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**Warren Guinup oral history interview  
1962**

**Cassette/CD#: T7\_007  
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**Note: Moments where the speakers are unintelligible are labeled with the audio file name and timestamp for listeners' reference (i.e. T7\_007\_01.wav, 03:34)**

This recording was made on June 23, 1962. It consists of an unrehearsed and unorganized reminiscence of Warren Guinup, who is one of the [T7\_007\_01.wav, 00:10] surviving lumber jumpers of the Cranberry Lake area. Warren was born on New Year's Eve 1876. He said his father told him that on the night he was born there was a terrific blizzard and it was necessary to send oxen to the small town of [T7\_007\_01.wav, 00:27] the doctor. His father had owned a small farm and on the wood lot of the farm Warren learned first to use an axe. He was always fascinated by the woods and naturally turned to the woods for his livelihood. His natural ingenuity, his unique ability to lead men, were qualities which soon brought him to leadership in logging jobs. After his logging days were over, Warren continued to live at Cranberry Lake. It was during the years of World War I when he was logging on Six Mile Creek that he formed a fast friendship with Lloyd and Jessie Oxner and their son Ross. The Oxners had moved to Cranberry Lake and a young Ross worked as a bookkeeper and a tote- man for Warren Glinup. This friendship was begun in the logging camps and has continued ever since, and Warren now lives with Ross Oxner near the shores of Lake Ontario in the little town of Texas, New York.

Following glimpse into the life and activities of a bygone era is one of our fine heritages and one which should preserve. It indicates the self-reliance, the dignity, and in many ways all the qualities which have gone to make America one of the great nations of the world. Warren will now start telling his own story in his own words.

GUINUP: George [T7\_007\_01.wav, 02:13]. He went into the lumber business up towards Newton Falls, so he gradually worked me into it. He had a little job on the farm, you know, that he wanted to [02:38]. He said that would do you good to go down there and cut that [02:47]. Well, I hired some of the boys around home there. We [T7\_007\_01.wav, 02:56] and cut the hemlock. He'd given the boys if they [T7\_007\_01.wav, 02:59]. Well, father was pretty [T7\_007\_01.wav, 03:03], but he [T7\_007\_01.wav, 03:05] and pick up the bark for you. So we [03:10]. Then we had to draw that way over to Jones' [T7\_007\_01.wav, 03:20]. You know where that was? Towards [T7\_007\_01.wav, 03:22] there is a farm.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, I think so.

GUINUP: Quite the big farm [T7\_007\_01.wav, 03:28]. Well, the Jones boys owned it. Well I had to go [T7\_007\_01.wav, 03:36] over on the [T7\_007\_01.wav, 03:39] the river. [T7\_007\_01.wav, 03:43] got in, saved my bark and drug my bark to Harrisville, and when I got through I had \$400 by gosh. [T7\_007\_01.wav, 03:57].

INTERVIEWER: What year was that, do you remember?

GUINUP: Oh about '25.

INTERVIEWER: About 25.

GUINUP: Yeah. And then from there I, oh I just got nudged into it, you know. So he went and had the big job up in [T7\_007\_01.wav, 04:29]. Well, way up in there he took a big chance T7\_007\_01.wav, [04:36] contract[04:39] come on up there and I'll let you have a job. So I picked up an old pair of [04:47].

INTERVIEWER: What was his name over at the plant that you used to run this?[ T7\_007\_01.wav, 04:56]

GUINUP: the [T7\_007\_02.wav, 00:00] livery stable. He used to have a feed mill over there. [00:07] But anyway, he had a pair of horses. He sure had a [00:14] pair of horses. Arthur [00:20] moved up there, built a little [00:24] right to the foot of a big swamp. I thought I had everything just how I wanted it. You know, I measured [00:32] creek run down. I got it all skidded out [00:44] for Hollis and it come one of the worst darn rains you ever see and the swamp filled right full and run right down through. We had to put stuff in the cache [00:56]. Well, I done pretty well [01:12]. I just can't remember whether I did make [01:16].

INTERVIEWER: How many men did you have in there?

GUINUP: Oh, I had about-- Let's see. Oh, I don't recall. I run around 20, 25 men [T7\_007\_02.wav, 01:27] what I got done that year, we brought it over to Newton Falls. That was the [01:41]. Just take another job. So I took another job [01:50]. Oh, I run about 20, 25 men I guess. [02:01] up some of these [02:03] and he'd be working out towards Newton Falls [02:09] we worked along like that until the [02:20] years. [02:22] but what we finished up, we were pretty well up to Newton Falls, down along-- down near where the paper mill is there.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_02.wav, 02:41] and he said, well we've [02:59] Cranberry Lake. Says [03:03] they wanted lumber [03:10]. So him and I and my cousin [03:17]. I don't know if you ever [03:17]

INTERVIEWER: I don't believe I [03:19].

GUINUP: Tall fellow. He had been [T7\_007\_02.wav, 03:23]. We struck up there until 1903, the night before 1903 [03:38] and we [03:40] the old man Cook. [03:47], so he said now you boys go down to the hardwood mill and dig that line and follow it through as far as the [04:03].

INTERVIEWER: Is that the Barber track near the forestry camp?

GUINUP: Yeah. So we [T7\_007\_02.wav, 04:13] out with sandwiches and followed that line through and then we cut in-- we cut in and coming back out and getting an idea of how much it was going to cut per acre, you know. [04:28] guess work, but anybody been to [04:33] had then, I had a pretty good idea. And when we come out, we was [04:40]. You know where that is? Near [04:46].

INTERVIEWER: Oh yes, yes.

GUINUP: Well, we come out. That line come right down through [T7\_007\_02.wav, 04:50]. Just [04:55] and then we turn and come down the [T7\_007\_03.wav, 00:01]. We didn't know where we was. We knew it was Cranberry Lake, but we didn't know whether we was high or low. We started down the lake on the shore and we kept [00:14] as we came along down. And we come out to old man-- where that old woman lives across the lake there.

INTERVIEWER: You mean down near Lloyd Davis', down in there?

GUINUP: No, way down almost to—

INTERVIEWER: Almost to the dam?

GUINUP: Huh?

INTERVIEWER: Almost down by the dam?

GUINUP: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: Yeah, I know just about where you would be in there.

GUINUP: Weston.

INTERVIEWER: Weston.

GUINUP: Lester. Well, we come out there at [T7\_007\_03.wav, 00:52] and [00:57], so she give us sandwiches and then we had to walk [01:06].

INTERVIEWER: Gee whiz!

GUINUP: So we walked to [T7\_007\_03.wav, 01:11], stayed all night, give them the report [01:16] of what we found and what it looked like. Well, he said—

INTERVIEWER: How many miles? That would've been about-- Well, you must have walked about 20 miles that day.

GUINUP: Oh yeah.

INTERVIEWER: More than that.

GUINUP: Yes. I actually think it was more than that.

INTERVIEWER: Yeah, that's a good walk.

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_03.wav, 01:28] up through there. He said I'll tell [01:36]. So we come back down [01:42] and he said, well [01:44]. So we went back and I built a camp right across from the old forge. You know where that is?

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

GUINUP: Well right across. The old bridge had gone out, you see. So him and I had to put in a bridge there before we could [T7\_007\_03.wav, 02:05] unless we went up [02:08] Wood Road. We cut [02:13] and went in there so we could [02:19] move in, you know.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

GUINUP: So we went up to that old forge on that old road, and he went above me towards the mines and built over to a little [T7\_007\_03.wav, 02:35]

INTERVIEWER: Oh yes.

GUINUP: And I built a camp just across the river from the dam, oh, almost inside of the dam, you know. Oh, I run about, I'm going say about 25 men then.

INTERVIEWER: This is 1903?

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_03.wav, 02:59] camps, barn and everything, you know, and when they got it going, why we had [03:11]. I finished up that job that year [03:21] there and a fellow by the name of [03:26] had come up and took the job [03:30] above me toward Benson Mines and he didn't make a go of it, so the next year I had to pick up his job and come back towards the hardwood mill. So I went down to the hardwood mill and built a big camp there that held 50 men. We cleaned [04:01]. And this man Douglas [04:06] before he died and they wouldn't give me, the company wouldn't give me the [04:15] lumber, see. They thought I was too young, maybe I wouldn't make go of it. So they give it to a [04:25] from Tupper Lake. So [04:28] he

moved in and took that as his [T7\_007\_03.wav, 04:31] to finish up and that went clean out to the state lands where we come up across the state lands from Benson Mine, you know.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, yes.

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_03.wav, 04:41]. Well anyway, I finished up. I was probably 2 years on that.

INTERVIEWER: Two years?

GUINUP: Two years, yeah, on that job. But during the 2 years was cleaning out the [T7\_007\_04.wav, 00:03] and the hardwood mill had a new [00:10] move in there, [00:12] different lumber outfits and they wanted me to [00:17] hardwood.

INTERVIEWER: [T7\_007\_04.wav, 00:21]

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_04.wav, 00:23], you know. Wanted me to pick that up for them. Well, that's why I [00:29] so many men [00:31] to take care of his hardwood.

INTERVIEWER: Did that take different equipment?

{crosstalk [00:40]}

GUINUP: You had to have a lot of sawing [T7\_007\_04.wav, 00:57], you know, and had to have good men to do it, to know their business too. So, anyway, I cleaned it all up the second year they were down there. When I was there, old Charlie [01:19]. He was an old fellow. He used to work-- oh, he worked for father quite a lot. I think he was living outside [01:34]. Now he worked for [01:37]. He come to work for me and he had his wife and some children. So they went into this [01:53] little camp I built, you know.

INTERVIEWER: [T7\_007\_04.wav, 01:56]

GUINUP: I had him come down to look at—

{crosstalk 02:05}

GUINUP: As soon as we got through with that job and put the hardwood down [T7\_007\_04.wav, 02:35], got the screws all out, [02:47] hardwoods, they just thought they were [02:52] and they couldn't pay me, but they let me have some lumber to build camps. Whatever I wanted to take, I could take what I wanted. So I went up to Cranberry and took the job up at Cranberry. That was right at the end-- You know where Davis lives there.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

GUINUP: Right in back [T7\_007\_04.wav, 03:27]. I went up there for Frank [name 03:30].

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

GUINUP: and build a camp down below him way above his—

INTERVIEWER: His camp wasn't there yet, was it?

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_04.wav, 03:39] camp up [03:40].

INTERVIEWER: Oh yes.

GUINUP: Right there. I used their lumber. I took that up there to build my camps. Well that's all I got out of them. But we [T7\_007\_04.wav, 03:55] camps of there that, you know, would 50 men. And we lumbered all that section clean back to the back line that we first went over.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, yes, yes.

GUINUP: Cleaned up to the camps retreat. Well I managed to make something every year. You know, just keep it going.

INTERVIEWER: Keep one step ahead each time.

GUINUP: Keep it jumping. So after when I got [T7\_007\_04.wav, 04:33], I think I was-- I can't remember whether that was 2 or 3 years before I got across the lake. And I went up [04:47] and I took the [04:52], you know, right there at the head of the [04:55]--

INTERVIEWER: Yes, yes.

GUINUP: I forget what the the name of it. It seems [T7\_007\_05.wav, 00:02].

INTERVIEWER: Well Indian Mountain was on one side and—

GUINUP: Yeah, the Indian Mountain is on one side, but this is right in [00:06]

INTERVIEWER: Mountain top is on the other.

GUINUP: Yeah. I took [T7\_007\_05.wav, 00:13].

INTERVIEWER: I had a cabin there too.

GUINUP: Yeah, I built a camp up there afterwards, but when I first went up there-- You remember that little island, the kind of island that you go into the west flow? There was an old

lumber camp that had been in there years ago, but now I don't-- Let me see. I can't think of the name of it. They worked for another company on the other side and lumbered back towards the lake you know. That name is gone from me. Company [T7\_007\_05.wav, 00:55]. Another way I went into their camps, I had went across and made a summer camp, you know, to [01:06]. I went into the old camps that they had over there. They've been gone quite awhile. That was so I could draw that, you know. Gosh, I had gotten a good start drawing, but we had quite a lot of hemlock that was in with the spruce, and when we got loaded on skids we had to have cart skids or they'd slip on us, you know. They'd be so big you couldn't handle them. So this Sunday morning I said I'll make some [01:58] skids so we'd have some [02:00] skids for next week. Well I got back and my brother was a blacksmith and farmer, and my cousin was working for me. [02:16] scout. I don't know if you remember him.

INTERVIEWER: Just vaguely, yes. Tall.

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_05.wav, 02:25] cut a skid, oh about 12-foot long, oh 6 inches through, and I had it on my shoulder [02:36] right along and just as I turned about the blacksmith's shop, I stepped on [02:41] stone, slid. It had made it icy, you know. Gee, well my feet went out from under me, my head went right out and it hit that stone right there, got to [02:52], and the skid laid right across my head.

INTERVIEWER: Gee whiz.

GUINUP: And the boys down in the [T7\_007\_05.wav, 02:59] camp, you know, they happened to be watching me and seen me fall, and they come pick me up, and my nephew was working for me too. [03:07] So they come and pick me up and oh god, I was knocked right out, you know. I didn't know nothing.

INTERVIEWER: What time of year was this?

GUINUP: Oh this was in December.

INTERVIEWER: December.

GUINUP: First of December. [T7\_007\_05.wav, 03:29] the doctor, you know. [03:33] long sleeves, put [03:35] and get me down [03:41]. Knowing Mike, he was going to be good to me. He give me a drink of liquor and that made me bleed all over. Well, they had to get a pair of horses [04:00] pick me up [04:03].

INTERVIEWER: Yeah.

GUINUP: And they took me down and they just caught the train, and I [T7\_007\_05.wav, 04:12]. I was in the hospital from December to March, and when I got through and went up to camp there, [04:21] then. I couldn't see.

INTERVIEWER: Is that right?

GUINUP: Yeah. Yeah, knocked right out. I wanted the doctor to operate on me, you know. [T7\_007\_05.wav, 04:34] He said we ain't going to take no more chances pulling me through than you got right now. [04:46] I was in the hospital until March. When I got home, they all had to lead me around, somebody take my hand. I couldn't see [T7\_007\_06.wav, 00:00], you know?

INTERVIEWER: Good heavens.

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_06.wav, 00:05] a month or two before I got to where I could see you walk.

INTERVIEWER: But gradually the sight came back?

GUINUP: It kept getting better all around. Well, after I got through there, [T7\_007\_06.wav, 00:24].

INTERVIEWER: Did they go right on lumbering when you were in the hospital?

GUINUP: Huh?

INTERVIEWER: Did they go on lumbering?

GUINUP: Yeah, they kept right on while I was—

INTERVIEWER: You was laid out.

GUINUP: Well then I went right on up the creek.

INTERVIEWER: Up West Creek?

GUINUP: Yeah. To Six Mile.

INTERVIEWER: To Six Mile.

