

MEMORIES OF NEW BERN

CALLAGHAN MCCARTHY HOLLOWELL

INTERVIEW 1020

This is Dr. Joseph Patterson. My number is one thousand (1000). I am speaking for the Memories of New Bern Committee. I am interviewing Mr. Callaghan, c,a, double l, a,g,h,a,n, (Callie, c,a, double l,i,e) McCarthy, m,c, capital c,a,r,t,h,y, Hollowell, h,o, double l, o,w,e, double l. Mr. Hollowell is a former resident of New Bern who now lives at 412 Morris, m,o, double r, i,s, Avenue, Apartment Number 7, Summit, s,u, double m, i,t, New Jersey 07901. He is visiting New Bern and staying at the Ramada Inn. The number of this interview is 1020. The interview is being conducted at my home at 604 East Front Street in New Bern. The date is November 16, 1992.

Mr. Hollowell and I have been corresponding by mail and by telephone since January of 1991 about his memories of New Bern. The letters he has sent me will be included in his folder as they contain much information about New Bern.

I just want to tell you that it's a pleasure to have you here in my home and a privilege to get you down here from New Jersey and have a chance to talk to you about your memories of New Bern. You know this place we are sitting in now as an old store when you grew up and so do I remember it. Now it's a home. But let me just make this remark, Mr. Hollowell has brought with him a typed up story of much of his life in New Bern and I'm going to ask him in a few minutes just to read that so we can get it on tape. But, I'd like, first, Callie, to just ask you some questions about yourself. So, how about telling me your full name, when you were born, who your parents were, your grandparents were, where you lived in New Bern, and something

about where you grew up.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: I was born in 1909, April 13, just a couple of blocks from the Riverside Fire Department which went out of business about 1914. I was named after Callaghan McCarthy, then mayor of New Bern, and my father was an alderman and McCarthy became my godfather.

That's where I got the long name from, and my oldest remembrance was about 1913. My baby sister was born that year and that's why I remember about the fair ground. The fair grounds were very active those days and I saw a dray pulling a strange object and my father told me that it was an air ship and could fly like a bird. And also, I remember the fairs of 1913, 14, and 15 were as usual, but my father took me to one and with William D. McAdoo, son-in-law of President Hoover was going to be the speaker. There were the usual types with side shows, mule racing and so forth and Norfolk-Southern ran a special train to the grounds.

A Mr. Hardy, Hersey Hardy's father, acquired the property we lived in at 189 George and so we moved to the old Attmore house on the corner of Broad and Bern. It was number 132. Across the street from Mr. Waters of automobile fame who was putting up a brick building. The brick came in box cars to a siding on South Front Street and Hancock Street, and all the boys old enough helped load them on wagons to transfer to the building site.

The house was not large, our house, about six rooms on a terrace with a brick wall about two feet high, but in the rear of the building was somewhat like a barn. Inside it had a huge fireplace about six

feet wide and about the same high with an iron bar across the top.

I suppose it was to hold cooking pots and so forth. I imagine it was the cook's house, and the church that acquired that property is still there, and we had to move to Short Street. After the Riverside Fire Department closed we still had two firehouses, the Atlantic and what we called the button. Why I don't know, but the department had a steamer and for pumping water. We had a two man police force.

Chief Lupton and Officer Ipock, also Sheriff Lane and his deputies, but very little crime. Mostly fights which were taken care of by the mayor, Mr. Clark, at that time. He was a judge and took care of all those cases.

And trolleys, their routes were well known so, but included a spur to McCarthy who had a park on Park Avenue, an amusement park, and it was razed about, I reckon about 1914, but the slide was left and I saw that, but it had to be taken down as it was made out of wood and in the open. And the kids tried sliding down it with very dire results. And the car barns on Queen Street near McCarthy's store.

We had two papers. The Sun Journal in the afternoon put out by Owen G. Dunn, and the Morning New Bernian put out by J. B. Dawson.

New Bern had several shopping centers for the farmers although we were never a large farming center. We did have two tobacco warehouses. The Banner on National Avenue at Dunn Street, and the Farmers on Pasteur Street. During the depression, this became a pickle

plant. We had a sewing center on Pasteur Street and a foundry on Craven, but the large thing was transportation, shipping, and lumber mills.

On the waterfront, the largest mill was Roper Lumber Company, rated one of the largest on the east coast. It was located almost across from National Cemetery and covered most of what is now called Sunnyside. It not only rafted logs, but had them brought in by rail.

Their smokestack must have been at least four feet in diameter and had a wire dome covering to catch sparks. It burned sawdust as did the Gaston Hotel. At night it looked like an old Biblical lighthouse.

That was called Griffin Street then and about C Street was the cottonseed oil plant, then came the Aberly Lumber Company and I think it was New City Lumber or Pine Lumber but I do know that it was owned by the Aberly family, because the elder Mr. Aberly was the Sunday school superintendent at the old Presbyterian Church.

Near Crescent Street was the ice house and they served the whole area. It was a large plant and also their whistle was the fire signal and could be heard for miles. Next on East Front Street, we came down to East Front Street, and at New, near King Street was Neuse Lumber Company. They specialized in fancy work. They had lathes and all types of saws. They made moldings, spindles and all types of grillwork.

The superintendent was Mr. Pugh. He was also a minister for various churches around Vanceboro. Then down to the Justice dock at the foot of Short Street, or Linden as it was now called was the Pamlico Cutter.

It was stationed there for years. Then down to the old guano dock and the plant. They received bulk guano and bagged it there. Next

to them was the Yacht Neuse. It was a government yacht used by Mr. Patterson, not a New Bernian, as he was in charge of the waterways.

Next came the gum paneling plant. They made lovely work, it looked like walnut, but they didn't stay in business long. Then a couple of docks. Then the city dumps. If you went right ahead on East Front Street, you would go right into the dumps. They kept their carts and animals there. During the flu epidemics, they gave disinfectant to anyone who wanted it to put around stagnant places.

Over on South Front Street near Eden was the small North-Eastern Lumber Company. Also on this property was what we called the coffin factory, but all they made were the boxes the caskets were placed in for burial.

Almost directly across from the Trent was the Blades Lumber Company, quite a large mill. James City was very small and mostly colored, just a few whites that worked in the mill. Where the new bridge is now was a large fertilizer plant.

The most interesting street in town to me was Broad Street. It was all brick and starting from East Front Street there were lovely old homes. After Middle Street, both sides were business. On the right was first a drugstore on the corner, then moving on, then next to it was a moving outfit with very large wagons and very large horses.

Then Dr. Rhems' office, I think he vaccinated every child before they went to school, was next. Then there was a blacksmith shop. Then Jones Livery Stable with wagons and teams to rent. After Hancock Street there were all lovely homes. The Jones home, Miss Fannie Howerton,

our fourth grade teacher was with them. She was also in charge of the library. She opened it after school hours and also on other days except holidays. At Broad Street and End Jones had a large pecan orchard where Neuse Road began. In the back of the old breast works, built trying to keep Burnside from taking New Bern, we used to find minnie balls there. I gave the last one I had to a retired Marine colonel last year. He's a collector of war uniforms and weapons. No wonder we had so many men wounded with nothing to help them. Those lead bullets were about fifty caliber.

And the entertainment, we had at one time three movie houses, the Athens on Pollock Street, owned by Mr. Kehoe. Then the Star on Broad Street, but it didn't last but a couple of years. They gave their screen to the Scottish Rite Masons. Then we had a Masonic Theater.

Also, the usual circus and carnivals and the Chautauqua which came every year. They put up a tent on the school grounds and featured lectures, operas, and so forth. There was also traveling minstrels, all Dixie Land type music and usual jokes and tap dancing.

Both rivers were very busy, of course, but the Neuse was the main one. The S. J. Phillips, a rear end paddle wheeler, was the largest, then the Ward and several others. Those living near the river, we got so that we could tell the boat by the whistle. The smaller boats, rafting logs, were almost always moving along. The Emerald Isle had so little freeway from the large engine was my favorite. It could carry about a quarter of a mile raft of logs along at four miles an hour.

The McNally Towing Company brought in large ship sized bulk carriers for the lumber. They generally just had a crew of two. No power but hand steering so when in tow they could make the turn. Most of the times there were three or four linked together. They had three by six planking vertical on the bows during the winter months due to the ice up north.

