19:53:000] Yeah. He’s got children you know. He’s got two children—got a boy and girl. The boy lives in Rock Hill. The girl lives out west. Somewhere out west. Her husband died two weeks ago I think. I believe she is coming back here. I don’t know.

TB: [00:20:19:000] You think she’ll move back to the Reservation?

SW: [00:20:19:000] I believe she will.

TB: [00:20:19:000] So that’s Joseph.

SW: [00:20:19:000] That’s Joseph’s children.

TB: [00:20:38:000] Can you list your brothers and sisters? You were the oldest. Who was next right on down?

SW: [00:20:38:000] Well Robert [Robert William Harris] was the next to me, and then October [Nancy Cornelia Harris Harris, born in October], then Marthy [Martha Harris Johnson], then Ida [Carrie Ida Harris Harris], and Emmeline [Irene Emmeline Harris], and Mindy [Minnie F. Harris Sanders Harris]. That’s how many sisters I got.

TB: [00:21:11:000] Okay. And where was Joseph in that?

SW: [00:21:11:000] Next to Ida.

TB: [00:21:11:000] Just the two boys and all those sisters?

SW: [00:21:26:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:21:26:000] What happened to Emmeline? Now I don’t know her. I knew Ida.

SW: [00:21:26:000] Well when she married—well she like Lilly. She had babies and they died. They maybe live two or three minutes and die after they were born. And her last one—well she died after the last one was born. And he died about two or three days after she did. But I think it took pneumonia after it was born. And she didn’t last no time.

TB: [00:22:11:000] Oh, my. Who took the baby?

SW: [00:22:11:000] Robert [Robert Harris] and Isabella [Isabella Harris Harris George] kept the baby until it died. The doctor told them that he didn’t expect the baby to live because it was sick too. But she had pneumonia what killed her.

TB: [00:22:34:000] Well she was a young girl then. When that happened to her. Now somebody told me when Jim Watts died, Betsy Bob took his children?

SW: [00:22:34:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:22:56:000] Can you tell me about that?

SW: [00:22:56:000] There was two of them. They took them and raised them. Then they got married and Pete [James Harvey Watts] went out west. You know he ain’t been too long dead either. That’s his oldest son. Now Jimmy [unknown] left here and no one never did know where he went. I don’t know where he is at now.

TB: [00:23:24:000] Yeah I tried to find him and couldn’t.

SW: [00:23:24:000] I had no idea where went. They said he left one day and nobody know where he went. They tried to hunt him but couldn’t find him.

TB: [00:23:39:000] Why did he leave?

SW: [00:23:39:000] He just wanted to ramble, I guess.

TB: [00:23:39:000] Of course those Harris’s did that too. I’m thinking of Gus Harris and Butler. Did you know them?

SW: [00:23:52:000] No, I didn’t know them.

TB: [00:23:52:000] But you heard of them?

SW: [00:23:52:000] But those [are] Ed Harris brothers.

TB: [00:23:52:000] Right.

SW: [00:23:52:000] I heared of them but I don’t know them.

TB: [00:24:06:000] Can you tell me anything about Ed Harris?

SW: [00:24:06:000] Well he lived here on the Nation until he died. He was just like people, some of them just have a home and lived here and worked. Took care of himself, I guess the best he could.

TB: [00:24:24:000] Right. Just a quiet man?

SW: [00:24:24:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:24:24:000] Where you here when the Influenza Epidemic hit down here?

SW: [00:24:36:000] I was living on the reservation.

TB: [00:24:36:000] Did you get it?

SW: [00:24:36:000] No, I never had it. I was lucky. And my daddy never had it. But all the rest of them in the family had it. I’m telling you that was time one person died, then another one being buried, then another one died and another one being buried. I never will forget that either.

TB: [00:24:59:000] Yeah. I bet John Brown had a rough time didn’t he?

SW: [00:24:59:000] Um-hm. I stayed with Aunt Wysie then. When they buried one of her children, they’d get back another one was dead. And she had a bunch of kids. That just wiped her family out.

TB: [00:25:24:000] They lost a grandbaby too.

TB: [00:25:24:000] Now she was a hard worker wasn’t she?

SW: [00:25:24:000] Yeah she worked hard too.

TB: [00:25:38:000] Several people told me that she made a lot of pottery. What do you know about the relief society?

SW: [00:25:51:000] Well, they have the relief society, that’s for the needy folks. I think they got a pretty good thing now going up there at the church. They gotta have a relief sign. They come down and help me onct [once] a week. Because I am not able to go to church. I got no way, you know. And the church now is too far for me to go. They got to go to town to church. I have no way to go and I don’t like to depend on someone else to carry me somewhere.

TB: [00:26:28:000] Right.

SW: [00:26:28:000] When they still had the church up here, I could go a lot of times. But they are building it though and I don’t know when they will ever get it done.

TB: [00:26:39:000] Yeah, it looks like they are going slow, doesn’t it.

SW: [00:26:39:000] They said it would be sometime next year before they get it done.

