

South Georgia Folklife Project

College of the Arts

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**South Georgia Folklife Project
Fieldwork Consent Form**

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The amount of time my participation will take and what I will do have been explained to me. Any special conditions regarding use of my materials are listed below. Otherwise, I agree to the terms described above.

Sept. 4 2003
(date)

Patricia K Brockinton
(signature)

(researcher signature)

Patricia K Brockinton
(print name)

2530 Woodpecker Rte
(address)

Fargo Ga. 31631

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Special conditions:

Interview with Patricia Wetherington Brockinton by Laurie Sommers,
Dayton Turpentine site, 9-4-03

Informant Data Sheet info.

Earliest memories of father as turpentine (before age 7): "The way he dressed winter and summer, he had overalls, a blue chambray shirt, and a denim jacket. He wore that winter and summer. In the summer he would perspire and the air would keep him cool. He would come in for dinner, mama would cook dinner, and he would come in and eat. We lived in a log house, we had a bench, it was made out of a half a log, on the front porch. And he would always come in, he'd eat his dinner, and he'd lay down and rest on that bench. And after he'd rested a while he would go back into the woods."

Turpented 75 acres, also small farm, we had a few cows, farmed with mule and wagon, grazed livestock open range. Sold some and ate some (livestock). "They could roam free back then. Of course the farming part of it, we used the produce to eat. We canned. Of course, we didn't have a freezer, I remember back when we didn't have electricity out there. I was probably 8 when we moved away from the log house. 1942 when my dad died, '43 when we moved in with my granddaddy (DJ Godwin) and his eldest daughter. Located out behind Pine Grove Church (Congregational Methodist).

1957 he passed away (DJ) at 89, I had already married.

Father chipped boxes on land that he owned. No help. Farming with mule and plough. Raised corn. velvet beans for cow feed (matured after corn)

tomatoes, peas, beans, squash, okra, watermelon, fruit trees: pear, fig; grape vine, raised own chickens, ate chickens and eggs, didn't sell any of those.

Mother was housewife, cook, did laundry "in days of washtub with rub board." When I was real small my dad dug a well. Dad got pneumonia and relapsed. Relatively healthy up until just before I died. "I knew a lot of love. Mom had 4 sisters and 5 brothers...I was pretty much the apple of everybody's eye. I knew I was loved." Now it gives her great pleasure to show affection to her own children and others...

Married Robert Wetherington in 1952. Father in law Joseph L. Wetherington b. 1904 bought property in 1937. Before Father-in-law worked in SC (where Harley Langdale Jr. came as a boy), then back to Fargo GA. Worked there 2 years before buying this property. Also able to acquire original land grant to his great granddaddy. In 1960 I believe he deeded that particular piece to Robert. This piece of land has never had a mortgage on it. That property is down the road. Acquired this 8 acres right here in 1973, bought from his dad. His dad had 4400 acres of land in this general area. Pat and husband acquired the 1000 plus 534 acres. Husband b. Nov. 1930, D. Dec. 17, 1992.

When married, Robert was working with his dad. In 1955 we took over the business in Robert's name. In 1973 we sold the timber and leased the land to Rayonier. His dad's holdings and his 1000 acres..."We were allowed to work the timber for the life of the face, which was two more years. We turpented up to 1975.

24.50 When you married did you come to this vicinity?

Yes, married in June, 1952, and moved in with husband's parents. He was only child that lived into adulthood. The smaller house had been used as a honey house, after married, fixed it up and moved into that house after 2 months. "I've been here 51 years now." When moved here turpentine camp was already here.

Camp quarters built before father-in-law bought property; don't know who built it. Don't know if his dad worked turpentine, but Ms. Elma Wetherington's dad had (father's mother, also nee Wetherington). This is where Stick had worked first, for my husband's granddaddy. 8-9 black families when Pat arrived. We had some more quarters down the road.

27:48 No black ladies worked in woods. Some ironed for Patricia; cleaned house for mother-in-law

Memories of Hambone, a black man who worked for them, had some mental retardation due to blocked artery to brain; b. 1925 Abraham Nelson, distant cousin to Stick Nelson. Came here when he was 11 years old, with parents, they moved off and left him. Different people in quarters would cook for him and wash his clothes. basically here all of his life. Never had formal schooling, but he worked. Very protective of my children. Tells story of him finding oldest daughter when she wandered off into woods and got lost. "So many fond memories about him." My oldest daughter taught him how to print his name. Tells how he would go with her to Fargo, she'd go to church, and when they came out every car in parking lot had a stick of chewing gum on it.

