

**Smit Lundberg Recollections. Northern Barkers Grove, Back on Rt. 40 to County Line,
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This is my, uh, memoirs or my memories of Easton as it was in, in 19, uh, 26, when I was born or shortly there—thereafter. I'll start maybe at the—if I may do so, at the store where I now own, at the—called the Easton Trading Post, which I built, me and my friends and family some 16, 17 years ago, which is at the corner of, uh, Route 40 and, uh, Barker's Grove Road, so, if you don't mind I'll, uh, progress down that road a little while, Barker's Grove Road, and, uh, relate some things I remember about it. The, uh, house on the, on the very, uh, tip of the corner is now owned by my son and me, uh, it's a big white house and it was a—when I was a young boy it was the Whitney house, and, uh, it was owned, uh, by a family by the name of Swinburne, two daughters maybe, and it was later sold when the Whitneys moved out, and then the Whitneys consisted of a—of quite a good-sized family, two or three boys and at least three girls that I remember, and, uh, they moved out, and, uh, my father bought it, I think, in 1938, so then, then we moved in there in '39, I think, so in that time my father and his wife, Helen, and, uh, myself and my son, Paul have—most or all three of us more or less occupied that house since.

Most of the old machinery and stuff, so I'll progress on south from there. The first house on, on the left past that was, was the Osberg house. It's been in the Osberg family ever since I could remember. It was formerly owned by Harlan Osberg, who, uh, had bought it for his mother and dad, Andrew and Catherine Osberg, and it was occupied by, uh, Andrew and Catherine, which I remember there's a lot of fond memories of that family, especially Mrs. Osberg. She was very good to us kids. She used to make, uh, a great, uh, cook and baker and she used to make, uh, her specialty, I thought, was doughnuts, and we seemed to know what, uh, day she made doughnuts each week, whenever it was and we always made it a point to be on the back door step, and we always got a handout of good doughnuts. They were good, homemade doughnuts. That's one of the things that'll, that'll last in my memory a long time, and, uh, it was then owned by Roy Osberg, a nephew of Harlan, and he just sold it here very recently, and a new family is going to move in there around the 1st of March, I guess, and they'll never be better neighbors than Roy and Alice were, that's for sure.

So, next to the house to that was the house where I was born, a little white house that sits close to the road, now occupied by the Abdies [phonetic 00:03:33]. My father owned that before he owned the—this other place we still call the Whitney place where I'm talking from, and we lived

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there until about '38, I think, and then Charles McCart was there for a few years and then, uh, Bob and Jean Herrington, and she was the daughter of Tillie Buckley that lived across the road almost from it, and they were—moved in there when they first married and after that it was, uh, it was, uh, occupied by, uh, Jewel Toomey. Bob and, uh, Jane traded that house for a farm that they owned just below the Rensselaer County line, so they kind of switched places and Jewel Toomey lived there, and her—they were—she was getting along in age and her, her man had been at the farm for many years, they both lived there together. She died first and they lived there for, oh, I don't know, five or six years and then, uh, Bob and—or, then, uh, I think, uh, Francis Hall came in there for a little while, and at one point, uh, Bob Henderson and Dale, when they first got married, lived there, and after that it was bought by, uh, Virginia Dixon, who lived there for quite a long time. She sold it to a family named Abdie, that lives there now, they're wife and, um, Abdie and his wife and, uh, one small child, so far.

So, then I'll move on to the next house, which is a big seven gable house directly south of it, which was, uh, occupied and owned by the Perrys, Frank and Eddy Perry, and he made his living on about five acres of land there probably, had, uh, five or six—four or five hundred chickens maybe and, uh, sold eggs and, you know, surplus chickens, and, and he had a lot of vegetables and raspberries and strawberries and a few apple trees and those sort of things and made his living. I, I, it wasn't too bad a living either because he had a nice car, I remember that, which he kept in the barn covered up with a cloth when he wasn't using it, which was only about 12 times a year it come out of that barn. It was a nice place and still is, and next south of that was a place now occupied by Fred Merrill, which was—when I was a kid, owned by, uh, uh, a family by the name of, uh, Wilkinson, who used it as a summer place only and that, that's the only time they were there. There was a couple of young girls, a little bit older than I was, and then, you know, a few years later it was bought by Fred, uh, Merrill and he married his new wife, Geraldine, it had been many years ago and Fred and Geraldine still live there. They had two daughters, one of whom still lives in town, uh, known as, uh, Earline Houser. They had another daughter who's up in the northern part of the state someplace, named Rae, but that's another story.

And, then, south of that was, uh, all open territory to the corner of, uh, Meeting House Road. But, I'll go back just a while and, and at the—some 30 years ago, I guess, uh, Albert Pratt ran a

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farm down on Brayton Road, moved there and built a new house and lived there for some years until he died and his wife just sold the place two or three years ago and, and is now in the Pleasant Valley Infirmary. It's now occupied by a—the ex, uh, uh, elementary principal of the Schaghticoke School, who is Julia Hoover, and he built an addition on there and, and she and her sister and brother-in-law, who is a Methodist minister, live there now. Their names are Beaver.

Then next to that some few years later was a house built by, uh, Merritt Austin. He was a man who had worked for years and—for the Niagara Power and Light Company and he became the foreman of the Schaghticoke crew, and he moved down here from North Remington and built that house there, and it's now occupied by his son and wife and, uh, there's a trailer in back for Merritt, Merritt's wife still comes for summers and, and, uh, Merritt, himself, has been dead for some four or five years, but, so, then we'll move on to the big house on the corner now, uh, occupied by Mrs. Diane Clements.

When I was a kid that was owned by Walter, I think it was, A. Wood. He was a, a farmer and quite involved in citizen things and Dairy Lea and politics and those certain type of things, and he and his wife, Grace, lived in there and they raised, uh, two daughters. One of them was a, was a dietician and she moved away from here, too, and married a man in, uh, Dryden, New York, and the other daughter, Martha, she and her husband bought the farm from Walter and occupied it after, and then he moved to Schaghticoke, but, uh, they farmed it there for a few years and then they sold it to, uh, a man by the name of, uh, oh, his name was Lowe, Carlisle Lowe. He was a nuclear engineer, worked at—for G.E. at Schenectady, and he lived there and died there, had—died suddenly with a heart attack and his wife owned it. A year or two later and then they—it was sold to this, uh, Mr. and Mrs. Clements who have, uh, three daughters, and now Diane Clements still lives there, and one of the daughters, and the rest of that family's pretty much moved away.

Now, if you don't mind, I'll go down Valley Falls Road from that corner, Meeting House and Valley Falls. The first place was a farm some quarter-of-a-mile down the road was—is now known as the Lamb farm. Randy Lamb and his wife, Debbie, lived there with three children, and when I was a kid that was owned by Wilson Henderson, known to everybody around here as

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Tone. He and mother lived there for some years and sold the farm to a Robert E. Miller, who was the son of the, uh, of the auction, Fred Miller, and was active in the auction himself, but, uh, he farmed there for a few years, and then he went back in the auction business and gave up the farm. Then it was sold to a man named, uh, excuse me again, his name was Leo Villen [phonetic 00:11:11], and he and his wife, Ellen, had two sons. They lived there for a few years and then sold it to the—Edward Lamb, Sr. He and his wife, uh, uh, Shirley, lived in there and they had, uh, uh, four sons and two daughters and, uh, Ed, Ed, Sr. died and, uh, two of the boys bought the farm and still have it. That's, uh, Edward, Jr. and, uh, Randy Lamb. Randy lives in the house and has, uh, two daughters and a, and a son.

