

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

[BEGIN 2_A-SMIT LUNDBERG RECOLLECTIONS-TAPE 2]

Talking about the Nell Scott [phonetic 00:00:02] place on the Wood Road. And, uh, Joseph Pitsky [phonetic 00:00:05] bought it some years ago. And, uh, he sold the house off. It's now owned—The house is owned with the Cartinards' [phonetic 00:00:15] daughters. The Cartinards, uh, Vincent, I think it was, Senior, bought the house and lot from Joe Repistry [phonetic 00:00:24]. And the, the Repistry's still own the farm. Joseph Repistry, Jr., I think owns it now. And, uh, he rents the land out. So that's the first place on that road.

And then you go up the road a ways and there's a house on the right back in the woods. So that's an old house. It once belonged to Walter A. Wood [phonetic 00:00:46]. That was his original farm, I think. He farmed that in conjunction with a place at Barkers Grove, as I remember. And, uh, and then it was sold, uh, to, uh, the son-in-law and daughter, uh, Marion and, uh, Henry Crosby [phonetic 00:01:04]. And he fixed it up. And, uh, he has since sold it to the—to the Johnson farmer. So that house that sits back in there is nice. It's an old, old, uh, fashioned, uh, probably a pretty old house. And it's, uh, it's back in the woods. And the house is occupied now by a Smit family, Jennifer and I forget what her husband's name is.

So you progress on up the road. Next, next place on—would be on your left is a house that belongs to John Encursy [phonetic 00:01:38]. John and his, uh, wife live in there. And they have a son and a daughter. I think that they're both gone away from home now, but John built that house in about probably 15 years ago. And, uh, he lives in there and, uh, occupies it now. Then that's the na—last place until you get to Brayton Road [phonetic 00:02:00]. And you cross the, the, uh, Valley Falls Road and then send [sounds like 00:02:08] the, the Brayton Road. And it's a place on the corner describe, uh—described, uh, now occupied by Bud Rogers [phonetic 00:02:16]. And [coughs] then you go back to the, uh, Rogers Farm. Big, uh, big place. And it was, uh, formerly owned, when I was a kid, by the Pratt family [phonetic 00:02:29], Albert and Sarah Pratt. And, uh, they owned it. And, uh, their son, uh, Gilbert, took it over some years ago. And he farmed it and Albert helped him as long as he was able. And, uh, he eventually sold it to the Rogers. And they—they've owned it for some—over 20 years now, I think. And they, they, uh—Ben Rogers or George Rogers, Sr., and his wife are now still living there. But the lands are

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

using the barns and the farm. Well, that's the only, uh, other place on the, uh, Brayton Road until you get to the [unintelligible 00:03:12].

We'll now go south on 40. And at the, uh, junction of, of, uh, Meeting House Road, the road to your right is the Wright Road. And that, uh—the first place on that road is owned and being occupied by James Plog [phonetic 00:03:31] and his wife. He once owned the whole farm there, but he sold the land off now to the Allens [phonetic 00:03:39]. And it's now a—just a house and lot. And, uh, Tim bought that from, uh, Joseph Pis—uh, Pitsky, Sr. [phonetic 00:03:46] some 40 years ago probably. And, uh, he's been there ever since.

And the, the next place on the right would—there would be a lane that's a, uh, Norm Allen [phonetic 00:04:00] residence. The lane goes back on there half a mile or more. And the house is in there. And, uh, Norm and his wife, uh, live there now. And they had, uh, four, four children, I believe, or—The boys are involved in the Allen farm and, uh, the machinery business. And the—When I was a kid, uh, that was—that was owned by the Allens, Norwood and his wife, Edith [phonetic 00:04:29]. They only used that as a summer place in there until Norm got, uh, married and took that place over. And that was formerly owned by the—by a person named Jim Sherman [phonetic 00:04:42]. And they always called that the Sherman Place. So that's the place in the lane.

Next place on the—on the right is now a, a, a newer home built by, uh, Timothy—Tim Bulger [phonetic 00:04:55] and his wife. Uh, she's one of the Allen girls. Cindy Allen. They and, uh, their children live in there. Then you go on to the west just beyond the, uh, Magon [phonetic 00:05:10] Road was turn to the left, there was, was an old house there known as the Abile house [phonetic 00:05:16]. That, uh, place there, uh, has been, uh, part of the Brotherhood Farms for years and was owned by the Hillman [phonetic 00:05:26] brothers or brother in times—in those days. And the house was burned, uh, down, on, on—among our, our rash of, uh, arsons around town in the early fifties, I believe. And the farm still belongs to Brotherhood Farms.

Then you go on down, it's—there's no other house on the right until you get—until you get to the Wright Farm [phonetic 00:05:50] which is, uh—belonged to the Wright family, I guess, for 150

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

years. That's far in the corner of River Road. And it's a—that's an old house, I'm sure, too. And Gordon Wright [phonetic 00:06:03] and his wife, uh, Marguerite, live there now. They were there for—have been there for many years. And Gordon was born there, I believe. And they raised a family of four or five children. And, uh, that was a—When I was a kid, it was my uncle, Fred Wright, and, and my Aunt Lizzie lived there. And that, that was Gordon's father and mother. As I—As I say, that's the place that's been in the fi—in the Wright family for many, many years, I guess.

And, uh, so that brings us to the River Road. Then we'll have to turn around and come back. And there is no house now. It was two or three houses in there on either side of the road when I was a kid. And there's no, uh, buildings there standing between the River Road and McGowan Road. And, uh, from McGowan Road up, there's a house there was built by, uh, Dick [Unintelligible 00:06:59] some years ago and, and all sold to a—the, uh, Shannon family. And the—Mr. Shannon died; Mrs. Shannon still lives there with some of her children. And then across the valley there's another house was also built by Dick [Unintelligible 00:07:15]. It was his first house. And that's now occupied by, uh, Edie Robertson [phonetic 00:07:21] and, uh, her husband. Uh, I forget what his name is, but that's a newer house. That brings us all the way back to, uh, Scotts Lane into Route 40.

There are also, uh, two more houses I forgot that—There was one house behind the Abile place going west right near the—My, uh, Cousin Jack's lane on the left was the—Then, uh, Mr. Heightwade [phonetic 00:07:53], Hiram, I believe his name was, lives there alone at that time. If he ever had any family, I don't know about it. He had a s—a small house there, pretty well dilapidated, and a little barn in back of it. He used to come over to, to my uncle's place across the street when he [unintelligible 00:08:12]. He was quite lame and not too well. [Unintelligible 00:08:17] he would help, uh, put on hay so he could get a little hay for himself. He had a cow or two in the old barn back there. That also was, uh, pretty well, as I say, dilapidated. And poor old Height was in that house. And, uh, he froze his legs and feet and hands and, uh, no heat, apparently. And the—I remember that. My father and Bob Wolfe [phonetic 00:08:46] went down and rescued him and took him to the Argyle Home [phonetic 00:08:48] where he died

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

within two or three weeks thereafter. That house was, uh, torn down later. And, uh, it became part of the Allen Farm.

Then on west of that another thousand feet or so was a, a, a kind of a older house, dilapidated pretty much. And there was a lady by the name of Cory Eddie [phonetic 00:09:14] lived in there. And she was an old—I remember her. She was an older lady then. And, uh, she, uh, apparently died and, uh, house—that house also was torn down and is now part of the Wright Farm which is farther to the west.

And then I'll go down the, uh, now called McGowan Road. A name we all know. When I was a kid, that was known as the Toad Howell Road [phonetic 00:09:39]. It's the first place on the right is now building their garage and downstairs and living quarters up overhead. That's, uh, own—owned by a man, uh, that runs a game farm there, uh, where you can go and hunt pheasants and he also has permits for deer hunting, bow permits and things of that nature. He bought—The majority of it was the Lewis Farm [phonetic 00:10:03]. And, uh, he operates that as a game farm.

Then next place on the right would be the old Lewis house. That's the same house, but it's, uh, been converted somewhat. That belongs to a man name of Stephens [phonetic 00:10:18]. And he owns the house and lot around it. And, uh, the farm, uh, as I say, was, uh, owned by the Lewises in the old days. Patience Lewis was the mother. And she had, uh, three, three sons and a daughter. And, uh, Fred Lewis lived on the farm with his mother till she died. And, uh, that was—uh, he was quite a character, Fred was. And so was the other two sons, Floyd and Frank. Floyd had the farm—part of the farm that's now, uh, owned by the Rogerses and, uh, Fred stayed there at home with his mother and he stayed there until his death. And he didn't farm it very extensively, but the, the land that was—the whole place was, uh, bought by, um, Bob Wolfe, Sr. [phonetic 00:11:07]. Then the land was sold to, uh, Don Murray [phonetic 00:11:14] and now to this pheasant farm or game farm. And, uh, the, uh, barns that were there are all gone. There's been a full barn put up there. Was owned by—at one time by a Jim Martin [phonetic 00:11:26] who ran a beef and, uh, pig farm there.