On neighbors: We had white neighbors, and black down the road, in addition to quarters. When children in school the bus driver lived in house over there. At times we had a white family neighbor in house on property. ... We didn't have a real big community right here.

Did your children play with children in quarters? Some. As children grew older, mostly older black people who worked for us, few children. Went from total segregation to total integration in one year. Before blacks and whites had separate buses to school. After integration no incidents, got along well.

How many homes in quarters? There are 3 standing that I saw this morning. "OK there were two more. Then across little road there were—and there was another closer to our house and that burned... There was about 7 houses down here, and then there were 3

houses up there. At one time we leased some land to work turpentine from Langdale and Griffis family, so we worked more than just our own trees.

How large was acreage you worked? Over 7500. Possibly 8-9000.

Were houses free to workers ? Did they pay rent?

Hands didn't pay rent in quarters. Did pay light bills. Groceries from commissary except for fresh meat and produce. "Then they'd settle up. They'd get their groceries on Sat. I think they settled up each month." Most didn't have transportation. Robert (husband) would take them to mostly Jasper for supplies. 25 miles through the woods from here. Took them to dentist or doctor in Homerville. At one time used doctor in Jasper drug store.

Husband Robert ran commissary. Dad before him. (were you involved?) 'If somebody needed something I'd let them in. Had white bacon and salt bacon. Beans, canned goods. If somebody needed something. Usually got their groceries either late Friday evening or Sat. morning. But if somebody needed something between times I was always available to go in and get it.' Use of "coins" [tokens] in Fargo before her time. In her time, Got paid money. It was on a percentage basis. When gum was harvested and taken off to sell, he would get a percentage of that total sale. His light bill would come out, his grocery bill, doctor. Hanging boxes was on individual basis, that was the reason for the tallying. ...her grandsons have used commissary for hunting cabin, have free range, they may have taken some of coins as souvenirs.

There is a church back there. Do you know anything about that?

"I did not. MY mother in law said she used to go down on Sunday morning. She was in PB church. In PB they only have church one Sunday a month, so if they didn't have church and a preacher was coming here, she would go down and sit in the church. Church wasn't as active after we married. There was several years when they would have a preacher, but not every Sunday. It was basically for the hands, the men and their families.

On role in business: "we worked as a team" . Had platforms with barrels of gum. When turned barrels down, and roll from platform into truck. Had sides on body of truck. Put chain behind to keep from jarring them loose. She drove truck taking barrels to still in Valdosta; Only thing did in woods, would help burn woods in wintertime.

58:53: On wintertime burns: would "stro" the fire. "Get it started down on a row, like It would be like scattering the fire. The way you would burn the woods, you would always set the fire in the opposite direction from the way the wind was blowing. If the wind was blowing this way, you would set the fire to feed back this way, so it wouldn't burn high. We would usually do it at night, because the wind lay more at night. We were able to burn through at night. That was a common thing to do. There was a period of time from Oct. 15 to March 15 that was considered to be the time that you could safely burn the woods and you wouldn't kill the trees, cause it burned through. Now, they do not do a

lot of woods burning. The paper companies that grow trees for lumber, they don't burn. Used to be a common thing that every winter you burn woods.

Would you burn it all, would you burn sections every year?

If you had lots, you kinda, you tried to have a burn at least two years or younger so that woods, like gallberries and the brush would not be up so high to where it would interfere with getting to the trees.

How many people would be involved in burn? The whole crew?

Not usually, the hands usually did not—when I say hands I'm referring to people working the turpentine. They normally did not do the burning. Hambone would help us. And Robert, and I would help him with that. Sometimes I would go in the afternoon and help him set the fires and burn em awhile. Normally I was home and had supper prepared for him. He'd come in.

Was he the woodsrider?

At one time we did have a woodsrider, we had a white man that lived in this house over here. Rode woods, checked on everything, that all the faces were worked, men were not skipping anything. Mostly Robert rode the horse. I don't remember one of the black men riding the horse.

