

**Kennesaw State University
Department of History and Philosophy
Summer Hill Oral History Project**

Interview with: Janette Harris
Interviewed by: Jennifer Jongema
Location:
Date: July 31, 2004
Transcribed by: Diana Godwin; March 2005

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(Tape 1, Side A.)

J.J: First of all could you state your name for me please ma'am.

J.H: My name is Janette Owens Harris.

J.J: And when and where were you born?

J.H: Adairsville, September 3, 1942, Boyd Mountain.

J.J: Okay, and did you have any brothers or sisters?

J.H: One brother and four sisters.

J.J: Goodness, and did anyone else live in your house, grandmother's, aunts, other extended family or was it just siblings and your parents?

J.H: A nephew.

J.J: A nephew.

J.H: Uh huh

J.J: Okay, and what did your father do for a living?

J.H: Some of everything (laughing), some of everything he was a farmer, he was a butcher, whatever, a jack of all trades.

J.J: And your mother?

J.H: Mama did mostly house work.

J.J: Out in the community?

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: Was it for blacks or whites?

J.H: Whites.

J.J: Okay, do you remember any of the families' names?

J.H: Yeah, well now this is in Adairsville. Yeah she worked for the Macintyre's, and she worked for (unintelligible) motel over here on 41.

J.J: Okay.

J.H: And that's all about I think she worked for there.

J.J: Down in Cartersville or anywhere that way?

J.H: No.

J.J: Just up here?

J.H: Just up here.

J.J: Okay, when you hear Summer Hill what do you think of?

J.H: Okay, Summer Hill, I think of school, friends, things we did, places we went, and all that. I was in the band, and I what did I play, clarinet for a while, and I was a cheerleader on the football team, for the football team, and I was in the chorus under Beatrice Morgan, that was Professor Morgan's wife, and then I would travel with the chorus to sing, and I remember Alzina Williams, she was one of

my teachers, and Mrs. Maurice Williams, she was my Algebra teacher, and I remember Professor Morgan, because when we'd get in trouble we'd get sent to the office, and when we'd get in there, he'd talk about everything except what we were sent in there for, so (laughing), I remember that, and I remember my friends, Charlotte Stevenson, and Peggy Sue Callaghan, and Carol Johnson, and Dense Lee, and Shirley Henderson, and Essie Mae Owens, that's my sister in law now, but she lives here, and we went to school together there, and Thelma Mconnell, she's my sister in law now and a lot of friends, and I remember on Friday mornings we'd have assembly, everybody met in the gym, and a lot of mornings we sang if we had a little group there, it was me, and Essie Mae, Barbara Scott, she's Barbara James now, and Annie Belle Miller, and I think Hattie Ruth Hill sang with us, but we'd sing during devotion sometime in the assembly, and a lot of times when I would have to go sing I'd stay over in Cartersville, I'd stay with Hattie Ruth Hill a lot, and Alberta Ball, and then sometimes we'd have to go out of town, way off, I remember going out with the home economics teacher, Mrs. Sermons, and we went to her home, and we sang at a school, I forgot the name of the school, but we stayed at her house at Waycross, Georgia, and I enjoyed that a lot. And I remember Mrs. Nancy Beasley, she's Robertson, she's a Beasley now, but she was my English teacher, and Literature teacher, and down through the years we have sort of kept in contact with her, because she still lives in Cartersville and every so often I see her, and she still remembers all of us out of all those years so that's what I sort of remember.

J.J: So you didn't actually live in the community, you lived in Adairsville?

J.H: Uh huh, transferred there.

J.J: What was your house like in Adairsville?

J.H: My house?

J.J: Uh huh.

J.H: Like what, what do you mean?

J.J: What, if you were standing on the side of the road and looking at your house what did it look like when you walked in, what were the rooms, and the layout?

J.H: Okay, now my home is old, it was an old house. My daddy built it himself, so you can imagine what that was like (laughing), I tell you he was a jack-of-all-trades, but he built the house, and he built it out of an old barn, and the community that we lived in, it was a man, Tom Howard was the first one there, we were the second, so there were no paved streets or anything, you just had to make your road and stuff, so as you walk in there would be, now back then when they built the house they didn't have like a hall and all of this and all of that, we didn't have an inside bathroom then, we had outside bathroom, toilets then, you know anything about that (laughing)? Okay, and we had a well, we didn't have inside water then we had a dug well, but when you walk in you'd come into what we called the living room, and it had a kitchen and three bedrooms, and a front porch and a back porch.