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

Then you wind south and there's a, a little house there also was—it was the, uh, home of the father of Jim Martin. When I was a kid, that was the Flatley [phonetic 00:11:42] place. And, uh, a man by the name of George Flatley. He had, uh, at least three children that I know. Uh, two, uh, daughters who now live in Greenwich. One was, uh, Mrs. Rita Butler and the other was a—was—she was never married. Her name was Celia. And the son, Jerome, I think he lived, uh, at home with his folks until his, uh, early death. And that was a small farm and, uh, George Flatley only milked a few cows. And he got ready to retire. He retired to Greenwich where the Butlers and daughter Celia now live. And that was sold to the father of, uh, Jim Martin. Alec Martin [phonetic 00:12:24]. Was a small barn there and—which is gone, is now is a whole barn out back.

And, uh, that brings us to the, uh, [Unintelligible 00:12:36] Lane which is a right turn and was, uh—the first place you encounter down in there is the, uh, Williams place. When I was a kid that was a, you know, it was a—originally the, uh, Gifford, uh—Alan Gifford [phonetic 00:12:53] I believe his name was. He, uh, committed suicide there and hung himself in that barn. And then it, uh—the, uh, Hayner family moved in there from some area. But they were there for quite a number of years. And he farmed it there. He had a, a daughter and a couple of sons. And he farmed it there for quite a while. And he sold it to the, uh, Williamses who, uh, came from [unintelligible 00:13:22] and, uh, [unintelligible 00:13:25] raised quite a bunch of vegetables as well as, you know—It's a fairly good size farm down there.

Well, that is a dead-end lane. You, you swing around their house and barns and go down farther, there was a house there. And that was the George Meliski [phonetic 00:13:39] place. And originally it was owned by the [unintelligible 00:13:43] owned a place at the junction of Crandalls Corners and Route 40. And—But the—I remember the Meliskis used to be there. They had several children. Mostly daughters, I believe. And some of them I think are still around. And, and the barn's been there ear—early on in about 1950, maybe, I don't know. But the house was there and there was a man named, uh—I'm sorry. His name was, uh, Willie Bennett [phonetic 00:14:19]. And he, uh, tried to milk cows and, and those, uh, let—when he built and [unintelligible 00:14:20] then was a henhouse. And he, he was also a—had a riding, uh, academy in Luzerne [phonetic 00:14:29], I believe. And he had some horses there a lot of

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

time. And he had it a few years. And then it was sold to the Worls—uh, Robert Will, Sr. [phonetic 00:14:40], and, uh, then to Robert Wills, Jr. And then to this, uh, uh—it's now part of the Wolfe farm.

Then you come back up out of that lane, continue south on McGowan Road, there was a house right on the corner where you turn down, uh, [Unintelligible 00:15:02] Lane. And that's—was the, uh—originally, as I remember, the, uh, Joseph Pit—old Pisty farm, small farm. And then, uh, he moved up to Barkers Grove and, uh, sold that farm to the, uh, Whitneys [phonetic 00:15:21]. And they lived there for quite a few years. They had several children. And then it was, uh, sold to this, uh, person that now lives there. And he's an older man, retired. And, and the farm, I think, has been sold off and the land has been sold off to the Urshack [phonetic 00:15:36] farm, I believe. Then you continue on south and to another place on that road is a house that was built and was occupied by Warren Smith and family. This Warren, his wife, uh, she was a Urshack, Helen Urshack. And they still live there with probably none of their children now. And that's—that was a newer-type house that Warren built.

Then that brings you down to the corner of, uh, uh, Crandalls Corners Road. So then we'll turn around and come to the north. And, uh, the first place you encounter was the—when I was a kid, the Niles Hillman Bee Building [phonetic 00:16:19]. That was converted into some sort of living quarters sometime later when Niles went out of the bee business down there. And it's now owned by the Pattersons in conjunction with the log cabin that they built to the north. And they still live there. And, and it—They were gone for a few years and some of the children lived there. And he, uh, was, uh, part of the, uh, West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company. And he, uh, went, uh, south I think when they closed here in the canyon to len—live down there for some time. He's now back. He's oc—occupying that house himself, him and his wife.

Then you come on north and the only house—the houses around that road, uh, to the north are, uh, a house that's, uh—belongs to one of Wesley Brownell's [phonetic 00:17:11] daughters and her husband just built a couple years ago which shares a common driveway with Wesley Brownell who owns a house, uh, some distance to the east in a little lane. He built that house in—probably 15 years ago Wesley had it built. And he and his wife and just one son, the

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

[unintelligible 00:17:35] they had, uh, three or four daughters, but the, the son, David, still lives there with them. And that's the last place on the McGowan Road.

Now, to keep some order to this, we'll now go south and to Route 40 through the, the junction with, uh, Crandalls Corners Road. Crandalls Corners was a road that I knew as a first county road around this part of the county, anyway. Was a dirt road, but had been taken over by, by the County and maintained by them. The first place, there was a house right on the corner which is now—it was re—removed in 1960 when they rebuilt the road. That's a, a—was a Brownell place and originally contained a, a store there, too. Brownell Store. And post office, I believe. But that was tore down, big old house that [unintelligible 00:18:27] used it as two family homes; a big old house. And, uh, they tore that down and, uh, [unintelligible 00:18:33] built a house, uh, farther—or on the edge of the property, uh, to the, uh, west and a, a new house that was built in probably 1961 or so. He and his wife still live there. And he had a couple sons who, who have since gone.

Then next place on the right would be old, uh, Crandalls Corner School. I, I think it was—it was District Number Two. And, uh, that was, uh, converted into a living quarters. And, uh, when, uh, Henry Ruckaborough [phonetic 00:19:06] left the, uh, dozers pit—on Pisty's, Jr. place on, uh, Route 40. Just what year that was, I don't know. But it's changed hands, uh, two or three times, uh, since. And, uh, they still use it as living quarters, but I don't know by who.

Next place on the right would be what I knew as the old Bolson [phonetic 00:19:29] farm which was unoccupied by—most the time for many years. There was a old one-armed man well known around here in those days being Sam Dool [phonetic 00:19:37] lived in there for a while. But then, uh, later on it was, uh, uh, kind of fixed up and, uh, Louis Slocum, Jr. [phonetic 00:19:45] bought it and his wife and two sweet children, children lived there till they moved to Decantville [phonetic 00:19:52] later. It's now owned and occupied by Joseph Pitsky, Sr.—or Jr. Uh, uh, Joseph, Sr. and his wife lived there. And, and, uh, Jo—Joe, Sr. died there and, uh, his wife, uh, lived there for some time. Then when the house burnt at, uh—on Route 40, Joseph, Jr. and his wife lived there—went there and they live there now.

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

So then you [unintelligible 00:20:21] on down the road to the, the place on the corner of McGowan Road which was the, uh—formerly, as I knew it, the, uh, George Carr [phonetic 00:20:33] farm. George Carr was a, uh, unmarried man that lived there. And, uh, I think that had been his father's farm before. But he, uh, uh, died kind of strangely later. He was found, uh, hung under a window. Kind of came down back in the 19, uh, maybe 45. So then he had an auction. And I went to that auction. All the tools and things were sold. And the farm was sold to a Nick Urshack [phonetic 00:21:06] that had a farm on the, uh, Childs Ferry Road [phonetic 00:21:10] earlier. And it was, uh, farmed there by Nick and his wife. And they had, uh, several children. And the one son, John, took it over. And his wife and children lived there, along with a Rose Urshack who was, uh, Nick's wife. And she lived there until her death, which was sometime later. That was taken over by one of, uh, John's sons, John, Jr. who ran—runs the farm for awhile [sneezes]. And he—It was just a—The house and, and lot were sold to a person unknown to me. And the farm land is now part of that, uh, game preserve, as I understand, on McGowan Road.

Then you go to—farther to the left and, uh, there's a couple, uh, newer houses in there on the—occupied by Chuck [Unintelligible 00:22:08]. And he and his wife were—had that big house put in there. And, uh, Chuck still lives there. Next place going west would be the house that was, was built by, uh, one of John Urshack's son. It was, uh, David Urshack. And then that's been sold to a person unknown to me. Then the next thing on that road at that time would have been a place that was a—belonged to the Birdsinger [phonetic 00:22:39] family, but it was occupied by the—by the Conquests. It was a, a man and his son lived in there. And that house I think was, uh, torn down some several years ago. So there's nothing there, only open land now.