TB: [00:26:39:000] You’ve always been a very independent person have you?

SW: [00:26:51:000] I tried. I still do. I don’t want anyone to wait on me as long as I’m able to wait on myself.

TB: [00:26:51:000] Well, I don’t blame you.

SW: [00:27:00:000] I hope when I go that I’ll be like Heyward [Heyward Jackson Canty]. I’ll just go where no one has to wait on me—they’ll just have to put me in the ground.

TB: [00:27:12:000] Yeah, I guess you could say he was lucky that way. He didn’t suffer.

SW: [00:27:12:000] Yeah, he didn’t suffer.

TB: [00:27:12:000] He didn’t stay around and go through all that. That’s hard isn’t.

SW: [00:27:21:000] That’s where Marsha? went. We came down the road from my house. My grandson lives right over here. I raised him from a baby. I raised him from two years old-two hours old I meant. He works and his wife works in the hospital. And they come by my house at night and bring me down and I would stay all night with them. And we came down by her house and she was standing on the back porch. That was the first time I had ever seen her on the porch in a long time. Since she broke her leg I guess. And she waved at us. And we thought she was waving at us. But she was sick. Must have been sick. So we didn’t go to her. We just waved thinking she is waving at us. They took me back up there. I told them I’d spend the night with her. And when we [went] back there she was laying out in the yard. They said she had a heart attack, but she didn’t. She was burnt to death.

TB: [00:28:37:000] Oh really?

SW: [00:28:37:000] Somebody had scalded her. Mr. Green the undertaker, he said he she had three degree burns. Said she wouldn’t have died if she hadn’t already had a heart attack. And today we don’t know who done it but I guess it could be have been anybody.

TB: [00:29:04:000] Wow. Life can really give you some hard—sometime it’s really rough, isn’t it? Sometimes it’s really rough. What can you tell me about Rhonda? Aunt Rhodie?

SW: [00:29:22:000] Well, I can’t tell you nothing except I saw her sitting in a chair one time. And they said she was over hundred years old. But I know she couldn’t see. I remember sitting in the rocking chair. She was a big old woman. I don’t remember seeing her but one time.

TB: [00:29:41:000] Was she white?

SW: [00:29:41:000] Some people said she was white, but she claimed to be Indian. But now I don’t know that. And she was so old I couldn’t tell you whether she was white or Indian. Because her hair was white and I don’t remember how she did look expect for that one time.

TB: [00:30:04:000] Sure. Now you knew her daughter Betsy?

SW: [00:30:04:000] Yeah. I knowed her good. Me and her was fixing to go to town the morning she died. And she went out and laid down on the bed. And when we come to get her to get in the car, well she was dead.

TB: [00:30:26:000] Betsy?

SW: [00:30:26:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:30:26:000] Oh for heavens. And she was fine?

SW: [00:30:26:000] Yeah. She was dressed up to go town. And he went out there—we went in a buggy. He went out to hook up the horse and buggy up. When he came back and told us we were ready and I went in room to tell her to come on. And she was dead.

TB: [00:30:48:000] Heart attack?

SW: [00:30:48:000] Yeah. That’s what they said.

TB: [00:30:48:000] Oh, for heaven’s sakes. So, you had been talking to her a few minutes before?

SW: [00:30:48:000] Yeah. Could have been with her.

TB: [00:30:58:000] What can you tell me about her? I know very little about her. Now many times when people don’t have children there is no one to talk about them.

SW: [00:31:07:000] She never had children but she liked children. She stayed around us a lot. She used to be a big, fat woman. And I reckon there must of got something wrong with her. She got down [to] where she was a little wee slim woman. I don’t know if she was going to the doctor or whether she was going to town for business. But I know we were going and Archie [Wheelock] was going to take us. When we went to get her she was dead.

TB: [00:31:41:000] Did she work?

SW: [00:31:41:000] Yeah, she worked. She worked—in sewing. She sewed for people.

TB: [00:31:41:000] Oh really?

SW: [00:31:50:000] She just sewed and made clothes for a lot of people. Took clothes to sew you know for—she made money like that. Well [inaudible name] used to too. But I think she’s down and out. She had to quit.

TB: [00:32:05:000] So that’s how Betsy made a living?

SW: [00:32:05:000] Well she made pots.

TB: [00:32:05:000] Yeah. I see. And she never married?

SW: [00:32:17:000] She never did marry.

TB: [00:32:17:000] No. Did you go around with her a lot?

SW: [00:32:17:000] Well I was around with her a lot. Yeah I used to go and do work for her a lot. I used to iron for her and the folding. She’d do all the washing but I’d do all the ironing for her.

TB: [00:32:40:000] Oh, no that washing that’s another story. Tell me about going down to the spring and doing that laundry. I bet that was awful.

SW: [00:32:40:000] No, it was fun.

TB: [00:32:40:000] Was it?

SW: [00:32:40:000] More fun than it is in the washing machine.

TB: [00:32:54:000] Tell me about it.