So, then we'll move on down to the, uh, same side of the road in the—on the corner of Brayton Road lives, uh, Bud, uh, George Rogers, Jr., and he and his, uh, wife and, uh, a daughter and two sons live there. That was—when I was a kid that was the Ed Merrill place. Ed died with a stroke, I believe it was, years and years ago and then after he died it was, uh, sold to a man name Alfred Wein. He had just one daughter and his wife, Ruth, and they lived there for some years and they bought the farm on Brayton Road, next to them, and he had a, a fairly good-sized dairy operation for a while. Then he retired and, uh, he sold the farm to, uh, Albert Pratt along with all his holdings to Albert Pratt and it became part of the Pratt, uh, farm.

Um, then we move on down the road to the next place on the left quite a distance, probably a mile or close to it, that was my grandfather and grandmother's place, the old retirement home, a small farm, and the, uh, they were there until they, they, uh, both died there, I believe, and then after they died, uh, it was used as a hired-man's house by the Borden farm. They, they bought the farm or had the farm thereafter and, and the house burned down. There's nothing there now, only a saw mill that the Bordens had put up and it was used for home use only.

The next place on the left would be the—what used to be known as the Mike Delory farm when I was a kid, and that was, uh, Mike and his, uh, wife and, I think, they had three sons who lived there and, uh, and, uh, then, uh, later, uh, Mike quit farming and, and sold the, uh, place to the Bordens. That's now part of the Borden farm, and Elton Borden lives in there with his wife, Vivian, at, at this time and, so, the next place on the left was the, the Leary, Leary farm and that

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was, uh, also bought by the Bordens from the Leary, Leary estate, I guess he, he died while he lived there and they bought that and my uncle Astor and Aunt Margaret lived in there in their silver retirement years and Uncle Astor died while they lived there, and then my aunt, uh, stayed there for a number of years and then she got not able to take care of herself so she had to—she died in the Pleasant Valley Infirmary and then the place became the property of her son, James Ivan, he was a Methodist minister in, uh, Saratoga and, uh, he used that as a summer place or weekend place, and he was murdered in that house some ten years ago, and after he was deceased, his son, Eric, bought it and he lives there now with his wife now and a couple small children.

Then you go on down for another half-mile or more, the next place on the left is the Buckley farm, which was in the Buckley family for many years and, uh, Irvin and Florence Buckley, and they had, uh, two sons and a daughter that I know of, and they—their, uh, own daughter—the daughter was Lucille, she married Kenneth Wolfe, and she still lives in town, and the other son, uh, Burdette, lives still on Bur—Burdette or—Wilbur Avenue and, uh, Gilbert retired from farming and sold that farm also to the Bordens and built a house, a log cabin type house next to the—right in, uh, next to the Rensselaer County line where he lived and he died there and Salbens [phonetic 00:16:31] sold to a man by the name of Perisal [phonetic 00:16:33], and that's the east side of the road to the county line.

So, then if you turn around and come back heading north the places on the left-hand side of the road, the first one would be—it's—in my day it was the Clover residence, uh, occupied by Thomas Clover and his wife, and they had two daughters, one of whom still lives there and has—on that place, and she married a man named, uh, Pete Duriski [phonetic 00:17:24], and they had a couple of sons who are—have since gone away, and their—Virginia Duriski still lives there and is, is also the, uh, assistant librarian at the East—Easton Library. So, then you come out north quite some distance again you get into the buildings on the Borden farm. The first place on the left is a place now that was in the family for many years. It used to be used as a hired-man house. Now it's, uh, James Borden and his wife live in there and they have a couple of sons. The next place on the left would be the old Borden homestead and farms and, uh, that's where the main operation is, the buildings and all, the apple building and so forth, and, uh, that

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house is—was my Aunt Margaret and Uncle Oscar's house and that was—that's a big house with a cupola on top, which is kind of unusual for this area, but I mean there was a big, wide front porch on there and many times my mother's family met in there for family doings and I've seen a lot of people on that big front porch. So, then you go north from there and, uh, there's, uh, three buildings toward the top of the hill, also owned by the Bordens. The first one is Leonard Borden and his wife live in that one, and his—two of his sons, uh, Tim and Gary, live in the other two. They're more modern-type houses.

So, then you proceed north and you come to the, the, uh, Brayton Road again, intersection, and the first place on the left would be the Elsworth farm, and that's a big old house and it's been there for many years, I'm sure, and, uh, Jan and Bill Elsworth had, uh, five children, I believe, and one daughter and four sons, and the, the daughter has since married and, but the mother and father and four sons still live there. It was originally known as the Sisson farm when I was a kid, run by B. L. Sisson, Burton L. Sisson, and he had the—two or three sons and a couple of daughters and one, one son stayed on the farm, George Sisson stayed on the farm with his father, and he owned it and operated it for a long time and when he retired he bought the house that's now occupied by Bud Rogers, and he lived there and his son, Frank, took it over for years and, and eventually it was sold to the Elsworths. So, that'll bring us back to the corner of the Meeting House Road.

Then, proceeding north from the Meeting House Road, the first place on the left was—is now occupied by Ronald, uh, Snell, uh, Sr., and his wife, Grace. It was formerly the, uh, the Louis and Flora Fort place and that was—Louis was the [unintelligible 00:20:57] in the Town of Easton when I was a kid, and, uh, he died Mrs. Fort did if for several years afterward and then she sold it to, uh, Ronald Snell, who lives there yet. So, the next place on the left would be, uh, Vernon Vandiver farm, place, and it was—that was the, uh, Frank Thompson place when I was a kid, and Frank had a small plot of land there, and he seemed to make his living from, from vegetables and berries and those type of things and then he moved away to Stillwater and the place was sold to a family of, of—by the name of Frank, R. Frank, and his wife, and they had three daughters, two of whom I went to school with and, uh, then when, uh, they got done with the place, uh, it was, uh, sold to, uh, to my cousin, Tom Jensen, and he and his wife and three

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daughters lived there for several years. And, then it was sold to Alan Bassa and Rose, they had a couple of children and lived there for a while and then they moved to another place and that was sold at that time to the Vandivers, to Vernon Vandiver and his wife, Bernice, who was al—who was one of the, uh, uh, Frank daughters, uh, they lived there until they retired and, and moved to a retirement home and, uh, and then Mark bought it and still lives, lives there now.