The next place on the right would be the—when I was a kid, the, uh, Carr [phonetic 00:23:02] farm. That was, uh, uh, Gerald and, uh, Leo Carr farm. And it—When I was a kid, they owned a stationery baler which was run with horses which I, uh, had the privilege of—or misfortune not only to, uh, drive the team and, uh, [unintelligible 00:23:25] the horses went around the circle and, uh, thereby was four or five turns and loading in of hay. It made a great, big bale that weighed maybe 300 pounds on average. So when you proceeded to—along that road, and there

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

was—back in the lane, there was a farm in there which I never saw. Those buildings have since, uh, all disappeared or been torn down some.

The next place behind that is the, uh—I knew it as the Quackenbush [phonetic 00:23:59] farm with Irving and Florence Quackenbush owned it. They had one daughter. She's now Mrs. Geraldine Merrill [phonetic 00:24:06], Fred's wife. And most of that farm was on the left and the—at the junction of, uh, Burbeck Avenue [phonetic 00:24:16]. But the house [unintelligible 00:24:18] were on that side of the road. They're still there. The house is now owned by Joseph—or John—no, excuse me, Joseph [Unintelligible 00:24:27]. And, uh, there was a—Next thing to the west of that was the farm and house and—that was—when I was a kid, that was owned as—by, uh, Tony Cantar [phonetic 00:24:46]. He lived down the River Road at that time, but that was—that was his original farm there. The house stood there for, uh, quite a number of years. And it's—That was also, uh, burned up in that, uh, same time when the, uh, arsonist burnt several buildings around here in the early fifties, I think it was. And then that was the last place on the—on the north side of the road until you reached the River Road.

So then we'll come on back and the, the old, uh—there's curves there at the top of the hill. And, uh, that was the site of the, uh, old District One schoolhouse which was also burnt when those arsonists were around many years ago. And then you come on to the east again and, uh, the barns on Hockenbush Place [phonetic 00:25:41] were there. And right at the junction of Burbeck Avenue. So when we go down Burbeck Avenue as long as we're there and, uh, there's a—That would be also on the right. And you make a right-hand, uh—sharp right-hand turn in the road there's the old, uh, Supervani [phonetic 00:26:05] farm. And, uh, John, uh, Supervani, Sr. a little bit when I was a kid, he and his wife and one son, John, Jr., live there. John, Jr. never got married. And he lived there until there's a [unintelligible 00:26:21] and it was bought by the Canfields [phonetic 00:26:25] who was a—she was a Supervani girl. And the Canfields still own that farm. It's, uh, don't operate it as a farm, but there's, uh, several of the, uh, barns are still left there [coughs].

And then you proceed across the valley. And there was a place on, uh, almost at the county line, a farm back in there which you almost turned around and came north on that road. It was the—

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

When I was a kid, that was the Patsy Christopher [phonetic 00:26:58] place. Patsy also lived there alone. And he was there until his death, I believe. And it's, it's, uh—I don't know about the farmland, it gives us [unintelligible 00:27:12] it's, uh, owned by someone else now. There was a house right at the county line on the right, uh, which was built there maybe three years ago. It was, uh, one time a Natt [phonetic 00:27:26] family lived in there. Who's in there now, I don't know.

Then we'll turn around and come back towards the north on, uh, Burbeck Avenue. And at that sharp right turn, we could go straight in there. And that was the—right side, and it was the Mike Sukovani [phonetic 00:27:43] place. He was also one of, uh, of John, Sr.'s sons. And he and his wife and family lived in there, the house set back inside the lane. And that, I don't know, uh, who lives there now. There's a still—house is still there and still occupied. There's a house, uh, that, uh, that's on that lane that belongs to someone in the same family. So when you—That brings you back to the Crandalls Corners Road.

Then to continue on the Crandalls Corners Road, the first place on the right, or southern side of the road, is a house now, uh, occupied by the Hurd [phonetic 00:28:28] family. When I was a kid, that was a Frank Quackenbush farm. He, uh, later moved to [unintelligible 00:28:35] and farmed that farm in conjunction with his farm down there. Then, uh, now Hurds live in there and their, their son lives on a trai—uh, in a trailer beside the road farther east.

Next farm, as I remember, it was a Gifford farm, Howard Gifford. His wife Nelly lived there for many years, apparently. And, uh, Mrs. Gifford was, uh, bedridden for many years and Howard, uh, had people, uh, worked the farm and took care of his wife. And among them was the orphan, uh, Lena Stein [phonetic 00:29:11]. They lived there with him for some time. Then, uh, Howard, uh, either passed on or went away from there and, uh, that farm was, uh, was sold to the Carr brothers who lived across the street. Their house burnt. They bought that house and farm and they used that house as their residence. It's now owned by a man by the name of Jay [Unintelligible 00:29:32] who, uh, raised Christmas trees there and, and beef cattle, and things like that. And, uh, that's kind of the history of that farm.

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

We just come on east and, and the next place on the way is a newer house built by, uh, Ted Meliski [phonetic 00:29:50] after he came out of the service and he got married, lived there for many years. And Ted, I think, is still alive and in a nursing home or something. And, uh, his son, uh, Thomas, he still lives in there. Then coming on east there's the old Ulysses [phonetic 00:30:08] farm which, uh, all burnt down one night some 20 years ago, house and barns and all. And, uh, that was, uh—I think it was Paul Meliski's farm and he's—he has a—he and his wife and several children live there. He's raised, uh, four sons, I believe, and one daughter. I think all the children are dead with the exception of Ted.

Then you come on, uh, again easterly, and I guess the, the next place on your right would be the, uh—There was a newer house there, [unintelligible 00:30:51] used to be the site of the Carsar [phonetic 00:30:55] residence. There was a house there closer to the road. And, uh, I went to school with Frank Carsar and, uh, his sister Mary who later married Judge Holt [phonetic 00:31:07] and was a teacher over at the Reynolds Corner School [phonetic 00:31:08] for many years. Up until the time that it was centralized, I believe Mary was a teacher there. That house was torn down. This newer house was built on a different spot at the same—the small farm at that time.

Then you come on east again and, uh, that's a place now, uh, owned by the Driskies [phonetic 00:31:33] and their—um, Driskies' daughter, Helen, now lives there. And, uh, the Dri—the Driskies were—there's several of them. Six or eight, at least, I know, one of whom was Pete Driskie that lived there in the, uh, uh, Valley Falls Road. That was—When I was a kid, that was the Vanoui [phonetic 00:31:58] residence. Clarence and Edna Vanoui lived there. They la— They later took over the farm [unintelligible 00:32:05], the Strobo [phonetic 00:32:09] farm. And then the Driskies bought it and the Driskies still occupy it.

Then the next place on the right would be near the corner where you come back to Route 40. That would be the, uh, uh—When I was a kid, that was the, uh, Ropinski [phonetic 00:32:28] place. I can't remember the—It was just a mother and couple of daughters lived there. It was in kind of bad shape. And that house was, uh, later bought by Frank Clum [phonetic 00:32:38] who was a guy who, who rebuilt it and, uh, lived in there for a little while himself. It's changed hands

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

a couple times since. And it's a—There's, there's a family in there now. Uh, man, wife, and at least one son lives in that place. And that brings us back to Route 40.

I'll no—now go on the Hoag Road [phonetic 00:33:02] which is a southern-leading road from the [unintelligible 00:33:07]. The first place I remember it was the Anderson farm [phonetic 00:33:16]. And they were—The Anderson family was there for many years. They raised, uh, I think, uh, four daughters and a couple sons. Uh, three of the dau—of the daughters were school teachers. And, uh, one of them—of whom was, uh, May Scott, Charles Scott's wife. And one of them—one of them was my school teacher at Barkers Grove District Number Five, Miss Anna Hurley [phonetic 00:33:42]. And, uh, her daughter Dorothy was a nurse in—around Troy. And, uh, one daughter was a—also a school teacher which was early deceased with TB, I understand. Had two sons and they were Harry and Edward Anderson that ran the Anderson's Dairy at Speigletown. They sold milk and choy [sounds like 00:34:03] for many years. And they had a building at Speigle down near the firehouse which has since been torn down. And they were both RPI graduates, but went in the milk business. They bought local milk mostly. A lot of farmers around here produce milk and tipped it to them.

So then you proceed down south and the next place on the right is now—was built about 10 years ago by, uh, Kurt and Pat Ruffle [phonetic 00:34:27]. He was applied that—employed at that time by the Allen Waite [phonetic 00:34:33] farm, later became county agent. And, uh, that couple has since split up. And, uh, Pat Ruffle and, uh, two children, I believe, still live there. So the next thing on the right would be on past Hoag Road. There's a place that was there when I was a kid. And that was the Walter White [phonetic 00:34:54] place. There was a farm there and Walter White, uh, farmed it there. He had a couple sons and that, uh, place was, um, later, uh, sold to, uh, uh, Fred [unintelligible 00:35:08] the Waterford auction. He lived there himself. And, and then he moved out and, uh, still owned the place. And it was—The house there burnt down some year—years ago. It was a great, big house. Somewhat on the style of Jack Lumbert's [phonetic 00:35:23] house at Barkers Grove. So then there—That was purchased, uh, by, uh—and added onto the farm south of there now owned by Harry Orloff [phonetic 00:35:37]. The barns, uh, what's left of them, are still on the right-hand side on, uh, Hoag Road.