SW: [00:32:54:000] You get on the branch and get all your tubs down there where you have plenty water. You could wash down there and hang your clothes up. And they smell good, better than going through those old washing machines.

TB: [00:33:13:000] So where did you do this? Did you have a special place where you—?

SW: [00:33:13:000] Oh, yeah. You always had to clean off [a] special place for a wash place. Always get it on the branch so you didn’t have to carry the water to the house and do it. I had to carry water from down there to do my washing since I’ve been here.

TB: [00:33:39:000] Oh you have to get your own water?

SW: [00:33:39:000] I do, yes.

TB: [00:33:39:000] You do. Oh you’re strong.

SW: [00:33:39:000] I carry my water up there at Gary’s [Gary Wade, her son] to drink.

TB: [00:33:39:000] Oh, you don’t drink the spring water?

SW: [00:33:52:000] No I couldn’t go to that spring. There is a hill over there. I never go to that spring where [inaudible] went from here.

TB: [00:33:52:000] It’s too steep?

SW: [00:33:52:000] But there is a branch there but I never drank out of that branch because there is too many things from the commodes.

TB: [00:34:09:000] Oh, I see it’s dirty. You wouldn’t want to drink that water.

SW: [00:34:09:000] No, I can wash out of it but not drink. Gary got his pump up there at his house and I carry water from up there.

TB: [00:34:23:000] Just enough for drinking water?

SW: [00:34:23:000] Yeah. And cooking.

TB: [00:34:23:000] So you all would go down to the branch and do your laundry?

SW: [00:34:23:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:34:23:000] Who all would go?

SW: [00:34:33:000] Just me and some of the kids.

TB: [00:34:33:000] Mama?

SW: [00:34:33:000] No, I don’t let mama go because—I wouldn’t let her go down there.

TB: [00:34:33:000] Oh really? You did her laundry for her?

SW: [00:34:33:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:34:44:000] You were a good daughter.

SW: [00:34:44:000] Well, I had to tend to her too. Until she died. I didn’t live in the house with them, but she lived in the house with Wilburn [Wilburn Harris, son of Sallie’s sister Ida]. And she was down in the bed and got her back broken.

TB: [00:34:57:000] Oh really? How did she break her back?

SW: [00:34:57:000] Fell in the house one night when she was going out doors or going to the kitchen. I believe they said she was going to the kitchen. And she went around to go into the kitchen she fell in the house. Fell back against the door and broke her back.

TB: [00:35:19:000] So, she never walked after that?

SW: [00:35:19:000] No. She never walked. She lived about two years after she broke it. We had to tend to her. I did her washing then until she died.

TB: [00:35:34:000] Yeah. When did she die?

SW: [00:35:34:000] She has been dead about five years, I believe. Five or six.

TB: [00:35:34:000] Oh, that recently?

SW: [00:35:45:000] Yeah. Maybe about six.

SW: [00:35:45:000] She was living with Wilburn out in—

TB: [00:35:45:000] In Rock Hill?

SW: [00:35:56:000] No, they didn’t live in Rock Hill. They lived around here out from—you know where that colored church is where you come in? Way off from—a little bit around from there.

TB: [00:36:12:000] Did you put the date in your Bible?

SW: [00:36:12:000] No, I didn’t.

TB: [00:36:12:000] You didn’t keep the date? So you don’t know the date that she died?

SW: [00:36:27:000] She lived for about two years after she broke her back.

TB: [00:36:27:000] And was bed ridden the whole time?

SW: [00:36:27:000] Uh-huh. She couldn’t turn over. We had to turn her over. I took care of her good though [inaudible]. Well, all of us helped to take care her. We would you know go back and forth.

TB: [00:36:47:000] Well it was you and Minnie. And Ida. So it was the four of you that shared.

SW: [00:36:47:000] And Martha.

TB: [00:37:00:000] Where you around when Archie lost his ear?

SW: [00:37:00:000] No. I didn’t stay here. I’ve heard about it and known about it, but I wasn’t living in the Nation then.

TB: [00:37:15:000] Where you in Atlanta when that happened?

SW: [00:37:15:000] No, I wasn’t in Atlanta. I must have been somewhere working, I reckon. But I know about it.

TB: [00:37:33:000] Can you tell me the story as you heard it?

SW: [00:37:33:000] Well I know what was told. It said him and Uncle John [John Brown] and Uncle Toad were all drinking. They got in an argument somewhere or another. And Uncle John jumped on him and said he took his fingers and pulled his ear off but it look like it was cut off. You see?

TB: [00:38:01:000] Oh. But this happened just when you were a young girl?

SW: [00:38:01:000] Um-hm.

TB: [00:38:12:000] What kind of fella was Archie?

SW: [00:38:12:000] He wasn’t from around here, you know. He was Indian from some other nation.

TB: [00:38:12:000] Right.

SW: [00:38:12:000] He was just—do you know Guy Garcia? Have you seen him?

TB: [00:38:27:000] Yeah.

SW: [00:38:27:000] Well, he was just a little stumpy man like him. But he was active they say. Would get drunk you know. He’d like to cut up. So, I reckon that was what they were doing when he got his ear pulled off.