Our big deal was the railroads. The Norfolk & Southern had a large shop and a round house at New Bern, also a coal chute and water tank. They ran from Morehead west to Goldsboro with connections for any place you wanted to go. They also ran daily to Norfolk and Oriental.

The Atlantic Coast Line had a small shop and turn table at the foot of Queen Street, but they ran daily to Wilmington, and there were no such things as busses.

In the hotels, we had the Gaston on South Front Street was the largest and best. It had a wonderful dining room. Locals used to go there for dinner, those who could afford it. Then the James on Middle Street between Pollock and South Front, cheap, mostly salesmen.

The Gem or what we called the Teacherage was just a boarding house for teachers or single women. Also they had a men's section. The Terminal on Hancock Street near the station was in the medium range.

And the hospital, there was only one, the St. Luke's. Dr. Caton had a private one on the corner of Griffin Street and Queen, but he had retired so it was idle. But most of the doctors made house calls those days and there were a lot of mid-wives.

Back to the river. They had buoys off East Front Street as a



narrow channel. The dredges was always working on it and most of the land where the bridge comes across today and where the motel is built is on land from the channel.

We were very patriotic. The Army had Camp Glenn down around Havelock during the first World War, and although we were not in it long, the school kids bought war stamps, and the city changed the name of German Street to Liberty. There was even talk of guarding our water tower on End Street, just a lot of hysteria. But we did have a parade when it was over and all the kids wore red, white, and blue banners on their arm.

Now it's trivia. New Bern tied Greenville for baseball league, the northeastern Carolina league, and the Norfolk and Southern ran a special train over there and we won 2-1. And some of the fellows tied the train whistle down and we had to wait until the fireman could get up steam before we could move. And there was a lot of big heads the next day. Of course, I was small, but it was quite a party.

There were a lot of pranks pulled on the farmers and locals. Putting stink bombs in their cars, especially closed ones. Also, we used to lift the rear tire just enough to clear the ground, and it wouldn't go. We would give it a shove to help the farmer, and would take off and we got thanked.

And the fireman's tournament. When the fireman had the horse drawn wagons and even for a while with the truck, the firemen had competitive events and vied for prizes. When we got our first truck, I remember them practicing on East Front Street at Broad. They would

go as fast as they, go fast and then slow them down so the men could jump off on the fly. They were a team. The first were the wrench and connectors. Then the slack group followed with the nozzle group.

The idea was to see who could get water first. The first would uncouple the hydrant and get their wrench ready to turn on the water while the slack men kept the hose free while the nozzle was on, then called water.

It was all timed and tough competition. Most of the towns in the area competed.

Downtown, Middle Street was the main street, was a mecca for shoppers. From Broad Street down there were stores of all kind. There was a Five and Ten, the Dollar Store, Kafer's Bakery, and gift shops.

Anything you wanted. Jack Baxter's Jewelry Store, Copeland's Department Store, Suskins Men's Clothes, Hyman's, Lipmans Clothing Store, and Cutlers Hardware Store. Basnight had a large hardware store on the corner of Middle and Pollock, and Guy Gaskins had a sport store, bicycles or sporting goods, and that was just to name a few.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Well, Callie, that's fine. That's a hard job to read all that. Are you, do you need a break?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: No. I'm not tired. I'm all right.

DR. PATTERSON: Fine. All right. Well, let me just talk to you about some of these things. Now you lived on Short Street for quite a while. Is that right?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: I lived on Short Street from, early 1918 on up until 1923, and then I moved out to Riverside and then I was sixteen and I went to my sister.

DR. PATTERSON: And where was your sister?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: In Newark, New Jersey.

DR. PATTERSON: And you left New Bern then in, what year?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: It would be about 1926.

DR. PATTERSON: And the only times you've been coming back to New Bern then are just on visits. You've been away.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Just on visits.

DR. PATTERSON: And after you left up in New Jersey, I know you had an interesting career and did many things. What were some of these things that you did.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, I signed up for an apprenticeship and learned decorating, theater and church work. Painting gold leaves, drawing, mixing color and so forth, and also I went to night school two nights a week for regular education, and, but you had to sign up for three years. You couldn't quit and you couldn't resign. The only thing was, if you caught, you caught doing something wrong, and you had to look that agreement. After that I came out and the depression came along and I opened up my own business. And I got married and, of course, things were rough. So the only work that I could find around, I went to sea for a couple of times, and then I came back and my business started to improve and then the war came along. So rather than be drafted into a lot older group of men, naturally, the younger ones was already in. I, first I went down to Raleigh and worked for Askew who was building Fort Bragg, and down there I decided, well, I didn't like that. I wasn't making much money. So I went over to Norfolk

and took a ship out and started carrying coal up to the destroyers, and they learned me. So I was on that when the war broke out, and I left that and went down to Baltimore and shipped out. I shipped out on a, well, there was a lot of ships, but the one I went out with was the Furnifold Simmons. It was such an odd coincidence and that's where we went. The middle east Mediterranean area and to Salerno and up to Anzio beach head. Then we came back to Italy. Stayed there for the forty fifth divisions went to recuperate. They was in the hospital. They were a recuperating group and the doctors and nurses and all, we carried them over to Italy and set up their base camp, and we were attached to that division.

And then, after we got from over there, at Anzio, then they sent us back to the states and we took a load of convoy over to England and then went up at the Antwerp, Belgium. And that was at the time of the Battle of the Bulge, I was at Antwerp. And, of course, then we came back to England and we run shuttle up to keep the Army supplied.

So then when we got back, we were needed on the west coast. So I signed on the Virginia and went on the west coast, carrying gasoline and I got over in San Diego and they called me to go on the old Caracka, that was an all mail boat. Then we carried medium sized old tanks and cordite and TNT. We stopped at Wake Island and weren't nothing wrong with the crew we took, but room, you know, I mean, in case the Japanese came and started anything there.

And then I came back to the United States and I came across to see my family. I couldn't get a train. I had to take a bus, but I

bussed across the United States and then I shipped to Baltimore and I shipped out of there on a couple of different ships, Grace ships, mostly going down to South America and the war ended then.

DR. PATTERSON: Then you came back to New Jersey?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: New Jersey, yeah.

DR. PATTERSON: What did you do after that?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: I came back to New Jersey and I looked around and took a couple of jobs and then I decided to open up my business again. So I went in business with another fellow and we opened up the Milburn Decorators. And so we progressed pretty good and finally going out to where we had several men and then we got a contract to paint all the schools and so we went much larger and most of my work was exclusive. I worked through Short Hills up with a Chatham outfit, but my work was not the bidding type. I just came in, did the work, and sent the bill in. Most of the people were very wealthy so we had a lot of people going up to Long Island, up to Hamptons, or where ever they were.

DR. PATTERSON: Was this painting or?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Decorating, the whole thing.

DR. PATTERSON: Decorating the whole house.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah, we would, they'd come and give us a key and tell us what they wanted done and we'd pick out the drapes and so forth and we had our own draperies that would take care of draperies. We'd take care of the painting and so forth. And when they come back in the fall, the house was right back in order just the way they left

it. So we'd give them the key and give them the bill.

DR. PATTERSON: Now you did this for some time?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah.

DR. PATTERSON: Was that the kind of business you were in when you retired?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah, that was it.

DR. PATTERSON: When did you stop work?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: When I was 66.

DR. PATTERSON: And you've been retired then up in New Jersey for some years.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, I got tired of hanging around and my wife was quite active and I was an active Mason, but it wasn't enough to keep me busy so I took a job with a friend of mine who was also an active Mason and he was a metal plater; gold silver, chrome, etc..

And I took a job in the office running errands like going to the bank and such stuff as that. Just part time work, whatever working hours I wanted to, but it kept me out of mischief. It kept me going.

DR. PATTERSON: Let's get you back to New Bern when you were growing up, when you were a young boy living on Short Street. Who, tell me the names of your brothers and sisters who lived with you on Short Street.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, my oldest brother, Edgar, he was Edgar, Jr., and then my sister. Her name was Isabell, and then myself, then my small brother. His name was Leroy Mitchell. He was named after my mother's part of the family, and so I nick-named him Midge, and

everybody know him as Midge Hollowell. And then after my mother died, and my father got married again, and I had another brother, Ernest, but these nieces are his children. Of course, we had the same father. I also have two nieces (Edgar's girls).