J.J: Okay, what did your yard look like; you mentioned that you had an outhouse, other than that?

J.H: Okay well we had a garden, we'd have a garden, and we had an orchard.

J.J: What all did you grow in your garden and orchard?

J.H: In the orchard there was apple trees, peach trees, plum trees, and in the garden we'd have corn, green beans, tomato, okra, stuff like that, squash, and we had a barn, and we had a cow and a horse.

J.J: Goodness, so basically it was pretty much like growing up on a farm, and then you would go into city to go to school?

J.H: Yes, and we sharecropped too, had to pick cotton, yes he sharecropped with a man, and we had to pick cotton.

J.J: How'd you get to school from Adairsville?

J.H: We were bussed.

J.J: You were bussed?

J.H: Yeah, we first, school was up here, we had like a three room school here in Adairsville, and our teachers were Annie Mae Miller Morris, and Mrs. Pearl Marshall, and Mrs. Salter, and then we, the schools were discontinued here, and Bartow Elementary and Cass was built, so we all went there.

J.J: Okay.

J.H: And we were bussed there, and the first year I graduated from Bartow Elementary, graduated from the eighth grade then, and from there we would be, a bus would come and take us to Summer Hill.

J.J: Okay.

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: Do you remember what the name of the school was up here the first school?

J.H: Just Adairsville school.

J.J: Adairsville school.

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: You said you only had one neighbor...

J.H: When we first moved out here, uh huh.

J.J: ...and then people gradually...

J.H: Gradually.

J.J: What was your relationship like with your neighbors, did yall all get along, help each other out?

J.H: Oh yes, yes, uh huh. Yeah we all got along, and well we'd come in from, well now this man Tom Howard now he and daddy was real close friends, and eventually other people would move in, but we were all connected we were just good friends and the children, and when we'd come in from school, now Tom Howard he had a cotton patch, and what we called a juke joint, juke joint (laughing) a café, and we'd go pick cotton and get our little money, and we'd go to the store, and we'd buy different things all the kids it was a bunch of us go to the cotton patch, and then we'd come back to the café, he had a little café when we got out of school so that was our activity, and then to in this community we had like, we had two theatres, two movie theatres so we'd go to them too.

J.J: Did this community have like a name or...?

J.H: It was St. Elmo.

J.J: St. Elmo.

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: Okay, do you know where the name came from?

J.H: No, I don't, I don't know where that came from.

J.J: Does it still kind of exist now, or has it been...?

J.H: The community is there, but they've renamed the streets.

J.J: Okay.

J.H: Yeah.

J.J: Is your home still there?

J.H: It's still there, but its...

J.J: (unintelligible).

J.H: Uh huh, yeah.

J.J: What was your job in the house, what was your chores, or your responsibilities?

J.H: Well I'm a sweeper (laughing), I'm a sweeper so I'd sweep, and I'd sweep the yard, I kept the yards clean.

J.J: Yall swept the yard?

J.H: Uh huh, yeah the yards, and we'd wash dishes, take turns washing dishes, things like that uh huh.

J.J: I know a lot of times girls were expected to cook, were you expected to help with cooking?

J.H: Well mama and dad, I'd stay home and baby-sit my baby sister, and my nephew while they went to a cotton patch and while they were gone I was like seven, and I would cook, so I've been cooking ever since I was seven years old.

J.J: What was a normal meal like for yall?

J.H: Well we had plenty to eat, plenty good food, we were blessed with food daddy kept food, like roast, pork chops, chicken, dressing, green beans, collard greens, apple pie, and mama made dessert everyday. Dessert was to be everyday in our

house, pinto beans, corn bread, buttermilk and corn bread, cabbage, and all that kind of stuff, fried chicken.

J.J: Was Sunday dinner extra special?

J.H: Yes, Sunday dinner was always extra special, it was special like well we'd have like chicken, dressing, dumplings, and all the fixings with that and then daddy always would tell mama to fix extra on Sunday, because back then you didn't necessarily have to be invited sometimes you'd just drop by, so that was why it was extra on Sunday's.