TB: [00:38:38:000] Yeah they got to drinking.

TB: [00:38:38:000] Now did Billy Harris drink?

SW: [00:38:38:000] Unh-uh.

TB: [00:38:38:000] No? He wasn’t like that?

SW: [00:38:38:000] Unh-uh.

TB: [00:38:38:000] He wasn’t a scrapper?

SW: [00:38:48:000] No, he stayed to himself. Like Wilburn. Wilburn’s got him a little house built right over there. And he stays to his self, but I heard him working a while ago.

TB: [00:39:00:000] He’s quiet. He is a nice fellow. I know him. I used to go visit Ida whenever I came down here. I always enjoyed talking with Ida. Well let’s see. Can you tell me about these dances they used to have? Did you go to the dances when you were a girl?

SW: [00:39:24:000] Yeah. I always went. I was always there when they had dances. But they had—people were more friendly then and more enjoyable when they got with one another than what they are now. Now, this generation that is coming up now, I don’t know what to think of a lot of them. They seem like they’re drawn too far apart [from] what they used to be.

TB: [00:39:53:000] Well, people used to help each other.

SW: [00:39:53:000] Yeah, they don’t help each other any more.

TB: [00:39:53:000] Didn’t Martha Jane [Martha Jane Harris] used to do that a lot? Help people when they were sick?

SW: [00:40:04:000] Yeah. Well, all of the older people used too—whenever someone was sick go around and help tend to them, you know. They don’t do that now.

TB: [00:40:15:000] No, they are too busy. They are very busy.

SW: [00:40:15:000] Yeah there is too much going on now for people to be around one another like they used to.

TB: [00:40:26:000] Right. They got television and all these things. Well, can you remember anything that happened at dances? Anything funny that happened at the dances?

SW: [00:40:38:000] No, I don’t remember nothing. They all got along together. There was never nothing that happened, no fights or nothing. But now that show brought a fight that night they had that show.

TB: [00:40:38:000] Yeah.

SW: [00:40:54:000] I hear those wild turkeys.

TB: [00:40:54:000] Oh is that what that is?

SW: [00:40:54:000] Uh-huh.

TB: [00:40:54:000] Do they come up in the yard?

SW: [00:40:54:000] No, they will not come up in the yard. They come up all around and go down to the barn.

TB: [00:41:07:000] No kidding. Maybe you can someone to get you one for Thanksgiving [*laughing*]

TB: [00:41:07:000] What kind of Christmas did you have when you were a little girl?

SW: [00:41:17:000] Well we didn’t have Christmas like people have now. Because most of time our children, you know, get everything they want and all kinds of nice stuff. What we had to get is what people made for us. But we always had a good Christmas.

TB: [00:41:41:000] How would you celebrate? Well did you have a tree at home?

SW: [00:41:41:000] Yeah, we always had a tree. I believe those things are coming up [referring to turkeys]

TB: [00:41:41:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:41:56:000] And would your mama make special food or anything?

SW: [00:41:56:000] Yeah, they always made pies and cakes and things for Christmas. But people don’t do that anymore, either. Not now. I haven’t seen none of them here do it.

TB: [00:42:11:000] Yeah. What was your favorite foods when you were growing up when your mama was cooking for you? What were the favorite things you liked to eat?

SW: [00:42:23:000] I always liked for her to make cakes and things like that when she was doing the cooking. I always like to have grits, rice, or something for breakfast.

TB: [00:42:41:000] Oh, is that right?

SW: [00:42:41:000] And I still do now. But I have to be on a diet since I’m diabetic. I have to be on a diet.

TB: [00:42:41:000] Right. How come so many Indians are diabetics?

SW: [00:42:52:000] I don’t know.

TB: [00:42:52:000] Was your mama—

SW: [00:42:52:000] I don’t think they had diabetes back then. That’s just been lately when the whole Nation—because Gary [Gary Wade, son] and Francis [Francis Wade, daughter-in-law] got it, Ma got it, my grandson John Wayne [John Wayne Petty] he’s got it. And I think I heard Little Gary [Gary Wade, Jr., grandson] said he had it the other day.

TB: [00:43:25:000] A lot of people have it.

TB: [00:43:25:000] How about that pellagra?

SW: [00:43:25:000] Well there used to a lot of that. But it went out didn’t it. There was something else. There was another disease that children—babies had you know. They couldn’t walk, you know.

TB: [00:43:49:000] Oh, rickets?

SW: [00:43:49:000] No.

SW: [00:43:49:000] I don’t remember what it was. Old folks had too. But it was more of baby disease.

TB: [00:44:01:000] Yeah. Did you ever know anybody to have Pellagra? What does it do?

SW: [00:44:01:000] It just peels your skin off. And dry like you’ve been burnt. Just keep on peeling. Just peel you all off, bad. I saw—a cousin of mine had it. She died, they said it’d kill you, but it didn’t kill her.

TB: [00:44:01:000] Who was that?