And, then, the next place on the left would be the old—it used to be the Herman Layer place. Herman had another small plot of land and did a lot of gardening things and those type of things and then, uh, he was, uh, as I remember, his wife had already died, and he lived there alone and then the place was sold to Clarence and Mathilda Buckley, and they lived there and had two daughters, Annabel Batt, she is today, and Jane Herrington who now lives right south of the county line on Valley Falls Road, and, uh, Annabel is—lives on the corner of, of Meeting House and Becker Road, so then, uh, Clarence died and Ella lived there for a number of years alone and, uh, and she got to spend her last days, still lives in the Pleasant Valley Infirmary and then, and then was purchased by the, uh, Hansen family, who live there now with their four children. So, then we proceed on north, uh, and there is a house there built by my Aunt Irene, uh, it was Irene Lundberg-Mathis, and it was built by them some 40 years ago probably and when, when, uh, they have both died since and Jack Lundberg now owns it, which brings us back to the, uh, corner of the Barker's Grove Road and Route 40.

Now, I'll go to the, uh, Meeting House Road intersection of Route—with Route 40, which, uh, Meeting House Road and the north end of Valley Falls Road were—in the old days the main road from Greenwich to Schaghticoke. It went down around that loop. I'll proceed east from there on Meeting House Road. The first place on the left is now a house there, put in there by Robert Darrow, and he lives there with his wife and, uh, uh, the next place is, uh, uh, Clayton Darrow, Jr. lives there and originally there were, uh, three houses in that space. The first house to the west was, uh, Mary McGordon, she was a spinster lady who lived there until she was an old lady, and, uh, the next two houses were owned by the Darrow family [unintelligible 00:25:18] some of the time, but not always, and there was a small building in front which was at one time Dave, uh, Darrow's harness shop. He used to be a harness maker. So, then the next house on the—or next building on the right would be, uh, the old Easton store, Barker's Grove

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store, and that was, uh, um, bought onto the Elding property, Eldings owned it all and later they sold—Mrs. Elding—Harry Elding died and Mrs. Elding sold it to the Hill family, Jen and Ralph Hill, who is since deceased, but the store building is being restored right now by the, the, uh, Hills, Ralph Hill and his wife, Diane, they don't still live in it, but they've been doing quite a bit of work on it. The next building was the big old hotel building, which was owned by the Eldings and he ran a garage in the old days across the street fixing cars and tractors and so forth. He and his wife, Anna, lived—Anna lived there for many years and Harry died and Anna lived there for some years afterwards, and, uh, she sold, uh, the place to, uh, the Hill family and, uh, uh, Janet Hill still lives there and, uh, the hotel, as I understand it was much bigger than it is today, but both Hill buildings that's left there stands very close to the road now.

The next place on the right would be the old, uh, blacksmith and, uh, uh, wagon factory, Sam Fox wagon factory. And they, they built the wagons on the two upper stories, and the first story was a blacksmith shop and, uh, the, uh, carriage factory there was closed before I remember, but, uh, George Cameron still shod horses in that blacksmith shop downstairs and, uh, I used to go down there as a kid and watch, uh, George, uh, shoe horses in the afternoon. He and his wife, uh, Fanny, lived in the house at that time and, uh, and, uh, she, she had been previously married to another blacksmith named John Birmingham who had that place for a while, and he had died and then she married George Cameron. He was also a blacksmith and they lived there until, uh, they both died and it was sold to, uh, uh, Mrs. Nora Anthony, who had been—lived around here all her life and had been living in Bald Mountain at a farm there, she and her husband. Her husband had died, so she moved down there as her retirement place, and she lived there for many years and it was owned later by one of her daughters for a while, and then it was bought, bought by, uh, Dr. Gifford, and Dr. Gifford also used it as a retirement place, and he, uh, was a—the, uh, chief of surgery at the Leonard Hospital in Troy. He lived here until—for some years until he died, and then his, uh, a relation of his, uh, a cousin or something, Mary Gifford, owned it and, and lived there for ten years or so, and she finally sold it a few years ago to a, a family who have three or four daughters, but I don't know their name.

So, the next place on the right after that would be a newer house, built there some 25 years ago by Robert Cronin and his, and his wife, Sue, and this, uh, the next place on the right would be

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the, uh, when I was a kid, the Allen residence. George Allen and his wife, and they were—that was their retirement home. They had the—at one time, uh, before [unintelligible 00:29:15] owned the farm now known as the Lamb farm. They had retired there, and after they died it was, uh, sold to John Carter, Sr. John, Jr. still lives there and Mrs. Cronin lives next door, is, is also another daughter, and that's, uh, is and probably—I know it was known as the Harmony Lodge when the Allens lived there and, uh, then you go on across the corner of the Valley Falls Road again heading east and the first place on the right would be my sister, her husband and herself, uh, Harold Steen and Bea Steen, bought that place from the Kenyon family who had owned it for some years before. When I was—before my time it was occupied by, uh, the Millard family before the Kenyons bought it apparently and Mr. Millard was a Civil War veteran. He and his wife lived there and then his, uh, after his, uh, demise she sold it and, uh, to the Kenyons and moved across the road and lived with her sister, uh, Mrs. Stiles, and, uh, I remember her as a child. She was there. Both of them were there for a few years.

So, then you go on east and then the next place on the right now is, is owned now by the Patterson family. It's a new house built there some 20 years ago and, uh, the, uh, original owners have died and a nephew, another Mr. Patterson now. That's right on the corner of, uh, Hoag Road, which turns to the right and is across from the Easton Rural Cemetery. Then, you proceed on east once again and there's some new houses there. There's, uh, first house is owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Gay. That house is back in the trees and bushes. You can hardly see it from the road. Then, you continue east again and there's a house occupied by the Garsol family and, uh, then next is a house now, uh, occupied by a Mr. and Mrs. Robert Speak, them and a couple of children live there, so that brings you back to the, uh, to the corner of, uh, South Cambridge Road, and there's a house right in there on the right-hand side of the Meeting House Road and, and the point like that belongs to, uh, Eugene Sprague, and, uh, when I was a kid that was owned by, uh, um, Pat Conroy. He was a, uh, an unmarried man who lived there and worked on farms around and he was very hard of hearing as I can remember and had a time, hard time understanding people, and after he left there, I guess, died, and then it was bought by Bill Sprague and his wife, who had, uh, owned the farm over on Cooke Hollow Road before that, where I now live in, uh, and, uh, his, uh, son, Gene, took it over and still lives there.

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So, the next thing you come to would be way on the corner a mile or so on the right at the corner of Cooke Hollow Road, and that was a farm that was the Pearson farm for many years. It was the Pearson farm when I was a kid and up until a few years ago it was a, a man named Ad—Adolph Pearson, Sr., they had several children who lived there for a number of years and, uh, and then they all pretty much moved away except for the twin sons they had, and they were Eldon and Hilding Pearson. They owned that farm for many years and just sold it three or four years ago, and, uh, it's now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Christenfeld, uh, they have one child and, uh, that's at the corner of, uh, Meeting House Road and, uh, and, and Cooke Hollow Road, and then you go way over the hill to the first—the next place on the right is now owned and occupied by Stuart Skiff and his wife, Carol. And, uh, when I was a kid that was the Beadle farm. It was, uh, I guess the—one time the grandmother Skiff was, was Stuart Skiff's grandmother, I believe, and, uh, she was, uh, Mrs.—she was Ms. Beadle before she was married, so that's been in the family for many years, that place there. Now, that's the only place that's under—right in the town of Easton, and so you go to the county line and head back to the west and right on the corner there's a house there that was—when I was a kid it was occupied by, uh, Byron Herrington, who was the principal of the Greenwich, uh, School, that was centralized at that time was Greenwich School. It's, it's been sold several times since and it's, it's still occupied. It was not a very large house. And, right up in the little lane behind that is a house that at one time was owned by the, uh, Lathrop Chase family. They ran the store in Greenwich and that's, uh, still there. It's an older house. It's still there and, uh, the—you would never even see it from the road.