DR. PATTERSON: Now Ernest is much younger than Mitchell then.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Oh yes. Ernest was born in 1921.

DR. PATTERSON: Mitchell told me, when I was growing up, that if I ever picked up a toad frog in my hand, I'd get warts and I've never touched a toad frog since then. I remember Short Street very well. I wish you'd tell me who your neighbors were in those days on Short Street.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, the Hurts lived in one house.

DR. PATTERSON: Now who were they? Red Hurt?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Red Hurt and Peggy Hurt and Margaret, and the father's name was Fred Hurt and he was a plumber.

DR. PATTERSON: And Billy.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: And Billy. Billy was the baby, and Fred Hurt was the father and I don't know what the mother's first name. We just always called her Mrs. Hurt.

DR. PATTERSON: Now that's h,u,r, double t?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: No, h,u,r,t you spell it, because there was a family with h,u,r, double t, but they actually spelled theirs with h,u,r,t. Right, number four was a family name of Maddox. I don't know what he did, but he had a brother too, but he was older than we were, Percy Maddox, and he finally went in the Coast Guard. And then

came the Hurt's. Then we lived there, and right next door to that, Mr. Nunn had a house that the cook for Mrs. Foote, she lived there.

DR. PATTERSON: That's f, double o, t, e?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yes, f, double o, t, e. That's right. And then after that, there was a house where Bailey's lived. He lost his job down in Jailers so he come to come on Short Street. He had a son named William, and I don't know if he had any others or not, but Mr. Bailey, he committed suicide there on the back porch at that time. And is this on record?

DR. PATTERSON: Yes.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: He and his wife had an argument and so we didn't know what, nobody know anything about this, but he went on the back porch and put a shotgun in his mouth and pulled the trigger. And next to them was the Pugh's and Mr. Pugh was the one that was superintendent of the lumber company and he had a daughter named Evelyn and Pagie, p,a,g,i,e, Pagie Pugh and Evelyn got married about that time and that was the time that I moved away. But he also had the two boys. I'm trying to think of their, I can't remember their names now. He had two boys around our age group, but I can't remember their names.

DR. PATTERSON: Now as you grew older, you became a delivery boy for Western Union.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: That's right.

DR. PATTERSON: How long did you do that?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Oh, about two years.

DR. PATTERSON: Now that job taught you a lot about New Bern and



the various neighborhoods in New Bern.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Every one. Yes.

DR. PATTERSON: You have written me some very fine letters about your memories of New Bern and I'm going to refer to them as we go along and ask you to speak to some of the things that you've mentioned to me. Perhaps you could start by telling me about the neighborhood around Short Street. Who lived in that area, what you remember about East Front Street, and the general area.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, along from New Street, turn down to Short, the Cutlers lived on Craven Street. David Cutler and Donald Cutler and the group of Cutlers, they lived there. They were in our group. And come on down the street, well, to the left was the Patterson's. They lived on the right hand side going towards the church. Then come on down and come to Short Street and, of course, I told you, it was on nine, but going on down New Street you would come to the Foote's home and she ran a boarding house and also fellows would come down there to hunt and they'd stay with her.

DR. PATTERSON: Which house was that?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: The first one going down, and right next door to them was Dr., was Mr. Nunn, and the next one was the Patterson home. Then came Bishop.

DR. PATTERSON: You are on the corner?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: On the corner.

DR. PATTERSON: Facing the river?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Right. And right across the street from them

was Senator Simmons home, on East Front Street. Right next to Senator Simmons was a family by the name of Bryan, Mary Bryan. I don't think they were native New Berners, New Bernians, because she was a school teacher and she had taught Mrs. Pugh in Raleigh, but Mary Bryan was a New Bernian. She went to school. She was in my class. And then lets go on down it's a, I forget the name of the woman, but Dr. Rhem arranged to get that house on the corner for the Shriners. Heading on down to Captain Green's home, and on the corner was a family named Dunn. And then right around the corner from them was Montague.

DR. PATTERSON: This is on East Front Street?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: No, that's on Pollock, that would be on

DR. PATTERSON: Broad Street

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Broad Street. And going to the left, going off of Short Street, after you passed Larry Moore's there was a family of Hollisters. And where am I going? I'm getting ahead of myself. That's Harry Bishop's house. Then there was a family by the name of Dunn..on the corner. Then, Dr. Jones.

DR. PATTERSON: Jones lived there.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Oh, R. D. V. Jones lived there, and the Dunn family, and then come the Larry Moore's home, and next to him was the Hollister home. And Wooten Moulton lived on the corner across from them. And then across the street was Justice and there was another well known woman's house that street where Washington visited down at that end down there. I forget her name now. And went on down there where the Jarvis home was. It was on the corner there of Johnson Street

and East Front. The Jarvis home and there was another, my father worked for them. I can't remember their names.

DR. PATTERSON: Well, looking at your letters, you mentioned the fact that when you grew up there was no airport in New Bern. Was there any air traffic coming in?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: No. One time a sea plane came up. First time I'd ever seen anything in the air, but that was before I moved to Short Street, and I heard them talking about it and the sea plane was flying around and it ran in the Neuse River. And the fellow came up to, it would be right where the bridge is coming across now, but he didn't realize it was shallow water. That's where they used to have the baptisms, and he hit a rock and put a hole in it, in the bottom of that sea plane. And they called them hydro-planes then, and so they had to get that repaired before they could leave. That was my first experience with an air plane.

DR. PATTERSON: It might have been Sam Ferebee in the Navy.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: I don't know.

DR. PATTERSON: What was the river shore like along East Front Street when you were there.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: As you described it. When it was a high tide, it was beautiful, but when it was low tide, all kinds of debris flying, debris flying around there and so forth. And, of course, the dredges were always working to keep that channel open. We had a very small channel there and we had some pretty big boats come through there.

Those barges were like sea going vessels and I don't know how many,

I would say there were a good, maybe, 75 yards long. They were big ships and there was, one of them was the Keystone. I remember that, and as I say they'd go out with those towings and McNally tug and they'd be loaded with lumber. And that was one of the main things. Another thing that I didn't mention, in fact, that the Old Dominion Line at the foot of Craven Street and J. R. Ball was a cotton loader. And he had a lot there where he stored his cotton and sometimes it would be maybe 25 to 50 bales of cotton there waiting for the Old Dominion Line to take them up north. That was the Old Dominion Line run.

DR. PATTERSON: The river shore in those days, there was no walk way there at all.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: No, no walkway at all.

DR. PATTERSON: You remember it as a pretty place? You recall the sewer pipe going out

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Very well. Very well.

DR. PATTERSON: That's at the foot of New Street, going right straight out.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yep, that's right.

DR. PATTERSON: Did you do any swimming down there?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: I sure did. I learned to swim up the old guano's dock.

DR. PATTERSON: Now where was that?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: The old guano dock was, that'd be between Broad Street and Pollock Street, but on the river side. It was over on by the river. There was only two or three houses there, because that

land was all, filled with sand, and but the guano dock was there and right next to them was a dock, a dock that had the Neuse. It was a beautiful yacht, but Mr. Patterson was in charge of all in-land waterways and so forth like that, and he had a yacht. And, of course, next to them was a gum paneling works. And they used to come there, logs, and gum, that won't float and they had little flat boats and they'd fasten these logs on the side and bring them in, and then they'd just gum paneling. They had some that was there for one or two or three years.

DR. PATTERSON: And that's where you learned to swim in that area.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yep. That's right.

DR. PATTERSON: You mentioned the baptisms. What do you remember about the baptisms.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: You almost give a description that was perfect in your book. I even remember them coming down there. They had the white gowns on.

DR. PATTERSON: The black people.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah. They'd come down there and, but they would get down nearer, nearer to the Broad Street, down there, and we had a dock that went out. It was one of the family there, put it out there. It was just a small dock to put rowboats and such as that.

And some member of this, Captain Green, some of his relatives, had a boat they called "Me Too". And it was a small yacht and they used to keep that out there and when they were going out, they'd use that dock to load the people on, but that was all on land. It was filled

by dredges. They all filled that.

DR. PATTERSON: You remember the black people being baptized in the water right at that corner.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Oh yes. They'd come there and the strangest thing about 'em, they would go out there with that rough bottom, and it's a wonder they didn't cut their feet, and they always had white robes on. And the minute they come up, submerged, they used to come up shouting.