J.J: Just in case.

J.H: Just in case.

J.J: What holidays did yall celebrate?

J.H: Christmas, Thanksgiving, Easter mostly.

J.J: The three big ones.

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: Do you remember anything special or any significant memories or traditions that you always did?

J.H: Well Christmas we would all get excited, because back then you would get catalogs right before Christmas time maybe in September the fall of the year, and we would wear those books out looking in them seeing what we wanted and all of this in expectation, and back then seemed like Christmas took two years to get here, but now it just seems like it's six months to get here, but we would look in the book and see the dolls and the little play houses and things and all that in there, and then we'd tell mama what we wanted, and then about a week before

Christmas this was a special time too, because mama baked cakes, and back then you'd bake them up before that particular time, and she would bake cakes, and we'd help her, and we'd lick the bowls and all that kind of stuff and then she'd put them up and wrap them up real good, she made coconut cakes, chocolate cakes, an orange cake which was special, that was special, and lemon cake, and she'd make about six or seven cakes, and she had a tradition Christmas Eve night she'd cut one, so that was that tradition there. Easter time she'd make this chocolate cake, she always made this chocolate cake, and she'd put Easter eggs around it, and we always boiled eggs, and hunted eggs at our house, it was enough kids there ourselves to hunt eggs, so that was sort of...

J.J: What was your first job?

J.H: My first job was babysitting, that was my first job for a lady that lived here, Geraldine Edwards, I was a child myself, but I kept her children.

J.J: How much did she pay you?

J.H: Oh what did she pay me; I think it was about ten dollars a week I think.

J.J: That's a good bit of money.

J.H: Uh huh, yeah and then I worked at another house, Janette, her name was Janette Hutchinson, and they ran a restaurant 41 restaurant used to be right over here on 41, and then I worked in her house and then I worked as a dish washer in the 41 restaurant, and I got paid eleven dollars there.

J.J: You said yall would pick cotton and go to a juke joint, how much did you get for your cotton?

J.H: A little change (laughing).

J.J: A little pocket change.

J.H: Yeah, we were just (unintelligible) you know just everybody would go we in the field, we'd get a sack full, and go and he'd weigh it, and he'd give us the money, thirty cents, fifty cents, something like that, and that went a long way back then. You could get a, there was a little store across from the school, and you could get cookies two for a penny, and then you could get those kisses mary-janes and those chocolate kisses, four in a pack, and you got a drink for five cents, and Old Plantation gang, it was two ginger bread cakes in a bag, so you got that and something to drink and you had a meal (laughing).

J.J: That is a meal, where did most people in your neighborhood work?

J.H: Mostly in private homes, mostly in private homes is where they worked.

J.J: In Adairsville and Cartersville, or mostly one or the other?

J.H: Mostly in Adairsville.

J.J: Okay.

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: And they were like housekeepers, nannies, stuff like that?

J.H: Uh huh, and then a lot of time people were hired out to pick cotton; a lot of people picked cotton back then too and chopped cotton so it was a seasonal thing.

J.J: Uh huh, okay.

J.H: But my daddy he killed hogs and stuff, he was just...

J.J: Whatever came along...

J.H: ...yeah, and then like on the Fourth of July, yeah every Fourth of July, now he barbecued, he made the best barbecue there was. He'd dig a pit and put a wire

over it, and he'd kill a hog, and he'd barbecue that whole hog, and he'd sell it, and he'd sell do that and make brunswick stew, so that was like on the Fourth of July or Labor Day something like that.

J.J: Let's talk about Summer Hill some more.

J.H: Okay.

J.J: Describe Summer Hill the neighborhood for me, the boundaries, what was in it.

J.H: Okay, there on Summer Hill there really wasn't much then like it is now, it has grown now, but Summer Hill there was the church that's there on the hill that's been there a long time that's Mt. Zion so that's been there, and then down from Mt. Zion, it's not there now, but it was the deli and that's where we all went and had the greatest hotdogs and things like that. Then Professor Morgan's house, he was there on the corner there at the top of Summer Hill and there were more houses like in the area, but it wasn't as many as it is right now.

J.J: What would you consider the boundaries of the neighborhood then?