The next place heading west would be the Courtney Wands place, and, and the, the Wands have lived there for many years and, uh, Mr. and Mrs. Wands are still alive and there's some aging to them but they're still living here and they raised a family while they were there, and he farmed it for a long time and gave up farming and he went to, went to, uh, worked for, uh, [unintelligible 00:36:00] Robertson who was a John Deere dealer in Greenwich. That was his last employment and he still lives there. The next place on the, uh, on the right would be the, uh, the old, uh, uh, Malcom and Frances Hall farm. They only had one daughter. She's Mrs., uh, John Neat, the veterinarian in Greenwich. And, then after that was, uh, Francis—Malcolm died and Frances

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sold the farm to the Skiffs and they added on to their holdings there. It's now occupied by Tom Skiff, one of Stuart's sons.

The next place on the right is, uh, a house that sits back in the lane, a brick house, and that's owned by, uh, and occupied now by Charles Brownell as a summer place. He lives in Florida in the winter and, uh, that's been in the Brownell family for many years. His father, uh, used to—Charles's father used to live there and, uh, then the next place on the right after that is the, the, uh, Newhall's that was built by the Pearson twins and, and, uh, not occupied now because the one son—one twin has since died and the other is in a nursing home. That brings you back to the, uh, corner of, uh, Cooke Hollow Road. The next place on the right would be the farm now occupied by Edward Lamb, Jr., and his wife, Joan. They had two daughters. One is married and moved away and the other still goes to college. That was a—when I was a kid that was a—first of all the Matt, Matt Flatly farm, but he was involved also in the store in Greenwich and it was Flatly and Ryan where the Washington Square Deli, same building that now exists and Matt Flatly moved to Troy and sold the farm to Alfred Lamb, who was Edward's, uh, grandfather, and he ran the farm, and then his son, uh, Harold, ran it, and he—his son Harold died suddenly, uh, some years ago and then Edward and family took it over, and when young Ed got married he, uh, moved in there and still lives there yet. Then you come to the top of the hill heading west and there's, uh, there's an old barn there. That was a farm, the McGrath farm in the old days and, uh, the McGraths bought a farm down near Schaghticoke and moved away from there and sold it to a family, uh, by the name of Waldgrove and the house burned while they were there, so the house is gone but the barn still stands there, and it's, uh, the place is now owned by, uh, Mary Jane Connor, who is one of the Connors from Cooke Hollow Road.

So, then you once again proceed west and the next place on the right would be, uh, a log cabin type home built by Steve Batt and his wife, Linda, and they have, uh, they and a couple of children live there. And, uh, uh, Steve was one of Annabel Batt's children. So, then you would come to the corner of, uh, Becker Road, the, uh, far eastern corner of the road and that's the house that was built by Annabel and Bill Batt, some 40 years ago, I guess, and, uh, they're still there. Then, the next place you come to is the place now occupied by Roy Greenquist, and when I was a kid that was the, uh, farm that was, uh, first of all it was, uh, the community's youngest

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farm and they never owned it, it was owned by a family in Hoosick Falls named Case, and, uh, Koninos [phonetic 00:40:30] Young moved away from there and then, uh, Charlie Scott and his wife, Mae, were, uh, newly married and they lived there for a number of years and some of their children were born there, and then they, um, I'm sorry to say both died, uh, fairly young and left four children and, and at some time that was, uh, was sold to, uh, the Batt Family, Harold and Mrs. Batt, and they, uh, they had two sons, one of whom is Bill, who lives across the road, and, uh, that, that house all burned, and Roy Greenquist bought a piece of property there, the, uh, house site and one barn was still left there, I guess, and, uh, he built a new house on that same foundation, and so he's in that, that place and then you go from there to the Eastern Rural Cemetery and the Quaker Church at the old—they call it the South Meeting House now. That's been there for many, many years, well over a hundred, I'm sure, and it's still a nice building in good shape, uh, but some years ago, uh, that belonged to the Quakers and they also had a church in the northern part of town, so they, they gave the right to that to the cemetery association with the provision that they, that the cemetery association of Easton would take care of it and they would use it in summers only when they wanted to, but it actually belonged, belongs—the building belongs now to the cemetery association.

The next place on the right is a house formerly owned by my father and rented by him for many years, and then he sold it and—to a Dick Martin and, uh, Dick tore down the original house and built a house, which is, is there now. It's owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Bernie Yumet [phonetic 00:42:46].

And, the next place on the right would be the house that was built some 10, 15 years ago by Francis Flynn, now occupied by, uh, the Schiel [phonetic 00:43:01] family. The next place on the right would be the, uh, Ronald Snell, Jr. place, which is a house that sits well back from the road now, but as a kid I remember that was the, uh, the Stiles place when I was a boy. It was owned by Mrs. Alzaid Stiles and he and his wife, as I originally said, Millard lived there, and they had a handyman caretaker-type person who lived with them. He was Sam Huot [phonetic 00:43:36], and he also did outside carpenter work and handyman work and, and as well as keeping the lawns mowed for the, for those ladies there, and when they died he, he, uh, he took it over somehow or other, and he lived there for many years and after he died, uh, it was sold to a,

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a family that, uh, pretty much ran the place down, so, uh, uh, Ronald Snell, Sr. bought that property way back and, uh, the house was so bad that he had to destroy the original house, which was, you know, fairly close to the road and, uh, and, uh, Ronald Jr. built that house in the back, which he still occupies.

The next place on the right would be at the junction with Valley Falls Road. That's a house, the Clements House, previously mentioned on the Valley Falls Road. The next place on the right would be the, um, old Barker's Grove School District, number five, where I went to school when I was a kid, and that's since been converted into a, a residence and is now occupied by, uh, Larry Watkins and his wife. The next place on the right would be the, uh, Natalie Beck residence. Uh, Natalie was married to Harold Beck, who lived there for many years and they had an extensive family, seven or eight children, but Natalie still lives there and, uh, is quite active. The next place, the next places on the right are two newer houses that are—one is built and occupied by Roy Osberg, who had previously lived on, uh, this end of Barker's Grove by Valley Falls Road, and his daughter, Bernice, and her husband built another new house there.