GUINUP: I went right on up to there, kept going right up. I lumbered all that section. As the years went by, I guess I was oh a couple of years before I built them big camps up to [T7\_007\_06.wav, 01:29] Rock.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

GUINUP: You remember?

INTERVIEWER: Oh yes.

GUINUP: Big camps up there.

INTERVIEWER: That was a very big camp up there.

GUINUP: I've got pictures of them.

INTERVIEWER: Is that right?

GUINUP: From there, we didn't branch out again until I went way up to... was it Beaver Pond. There's a little pond way up, almost on the line going—

INTERVIEWER: Back in there.

GUINUP: Wolf Mountain I think it [T7\_007\_06.wav, 02:08]

INTERVIEWER: Yeah.

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_06.wav, 02:10] Wolf Mountain. There's a little pond there. I had a picture with it.

INTERVIEWER: Did you have a camp up in there too?

GUINUP: Yeah. I finished up up there. That is in this country. Yeah, they had a big camp up there and the fellow now has a camp up in there [T7\_007\_06.wav, 02:33].

INTERVIEWER: Is that right?

GUINUP: And they just mark it down and bottle it up. When they want to go hunting, they go up there hunting. There is water running on into camp. When I got to there, let's see--

INTERVIEWER: About what year was that, Warren?

GUINUP: Huh?

INTERVIEWER: You remember what year that was? Would that be before the war?

GUINUP: Well, let's see.

INTERVIEWER: Were they still taking hemlock bark?

GUINUP: No, it [T7\_007\_06.wav, 03:28] the hemlock bark up in there, no.

INTERVIEWER: Did you have a camp over in Witch's Bay?

GUINUP: Witch Bay?

INTERVIEWER: That's right opposite [T7\_007\_06.wav, 03:46]. There was a big old camp back in that little bay past, remember past the Smart cottage, past [03:56] Point?

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_06.wav, 04:00]

INTERVIEWER: Oh, did he have one in there?

GUINUP: That [T7\_007\_06.wav, 04:05].

INTERVIEWER: No. No, this would be on the other side. It would be over by [T7\_007\_06.wav, 04:10] Point.

GUINUP: Yes, I had another camp.

INTERVIEWER: Because I found-- What was your log stamp like?

GUINUP: Log camp?

INTERVIEWER: No, I mean your stamp that is used to mark the logs with.

GUINUP: Oh stamp.

INTERVIEWER: Wasn't that a circle with a cross in it?

GUINUP: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: I found one of yours up there.

GUINUP: Is that so?

INTERVIEWER: Yeah. I still have it.

GUINUP: Well, [T7\_007\_06.wav, 04:45]. Did I go Tug Hill, over Tug Hill before I went across [T7\_007\_07.wav, 00:04]. Yes. Yes, I just finished up that section of the country clean up to Wolf Mountain. [00:28] one morning and I cut through [00:34]. He said I've been looking for you. What the darn do you want? He says I want you to go [00:50]. He says I've got a big steam [00:54] over there and it's on the railroad tracks and I can't skid the logs with it, and I told him if there's a man that could make that [01:07], I'm going to find him, and I come right up there to see if [01:13]. So I went to Tug Hill and there they had these two big cars, electric light [01:26] you know for power, electric, and these big log cables. They had the cables just as

long as you could [T7\_007\_07.wav, 01:33] and put it off the road. But they had started one. They went back way up the top of that hill and put a block in a tree, you know, and put their line in through them and brought it right back to the same line that they went up on, and put their [02:00]. Their [02:00] were just, wouldn't pass, you see. They's all going the wrong way. Now, he said, what would you do if you were going to do it? He said I'm going to get the hell out of here until it's done and I know it's going to be done too. So he went out. Says it's all yours. So I went and looked it over. I went back [02:32] office, called up [02:35] and told them I've got to have some more cable. I said you can't do it with anything here unless you put a reel all in there, something to act like cable [02:46]. Well, he said, you shall have some right up. I'll send them right up there. So up he comes. So I put a reel in back, see. Put some more block over here and block over here, and that come around [03:03] these other cables, see. To go right back and forth [03:06]. If it's going back one trail, then the other one's going [03:14]. Well, it didn't take too long to fix it. But, hell, we [03:24] logs. It went [03:28]. I can't remember that other fellow's name [03:44], but he said I told you that [03:49] anything works [03:54], and I [03:56] cleaned it all up.

INTERVIEWER: Is that right?

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_07.wav, 04:00]. Well, he was [04:16] done the same thing. The horses pulled it up to the line, you know, the [04:27], but it didn't [04:33], so I'd run a telephone out so if anything happened, clogged up, the man in the skidder wouldn't know anything different. He'd be working his lever and pulling and backing up and pulling and backing up, you know. He [04:50] these little batterie, you know. [04:53] batteries and they wouldn't last over 15 minutes. [T7\_007\_08.wav, 00:00] was gone and he said how are you coming. Well, I said, I'm coming [00:10], if I had some [00:11] it could work this telephone line I've got up here. I said, them little batteries aren't you going to last as long as I put them in there. Well, he said, I'll have a battery up here so you and [00:26] can charge [00:28] and he got a battery and come right back with it. Now, he said, let's see you [00:32] logs. [00:34] I'll get this thing straightened out you'll see some logs. When I got it lined up, he said that [00:47], you know. [00:50] the woods.

INTERVIEWER: How big were those logs? Were they big logs?

GUINUP: Oh yes. I'd call them big birch, you know. [T7\_007\_08.wav, 01:04] we'd have to put them on kind of a [01:11], you know. But it's a rule that [01:15], you know, [01:19]. If it got to dipping in a hole, why I'd have [01:28].

INTERVIEWER: How long [T7\_007\_08.wav, 01:35]?

GUINUP: Huh?

INTERVIEWER: How long would it be? Would it be a quarter of a mile?

GUINUP: Oh yes. Oh hell, the first [T7\_007\_08.wav, 01:43] top of that hill.

INTERVIEWER: Gee. Well that's a [T7\_007\_08.wav, 01:49].

GUINUP: Yes, a long ways. We got down the [T7\_007\_08.wav, 02:01] of the road. Went it across [02:13]. What's that place over here that used to be a railroad run down in? The railroad, I guess [02:32].

INTERVIEWER: Was it over by Boonville, in there?

GUINUP: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: I think I know where you mean. Yes.

GUINUP: He put the skidder over on the other line going out that way and [T7\_007\_08.wav, 02:53] working good, and he wanted to keep the [03:05] like myself that couldn't hardly get around, you know, to watch it nights because it was a big gas tank, you know, and everything and didn't want to have a lot of fire around. But the old land he got in there [03:22] what you got [03:24] gas tank, gas car you know. Gee, it's always something. He come to my room [03:41] and I had to go and get [03:44] and wake him up. Then I had to wake everybody up and go fight fires.

INTERVIEWER: Gee whiz.

GUINUP: That whole damn thing burned right up. The big car, not the [T7\_007\_08.wav, 04:04] car, but the big car that run the drum. We did manage to save that. And then when we got it all cleaned up again, started to [04:19] more rope for this thing. Well, he said, I'm going to use that same thing we [04:34] on there. Why, I said, that it'll be burnt just to-- that rubber, you know. I said [04:42] right out. No, [04:46]. Alright, we'll use that right over, you know. I ain't going to spend more money. He put it out and it [04:56] So anyway, we had to go to work and buy a whole new cable. But I say [T7\_007\_09.wav, 00:07].

INTERVIEWER: Was that one of your last jobs?

GUINUP: Oh, no. No. I just got two there and old man [T7\_007\_09.wav, 00:23], he came over [00:32] died last night. He was doing a job for him while we [00:39]. He said I haven't got nobody that can boss for me. He says I want you to go and help me out. So [00:57] and my nephew went with me to cook. So I finished up that job and I kept right on going. I went right through the [01:18] River and before I got through I was loving the [01:23].

INTERVIEWER: Good heavens.

GUINUP: Yes. [T7\_007\_09.wav, 01:26] all the horses [01:28] up to Long Lake.

INTERVIEWER: That was a big job too. That was a terrific job. Was that softwood?

GUINUP: Softwood then. Gosh, after I got the logs into Long Lake, old [T7\_007\_09.wav, 01:49] and I took, oh I should think it was a boat 30-foot long made of, you know, kind of [01:58]. Towed them down to Rocky River.

INTERVIEWER: Was that a steam boat or?

GUINUP: Huh?

INTERVIEWER: Was is it a gasoline motor?

GUINUP: Yeah, a gasoline motor.

INTERVIEWER: When you brought the logs down to Cranberry did you dump them in the lake?

GUINUP: Do what?

INTERVIEWER: In Cranberry, did you dump them in and then tow them down?

GUINUP: Cranberry Lake?

INTERVIEWER: Would you take them down on the ice or?

GUINUP: Oh yes. Yes, we used to-- We talk all the spruce down the lake.

INTERVIEWER: In the springtime?

GUINUP: The [T7\_007\_09.wav, 02:36] took the hardwood at that time and they took [02:41], you know, [02:43] they'd go down into the water.

INTERVIEWER: They sink, yes.

GUINUP: And put them down the [T7\_007\_09.wav, 02:50]. And then they lost a lot of them in the lake.

INTERVIEWER: They're still getting them back now.

GUINUP: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: What would you say would be the most important man in a camp? Would he be the cook?

GUINUP: In the camp?

INTERVIEWER: Yeah. He would be the boss? Would he be the blacksmith? Who? Was it teamwork? I would think the [T7\_007\_09.wav, 03:20] would play a very important part.

GUINUP: You can change cooks and you can change whitesmiths and you can change bosses if you feel like it, but I can say one thing I was never fired yet.

INTERVIEWER: That's a good thing.

GUINUP: Good record. [T7\_007\_09.wav, 03:44] for all the years I've lumbered, I never was fired.

INTERVIEWER: Would you have to pay the men? Would you take the whole contract?

GUINUP: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: And you'd borrow the money and pay them? {crosstalk 03:55}

GUINUP: The company furnished the money so much for me. I'd get my payroll in and they'd see that I had the money.

INTERVIEWER: I see.

GUINUP: But I never had to make a payroll list [T7\_007\_09.wav, 04:09]. Wilbur, he [04:15].

INTERVIEWER: How much would you pay a good one, lumberjack?

GUINUP: Huh?

INTERVIEWER: How much would you pay a good man?

GUINUP: Oh, it varied. When we first went to lumbering you paid a man a dollar a day, you know. Thought you were doing pretty good. We got [T7\_007\_09.wav, 04:43] we paid \$40 [04:47]. Then you had to go [04:55] you had and what they were worth. And then like we got raided for the good men that knew what to do and wouldn't do it, and the [T7\_007\_10.wav, 00:06] someplace, you know. They'd be working. So I paid them just according as I thought they were worth.

INTERVIEWER: And they [T7\_007\_10.wav, 00:17] too.

GUINUP: Oh yes. [T7\_007\_10.wav, 00:25]. That's why they go fishing so much up there.

INTERVIEWER: [T7\_007\_10.wav, 00:34].

GUINUP: Well, I was running right up that swamp [T7\_007\_10.wav, 00:40] because they were sending them [00:52] before the war broke out [01:06] when war broke out. But they were Russians over here working. [01:17] they didn't know what to do, but they were very good stout, you know. You'd have to have men [01:31]. But that swamp down [01:35], so that you could give them some tools. They'd carry a lot of that stuff right out, those big fellows. That's the way I [01:48] that swamp.

INTERVIEWER: Isn't that interesting. Gee whiz. Had a lot of manpower.

GUINUP: Yeah. Well I think I had 10 of them. Finally they followed me way up to Wolf Mountain because [T7\_007\_10.wav, 02:14]. Well, it'll probably come to me. I just went to see him. He used to boss for me up there and I just went to see him last fall. I found him over in Harrisville.

INTERVIEWER: Is he living there now?

GUINUP: Yeah. He was the ticklest man to see me you ever see. He had some brothers that used to work on a double-header up there [T7\_007\_10.wav, 02:58]. The upper end of it would be flat and that [03:11]. I had men that teams drawing in and dropping them all down at the double-header, see, and my double-header had a big [03:23] for them. [03:28] and 10-foot high, and you drive right upside of that and you raise that up, raise that up where drove in and put it on the other side, see. [03:47] against the double-header and you [03:50] stuff like that. That pulls your sleighs right in there, and these boys as they're working on the double-header, they were sent them logs from uphill and they'd sleigh them right down through there and sleigh right on [04:05] layer of logs on, you know. So we [04:14].

INTERVIEWER: Gee whiz.

GUINUP: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: Could you [T7\_007\_10.wav, 04:19]?

GUINUP: Yes sir.

INTERVIEWER: How many horses would you have?

GUINUP: Horses [T7\_007\_10.wav, 04:25]

INTERVIEWER: Is that right?

GUINUP: Yeah. [T7\_007\_10.wav, 04:28] right up to them. Only what needed to be [04:33] down below this little [04:41] that I was telling you about. I can't remember what's the

name of it. [04:50] over there. And you wondered how you was going to get down there. Wow, [T7\_007\_11.wav, 00:10.3]—you remember him?

INTERVIEWER: Oh yeah, very well.

GUINUP: Well his father used to work in that sand hill.

INTERVIEWER: Is that right?

GUINUP: Yes, his father worked for him [T7\_007\_11.wav, 00:16.3]- And he knew just what to do to catch those fellows when they crack over. They had to have a little start, you know. You couldn't stop them dead right atop the hill. -----[0:00:32.2] Why they were going down there like [-----] and they would [---] Gosh, you ever hear of

INTERVIEWER: No, no.

GUINUP: Well he had this team and they sent him up there, and so we, put a load of logs on him. He started, when he got down the hill there and [--- ] brake over, he was scared and he tried to stop. And the darn thing, he cracked his horses around, you know, and they went right, and went right over this dump. Killed one horse, he jumped and saved himself, killed one.

INTERVIEWER: That must have taken a lot of skill to drive one of those heavily loaded double headers down a steep mountain.

GUINUP: I happened to be out, I guess I was in the village or something because when I went back, I went, I was [----] chains, that's what was bothering me. I didn't know where my [--] chains had gone. I used them on this double header. I went down to [---] chains, thought somebody had took them out, you know. And sure enough they had. He went to work to make it show that I needed these logs laid up on the side of the road, you know, for kind of a breakers. [--] chained there to this double header to this [--] down the hill. He had taken them down there and tied that to them, unbeknownst to me, so when I came to load up the double header, I didn't have no chains. Yeah, he killed a horse. I guess that [---]- for the horse. I think I [--]

INTERVIEWER: How would you brake one of those, what would you use for brakes? Coming down those—

GUINUP: There were no brakes on your sled.

INTERVIEWER: You just had to —

GUINUP: You just had to —

INTERVIEWER: -keep the right speed.