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

And then right there, there's no other houses on Hoag Road, so we turn around and the houses on the, uh, easterly side, though, and still is there, that was formerly the residence of the Flynn brothers [phonetic 00:35:56]. I don't remember that, but the Flynn brothers were the, uh, men that ran the Flynn Funeral Home in Greenwich for many years. They're, uh—have, uh—Some of them died and some of them have retired from now by selling those funeral homes. Then you come back onto the north is a—this time, there's, uh, two newer houses there. One was just built last year, who I don't know the name of that people in there. But four or five years ago, place on north of there was built by a Paul Kirk [phonetic 00:36:32] and his wife. He's a—He worked for, uh, Curtis Lumber at the [unintelligible 00:36:41]. That's only—That house is only four or five years old. He owns the land, the lot there, which was part of the, uh, uh, property on Beagle Hill at the junction of the, uh, Ives Hill Road which has been closed for some years.

So then you continue on north. And the next place on the right would be the house now, uh, occupied by, uh, a Bob Calandis [phonetic 00:37:15]. Bob has owned that house for many years. But when I was a kid, that was, uh, owned by the Haver family [phonetic 00:37:23] and at one time was only used as a summer residence. Mr. Haver was the, uh, head of the—of the, uh, New York Telephone Company Troy office. And then he came there in his retirement years and lived there fulltime. And then, it was, uh, after that, owned by a—I believe a captain with the State Police who was a son-in-law of the Havers. And, uh, later, it was sold to this Bob Calandis. That was once part of the, the McMelty's [phonetic 00:37:53] farm. And probably the house was the same house, but the farm was sold off to the Pratts and is now part of the, uh, uh, Rogers farm. And the barns have all been torn down.

Then the next thing on the right would be a house, newer house, that was built by, uh, Bob Hebert [phonetic 00:38:17], Robert Hebert. And he's a—He is a New York—sergeant in New York State Police and had that house built and, uh, still lives there, he and his wife. And, uh, the next place on the right would be a newer house that was, uh, built by the man that bought a portion of the Angelin [phonetic 00:38:36] farm up there. Man named, uh, Nicholas Hecon [phonetic 00:38:42]. And he lived in there himself and he built that house. And it's since been sold to a lady by the name of Carolyn Payne [phonetic 00:38:51] who I believe is an artist. And there—Then, uh, north of that, there's another new house just being built there now and, uh, sort

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of in the woods and in the land that we used to cut hay on, my father and I, for Milt Sanderson [phonetic 00:39:09]. We did his hay and farm work for the last few years that he was alive. So that brings us back to the, uh, Meeting House Road.

Then we'll, uh, go to the, uh, South Cambridge Road. It starts at the junction of Meeting House Road where Meeting House Road turns into a gravel road and head—takes a right fork onto, uh, South Cambridge Road. For some distance over to the base of Beadle Hill there's no houses on the right. As you go over there, there's just a new cutoff road was built there when Harold Snow [phonetic 00:39:49] was Road Commissioner. And that's around the base of the hill. When I was a kid, you had to go to the top of, uh, where Beadle Hill and Ives Hill Road meet to get to South Cambridge. So on that, uh, little stretch there between those, uh—on that new road is a house now, uh, occupied by a Joe Hunnisack [phonetic 00:40:08]. He built that house there some 20 years ago when his former house was, uh, consumed by fire. The house he had was accessible from either that or the Ives Hill Road. And that was—When I was a kid, the, uh, first north of that church that was a house had been converted to a church. And, uh, there was a lot of Russian families around Beadle Hill at that time. So they formed their own church. And, uh, they had their, uh, priest lived at, at the big house on the corner of Ives Hill and Beadle Hill at the top of the hill, a big colonial house. They had that house there. It was a church. And it—Then it burned and, uh, Joe Hunnisack built this new one.

Then you continue on across the corner at, at the bottom of Ives Hill Road and, uh, head towards South Cambridge. And the only place you encounter there is the place on your—on your right now, uh, occupied by the Grinkos [phonetic 00:41:06]. It's Harry and, uh, his brother Ted live there now. That was a bri—Grinko place ever since I could remember. The elder Grinkos were there, uh, Mr. Grinko and several children, children, some of whom I went to school with. And that consists of a good share of that, that stretch of the South Cambridge Road they own to the, uh, uh—And part of the land is in East End, part of the land is in Cambridge. The farm set, I believe, is in Cambridge.

So then you turn around and come back towards the, uh—towards Meeting House Road again. And the first place you encounter on the—beyond the corner of, uh, of South Cambridge and, uh,

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Center Cambridge Road, there's a—there's a farm there. It was a—When I was a kid, that was the George Pearson [phonetic 00:42:08] farm. George and [Unintelligible 00:42:08] Pearson lived there and they, they had the—I think three daughters. One of their daughters was, uh, Shirley Lamb [phonetic 00:42:18] now, the Easton Town Clerk. They had another daughter lives in [unintelligible 00:42:22]. And then, uh, had a daughter just recently deceased named Norma. That house there was—The original house that I remember being there burned way back when I was a young kid. And there was a house, uh, in that corner of the roads that are there now before you got to Joe Hunnisack's house that was moved there. That farm was owned by John Ford [phonetic 00:42:49] at that time and rented to the Pearsons. So he had that house that was across moved over there. It was moved by, uh, mule power. And on a rope and windows-type thing. And it was—They had built a cribbing across the brook to get it over there where it is now.

Then you, uh, come on back towards Meeting House Road and the next place on the right would be the—is known now as the, uh, uh, oh, Magdalena Peeler [phonetic 00:43:27] farm. There's nobody living there now, but there was a kind of small farm and fairly new barn next to the road which was built there when the original barn was con—consumed by fire. But the, uh, house itself is, uh, quite old and hasn't, uh—has a stone faced with stucco or concrete, uh, type house. And it's a—And Ms. Peeler was for—formerly Magdalena Curlander [phonetic 00:43:59]. And, uh, she's loved there—She lived there for quite a few years until her death just a few years ago. It still belongs in the—to someone in the family. It's not [unintelligible 00:44:07].

Next place on the right I remember was the old—I guess we'll call it the Beagle Hill Cheese Factory. There's a building there [unintelligible 00:44:17] closed down [unintelligible 00:44:17] by then became part of the—of the Skiff [phonetic 00:44:21] farm. It was used, uh, by them, as I remember, for, for hay storage. Wasn't used as a creamery anymore. Cheese factory. But had been used as a cheese factory. That—The, uh, building, I think it was torn down some years ago. And further on, right near that, was the, uh, original EJ Skiff [phonetic 00:44:44] farm. And, uh, the, um, barns have been partly torn down and, uh, the house still stands there. And it's now occupied by a—it was owned by the Skiffs for many years until just, uh, recently. They're a, a [unintelligible 00:45:04] came into possession and, uh, and, and sold off the, uh, house and la—and still owns the land around there. And he sold the place to the—uh, Mr. Morton that lives

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there now. And that brings us back to the corner where Gene Strike [phonetic 00:45:27] lives on the corner of South Cambridge and Niehaus Road [phonetic 00:45:28].

We'll now take a ride and, uh, memories in modern times of the, the, uh, Beadle Hill Road which starts at the junction with, uh, South Cambridge Road and proceeds on south of the [unintelligible 00:45:46] county line.

First place is a more modern house on the right. It was, uh, built there by the Vanderzees, Dave and Jean Vanderzee [phonetic 00:45:55]. And that's not too many years ago. And it's, uh, been sold by Jean Vanderzee to someone else who I don't know now. The next house is a—on the right was the house, uh, to the Fry farmers [phonetic 00:46:10] in the old days, um, Mr. and Mrs. Spry [sounds like 00:46:13]. And one of their daughters was, uh, Anna. She was later married to a, uh, Bell. I think his name was James Bell that lived—He lived with—His family lived across the road and south of the Ives Hill Road. And, uh, Annabelle was killed on the, uh, Route 40 when she ran into the back of a tractor trailer truck in the dark. I remember that because the tractor trailer truck was delivering the cows to the Moy farms [phonetic 00:46:52] when they first came to town some probably 35 or 40 years ago. And, uh, she had, uh, one dau...