So, next on the right would be the old barns that were Harry Elding's garage in the old days and are now used as—Janet Hill, just as a family garage. The next place on the right would be the house which is unoccupied for many years, and it was—when I was a kid it was, uh, owned and occupied by Fred and Mary Taylor, and so as far as I know they never had any children, and then it was occupied by the Hunisak family, Steve Hunisak and his wife for many years and Steve died and Mrs. Hunisak moved to Troy and, and it was—it stood vacant for quite a while and then Elvin Brownell bought that. Elvin Brownell owned the property right on—really fronts on 40, but right next door to that, and that brings us back to the corner of Meeting House Road and Route 40. We'll now proceed north from Barker's Grove or where Valley Falls Road and Route 40 corner, which is just, uh, the first building on the right would be the—

[End Part A – Begin Part B]

—some continuity, I'll now go, uh, north from Barker's Grove and Valley Falls Road where it meets Route 40. The first house on the—place on—building on the right would be the Easton

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Fire House, which was built about 1953 or '54, some 40 years ago. The next place on the right would be the place now owned and occupied by my cousin, Jack. It had been, uh, in the, uh, Lundberg family since the early 1900s. The previous owner was, uh, uh, uh, Charles Allen. My grandfather bought that farm from him around 1901 or 1902. He lived there and died there and my grandmother lived there for many years thereafter. The farm was taken over by my Uncle Edward and he—he bought the farm across the road, which was, uh, the McGowan farm at that time. He bought the land from that farm, so that farm is still operating. Jack and his wife, Judy, and, uh, they had two sons and two daughters, but Jack and Judy still live there, and, uh, the next place on the right would be the, uh, Easton Market. That was built there, uh, shortly before the, uh, old North Easton Store burned, by an Elmer Murray, who ran that store for several years and it was then, uh, sold to, uh, Pete Zavala. He ran it for a few years and it's now occupied and owned by John DeAmbro.

Then, from there you go north quite a ways and there are no other houses on the right until you get to the, uh, uh, Vly Summit Road corner northeast and then the first place on the right at the junction is the old hotel, which is now owned and occupied by, um, Phil and Miriam Peters. When I was a kid that was, uh, James Welling's place, and he operated a little store and gas station in the north room, which was once the barroom of the, of the hotel, as I understand it, and, uh, he and his wife, uh, were there for many years, and he was also, Jim Welling was also the town clerk of the Town of Easton for many, many years, and, uh, they raised one son named, uh, Nat Welling, Nathaniel. He was a teacher in the Greenwich School for a while, and they sold that place to John Skiff, who was one of the Skiff family who ran the store in Greenwich and had various other operations, so John Skiff bought that, and he, he rented it out for a while and then it was sold to the, uh, Peters family, who still live there.

And, uh, then the next building when I, when I was a kid was the old North Easton Store, which was bought by Phil and Marian Peters many years ago when Elmer Murr [phonetic 00:03:33] built the store farther down the road here, and, uh, shortly there afterwards that old building burned, so it's now a part of the Peters' lawn lot. The next building on, on the right would be the Easton Library, which was built some probably 45, 50 years ago and, uh, has since been, uh, a few years ago it was enlarged to twice its original size and is quite an active place today, right

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across from Burton Hall. The next place on the right would be the place that's know to me as the Barrett Eddy property and was—Barrett Eddy lived there and he made his living doing garden things as well, and, uh, when he, uh, passed on it was sold to a, a family by the name of Bass who lived there for many years and it's occupied now by, uh, John Hennessy, Jr. and his wife and family who have lived there for some few years, and it was—had other owners in between whose names I can't remember at this point.

The next place on the right would be, uh, a house very close to the other house that was when I was a kid the Easton Methodist Parsonage. The minister lived there, and they gave up having the minister residence and then went in with other churches, and so they, uh, it was sold to Harold Snell, the, the grandfather of Ronald, and they had, uh, oh, I guess, five or six children, and they, they were pretty much all raised there and, uh, then it was Harold, uh, Mrs. Snell died and Harold lived there for a while and then he sold the house to his youngest son, Ashley, and—who owned and occupied it for quite a few years and it's been sold a couple of times since. It's still occupied, but I don't know the name of the people today that live in there. The next, the next place on the right was the—I call it the old Moo Snell residence. Moo and Hazel Snell lived there with their two daughters, uh, Phyllis and Anita. Phyllis is, is now Phyllis Pearson. She was married to Pear Pearson and lived in town much of her life but just recently moved to, uh, Cambridge. And, the daughter, Anita, married, uh, Bill Sharon, and they owned and occupied that house for quite a while until they built a new house on, uh, Herrington Hill Road four or five years ago, and it, it was sold to another family, whose name I don't know.

The next building on the right that I remember was the old, uh, North Easton School, which was a building on the right, very, very close to the old road, which was, uh, removed and torn down when they built the road in 1933 or '34 or whatever it was, and, uh, so then they—the, uh, Easton School was moved over onto what is known now as, uh, Church Lane, which was originally part of the main road from Greenwich to Schaghticoke, and, uh, the, the next place on the right some distance, uh, that I remember was the, the place, uh, now owned by Ed Slocum, Edward Slocum, and, uh, that was occupied for many years by Mr. and Mrs. George Bregas. His wife, Ella, was an organist in the Easton Methodist Church for many, many years and, uh, they lived there in, in, uh, and Ed had his farm on Cheese Factory Road, but they moved there sometime later in life

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and, uh, that was a more modern house in my younger days and next to that, like across—more across from the town shed today, was a house in there occupied by the Fletchers, Les Fletcher, Lester Fletcher and his brother, uh, nicknamed Buck. I don't know what his real name was, but that house burned down when I was a young man and so that's all part of, uh, the, uh, Slocum lawn today.

Next thing on the right would be the, uh, buildings to the—I'll call it the, uh, Foss farm for now, but then you go some distance north and there's a farm there now owned and occupied by Albert Sullivan and his wife, and they had several children and they've lived there, there for many years. Uh, previous to them being there Albert's father, Stuart was there. Stuart Skiff and, uh, Bertha, I believe, her name was, and, uh, they had, uh, uh, a couple of children, uh, the Slocums did and, uh, one of whom was Edward that owns that house down below now and, uh, that was at one time the—one of the Pratt's farm, Joseph Pratt and the, the Slocum, Stuart Slocum bought that place from some of the Pratt family. So the next place on the right would be the, uh, what was formerly a Forest Pratt farm, I guess that was a, uh, originally the, uh, Frank Pratt farm, Forest's father, Forest and Albert and Chet, they're all sons of, of, uh, Frank Pratt, and that was his farm and, uh, then it was—as I say, Forest took it over and ran it for many years and, uh, when he retired and moved to the north end of town more, the, they farm was sold to the Moys, who already owned Chet's farm on the, uh, Sarles Ferry Road, and they, uh, they still own it, the Moy Enterprises still owned it and, uh, they used the residence, uh, as a hired man's house now.