GUINUP: -go on the sand. [---] fellow well over six feet. Quite a character in the lumber business, and at this particular instance, it was the first time I'd ever seen Babe Shannon scared. That really subdued him. In regard to braking, they had men that they called "sand monkeys". They would dig a pit in the sand hill, chop the sand off, heat it in cans, and then sprinkle it on the down grade, so actually your team draw the loaded logs downhill. If it didn't, they would gain momentum.

INTERVIEWER: Oh, yeah, that thing would be terrific.

GUINUP: Yeah, terrific. And a lot depended on the safety of the horses and equipment and the efficiency of the sand monkey that was working on that hill. Especially a day when it was snowing or sleeting. He was a very busy person.

INTERVIEWER: Would that be, he was constantly building it up.

GUINUP: Constantly, I thought that was interesting—

INTERVIEWER: Yes, very interesting indeed. Did you build your roads, your tow roads in the swamps, or on the hills?

GUINUP: On the hills.

INTERVIEWER: On the hills. Well didn't they build some of them right in the swamps?

GUINUP: Some swamps we had to cart--

**TRANSCRIPTION FOR T7\_007\_12.wav MISSING**

INTERVIEWER: I remember you telling me one time about a team of horses that started down the lake.

GUINUP: What?

INTERVIEWER: A team of horses coming down Cranberry Lake. And how they got off the end of [T7\_007\_13.wav, 00:16.5] Island. And they fell through the ice. I remember that very well. Would the men go out at all?

GUINUP: huh?

INTERVIEWER: Would the men leave the camp and go down to –

GUINUP: Oh, yeah.

INTERVIEWER: Oh they would. Every week or so?

GUINUP: Yeah, just so they [T7\_007\_13.wav, 00:37]

INTERVIEWER: Then when they got ready they would come back.

GUINUP: Yes. When I finished up Long Lake I finished up.

INTERVIEWER: I see, that was a big tract that last one.

GUINUP: Yep.

INTERVIEWER: A good many of those old toll roads are named after you. They are called Winnup Short haul, Winnup's Long haul.

GUINUP: Well, speaking about roads, I [T7\_007\_13.wav, 01:30.2] a horse that had at Long Lake. He had some that had to go back down. Couldn't get across state lands, you know. I could go down hill to the lake with the logs, and if I took them the other way, I would have to take them all up hill. If it was up to me, if I could play with the state, to give me a right of way. So I got next to state man uptown and I told him what a nice thing it was and I said we can be awful good to you and you would have a nice road through there. He said you can go across there alright, but don't you cut a tree. Well, I said alright. I had to cut my buck saw off. I had a ten foot buck saw and I had to cut it off to get through. But at the same time, I made money because I was going downhill in place of uphill.

INTERVIEWER: Oh, yes.

GUINUP: You went out and got to the top of the hill and then went down again.

INTERVIEWER: Well, that was a very smart thing to do.

GUINUP: There was a big beaver dam right up- break right off a the beaver dam right down through-

INTERVIEWER: What did the men eat? What sort of food did they have, would they have. Did you have deer, venison?

GUINUP: Oh, yeah, sometimes when we killed one and we had beef and we had pork.

INTERVIEWER: This is where the good cook came in.

GUINUP: Yes, don't- I never killed any deer at least I remember over at Long Lake. There was a fella from uptown, [T7\_007\_13.wav, 03:29.4], he knew all about the Lake, he knew [0:03:38] - we didn't feed the men [0:03:44.7]

INTERVIEWER: Would you build summer camps and winter camps, both?

GUINUP: No, not as a rule.

INTERVIEWER: Unless you had something-

GUINUP: This time I got the summer campers to get a little piece of that first cut.

INTERVIEWER: I see.

GUINUP: Back at the hotel there. I had time from my other job to go up there and feel it and put it up and skid it out, and road it, but I couldn't bring it down.

INTERVIEWER: You do that in the summer time.

GUINUP: No, we got it done in the summertime, and then I went over that [0:04:33] to draw it out with a sleigh, the lake there. That's when I got hurt, but they got them all down, the boys got them all down. Oh there was quite a lot.

INTERVIEWER: I bet there was. Was the big fire, had that burned over that section yet?

GUINUP: Well, the big fire started forming around the railroad. That first, the first part come across. It went right along the International Pepper County line. Just down that place, up to [T7\_007\_14.wav, 00:18.2]

INTERVIEWER: Yes, yes.

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_14.wav, 00:22.1]- down over the hill, this way, down in that little swamp. Keep going towards [0:00:31].

INTERVIEWER: Yeah.

GUINUP: So it didn't do much damage to the International company. And they come across right up on the upper end, they would come across, straight along and that's the International line.

INTERVIEWER: There was another big fire that came up by West Flow there too, wasn't there?

GUINUP: West Flow.

INTERVIEWER: Up, down where you have your summer camp. Didn't that burn over one time? Just past our cottage. There was a , there must have been a , over those big bare rocks are in there.

GUINUP: Oh, yes, yes, I think there was, there had been a fire through the area, one time before I went there. Old Frank [T7\_007\_14.wav, 01:29.4] big cottage down this way.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, they, they just sold off his land, I think, didn't they?

GUINUP: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: In lots. Well they must have taken an awful lot of lumber out up there.

GUINUP: Oh, gosh. All such works. You know, they have their men to come in and measure up your [T7\_007\_14.wav, 02:04.8] long or short. I had them fellas, say, you ought to give me say, a hundred dollars. I'll over reach that number, paying that hundred dollars.

INTERVIEWER: Where would they measure that up, at the foot of the lake?

GUINUP: No-

INTERVIEWER: Or right up on the-

GUINUP: Use to come from Harrisville. I said maybe, that's all right, but I said, now I want you to remember that I can [T7\_007\_14.wav, 02:49.7] just as well as you can. And if you don't give me what is in there, I'll see that someone else will. Just give me a hundred dollars. Talk about-

INTERVIEWER: Did they used to send that pulpwood down the Oswegatchie.

GUINUP: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: They just let it go right on down.

GUINUP: Went right on through there.

INTERVIEWER: [0:03:13.5] right through there.

GUINUP: Yeah, [T7\_007\_14.wav, 03:19] - ole Hardeen used to drive most of that down the river front.

INTERVIEWER: That must be quite a trick to, to drive it down the river.

GUINUP: Yeah, he could drive it down the river, he was a boss, he knew his business.

INTERVIEWER: Would the man follow that, the logs, right down the river? Would the men go right with the pulp, go right down the river with it?

GUINUP: Well, no, no, they just the men that was working on the upper end did, they generally made a deal with Hardeen to [T7\_007\_14.wav, 03:58.1] he wanted on the river.

INTERVIEWER: Now they couldn't do that anymore, there are too many dams on that river now. Was Macalice up there when you first went in? Was the evergreens down at the foot of the lake?

GUINUP: Yes, when I first went up there old man Macalice lived over on the old farm. There was a woman that used to have that end. I forget her name, he bought it afterward. Yeah, he moved over there. Oh, I been over to old Mac's to dances years ago.

INTERVIEWER: Is that a fact?

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_14.wav, 04:45] go with them.

INTERVIEWER: Is that right?

GUINUP: Old Mac put on a dance.

INTERVIEWER: He was a great person, that, he was.

GUINUP: We had some awful good times over there to-

INTERVIEWER: Was there much of a village at Cranberry Lake when you first went in?

GUINUP: What?

INTERVIEWER: Were there many houses down by the dam when you first went there?

GUINUP: No, when I -- they were built quite a few years --

INTERVIEWER: Since that time, yeah.

GUINUP: Yeah. [T7\_007\_15.wav, 00:22] was there. That little house has been there for years. Then there was another little house right side of it, just down towards the mines. It burned up. [0:00:38] shot himself.

INTERVIEWER: Oh, yes. Yes.

GUINUP: Of course, I never could figure why he shot himself.

INTERVIEWER: It's hard to know why a person does that, anyway.

GUINUP: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: Were they men that you hired -- were they French-Canadian or were they --

GUINUP: Oh, they were everything.

INTERVIEWER: All sorts and varieties.

GUINUP: All sorts.

INTERVIEWER: And you could always find somebody to -- there was never any shortage.

GUINUP: Yes, sir. I never had much trouble with my help.

INTERVIEWER: I don't think you did.

GUINUP: No, I didn't. [T7\_007\_15.wav, 01:21].

INTERVIEWER: Ross was just asking about the Russian help.

GUINUP: Yep.

INTERVIEWER: How did you speak to them? Did they know any English?

GUINUP: Oh, there was always one that can talk.

INTERVIEWER: Yeah. And he acted as an interpreter for the others?

GUINUP: Well, they -- when I sent them out, they knew [T7\_007\_15.wav, 01:49]. But [0:01:52] after that. When I had the summer camp -- no, [0:01:55] was what I was trying to tell you about. That's his name, [0:01:58]. He had them to take care of. Oh boy, old Jack and his brother would [0:02:06], yeah. There was a couple of [0:02:13] trying to get away from him, and Jack caught them in the men's camp, and these Russians thought, you know, they're too good. So they made a dive for old Jack. Old Jack and his brother happened to be together. They followed him in out of the woods, and boy, old Jack kept running and they knocked him right through one of the [0:02:41] and the other one he knocked out through the window. He got up and picks him up [0:02:50]. Old Jack, he laughed [0:02:57].

INTERVIEWER: Did he remember that?

GUINUP: Yes, I remember [T7\_007\_15.wav, 03:05] the other camp or not. Oh, boy. But you see, [0:03:20] me [0:03:24] and let's see -- oh, I know [0:03:36] on me to pay them the same amount of money that I did the other men. And I told I wasn't going to do it. I said, you [0:03:45] --

INTERVIEWER: Weren't worth it.

GUINUP: Yeah. And they said that I needed to pay them more money or I'd wish I had, to that effect, you know, near as I could understand. My little old 38 sat kept right behind me, right beside my chair in the corner, so I just reached over and I picked that over and I said, does this [T7\_007\_15.wav, 04:08] with you a bit. Now you fellows get right down the road and I'll follow you right down there. I followed them right down to Pig's Ear, [04:21] --

INTERVIEWER: Yeah. Left them there?

GUINUP: Yep. [T7\_007\_15.wav, 04:25] and I gave him a check. Put him on the old boat. I never see him back --

INTERVIEWER: Well that must have been when you were up in the six-mile creek camp, wasn't it?

GUINUP: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: You came down from there. But Pig's Ear must have been a good thriving place. He must have done a good business, didn't he?

INTERVIEWER: Did Bill Mott run that?

GUINUP: Yeah. [T7\_007\_16.wav, 00:09.8] I was up in there when Bill was in there.

INTERVIEWER: Pigsear?

GUINUP: No, I was up in, you went to [T7\_007\_16.wav, 00:26]

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

GUINUP: I went up to [T7\_007\_16.wav, 00:32] East Creek.

INTERVIEWER: Oh.

GUINUP: Right on the corner of East Creek.

INTERVIEWER: Corner of East Creek or Chair Rock.

GUINUP: Well, Chair Rock, yeah, Chair Rock. Yeah, old man Cook furnished the one at the Wilcox building.

INTERVIEWER: Where was Cook's place?

GUINUP: Right on the wind fall.

INTERVIEWER: Oh, it was right on the wind fall itself.

GUINUP: Yeah, its all I suppose [T7\_007\_16.wav, 01:03] now. But when I first went there it was just the hotel with the old plaque over it.

INTERVIEWER: He gave the money to Mott to build Pigsear?

GUINUP: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: Did Mott build it?

GUINUP: No, no, the, oh, Wilcox.

INTERVIEWER: Wilcox.

GUINUP: Wilcox.

INTERVIEWER: Did he run it for a while?

GUINUP: Oh, yes, he used to have nights, send down get a couple girls, you know. And they have leftover on Cole's Point. They sent for me. I would bolt, go and get them girls. I would go and get the girls and have them over at his place. And the boss come down, he comes back and the whole thing over.

INTERVIEWER: Where would he get them from?

GUINUP: Oh, Watertown.

INTERVIEWER: Watertown. What was at Cole's Point. Was there anything, were there any houses there? Were there any houses on Cole's Point?

GUINUP: Nobody else, he built a house there. [T7\_007\_16.wav, 02:39.7]

INTERVIEWER: Oh, then Wilcox built that house? I think that house is still there. That was –

GUINUP: I forgot. I know they were talking of moving it one time. Your not thinking McDermott's are you. The McDermott one.

INTERVIEWER: No, that one burned up didn't it.

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_16.wav, 03:11.2]

INTERVIEWER: Well, yeah, that's probably right.

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_16.wav, 03:18]

INTERVIEWER: Yes, that's probably entirely right. Well-

GUINUP: Used to be a fella, you know how my [T7\_007\_16.wav, 03:35]

INTERVIEWER: Yes, yes.

GUINUP: Harry was down there and right in there, there used to be a log house.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, I remember that.

GUINUP: Years ago, there used to be a log house. Fellow by the name of Frank something, stayed in there and another young fellow stayed with him. And he would send out with some girls, one or two, have them down there, and I know the crew, wanted me to take them down there, he'd go down and stay with a girl. You remember old [T7\_007\_16.wav, 04:35.3]

INTERVIEWER: Yes, yes.

GUINUP: That fellow's name will come to me. Frank something.

INTERVIEWER: That must have been a big fire too. Tremendous.

OXNER: See I was a kid when it was just charred over.

INTERVIEWER: That's right. Well your memory of that goes back a good many years too.

OXNER: I'm sixty-four, I was a kid about sixteen up there. Always interested about how it happened, what happened. [T7\_007\_17.wav, 00:49] in the Sugar Bush out there. Low tracks.

INTERVIEWER: Low tracks.

OXNER: That was all charred over when I was up there. Bear Mountain burned afterwards.

INTERVIEWER: I remember when Bear Mountain burned. They haven't had any big fires up there, thank heaven, for a long time. Warren, there's, in the bunk houses where the men slept, I read somewhere that they used to have what they call muzzle loading bunks. Where you would crawl up over the end of the bunk and straight in. Did you build them that way or just across, side-wise.

GUINUP: Make a whole line of them right down.

INTERVIEWER: right down the line, one above the other.

GUINUP: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: Double deckers?

GUINUP: Double deckers.

INTERVIEWER 2: Did he cover the Emporium lumber company trying to float hardwood by drilling and corking?

INTERVIEWER: He just started.

INTERVIEWER 2: And they went on to a [T7\_007\_17.wav, 01:58] that sinks.

INTERVIEWER: Would you want to just say, tell me again how the Emporium forestry tried to take their hardwood down the lake? When they tried to put it on scowls?

GUINUP: Yes, they tried to make a kind of a hole and put some logs underneath them and float them on top, make kind of a platform on there.

INTERVIEWER: They put some soft woods underneath?

GUINUP: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: So that would buoy it up like a raft.

GUINUP: Yeah, that's what they tried-

INTERVIEWER: Well that didn't work either did it?

GUINUP: No, it didn't work good.