[END 2_A-SMIT LUNDBERG RECOLLECTIONS – TAPE 2]

[BEGIN 2_B-SMIT LUNDBERG RECOLLECTIONS – TAPE 2]

Jean later married that Dave Engidy [phonetic 00:00:03]. They ran the Wilder Mountain [phonetic], uh, ski run for quite a number of years. And, and they still—They split up. And, uh, Jean Vanderzee owned that house for quite a long time. She just, uh, sold it here not too long ago. So there's different people living in there now.

Next building on the right was the old E. J. Skiff Store [phonetic 00:00:24]. That was in operation when I can first remember. But soon thereafter, that, uh, ceased to exist. They closed that. E. J. Skiff already owned a big store in Greenwich and he, he spent all his, uh, energies on that store in Greenwich then. That store was, uh, also the post office. And there was a, uh,

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

wagon shed connected to it where my aunt used to keep my—her car when she, she taught school at Beadle Hill School District for many years. And, and, uh, she would park under that old wagon shed there during that time. And, uh, that building, store building, is around on the corner of, uh, Beadle Hill and Ives Hill Road still stands there today.

Then next thing, place on the right was a, uh, went with the blacksmith shop across the street, across the road. And there was a blacksmith named Mike Backus [phonetic 00:01:20] lived in there. And, uh, they—he shod horses across [unintelligible 00:01:23]. He also had a portable, had an old truck, and came around and shod our, our horses at, at home. And he lived there. And, uh, and then a man named Everett Albert Dirkson [phonetic 00:01:37], uh, got ahold of that place and lived in there. He was a retired farmer from the town of Cambridge and he had a place at, uh—where, um, Wilber Knowle [phonetic 00:01:49] farms is. Uh, um, Duff Wilbur [phonetic 00:01:52] runs that now. So he lived there until his death. And he, he left that hou—house to a Sylva Peeler [phonetic 00:02:00] who was a stepdaughter of Mrs. Peeler that lived at the foot of the hill. And she had, uh, been married to a man named Wesner [phonetic 00:02:10]. And, uh, he lived in the next house south of that that still exists. That's the house now occupied by Sal Caruso [phonetic 00:02:19]. It's been owned by the Carusos, Sal's brother, for some 25 years, I guess. And before that, it was, uh, you know, owned and occupied I believe by, uh, this Sylva Wesner and her husband John who had retired from the farm just south of that. And, uh—And, uh, before that, in my younger days, the house was a—was occupied by a Raymond Dorsey [phonetic 00:02:43] who ran a farm there, a small farm. He had, uh, originally owned the farm at the foot of Beadle Hill which is, uh—was the, uh, George Pearson farm and now owned by the Al Waite [phonetic 00:02:56] farms.

So then you, uh, proceed on south and there's a big house in which my brother was born. It was known by my, my folks as the Gifford farm. They rented it from the Gifford family. And it was later bought by the Wesners. And they ran it for a few years. And then John Wesner, whose father and mother were both passed on, and John Wesner moved to that house closer to Beadle Hill and married Sylva Peeler. And, uh, that's as much—Um, this farm was a, a pretty good size farm. And the big original barns there, uh, burnt when it was owned and occupied by Henry Rapp and Carl Rapp [phonetic 00:03:41], two brothers. Um, Carl Rapp owned the farm when it

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burnt. And then, then, uh, then I think Henry bought it and put up a whole new set of barns there and, uh, some of which, uh, no longer exist because they've been torn down. But there's still some barns there and a big house in front and a big, old house. And it's, uh, now, uh, made into a couple of apartments and that belongs to the—that to the, uh, Allen Waite [phonetic 00:04:08] farm right now. In between, it was owned by the Rapp family [phonetic 00:04:15].

Next place on your right would be the place on the corner which I knew as the, uh, Fort place, the Warren Fort [phonetic 00:04:22] place. That I think was the original Fort farm around here. But Warren was living there alone when I—And I don't—I just kind of, uh, remember him a little bit because he was a kind of a recluse. If he saw you coming, he'd duck, get under cover, get in the house, get in the barn. And he had the house on the—that right-hand side of the road which still stands there. It's now occupied by—It was occupied by the Idleman [phonetic 00:04:47] family. Now, it's some other new owner been there for five years who I don't know. The barn sat across the road and, uh, Warren Fort ran a—like a—how he separated, uh—he milked a few cows and separated the milk and sold the cream. And then next is the, uh, newer house, um, built back in the pine trees by the, the, uh, uh—one summer, the Idlemans. Pete Idleman [phonetic 00:05:17]. He still lives there.

So then you, uh, continue on, uh, towards the south or, uh, on the right-hand side of the road. And the next place on the—on the knoll is a place now occupied by Allen Rapp [phonetic 00:05:38] and his wife and children. When I was a kid, that was owned by Allen Rapp's grandfather. I think his name was Henry. And he found that there. And, uh, he had, uh, a son also named Henry. And he founded both farms, both those farms. And then he sold it to the Rapps. And it's been occupied by Rapps for many years.

So then you, uh, go on down through and it's a—you pass the, uh, uh, south end of the Hoag Road and there's also, near that intersection on the right-hand side, when I was a kid that was a Molesky—one of the Molesky [phonetic 00:06:19] farms. That was the Harry Molesky farm. And he and his wife and quite a family of children lived there. And, uh, I went to school with some of them. Martha was one of the younger ones. And there was quite an extensive family. There was—She had some older, quite a bit older, brothers and sisters. That farm is now owned,

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

owned by, uh, the, uh, photographer, commercial photographer. His name is Koelski [phonetic 00:06:50], I believe. And, uh, he and his wife and children live in there. The, uh, farmland is rented out to the Allen Waite farms.

So then you con—uh, continue on south. And on the right-hand side next thing would be a newer house that's built on the [unintelligible 00:07:07] up to your right was built by, uh, some people that live there yet. And I think their name is Jetty or Jesky [phonetic 00:07:15] or something like that. They built that house in there. They bought half the old, uh, Kenneth Herrington [phonetic 00:07:21] farm which is also on that road. And they built that house on that—the wes—westerly side of the road.

So the next thing you come to is the old, uh, Clifford Bassett [phonetic 00:07:33] farm. And Clifford Bassett was a man that, uh, was well known for, uh, purebred Holstein cattle. He sold them and dealt in them. And, uh, uh, at one time, I guess the barn had burnt there. But the barn I remember was a beautiful barn. Never saw anything like it. All painted and two-tone inside. And was a variable amount of cows there, depending on what he'd sold and what he'd bought lately. He also sold Minneas—map—Minneapolis-Moline machinery there at that location. Was a building in front that was converted to Minneapolis-Moline. That place is now owned by a Knight [phonetic 00:08:14] family. And that's the last place on the right or the westerly side of the—if the Beadle Hill Road.

To proceed on back north on the Beadle Hill Road, the first building you come to is a barn only which was part of a farm. The house and main barns are across the road. That was known as the Gifford farm. And it burnt when I was a small boy. And it was, uh, joined onto the Carters [phonetic 00:08:41] farm which is in [unintelligible 00:08:43] County on the—on the other side of the line. The farm is now owned by the Pratts, Bob and Mary Pratt. They use that barn for a sheep operation. They also own the place just north of that, the old houses there and the barns. Here three years ago, they built a new barn. It's a chip [sounds like 00:09:01] operation only, no cows there. But big old house is there. When I was a kid that was a, um, Ryan residence [phonetic 00:09:08]. They called him Casey Ryan. His right name was Andrew Ryan. He and his wife lived there when I was a kid. And they, uh—He had to quit farming. He rented that, uh,

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

farm out to, uh, Adolph Pearson, Jr. [phonetic 00:09:25] and [unintelligible] since was later bought by, uh, Kenneth Herrington and he ran the farm there until he retired and built a house on the, uh, uh, Colonel, uh, Burch Road, I believe it is. And then it was sold to the Pratts at the time he, uh, split up the farm and sold one side of the road to the people across the road, the Jessis or Jessupson [phonetic 00:09:50] and the other side to these Pratts. So they farm it. They're now in sheep farming.

And you proceed onto the north again, and you pass the, uh, Colonel Burch Road, I guess that is. And, uh, the first place on the right would be a, a new house just built by, uh, uh, Steve Maylu [phonetic 00:10:15], one of the younger Maylus. And, uh, it's just been finished in the last, uh, few months. Next place on the right is a house, uh, built and occupied by, uh, Ernie Mable [phonetic 00:10:29] and his wife Martha. And, uh, there is, uh, three or four children there, one of whom is Steve but now built that house next door. Ernie was the [unintelligible 00:10:41] for many years in the town of East End. He still lives there with his wife. And I think they're both retired now. And, uh, I guess once in a while he still works as a wingman on the town road. But his, uh—That house is probably, well, nearly 40 years old at least. And, uh, that was a newer house at that time.