So the next place on the right would be—that I remember was, uh, the Stella Cornell house, which was in a state of disrepair when I was a kid and it finally fell down, so, uh, nobody had lived there for many years, but it was an old, old house probably historic, but somehow it was let fall down. The next place on the right would be a house that sits back in the lane a little ways and that's owned and occupied by George and Earleen Houser. George was a, is a, a son of the, of the Hellman family, uh, Ruby Hellman's son, and he's been involved in the Hellman Brotherhood Farm for, uh, many years and is still there. And, his wife, Earleen, who was, uh, Fred Merrill's daughter, the Fred Merrill that lives now in Barker's Grove, and she's also the Easton Town Historian. So, then you proceed north and that was the old, uh, Cheese Factory District, as I knew it, Schoolhouse and, uh, that was vacant for quite some time. Henry Fryer

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owned it for a while, used it for storage and then a man named George Benz bought it and had the building moved and turned around and, and a garage added on and he used that as a residence, and, and it has been sold two or three times and it's now owned and occupied by, uh, Sandy Lebaron and his wife, Colleen, and children. So the next place on your right would be the old, uh, Orié Wilbur house and farm, of course the farm buildings are across the road, but the house was there and there were, there were some barns there but that's owned now by, uh, uh, Doc Rimpf [phonetic 00:12:28], Donald Rimpf and his wife live there and they, they had a couple children and they have since married and moved away, but they since occupy that, um, building, which was the old, the old Wilbur farm. That was the Wilbur farm for many years, I believe, and then you go north to the, uh, from there to the, uh, Burton Road, and there I'll turn around.

Now proceeding south on the western side of the road and Route 40, the first place you come to would be the Hejos [phonetic 00:13:11] place. That was owned and occupied on my remembrance by the Hejos, Leo and his sister, Lillian, and mother lived there one time. Lillian still lives there. It's a small farm and, uh, they—and I used to pick up milk there with Fred Merrill. The next place on the right that's directly on Route 40 would be the building to the Doc Rimpf place, and from there you go to the junction of, uh, Cheese Factory Road and, uh, the next thing on the right would be the, uh, Brotherhood Farms, for many years owned and occupied by the Hellmans and before that the Handys, who was Mrs. Hellman's, uh, she was a Handy, Mrs. Hellman. They had a big family, several boys and one daughter, and lived there for many years, and George Houser and George Houser, Jr., who was a daughter of, or a son of Ruby Hellman and George, Jr. still operates that farm, quite an extensive operation today.

The next thing to that would be the houses way back in the, in the lane, a farm that sits back in the lane now occupied by John N. Susty and Mrs. John N. Susty and Joanne Susty and in the old days I remember, I remember it as being the Winchell farm. That was, that was only a rental place. It was owned by, at that time by the, uh, I think, uh, I'm not sure of that name, but Winchell's rented it and then, uh, Ann Susty, Tony and Ann Susty, Sr., bought it some years and years ago and still in the family. The, the, the, John, which was one of Tony's sons is, uh, John is since deceased and his wife is still involved in running that farm with her son, Joe, and other

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helpers. Then the next place on the right below that would be the, uh, I knew it as the, uh, Bob Mahaffy farm, and Bob Mahaffy and his wife lived there, and when I was a kid and I, and I helped bale hay and stuff there, and, uh, it was later, uh, purchased by Albert Foss and he worked at Henry Friar's Hatchery, and there was also Henry Friar's brother-in-law and he turned that—it was a cow farm when Mahaffy lived there, but he turned—Al turned it into a chicken farm, converted most of the barns into, uh, chicken houses and, and built some new buildings, too, and he operated that farm for many years, the buildings are across the road mostly, except for one small barn, it's now, uh, owned and occupied by a man named Pustare.

So the next building to the south of that would be a house that's now, uh, owned and occupied by Mrs. Phyllis Sharp. Uh, she and her husband, uh, Bill, owned it and had several children, and, uh, Phyllis still lives there, and that was once occupied and owned by Albert Foss before he bought the farm next door. And, uh, it was also once owned by, or occupied by, uh, Mathilda Buckley and her father and mother, Jacob and Anna Visser, and, uh, then you come on south and there was a house which was, uh, uh, when I was a kid, um, uh, Arnie Betts, who worked on Easton Highway, and his mother lived in there and after they, uh, um, well, Mrs. Betts passed on and Arnie moved to Albany and it was sold to a, a Merton Skylar, uh, no, excuse me, before that was Mrs. Dora Darrow, had it as a retirement place after she sold the farm farther south on Route 40 and, uh, she lived there some number of years and then it was bought by Merton Skylar, who was a veteran of World War II. He came there as a, as his retirement from a farm farther down the road, and he lived there and, uh, it's, it's now occupied by, uh, was lived in by, uh, Bob Moy, Robert Moy and his wife, Beverly, and they lived in there for a while and, uh, now their son, Robert, Jr., lives in there, he and his wife and one small child.

Next to that is the, uh, Easton Town Barn, highway barn, and that's, uh, I remember that when my father was road commissioner, the town barn was the, uh, old church building, which had been converted to hold some of the town machinery, and that burned, uh, after—during the time that my father was road commissioner that burned. There was an old wooden coal furnace in there and it burned, I think it started during the afternoon when nobody was around and it burned up before night. Burned up very fast, so then, then they built a new shed, which blew down in the bad wind of 1952, I think it was. That building that's there now was built to replace that

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building that was there then. Then after that you cross the, uh, Sarles Ferry Road and the next place on the right would be, uh, the house that was, uh, once owned by, uh, Wesley Maliski, when I was a kid, and, uh, has since been owned by his, uh, one of his nephew's, uh, uh, Peter Maliski, and he did extensive work and it's been reworked two or three times since and it's, it's now been vacant for a while, but it's now occupied by—I don't know the name of the people.

Next to that is a house, um, a house that was only built two or three years ago. Uh, the old house that was there when I was a kid was, uh, occupied by Mike Behonic [phonic 00:20:24] and his, I guess she's his niece, uh, bought the place and tore the old house down and built this more modern house on there, and she still owns it, but she doesn't occupy it. Next on the right would be the, uh, house, uh, where, uh, Shirley Lamb, our current town clerk lives, which is a modern, more modern-type house. Next to that is, uh, a house, uh, owned and occupied by, uh, Ralph Briggs and his wife. Ralph is, uh, currently the town justice, and, uh, that's a more modern-type house, and, uh, next to that is a house that was built by, uh, Catherine Thompson, who still lives in the, uh, uh, Pleasant Valley Infirmary, and, uh, she had that house built when, uh, her father's farm next door was sold and so she, uh, she lived in there for many years until she was no longer able to live alone and she went to the infirmary to live. And, the house used to be owned by Ernest Thompson and the farmhouse next door and the barns were in the back of it, is now occupied by Bill Shannon. He and his wife live there now. As I said, that was the Ernest Thompson farm for many years before.

Next to that, of course, is the Burton Hall, which is a building which I think it says out in front of it was built about 1902. It's still in good shape and used as the town clerk's office and for all the town meetings and so forth. Next to that, uh, there was a house in there that the town later bought and had that house taken down, and, uh, which is now the parking lot to the Burton Hall. But, next to that was a house that's now owned by Phillip Peters, which is also known as the Corliss home, which is the birthplace of the, uh, the Corliss that was involved in the development of the steam engine many years ago. That's now owned by Phillip Peters, who owns the hotel across the street. It's occupied by, uh, Alan Curtis, who runs a farm store over on County Road 74. Next to that is the old, uh, uh, was the Welling house, as I remember it. It belonged to—for many years to, uh, the Jane Welling and her, uh, mother and sister. Jane was a well-known uh,

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person around town that was quite educated and an all-around person. She wrote, uh, some books about old happenings in Easton, and I can't remember the name that she called them, but they're well-known books around here. And, it's now owned, I think, is also owned by, uh, Phil Peters, but occupied by his, his daughter, uh, Philippa Peters, who was also the clerk to the current, uh, town planning board.