1:08.40 I also would go and buy supplies for commissary. I did a lot of that. There was one place that was called T and R, company providing supplies for commissary in Valdosta]. Sometimes we would go the JAX. Also a wholesale grocer down there. Usually we went to that place (T and R), back the truck up to the loading dock, you'd go in and tell em what you wanted.

What kinds of things you stocked the commissary with.

"Bought meal, grits, rice, always. Canned goods. Dry black eyed peas and lima beans, white bacon (fat back). All kinds of canned goods. Always tomatoes. Canned peas and beans, too. Hominy was one of the things that they really liked. A large hominy. Comes in cans. Vienna sausage, things they would eat—snack food. I never remember having tuna out there. We would have sardines. Saltine crackers. Ginger snaps—they were small boxes back then that they would get. Syrup, we always had syrup. Usually had oysters. (hands made oyster stew). Corned beef was another thing that we always stocked. ..Occasionally we would buy some Irish potatoes, 25 lb. bag of Irish potatoes and pretty much get rid of those in one weekend. So they didn't ruin. Later on we put a refrigerator in there and we had cold drinks, we had cheese. Been so long. Flour, I don't think I mentioned flour. Flour in the 25 lb. sacks.

Lime. They would but the lime in a small flour sack and as they, when they were counting the trees, they'd hit the tree and they'd holler whatever their term was, so you

knew which man was calling out, and that's what that lime was used for, the mark the trees when they were counting the trees, how many boxes that were worked."

Would get provisions, bring back, and stock store. "I did a lot of that." Was that more your job than his? "We kind of shared that."

Lime not something that was sold. Used in the business.

We sold laundry soap, lava soap, sweet soap (hand soap), We did not sell deodorant, cologne, things like that. We did have aspirins, 666, cold formulas, Fletchers Castoria (laxative).

For business carried tin, nails, lime to mark trees.

CD 2

Medicine:

One interesting thing that we used the raw turpentine for, used to when they would have an open sore, they would take the turpentine and mix it with beef taller (tallow), ...and put a bandage on the sore with the taller and gum, always wanted fresh pine gum, the soft gum, and it would draw the impurities out and help to heal. We usually kept the bottles of turpentine, and another thing was the kerosene. We sold that, they used that in lamps and lighting fires, and things like that. We also sold gas, if one happened to have a vehicle...Had a gas tank. Another thing that we bought was the nails and the tin, to hang the tin, also we bought always bought nails.

LKS they wouldn't actually buy those?

PB No they were things that the business used.

LKS Medicinal, you or just the hands?

PB We all did that. There was a cough medicine, we didn't use turpentine. You would mix whiskey and honey and lemon juice in equal parts for a cough medicine. That's something that was used, In fact we had one man that had pneumonia and was in the hospital a while. He came home and he was just coughing so bad. So my husband told him, Pat can make you some cough medicine. And it'll help you get rid of that stuff. Well I fixed him up a six oz. bottle of the cough medicine like that, he come back in a few days and said, 'can I get some more of that cough medicine. That is the best stuff I've ever seen. It cut that stuff loose out of his lungs and he was able to get rid of it. I even would give my husband small doses. In fact Dr. Johnson told me, my pediatrician, its better than anything you can buy. Just have to be careful not to give em enough that the whiskey would intoxicate em. Of course you wouldn't in a small dose.

LKS Were did you learn that remedy?

PB I guess from my in-laws, probably. I never remember making that when I was at home. We never had any whiskey in the home, the hands would have the whiskey. We did not sell it, but when they went to town, they knew where to get it and how to get it. It was something that I learned after I came into the family.

LKS Was that common that you would have a role if people were sick or hurt?

PB 4:29 Oh yes. For me, it wasn't only on our quarters. The folks in the community would come or call me after we got the telephone. ...Don't remember just what year we got the telephone in...Probably about 1959. The road was paved in 1958-59 that winter and spring. We had had dirt roads out here. ...One particular thing that I remember, Miss Touchton, she was an elderly later. She had been sick and doctor had given her an antibiotic. She began to break out in a rash... I told her don't you take another one of those antibiotic, you see the doctor....[she was allergic, doctor told her I had saved her life] One thing about gum and tallow, my mother in law fell through a place in the barn out there and skinned her leg real bad. She was a real bad diabetic, and I brought her to her house. I cleaned it with alcohol, and then I bandaged it with that. She was going to the doctor over in Hahira, which was Dr. Raymond Smith, when she went back to him he said I guess you know that your daughter in law saved your leg. Had you not had good care, being a diabetic, you would have lost that leg...If there was a colicky baby they'd call me to ask for advice. All the people of the community.

