

Joe George July 8th 1987

Any work you us to do as young man working with horses do you remember that?

Joe ya young days I use work for the pole yard in New To Town in New Hazelton Carl Cristians was the boss ya do all that finally they put me up on top loading poles pell pole in the bush ya ,that thing there .

Use to have a team of horses ?

Who me, ya use to have a team of horses

Were was your house at were did you live at?

Joe, right there right over by Sylverters other side of his place boy was a big log building my use to have a storebig buildingI do,nt well the build as two storey high long big long fourty may long dad use to have store there when we were kids.

When was that ?

Joe ,oh around 1910 11 12 we were kids well I was born 1 1911 , I,m 76 years old

What else did you do be side peal poles ?

Joe, Oh do the odd trapping there and there

Were did you trap at?

Joe,oh me my dad use to go up to Own Lake use to have ha cabines but they got uncles trape cabin old man Joesph, use he traped that were therroad go now from Huston all the way up to Morries Lake ya uncleuse to have cabine th there openfire you now cabine now theyall got all that out they all downroad went, that road through ther a logging road

Is that the only place you went trapping by Owen lake?

Joe, ya up Owen Lake towards Owen creek.

Do you remember any stories that any body told you?

Joe, no I forgot them all one winter we stay out all wint er long form fall to the following spring we stayedout all winter trapping we move around along right along the lake here and there.

What did you trap?

Joe, oh I never I was a kid you know I just go along with dad my brother thomas trap martine spring they trap beaver , muskrat, ya thats what we be doing .

Do you remember when they built the bridge here?

Joe , old one was suppose to be around 1910 I guess.

What about this one here now ?

This one wellit open that bridge in 1931 must of they had that befor they must of started around 29 I guess ya.

you guys used a old wooden one just next to it then

Joe, the wooden I , I remember walking across it me and mum use to sway like that danger ya I heard , acording to the people there when theyfirst building that there they use a some kind of twisted roots you know some kind of stick ya that what they use , finally toward the end they use telephone wire thats what they use no nail noth ing all bound up by roots rope cedar bark rope thats all they use ya .

Was there lotsa of houses here in Hagwilget ?

Joe, oh there was lotsa could count them all by log building lotsa houses

Do you remember were they were any no were they were remember who it was

Joe, oh yes old Mackenzie chief Ben Mackenzie grand dad his house was right there and Pat Brown his house was right there were we had our first one right there that was his old lady. just over there, all along here use to be log building some over there one big log building over little bit this between here and over there use they use to have that for I guess they use to use it for potlach hall that all I remember big wide log building it was pretty old when I remember it use have that for potlach hall like, another log building over there Just across the road.

Joe, they use that as church one time befor they had that one and they turn that in to a jail once ya middle of in side they put a you now no steel they just use wood ya they use that for jail once where

Where was that big hall at over by Sylvesters?

Joe, I could,nt count it quite a few years ago

You remember any totem poles were?

Joe, no just down the canyon there was about 4 or 5 totem poles

They moved them all up here?

Joe, no they did,nt move them

What happened to them? They all washed away.

Joe, ya they bought a couple up I guess is one use to be over there and is rotten over there and one Morictown old Basil Mehiells dad's I think was there totem pole they brought it up here they sold it I forgot the guys name form Victora. A bunch of use kids brought it up pack going up the trail coming up the trail quite a bunch of us pack it up by hand it was pretty well dry pretty old by that time not very heavy real dry they had him up there took him away.

Did you go to school?

Joe, I did day school over here other side our big building uncle Joseph big it was,nt very big but tall building my uncle Joseph's house that were they had school, first school they had befor my time was above our right at our place that up stairs that were they had school I dont how long they had school there till uncle build his building finshed they move to that place, I went up to not even fith grade I quit went done little trapping.

some times we move away was,nt very strict at all them days you no not like to day, not like the time today

Do you remember who the teacher was?

Joe I, do,nt no I remember his first name was a guy married he had one daughter mr. Brown dad remember I guess Do you remember when they built the church?

Joe, no but I dont remember that at all that church was

till today its close to hundred years old , even me I, am 76 now .

Did you go fishing down Prince Rupert?

ya I did once first time I went fishing down there was with my brother Sam was 1927 was my first trip out there them days it was all sail boat very few jet boat like we very few few Japanese them days all I do, nt know about 14 15 canniers all sail boat them days , Lotsa people from here went down?