INTERVIEWER: I remember Floyd [T7\_007\_17.wav, 02:34.4] your father, one of the first things he had, jobs he had up there was in that little boat, going out towing those old logs that are about, floating about two feet under water.

OXNER: I remember the name of the boat [T7\_007\_17.wav, 02:48.4] called “URN” with letters real close together.

INTERVIEWER: He was a wonderful guy, I remember him very well.

OXNER: [T7\_007\_17.wav, 03:04.5] what’s the name of the boat, he said “you can pronounce it any way you want”. They tried to put soft wood under them and they would shift and any time they had a roll. And then the next thing the bored about three-inch holes in the end of the log to plug up the air space. They would float so low in the water, they would jump the [0:03:32]would jump the logs.

INTERVIEWER: Well you know they are still pulling those logs out of the lake up there now. Getting one hundred ten dollars a thousand for them down at the foot of the lake. Just logs.

GUINUP: How is Spiffy making?

INTERVIEWER: You mean Sherman?

GUINUP: No, this fella at the Davis place.

INTERVIEWER: Yeah, Sherman Smith. Well he is having a hard time, he is doing fairly well, but then-

GUINUP: I got a letter from up there. I made that inquiry, I guess he was drinking pretty hard.

INTERVIEWER: I think that is probably true. Its too bad.

GUINUP: Both times that I have been up there, I went down there to try to get him to take me out to the lake or he would either be out in the lake or somewhere. And [T7\_007\_17.wav, 04:45], she was out the back door before they built the house, they started it, but they were still in the trailer. She run right in the house when she seen me coming down. I couldn’t get her to come out, and I couldn’t holler at him-

OXNER: There was a fallacy in regards to a book that was published in some lumber, some place. The state land here a while back, they wrote Warren a letter, and I answered it. If he can sing to that, perhaps he would like to correct that, because they were claiming that this party cut a lot of timber on state land and Warren said it was not sold.

INTERVIEWER: Is that right?

OXNER: So he might be able to correct that if you [T7\_007\_18.wav, 00:32]

INTERVIEWER: Do you remember the case where they claimed that a bush had cut a lot of timber on state land, but as you recalled it wasn't state land at all. It was on a private tract. Do you remember that case, Ross was just telling me about it.

OXNER: They wrote to you Warren, here a while back and wanted to know, and I answered the letter for you, who lumbered that land and did they lumber on the state land. And would Bushy, when he was over in back of the state school, over in back of the summer school. And you said no, that it wasn't on state land, it was on some other tract. Now what tract it was, I do not know. Do you remember that? It was about a year ago, they wrote to you, someone from the Conservation Department.

INTERVIEWER: Well it would be pretty hard to tell what is state land and what isn't state land in there sometimes.

GUINUP: This old, cut hardwood, oh not too many, hadn't been lumbered, it didn't belong to the other party.

INTERVIEWER: You haven't been up to the lake in quite a few years, have you?

GUINUP: Well, I've been up for , last fall, just for overnight, a couple nights.

INTERVIEWER: Did you go up to the head of the lake? Did you go up to the lake?

GUINUP: No, I didn't go, Al offered to take me up but there was nothing up there that I cared about. Not a lot there, and it was all new to me, the faculty is all new.

INTERVIEWER: That's right, that's right.

GUINUP: Nothing I had to go for, and there was nobody up there, only him, I guess, -

INTERVIEWER: When did they stop using Hemlock bark? Because they must have cut an awful lot of it and then stopped because when I first went there-

GUINUP: Oh, yes-

INTERVIEWER: -there were great big piles of it up and down the shore of the lake.

GUINUP: When I was, when I first moved over to pine, on the old farm, those big timers [T7\_007\_18.wav, 03:06.5] Harrisville-

INTERVIEWER: Using Hemlock bark.

GUINUP: Hemlock bark and there was quite a good many years they used Hemlock bark.

OXNER: Last – [T7\_007\_18.wav, 03:19.3]

GUINUP: Hemlock bark come out twisted.

INTERVIEWER: Twisted?

GUINUP: And they used to come right down across the [0:03:26] old farm when I was a boy and they come and turn off this side of pine and went right across and come right across father's old farm and out through into Harrisville. And I use to have a little pair of cans, us to just use cans, you know, [T7\_007\_18.wav, 03:48.9] I'd go up and down the road and pick up little pieces of bark. Pa would give me so much-

INTERVIEWER: Oh, wonderful.

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_18.wav, 04:05]

OXNER: The last bark was shipped out of Cranberry Lake, its strange that you ask this, I can put my finger on it. It was in 1916, I was eighteen years old, he shipped it out, and he had piled out in front of the lake. And Fred [T7\_007\_18.wav, 04:24.2] and I hauled two carloads for him.

INTERVIEWER: Is that right?

OXNER: 1916.

INTERVIEWER: 1916.

OXNER: I was nineteen years old. I didn't have no idea about bark and it was a great curiosity to me what we were going to do with that bark. And Fred [T7\_007\_18.wav, 04:39] and I loaded those two cars and he brought it down.

INTERVIEWER: That was some of the bark that Warren had cut?

OXNER: Cut, and then he had it piled on the side there, big old- now that's an established date.

INTERVIEWER: That's an interesting date. Because we went up to, I think our first year up at Cranberry was '16 too ... went up to forestry camp, that whole bluff, was a big, oh a huge pile of Hemlock bark. It just rotted away. And no one ever moved it.

OXNER: This bark was shipped to some tannery and I recall at the time that I used to help him with his books sometimes, he doesn't get enough out of it to hardly pay the freight on it.

INTERVIEWER: Would they just leave the trees there when they barked them? The Hemlocks, they just let them rot away? They wouldn't use the lumber would they?

GUINUP: Oh, yes, they would use the lumber mostly, oh they did, they laid there and rot too, unless somebody picked it up. They would just use the bark [T7\_007\_19.wav, 00:48].

INTERVIEWER: It must have been quite a trick to be a good barker. To be able to cut that bark off. Would you peel the whole tree at once?

GUINUP: Oh, no.

INTERVIEWER: Would you just take a chunk?

GUINUP: The fitters, they had the spudder, [T7\_007\_19.wav, 01:18] they bring it –

INTERVIEWER: Around the tree?

GUINUP: Yeah, they would chop in so, kind of with the spike so you could kind of break it off.

INTERVIEWER: I see.

GUINUP: -long sheets, you take as big a sheet you wanted to. You wanted a big sheet or [T7\_007\_19.wav, 01:26].

INTERVIEWER: But you would ring the tree about every four feet? Then bark it down.

GUINUP: Yes, theres an old fella that comes here that used to work in that, bark, which, Michigan I think he done it. I know a lot of bark men [T7\_007\_19.wav, 01:47]. My experience peeling bark was all spruce.

INTERVIEWER: but you wouldn't use the spruce bark, you would just throw that away.

GUINUP: Yeah, throwed that away.

INTERVIEWER: Why would you do that, because the wood would keep better, or because it-

[CROSSTALK]

GUINUP: -saved to rosin it, you know to a ross mill, put through, easier to handle, lighter to handle, it dried out. I worked towards getting spruce.

INTERVIEWER: Those are quite a trick too, wasn't it?

GUINUP: Had a good spudder.

INTERVIEWER: What was a spudder, was that a –

GUINUP: Oh, it had a thing about that long, oh, about that long a blade-

INTERVIEWER: About a foot long-

GUINUP: It made this, oh about that big, just working off those sharp, edges, well you could, there was kind of knife on it you could have it sharp if you wanted it to [T7\_007\_19.wav, 03:09]. And the fitters and the spruce, some people, the fitters ring them the same as they did for the Hemlock. But the spudder [0:03:32] we would do our own ringing. I could throw a spud bottom side up [0:03:45]-

INTERVIEWER: Warren, do you think you could tell me something about two things. One, how you ran the lumber camp. I mean the tools you used, like the bark skimmers and so forth; and two, the difference between say the cooking of a French lumber camp and a, one of yours, and also if you could, something about the wage scale, you told me a little bit about you pay the men, start off with a dollar a day. Any of that, I would love to have it if I could.

GUINUP: Of course when I first started, I only paid thirty dollars a month, those were good wages you know. And then if its gonna get a little bit better, a little bit better, the good men would show up and you would give them a little bit better and hope they would come back. So it gave the other fellow a chance to see that he has got to do his share of it, in order to get this extra money. He can't just lay back behind and let the other fellow do it and him get the money, so we haul them down from oh, twenty-six to thirty dollars a month, and then [T7\_007\_20.wav, 01:40] if we could afford it, we give them forty dollars a month. And then of course it went on up. They went on up, so we were paying a dollar and a half a day.

INTERVIEWER: And their usual work would be from, say, October through April? Something like that, or less-

GUINUP: Yes, they could work as long as there done a job. If they done their work.

INTERVIEWER: Would you start cutting before it snowed? Before it froze up?

GUINUP: Yeah, like we worked all summer, maybe, a lot of those men worked all summer, and still went on through the winter. And the logs all piled up ready for the log hauler, maybe take a week or two off between the two and then they would be back for winter again. Staying through the winter, and some of them would quit. The worst trouble was, was to estimate what you were going to cut out of [T7\_007\_20.wav, 03:05] and then the [0:03:09] would want to keep cutting you down, cutting you down, oh, I can't afford to pay that much.

INTERVIEWER: So, this would be the difference between a good jobber and a poor jobber.

GUINUP: And a poor jobber. The poor jobber would take anything you was offering him. You see, and he managed to keep up his money all well, so he wasn't doing nothing and he didn't have nothing to lose and he didn't have nothing to gain.

INTERVIEWER: Were you paid by the amount of lumber?

GUINUP: We were paid by the amount of cords.

INTERVIEWER: The cords that you produced.

GUINUP: Of course, when it come to hardwood, well that was [T7\_007\_20.wav, 03:52].

INTERVIEWER: Well I would think that that would be the real skill, would be the ability of the jobber to estimate how many men its going to take, how long it is going to take him to cut it, and how much it is going to cost. And then to do, now would the jobber be paid as a contract price. I mean would you make an estimate that it would take you a certain amount of money to cut a certain tract, if it cost you more than you would lose?

GUINUP: If it cost me more than I lost, then,

INTERVIEWER: Then you would have to make it up. I would think that that would be the real trick. What would a sub-jobber do?

GUINUP: Sub-jobber?

INTERVIEWER: I mean would you have other jobbers working for you?

GUINUP: Well if I had the contract and I let it out sub-jobbing-

INTERVIEWER: Why don't you come on over Ross, you know all the leading questions here, which could be a real help.

OXNER: I've been through-

INTERVIEWER: Yeah, I know. Come on over, sit over here.

OXNER: Your sub-jobber Warren, he met right in your camp, would he not?

GUINUP: Oh, yes, yes.

OXNER: And you charged him so much per day for his board and his horses. You would pay to board the horses too?

GUINUP: Well only, he'd have to buy my hay.

INTERVIEWER: But you would bring in the hay.

GUINUP: But I didn't really have much sub-jobbing.

INTERVIEWER: Was the Mill at Wanakenah running when you were there? That was a big softwood mill, wasn't it?

GUINUP: Yeah, that was, they cut out Spruce, Hemlock.

OXNER: I don't think they cut out any hardwood, right?

GUINUP: I remember, and I worked up at [T7\_007\_21.wav, 01:21]-one time, before I went up there to lumber for myself, I wound up there and worked on the river, cut pulp along the river.

INTERVIEWER: Is that right?

GUINUP: Up on High Rock, High Rock Falls, you know,

[CROSS TALK]

GUINUP: -the river on horseback.

INTERVIEWER: It must have been –

GUINUP: That was really, [T7\_007\_21.wav, 01:59]

INTERVIEWER: When you are up there on a day work. Well then you must have been pretty young at that time, weren't you?

GUINUP: Oh, yes, I was young.

INTERVIEWER: Did your father do any logging?

GUINUP: Oh, not too much.

OXNER: Just do what he had to do around the farm there. Did he explain moose cap to you?

INTERVIEWER: No.

GUINUP: When they got the railroad through, they were [T7\_007\_21.wav, 02:41]-

INTERVIEWER: Well where did they, how far did that railroad go in? Where did the railroad go, from Wanakena up to High Falls?

GUINUP: No, I mean from Carthage –

INTERVIEWER: In to Wanakena.

GUINUP: In to Wanakena.

INTERVIEWER: Well wasn't there a railroad that ran up along the Oswegatchie up to High Falls?

GUINUP: No, I don't think they had-

INTERVIEWER: There is sort of a right of way that runs through there. It looks as if it had been a-

GUINUP: They had a good road-

INTERVIEWER: Maybe that was it. Was it a moose cap?

OXNER: I wonder if he explained to you these, a moose cap, a slide way of skidding.

INTERVIEWER: No, it's a lost art. Could you tell me about a moose cap?

OXNER: Tell him about the moose cap, Warren, or where you have a drum in the woods, the docking agent, and you call this big a revolving drum with the cables on it, that's know in lumberman's language, as a moose cap. And its these cables go back in the woods and you hook several logs to the end of one of these cables and then you would draw them up to a gill and skidway, explain how that worked over in Doss, when you were using it.

GUINUP: I didn't start that I guess.

INTERVIEWER: Is that when they came up and took you down. Was that –

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_21.wav, 04:12] skidder, it held the big cables, you know, the big pullies and cables. And it ran right back, around this car, right back in the woods as clear as you wanted to go, but they went as far as from here, [0:04:32] and all he done, when he set up the outfit, he thought he knew all about it. So, he turns and just cuts one line through and runs his log, his cable through that one pully, let it come right back. Well, --the grapple

[T7\_007\_22.wav, 00:07] when they come together they just [0:00:10] stick the whole thing [0:00:15]. And we said here it is. You said you can do anything with it, your better than I am.

OXNER: Well that was controlled by a series of whistles because the man that was running the engine, he couldn't see, so, the [T7\_007\_22.wav, 00:39] so, he had a whistle, he blew that. The next fellow could here him, he blew a whistle and several times to the fellow that was on his controls. Well, they didn't always get their whistles working right and the logs were going when they hadn't ought to, and it was a quite a process. No telephones or anything.

GUINUP: After the fire, when the new cable was on, the man on the engine, can't remember, maybe a big man, tall, real bone, he could tell from the strain on the cable bell [0:01:31] stop and go back or go ahead. Well, I had to go the whole length here, I had to walk and then run it to tell them what to do. That's how I got the-

INTERVIEWER: When you had the telephone put in?

GUINUP: Put the telephone on, then I could just step up to the plant and holler for Jack and Jack would know just what to do with it.

[CROSS TALK]

INTERVIEWER: I think that's a wonderful-

OXNER: Perhaps you would be interested in learning of when they introduced in Cranberry, the skid method with the log, where they put them in the troughs and the teams straddled the, that was a Pennsylvania idea. Guy by the name of Smith was the first one that brought it in there, over to Connors Crossing. Explain to him how that worked. That would be interesting.

GUINUP: I don't know just how they used. They are sickly.