LKS That kind of knowledge, did that come from any particular place?

PB Well, 7:26 Just my interest in health and medicine. This aunt that lived with my granddaddy was a practical nurse. I always listened and watched her and picked up a lot of information. That's where my interest came from. My second daughter is a nurse.....She is the head of memorial home health in Adel....

LKS did you have a reputation as a healer...

PB not as a healer, just as a helper....I don't remember at what point I bought the blood pressure cuff, I would take people's blood pressure. If there was a real irregular heartbeat or high blood pressure, advise them to go to a doctor. People just knew that I would do that. I never did anything that I would get in trouble for doing, you know. ...I know of two different people that was seriously ill and did not realize it, and my checking blood pressure...went to the doctor and discovered they had a real serious heart condition... I remember when I was a child, I had to learn a poem, and part of it was "let me live in a house by the side of the road and be a friend to man." And that has always been my ambition, just to be a friend to anybody who needs a friend.

LKS both black and white?

PB Oh yes.

LKS in quarters was there someone known for similar kinds of skills? Maybe a midwife?

PB There was a midwife over in Fargo, she was black lady, they called her Aunt something, I do remember going and getting her to deliver babies when the time would come.

LKS If somebody was injured out in the woods, what would happen? Would you be someone that would help?

PB 12:10 Well, like if someone got cut or something, they would come to me to clean it and dress it. I don't remember a particular incident when anybody required going to the hospital. I guess we were very fortunate that people did not get hurt. ...

LKS Provisions from commissary or they could go into town, to get fresh ---any times they would have events back in the quarters ---fish fry or? That you would be aware of social events?

PB No

LKS hear any singing?

PB Don't remember that. Of course there would be singing when they would have church. But no I don't really remember.

LKS Did you ever have BBQs or fish fries for the hands with the business?

PB No, we did not. Now when, normally at Christmas and at Thanksgiving there'd be a big meal and we usually would share with them. They would come up and we would share a plate.

LKS You would prepare the food [yes mam] Share for the whole community out here in the quarters?

PB, well, one thing that I used to do was make bread pudding or make plain loaf cake like, I can remember one particular black man talked about the sweet bread's what he called it. He sure did like the boss lady's sweet bread [laughs] One thing that we did, something I hadn't thought about, the cow, I milked the cow, churned, sold milk and butter to the people on the quarters. And we would sell eggs if we had a big supply. Also, when I would be going to town, if they needed something from town I would pick up things for them, fresh like eggs or butter, milk, I would get that for them.

LKS The bread pudding or loaf cake you mentioned, was that for a special occasion?

PB No, and I still do that by, I just get an urge to cook something sweet. Now, about once a month, I cook different types of pound cakes and take em to my son. He works for _____ Service Corp, a bunch of men that work, and I take a cake there for them occasionally. Its just, something that's been my nature to do. To share things.

LKS 16:35 What would you fix for Christmas, say?

PB usually, we'd have venison, we'd have ham, and have a turkey with dressing and cakes and pies, and bread. I used to make yeast bread a lot, the rolls. Vegetables, always had some type of greens. Collards turnips or mustard. And crackling corn bread used to always have when we'd have something special. I remember one particular time we had moved a new family onto the quarters that had some children. One little girl about 12 years old, she came and knocked on my back door and said, "I'm hoongry." She wasn't something to eat. I fixed her something to eat. In a family of five children you always have something cooked.

LKS What about thanksgiving was the menu different?

PB They were pretty much the same. We always had pumpkin pies at Thanksgiving, more so than at Christmas. Christmas we usually had pecan pies....Turkey and dressing. Usually rice with either pork or chicken. Sometimes dumplings.

LKS You would fix plates---it was the same food that you would make for your family that you would---

PB Uh huh.

LKS Would people come up, how would that work?

PB Yeah they would knock on my back door. They knew they were welcome to do it if they wanted something. Or if a man were to come, and I would fix something for him to take for him and his wife.

LKS You were saying that most of the people as time went on were elderly. Would there be more men living out here than women?

PB Yes, mam. Usually at any one particular time, there'd be 3 men that were not married that were working.