SW: [00:44:30:000] Ella Harris. Ella Canty.

TB: [00:44:30:000] Oh, Ella Canty.

TB: [00:44:30:000] She had it? That’s Ella Mae. And she had Pellagra?

SW: [00:44:41:000] Yeah. And then, you know, she died from Diabetes.

TB: [00:44:41:000] Oh, I thought she died in childbirth?

SW: [00:44:41:000] Unh-uh. She hasn’t been too long dead.

NOTE: [00:44:54:000] [Break in audio at 44:54 to 45:08]

TB: [00:45:10:000] So Ella May, who was she the daughter of? Ella May Canty. I got my Canty’s mixed up.

SW: [00:45:20:000] I believe you have. Ella is [inaudible] and Cleo’s daughter.

TB: [00:45:32:000] Okay that is a bunch I don’t know much about. They are younger. I am thinking of Ollie May. Is it Ollie May that died having a baby?

SW: [00:45:32:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:45:44:000] Can you tell me anything about her?

SW: [00:45:44:000] Well, I don’t too much about her either because they didn’t stay on the Nation too much. That’s Alonzo’s [Alonzo Canty] daughter.

TB: [00:45:55:000] Oh that wasn’t Emma’s [Emma Harris Canty]?

SW: [00:45:55:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:45:55:000] That was Emma’s daughter?

SW: [00:45:55:000] Oh, that’s Alonzo’s sister I meant to say.

TB: [00:46:06:000] Yeah. And they lived up the ferry?

SW: [00:46:06:000] Yeah. But they stayed down there all the time I lived up here. I don’t know too much about them. I know she had a baby and she died. But the one I was talking about I was trying to focus on that hasn’t been dead too long [inaudible]. She had sugar [diabetes]. Sugar breaks out on you somewhere when you get wet and you can’t get wet.

TB: [00:46:38:000] You’ll get sores if you don’t [take] care.

SW: [00:46:38:000] If you don’t wash. I never had it do me like that yet. I know that is how come Fletcher [Fletcher Beck] had both of his legs cut off on account of it before he died.

TB: [00:46:38:000] Right.

SW: [00:46:58:000] They were fixing to take her foot off. They were going to take it off the next week and she died before they took it off.

TB: [00:46:58:000] She was young. A young girl.

SW: [00:47:12:000] No, she wasn’t a young girl. She’s got grandchildren.

TB: [00:47:12:000] She had grandchildren but she wasn’t that old.

SW: [00:47:12:000] No, she’s not an old person. About as old as Frank [unknown] I think. No, she was older than Frank.

TB: [00:47:27:000] Now are you very careful with your diet?

SW: [00:47:27:000] Yeah, I got to be careful. I sure don’t. Now I got a nail stuck in my foot. It’s been about a month ago I reckon. And I tended to it, while people got together to get me to the doctor. Then I had to take shots for it. I have one more, I have to take yet. But that thing here lit up just like before I went to the doctor. I didn’t have to go to the doctor with it, but they got scared. They [were] scared I would take lock jaw or something they said a nail would give you.

TB: [00:48:10:000] They give you a shot?

SW: [00:48:10:000] Yeah. The doctor gave me two, but I got another one to take. I think I’m supposed to take that one this month.

TB: [00:48:23:000] Have you ever been really sick?

SW: [00:48:23:000] Yeah, when I had gall stones.

TB: [00:48:23:000] Oh, my. Oh, they are terrible aren’t they?

SW: [00:48:33:000] After I was operated on I wasn’t walking no more as well. So, I’ve not been really bad sick anytime as I know of.

TB: [00:48:33:000] And you’ve been lucky that way.

SW: [00:48:44:000] Yeah, I have been pretty lucky.

TB: [00:48:44:000] Yeah. So you keep your diet pretty strict?

SW: [00:48:44:000] Yes, I’m good on my diet.

TB: [00:48:57:000] But back to this pellagra. Didn’t Rachel Brown have it?

SW: [00:48:57:000] Yeah, I think she had it. Cleo too had it too bad.

TB: [00:49:12:000] Now what is her last name? Sanders?

SW: [00:49:12:000] No she’s—I can’t think of the Emma’s last name now. You know you said the people you know nothing about.

TB: [00:49:37:000] Yeah, the younger people. I’m always trying to find out about the old timers. When you start talking about the younger people, I get lost, quickly. There are so many. How about this time Moroni George got chased by the sheriff.

SW: [00:49:58:000] I heard his tale of it, but I didn’t see him. He said when they got after him he was in town drunk, hollering and cutting up. And he said when they got after him to catch him, he was running. The police was after him so he took down the railroad. He drove down the railroad until he got to Pete’s woods then ran off and left his wagon and mule in the road, to keep them from catching him. But the horse and mule went on home with the wagon they said.

TB: [00:50:34:000] No kidding [*laughs*].

SW: [00:50:34:000] He had to go through the woods to keep them from catching him. He was kind of rough when he got drunk

TB: [00:50:34:000] Is that right?