So then you proceed on, uh, north. And you, uh, you pass the Lees Crossing Road on your right and, uh, come back toward Beadle Hill. And the next on your right is, uh, some of the few barns that, that, uh, now go to the Allen Rapp farm. So then you, uh, proceed on north. And at the corner of the, uh, Gifford Road, which is a right-hand intersection only, is a barn that once went with the, uh, uh, Warren Fort farm. Not sure who owns that now, whether people across the road or people that use the land. So anyway, you continue on north back to a little hamlet of, uh—Toward the little hamlet of Beadle Hill, there's a newer house there was built by Henry Ra—Rapp when he retired from the farm. He lived there for a few years until he retired entirely. He went south and spent the rest of his life.

The next thing on your right is a house now, uh, occupied by James Darrell [phonetic 00:12:14]. That's on the side of, uh, houses I knew belonged to a Charles DeSilva [phonetic 00:12:20]. And it was a—There was a small farm there, also, some little bit of lien. But Charlie DeSilva, uh,

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

was a rototiller dealer in the early, early days. He sold rototillers that were made in Switzerland. And plowed lots of people's gardens around here with them in the spring of the year. But he, uh—he and—his wife had a job in Troy, I believe. And he used to take her to Troy re—every morning and then spend his day with rototillers. And he lived there for quite a number of years. And at some point, uh, James Darrell bought that place. And the original house got on fire here some 12, 15 years ago. And James Darrell decided to, uh, tear the remains down and build a new house there, which he did on the same premises.

And, uh, just north of that, there's a house now owned by Ernest Labombard [phonetic 00:13:24]. He and his wife Mildred live there. And they had a couple of boys. That was, uh, formerly the, uh, Bell [phonetic 00:13:35] residence where their—Bill Bell came from. And, uh, it was then, uh, rented out for some years and, uh, was bought by, uh, Ernest Labombard after—when he was on the farm as a helper for George Pearson at the foot of the hill. Then you come on north of that, uh, to the corner of the Ives Hill Road. There was, uh, formerly the blacksmith shop under—on that side of the road. I remember that. But it burned—That also burned down some years ago.

So then you, you—that, uh—On the corner of Ives Hill and Beadle Hill Road there's a great big, uh, colonial-type four-pillared house that, uh, when I first remember, that was the, uh, parsonage to the, uh, Russian Orthodox Church at the foot of the hill. Was, uh, occupied by a Reverend Panzanak [phonetic 00:14:39]. And he had a family. He was an orthodox preacher. You couldn't have a family. He had a family that lived there for a few years. And I guess when he left, the, the, uh, little church dissolved and was sold at some point to the Gallagher [phonetic 00:14:57] family. And, uh, they used it as a part-time residence and also as a full-time residence. And I think it still belongs to the Gallagher family, but it hasn't been sold. Yeah. Nobody has said—occupied it for quite a while.

Just for a minute we'll, uh, now go back to the county line and we'll take the first road to your right which it's—is a—known as the Colonel Burch Road. There's not many houses. It'll be a short trip on that road. When I was a kid, the first farm down there, the house was on the right, barns on your left, and, uh, owned by a man named Wiseman [phonetic 00:15:37]. And the,

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

uh—He sold it to a George Yeager [phonetic 00:15:43] who lived there some time. He's, uh, had some boys a little bit older than I was. And then the, uh, the house burned there, and a new house was built. And the, the farm was split up. And the farm land now belongs to, to the Standard farms [phonetic 00:15:58] which is farther down the road. And I don't know the name of the person that lives in that house now.

But next on your right, or the westerly side of the road, would be the house that was the—in the last few years the brick house was occupied by Mrs. George Standard. She recently died within the last year or so. And now, uh, Burt Standard [phonetic 00:16:21] lives in there. Then you proceed on south and there's a Burt Standard, uh, shop where he fixes tractors and trucks and so forth. And then you go down and, uh, you come to the Standard farm and there you might as well turn around because the—there's only one barn on the, uh, southernly side of the road—westerly side of the road. I'm sorry. And the, the houses on the, uh, easterly side of the road, well, that house, when I was a kid, was the Bennett farm [phonetic 00:16:50]. And it was, uh, bought by the Standard family quite some time ago. And the original owners were, uh, George Standard and his wife. And they were there and raised a family. And, uh, George Standard died some yeas ago. His wife had had that place on the other side of the road in her retirement years. And she sold the farm or—And it's now, uh, occupied by Al Standard. And he still farms up there with one of his—one or two of his sons. And that's the, the hou—the main house that's there.

And there's, uh, the farm buildings. And, and, uh, that's—And the, the barns are close [unintelligible 00:17:38] houses, uh, a considerable number of cows. And right next to that is a greenhouse owned by one of the sons, uh, Al's sons. And which one I can't recall. But then you come on, uh, north of that and there's, uh, a new house, who I don't know the owner of, before you make the turn back towards, uh, Beadle Hill Road. And there in that corner where you turn is the house that was built there by Kenneth Herrington and his wife Margaret when they retired and sold the farm. They've since sold that house to a party unknown to me. So that takes us back to the Beadle Hill Road.

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

The next, uh, road leading to the east or a right-hand turn from the Beadle Hill Road is, uh, Lees Crossing Road. That's, uh—Not many houses down there, but we'll, uh, go over them briefly. First place on the right is a barn going to the Kennel Wolfe—Kenneth Wolfe place. Next on the right is a barn on the old Mitzfield [phonetic 00:18:46] place now owned by Headwell. Then there's a new house in there. A family by the name of Parker lives in there, I believe. That takes you down to the corner of the Gifford Road. It's in the corner of the Gifford Road, you go down the hill towards the town of Cambridge and there's no houses in there, either, now. And, and, uh, then you turn around and come back to the west. And on the right-hand side, there's a—there's a house in there in the woods. It's—There's a new lane's been go up there for some time. That is a party unknown to me.

Then you come back to the corner of, uh, Gifford Road and, uh, the first place on the right is a newer house that's built—been built there in the last four or five years is that party [unintelligible 00:19:39] also. But, uh, this place on the road is the place now owned by Headwells. And when I was a kid, that was the, uh, Fred Mitzfield fla—place. And the barn's crossed over part of it. Fred, uh, was an older man when I remember him. And he, uh, had a few, uh, [unintelligible 00:20:02] heifers there of which we bought a few, me and my father, years ago. And when he, uh, passed on, uh, the, uh, place was basically sold to the Headwells.

The next place, uh, to the west of that is a house now occupied by Kenneth Wolfe and wife Lucille [phonetic 00:20:21]. And they're the former owners of the place on the corner of, uh [coughs], Lees Crossing and, uh, Gifford Road. They moved there as a retirement place. And, uh, that—When I was a kid, that was a, a German couple lived there. Spoke very little English. And, uh, then that place was sold to a, a man by the name of Costy [phonetic 00:20:53]. And he lived there for, uh, some period of time. His wife died shortly thereafter. And he owned that place and farmed a little bit there. He worked, also, at the paper mill in [unintelligible 00:21:08]. And he gave that up quite some time ago. And then it was, uh, taken over by the Wolfes. And then Kenneth moved in there sometime later. So that takes us back to the—again to the Beadle Hill Road.

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

The next road is a road more know—northerly on, uh, Beadle Hill Road. There's Gifford Road. That's a one-way road, uh, starting at—to the east from the Beadle Hill Road. Only goes a short distan—distance, then it takes a sharp right-hand turn and goes almost directly south. The first place is on the right or on the—on the turn is the house now occupied by John Stephens and wife [phonetic 00:21:57]. And they've owned that place for quite a few years. And, and, uh, it was in kind of a state of disrepair when John bought it. And he fixed it all up. And it's a—When I was a kid, that was a, um, called the Bulger [phonetic 00:22:06] place. That was a man named Bul—Bulger that only used that as a summer home. It's a—It's a big, uh, castle-like structure, big house. And after that, it was a—it was, uh, sold to a lady in [unintelligible 00:22:23], I believe. And she used that also as a summer place. And after a while, she, she rented it out for a while. And, uh, then it was bought by John Stephens some 25, 30 years ago from now.

The next place on your right, uh, when I was a kid, it was the Fred Baker [phonetic 00:22:45] place. It was like a shack. Fred was almost like a hermit. And he used to spend his winters in the County house. And he was almost, uh, almost blind. Could see a little bit. Enough to get back and forth from here to the County house. And he lived there alone on a—on a—on a lot. But that house was torn down after he died. Then you go on down to the corner of, uh, Lees Crossing Road. Next place on your right, uh, would be known to me as the, the Docey [phonetic 00:23:14] place. It was a father and the two sons that lived there. One of the sons used to work on farms here quite a bit. John Docey. And it's been sold two or three times since. The people that live there now are unknown to me.