LKS women mostly stayed at home? [yes] did you have any interaction with them?
Housewives mostly?

PB Yeah. And usually, I had several of the different women that did my ironing. I did my washing. I was fortunate enough to have a washing machine during my married life. Back then we ironed everything. Pillow cases and everything. Sometimes, for my mother in law they would come in and clean the house for her about once a week. I never had anyone to come in clean for me. All through the years I would have somebody who would iron. Usually they came to my house and would iron.

LKS Did they take care of children?

PB They could and they would if I needed it. I had one particular lady that would come and keep the children if I had to go to town, when the children were really small. But this aunt that I mentioned...she came when I'd have a new baby..(her name Ruby Godwin.)

LKS Meals. Were there special foods you'd prepare if your husband was gone for the day, or would he come back for mealtimes...Special food for the woods?

PB Yes, in a way. There were things. I often would pack a lunch if he was going to be gone all day. Not necessarily sandwiches. If you had rice and beans, maybe sometime of meat from the evening before, from supper. I didn't do a lot of special cooking in the morning for our lunch. Breakfast was always a big meal with my family. We talk about that now sometimes, the children and I. WE always, I tried to prepare what they wanted. If one child wanted oatmeal and another pancakes, I tried to prepare what they would eat, to have a good start. If we all had grits and eggs, they may be eggs cooked three different ways. Course I always cooked what I knew my husband would eat. But the normal thing was bacon and eggs, we had more biscuit toast than we had light bread.[store-bought sliced bread] They liked homemade bread. ... But if he was workingI've always been fortunate enough to have an electric stove. I remember one time the lights were out, in the wintertime, I can remember baking bread in the fireplace, pulling out some ashes and putting a skillet in there. Made biscuit bread, used to call it hoecake. It would be the pan full of bread instead of individual pieces. But we learned to get along on what we had. I've always been well provided for....

LKS rice, beans, meat from the night before to pack a lunch...So not sandwiches.

PB And we'd take it in a syrup bucket or a lard bucket. So you'd pack it in the bucket instead of in a paper bag. Something that we—and I don't know how we came by liking it—was mustard and jelly with a meat, a slice of ham or something. Put mustard on one side of the biscuit and jelly on the other. Just made a real delicious sandwich.

LKS Take that out in the woods too?

PB um hmm.

LSK What about suppertime?

27:14 PB Suppertime usually was a big meal, more so than the midday meal. Usually we'd cook some kind of meat. We had, my father-in-law had a farm up at Valdosta. We always had beef, when he killed a beef he would divide with us. Always had a freezer. Able to have meats regular. Killed our own pork. For a few years after married would raise our own chickens. Buy the biddies and raise em. Always had meat and usually rice. If we had fish, we had grits and coleslaw and hushpuppies with that, fried cornbread. Some type of vegetable. Ate a lot of greens. Pretty regular, several times a week we had greens. It was not a common thing that we always had a dessert. Some canned fruit or something like that. As a regular thing didn't have a lot of cake or pie. Sunday would be

a special, have a special dessert and maybe a stew beef or roast with potatoes or carrots. Things like that.

LKS What time would supper be served, might depend on time of year?

PB Usually about dark, whatever time dark was. .Everybody would be busy until dark.

LKS What about Sunday, work?

PB No, and didn't work on Sat. either. Sat was a free day. Did whatever they wanted on Sat.

LKS So that might be a day you'd be driving people –

PB Yeah. If they needed to go somewhere. And back then the doctors were in on Sat. morning...

30:14 LKS As far as keeping accounts in the back of the store, was that your husband's job?

PB he did that financial part of it.

LKS Anything you wanted to add?

PB Can't think of anything.

LKS You did mention thanksgiving and Christmas. I wondered about July 4 and Easter. Anteing special on those days?

PB No, usually, and even with the hands, the black people, they liked to get a new outfit of clothes, maybe not something fancy but a new outfit of clothes at Easter. That was always a special church day for my family. We would get up and go to the Sunrise service early, and then to Sunday school and church. One thing, on Sundays, if I got up early and cooked dinner before we went to church, I'd let my family have cereal on those days. But if I was going to cook when I got home, then I'd cook them a big breakfast before we left so they wouldn't be starved when we came back.

LKS no big meals for hands like on Christmas?