SW: [00:50:34:000] Like some of them is today.

TB: [00:50:45:000] Oh sure. People are the same aren’t they.

SW: [00:50:45:000] But now they are worse than drinking liquor what they go on now.

TB: [00:50:45:000] Oh yeah this dope. That’s terrible. That’s bad. Well I guess people will always do that.

SW: [00:51:01:000] Yeah, I reckon as long as the world stands that’s what they will do.

TB: [00:51:01:000] Sure, I can’t understand why. But they do it.

TB: [00:51:11:000] What kind of person was Emma Canty [Emma Harris Canty Brown]?

SW: [00:51:11:000] She was a very nice person, in a way. She was a person that if anybody got sick and she knew you needed her help; she went and done it.

TB: [00:51:27:000] Is that right?

SW: [00:51:27:000] She sure would. She would help anybody.

TB: [00:51:27:000] Did she ever come and help you?

SW: [00:51:27:000] Oh, she helped me many a day. And she’s helped mama. She went and helped Mama when she got sick. And when Aunt Wysie got sick Early [Early Brown] was tending to the ferry and they came up. And of course I was tending to Aunt Wysie. And she came up and stayed with me at night. To help, you know.

TB: [00:52:01:000] Now who is Wysie? Oh that’s Rachel. That’s Rachel. Okay.

SW: [00:52:01:000] Yeah, but everybody called her Wysie.

TB: [00:52:01:000] How did she get that name?

SW: [00:52:01:000] I couldn’t tell you that. Some of the old people thought of it I reckon.

TB: [00:52:14:000] Yeah. How come you were tending her?

SW: [00:52:14:000] Well, she lived by herself. They wasn’t anybody living with her. And she lived up there in that house, where the little red house is on the side of the road. So, I went by there on day and she was sitting on the porch. And she was sick. And I asked her “are you sick?” and she said “yeah.” She would like for someone to get Early and them. So I came on down and I told Gary. So, Gary went and got them and asked me to stay with her at night. I stayed with her night and day. Only, I just would go back at home through the day and come back. I stayed with her until she died.

TB: [00:53:02:000] Yeah. Just old age?

SW: [00:53:02:000] Yeah. It was old age.

TB: [00:53:02:000] What happened to her son George [George Brown]?

SW: [00:53:12:000] Now that’s something I know nothing about. He left here and went somewhere. I don’t know where he was at.

TB: [00:53:12:000] He was in Columbia, I have spoken to him.

SW: [00:53:12:000] Have you? I ain’t seen him since he left here. I ain’t seen him.

TB: [00:53:12:000] What happened to his eyes? How did he get blind?

SW: [00:53:27:000] He got blind when he was little. I don’t know how, he just went blind I reckon. Because he was a small kid when he went blind. I remember that. His eyes got sore and they thought that—he had a little horse that played with all the time. They thought maybe he got—

TB: [00:53:49:000] Something from that?

SW: [00:53:49:000] Something from that horse, but I don’t know. But he went blind in both eyes at the same time I know that.

SW: [00:53:49:000] But, he got sore eyes when he went blind and never did get better.

TB: [00:54:05:000] Yeah, I spoke to him and he said that John Brown [George’s father] took him everywhere.

SW: [00:54:05:000] Yeah.

TB: [00:54:05:000] To every doctor he could find.

SW: [00:54:05:000] Yeah, they did. And still it didn’t help him. Then he went and married a blind woman. I can’t understand that.

TB: [00:54:22:000] Yeah.

SW: [00:54:22:000] But they did pretty good with that.

TB: [00:54:22:000] He’s with her when I talked to him. I called him on the phone.

SW: [00:54:22:000] They kept house for a long time. I don’t see how in the world she knew how to do things. But I reckon [if] there is a will there is a way.

TB: [00:54:41:000] Well, they teach them how to do things without seeing and I guess they just do as best they can.

SW: [00:54:41:000] I just swear that I’d hate to go blind because I don’t know what I would do, if I went blind.

TB: [00:54:53:000] Isn’t that terrible.

SW: [00:54:53:000] I know it would be.

TB: [00:54:53:000] Yeah. What do you know about Joe and Lillie Sanders?

SW: [00:55:10:000] I didn’t know them too much. They didn’t live around here too much. They lived in town along the ridge. I know she is Cherokee. Because after he died, see she went back. So, after [she] went back she married someone up there.

TB: [00:55:33:000] Yeah, I think she married one of the Cherokees. So, you didn’t have anything to do with them?

SW: [00:55:33:000] I didn’t know them. I visited them once in a while. When they lived down here.

TB: [00:55:46:000] They lived in town most of the time?

SW: [00:55:46:000] Uh-huh.

SW: [00:55:46:000] I wonder what time is it?

TB: [00:55:46:000] I don’t know. Let me look and see. Did you ever go catching crawfish? It almost three o’clock.

TB: [00:55:46:000] Ten minutes to three.

SW: [00:56:06:000] Oh, my goodness.