DR. PATTERSON: You were a member of the Presbyterian Church.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Right.

DR. PATTERSON: First Presbyterian Church. You were baptized there. What do you recall about the Presbyterian Church when you were in New Bern?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, I can have you a quite interesting story on that. Miss Bessie Hollister was my kindergarten teacher and Charles Hollister, Jr., C. E. Hollister, Jr., was my teacher as I grew older and Mrs. Hollister was my sister's teacher. But I was baptized in that church in 1909 and my kid brother, Mitchell, he was baptized there, I think it was 1911, and then my older sister, she was baptized there in 1905. All the children was baptized in that church and they used to, Presbyterian Church was noted for its picnics. And one picnic they run, everybody went to it. I don't know, it wasn't all Presbyterians, because we went to Morehead City and we went through Camp Glenn. And Camp Glenn was down there near Havelock. That was the war days, just before the war, and all the soldiers passing by

and the women was passing out candy and sandwiches to soldiers, and we got down to Morehead City and as small craft, you couldn't get over to the beach. A small craft would take you over to the banks where you could swim, and they would get stuck and the fellows get out and push them off the sand bar. The sand was always shifting and we went down there, had a lovely picnic and come back. That was owned by the Norfolk & Southern Railroad. That one I recall real well, because the fiddler crabs, I was scared to death of them. My sister had to keep me out of the way of fiddler crabs. I was very small.

And later on, we went by steamer from a dock right there next to the Neuse and that dock also had boats, it was before my time, but I went up to Glenburnie. Glenburnie had a beautiful dance pavilion and up until about 1912 they used to hold dances up there. My father was telling me all about it and it was still in good condition. We kids used to go up there. It was on a hill and cluster of beautiful long leaf pine. The most beautiful place you want to see, and they had their own docks. And the boats would bring the couples up there and they'd dance. Well, that same dock was the one that the Presbyterian Church, we went out on this picnic on the Slocum Creek. And we had another full crowd so they got another small boat to go with us. We went down to Slocum Creek and we had a nice time going. Mr. Aberly was, and all that, and Mr. Bishop and all the church people was making sure that everybody was taken care of. We couldn't go swimming for one hour after we eat and all of us was eating very heavy and drinking lemonade out of tin wash tubs they'd made lemonade in, and we were

just having a glorious time and on our way back, a storm came up. A northeastern, coming down the river and it hit us and the captain was afraid to turn the boat around, afraid he'd swamp it. So he signaled to the other smaller boat to come along side and lashed them together.

And the two of them returned. And we rode that storm out. It was only about 20 minutes, 25 minutes, but after that was over, of course, they were turned loose and came on up. When we came back to that dock, I think about a third of New Bern was out there waiting for us. They was all worried to death about us, and, because had no communication or anything and they knew that the picnic was coming back.

DR. PATTERSON: Now who was the Minister of the Presbyterian Church.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Dr. Summerell.

DR. PATTERSON: And you used to go listen to him quite a bit.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yes, and he could put me to sleep as I said during the letter in ten minutes quicker than you could with your anesthesia.

DR. PATTERSON: And who sat behind you?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: We used to sit right in front of the Bishops 'cause we sat near the people we knew. We had one place we used to sit.

DR. PATTERSON: And you mentioned that he would wake you up, every...

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah.

DR. PATTERSON: You mentioned in your letter that when you were



a little boy, your father took you out to hear William McAdoo speak.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: That's right. We did get McAdoo; he was the son-in-law of President Wilson and he was down there speaking and it was most likely a political speech, but my father being interested in politics he was very anxious to hear it. So he took me tagging along, and gave me a whole quarter to spend any way I wanted to. And I wondered around the carnival ground, the fair grounds in the carnival section, having a grand old time all by myself. I wasn't at all interested in McAdoo.

DR. PATTERSON: Now where was this.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: At the fair grounds.

DR. PATTERSON: And that was at Glenburnie?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah. No, it was this side of Glenburnie. It was on the same road, but the fair grounds took that whole section from White Oaks Road all the way up to, almost into Glenburnie Park. That was all the fair ground. It was a good sized fair ground. And Roper Mill they had a, well, Norfolk & Southern had a spur line that went on, just before it went across the river, it turned to the left and went over and carried logs in the Roper Lumber Company and they, the Norfolk & Southern carried on through, over Jack Smith's Creek, through Woodrow, right into the fair grounds.

DR. PATTERSON: Tell me about the Ferebee family.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: The what?

DR. PATTERSON: The Ferebee's.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Oh, yeah. Well, about the only thing I can

say is that it was a large family and they were all inclined to be outsiders. All of them liked to play outside and they belonged to the Christian Science Church. And they, one of them, I don't know whether her, it was an aunt of, the sister of the Mr. Ferebee or not.

She was a piano teacher and she lived in the first house on George Street and she taught the piano, and Sara Lee Cutler was taking lessons and I used to stand there and listen to them practice, and she was a very good musician. Miss Ferebee, and so it must have been Mr. Ferebee's sister. But they originally came from down around Stonewall, and, but I knew them all as New Bernian. And it was Billy and Edward and Ham, and Francis, and the older fellow, I don't know what his name was.

DR. PATTERSON: Sam and Emmett

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Emmett, yeah.

DR. PATTERSON: Emmett was a great football player. Well, now you, you played a lot of athletics with the Ferebee's and with the Cutler boys. Who all would you play games with.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, we played against Ghent. We played against Riverside. Those were our two arch enemies. In those days, we considered New Bern, and Dunn Street, and End Street. That was New Bern. Outside of that, they was outsiders. All went to the same school and all. They were outsiders, and so the only one I can remember well that, well, there was a couple on it, was Nickie Moon. He was catcher for the Ghent School, and I remember that, a fellow by the name of Percy Hardy, his father built the store. He played football

for the Riverside. I remember playing against him in football and he was one of my classmates. But we used to have a, we'd have our games and sometimes it was a high scoring game and sometimes it would wind up in a brawl, but we enjoyed it. We had very good games.

DR. PATTERSON: Now, Callie, when the New Bern fire took place in 1922, you were 13 years old, and you have written me in considerable detail about your memories of that fire. Would you tell me about it again?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, as I said in it before, the fire alarm was at the ice house, and being kids we memorized all those numbers.

It was in a little phone book. We had a phone book just very small and it had about maybe fifteen numbers in there and we knew them all.

And that alarm came in from Main Street and West. And we didn't realize it was any amount to thing, but there was a pretty strong breeze and blowing almost for due east, right straight towards the river. If it had been a little bit more south, it would have went toward downtown New Bern, but it was coming from due east. And so, of course, we heard it was a big fire and we went up to see it, and it's hard to describe.

It was a conflagration. It was just one thing, and New Bern didn't stand a chance of stopping it. No trucks could stop it. It was, the wind was too strong. So, they sent out calls to Kinston, Greenville, and Washington. All of 'em sent trucks. One of them came by train.

I can't remember which one it was, but I think it was Kinston.

DR. PATTERSON: Washington.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Washington? I know that one of them came by

train. And they tried to figure, Queen Street. They tried to block Queen Street right down to keep it from coming to this side and they figured the cemetery would stop it, but it didn't. The cemetery, the flames was, oh I would say, fire balls as big as a small house, jumping those trees, singeing the tops of those trees, and it wasn't, in the houses along those two streets. The Howard Street is it? We used to call it Tin Can Alley. Where, it jumped over that and landed on Pasteur

Street. Well, due to the tin roof, the people were out there with water dashing the front of the, the stuff burning and that church, the Episcopal Church on Queen Street, it got damaged some, because they used the Presbyterian Church until they could get their repairs done. They used the Sunday School part.

DR. PATTERSON: You remember the tent city?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yes, I remember the tent city.

DR. PATTERSON: What was it like?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, it took them awhile to get it going, but it was just like an army camp. The only thing it was, it was built, it was dirty as could be due to the charred ground and everything around it, but they were living the best they could. And the Salvation Army and Red Cross was doing all they could, but keeping them from getting hungry and so forth. But it was really, it was really a mess.