J.H: Well, now town is Cartersville town was like south of Summer Hill, and there's Emerson, Emerson was there, because Emerson would come to Summer Hill and that was south of Summer Hill and then there was let me see, I can't think, Pine Log, Pine Log that was like to the east of Summer Hill. Pine Log and Pine Grove, and then like to the west you've got the Mission, Sugar Valley, and those communities and to the north you had us, Adairsville, and Cass we all would come to Summer Hill, so that's (unintelligible).

J.J: Do you think that the boundaries or the communities expanded or shrunk over time?

J.H: No it has expanded.

J.J: It has expanded.

J.H: Yes.

J.J: How?

J.H: Well schools, more schools up there now. These places didn't have big schools then, but now you take Emerson now they've got a lot of schools, and even out in Sugar Valley and Mission there's schools out in that area. Then Pine Log there's schools there now, bigger schools, and Adairsville, you know what Adairsville has now, so it has extended.

J.J: Okay, what was it like going to school in Summer Hill, did you have any nicknames, did you have any special friends?

J.H: I don't think I had a nickname at school, I didn't have a nickname at school, but my special friends were Charlotte Stevenson, she's a Lynnly now, but Charlotte, and Beatrice, and Peggy Sue, and Carol, and Hattie Ruth, and Barbara, and Annie Bell, and a lot of boy friend, boy friends, not boy friends, but boys.

J.J: Boys that were friends.

J.H: Yes (laughing), boys that was friends. Let me see there was Dinsley, and Freddie Lee, and oh gosh why I can't think, and then there was Buck Wheeler, and Louis Jones, and Horace Lee Jones, and Phillip, and who else, I see there faces, but I can't call their names, some of them, a lot of them have died now, Owland Cousin, and Shine that's what we called him, it was a nickname Shine (laughing), and then there was it's a boy I can't think of right now.

J.J: How did he get that nickname?

J.H: You don't know.

J.H: All I can remember is Shine.

J.J: What did yall do for fun?

J.H: At school?

J.J: At school or in the neighborhood, or after school, during the summer.

J.H: Well now when school was out there I didn't...

J.J: You didn't go down there.

J.H: Nah, nah we mostly had to stay at home, well it was hard to get somewhere, but when we did now, we like, everybody would bunch up in one car you know over, we'd get arrested now (laughing), but we'd get in cars and you know like go, we might ride to Cartersville and there on the corner was like a café you'd go there, and then to the deli like I said up there on the Summer Hill, then we'd go to the beach.

J.J: Is that Carver?

J.H: Yeah.

J.J: Down on Alatoona.

J.H: Yeah, Alatoona beach, yeah we'd go there that was the place to go then.

J.J: Where were your favorite places to go?

J.H: Well my favorite places was really here.

J.J: In Adairsville?

J.H: Yeah we had cafés here, there was one across from the old school that used to be here that was run by J.D. Mconnell and in fact we had three cafés here, juke joints as you want to call them.

J.J: So you had more than Summer Hill?

J.H: Yeah, we had a lot of places to go up here.

J.J: Did yall consider yourselves different from the kids that lived in Summer Hill, did you ever have...?

J.H: Well they considered us different.

J.J: They did?

J.H: Yeah you know the rural.

J.J: They looked down on you?

J.H: Not really, they just called us the rural kids, rural kids, city kids, but mostly it wasn't anything that...

J.J: Didn't cause any tension.

J.H: No, no but like, like you know when boys come into town, and boys are here, boys don't like boys coming into their town that caused a controversy (laughing), and that was anywhere.

J.J: It still has, do you remember any particular customs or celebrations that yall did at school or in the neighborhood, you talked a little about that with your family, but do you remember any community ones?

J.H: Here?

J.J: It can be here or Summer Hill.

J.H: Okay here we belonged to the Mason K.P. Hall and lodge stuff like that, and every year I think it was in August we would get a bus together and take a picnic to Lincoln Park in Chattanooga, so that was something that we did and looked forward to, and we'd have Easter programs at church and stuff like that.

J.J: How has Adairsville and Summer Hill changed economically over the years?