TB: [00:56:06:000] Wow, we have been talking. You want to just finish tape? We’ll finish it in a couple of minutes.

SW: [00:56:13:000] We’ll like to because I haven’t done anything in my house yet.

TB: [00:56:13:000] No. Okay. Well let’s see if I can think of a couple things and then we can wind it up right quick.

TB: [00:56:26:000] Oh, I wanted you to tell me about Will Wade. If you could tell me about Will. How did you met him?

SW: [00:56:26:000] Well, I met him in the cotton mill.

TB: [00:56:26:000] Really?

SW: [00:56:36:000] Yeah. I was working in the cotton mill and he got a job there. I was working at the Industrial and he got a job in the Industrial. And that’s how I met him. And one night I was going from the mill he asked me if he could walk me home. I let him walk me on home, but I was boarding then, boarding at another house wth my cousin. They were living there and I was boarding with them. And so that’s how I met him.

TB: [00:57:06:000] For heaven sakes. But then you lived down here a long time?

SW: [00:57:06:000] Um-hm. Me and him got married, see. Yeah, I was living down here then, but I was working in Rock Hill and boarding. And coming home on the weekends. Then he got to coming down here with my brother every weekend too and that’s that. He just came down here and he stayed down here. He asked me one Saturday if I’d marry him, so I did.

TB: [00:57:41:000] Uh-huh [l*aughing*]. What kind of fellow was he? Can you tell me some stories about him? What did he do?

SW: [00:57:41:000] He worked in the mill.

TB: [00:57:41:000] Did he work hard?

SW: [00:57:51:000] Yeah, he was a hard worker. Me and him worked the farm together. We both still worked in the mill while we working the farm. Then he went off with a bunch to shoot with—there was a shooting match one Saturday. And he got killed.

TB: [00:58:22:000] Oh, he got shot?

SW: [00:58:22:000] Um-hm. Somebody shot him. He was putting something down and when he stooped down they shot him. Whoever shot him right in the back and the bullet came out.

TB: [00:58:37:000] On purpose?

SW: [00:58:37:000] They said it was an accident. It couldn’t be an accident if they knew he was going out there to set something down.

TB: [00:58:37:000] No. Who did it? Did they hang the man who did it?

SW: [00:58:49:000] Well, they did get the man, but he claimed he didn’t know—told the judge that he didn’t know his pistol had a bullet it. But he must of. I didn’t know the man. I still didn’t know him when we went to court.

TB: [00:59:09:000] Yeah. When did this happened?

SW: [00:59:20:000] Let’s see I don’t how old my son is—it’s been about forty years now.

TB: [00:59:20:000] Four years?

SW: [00:59:20:000] No forty. My son he wasn’t about about four years old when that happened.

TB: [00:59:34:000] Oh. So this was back after World War II? Back in the forties?

TB: [00:59:45:000] Do you the date, the month and day?

SW: [00:59:45:000] No. I know it was in July, but I don’t know the month. I mean, I know the month I don’t know the date.

TB: [00:59:45:000] Yeah. And did it happen here in Rock Hill?

SW: [00:59:56:000] No, in Chester. That’s where they all went to Chester.

TB: [00:59:56:000] And you actually had to go to court?

SW: [00:59:56:000] Yeah we had to go to court.

TB: [00:59:56:000] Was the man charged with murder?

SW: [01:00:07:000] Yes. But he claimed it was an accident that he didn’t know that the bullet was in the pistol. What was he carrying it for it he didn’t know it was in there?

TB: [01:00:07:000] Right. So the judge believed him?

SW: [01:00:22:000] Yeah, they believed him.

TB: [01:00:22:000] And you had one son by him and that’s the fellow in Florida?

SW: [01:00:22:000] Yeah.

TB: [01:00:36:000] What’s his name?

SW: [01:00:36:000] His name is William Wade.

TB: [01:00:36:000] William Wade? Oh, you named him after his—

SW: [01:00:36:000] After his daddy yeah.

TB: [01:00:48:000] What was his birth date?

SW: [01:00:48:000] July the 16th.

TB: [01:00:48:000] 19 what?

SW: [01:01:02:000] Let’s see he is forty—yeah he is forty now.

TB: [01:01:11:000] Ok. Ok, I can figure it out. I’ll do it later. I can’t do math, either [l*aughs*].

TB: [01:01:32:000] Well this is really—you’ve helped me an awful lot. You really have.

SW: [01:01:32:000] Well, I’m glad I can could.

TB: [01:01:32:000] Do you mind if I use this in my study?

SW: [01:01:42:000] No, I don’t care.

TB: [01:01:42:000] This info what you told me? Is that all right?

SW: [01:01:42:000] Yeah.

TB: [01:01:55:000] Remember when I talked to you back in 1977? Down at Francis and Gary’s house? Well, that night I was so surprised at what you were telling me about the pottery. I just said I’m going to study this and find out as much as I can about the Catawba’s. And I have been working on it ever since. And it’s really your fault. You got me started. You got me started and I really appreciate it.