DR. PATTERSON: Do you have any memories, Callie, of any special people in New Bern who meant a lot to you, or made a great impression on you.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yes. One of 'em, Senator Furnifold Simmons. He made a big impression on me and Professor Noble who was principal of our school. He made quite a deep impression on me. And Charles Hollister, my Sunday school teacher. We corresponded even after I left here. And then, of course, there was Roy Fagan, Sr., he was very close to me. And, I could go to them for advice and so forth.

DR. PATTERSON: You remember the trolleys, of course.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Oh yes.

DR. PATTERSON: What are your memories about the trolley system in New Bern.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, the trolley system in New Bern, it came from out, that was put up, McCarthy was head of that, and it started out in Ghent and the car barns was on Queen Street. And they put the large car in there, but they also had that same spur went out to McCarthy Park, and to McCarthy Park when I was a boy it had been done away with except for the slide, and that was still standing. And so the kids was trying to play on it and some of them, a couple of them got hurt, so they tore that down.

But the trolleys came down from Ghent, right straight down Pollock Street to Metcalf. And Metcalf Street to Pollock there was a "y" and, depending on which way they was running, whether it could turn left on Metcalf Street to New, and left on New down to Burn Streets, was b,u,r,n, Burn Street and that was Frog Pond. And Jimmy Harrison had a great big grocery store there and that frog pond was where the minstrels used to put on a free show contrary. We used to go down

Frog Pond and hear this minstrel show play. And then it would make a right on Burn, and go all the way to the end, and end right up where National Avenue began. Then they would turn around and come back.

When they got to Metcalf Street and Pollock, they can make a left hand turn at the "y", go down Pollock Street to Middle, right on Middle...

DR. PATTERSON: Ok, Callie, you were talking about the trolley cars. You had gotten them down to...

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: And make a left on Queen Street, right along side the Atlantic Coast Line tracks and stop in front of Bynum's Drugstore. That was known as Bynum's then, and Mr. Bynum lived there.

It was a little, he had a house and a little porch there, and when the Bynum's turned over to Phoenix, it was changed around, and it wasn't long after that they built the Terminal Hotel, just about that same time. And then they make their return trip either way, going back and forth. And then run three or four rounds, depending on what the, however many times they needed.

DR. PATTERSON: Callie, were the streets of New Bern paved in those days.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: There were a few paved streets. Broad Street was all brick from East Front Street to Five Points. I can't remember whether, that was paved with brick. Johnson Street was paved with bricks, but most of the streets either had tar or oyster shells. Short Street was oyster shells. And some of those streets later on they put the asphalt on top of the oyster shells, but most of them was oyster

shell streets when, as I say, bricks on Johnson Street and on Broad Street.

DR. PATTERSON: What was New Street, was that paved?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: No, that was oyster shells street and then later on they put that tar on it and.

DR. PATTERSON: And East Front Street was also oyster shells, was it, East Front.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: East Front, no that was tar.

DR. PATTERSON: That was tar. What do you remember about this building that we're sitting in right now which was the Taylor-Bell Store and before that it was the Salter Store?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah. Well, when we moved here, Salter sold it to Taylor and Bell, and so the two of them, I don't know which was the owner, but one of them lived above the store. And on the outside of the building was steps leading to the upper floor where the living quarters was and the store was underneath. And so, all the neighborhood kids used to come here. This was the nearest store and we used to stop in, particularly if we were going over to Bridgeton over to Wyatt's Beach. That was the only public, of course, we could, as boys, we'd just go down to the end of the dock and dive in, but when there's families, you'd go over to Wyatt's Beach. So we always stop in to this store to pick up candies. The most we could get for a penny, and stop in here and get candy, and walk across the Bridgeton Bridge and go over to the beach.

DR. PATTERSON: What was the store like?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Like a small country store. It carried the staples, main staples for the average people, and candies, penny candies, things like that. Canned goods. It was just like a small country store.

DR. PATTERSON: Where was the post office then?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: The post office was where is now the town hall. That was on the corner of Pollock Street and Craven.

DR. PATTERSON: What other buildings were in that area that are gone now.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, the town hall was on Craven Street between Pollock Street and South Front. And the Button Fire Department was in that building. The register, the town register and the mayor's office and all the city, out at the town hall, and town hall moved up to the, to what was, what we knew as a post office, the new post office building.

DR. PATTERSON: Now where, on the corner of Pollock Street and Craven Street where the city hall is located, you remember Jane Stewart's house.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Oh very well. I knew Jane Stewart.

DR. PATTERSON: Tell me about Jane and tell me about her house.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, it was a beautiful house. It was...

DR. PATTERSON: Right across from the city hall.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Uh?

DR. PATTERSON: Right across from the city hall.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, it was right across from the post office.



It was a beautiful house. It was old fashioned and she was a decorator. She did the interior decorating. And of course, I just knowed, she was older than I was, and so she was quite active at that time and I know I came down here and she found out that I could handle silks and tapestries, and she wanted me to stay down here and work for her. She offered me the same salary I would make up there, but of course, I got married then, so I couldn't come down here. But I remembered her well.

DR. PATTERSON: And that house is now gone and there is a parking lot there.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: That's right.

DR. PATTERSON: In those days, Callie, when you lived in New Bern and grew up, what were the major industries in town.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, the main, major industries, as I say, was lumber. That was a big, big deal, and there was the farmers bringing in their

DR. PATTERSON: Produce

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah, produce and so forth. All the produce used to come from down around Stonewall and certain seasons down to corner of Hancock Street and South Front there was a spur that run around, around that and the farmers would bring their produce in there and it was loaded on ice cars. In those days, they didn't have the type cars that, they had, these cars were filled with ice at the end and that refrigerated cars. But any produce they could, like would be bean season, or pea season, or anything like that, the farmers would

bring in it there and load it on to these refrigerated cars for going north. And so, truck farming also came out of the Maysville section.

Maysville and Stonewall into that section there, all the produce they could, they brought it to the farmer's market there for shipment, because that's where the shipping center was.

DR. PATTERSON: Was New Bern a very big tobacco town then?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Naw, it wasn't. We had a fair tobacco town, but we had more shipping and cotton. Cotton and tobacco were, we had quite a bit but not compared to some of the other towns. We were more transportation. It was a center for the farmers to ship their stuff.

DR. PATTERSON: You mentioned the Old Dominion Lines coming in on South Front Street, were there lot of other ships that docked up at the piers and...

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: It was, quite a few of the, well, the fish boats was always coming in, and Barbour's Boat Works came in there.

It was only boat builders down there. And occasionally some of the big yachts would come in, to go up on the weighs and get cleaned. He was the only one that had weighs that were big enough to take those yachts. And one of them was the Arrow was suppose to be one of the best yachts around. It's funny how I remember that name, but the Arrow, it was a real sea going yacht. I'd say it must have been at least, maybe a 200 footer. It was a big yacht.

DR. PATTERSON: You mentioned how busy the railroads used to be here. Could you talk a little bit more about that.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: The Atlantic Coast Line, where I said, they

run to Wilmington. In the summer time it was quite busy because people could use that to go down to Wrightsville Beach, but they also carried freight. And the Norfolk & Southern was bringing freight here. It was going down that way, and they would make stops all along like, what ever town was along the line from here to Wilmington. They would take us, so they had freight service as well as passenger service.

And they had that train going in the morning, come back in the evening.

And the freight, you didn't know when they was going because it depended on what car, because they didn't have any, well, they had a small shop which just had a turn table so the engine could turn around.

And Sam Dill had a plant down there. I don't know what he did. Sam Dill, Sr. and it was on the right hand side to the Norfolk, the Atlantic Coast Line would send their cars down there and then they make, make a turn table, the engine would get in front again to pull 'em out.

And the other line, the Norfolk & Southern, of course they run from Morehead City to Goldsboro and then you would make connects to the, with any of the trains you wanted to going north or going south.

And the same way on the, they had a train going daily to Norfolk.

And of course, they hadn't come back in a day and one to Oriental coming and going back.

If you rode that train going to Oriental, you'd get sea sick, because it rode along side of the swamp and the train was slow. The train would make five or six miles an hour going to that train it'd take you maybe an hour to get along that one stretch along by Stonewall,

because it was right through the swamp, along sides the roads. And the road was just single tar roads.

DR. PATTERSON: Well, the depot was a busy place.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Very busy. Everybody went down to the depot. That was a big place. Matter of fact, that was the heart of the community.