INTERVIEWER: Did they put water in it?

GUINUP: No.

OXNER: I drove gramps over there as a kid so, I know what it did.

GUINUP: Never went over to see it, but they made kind of a trough-

OXNER: Bottom of a four by eight, a bottom, and a six by six, or six by eight split diagonal so that it made a trough. These were covered with some kind of black grease they had, and the logs were rolled in to this. And they would have maybe 50 -60 logs. And the a team of horses

straddled this, [T7\_007\_22.wav, 03:11] on the last log, and they pushed that whole business in this three deep trough.

INTERVIEWER: How long would it be?

OXNER: Oh, it would probably take, you would probably have, the logs would average between 10-12 feet, 50 logs, figuring how they were pushing. Well that went all right until they went over a little raise in the ground. Then the logs started going down on their own. The first log stuck, and the second piled up on it and then they all jumped the trough after that, they had to reload it again.

GUINUP: I never got over there to see it, but [T7\_007\_22.wav, 03:50] got piled up and he got all mixed up. And he jumped the trough. So, he had given up after a while and he left all the lower side of the mountain, he didn't put in on a new job. And they got me over there to clean it up, later, don't you know. [T7\_007\_22.wav, 04:47] All the lower side, I just found out a sleigh rolled, you know -

GUINUP: -and that way of doing it. I made that big slide, don't you know, up, just about [T7\_007\_23.wav, 00:14].

INTERVIEWER: Oh, I never saw it, was there a slide in there?

GUINUP: They had a big slide off the mountain, and he had it come down and built a button, and had it way up in the air, and then [T7\_007\_23.wav, 00:33] and all pile up, and all pile up.

INTERVIEWER: Was it a lot of work to build that?

GUINUP: Oh, gosh, it cost a lot of money to build them big button, up over a hundred feet high.

INTERVIEWER: Is that right? Gee whiz. And it didn't work after he got it.

OXNER: Well it worked for what it was [T7\_007\_23.wav, 01:03] lot of lumber just trying to get all the way across it.

INTERVIEWER: I would love to see those sometime, that would be interesting.

OXNER: [T7\_007\_23.wav, 01:16] Im halfway out there, and they were not successful due to the fact that these logs were dropping over a hundred feet so it shattered them. When they would hit, they would shatter. A lot of them break.

INTERVIEWER: You think they would have thought of that beforehand.

OXNER: Well it didn't, the first on went down and drove halfway in that mud there in the bay and probably some are down in there yet.

GUINUP: I wouldn't wonder if theres logs in there now.

INTERVIEWER: Driven in by that, yeah, a good heavy log coming off of that hundred foot chute there. How long did that stay there? I don't ever remember seeing it.

OXNER: It was torn down around, well, it was there in 1918, '20'24, it was [T7\_007\_23.wav, 02:12] hotel there. And then I believe that Bill Mott, in fact I know that he did, he dynamited the chute and dropped it down and cut the logs, they were in a good state of preservation up there, dry here, cut it up for firewood. That's what happened.

INTERVIEWER: Yeah, they were probably well dried. When in order to be a good jobber you had to be a pretty good inventor too, didn't you. You had to have a great deal of ingenuity in order to solve a certain problem.

OXNER: Get him to tell you about building a bridge across Oswegatchie River in the winter time, sinking the cribbing in there and all above [T7\_007\_23.wav, 02:59] logs and no outside help. That's quite a bit of engineering. He and two other fellas.

INTERVIEWER: Could you tell us about that, Warren? About building the bridge across the Oswegatchie in the wintertime. How you sank the cribs in. That must have been quite a trick.

OXNER: When was it Warren that you and this, you built this bridge across the Oswegatchie River down there and sunk the cribs in, you remember, in the wintertime. You told me about it, the building down somewhere below the present bridge. You wanted to drive logs across the river, and you took the cribbing off, took them on the ice, and got some build up and then filled them with stone and sinking them through a hole in the ice. Tell –

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_23.wav, 03:52] they were drawing the timber from way back up on the old Benson mine road, brought it down to the river and then turned to go up the river, and caught [0:04:09]. And then have to turn at that old watering trough, don't you remember that. So, this, what was his name, I cant remember it, he had a job in there and he got a tractor, and they pulled logs out on the old road that comes across the bridge with horses. Then he would take the logs and because he went right up a hill to the top, that's where he got away from that little brook down through here. So, after a while his tractor burned up, went away with all the men and women got their pay and they run away, an [T7\_007\_24.wav, 00:10] make it up in order to satisfy the men, they just simply left with the money, left this boy right in the camp and the cooks and company had an old fellow from Harrisburg, used to be kind of some boss, so he put him in the office to look after the work, look it up for the rest of them, until they could make some other arrangements. So, they come up to me and wanted me to go over and take charge of the camp.

INTERVIEWER: That was a tough spot.

GUINUP: Yeah, and they didn't explain to me anything about the boys all being there or anything of the kind. So, I got over there Sunday night, got there to the big camp of men, the men's camp, cooks in the cook's camp and the doors all locked outside of the men's camp. The cooks had their door locked and the office was locked. And this man was in the office and he didn't dare open the office, afraid the [T7\_007\_24.wav, 01:23] would swarm on him.

INTERVIEWER: Gee whiz.

GUINUP: Well, they wanted their pay, is what they were looking for.

INTERVIEWER: I don't blame them.

GUINUP: So, I just went right up in again, see, and I didn't know anything about it. So, I talked through the doors to a cook and he tells me this Jim something was in his office. So, I went up and rapped on the door, and I said [T7\_007\_24.wav, 02:03] "I'd like to talk to you". Wow, he said that's new, and he opened the door and I said "what do you have the door locked for?" Why, you don't know what those men are going to do. So, I talked to them a little while he explained things to me, that the men had just holed in the camp until they get their pay again. This fellow run away with the money and [0:02:35] pay them before he left. So, I said that's a good plan. I stood and talked to him and then I went down to the men's camp, and they let me in and I told them just how I fixed up, I said "If you want to stay here and work, I will see that your money is paid to you so you wont be out a cent during the time, save for your time for what time you have been in the camp and haven't had to work, and you will have your right pay, now I guarantee it, I will get your [0:03:30] and bring them in to you so that you know that I am not lying to you. So, I got all the [0:03:36] and they did come up and I had them all [0:03:48].

INTERVIEWER: Well that was a real trial.

GUINUP: And then the price of doing all of this work, they were going up the river before they crossed the river, and then to take it back down again. I went a built a big bridge across. Oh, there was lots of old Hemlock logs along up the river in Chabart and [T7\_007\_24.wav, 04:22]- they made big spears, stack them and filled them with stone, and have a nice bridge right there on that level [0:04:32] just about to the railroad track. Yes, our lumber came Benson Mine's old road.

INTERVIEWER: That must have been quite a spot to be there and found that everybody was locked in when you talk to everybody.

OXNER: You will notice in that picture there that I am halfway up that chute so you can get an idea of the height, you can see me standing on a log there. See it?

INTERVIEWER: No.

OXNER: Right here, on the right.

INTERVIEWER: Gee whiz.

OXNER: If you notice in the other picture, you will observe the length of it, it is not too clear. You see how far, you just see the logs in the distance, and way down in to here. You see them laid length wise, so that will give you some idea of the distance of that chute. How gigantic it was for engineering, just being built out of logs. Now those pictures are no good to me, they will get lost. If you are planning information, you better take them with you.

INTERVIEWER: Well, wonderful. I would love it. We will get them reproduced.

OXNER: I say, that would be.

INTERVIEWER: That was a prodigious job, wasn't it.

OXNER: Oh, no, just to start-

GUINUP: That was a job to put that in.

INTERVIEWER: Like you building a bridge with just a saw and an axe, you come up with something like that. And then to not have it work after all.

OXNER: Well it worked, but, for what it cost them to build this bridge. They didn't have lumber enough to make it a paying proposition. And what better left the trees up on [T7\_007\_25.wav, 01:42].

INTERVIEWER: Nature gave Bill Mott firewood.

OXNER: Bill Mott got firewood.

INTERVIEWER: Wonderful.

OXNER: You are welcome to them-

INTERVIEWER: Yeah, thank you very much. We shall make that a part of the archives. Did you have any other engineering projects like that, Warren?

GUINUP: No, not that I know of.

INTERVIEWER: I think you solved everything the easy way. Rather than the spectacular way. Which is probably the reason it paid off. What would the men do for recreation at night, would they play cards, or they sing, you hear about their singing, I don't know whether they ever did or not.

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_25.wav, 02:39] Boys used to have a place over in the woods, next to camp, they would go over there and play poker, they wouldn't play at the camps. They would go over there and play poker. Oh they find [0:02:57] you have a bunch of jobbers, or men working they would find a place to play.

INTERVIEWER: Gamble one way or another.

GUINUP: And I was telling Ross about Frank Starkey's brother, he was running one of the camps over in Tarr Hills.

INTERVIEWER: Frank Starkey.

GUINUP: And they come up inside the barn and get payroll ledger. I always had the payroll in the office. His men [T7\_007\_25.wav, 03:37] make out the payroll. This Sunday, he didn't come, he didn't come, he didn't come, he didn't come, and nobody thought he took the cash over or something. The next morning some of the men come up and say "you seen Starkey?". "No, we aint seen Starkey." Starkey needs to open the camp. Nobody to open up the camp. Went to look for Starkey and they couldn't find him. They never did find him.

INTERVIEWER: They never did?

GUINUP: Nobody.

INTERVIEWER: Just disappeared?

GUINUP: Frank never heard from him, and never could locate him or anything. Just took off and never even picked up his paycheck.

INTERVIEWER: Well, was there any reason for it? I mean, did he-

GUINUP: I think he had to -

INTERVIEWER: He must have had quite-

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_25.wav, 04:38]

OXNER: Warren, explain to him how they kept clean in the camps, and they would have-

INTERVIEWER: I would like to know that.

OXNER: -an old copper kettle out there and at night their activity, they would boil their clothes up to get the body lice off and the bed bugs. Which was part of the life of a lumberjack.

GUINUP: The big black kettles -- two, three-or four, some men together, built a fire, heat some water, and wash the clothes-

INTERVIEWER: Boil them up-

GUINUP: -another bunch. Yeah, [T7\_007\_26.wav, 00:16]

INTERVIEWER: And how often would they do that?

GUINUP: Oh, every weekend.

INTERVIEWER: Every weekend?

GUINUP: Yeah.

OXNER: Explain, Warren, it would be interested in why there was always bed bugs in the lumber camp in regard to the basswood stumps.

GUINUP: It was what?

OXNER: The bed bugs, in the lumber camp. Basswood stumps. You could always find bed bugs right out in the woods. And when these-

INTERVIEWER: Are you serious?

OXNER: Oh, that's a fact, you can go look for yourself. And what they call swampers. They were the men who would swamp ahead of where they were building a road, cut the brush, knock the old rotten logs off, and if they were building a road, you would have a couple swampers working ahead. Well they would just get loaded with these bed bugs from the rotten basswood in there. So, it was not uncommon to get bed bugs back in the lumber camp.

INTERVIEWER: Well, I never heard that, isn't that interesting.

OXNER: So, you have a constant battle going on to get the camp cleaned up in the next week, and feel there were more termites moved in-

INTERVIEWER: Well has this always been true? Is this the same variety that you get-

OXNER: Yeah, you can go to any rotten stump and peel it off and find bed bugs on it. Same type that you get on a human being.

INTERVIEWER: Well, I'll be danged. Are they sort of a tick?

OXNER: Yeah, they're a tick. Just the same as you can find in-under a bat. You can find these small red lice. The bat always has them under their wings.

INTERVIEWER: And that's how they would get into the camp?

OXNER: That's how they would get into the camp and a lot of the kids would pick these little red head lice, bats carry them.

INTERVIEWER: Bats will carry them-

OXNER: [CROSS TALK] [T7\_007\_26.wav, 01:58] That was why the constant battel of body lice and bed bugs went on in the lumber camp, until you get it cleaned up. And the men didn't want it that way, always somebody with a wise crack "I've got them" and there were several others who said it a lot. They go ahead and boil them and cure the operation.

INTERVIEWER: Did they put lye or a soap in it or, you just boil them?

OXNER: You'd boil up a batch with this yellow soap. And they'd have straw ticks. So they take, go out and shake the straw out of their tick, and then boil the tick out and go out to the barn and stuff it full of fresh straw and spray these wooden boards in there bunk with kerosene and they were pretty much milled for a couple weeks.

INTERVIEWER: Got back into it yet.

OXNER: I thought that would be interesting to you.

INTERVIEWER: It is very interesting, yeah. I never heard that.

OXNER: There was always a person in the camp that would volunteer to cut hair, and so he was busy at nights. Usually get a strange, everybody you seen were always shaving and their hair cut. So, he prided himself on that, lumberjacks did.

INTERVIEWER: You mean having your hair cut?

OXNER: Having your hair cut and always shaving in the morning. You would be surprised to see how they, very few would ever have a beard except a foreign nationality.

INTERVIEWER: I think, that's true with most woodsman anyway. I wonder if that's to keep the lice and ticks out.

OXNER: It might be, but it's a tradition. Handed down from a sense of pride. If you notice in the North Country, and you see these guides, always with their haircut and freshly shaved.

INTERVIEWER: That's right.

OXNER: You would expect them to have a beard on their face.

INTERVIEWER: How about bug dope, how did they keep the mosquitos, of course, there weren't any in the winter time. But in the spring you would think they'd be. Did they have any, did they use grease?

GUINUP: Through the summer and hot weather they use grease.

INTERVIEWER: They just put it on thick enough so it wouldn't get through?

GUINUP: Yeah.

OXNER: Warren, explain to him how they used to give them lard and they took a couple drops of roofing tar and mixed it in a pound of lard and that's what they kept the punkies off with. Regular coal tar and lard.

GUINUP: Yes.

OXNER: Well that's what you used, don't you know, I've got some over here that we used to use in the camps. And you take about two drops of roofing tar and a pound of lard and work it up, and that is what we used to do for punkies.

INTERVIEWER: So, you do you along with it?

GUINUP: The lard doesn't let the tar burn your face.

INTERVIEWER: You just put it on all over?

OXNER: Smear it right on, all over.

GUINUP: All over.

OXNER: [T7\_007\_26.wav, 04:49]

INTERVIEWER: Is that right? Coal tar and lard.

OXNER: That really gives them something to think about.

INTERVIEWER: -imagine that. How about, wild animals, were there any wolves up in there when you came in? Or wild cats, or anything that would bother a man in the woods?

GUINUP: I don't know if I ever saw any. And it does seem so. There was a wild cat killed somewhere around there but that's – but I don't know if I heard of any wolves.

OXNER: No, Warren, the first wolves that I knew of being around Cranberry Lake was the pair that [T7\_007\_27.wav, 00:56] bought from [0:00:58] and they had them in captivity for three or four years. There was a male and a female and they never reproduced. And they got a little frisky and dug out and got away, but I don't believe that's the reason for all the wolf population around Cranberry Lake, but I can remember seeing them in the pen out there.