J.H: Well there's Adairsville has grown tremendously and now we've got what three banks here, seventy five has gone through here, which seventy five wasn't there then. Seventy five has brought in a lot of things, and there's a lot of houses that are being built, town houses, we have town houses, new grocery stores, Dollar General, Family Dollar, and all those, those have come in, and a lot of little, little stores on the side, the street, on the side of forty one there was not there, forty one was just mainly motels, we had three motels here in Adairsville, and two restaurants, but now on that strip it has a lot of things has come in there, and we have a traffic light, which we didn't have, and now going towards seventy five out there where we have, what do we have out there, we've got Burger King, we've got QT, we've got two truck stops out there, we've got Waffle House, and Wendy's, and a lot of service stations, which we didn't have that way going west only service stations was right here on forty one, so now they're putting up two more traffic lights out there and downtown they have, they are beautifying it from what it used to be, and then every year in October the first week in October we have the locomotive festival here so it has grown, and Cartersville has too. When I was there going to school there's a lot more motels there, there's a lot more businesses has come in there, and it has several schools when it used to didn't have but maybe one or two, something like that, but it has grown.

J.J: What's your fondest memory of Summer Hill?

J.H: Summer Hill, ah my fondest memory is like when we'd have on Friday's when we'd have assembly, we'd meet there and Professor Morgan would talk to us, and

we'd sing and different stuff like that, and in home economics we'd sew, cook, make things, and eat, and have fun uh huh, and then Maurice Williams' room, we'd always cut up in her room that was the cut up room (laughing).

J.J: What did she teach?

J.H: Algebra (laughing), Algebra, but we'd do something like we would, maybe somebody we'd look at one another, one said (humming) she would turn and say just one minute, just one moment, just one second, and that would trip us out (laughing), we'd keep something going in there, but she was sweet.

J.J: She was on to you.

J.H: Yeah (laughing).

J.J: You talked a good deal about going to different places in Adairsville and Cartersville is there any places that you feel like you didn't go or you shouldn't go?

J.H: That I didn't go or shouldn't have gone?

J.J: Or you couldn't go like you wouldn't have been welcomed there.

J.H: Oh no.

J.J: No.

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: So it was pretty much open everything?

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: Okay, where were the gathering places in the community, where did people meet and congregate and fellowship?

J.H: Mostly at church, church and at school functions if you could get there, like I said rural folks you didn't have cars like you have now, so it was pretty hard to get at certain places.

J.J: Was there a predominant denomination among the people, more people AME or...?

J.H: Well back then you sort of...mixed.

J.J: What ever was there.

J.H: Yeah, I...

END TAPE 1, SIDE A

BEGIN TAPE 1, SIDE B

J.H: ...Friendship so I sang in this choir, and I sang in that choir.

J.J: Did you like rotate Sunday's?

J.H: Well they didn't have church every Sunday.

J.J: Oh okay.

J.H: Grace Chapel had second and third Sunday, and Friendship just had fourth Sunday, once a month.

J.J: Okay.

J.H: And then there was another church, Allen Chapa, (unintelligible) Rogers, and she would gather the children, she always did great things with children, she's dead now, but then we'd sing at her church, so it was just come together thing.

J.J: Didn't matter where.

J.H: Didn't matter, uh huh, and she'd take us to Calhoun and sing, stuff like that, and then out in the community she'd have this little black pot, and she would fry fish and make homemade ice-cream and sell it and that was to help her church.

J.J: Cool, you said something about a lodge, Mason's?

J.H: Yeah, yes K.P. and...

J.J: What's K. P.?

J.H: I can't remember what that was, but that was a lodge too, it was two of them, I was an eastern star, but it was two of them (laughing).

J.J: Any restaurants or anything?

J.H: Sequoia restaurant and forty-one restaurant.

J.J: Those were the big hot spots?

J.H: Yeah, and then down town there was Little Rock. Little Rock has been there since time, but it has closed now, but it still sits there, it's down town, but Little Rock has been there forever.

J.J: Are there any people that you think were prominent members of the community that stick out in your mind? I know most people say that Professor and Mrs. Morgan, what about anyone else, can you think of here or down in Summer Hill?