DR. PATTERSON: Did Pullman cars come in?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Oh yes. We had Pullman cars came in.

DR. PATTERSON: Taking people to Norfolk or Washington

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: You see, well, it depended on a lot of people that from, they'd come down to Morehead City there was a lot of beach down there, but most of them would be to Wrightsville Beach. Well, they could get a train if they had Atlantic Coast Line and a Pullman pulling out, but the Pullman travelers, they didn't have one Pullman on the cars. Sometimes it would be two, but mostly just one.

DR. PATTERSON: What were the roads like going to Morehead from New Bern?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, it was a, it's hard to explain, like a one lane highway. If you come to somebody, you had to give them part of the road.

DR. PATTERSON: Was it dirt or was it paved?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Paved, with tar. And very slippery on each side and most of the roads was hog back roads, we used to call them. They'd pull over and grade the sides of the road and if you got out of the tracks, you could slide in the mud. And they had chain gangs

in those days, used to keep up the roads.

DR. PATTERSON: Did many people drive to Morehead or did they take the train?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: They'd take the train, know they could, because there were very few cars. In New Bern, I remember it was only about four or five people who had cars. I remember when Lawyer Nunn got his car. He got one of the first ones. Mr. Parker, he had a car garage right up on Broad Street, right next to, that's where the bus station later came on, where the bus station is right next to where we live, next to where the church is today. And that was a bus station, but before it became a bus station, Mr. Parker had a car there, lot there, used to sell cars. I know my father, first car he owned, was a 1916 Studebaker, but if you want to make. We would leave our house at four o'clock in the morning. If you wanted to make it out to Kenansville before dark, because there were so many detours and dirt and you come to where the creek ran across it. Didn't have no bridge, you had to ford the creek. And a lot of those farmers made extra money. They'd be out there with a mule and a tow chain if you got stuck in there, you could, they would pull you out. And unless you had a pretty good set of tires, you could figure a flat tire about every ten or twelve miles.

DR. PATTERSON: Were a lot of people still traveling by horse and buggy?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Horse and buggy, yeah.

DR. PATTERSON: Were there any horse and buggies in your

neighborhood?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Oh yes. Yeah. There was a, I don't remember his name, but it was the only colored doctor that I knew in town. He lived on Bern Street between Broad and New Street. He had a beautiful horse and buggy. A beautiful mare. I think one of the prettiest around.

But they all had horses and you'd go down to Jones Livery Stable and rent a horse with a buggy. You could rent a dray. Rent anything you wanted. He had it right there, and next door was a blacksmith's shop if you had your own dray.

DR. PATTERSON: Were there any ferries going across the river then?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: No. We didn't have ferries.

DR. PATTERSON: One of the stories about this place is that people used to come in by boat and dock back there on the piers and leave their boats there and rent a horse and buggy from the store. Do their shopping in New Bern and then load up and go back again. That was before our time.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: That was before our time. I do know that there was a Street's Ferry in those days. And I know there was a ferry up further there. I don't guess where it was because it might have been Street Ferry as far as I know. I know you take the old Washington Post Road and go straight down until you hit the river and you'll cross a ferry there.

DR. PATTERSON: You mentioned to me that you remember the black ladies coming down the street selling vegetables and fish, what do

you remember about that?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, they come down, they had their own garden, and they'd come out, have butter beans, string beans, and they'd have hominy, they made their own hominy, fresh hominy, and then the men would come around with a little push wagon, fresh fish. They had a little push cart with like a platform on it with ice. They'd have fresh fish. You go out and buy the fish from them. And, but whatever was in season, those colored women would come around and sell. Sometimes it would be tomatoes, but most of the time it was string beans, butter beans, garden peas, fresh garden peas. Those were the main things.

DR. PATTERSON: And the ice wagons would come by too.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Oh yes. Ice wagons, as you explained in your book, we used to hop on the ice wagon and get the chippings and, boy that was a treat to eat the ice. And of course, everybody had a ice box and they had a water pail underneath. You had to empty that thing every morning. That was my job and if I forgot it and the water run on the floor, I had troubles.

DR. PATTERSON: Now these wagons were pulled by horses. This was a horse drawn ice wagon and the ladies of the houses would put signs in the window telling how many pounds of ice they wanted and the ice man would deliver it, and meanwhile you were on the back of the ice wagon getting ice. Did you do any sailing?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: No.

DR. PATTERSON: You didn't, you didn't get out on the river a

whole lot.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Oh yes, I was on it, but not sailing. I had my own row boat. I had a 14 Juniper skip. I used to keep it at the foot of Short Street. There was a beach there as you recall. I used to keep it there and so I'd always go fishing. My father had knitted a fish net. We had a 65' shad net. We used to go out and put that out and I'd go fishing. And when it wasn't shad season, then we'd use the boat for just going out fishing. We'd take the boat. A lot of times I'd go all the way up as far as up around the Glenburnie turn around and take the Trent. Go all the way up the Trent on a holiday.

DR. PATTERSON: Rowing.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Rowing, yeah.

DR. PATTERSON: Callie, before the new bridge was put at the foot of East Front Street, what was there. What was it where the bridge is now. What was it like that area.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: That was, there, an old house, deserted. Across the street was Captain Green's house, but on this side, it was on that old house's left. The rest was filled in by sand from the dredge. It filled it in. One of the houses there before my time, I don't know, but there was nothing there until you come down almost to where Mr. Taylor and J. B. Dawson lived. The rest of that was all filled in, the dredge that sent that sand up there. And another thing I want to mention, that dredge also threw sand out into the river the other way and a lot of places along there it's still very shallow. There's places in the Neuse River over there that you can step out



and walk, or was at that time

DR. PATTERSON: Do you remember the river freezing over?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Oh yes, yeah.

DR. PATTERSON: Did you actually walk out on it.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: I walked on it a very short distance, but one of the fellows took a car and drove on it, but I wasn't here at that time. That was later on. But I remember it freezing over and I just walked out on it and not very far.

DR. PATTERSON: Callie, when World War I came along, you were old enough to know what was happening.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yes.

DR. PATTERSON: What was New Bern like during that time? What, how did the war affect New Bern?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, everybody was quite upset and it was a very patriotic town and of course, they had a drive on, we had a lot of boys from New Bern go to war and as matter of fact, my cousin went and he was a corporal in the Army and he, but he was, he was down in Anniston, Alabama for training. He didn't do that at Camp Glenn. I don't know where these boys came from.

But, they had stamps to sell in school, war stamps, and you could buy them. Twenty five cents, four stamps and had a book. Keep them in there and you could turn them in anytime you wanted to. Of course, people with money could buy bonds and so forth. And everything was help the doughboys, you know, and very patriotic. And of course, in those days we observed Memorial Day on May 10. That was Confederate

Day. We always kept that and that day all the children marched in a parade, and after the war, we did the same thing. Every kid in school had a red, white, and blue ribbon tied around their arm and we left the school ground over to Johnson Street, and Middle, all the way to Pollock. Up Pollock to Hancock and back to the school grounds. And after the war, everybody was out raising noise and having a big time and we kids all had to parade with those ribbons.

And they, it was a lot of activity around and, matter of fact, as I say, they changed the name of German Street to Liberty Street and people were afraid that somebody would get in and poison our water, the water tower, and they were just hysterical so it was all a lot of, nobody could have got up there, but they, they were down in it.

There were a few spoke German, there was a German, just no good. It was a very patriotic group.

DR. PATTERSON: I understand there was a German prisoner of war camp here. Do you recall anything about that?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: I heard it was, but I didn't, I couldn't say for sure.

DR. PATTERSON: I guess I'm thinking about World War II, Callie. That's, you weren't here and I wasn't here. Let me ask you about the old Glenburnie Casino. What do you remember about that?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, I'll tell you, you go up Oak Road and you went up to Glenburnie Avenue then, it went right straight up there to the fair grounds and the fair grounds was fenced in. You'd get up there and then you'd come to this winding road, it went up like

a hill, maybe a 50' hill, about a quarter of a mile. Maybe a little less. Maybe an 1/8 of a mile, and it was all beautiful pines up there, but that section there, those pines must have been about 75' high, long leaf pine. And this casino was built in a circular form and it had a roof and it had a railing and had a dance floor in the center, and had a bandstand there for the band.