INTERVIEWER: Is that right?

OXNER: Going out to feed them they were more like large police dogs, they were not even vicious. But the one time I was around there, until I left there, I never heard of anyone killing a bobcat. That's all come in to the picture of [T7\_007\_27.wav, 01:36]-

INTERVIEWER: I suppose when you cut off the big timber and you get a lot of underbrush coming up, you probably get more wild life than you did in the old days. There is better cover and –

OXNER: Well, wouldn't they naturally follow- the better the cover is for more of a small animal, your wild cats would follow –

[CROSS TALK]

OXNER: -they would follow them, because they would feed from them.

INTERVIEWER: That's right. That's right. Well I think we pretty well covered the waterfront then, we have taken care of the lice and the ticks. We have taken care of the punkies. The only, one thing, could you just sort of run through and give an inventory of the tools that you used. I mean like [T7\_007\_27.wav, 02:49]. Did you always use a double bitted axe or a single bitted?

OXNER: Did you always use double bitted axes, Warren or –

GUINUP: Yes, pretty much.

OXNER: Why did you use a double bitted axe? Tell him about that.

GUINUP: Well to use it you [T7\_007\_27.wav, 03:17] the good edge.

INTERVIEWER: Well didn't they use the other edge to pound wedges and-

GUINUP: And most of them would, use your good edge, it would be ground down, you know, and the other end, they would use that for breaking off knots and –

OXNER: And the other was blunt, for pine knots, and the other was for good trimming with like a razor. That's why they kept them.

INTERVIEWER: Well isn't that pretty peculiar to the Adirondacks, aren't we the double bitted people up there? Most other lumbers use single bitted axes.

OXNER: I don't know, since I have known, they have always used a double bitted.

INTERVIEWER: Always used double bitted.

OXNER: Warren, explain to him the difference between a cat hook and a pevey.

GUINUP: Well, the cat hook is just a piece of wood down through with a band around it to hold the hook. Little thing fastened on the front.

INTERVIEWER: You mean like a spike?

GUINUP: No, no spike in it. Now you have a pevey, have a socket-

INTERVIEWER: You have a hinge-

GUINUP: Goes right around, you scrape off your stick and stick it into this [0:04:39] this band and all, and then there is a place on it for your hook. And you hook your pevey right inside of it and it splits, this iron [T7\_007\_27.wav, 04:53]

INTERVIEWER: It just blocks right on to it. Well, one other question, did you - did you light, did you use lanterns and torches to work in the early daylight hours when the days were really short? I mean, or was your only way of daylight.

GUINUP: Oh, we didn't pull out until it got light.

INTERVIEWER: Until it got light. You read about using torches and –

OXNER: Well, Warren, you used torches on your first load, when you were hauling, explain to him what the torch is.

GUINUP: Torches, you make them, you know, out of cloth and you stick them in the snow for starting in [T7\_007\_28.wav, 00:42]

INTERVIEWER: Were those big flares?

GUINUP: Yeah, they were a flare.

OXNER: Then they had the round ones that hung up with two prongs on them and like a broom handle and you just stuck it down in the snow and they held about a quart of [0:00:59].

INTERVIEWER: I bet those have all disappeared now.

OXNER: There is a cat hook, [T7\_007\_28.wav, 01:10] that's for rolling logs, on a skidway. This is a pevey, for prying on a skidway and moving them after you get them on , that's the difference between the two.

INTERVIEWER: I never knew that.

OXNER: In other words, loaders would always use cat hooks, unloaders would use peveys-

INTERVIEWER: To roll them off.

OXNER: If you heard a man is a unloader and he is in back of a cat hook, you would fire him right then and there. He doesn't know what he was doing.

INTERVIEWER: It is amazing to me that you kept as many, I mean that there was many people who wanted to go in to the woods to work. You never had troubles recruiting a crew did you? Weren't there always enough men that you could hire?

GUINUP: No, I have seen them [T7\_007\_28.wav, 01:58]

INTERVIEWER: A shortage. Would the price go up then if they were short?

GUINUP: Yes. We work a way around.

INTERVIEWER: That was long hard work. Did you work twelve hours a day?

GUINUP: No, ten.

OXNER: Wouldn't you say, Warren that even if people like to portray the lumberjack as a rough character and spent all of his time fighting or drinking, when he wasn't working in the camps. That as a rule that was not true. They were a pretty nice bunch of fellows and they followed the lumbering because they liked it. And if that had been stated about them, which is a fallacy. They were not-

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_28.wav, 02:47] doesn't include all of them, just a few.

INTERVIEWER: And you would get that many in any profession, or any crew.

GUINUP: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: Whether they are working on a road or working in the woods.

OXNER: I thought that was fair to clear up that –

INTERVIEWER: It is excellent.

OXNER: You have these statements that make it, to glorify a story or a movie which is not true.

INTERVIEWER: Would there be any religious service on Sunday? Would you have anybody say a prayer or was there any attempt at this at all?

GUINUP: Well, they used to be some nuns went through the camp.

INTERVIEWER: Is that right?

GUINUP: Oh yes.

INTERVIEWER: Is that, that's, even in those back in.

GUINUP: They, used to come out as early as they was over at the Flat Rock. And I would-

INTERVIEWER: Did they come in pairs?

GUINUP: They would come the two of them from Harrisville. And we [T7\_007\_28.wav, 03:55] and they would spend a couple days.

INTERVIEWER: Isn't that interesting. I know that is not something I had ever heard either.

OXNER: They would hold a prayer service for the men, and it was not uncommon, I don't want to take this away from Warren, it was not uncommon to have a priest come in and spend a day or two in the camp with the men. You would find, do you remember, ugly Mike Amero, that they used to call him Old Ugly Mike, and he used to hold prayer meetings for four or five of the boys, and you asked a question.

INTERVIEWER: This is what I was wondering.

OXNER: Then he would go over to the cook's camp and they would set down at the tables, I don't know why they nick-named the poor old man Ugly Mike, because he wasn't ugly,

but maybe because he was so religious. He would go over there and read scripture and explain it to some of the boys, more or less like a missionary, old Mike was.

INTERVIEWER: Was he a lumberjack?

OXNER: Lumberjack.

GUINUP: I had forgotten all about him.

OXNER: In fact, ugly Mike was one of the best swampers that you had up in the camp there to lay out roads. He could see the possibility of a road right up on the side of a hill, where the other men couldn't.

INTERVIEWER: That is a natural born engineer.

OXNER: That's right.

INTERVIEWER: I would think somebody like that would be a real asset to a camp and make it a lot better if you had a person like that with them, because-

OXNER: I don't want to interrupt, but I thought of something else that would be interesting. Tell him, Warren about how if somebody was sick in the camp, are there, how good hearted they were. If a man had some misfortune at home, his wife was sick or somebody, how all of the boys would all chip in money.

GUINUP: Oh, yeah, sure.

OXNER: They saw nothing, even at their low wage of ten or fifteen dollars a piece, and to get him money for an operation, they seemed to have this code among themselves, that you wouldn't find even in the outside world.

INTERVIEWER: Well that again is a good thing to record, because you don't think of it that way. I mean to you it was natural, but to the average person-

GUINUP: Oh, you would find that in the lumber camp. First thing, you know, you mention somebody that was hurt, or sick or needed it badly.

INTERVIEWER: Now they would do that themselves, right, you didn't have to boss them around -

GUINUP: Oh yeah, you didn't have to-

INTERVIEWER: [T7\_007\_29.wav, 01:31] around me enough.

OXNER: I hurt my leg up there, I smashed up for several weeks, and they used to come down to the hotel. There were only two things they knew, was to give me money or to bring me liquor. I didn't need either one of them. But never the less, I still got it.

INTERVIEWER: Whether you needed it or not. What would happen o a man that got sick, would you send him out? If he got cut or injured in some way?

GUINUP: If it was too serious, you know, you would take them out [T7\_007\_29.wav, 02:11]

INTERVIEWER: You wouldn't have, would you have on man in the camp that would act as sort of a first aid, or would that be up to the boss to take care of any little things? Or did you have any little things? Either major things or nothing. How did you get that?

OXNER: I went out to check a fellow, a new fellow came to work, out on the logs, log just laid there bouncing with a double bitted axe, and the log tipped over and pinned me down. Drove that bit right into my leg.

INTERVIEWER: Gee whiz.

OXNER: They took, I went out six miles on a horse at night, the [T7\_007\_29.wav, 02:53] sewed me up, quite a deal. I tell you, the remedy, they still went by pine pitch, and if there was anything that they could get pine pitch on, pine pitch went on it. Whether it was a cut or an impacted wound to an ingrown toenail, you got pine pitch. Strange it seemed, nothing ever really happened from it. Never heard of infection in there.

INTERVIEWER: But they would put it on hot.

OXNER: No, they would go out and get a tree, [T7\_007\_29.wav, 03:23] smear it on, put it right on and go to work.

INTERVIEWER: Well, did you work in a lumber camp, Ross?

OXNER: I [T7\_007\_29.wav, 03:31] worked up there too.

INTERVIEWER: I didn't realize that.

OXNER: That's why I know all this stuff.

INTERVIEWER: Well I was just wondering.

OXNER: Well, I was up there.

INTERVIEWER: Were you, well how many of the camps were you at.

OXNER: Just the upper one.

INTERVIEWER: The upper one.

OXNER: The [T7\_007\_29.wav, 03:44] and then I went over to Carter's Crossing for [0:03:58] and the Smith's was in there with a glorified skidders that I explained to you. He was in trouble, and I drove grab hooks on the skidder and that where you put these [0:04:09] on the log to hook it on. Everything went all right. You were better off dragging them than you were, what we call skipping them, on the other end because the frost would get in there and you didn't want a little tap, you were just as liable to get it in the eyes as you were some other place. [0:04:25].

GUINUP: That was a good stiff job when you got them out to their tract. And all the good money [T7\_007\_29.wav, 04:37] wouldn't give up that job for anything. Went along, oh they telephoned in to -- boy, he crept up tree, and him and another fellow jumped on the handcar and run me right down --

INTERVIEWER: Is that right?

GUINUP: -- the railroad.

OXNER: I worked in the camp [T7\_007\_30.wav, 00:18] up there and just did everything that you could possibly do around the camp. Then I [0:00:23] I better go back to school after I got through with my foolishness, which I did, [0:00:27].

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_30.wav, 00:29] kids would have taken [0:00:31] experiences.

INTERVIEWER: Oh, it must have been terrific. And you're one of the last [T7\_007\_30.wav, 00:36]. It's completely changed now.

OXNER: The men in the camp seemed to all have a great habit of singing.

INTERVIEWER: That's what I was wondering.

OXNER: It was quite a deal in the morning. You'd take a frosty morning and you'd hear a man's voice for several miles, you know. Frost, cold, 10 to 15 below zero. See one man coming down the skid way -- he was singing in English and singing his popular song, and right behind him there was a Frenchman and he was singing in French. It was quite a contrast to hear that [T7\_007\_30.wav, 01:14].

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_30.wav, 01:15] about that. At least showed they were happy.

INTERVIEWER: They did sing on the [T7\_007\_30.wav, 01:19].

OXNER: Oh, they'd sing on the [T7\_007\_30.wav, 01:20]. It seemed to be that whether they could sing or not, they [0:01:24] and it was quite a sight, hearing somebody singing way up there two miles. Well, [0:01:32].

INTERVIEWER: Would each man have his own specialty? I mean, like the fellow that liked to knock out the hook at the end of the skid way?

OXNER: No, they were pretty much --

INTERVIEWER: Jacks of all trades?

OXNER: No, they were pretty much selected for efficiency because --

INTERVIEWER: In certain areas.

OXNER: In certain areas, that's right. And it's like -- I just told you about this ugly Mike [T7\_007\_30.wav, 02:00]. Anybody would hire ugly Mike in a minute, if you were establishing a new camp and laying out roads because all ugly Mike had to do was walk up to a piece of timber and he'd say, we'll put the skid way right up through here. He could select with his eye what it would take a trained engineer to do in a week.

INTERVIEWER: Well that was probably the difference between profit and loss, too. You get an ugly Mike [T7\_007\_30.wav, 02:33] or -- and a good cook --

OXNER: He was also --

INTERVIEWER: -- and camp would be made.

OXNER: He was also a dynamite monkey, and that's the language -- meaning that if you came to a big boulder in the road and wanted to get through there, well the boulder got blown off on the side of the hill [T7\_007\_30.wav, 02:48].

INTERVIEWER: Did they do a lot of dynamiting?

OXNER: Oh, lots of dynamiting. You had to [T7\_007\_30.wav, 02:55]. It was not uncommon in the wintertime to build a road on the side of a stream and get a saw and a little ice jam would come in the stream, and that used to happen [0:03:14]. You'd get an ice jam on that river, it would be maybe three or four feet high and it'd start flooding your road. Well, then you'd send the dynamite monkey down and he'd blow the jam up and you were back in business again. If you didn't, you'd be tied up for the rest of the winter if that froze solid and flooded.

INTERVIEWER: Or even if it didn't freeze.

OXNER: Well, a lot of it would get up on the road and freeze [T7\_007\_30.wav, 03:38] and you'd have to chop up miles of that ice on the logs.

INTERVIEWER: That's right, 'cause they were so low.

OXNER: Sure, [T7\_007\_30.wav, 03:43] was full. So the dynamite was just a necessity all the while. And there was usually several men in the camp that were -- I would say very clever dynamite men. They never got in trouble.

INTERVIEWER: Yeah, and this is a gift, too.

OXNER: Oh, yes.

INTERVIEWER: And there are very few dynamiters now. I mean, you can't find a man hardly that -- I think there's only one man at Cranberry now that -- I think he's even licensed to dynamite, but I don't think he knows much about it.

OXNER: It's pretty hard. And you must remember, they were not using a [0:04:18], they were using a fuse.

INTERVIEWER: Yeah, that's right. There was no --

OXNER: They had to know how long to cut the fuse and how much time they had to get out of the way, and whether it should go off, because if it didn't, [T7\_007\_30.wav, 04:32] and have to go back and find out why. It would have been kind of bad if they --

INTERVIEWER: They drank tea more than they did coffee, didn't they?

OXNER: They drank a lot of tea.

INTERVIEWER: Was that because you could keep it brewing all the time on the back of the stove or -- or is it a --

OXNER: No, I would say the tea business was from the French [T7\_007\_31.wav, 00:00] for tea and there was quite always a strong French [0:00:03] camps, and your tea drinkers would be the Frenchman, and the Americans would want their black coffee.

INTERVIEWER: Black coffee.

OXNER: Yeah. And the diets in the camp was something today that many men would walk in the restroom in New York City and pay six or seven bucks to get a meal like they would serve in a -- white bread, brown bread, pies. When they had ham, they didn't get served just

one piece of ham. They had a big platter of ham. After the first round, the boy that was taking care of the table, he'd fill them up again. Pies right along down the table.