That brings you back to the, uh, that place is right on the corner of the Wells Road, so proceeding once again south, across Wells Road, the first building when I remember it that was occupied and owned by John Lundberg and wife, Hannah, no relation to myself that I know of, but, uh, he was a blacksmith and ran a blacksmith shop and, and, uh, carpenter shop, I guess, in back of there, and upstairs, uh, lived his, uh, son, Elmer Lundberg, who was an excellent carpenter. Uh, well-known around this area for his excellence as a carpenter and, uh, he's the person that built the Easton Library building some 40 years ago or so. And, uh, it's now owned by, uh, Mary Alice Gillis, one of the daughters, and it's a two-family house now that's uh, rented out. Next to that, of course, is the old Easton ME Church, that's got quite a history, which I don't know it all. Then next to that you—going up Route 40 would be the remains of the old Ralph Slocum farm. The house is still there in a pretty bad state of disrepair, but it's, uh, Ralph Slocum ran that farm for many years, he and his wife, Alv, and they had three children, and one daughter still lives around Troy, but the farm is, uh, the barn burned some years ago and, and the land is only rented out now.

The next thing on the right would be a house built about 10 years ago by a Matt Smith, who is a local logger, a well-known person around here, and he built a little log cabin there some 10 years ago or so. And, the next place south of that is, uh, a house now occupied by, uh, well, she's one of the Greenwich Central School teachers and that was, uh, a house that was, uh, originally, uh, barn on the, uh, place just south of it that was converted into a house by, uh, Dick Bassett. He was a brother to Allen Bassett who lived one time on Barker's Grove Valley Falls Road there in, uh, and at one time he owned the, uh, the farmhouse just south of it and the, uh, the farmhouse just south of it is now, uh, owned and occupied by, uh, Rose Hayner and Robert Hayner, and, uh, Rose Hayner was the original wife of Allen Bassett, who was, uh, uh, died quite early in life and, uh, before that it was, uh, the Joseph and, uh, Dora Darrow place. Mrs. Darrow was the person

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that lived up, uh, near the town shed when I was a kid. She also was quite involved in the Easton ME Church and Sunday school especially, so she lived there and that building was sold—that house was sold to the Bassetts many years after.

The next place you come up to would be the place now owned and occupied by Ronald, uh, excuse me, his daughter has a small house just between the two houses that was built just four or five years ago. Rhonda, Rhonda Dixon. Then you come to the old farmhouse that Ronald Dixon and his wife, Helen, live in, and that was, that's been in the Dixon family for many years, and, uh, the barns and everything are still there. Uh, the grandfather's name, a name that I remember, although I don't remember the name, his name was Wildigs [phonetic 00:28:16] but I well remember Howard Dixon, Ronald's father. They had a Dixon, the Howard Dixon, and she was, by the way, Grace Wells, Howard and Grace Dixon. They raised a family of, I believe, about 12, uh, children there, and, uh, most of them are, you know, were pretty much around this area. Some of them are gone now, but that brings us down now to the Allen Machinery building, which has been there for some years because my brother and I helped build the original Quonset hut part of that building way back after my, my brother first got out of the service just after World War II.

So the next thing, you know, next to that, there—and connecting with that there is, is another house that is occupied by some of the Allen hired men that they had built there some 35, 40 years ago. And next thing to that, there is a building in back there that was part of the old, uh, wagon sheds or whatever to the old, uh, Marshall Seminary, which sat in front. There's a sign out there now that tells some of the history of the old Marshall Seminary, which was one of the older schools in the Town of Easton once operated by the Quakers, I guess, and once operated as Easton, I think, Union Free School, and at which time was a three or four-story building, a large building sat in there and, uh, all traces of it are gone now except that shed that's in back and, uh, the next place on the right would be the place now owned and occupied by Randall Eddy. When I, when I was a kid that was the McGowan farm. The land now belongs with the Jack Lundberg farm across the road, but the house is occupied by Randall Eddy and wife and one small daughter, but, uh, Will McGowan owned that farm when I was a kid and then, uh, he ran it until he died and then his son, James, who had lived in Schenectady previously came back and, uh,

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lived there with his family and along with Mrs. McGowan and, uh, Mrs. McGowan passed away some years later and then Jim and his wife lived there and, and their two children, Ann and, uh—third or second or whatever it was, so that brings us back to the, uh, corner of the Barker's Grove Valley Falls Road there.

So proceeding south on Route 40, the first place is a house now owned and occupied by Earl Wolfe, which he built right after the war, and he and his bride, Winnie, moved in there. They raised, uh, two sons and a daughter. The next place on the right was placed in a lane, quite a long lane that leads down in back of the woods and there's a house there and, um, that was a place once owned by myself and I still own the land there but the house and lot was sold some 40 years ago and—to people who were going to fix an old Civil War, Revolutionary War house and built during the Battle of Saratoga. It was a nice old house there with, uh, six fire places and a central chimney and, uh, that, uh, burned down when one person owned it. It changed hands several times, so there is now a more modern house there owned and occupied by a Mr. Minz.

Then I'll turn down the Wrights road, just a bit to the Scotts Lane which is—and turn to the left down to the bottom of the hill where the old place there is the, uh, Donald Scott residence. It's a big old, nice old Colonial house with four pillars in the front and the—that was—when I was a kid that was owned by—also by B. L. Sisson, who had the farm on Valley Falls Road. He ran that as a sheep operation there and, uh, later it was sold to, uh, Charles Scott, Sr., and his wife. They lived there and raised, I believe, four children there, and they died young and both of them died young really and the, the kids were kind of brought up by their grandmother and grandfather Anderson from Hoag Road, so later Don Scott, uh, bought that house and lives there now.

Then next to—south of that, come back on Route 40 is the Johnson farm now owned and operated by Ed and Raymond Johnson. When I was a kid it was the Richard Johnson farm. Raymond was, uh, one of his younger sons, and I went to school with a couple of his older sons, James and Phillip, and that had formerly been the, uh, the Dual Farm. It's still known as Dualwood Farm, but it's owned and operated by the Johnsons. The father, Richard Johnson, was a permanent Dairylea member and a prominent person in church and things around here. So then south of that almost to the Crandalls Corners Road the next place would be the Harold

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Gruenburg residence, I knew it as, uh, and he built a house there when the house he lived in before was, uh, was taken by the road. They widened the road in 1960 and '61, and it was, uh, too close to the road so they took it down and he built that new house, uh, north of there, and he built also a garage building next to it, and he operated those until he died a few—four or five years ago and now it's owned by Tony Ancesti and his wife. They and their children live in there now. That takes us to the corner of the, of the Crandalls Corners Road.