J.H: Okay, J.D. Mconnell, he was like on the board, the school boards, and Mrs. Ruth Rogers, she was, we had PTA, my mom was on PTA, and my daddy and more men they was like pillars of the community and thing, and they was like deacons and stewards in the churches and then when people died they would gather together the men, go to the cemetery and did the grave themselves, and they had to dig them six feet then, but they are just four feet now, but they would all gather

together and do all that, and they were sort of pillars of the community. And John Henry Hamilton, and Son Curtis, and Oteel McDowell, she still lives, but she stood out in the community, and she worked on the railroad, cooked, you know on the railroad for the men there, and Josie Gardner and Rance Gardner, their son Reverend Gardner he was a preacher, so they were like pillars of the community here.

J.J: I may have already asked this, do you ever remember any stores or areas that were considered whites only or blacks only?

J.H: Well down, down town area we lived up on Boyd Mountain that's way up that's where we lived, but at that particular time before integration when you come to town there was a fountain there that said whites only.

J.J: There was a sign actually?

J.H: Yeah, whites only. Then there was a, we had a bus station, we had a bus station that ran up the old street over there from town, and it had its section, white section and black section, and at the restaurants you went in the back door.

J.J: Okay, let's, we want to talk about the church a little more.

J.H: Okay.

J.J: Because that's really interesting, you've said some things I've never heard before. What role did your church play in the community?

J.H: Now I was young, so I really don't know all of that. In what sense are you talking?

J.J: I know you mentioned it was a meeting place, and a gathering place, and it brought people together, what else did the church do for the community?

J.H: Well it would help people, you know people would help people back then, like they'd see about the sick, and if people were sick they, men would gather and, let's say if a man of the house got sick or something, the men would gather, do what that man did there, maybe like cut wood, or bring in wood, or maybe take groceries, and the women would go and do the washing and cooking and cleaning of the house, and all that stuff, and then if there was somebody there that they knew were dying then they would go sit with them, they would take turns and sit there and stay with them all night and stuff like that and sit up with them.

J.J: Okay, and you said that you belonged to Grace Chapel, have you always belonged?

J.H: I belonged to Grace Chapel until 1970, and then I joined Omega Church of God in Christ.

J.J: Okay.

J.H: And then in 1992 or 3 I became the pastor of Adairsville Body of Christ, which I am there now.

J.J: Okay, when you were small what was church like, music, (unintelligible)?

J.H: (laughing) Yes, I always enjoyed church. We'd come to Sunday school. We lived, Boyd Mountain is about maybe, maybe a good ten miles, but we walked, we walked from there, and we'd come to revival every night, but we walked and then we'd have to walk back home, unless we caught a ride with somebody or caught a ride with some, but back then they had a horse and a wagon, and we'd catch a ride sometime, but we had to walk from there to here, and the music yes, and we'd have revival, baptism, and joining of the church and all of that, and then we'd

have homecomings, and right out here on the back side over there of the church, they have long benches, and everybody would bring boxed dinners, and we'd put it out there, and everybody would eat homecoming, and we'd be there all day.

We'd have church in the morning and church in the evening.

J.J: Would it be safe to say that the church, the churches in the community were pretty much the center of the community?

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: Definitely.

J.H: Yeah.

J.J: Do you remember any churches in the area taking any political stances?

J.H: Back then, I don't, no.

J.J: Now?

J.H: Now they do.

J.J: They do, what do you think about that being pastor yourself?

J.H: Oh that's fine.

J.J: It's fine.

J.H: Yeah, uh huh that's fine.

J.J: Okay. You went to Summer Hill just for high school right?

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: What year did you come in?

J.H: Let me see, now I didn't graduate from high school, I didn't graduate, but I came in, in '56 if I'm not mistaken.

J.J: Okay.

J.H: '56.

J.J: Alright, and you said that yall were bussed down there.

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: What were your favorite subjects?

J.H: Oh Civics, and English, and...Civics, English, Math, not Algebra, I never did get the hang of Algebra. I passed it, but I never did get the hang of it, and I enjoyed home economics, and band, and naturally Physical Ed. I enjoyed that.

J.J: Did you have any favorite teachers?

J.H: Yes, Mrs. Sermons, and Mr. Hill, Croop Hill, they called him Croop Hill, his name is Matthew Hill, you know him, okay yeah.

J.J: What did he teach you?

J.H: I think he taught me Civics.

J.J: And what did Mrs. Sermons teach?

J.H: Home economics, yes.

J.J: (unintelligible).

J.H: (laughing), and there was (unintelligible), he taught us music, and Mr. Washington, he did he taught us PE, yeah.