DR. PATTERSON: And basketball was played out there too, you don't remember that?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: There was no basketball.

DR. PATTERSON: So it was mostly a place for dances.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Especially for dancing, yeah.

DR. PATTERSON: Where else would people dance?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, there was a place on, that would be, go back, Middle Street, there was a, no, wait a minute, I'm lost. Yeah, Middle Street. Middle Street there was a place there that had a club, but it didn't last long. And the Elks Club, they of course, if you belonged to the Elks, they had dancing up there. And

DR. PATTERSON: Tobacco warehouses?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yes. I was just trying to think, the Banner Warehouse. The Banner Warehouse used to run dances.

DR. PATTERSON: Where was that located?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: At Dunn and National Avenue.

DR. PATTERSON: At what?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: National Avenue and Dunn. They used to have their dances at the railroad track. And I might mention that when

the railroad went across George Street, that's where National Avenue in those days began, 'cause I was born just a, about a half a block down from that, but they also had a turn around for the trains coming in from Oriental. They would come up there and could back into the station. That's where they came, and the train from Oriental and from Norfolk. The track would go out one way, come across in front of Dunn to the coal chute and back across, and they had a railroad watchman there and they had a little shed. So when it was train time and he had to be there all the time because there may be a freight coming through and he had a little shed, house like, and he made a living sharpening saws. In his spare time he would be sharpening saws. The rest of the time, when it was time for the train, he'd get out there to make sure nobody tried to cross in front of the train.

DR. PATTERSON: What was the Neuse River Bridge like when it came in from Johnson Street?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: In what respect you mean?

DR. PATTERSON: Was it, it was a wooden bridge, was it?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Wooden bridge.

DR. PATTERSON: Two lane, one lane?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Two lane. Two lane, but very narrow. It wouldn't have been a two lane today, but it was wide enough you could come and go. And it was always out, because the traffic kept loosening the boards.

I've got a funny story. I was telling Paul the other night about it. My father sent me over to see Mr. Stallings. He had a plumbing

business in New Bern and he sent me over there to see him. And we thought nothing of walking across that bridge, only a mile. So I walked across there and coming back, maybe a hundred yards, this car came along. And the fellow looked at me. It was young Joe K. Willis, Jr.

Drawed over, he made me get in. So I got in to ride and I realized then I was in a hearse. In back was a body and from then on that bridge was five miles long. I couldn't wait to get out of there.

And that's another thing I might tell you. That in those days, they had no funeral parlors. Joe K. Willis had a place, but most people were buried from their church, or from their home. And you go along, and they put the crepe on the door when you was, having somebody dead there. And that purple or black for old people and white for young people. When you'd see those crepes, you'd know there was somebody dead there, and the family services was all in the home, and then the minister would give the grave service or if a church. You'd go to the church for the service, but the body was prepared by Joe K. Willis and the Home Company.

DR. PATTERSON: Were the bodies embalmed?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah. You'd have them embalmed. But it wasn't like the embalming today. That embalming didn't keep long. So they didn't hold bodies.

DR. PATTERSON: So the bodies would go to the funeral home and then back to the home.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: That's right.

DR. PATTERSON: And the services right out of the home to the

cemetery.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: There were right out of the home. That's right.

DR. PATTERSON: What do you remember about the black community?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, I, in what respect you mean?

DR. PATTERSON: Well, what was it like, was there a large area where the black people lived.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah, there was a large area running all the way from, I would say, from Queen Street to Bern Street, I'll make it to be sure. From Queen Street north to Bern Street was all black and they had their own high school. Matter of fact, there was quite a fight one time, 'cause a black boy came along with a New Bern High star and the boys didn't like it and it ended up in a fight. But they had their high school on West Street. And, but that was all black all the way out there.

On Main Street, there were quite a few Assyrians that come down there and opened up a clothing store and just stuff as that, and they had a business. We had the same thing on Broad Street up at Five Points.

There was quite a few Assyrians. That was their line of work. They ran clothing stores and novelty stores and such as that. But the rest was all black.

DR. PATTERSON: Did you deliver telegrams out in the black area?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Every where. Yep.

DR. PATTERSON: What were the relations like between blacks and whites then?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Wonderful. Never had a bit of problem. We

could go through any time, day or night and never have any problems.

There was never any fights, any arguments. Later on, along the schools, as I said that between the high school there was an argument between the boys, but other than that there was never any arguments.

And we never had any fights and ;you could walk in any part.

I delivered telegrams out to Kinston Street which was the last street in New Bern and we used to call it Bell Town. And back of what the colored cemetery, on over to Main Street all through there, it was all colored. Go over West Street, up Main Street, all the way through there, delivering where we come. The only thing was, when they see the telegram come, telegraph boy come, they were scared to death and it was trouble. And I always used to reassure them. The minute I went in I'd say, there's nothing wrong. It's just somebody's coming to see you. But they was always scared to death of telegrams. They didn't want to see a telegram come in their house.

DR. PATTERSON: You knew what was in the telegram?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Oh yes. Oh yes.

DR. PATTERSON: Was it safe to walk the streets in those days?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Any place you wanted to walk.

DR. PATTERSON: Day or night?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Day or night.

DR. PATTERSON: There was not much crime.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: No crime. One little thing would be, maybe a couple of colored guys got in a razor slashing contest or some man would slash his wife with a razor or something. Nothing major. Nothing

like that.

DR. PATTERSON: I think you said earlier that the New Bern police department consisted of two officers. Is that correct?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Two officers. Chief Lupton and Officer Ipock and Officer Ipock used to hang around the depot. That was the center of activity and then on up to the Frog Pond, but it was very little bit of crime.

DR. PATTERSON: But then in those days as far as you remember, the blacks and the whites got along very well.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: They got along wonderful. Probably, one of the biggest crimes was when we lived on Broad Street, my mother had chickens and somebody went in her chicken house and stole all our chickens and didn't make a sound. They had a way of going in there in the dark and just grabbing a chicken thinking all the hens was laying on the, on the hen house chicken floor, but the chickens was gone.

DR. PATTERSON: Now when you lived on Short Street there was a black family living right on the corner of New and Short.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Right, had two of 'em. Right on the corner there and a pair of very high class colored.

DR. PATTERSON: The name was Barron.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: That's right.

DR. PATTERSON: B, a, double r, o, n.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: That's right. That's right. That's right.

DR. PATTERSON: And as I recall, there was a number of children in that house.



CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah, yeah.

DR. PATTERSON: And where was the other family, black family that you remember the neighborhood.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, the one that I say that lived up there be number 12 Short Street, there was a woman, I can't remember her name now. I think it was Hattie, but she used to cook for Mrs. Foote. She was a cook and she had a daughter that had a couple of kids that lived there, and we used to play together, the whole bunch of us.

In fact, the hunters would bring in this quail, mostly, and rabbits, and they didn't want them, so she would cook 'em up and a lot of times she'd bring them home and we'd have quail for supper.

DR. PATTERSON: Now this is another black family that lived on Short Street?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Right.

DR. PATTERSON: But there was also a black family living on New Street right across almost from where I lived. Do you remember that?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah. Yeah, but I didn't know anything about them. I just knew it was a colored family there.

DR. PATTERSON: Do you remember that at all. Do you remember the fence around the house and, they had a ramshackled fence around their yard.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah, yeah. But that was about all that I could

DR. PATTERSON: So there were three black families in the neighborhood then.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah, three black families in the neighborhood.

DR. PATTERSON: And everything worked out alright.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: There the ones on New Street. The ones on Short Street they lived next door to us. Because the one boy was about my age and the other was about the age of my kid brother. But, then they moved away, the poor daughter did and took the children, I don't know where they went.

DR. PATTERSON: Could you tell me a little more, Callie, about your memories of the fire department.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, my father like I said was a volunteer fireman for the Riverside Fire Department and their, the Riverside Fire Department was right at the end of Cedar Grove Cemetery and there used to be about a block up from the cemetery was a water fountain, was a faucet where the wagons and drays could water their horses. The water would run off and they'd have it so they'd take the fire hose up there and so that was the Riverside.

But they did away with that when they heard they was going to have trucks and the Atlantic Fire Department they were over on Broad Street for awhile they was where the white, Star Theater was, was a theater there, the Star. Before that they was next door, but when the store moved out they moved in that building. It was a bigger building.