So, next south of the, that road is the Popetski [phonetic 00:35:20] place, which only consists of now a barn, barns and the house burned down there some 15 years ago and, uh, they lost a grandchild in that fire and, uh, they have since moved to a place on Crandalls Corners Road, but they still own the farm. It's rented to the, uh, Johnsons rented it, Johnson. Then next on the right would be the, uh, Van Wee place. That's occupied now by Ed, Ed Van Wee, who lives there alone. And, it was, when I was a kid, the Stroebel farm. At, at an early age, of my age, uh, Mrs., or Mr. Stroebel's daughter and her husband, Clara and Ed Van Wee took that farm over and they ran it for many years and, uh, toward the end with the help of a grandson, but it was finally—they quit milking cows and then the land is rented out, the barns are still there, but the house is occupied by Ed and one son. That takes us to the county line and there we'll turn around and head back north.

The first place on the right would be the Hayes farm, and it's been the Hayes farm since I can remember. There was a Thomas Hayes, Sr., he and his wife lived in there. They had several children, some of whom I went to school with and they, uh, operated a farm there until maybe 15, 20 years ago, and they quit farming and the, the two sons, Tom, Jr., and George, lived in that house, and George moved to, to Latham or someplace and Tom lived there until his death just a few years ago and still Mrs. Hayes lives there, Mrs. Thomas Hayes, Jr., and one son, Dan Hayes, who was a, quite a prominent person around here is an author. He writes new adult books and has written several and they're very good. Then right on north of that once again is the Beecroft, uh, Gun Shop, which was built probably 25 years ago, and they sell guns and ammunition, and the, the Jack Beecroft residence is right behind that on the little hill or knoll hidden by the trees, but his residence is right—is in back of that gun shop. That was a house that was built probably

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35, 40 years ago, because there was an old house that was tore down near the gun shop at the, at the time I first remember.

Then you go on north of that and there's a place there that was known as the Cox farm years ago. It's been sold, uh, sold, uh, to several people. One of them was, uh, was, uh, Mr. John Lucy. He was an Albany lawyer who lived there for quite a few years, and then it was sold from him to, uh, uh, Merrigan, Bill Merrigan, who was in the milk truck business. He owned, uh, bulk milk trucks. He had several, and then he, uh, moved away and, uh, uh, David Beecroft, who is John Beecroft's son, from the gun shop, lives there now. The, the farm is now defunct and rented out and mostly reforested, I guess, put it back to the woods and it's a big house and Dave still owns it and occupies it. Then the next farm north would be right across from the Crandalls Corners Road on your left is the Birdsinger place. When I remember it was the George Birdsinger place. It was a place that his father, Pete Birdsinger had lived. George and his wife were there for many years and they, uh, raised several children, one of whom still lives there. One of their sons, his name is James, lives in that house now, pretty much alone, I guess, and there was a, there was a small farm, there was a barn there, but it's pretty much a, heifer-type or beef-type operation now. That brings us to the corner of the Crandalls Corners Road.

The first place on, uh, Fryer Road, I'll take that road because there's no houses on the—before you're on that stretch, and on the Fryer Road, the first thing is a good-sized farm owned by the Batteys. Has been for many years since I can remember it was always Batteys. As the father, Liston Battey and his wife lived there years ago and raised several children there, and there's, uh, one of the sons operates it there, uh, lives at that place. He's Fred Battey, and it still continues as a heifer-raising-type operation. There's no dairy there for the last ten years. Then you go north of there and there's a, uh, you go to the left-hand side of the road because there no house on the right. There's, uh, two or three new houses. There's one owned and occupied by the, uh, minister of the, uh, Schaghticoke Community Church is the first one. The second house is, uh, Ruth and Henry Shyjack, which is their retirement residence, built ten years ago maybe, and then the next place is, uh, the Johnson farm, their hired man's house. They built that two or three years ago and a hired man lives in there. And, you pass on north and the next house is on the right and that's a—was the, uh, Guy Merrill farm. Guy Merrill was the father of Fred Merrill,

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and he had, I think, at least four sons and one daughter, and, uh, when he got, uh, through farming and Mrs. Merrill moved away and, uh, he sold that farm to the Borden farm, which adjoins it to the east, and then a little while after that, a few years, Leonard Borden's wife lived there and children and, uh, then they moved closer back to the, to the main farm east of there, so then it was sold to a John and Irene Hunisak, and John and Irene lived there for quite a while and John just died here less, less than a year ago, and unfortunately, Irene just died about a month ago, so it's, it's now vacant. So the next place on—that would be on the westerly side of the road, is the Ed Johnson—he's the Ed Johnson Ed and—of the Johnson farm. He bought that place onto the Johnson farm and it was formerly owned by Olaf and Lena Steen, so they bought it from, from them and Mrs. Steen lived there until her death and then Ed and his wife took over and they live there now with four boys, I think they have. The next place would be on the right-hand side, and that is Dave Borden lives in, I think, a double-wide mobile home there and he's connected with the Borden farm, at least some of the time, and, uh, they put that place in there. It was on the side of a, of a building, it was in there, put in there as a truck garage for the American Trucking Service, so that brings us out to the, uh, back to the junction and Route 40.

Then you continue on the Route 40, you, uh, pass the, uh, um, Wood Road and there's two houses there built by, uh, the grandsons of the, uh, Clarence and Edna Van Wee people. They built those houses a few years ago and one son and one daughter, and this Robert, uh, Van Wee, Jr. and a sister own those two houses, and that's the only thing between there and the, uh, junction of the, uh, Meeting House Road at Barker's Grove. Then to come on north is the Alvin and Leah Brownell House. She was a [unintelligible 00:44:28] in the old days and, uh, they built that house, had it built 25, 30 years ago, and they occupy it now with their, uh, two children. Then the next house on the right would be through the woods and there's a—what used to be my father's store that was—he built in—or had built in 1933 or so, and I should mention maybe as an aside that, uh, that building was built by his recollection, I'm sure which is pretty right, my father, at the total cost of about 3600 bucks. I mean all the lumber and supplies came from Prime Lumber in, uh, Canyonville. The price of that was 1800 bucks and I think the labor was about the same, so it was a good-sized building, about 30 by 30, a story-and-a-half high and that's how much it cost to build things in those days. It's now occupied by, by, a—it was turned into a house by my brother, Harold Lundberg, back when he first got married right after—in the

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late '40s sometime, and, uh, since that time it's—my brother left there and went—moved to Greenwich some 30-some years ago, and it's changed hand, hands several times and at one time it was owned and occupied by Ronald Dixon there, who owns a farm on—north of there on 40 now, and it's now occupied by Mary Sisson and was bought at one time by George and Mary, George is the—was the—one of—was the son that ran the Sisson farm on Valley Falls Road, so that brings us back to the, uh, corner in front of the Fire House and by the, the Easton Trading Post. I want to go back down 40 and take the Wood Road to the left or to the east, the first place on that road is a, a place formerly owned by Nellie Scott when I was a kid, and their hired man, Nelson Betts, lived there. They didn't—they never even had a car. They always went by horse and buggy, and they sold that place to, uh, Joseph Rapsi, Sr., and he owned it and—