Then the next thing you—uh, place you come to on your right would be the Charlie Hanson [phonetic 00:23:36] place. That was a, a—When I was a kid, that was known as the Eddie [phonetic 00:23:40] place. It was a little—occupied little house there. The house had burned down sometime previously as the [unintelligible 00:23:46] when I was a kid. And, uh, Charlie Hanson, once they bought it and built a house that's there yet. He owned a, a farm, a small farm, and the buildings around the other side of the road. And, uh, then you wind south and the next place you come to is the barns of the Hanson place. And, uh, that was a—the, uh, houses on the easterly side of those.

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

So we turn around right there. We're nearly close to the [unintelligible 00:24:19] County line now. So we'll turn around. The, the house that's there now is—was the, uh—The original house was burnt down. Belong to a man by the name of Chris Hansel [phonetic 00:24:32] when I was a kid. And, uh, his son, uh, Norman owned it. And, uh, he is also passed now. And I'm not sure who's living there now, but that was the original house. And then, uh, the house, small house on the right continuing on north of there is the house that was occupied by Chris in his, uh, retirement years and is now occupied by Pete Hanson, one of the grandsons.

Then you come on north of—in the—that's the only—the only thing on the right-hand side is the farm buildings of the—of the Charlie Hanson place until you get to the, uh, homes at the corner of Lees Crossing Road. There's a house that was, uh, built by, um, Ted Wolfe some years ago. And he's just, uh, vacated that place now. I think it's for sale. Next on your right is the, uh, Wolfe farm. And there's two houses on that farm. That was the—When I was a kid, that was the Rose [phonetic 00:25:41] farm. It was bought by, uh, Kenneth Wolfe when he left the Allen Waite farm. And, uh, and it's quite a good site. Dairy operation there now. Um, Ken had, um, quite a few cattle in them older barns there for several years. And they built this, uh, lower barn, old-type barn near the road. And there's, uh, one house that was, uh, it was a tan house and some of, uh, Fred Wolfe's sons live in there. And there's a house down in back still that little short way that's now occupied by Fred Wolfe. He's the father of the boys that live in the house adjoining here. And that's as much as I know about the history of that place.

Then, uh, next north to that is a house now, uh, occupied by, uh, Don Swanson [phonetic 00:26:38] who's in the tire business. And, uh, it's quite a busy place. He's a well-known man, tire man, around this area. When I was a kid, that was the Leo Sheehy [phonetic 00:26:48] place. Little small farm. Uh, Leo Sheehy used to lose a full bed of milk there [sounds like 00:26:54]. In fact, they picked it up when they hel—used to help out on, uh, Bob Herrington's [phonetic 00:26:59], uh, can route. And that was a baker for some time. And, uh, Don, uh, Swanson bought it from him when, uh—because he lived there and sold tires there ever since.

Next house on the low—on the right is a place known to me as the Mike Bischard [phonetic 00:27:21] place. Mike bought that place some few years ago and cleaned it up and built a

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

garage. And the house was fairly close to the road. And before that for many years it was a summer pla—used for buildings for various people. However, Mike bought it and he, he now lives there full-time. Next on your right would be a lane which leads down in from the—it used to lead from the tur—uh, turn roller. Most of the Gifford Road goes south. There's a farm in there and house half a mile from the road that's occupied by John Peregrim, Jr. [phonetic 00:28:00] and his wife. That was a—in the younger days, owned, owned and occupied by his father, John Peregrim, Sr. And he had several children there and farmed it. They were members of the old [unintelligible] church at Beadle Hill. And it's been in the Peregrim family ever since I can remember. So then you can proceed from—out the lane back to the west, and once again you come to Beadle Hill Road.

Next on the right of Beadle Hill Road will be what's known as Ives Hill Road now.

That's—was the original old road there. Take a turn to the right and head easterly. The first place when I was a kid that was the Holding [phonetic 00:28:46] place. Joseph Holding, Sr. and his wife lived there. Had, uh, I think at least three children, one of whom, uh, was later married to a Larry Sprague [phonetic 00:28:57]. And that's the death of, uh, the Hoyts [phonetic 00:28:59]. He and his wife Mary took over the house and also the younger son. And they lived there for many years until Larry died. And it's now owned by one of the—Larry's granddaughters. Lady been—I can't remember her first name, but she's married to a person by the name of Don Nicolet [phonetic 00:29:19] who lives there yet.

Next on the right is a newer house built by Scott Prague—Sprague some few years ago. He's one of the Sprague families from around here of many years. Next on the right was a house I knew as the Conroy [phonetic 00:29:37] place. It was, uh, occupied by a Thomas Conroy and his wife Mary and a couple children. And they lived there. And, uh, when they, uh, got rid of that place, it was bought by, uh, George Pearson [phonetic 00:29:50] and used as a hired man's house for his farmers at the foot of the hill. And it's, uh, been sold a couple times since. It's now, uh, occupied by a lady by the name of, uh, Gerene Meyer [phonetic 00:30:04]. And, uh, that's a—there's one more place on the right-hand side going down the hill on east. And that's the place which I knew as the Hunnisack place. That was a John Hunnisack and his wife. Uh, John, Sr. lived there. They had several children. And, uh, John used to work on—senior used to work on farms down

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

there. Uh, some of his offspring are the two twins, John and Michael Hunnisack, who are just recently deceased. Lived around town here all their life. Now occupied by Howard Labombard who bought it some time ago.

So you just turn around there at the junction of the, uh, South Cambridge Road, proceed back, uh, to the west. And then the first place is that place that's between the rows, the Joseph Hunnisack residence. The next place is the old, uh, Beadle Hill School. And my, my aunt taught in there for many years. And, uh, it's since been converted to a house by the Gallagher family when the Gall—Gallagher boys lived there for a while. And it's just recently been sold to a [unintelligible 00:31:17] who lives there now. Next place is a—on the right is a place at the corner of Beagle Hill Road, and it's the Gallagher place. Then you proceed across Beagle Hill Road and go up there and there's a newer house there built by the Becker family some 10, 15 years ago. She's a—Mrs. Becker was a—in, uh—was an aunt or something of Gene Vanderzee. So she built that house around Gene's property at that time.

Next place on the, uh, westerly side, or right side of the road, is a place I knew as the Jack Starsfield [phonetic 00:31:54] place who's a little Scotsman lived there when I was a kid. He and a couple of his buddies were [unintelligible 00:32:01] and that was sold after his death to the Tanzy [phonetic 00:32:07] family who's a—some kind of a cousin to John Slocum [phonetic 00:32:11]. And, uh, they had it for a while. And it's been owned next by Bezy, uh, Rizell [phonetic 00:32:19] family who has raised two or three children. They're all gone now except the, the, uh—Mr. Rizell and his wife. And they live there.

Next on your right would be the place that sits back in quite a little lis—uh, distance. Was built by Ron Hanson [phonetic 00:32:37] some—a few years ago. And I understand he's a head ski instructor at Wilder Mountain Ski Run. He do—He does, uh, landscaping in the summertime. Next on your right would be the, uh, Henry Herrington place I knew of. Henry Herrington and his wife lived in there with—They had two or three children. I was a small boy. I remember the—me and the [unintelligible 00:33:00] lived there before, his name was Paul Eiz [phonetic 00:33:02]. He, he was killed by, by a bull on that farm many years ago.

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

And, uh, and then, then, uh, that was the Ives Hill Road. It used to go down and intersect with the, uh, uh, Hoag Road. It's been closed off for many years. And there's a gravel pile near the top of the hill. You have to turn around and come back. So we'll come back towards the east and the, uh—I believe the only place on the right-hand side of the road as of this time is the place that was originally the, uh, John Fort [phonetic 00:33:38] farm. John, uh, lived at, uh, Northeastern, but he commuted to that farm. And there was a house there, but he didn't occupy it very much except on bad weather days. And it's, uh, now occupied by a man named Fandry [phonetic 00:33:55]. He's been there for some 20 years or more. He was at one time the, uh, local agent for the State lottery.

So then you proceed on east and come back through the Beadle Hill Road once again.

So we'll now take a ride up the [unintelligible 00:34:14] Road from the southern end junction with, uh, South Cambridge Road. The first place on the right is the Skiff place. I knew it as Paul Skiff and his wife lived there and raised, uh, two or three children there. And Paul farmed it there for many years. And when he, uh, got done farming, he built a house, uh, on the old site of Cacao Road [phonetic 00:34:38] a little distance from the farm. And then the, uh, the farm was broken up into four, five pieces and the house was purchased at—first by the Cushing [phonetic 00:34:52] family. They lived there for a few years. And then it was bought by a George Green [phonetic 00:34:59] and his wife. They live there now. They've lived there for quite some time. The, the, uh, farm buildings were on the other side of the road. They've since been torn down.