But the Button, as far as I can recall was always over in the old city hall. But the Button had the pumper. They could put it in the river and pump water, and there was, of course, competition pumpers

to put a little bit of kerosene on the coal to get it going faster, get the thing blazing.

DR. PATTERSON: What doctors do you remember in those days?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, there was Dr. Jones, that's R. D. V. Jones, and of course, Dr. Joe Patterson, and Dr. Latham, Dr. Parker, Dr. Watson, and Dr. Pollock; he had two girls and a boy. Agnes was in my class. That's the medical doctors.

DR. PATTERSON: Where did Dr. Watson have his office?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: On South Front Street, right across from the Gaston Hotel.

DR. PATTERSON: And he practiced general...

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: General practice.

DR. PATTERSON: And Dr. Caton, you say lived on Johnson Street.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah, that's right.

DR. PATTERSON: And his hospital was the New Bern General Hospital, was that what it was called? Well, it was Caton's Hospital.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, it was Caton's Hospital. We always knew it as Caton's Hospital.

DR. PATTERSON: Right at the end of Middle Street where it joins Craven.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: No, it was on Queen Street in front of, Queen and Griffin. It was a red brick building and the entrance was on Queen Street.

DR. PATTERSON: I want to ask you about the flu epidemic of 1918. You remember much about that.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, in a way, yes. We didn't realize it was a flu epidemic until people started getting seriously ill and they couldn't come, they called it the Spanish Influenza. That was what it went by the name of, and on Short Street, we lost two people. One little boy died and there was a woman died, and they lived between, that would be about 16 Short Street. They lived there, but I didn't know their names. They just moved in there a short while and my mother was going from house to house trying to help the people with cold.

And so the town told us that to go down and get us disinfectant at the, and spread it all over, put it all around where the water was.

DR. PATTERSON: Was New Bern hit pretty hard by that epidemic?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: It was pretty hard. I would say it hit pretty hard. Of course, I wouldn't know the exact numbers, but I know we lost two on Short Street.

DR. PATTERSON: And a lot of people in town.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah.

DR. PATTERSON: Well, Callie, we've covered a lot of ground and you've been talking steadily, do you have any other memories of New Bern that you'd like to share with me.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: There's one that I, one that I wanted, we, the railroad bridge going over to Norfolk and Oriental, it gave way under a freight train and the engine and the first freight car went in the water and the engineer and the fireman jumped and they went into the water. The bridge just gave away, but they, there was nobody killed, but they had to come and flip that engine out and repair that

railroad bridge so railroad service was tied up for a couple of months between Norfolk and Oriental and.

DR. PATTERSON: The railroad bridge that goes across the Neuse River now is the same, in the same location as the one that you remember.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah, that's right, same place.

DR. PATTERSON: Do you have any other thoughts about New Bern? Tell me again who your good friends were when you were growing up.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, there was Lupton, his father was a police chief, and there was Mike Jowdy, his dad acquired a store up on Broad Street, and Al Jowdy later on became fire chief.

And there was Joe Caprio, his Italian family. They lived up on Broad Street and later on the father bought the Poppy, corner of Middle and Broad and they moved their family down there. But when he lived up on Broad Street up from us, just before you get to Fleet Street, we used to go up there and he had apricot tree in his yard and we used to fill up on apricots and then we'd go inside Joe's house and every thing was Italian.

They had to import every thing. They made their own pasta. His mom used to get on the back porch and she would make spaghetti. She made the shells, over the finger, and make the ravioli, whatever she was making. And down in the cellar they had kegs of olives and different foods that they wanted and they bought the whole cheeses, parmesan cheese. I know what it is now. I didn't know what it was then. And she'd makes her own bread. She'd make, she'd bake like once every two weeks and a loaf would be about, oh maybe, a dinner sized loaf,

we'll say, maybe 2' and across and round. It was a big loaf of bread and she'd make maybe a dozen of those and wrap them in cloth and put them in a cupboard. And she'd take a knife and give it the business.

And I thought it was nothing any better than to go Joe's house and he'd tell his mother he was hungry and she'd get that thing out and slice up the bread and cut in half and smear it with butter and that was the most delicious thing you ate in your life.

DR. PATTERSON: It sounds great.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: It was good.

DR. PATTERSON: And who were some other cronies of yours? The Cutler boys.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah, the Cutler boys. There was David Cutler and Donald.

DR. PATTERSON: And they lived on Craven Street.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: They lived on Craven Street. See there was, the, McCarter Cutler, the original... his home was on the corner of Hancock Street and Pollock. He had a son McCarter Junior. He had the hardware store. He and my father were very good friends, as a matter of fact, my father bought a lot of material from him. And they had another son, McCarter the Third. He was in college at that time, but Sara Bell was home. She was the one I was telling about that took up piano lessons, and then there was David and Donald Bell. They were named Bell, all the children had their mother's maiden name. It was David Bell, Donald Bell, Sara Bell. They all had their mother's maiden

name as a middle name.

And, of course, the Ferebee boys and Billy Hurt, Red Hurt, Billy was too young, but Reddy Hurt. There was also a fellow by the name of Luther Eastwood. He was, his mother was, his grandmother was Mrs. Gautier. I think he was an orphan. I think he was, because he used to spend all his time with his grandmother, but he would be up to our house and he would play with our group.

DR. PATTERSON: Did you know Sonny Foote very well?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Who?

DR. PATTERSON: Sonny Foote. Was he, he was younger than you.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: He was younger. Harry Foot was more my age, but Sonny Foote he used to, and he had a sister too. I don't remember her name.

DR. PATTERSON: Dolly.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah, but she was a very pretty little girl, very pretty.

DR. PATTERSON: She married a physician in Washington, D. C. She went to nursing school there and left New Bern and I don't think she's come back.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: You mentioned about Anderson, Maggie Anderson.

DR. PATTERSON: Yes, Maggie Bell Anderson, she was younger than you by many years.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Well, I'll tell you a strange thing about that. My step-mother was her grandmother, and that's when my father first met her. And we was up there, my father went, the first trip that

I ever went up to Wausau to meet, we always called her Miss Sudie. Didn't call her mama. Miss Sudie's father, George Isaac Hughes, and he was a wonderful person. Him, and well, all of them was as nice except her. But anyhow, Maggie, her daughter, married a fireman from Goldsboro, and she was going to have the baby, and she came down to be with her grandmother to have the baby. And George Isaac Hughes just idolized this little, his granddaughter, Maggie, had the same name. Maggie, her name was Maggie Dishaw, but she became Maggie Anderson because she had her father's name. But anyhow, her husband's name. But Granddaddy Hughes, I used to call him, we were down in the woods getting some wood for the fires and we had the wagon way down deep in the woods and had about a half a load of wood, and he said to me, says, Callie, he says Maggie's dead. I said what? And we turned around, half loaded, and we came up and sure enough she had had a child and died in childbirth.

DR. PATTERSON: Now are we talking about the Maggie Anderson that I knew?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah, but she didn't die. That was the baby. The baby lived. The mother died.

DR. PATTERSON: So Maggie died.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Maggie's mother died.

DR. PATTERSON: Maggie's mother died. Ok, I got it straight.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Maggie was raised by her, by George Isaac Hughes until she got big enough to...

DR. PATTERSON: Now George Isaac Hughes lived to be a very old



man, didn't he.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yeah. Yeah.

DR. PATTERSON: And did he sire a child in his real old age.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Yes.

DR. PATTERSON: How old was he when had this child?

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Oh, I figure he was around 85 and I don't know just where she is now, but his second wife was, his wife was still living. And she thought the world of him. We couldn't believe it. We were up north, but when I did talk to her, she was telling what a wonderful man he was, but he didn't smoke, he didn't drink. He was a very clean living man and very hard working man. In other words, he lived a very clean life and was young for his age. He was in very good condition.

DR. PATTERSON: Well, Callie, I think that this has been a great interview and as I said, you've given us a lot of wonderful information and maybe this is a good time to cut it off, unless you have some other things you'd like to speak to.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: No, that's about all I can think of.

DR. PATTERSON: Well, you've spoken to a lot and I want to thank you for the Memories Of New Bern Committee for doing this and we'll get the transcript to you. So I'll cut this off now, Callie.

CALLIE HOLLOWELL: Ok and.....

END OF INTERVIEW