J.J: You said you were in the band, and you played clarinet, and you were in chorus, did you belong to any other clubs or organizations?

J.H: No, I didn't.

J.J: Kept you busy enough.

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: Okay, what did you do after school?

J.H: After school, come home and play.

J.J: What about homework?

J.H: Well we got homework at school, we had what do you call it, what would you call it?

J.J: Study hall?

J.H: Study hall.

J.J: Oh okay, did you have lots of homework?

J.H: Well compared to now that what these kids have, no.

J.J: No.

J.H: No, these kids have homework.

J.J: What kind of sports did yall participate in?

J.H: I didn't do sports, but at school it was mainly basketball and football.

J.J: Well you said you were a cheerleader too.

J.H: Uh huh, yeah.

J.J: Okay, for football.

J.H: Uh huh yeah.

J.J: As far as competing with other schools was Summer Hill known for any particular sport?

J.H: Football.

J.J: Football.

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: Everybody was scared when they came in town?

J.H: Uh huh, Bluedevils (laughing), Summer Hill Bluedevils.

J.J: And how long did you go to Summer Hill, you said you didn't...

J.H: Three years.

J.J: Three years, okay.

J.H: Uh huh, yeah.

J.J: After you quit going to school, did you marry and become a mother?

J.H: No.

J.J: No, okay.

J.H: I didn't marry right then, I married in 1960, '60.

J.J: Okay. How would you say that education has affected your life?

J.H: Pretty good.

J.J: How so?

J.H: Well it taught me to read, I love to read, I love reading, and well it taught you how, education taught you how to mingle, get along with people.

J.J: Socialize.

J.H: Yeah, socialize uh huh, it taught us manners, uh huh. Back then you know manners meant something, and you even got taught that at church and at home, and you had to respect your elders, yes ma'am, no ma'am, and all that stuff, so it taught you a lot of things, and reading is really important, because if you can't read then you don't know how to do anything else, so basically they would say reading, writing, and not arithmetic, but rithmetic, the three r's if you got the basics down then you could sort of go from there, so I had those.

J.J: When you were younger were there members of the community that were older that couldn't read or didn't have the opportunity to go to school?

J.H: Now my dad couldn't read. My dad couldn't read or write, but he could do whatever he wanted to do and go wherever he wanted to go.

J.J: He adapted.

J.H: He had, what do you call it, mother wit that's what they called it, mother wit, uh huh yep.

J.J: Do you think that you received an equal education to kids at the same time that went to white schools?

J.H: Well that I don't know, I don't know.

J.J: Did you feel that you were disadvantaged in anyway; like you didn't have newer textbooks or you didn't have the big fancy stuff?

J.H: We had new textbooks.

J.J: You did?

J.H: We had new textbooks, but back there then that didn't matter to us then, it didn't matter to us.

J.J: What mattered?

J.H: We were together there you know, we, I was, I was comfortable where I was yeah.

J.J: Were you affected personally by segregation in Bartow County, Summer Hill, Adairsville?

J.H: No.

J.J: No, your family, was it ever discussed?

J.H: They accepted it for what it was within.

J.J: Then we desegregation came about, did that change?

J.H: Oh sure, segregation came about well integration came about when I had my kids, so my kids came from Bartow Elementary I think I had one in there, maybe two in there, so then they started going at Adairsville.

J.J: Okay, other than education did it affect you socially in anyway?

J.H: Well not really, not really, because around here, I mean you know there's some every where, but around here basically everybody knew everybody blacks and white, and we just sort of like merged together, except for an exceptional fear, which was every where, yeah, but basically everybody knew everybody, so that's the advantage of a small town.

J.J: So you were familiar with a lot of white families before desegregation?

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: Do you think that made it easier after, for you and the community afterwards, that you in a way, in a sense were already desegregated, it made it easier?

J.H: Uh huh, uh huh, (unintelligible).

J.J: Was it different in Cartersville?

J.H: Well I wasn't in school then, but, and I really can't remember, I really can't remember how it was there afterwards.

J.J: When they tore down the school, how did that make you feel?

J.H: Here?

J.J: Uh huh, Summer Hill.