INTERVIEWER: A well-fed crew is a healthy crew.

OXNER: If you didn't, they moved on. They found a camp that fed better.

INTERVIEWER: Would you -- you had to carry in all your stoves and all that equipment had to be lugged into a camp, wouldn't they?

OXNER: Other interesting features, you had usually a team and a person that did the towing. All his job was, was to keep supplies coming into camp, and if there was a terrain that was so rough that you couldn't use a wagon, which in most instances it was, you had to [T7\_007\_31.wav, 01:26] two wheels of a wagon or a sleigh with two trailing poles in the back of it with a box on it. It would drag on the road. Every day, they would go down to the landing, wherever their boats landed, if it was that type of a camp on a lake, and they would bring their supplies up. It was coming in every day. And Ed [0:01:49] and I for one year, we did the towing on the lake there [0:01:53] with a boat, and we'd bring in hay and grain, groceries, roofing, paper -- everything that you wanted, even the clothing. And in the camps they always had a -- in the office a little store you had, because when many of the men came in to work, they were not too well-clothed. They had shirts and stockings and underwear, and things that a man would actually wear.

GUINUP: Shoes.

OXNER: Shoes, boots. And they [T7\_007\_31.wav, 02:20] their shoes for them. If they were driving or loading, they had to have [0:02:26] shoes so they didn't break their necks.

INTERVIEWER: You mean, those would be spiked?

OXNER: Spikes [T7\_007\_31.wav, 02:30].

INTERVIEWER: In the wintertime, I suppose you'd do the same thing across the ice down there, wouldn't you?

OXNER: Across the ice.

INTERVIEWER: You'd drive it down -- boy, that'd be a long, cold drive the length of a lake like Cranberry to -- would you go out once a week in a thing like that in the wintertime?

OXNER: Yeah, every day.

INTERVIEWER: Every day.

GUINUP: Well, you figure --

OXNER: Fifty or sixty teams in there.

INTERVIEWER: Oh, that's right.

OXNER: How much hay and grain would they need in a day. You'd have a man coming up with a load of hay and a load of [T7\_007\_31.wav, 03:07] front end of a sleigh with some groceries piled up.

INTERVIEWER: Gee whiz. That's a big logistical --

OXNER: [T7\_007\_31.wav, 03:14] ham, boiled ham for a crew like that, but you'd probably put in six or seven hams [0:03:20] big copper boilers on the stove going, just boiling ham. It was quite a deal.

INTERVIEWER: That is a deal.

OXNER: Meat came in -- beef would come in frozen, like [0:03:42], chunk beef, froze solid. An interesting feature that should be preserved is how did they keep food in a lumber camp.

INTERVIEWER: That is a good --

OXNER: You found a -- if you didn't have -- if you found a spring, you'd build a spring house over it. It works on the principle of these water bags [T7\_007\_31.wav, 04:06] with condensation, keeping them cold. So you put up one log building and put another one around it, and fill that with about a foot of dirt in between. Then you have shelves in this building with a stream just going through and under that, double doors. And that would keep it as cool as an ice house in there. The condensation off that creek coming up on the cold walls. And then you'd have your shelves in there for butter and everything. The only thing that would happen was going down the creek way, a mink or a coon, he found out that he could swim in the creek and come up into the stock room. He had it ball for himself until he got [0:04:51] out of there, and [0:04:55] worst happened [0:04:56] get in a cooler. And that's the way you kept food for that.

INTERVIEWER: You really had to have one house -- a house inside of a house.

OXNER: A house inside of a house, and then dirt in between --

INTERVIEWER: Dirt packed in between.

OXNER: And then for some reason, that would condense the cold air coming up and it would be cold in there. Just like walking in an ice house.

INTERVIEWER: Well where would an idea like that have evolved from? What's the --

OXNER: I have no idea. It was a customary procedure that you'd find through all the camps. Sometimes they'd have a spring, and the spring did not seem to work as good as a running brook where water was trickling. Seemed that the moving water just worked better.

INTERVIEWER: The horses were really one of your biggest problems, weren't they?

OXNER: Consumers of food, yeah.

INTERVIEWER: Consumers of food and you'd have to keep them shod, and have to put winter shoes on them as well --

OXNER: Well, you had a blacksmith right in the camp, and that was all he did was -- there was a great deal of rivalry amongst your drivers when you drive to [T7\_007\_32.wav, 01:07] around the horses and the care of their horses. First thing in the morning, they had to see how their horses slept through the night, and the last thing at night, they had to put them to bed and wish them --

INTERVIEWER: You had a regular stable, then, for the horses.

OXNER: Oh, a large stable. Very warm for their stalls.

INTERVIEWER: Probably better than the men's shack.

OXNER: Just as good. But they had a great deal of rivalry, which man had the best-looking team.

INTERVIEWER: Which was a wonderful thing, 'cause you kept the teams up in good shape.

OXNER: I don't know that I ever saw a poor horse or one that looked underfed or anything in the camp. No reason why they should because men was running the camp [T7\_007\_32.wav, 01:58] paid for it. At least [0:02:00].

INTERVIEWER: I bet the horses got almost as expert as the drivers did. They knew exactly where to step and how to step, and keep away from mice. There's an old superstition that -- and maybe it's true -- that there weren't any snakes in the Adirondacks originally, that all the snakes came in with the hay -- bales of hay that were brought up, and from these beginnings -- and now there's quite a large snake population in the Adirondacks -- but it all started from the lumber camps. Do you think that would be true, especially in the summertime?

OXNER: I don't know. Of course, there's all the little non-poisonous copperheads up there. It's got the little disc on the top of their head. I don't know where they would have come from. I never saw a rattler in the Adirondacks.

INTERVIEWER: Well, they're over at Lake George.

OXNER: But I mean up at Cranberry Lake --

INTERVIEWER: [0:02:59].

OXNER: -- and I've seen the little copperheads and little striped grass snakes.

INTERVIEWER: High Falls is full of snakes. It's alive with them over there now.

OXNER: What kind?

INTERVIEWER: I don't know. I suppose water snakes or grass snakes.

OXNER: Well, there's good feed for them there. The streams are loaded with [0:03:23] and minnows and everything. They'd have quite a time there.

INTERVIEWER: Did they ever fish through the ice water for fish in the wintertime?

GUINUP: Fish through the ice?

OXNER: No.

INTERVIEWER: I think that'd be a good source of food.

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_32.wav, 03:42] there's a lot of them around Cranberry Lake.

OXNER: [T7\_007\_32.wav, 03:45] situation, but nevertheless was never very proficient at it, with the hedgehog liver and [0:03:51] holes through the ice and trouts didn't know the season was closed.

INTERVIEWER: How about a stick of dynamite? Was that ever dropped into -- accidentally into a pond?

GUINUP: What?

INTERVIEWER: I said, was a stick of dynamite ever accidentally dropped into a pond?

GUINUP: No. No, [T7\_007\_32.wav, 04:10].

OXNER: [T7\_007\_32.wav, 04:13].

INTERVIEWER: You won't be quoted for it.

OXNER: Well, I guess they did do that some. I was thinking about access.

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_32.wav, 04:25].

OXNER: Their main bait for trout, though, back at that time was hedgehog liver.

INTERVIEWER: Hedgehog liver?

OXNER: You'd get a hedgehog, chop a hole through it, and the hedgehog has a tremendous liver --

INTERVIEWER: It was very large.

OXNER: Very large. [T7\_007\_32.wav, 04:40] do quite a job with that [0:04:44] hedgehog livers. [0:04:53].

INTERVIEWER: Oh, a hedgehog. A hedgehog ate up through the bottom of our kitchen this year. He lived in the house all winter, I think.

OXNER: Did you know -- I never did until this year -- there's a friend of mine that should know -- that a hedgehog -- I mean, that a fisher is immune to hedgehog quills. I never knew that.

INTERVIEWER: It has the -- it's the only animal that has the facility of turning a quill all the way through into a layer of fat.

OXNER: Yeah, and if they do go in there, it dissolves. [T7\_007\_33.wav, 00:23] bass [0:00:23] hook.

INTERVIEWER: A bass will? I didn't -- I didn't realize that.

OXNER: You get a bass or trout and they have a hook in his mouth and you want to save him, just cut it off of the string and let him go. In less than ten days, you'll have it all dissolved, disintegrated.

INTERVIEWER: Throw it right away.

OXNER: [T7\_007\_33.wav, 00:42] have to.

INTERVIEWER: Would a lumber camp ever get snowed in? I suppose it would, wouldn't it? When a big storm would come up and you'd find yourself marooned in there for two or three days?

OXNER: So it would be several days, plowing out the roads. So they had to plow their roads by ordinary snow plows, and sometimes it would happen -- well, a walking plow, the same as you'd use in a field. And they'd put another board in back, [T7\_007\_33.wav, 01:17] board. And then they would plow that road, and they would take one of these old iron kettles and drag that behind the sled -- behind the plow when they're coming back, and it would make a concave surface. Then the sprinkling tank came along and wet that down and froze it. That was their road.

INTERVIEWER: They could make a pretty hard, slippery road, too. Was the practice of sprinkling the road a pretty common one?

OXNER: Oh, it had to be. It didn't wear out.

INTERVIEWER: Would you just shovel that up, or load it up -- how did they keep the water in the sprinkler from freezing?

OXNER: That was very simple. They'd have a can and they'd heat -- I mean, like an old -- many of these old 13-gallon milk cans or whatever they'd call him -- were not what they are today. [T7\_007\_33.wav, 02:17] a curiosity in those days. But they'd have one of these old cans and they'd heat it full of boiling water. They dumped that in their tank and then went and stopped at the first pick, fill the sprinkling tank full of water. Well, that kept it from freezing [0:02:33], and if it didn't get froze, the sprinkling pipe across the back, well they'd build fire on it. Got it hot, got the ice out of it and went back in business again.

INTERVIEWER: [T7\_007\_33.wav, 02:42] sprinkling [0:02:43]. Why, I would think a -- I would think the sprinkler would have to be the first man up in the morning.

OXNER: Oh, he was running, maybe all night.

INTERVIEWER: Keeping the road --

OXNER: The crew would work --

INTERVIEWER: Right through it.

OXNER: -- because there'd be places [T7\_007\_33.wav, 02:57] in the road where they would shovel snow and pack it down and sprinkle it, freeze it and build it up again [0:03:03].

INTERVIEWER: Well, that would be one case where they'd be using lamps and all sorts of --

OXNER: Oh, they used to use [T7\_007\_33.wav, 03:10] because that was a problem. I've seen a road as far as you could see, those lamps burning, like one here and one on top of that hill just so you can see the light and where the road was. Each one of these fellows had his duty. Like, you had the road crew at night where they'd take care of sprinkling the line, and your sand crew would have to be up early in the morning because the sand, when it was so cold, it would be frozen, and they'd build a fire right in there at night and pack a lot of the logs, roots. Preferably, they'd find rotten logs and get the [0:03:46] knots out of them, and the pitch, and that would [0:03:49] and then they'd get the sand out there and heat it hot, sprinkle that and [0:03:57].

INTERVIEWER: [T7\_007\_33.wav, 03:58].

OXNER: The sand monkey on a bad hill was one of your most important men because you can imagine what one of those loads of logs would do if it ever got away from them.

INTERVIEWER: Oh, yes.

OXNER: And it did used to happen, and they would -- horses would be killed, you know.

INTERVIEWER: Would they wrap chains around the things, or --

OXNER: You mean on the sleighs?

INTERVIEWER: Yeah.

OXNER: No, because it would tear the road to pieces.

INTERVIEWER: Tear the road to pieces.

OXNER: Tear the road to pieces, so they just sand the hill so that within reason the horses are drawing downhill a little --

INTERVIEWER: Yeah, just enough to keep a headway going on it.

OXNER: And if you didn't have it, well you're --

INTERVIEWER: Yeah, 'cause a load of logs coming down off one of those things would be prodigious momentum. This, again, would be up to the man who laid out the road, too, wouldn't it?

OXNER: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: But he could get the -- hairpin turns but --

OXNER: Often times [T7\_007\_34.wav, 00:02]. I think Warren here would probably [0:00:10]. I don't know the man by any other name [0:00:14] he had a heart of gold and [0:00:16] poor old man, I don't know.

INTERVIEWER: How old were the -- what was your average age of the crew be? Were they young men or --

OXNER: Oh, yeah.

INTERVIEWER: -- old men or --

OXNER: I can't tell you how young --

INTERVIEWER: All ages.

OXNER: All ages. And not uncommon men 70 years old were [T7\_007\_34.wav, 00:35] just to chop wood all day.

INTERVIEWER: Gee whiz.

OXNER: [T7\_007\_34.wav, 00:43] was neglected [0:00:44] that there was usually in every camp, there was a banjo player, a [0:00:49] player, maybe a guitar player, and many of the nights were spent with singing [0:00:54] folk songs and music. If somebody was a good [0:01:00] he got up and do a buck and wing and turkey in the straw and entertain everybody.

INTERVIEWER: Would they improvise their own ballads along to the --

OXNER: Oh, yes. There was --

INTERVIEWER: -- with their own [T7\_007\_34.wav, 01:11].

OXNER: Like --

INTERVIEWER: Like ugly Mike.

OXNER: Ugly Mike or big George [T7\_007\_34.wav, 01:17], and then have a song out of big George, you know. Yeah, it was quite a deal.

INTERVIEWER: It seems to be an interesting thing. I mean, Warren's a first-class example that it wasn't especially brawn that made the good lumberjack. It was brains and ingenuity and leadership.

OXNER: Well that's why I wanted to have him set forth [T7\_007\_34.wav, 01:37] were not all brawlers and bruisers. There was -- ugly Mike was a man as small as he is.

INTERVIEWER: Because Ian Warren in his heyday must have been a reasonably small man.

OXNER: Oh, always was. But it was what they carried in their head that --

INTERVIEWER: And this gift of getting people to follow him.

OXNER: Yeah. Able to do it the easy way. There was nothing easy about it, but if there was an easy way, they were pretty well qualified to do it that way.

INTERVIEWER: Well, it was the ingenious way. It's too bad we can't -- couldn't have captured some of the old songs they were singing [T7\_007\_34.wav, 02:26].

OXNER: Well, plenty of songs would be songs back at that time. It would be [0:02:34] and then they would have these ballads that they made up, and it would be not uncommon if there was any event, like someone fell off a load of logs, why that night, he had a ballad. Somebody had made that up for [T7\_007\_34.wav, 02:48].

INTERVIEWER: Would they celebrate birthdays or --

OXNER: I don't ever --

INTERVIEWER: [T7\_007\_34.wav, 02:54].

OXNER: -- remember that too much. I don't think I ever heard it mentioned.

INTERVIEWER: With holidays like Christmas, would the camp close up, or they'd go right on?