SW: [01:02:27:000] Well, there is a man in Charlotte, he’s getting a whole lot too. He came down one day before my house burned down. He’s got a lot of my talks what I told him. From talks just like this.

TB: [01:02:47:000] Oh, really. So he made tapes?

SW: [01:02:47:000] I asked him though not to put it in the paper.

TB: [01:02:47:000] Oh, right. You mean in the newspaper?

SW: [01:02:47:000] I mean the newspaper.

TB: [01:02:47:000] Who is he?

SW: [01:02:58:000] I can’t think of his name now. I know he’ll be back too because he comes every once in a while. I’ll guess he will be back. But he works in Charlotte. I mean he’s in Charlotte.

TB: [01:03:12:000] Yeah. Is he doing a study?

SW: [01:03:12:000] Yeah, I think he is trying to do, I think. Must be.

TB: [01:03:12:000] Well, you’re a good one to talk too. You certainly know about the old days. That is for sure.

SW: [01:03:26:000] But I’ll soon be forgetting the old days. I tell you, lots of them have forgot. I’m a little bit younger than them and they tell me that Arzada doesn’t know who she is. But I ain’t lost my mind. I hope I don’t!

TB: [01:03:44:000] Listen, just before I go what happened with your house? I was here last when that happened.

SW: [01:03:55:000] What I did, I got up and cooked breakfast. Then I laid down. I went to sleep. I was laying on the couch and saw a blaze of fire come out from the piping where I had the heater on. I got up and threw water on it. I thought it was just around that pipe. And when I laid back down I seen that the piece of thing on it, inside was burning down. I walked around the house and the whole backside of my house was ablaze. I never shut the door. I just came down the road and called on [inaudible]. When I got across the road there, the old man and his wife lived there. He told me he was sick. I told him my house was on fire and he said “well I’m sick and I cannot do a thing”. So he told his wife to go into the house and call the fire department. Well, before I got down to Johns [John Wayne Petty, grandson] I bet that house would be [inaudible] to ashes when I got back. But it wasn’t. They came and put the fire out but it burnt the house so bad, that I couldn’t remodel it. I came down and stayed with John and them. Then we fixed it a little bit, where I could go back in it. So I went back like I am now. I don’t want to be down here. My house, [if] my house hadn’t burned like it did, I would [have]been up there now.

TB: [01:05:31:000] Sure. I can’t blame you for that. Who built that house?

SW: [01:05:31:000] I did.

TB: [01:05:31:000] Oh, you built it? Oh. Well, who did the work for you?

SW: [01:05:42:000] Well, [inaudible] Alonzo—Wilburn mostly did it for me.

TB: [01:05:42:000] No Kidding. Oh, where is it?

SW: [01:05:52:000] When you do up the road where those two houses are? There is a brick house on one side of the road and a little house? Well it’s been burned down. I think someone said some boys were at fault. It’s just down on the hill, on the other side of the road from that.

TB: [01:06:10:000] By Fletchers [Fletcher Beck]? Where Fletcher and Sally [Sallie Brown Beck] used to live?

SW: [01:06:10:000] No, way above that. You know where the two houses are that I am talking about? Well, there is a road turns off to the left. I live down just a little ways down the road from that.

TB: [01:06:34:000] Well, did you save your furniture? Did you save anything from that?

SW: [01:06:34:000] No, saved a few clothes. That’s all. But it scared me so bad. After I got back to the house, I don’t know where else—I didn’t even want to look at the house. But I came and stayed with my grandson until he fixed up where I go in it. But it wasn’t finished you know. And then some boys went down there and tried to burn it down. Again.

TB: [01:07:09:000] Oh, that’s mean.

SW: [01:07:09:000] The same boys that burnt down the house on the other side of the road.

TB: [01:07:09:000] Oh, you wonder why anyone would do a stupid thing like that. Don’t you?

SW: [01:07:19:000] Yeah, but you know in my days there was nothing that—can’t expect anybody to help you. Because I was reading, not reading, listening on television [inaudible].

TB: [01:07:41:000] Oh, Isn’t that awful. People do terrible things. It’s really awful.

TB: [01:07:50:000] Did your house ever burn? Your mama and daddy’s house ever burn? No? They never had that. Where did they live down here?

SW: [01:08:01:000] They lived back on the other side on where I lived.

TB: [01:08:01:000] They had a log house or—?

SW: [01:08:01:000] No, they had a big house. About as big as this house out here. Him and the boys did.

TB: [01:08:12:000] Yeah. Well this fellows got a nice place to put his house. I like it back here.

SW: [01:08:23:000] Yeah, a lot of people like it back here but I’ve been used to up yonder and when you get used to it, that’s where you want to be.

TB: [01:08:23:000] Right. Yeah. It’s pretty place, though. It’s a pretty house.

SW: [01:08:38:000] I might get used to it after they get down here. Because it will always be someone else’s.

TB: [01:08:38:000] Right. Well, I guess I get on down the road and let you get your work done. And I sure thank you.

SW: [01:08:52:000] You’re welcome.