Joe, oh ya quite a few not very many from around Hazelton, Kispiox, Glen Vowell. nobody around here in the summer time few young kid not many few old people few young boys they go .

Do you remember when WW11 started?

Joe , fishing net long net

Did, nt join the army in WW11 did, nt want to.

Joe, no

Your brother was Thomas what did you guys do travel around the country together working trapping?

Joe , ya trapping work.

Did you have big family?

ya quite a bit I do, nt know how many died , Thomas died Frances he died Sam, Gus Willie the last one the youngest drowned down there in 1934 . oh I think about , about 12 in the family, my dad was Felix George mum is Cecil.

They owned a store?

Joe , ya them days people all had money by trapping some of them do odd work in the bush,

Do you remember what New Town was like?

Joe no.

Old Town do you remember what it was like.

Joe no

You guys go over to Babin Hot

Joe oh ya lots? in the spring they come this use to be head quarters during from 1912 and no till 40s then kind of slacken down then people use to spend about two months early in the spring on wagon all horses them days by wagon Babin people come this way on the road with horses pack horses saddle horses.

They come to fish?

Joe, no just their holiday towards August everybody take off go back haying time them days people from Burns Lake Stellaco. Fraser Lake all come this way all gather here. two months close to three months early in May come here month of May they come here June July, close to August then they take off

Did you go to school in LaJaque to.

I went there we spent a couple of weeks then we run away I did, nt like , I would, nt of done it its cause of Frances that I did it he led me so I had to go we took off we got we did, nt on the train all at Endako we got off in Huston you no them days lucky was in the fall

dam lucky it was not winter eventhe fall night timecold  
you know the place where it closes thats where we were I  
put Franies on the in side I sit on the out side every  
time the train stop we jump off and stand around on the  
out side every time the train moves we jump back on in  
the morning I do,nt what time in the morning the train  
stop at Huston station the train stop right at the plate  
form we were was just like getting off the coach we just  
take off we spent a couple days there I guess with am th  
them Jim Hollen out fit they were living in Huston then.  
the guy name then big Tommy Namox he live in Huston f  
guess he send a letter to my dad down here where we  
were ,there were three of us went to La Jaque Mary too  
Mary was home all ready when we got home she came back  
on the train but us we just took off so dad send him a  
money to get our tickets fare from Huston to here thats  
when we came back we spent three days at Huston ya three  
days ya we spent a weekor two at LaJaque plue went to  
school at Fort St Jamies in 1917 me and Sam my brother  
one other guy form MORriestown three of us I was about  
seven years old I think we spend one winter there  
Them days no car to run was winter time when we went thr  
ough well when school opening any way in September when  
school opening any way we got off in Vandrhoof we stay  
a night or two in Stoney Creek form there some guys took  
use up ,father was with use priest I think it was father  
Alard they took us to Fort St Jamies by wagon ya we  
spent the winter there school, following spring out we ca  
came back did,nt go back again .

Sylvester your brother.

Joe, ya

Where you get the water form ?

Joe , use to have well over there was still there toward  
where those by Jimmy Joseph housesis there was well there  
down below there was a well there. Still there yet I never  
go over there for a long time eirst place I remember  
there was a well here I pump by hand and they move over  
there for well for water

You guys do much earning here in the village?

Joe, oh not very much, out in the field here horses cut  
a little bit of hay for them us to raise a few pigs  
Donld Grey us to have a big farm he ownall that land  
over here across here well he never owned but he  
bought it off somebody who owned it them day was  
pretty cheape.

What did you do for entrètiament hire Hazelton ocistra  
for dance Thing

Things were pretty bad during the depression  
Joe, oh God ya things were tough acording to the amount

today you woulded want to work for dollare and quarter  
a day today how much dollare an nour they do,nt go during  
the depression oh dollare and quarter a day was the high  
est wages then hard work then to geight hours a day .  
One time I was pllowing for George Parent big pollow  
four horses I use I think it was 35 he was paying me  
dollare and half a day then they started thrashing over  
there them guys on the thrashing machine they found out  
that George Parent was pating me dollare and half a day  
they were working for dollare quarter a day he cut me do  
down twenty five cents I qiut right there .