PB No. Now on July the 4th, we had friends that had a big BBQ July the 4th and we normally went to someone else's house.

LKKS Nothing special here for the hands.

PB No mam.

LKS Anything else about your role in the business or have we covered the main points/

PB Pretty well covered it. Something I really enjoyed doing. Helping my husband. He was a good provider. I feel so fortunate that I was well provided for all my life. I considered I was a poor girl when I got married. Mama was widowed, I was the last child at home. Mom worked. I guess that's one reason that I knew how to do so many things. I did the housekeeping and cooking at home before I married. Even though I was real young. I always have enjoyed life and enjoyed doing what I could. One thing, talking about medical advice, I took a nurses aid course, several of us from Fargo did. Taught by Vo Tech in Homerville. I imagine after that I got my blood pressure cuff and all. I just enjoyed helping people. And I do now. And color has no barrier with me. My children have never had a problem with being prejudiced. And I 'm so glad. I feel like a lot of it because they grew up closely associated with black population.

37:15 end of CD 2.

Home made cough medicine with whiskey and lemon juice. Picked up a lot from her granddaddy's sister, ? Godwin, who had been a practical nurse.

Food: often would fix plates and share with hands at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Made loaf cake (sweet bread), bread pudding. Sold milk and butter to people in quarters.

Discusses food eaten by husband when working in woods.

No work on Sat. and Sunday.

"I enjoyed helping people. Color has no bearing."

Interview with Patricia Wetherington Brockinton by Laurie Sommers,
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24.50 When you married did you come to this vicinity?

Yes, married in June, 1952, and moved in with husband's parents. He was only child that lived into adulthood. The smaller house had been used as a honey house, after married, fixed it up and moved into that house after 2 months. "I've been here 51 years now." When moved here turpentine camp was already here.

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Memories of Hambone, a black man who worked for them, had some mental retardation due to blocked artery to brain; b. 1925 Abraham Nelson, distant cousin to Stick Nelson. Came here when he was 11 years old, with parents, they moved off and left him. Different people in quarters would cook for him and wash his clothes. basically here all of his life. Never had formal schooling, but he worked. Very protective of my children. Tells story of him finding oldest daughter when she wandered off into woods and got lost. "So many fond memories about him." My oldest daughter taught him how to print his name. Tells how he would go with her to Fargo, she'd go to church, and when they came out every car in parking lot had a stick of chewing gum on it.

On neighbors: We had white neighbors, and black down the road, in addition to quarters. When children in school the bus driver lived in house over there. At times we had a white family neighbor in house on property. ... We didn't have a real big community right here.

Did your children play with children in quarters? Some. As children grew older, mostly older black people who worked for us, few children. Went from total segregation to total integration in one year. Before blacks and whites had separate buses to school. After integration no incidents, got along well.

How many homes in quarters? There are 3 standing that I saw this morning. "OK there were two more. Then across little road there were—and there was another closer to our house and that burned... There was about 7 houses down here, and then there were 3

houses up there. At one time we leased some land to work turpentine from Langdale and Griffis family, so we worked more than just our own trees.

How large was acreage you worked? Over 7500. Possibly 8-9000.

Were houses free to workers ? Did they pay rent?

Hands didn't pay rent in quarters. Did pay light bills. Groceries from commissary except for fresh meat and produce. "Then they'd settle up. They'd get their groceries on Sat. I think they settled up each month." Most didn't have transportation. Robert (husband) would take them to mostly Jasper for supplies. 25 miles through the woods from here. Took them to dentist or doctor in Homerville. At one time used doctor in Jasper drug store.

Husband Robert ran commissary. Dad before him. (were you involved?) 'If somebody needed something I'd let them in. Had white bacon and salt bacon. Beans, canned goods. If somebody needed something. Usually got their groceries either late Friday evening or Sat. morning. But if somebody needed something between times I was always available to go in and get it.' Use of "coins" [tokens] in Fargo before her time. In her time, Got paid money. It was on a percentage basis. When gum was harvested and taken off to sell, he would get a percentage of that total sale. His light bill would come out, his grocery bill, doctor. Hanging boxes was on individual basis, that was the reason for the tallying. ...her grandsons have used commissary for hunting cabin, have free range, they may have taken some of coins as souvenirs.

There is a church back there. Do you know anything about that?