And the next two places on the right are two newer houses that were built as, as—and they were part of the Paul Skiff farm at, uh, the—in the old days. And, uh, one of those houses is occupied by a Miss—Mr. and Mrs. Bordell [phonetic 00:35:22] who are teachers, one at, uh—who's at Valley Central School. And further on north there's another house. That, uh, was an, uh, uh, more elderly families had that house built and has lived there ever since. But their name is unknown to me. Then you come on north and, uh, you cross the junction of the, uh, Meeting House Road. And on your right would be the Conner farm [phonetic 00:35:49]. That's been a Comer—Conner farm owned by William Conner, Sr., and his wife. And they had several children, uh, some of whom I went to school with. And it's, uh, been taken over by William

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Conner, Jr. And now his daughter Maryann lives in that house. That's a small farm and it's, uh, on the right-hand side of the road, there.

Next place on the—on the right is a—was known as the Kenyon [phonetic 00:36:22] farm in my younger days. And that was a [Unintelligible 00:36:24] Kenyon and his wife lived there. And that, uh, house was bought by William Connors, Jr. And he still lives there and has for many years and raised his family, mostly, there. The farm itself was broken up and the, uh, land is now part of the Sword—Skiff farm. Sword [phonetic 00:36:44] is a—is a farm on, uh, Meeting House Road.

Well, that's the last place on the, uh, easterly si—or right-hand side of the road. And then you, uh, go up to the junction with Cacao Road and turn around and come back to the south. And the first place is the—when I was a kid that was the Conner place, also. That was—I think his name was, uh, was, uh, James Conner. I'm not sure. But he sold up there some years ago. And then Adolph Pearson, Jr. bought it and he farmed it there for many years. And when he sold it, it was sold to a Richard Cary [phonetic 00:37:27] who lives there now. Richard and, uh—had several children. And they've all gone away. And he lives there alone at this time.

The next building on the right would be the old, uh, Sprague or Conner District School. What number it was I don't remember. It still stands there in kind of a bad state of disrepair. Next place on the right would be the house where I now live. It sits back on a lane, big house, some quarter mile from the road. I bought that, uh, place from, uh, Mr., uh, Quackenbush in Greenwich. It changed hands many times, but that was the original home of the Sprague family. They lived there and had quite a few children, one of whom was the—I believe one of the last teachers of the school that was up on the—on the same property. Winiford Sprague [phonetic 00:38:20]. But I had bought that place some over 40 years ago and I lived there since and raised my family there pretty much.

So now—Then you go back to the south at the junction of Meeting House Road once again. And the, uh, um, only place, uh, on the right, with the exception of the wreckage of the barns of the Paul Skiff farm, is a house that was built by Paul Skiff after he retired from farming. It's a small

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

house on the right before you get back to, uh, Beadle Hill. And that's the—was Paul's, uh, home until he died. And it's since been sold to another family whose name I don't know.

That pretty much cleans up the whole, uh, southeastern Beadle Hill section of the town.

I think we'll go next to, uh, northeastern on Route 40 and turn right, or east, on, uh, Fly Summit Road [phonetic 00:39:22]. Uh, first building in there is a house, uh, now owned by the Archenbull [phonetic 00:39:30] family. When I was a kid, that was the, uh, John and Jody Fort [phonetic 00:39:34] residence. Had previous—previously been, been connected with a cheese factory [unintelligible 00:39:41]. They lived there for some time. And, uh, it was, uh, once occupied by, uh, [unintelligible 00:39:49] Briggs and wife, the town judge now, and at some point sold to the Archenbolls. They live there now.

Next thing on the right was the old cheese factory which is a building, uh, quite close to the road that was a cheese and, uh, made different things. Butter. Farmers brought their milk there and they made products out of it. And, uh, that building was a—on a bend pretty much and, uh, and, uh, got torn down and, uh, a few years ago. At one time it belonged to John, uh, Pitsky across the road.

Then you go on east again and, uh, next building on the right that I remember is a barn that was, uh, part of the Usnell [phonetic 00:40:36] farm. And that was at, uh, some 50 years ago, probably, was, uh, converted into a house and only lived in a short time by the, uh, Edwards family that, uh, burned to the ground one night long ago. Next thing on the right would be the, the, uh, Gorsky [phonetic 00:40:59] farm and buildings and house. Now, that house is a more modern house. I remember the time the original house burnt there when I was a young child. And that that was, uh, Jim Ed Becker and Lester Becker and their wives lived there then in the—uh, in the old days. And, uh, they built that house that's there now. And after they, uh, uh, died, it was owned by a—for a short time by a Kyle Russo family [phonetic 00:41:28]. Mr. Kyle Russo and, and wife and a couple boys. And Mr. Kyle Russo died pretty young. And then it was sold to the Gorskys about the same time that they sold the farms on, uh, River Road to the Niagara Mohawk Company.

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

So then let's go way on east and, uh, past the Becker Road on the right and Cacao Road on the right, then go way over toward, uh, Fly Summit. Only thing that's there were—in my days was the, uh, um, Irene Gates [phonetic 00:42:05], Irene and Paul Gates lived there when I was a kid. She had previously been married to a man, uh, by the name of Horton Brownell [phonetic 00:42:14]. She had, uh, several children, some of whom settled over around Greenwich, I believe. And, uh, then it was a—She owned it and, uh, for quite some time or after Paul died and just sold here four or five years ago. I think it's now part of the Wright [phonetic 00:42:30] family live there that own a farm, uh, on the other side of the road.

So then we'll go down from there. There's a new house there that was built just four or five years ago that's near the town line. There's a place up in back can hardly be—can't be seen from the roads. And the long lane. This place was built there just four or five years ago. And people live in there. And that brings us to the, uh, town of Cambridge line. And there we'll turn around and come back. And the first place on the right would be the place I remember as the, uh, uh, Whipple [phonetic 00:43:08] place. That was, uh, occupied when I remember by Henry or Hank Jennings and Althea and family [phonetic 00:43:14]. And the, uh, Hank and, uh, Althea have, have died and one of their, uh, sons, uh, uh, Pat Jennings, still lives in there.

Then come on back westerly and on the right-hand side the—was a lane right back to a, a farm there owned by the Jennings family. And that was the Jennings homestead in the old days. And I think the barn still stands up there in the—in the lane some distance long. But the house was, uh—has—had caved in because nobody used it. And, uh, then come to—again to the, uh, west. And the next place on the right is a place now, uh, occupied by, uh, uh, I can't think of his name. But when I was a kid, that was a Harold Snells [phonetic 00:44:06] and—that lived in there. It was owned then by, uh, John Brownell who had, uh, moved out and rented it to, uh, Snells [phonetic 00:44:16] and the, the—it's been—it's changed hands two or three times. And there's a man named, uh—that, uh, bred chickens in there for a while. There's a few barns converted to chick houses there. And then the next thing on the right would be a trailer, uh, owned by the mother-in-law of the people in the house there.

Smit Lundberg Recollections-Tape 2

So then you come on, uh, again and there's the old, uh, Robert Brownell place. Bob Brownell. He was a, a pretty well-known character around here who's an unlicensed veterinary. I guess in the old days he [unintelligible 00:44:53] most people's veterinary work, horses and cows and so forth, and as well as run his farm there. He was, you know—He ran a farm. He had to hire me. And so between the two of them they ran the farm. And, uh, Bob Brownell was, uh, killed by his own bull in the barn there many years ago. And it was been—It was sold, uh, at least two or three times. It was, um, sold to the Beagles and then to, uh, Irene [Unintelligible 00:45:19]. And it's now the—The Wrights have owned it for quite some time. They've raised, uh, beef cattle there. And it's—most of the buildings are still there. And for some that they have built since then, some newer buildings.

And then we come on back, uh, nothing there. You're past the, uh, [Unintelligible 00:45:38] Road on the right. And come back, uh, toward, uh, North Easton there's a, uh, uh, LaBaron [phonetic 00:45:48] farm. Um, Jay LaBaron owned that place—has owned that place for many years. He just sold it here in the last few months. And he's moved away from there. But when I was a kid, that was the Ray Brownell place. Ray was a, uh, member of the town board here for many years. And, uh, that's in—that's only about a couple homes that I could remember.

Then you come on, uh, once again west and you pass the, uh, Herrington Hill Road. And, uh, at the corner of the, uh, Herrington Hill Road is a house that's uh, uh, occupied by Keith Cooke [phonetic 00:46:26] now. It was—And it was, uh—When I was a kid, that was the, uh, Frank Nevins [phonetic 00:46:32] place. Frank and his wife NiNi [phonetic 00:46:35], I believe her name was, lived there. And they raised a family of children. They moved afterwards to [unintelligible 00:46:42] and sold to a man named Noaks [phonetic 00:46:44] who lived there and, and farmed it for a while. And it was sold to a, a family by the name of Eddie for a very short time.

[END OF 2_B-SMITH LUNDBERG RECOLLECTIONS-TAPE 2]