OXNER: No, they'd usually take the holidays off. Christmas --

INTERVIEWER: Take a week off?

OXNER: [T7\_007\_34.wav, 03:08].

INTERVIEWER: Right there?

OXNER: Yeah, they'd take the day off. Migrate out of [T7\_007\_34.wav, 03:15]. Some would even leave the camp.

INTERVIEWER: But they had families back home, most of them?

OXNER: Many of them.

INTERVIEWER: Go up and work in the woods in the morning --

OXNER: [T7\_007\_34.wav, 03:26] their families would be left at home and that's why always to me was something that they had a quality that you don't find in -- even in plants today. If a man come in and his little girl was sick and she had to go to the hospital, immediately there was [0:03:43] got enough money.

INTERVIEWER: Would there be a mail delivery up there?

OXNER: No, the mail would come up with the [T7\_007\_34.wav, 03:52], and when they got enough money, well they just didn't think of ever paying it back.

INTERVIEWER: [T7\_007\_34.wav, 04:00]

OXNER: Something you don't find --

INTERVIEWER: -- this is wonderful.

OXNER: -- maybe you'll find it amongst other walks of life, but I never encountered it, where they were that free with their money.

INTERVIEWER: You used to get it [T7\_007\_34.wav, 04:12] be in the Army, but this, again, was that same sort of thrown-together business of --

OXNER: Yep.

INTERVIEWER: Well, Warren, do you have any last words of wisdom that you can impart to these people?

GUINUP: What?

INTERVIEWER: Do you have anything else you'd like to put down for [T7\_007\_34.wav, 04:37] history?

GUINUP: Oh, I can't think of anything. [T7\_007\_34.wav, 04:45], you know.

INTERVIEWER: Well --

GUINUP: But I don't know if this last year back -- my memory's very poor.

INTERVIEWER: I think your memory is marvelous. That's wonderful.

GUINUP: I will be doing the dishes up in there and I watch myself get another plate. Then again something way off, [T7\_007\_35.wav, 00:19]

OXNER: He was speaking the other morning here [0:00:22]

GUINUP: Its getting worse since I had that spell last winter. After I got home.

OXNER: Mother nature had repaired where they lumbered years ago, when he was young and now he goes back and which he has done the last few years to see how nature has grown in. Another supply of trees.

INTERVIEWER: Does a forest renew itself if time?

GUINUP: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: If you cut all of the trees in a forest, will it grow back?

GUINUP: Oh, after [T7\_007\_35.wav, 01:14] I read where they were trying to grow trees big again, you know, that had been cut out.

OXNER: Well, Warren, you know when we were talking the other morning here at the breakfast table-

GUINUP: Somewhere I read that in the paper.

OXNER: Warren, you know we were talking the other morning that the cycle of life in the tree, in the forest, first that comes up is the witch hopple, or small brush and then it goes through that cycle and all the little pines re-seed in again as Spruce, and grow up through all that brush. That's what he was trying to say.

INTERVIEWER: Well the final forest is a softwood forest, isn't it? Because the softwood will drive the hardwoods out, right.

OXNER: The hardwood will come in and the softwood will get it [T7\_007\_35.wav, 02:10] predominantly.

INTERVIEWER: So really the basic forest is-

OXNER: It seems to be the brush protects the small little pines against the snow until they are big enough to take care of themselves. That is what he was trying to tell me the other day.

GUINUP: Protect the school ground up there, they cut the timber off and [T7\_007\_35.wav, 02;29] and sawed it up, and we never got back anything there but just brush. Of course, up in the swamp, that would be, there was swamps up there. They were very small and don't go fast enough to-

INTERVIEWER: No, it takes a hundred years to get a good big tree.

GUINUP: Yeah. I came down across there, I went up Chatarack Creek and there was no [0:03:24] way above, went through to Hartshue. Another fellow and I, old [T7\_007\_35.wav, 03:35] I don't know if you remember him.

INTERVIEWER: I remember young [T7\_007\_35.wav, 03:38]

GUINUP: And him and I went up there to buy a horse, when it just first went in the hotel over there, and we went to look him up a horse. We went up around those lumber camps and when we come down, we come down through, the lumber road that went down through the school, and we bottomed out through right out by the school there. We found him that old grey horse. You remember that?

INTERVIEWER: Yes, I do. Very well. Very well. Where did you get him, over in Hartshue?

GUINUP: No, we bought him from a camp over on East Creek.

INTERVIEWER: There was a big camp over on East Creek, wasn't there?

GUINUP: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: A big camp in there, two or three camps really, there was one really old camp -- and then a more recent one. Yeah, you could -- there used to be a good road from the summer camp right back to -- almost back to the railroad, I guess, wasn't it?

GUINUP: Yeah. Oh, yeah.

INTERVIEWER: Right out past Dog Pond.

GUINUP: Yes, sir. We brought a tractor from a ranger school, down around through Cranberry [T7\_007\_36.wav, 00:36] and then I took it from there and [0:00:43] through the Dog Pond --

INTERVIEWER: Really?

GUINUP: Well, yeah.

INTERVIEWER: Drove it any -- that must have been quite a drive.

GUINUP: Yeah. It was through [T7\_007\_36.wav, 00:55] little bit of log roads, you know, [0:01:00].

INTERVIEWER: Where did you cross Brandy Brook?

GUINUP: I would cross Brandy Brook --

INTERVIEWER: That must have been pretty far out, wasn't it?

GUINUP: Oh, Brandy Brook was pretty well out --

INTERVIEWER: Yeah.

GUINUP: -- [T7\_007\_36.wav, 01:13]. Old Herb [0:01:26]. Do you remember him?

INTERVIEWER: Oh, very well.

GUINUP: Yeah, so he worked at the school, you know. Oh, I'll go and get him. I'll show you how we're going to [T7\_007\_36.wav, 01:36]. [0:01:38] Herb but [0:01:41]. [0:01:46] ended up.

INTERVIEWER: Remember the time Herb [T7\_007\_36.wav, 01:51] wanted to get rid of a porcupine? So he tied a stick of dynamite to its back --

GUINUP: No.

INTERVIEWER: -- and lit the fuse, and the porcupine ran out of the house. Blew the kitchen off that house.

GUINUP: Oh good lord almighty.

INTERVIEWER: He was a big man.

GUINUP: Yeah, we went through a lot of flour, you know. The 100-pound bags. We had to wheel it up to the old camp, you know. [T7\_007\_36.wav, 02:24] and there was another little fellow about my size working up there with me. I can't remember what his name was, but him and I would take two 100-pound bags down there in a wheelbarrow and wheel them up to the upper camp there where the kitchen was and -- 400 [0:02:46] just one little bag. It weighed more than both of us.

INTERVIEWER: Well, he had to carry 300 pounds himself.

GUINUP: One time he got through dinner and he went down to the shop, you know, and sit down and went to sleep. He overslept and, by golly, [T7\_007\_36.wav, 03:19]. Herb just [0:03:24], you know. But he knew he'd overslept. I don't know. [0:03:29], and he grabbed that up and turned [0:03:35] up on the floor. So [0:03:42] he would pick it up [0:03:43].

INTERVIEWER: Did any of the [T7\_007\_36.wav, 03:53] ever work as lumberjacks? Or were they mostly guides up there?

GUINUP: No, there was a young [T7\_007\_36.wav, 04:02] that lived down in [0:04:06].

INTERVIEWER: Was a --

GUINUP: One of the boys, younger boys.

INTERVIEWER: There was a [T7\_007\_36.wav, 04:20] at Cranberry Lake at one time.

GUINUP: I don't think so. Our friend never did. Willard never did. Nope. He was always a guide. I don't think any of them ever worked in the woods.

INTERVIEWER: They trapped some.

GUINUP: Trapped and --

INTERVIEWER: Hunted.

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_36.wav, 04:35]. Well, we kind of missed old Ned [0:04:40] --

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

GUINUP: That's just one of your things you went through and came out all right [T7\_007\_36.wav, 04:51].

INTERVIEWER: It doesn't make --

GUINUP: I don't think they ever proved it against that girl --

INTERVIEWER: Well just like, Mott. Bill Mott, running in to Dole Rock, and I mean of all the times he passed Dole Rock, to hit it right square, just knocked the front of his boat right out.

OXNER: I was up there the times-

INTERVIEWER: It was early spring wasn't it?

GUINUP: Tough season.

OXNER: I could never believe that Ed McCray ever got drowned because when he and I were tugging for Warren, we been up that lake when it wasn't fit for a dog, Warren would be so mad at us he could of fired both of us for ever coming up in the tug boat and Ed could swim like a muskrat, you know. I just believe that something happened there. I can't believe that he would ever get drunk enough that he couldn't swim. I didn't think that was possible.

INTERVIEWER: Well, something happened.

OXNER: Did you give him the names of the various men that lumbered around Cranberry Lake in your time that you knew of?

INTERVIEWER: Could you remember the names of the various lumber, people that lumbered around Cranberry, let's see, there would be the [T7\_007\_37.wav, 01:32], Bushey,

GUINUP: Well-

INTERVIEWER: Who else would there be in there?

OXNER: What was, what was the Frenchman's name way up on, right by the mountain there, he had a boy tried-

GUINUP: Well, the first man I knew was cutting timber up there. He was –

OXNER: Tromley, Amos Tromley.

INTERVIEWER: Amos who?

OXNER: Amos Tromley, T-R-O-M-L-E-Y.

INTERVIEWER: Tromley.

OXNER: Had a boy that wasn't crap, his name was Tromley.

GUINUP: I know it was long just about the first time up there.

INTERVIEWER: Who did you work for when you were working by the day, cutting pulpwood.

GUINUP: Huntfiger.

INTERVIEWER: No, who were you working for?

GUINUP: Who was you working for?

INTERVIEWER: Who were you working for?

GUINUP: Oh, I was working for the International –

INTERVIEWER: Oh, I see, just on a day jobbing.

GUINUP: Yeah, [T7\_007\_37.wav, 02:41] he was working for an old man-

OXNER: Bonyay?

GUINUP: Oh, that old fellow that used to look after the old mill.

OXNER: Cargill? Cargill?

GUINUP: No.

OXNER: Sikes?

GUINUP: No. The company that owned that country in there first. It was, no, Haskins. Haskins. George Haskins. Well he, they had a little mill, little mill in there and this fellow went up there and took a job, putting the logs in, you know, because later, after I got up there, I had bought a horse from him that he had when he was on that job.

INTERVIEWER: He later ran a garage in the village. Didn't he?

[CROSS TALK]

INTERVIEWER: He had a whole series of little stalls.

OXNER: It was George Dermal. [T7\_007\_37.wav, 03:55]

INTERVIEWER: Yes, yes. There was a, there were big boats on the lake too, there was that big steamer. Remember that big steamboat on the lake? Was that-

GUINUP: That was-

INTERVIEWER: It was up on the shore when I used to, remember seeing it.

GUINUP: That was when visitors used.

OXNER: Berle Futon used to run it.

INTERVIEWER: Did he tow logs with that?

OXNER: No.

INTERVIEWER: That was a big boat.

GUINUP: Yeah, Rudy Eaves built it.

INTERVIEWER: Is that right?

GUINUP: Yeah.

OXNER: See I lived there, at that time Berle was towing logs with that boat. Rode on it many a time.

INTERVIEWER: I remember seeing [T7\_007\_37.wav, 04:48] sitting on a rocking chair on the front deck of that thing.

[CROSS TALK]

OXNER: We were discussing the other night, several of us fellows, and you were fortunate to what period of life that we could have been born in to have not had that courage so late, but what we had was a pretty good knowledge of the past history from colonization up to the present time, plus being right at the critical period of when automation comes in, and we see all of these changes, that even 20 years ago you would have said would have been an impossibility.

INTERVIEWER: Fantastic.

OXNER: So I think probably I was privileged and I think you are too, Warren, to have been born and served out a normal lifespan during this interim. Not that it's going to do us any great good, but we had a lot of fun observing.

INTERVIEWER: That's right.

OXNER: And what you're doing here today to preserve this for the next 50 years, it'll be unheard of. The younger generation says it's fantastic, it couldn't have happened.

INTERVIEWER: And this thing -- Warren, what year were you born in?

GUINUP: What?

INTERVIEWER: What year were you born?

GUINUP: 1876.

INTERVIEWER: 1876. The year when Tillman was elected president but never got it. The -- so you have gone from --

GUINUP: Almost the last --

INTERVIEWER: -- when steam was just coming in.

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_38.wav, 01:20] just a little poor [0:01:22].

INTERVIEWER: In the middle of a [T7\_007\_38.wav, 01:25].

GUINUP: Yep. With oxen.

INTERVIEWER: With oxen. Oh, dear. That's -- you're right --

GUINUP: Little log house down there -- [T7\_007\_38.wav, 01:39].

OXNER: You don't always see it -- [T7\_007\_38.wav, 01:42] it's in the whole transformation of everything that's taken place in the world.

INTERVIEWER: It's a vast period of transition.

OXNER: Yep. There's no question of what --

INTERVIEWER: From the time you were born [T7\_007\_38.wav, 01:56] to the day when a man orbits the earth.

GUINUP: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: It's just -- it's unbelievable.

GUINUP: Yeah [T7\_007\_38.wav, 02:03].

INTERVIEWER: One lifetime. One span.

OXNER: [T7\_007\_38.wav, 02:09] I'm not saying we're scientifically inclined, but we all love to discover and discuss the same subjects [0:02:17] was here last night. Well, we get to talking and get to reminisce of what we have seen [0:02:24] here. Just like this location, cabin here, and probably raised a family. Children were born here without a doctor, they never heard of it. And breastfed them and brought them up and became normal citizens.

INTERVIEWER: Moved away.

OXNER: Moved away and --

INTERVIEWER: You moved in.

OXNER: I moved in.

INTERVIEWER: [T7\_007\_38.wav, 02:46].

OXNER: Now [T7\_007\_38.wav, 02:48] right out back [0:02:49] on the river I'd stand on and fish once in a while and never did get up to [0:02:54].

INTERVIEWER: Was it on its way up?

OXNER: Well, it's the first house right up here, around the back was [T7\_007\_38.wav, 03:02] and across the bridge was a [0:03:03]. And all these houses -- these old houses around here are -- the land was burned here and they [0:03:09]. That's where they lived. [0:03:14] a little further up the creek [0:03:15] across the river. [0:03:19] lives over there today.

INTERVIEWER: Is that --

OXNER: Quite a deal. Yep.

INTERVIEWER: Well, and so we end the meeting of the first lesson, Warren. Appreciate it very, very much. Your knowledge, your help. Generations ahead will be reading and hearing you talk.

GUINUP: Oh, I don't know what I'm going [T7\_007\_38.wav, 03:51].

INTERVIEWER: If --

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_38.wav, 03:55].

INTERVIEWER: Well --

GUINUP: [T7\_007\_38.wav, 04:00].

OXNER: Well, he eats very well. Sleeps [T7\_007\_38.wav, 04:12]