"I did not. MY mother in law said she used to go down on Sunday morning. She was in PB church. In PB they only have church one Sunday a month, so if they didn't have church and a preacher was coming here, she would go down and sit in the church. Church wasn't as active after we married. There was several years when they would have a preacher, but not every Sunday. It was basically for the hands, the men and their families.

On role in business: "we worked as a team" . Had platforms with barrels of gum. When turned barrels down, and roll from platform into truck. Had sides on body of truck. Put chain behind to keep from jarring them loose. She drove truck taking barrels to still in Valdosta; Only thing did in woods, would help burn woods in wintertime.

58:53: On wintertime burns: would "stro" the fire. "Get it started down on a row, like It would be like scattering the fire. The way you would burn the woods, you would always set the fire in the opposite direction from the way the wind was blowing. If the wind was blowing this way, you would set the fire to feed back this way, so it wouldn't burn high. We would usually do it at night, because the wind lay more at night. We were able to burn through at night. That was a common thing to do. There was a period of time from Oct. 15 to March 15 that was considered to be the time that you could safely burn the woods and you wouldn't kill the trees, cause it burned through. Now, they do not do a

lot of woods burning. The paper companies that grow trees for lumber, they don't burn. Used to be a common thing that every winter you burn woods.

Would you burn it all, would you burn sections every year?

If you had lots, you kinda, you tried to have a burn at least two years or younger so that woods, like gallberries and the brush would not be up so high to where it would interfere with getting to the trees.

How many people would be involved in burn? The whole crew?

Not usually, the hands usually did not—when I say hands I'm referring to people working the turpentine. They normally did not do the burning. Hambone would help us. And Robert, and I would help him with that. Sometimes I would go in the afternoon and help him set the fires and burn em awhile. Normally I was home and had supper prepared for him. He'd come in.

Was he the woodsrider?

At one time we did have a woodsrider, we had a white man that lived in this house over here. Rode woods, checked on everything, that all the faces were worked, men were not skipping anything. Mostly Robert rode the horse. I don't remember one of the black men riding the horse.

1:08.40 I also would go and buy supplies for commissary. I did a lot of that. There was one place that was called T and R, company providing supplies for commissary in Valdosta]. Sometimes we would go the JAX. Also a wholesale grocer down there. Usually we went to that place (T and R), back the truck up to the loading dock, you'd go in and tell em what you wanted.

What kinds of things you stocked the commissary with.

"Bought meal, grits, rice, always. Canned goods. Dry black eyed peas and lima beans, white bacon (fat back). All kinds of canned goods. Always tomatoes. Canned peas and beans, too. Hominy was one of the things that they really liked. A large hominy. Comes in cans. Vienna sausage, things they would eat—snack food. I never remember having tuna out there. We would have sardines. Saltine crackers. Ginger snaps—they were small boxes back then that they would get. Syrup, we always had syrup. Usually had oysters. (hands made oyster stew). Corned beef was another thing that we always stocked. ..Occasionally we would buy some Irish potatoes, 25 lb. bag of Irish potatoes and pretty much get rid of those in one weekend. So they didn't ruin. Later on we put a refrigerator in there and we had cold drinks, we had cheese. Been so long. Flour, I don't think I mentioned flour. Flour in the 25 lb. sacks.

Lime. They would but the lime in a small flour sack and as they, when they were counting the trees, they'd hit the tree and they'd holler whatever their term was, so you

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knew which man was calling out, and that's what that lime was used for, the mark the trees when they were counting the trees, how many boxes that were worked."

Would get provisions, bring back, and stock store. "I did a lot of that." Was that more your job than his? "We kind of shared that."

Lime not something that was sold. Used in the business.

We sold laundry soap, lava soap, sweet soap (hand soap), We did not sell deodorant, cologne, things like that. We did have aspirins, 666, cold formulas, Fletchers Castoria (laxative).

For business carried tin, nails, lime to mark trees.

Medicine: describes a home remedy of ? and "taller" which would draw out impurities. Home made cough medicine with whiskey and lemon juice. Picked up a lot from her granddaddy's sister, ? Godwin, who had been a practical nurse.

Food: often would fix plates and share with hands at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Made loaf cake (sweet bread), bread pudding. Sold milk and butter to people in quarters.

Discusses food eaten by husband when working in woods.

No work on Sat. and Sunday.

"I enjoyed helping people. Color has no bearing."