J.H: Well it didn't really bother me, but I mean they like put it back so, it probably would have bothered me if they had destroyed it completely, but they sort of like put it back, so it's still there for the community, and I think too, its to better the

community. Changes come and you have to move with the changes, and some changes are for the better and some are not, but you have to move with the flow and with the times.

J.J: Do you think today that there's a place for all black schools in society or any segregated, like all female all male, do you think there's a place for them in society today?

J.H: We do have that don't we?

J.J: Uh huh.

J.H: What do you mean?

J.J: Like do they serve a purpose or are they just a throwback to...

J.H: Well I always say it's a choice, that's what I would say. It's a choice that we have so many choices now to choose from and if a person chooses to go to an all girls school, an all boys school that's the individual choice, so I think it's great that you have choices to choose from.

J.J: What about the all black schools, especially their stuff, what four or five (unintelligible) in Atlanta, do you think those still have a purpose, or do you think that maybe they should try to be a little bit more integrated and mixed up?

J.H: Is it, can it not be integrated?

J.J: It can be I think.

J.H: Oh okay, so then it would be again somebody's choice if they wanted to go there.

J.J: So you think it's okay?

J.H: Yeah uh huh.

J.J: Okay, talk about a few more general things from the era. When did your family get your first television?

J.H: It was in the '50s. I think we were the third person, well black person in the community to get one. The Gardens had one first, which was, my husband, granddaddy, which was my husband, ex husband now, and then the Hatchers were the second, and we were the third to get one, and back then people, it would be like a movie, people would come to your house and watch it at night, Dragnet was the thing then, so every Thursday night we would be like a movie at our house, three or four families would come and watch Dragnet, so it was in the '50s when we got our TV.

J.J: What about your first car, the family?

J.H: Well now, I was little then, but we were still on Boyd Mountain, but back then you had T models, and A models or whatever you call them, but we had one of those, so it may have been in the late '40s or early '50s.

J.J: And telephone?

J.H: Telephone, we got our first telephone probably that was in the '50s too, but when daddy died in '57, so it had to be after then, because daddy was old fashioned so we didn't get a lot, have a lot of things then, so it was probably in the late, late '50s.

J.J: Did racism ever affect you or your family's life in a negative way do you think?

J.H: Well no not around here, like I said, my dad knew just practically everybody black and white, so...

J.J: Right.

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: Were any of yall involved in the Civil Rights Movement?

J.H: No.

J.J: No, why not, you didn't think...?

J.H: You know to march and stuff like that?

J.J: Any, you know anything like that.

J.H: No.

J.J: No, okay. Let's see, who was the person who has most influenced your life?

J.H: Oh in what area, in any area?

J.J: Any area, who are you're heroes or heroines?

J.H: (laughing), I don't know, I don't even know if I have any heroes.

J.J: Okay, that's fair enough.

J.H: (laughing).

J.J: I'm gonna ask you about a few places, if you could tell me about them, what you know, and the significance of them or...some of them were in, most of them were in Summer Hill, but some of them could be anywhere.

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: Mt. Zion Baptist Church, the bell, at Mt. Zion, do you know anything about that?

J.H: No.

J.J: What about the Brotherhood Lodge?

J.H: No.

J.J: St. Luke's?

J.H: No.

J.J: SLAB Stadium?

J.H: Where is that?

J.J: Supposively that was the football stadium, that's the name we've been getting.

J.H: Oh okay, I know that's where they played football and that's where I was a cheerleader there at that stadium.

J.J: Okay, the dump.

J.H: The dump?

J.J: Uh huh.

J.H: I don't know about a dump.

J.J: Okay, you mentioned the café delacontessa.

J.H: Uh huh.

J.J: Okay that's where you could get two cookies for a penny?

J.H: No, no that was the store here, no that's where the good hotdogs were (laughing), chilidogs.

J.J: The barbershop?

J.H: I don't know anything about the barbershop.

J.J: Were you aware of any places where there was drinking?

J.H: Drinking, no.

J.J: No not really, do you know where the name Summer Hill came from?

J.H: No, I don't know that.

J.H: No.

J.J: No.

J.H: We've pretty much well covered a lot of things.

J.J: Let's look over your memory map and see if there's any questions I have, okay.

J.H: Can you read that?

J.J: Uh huh, okay, alright well I think that will do it.

(End of Interview.)