YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

Remembrances of the Lisbon Project

Personal Experience

O.H. #1167

MILDRED ARMSTRON RUDIBAUGH

Interviewed

by

Gene Krotky

on

January 27, 1988

MILDRED ARMSTRONG RUDIBAUGH

Mrs. Rudibaugh, born in 1905, belongs to one of the early Lisbon families, the Armstrongs. Raised and educated in Lisbon, Mildred married a local man, Adam Rudibaugh. Together they ran Hamilton's Drugstore for 42 years. She worked alongside Adam, taking care of the bookwork and putting in many long hours at the store. She was one of our early working mothers who combined rearing two boys with her tasks at the store.

Mildred has been an active member of the Lisbon Methodist Church and its women's groups.

-- Gene Krotky

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INTERVIEWEE: MILDRED ARMSTRONG RUDIBAUGH

- INTERVIEWER: Gene Krotky
- SUBJECT: Lisbon history, business, working outside the home, 1930's-1950's
- DATE: January 27, 1988
 - K: This is an interview with Mildred Armstrong Rudibaugh for the Youngstown State University Oral History Program, on the Remembrances of Lisbon project, by Gene Krotky, on January 27, 1988, at Lisbon, Ohio, at 7:00 p.m.

Mildred, what are the earliest memories you have of your parents and your home and so on? Maybe a Christmas, or something that stands out in your mind from when you were real little?

R: We always went to Grandmother's for Christmas. My grandfather lived two miles out of town. We always went out there for Christmas. Then later on, it got so that. . . There were three sisters. Grandmother had two sisters. They entertained everybody in those three families every Christmas. We would go to each one in turn. I just grew up with a lot of relatives. That's all there was to it. There were a lot of cousins.

There were sleighs and sleds in the winter time. I remember I was out at Grandfather's one time. I don't know how old I was. I went to Grange with them. I stayed downstairs during the meeting. They had a team of horses attached to a sled. One of the horses fell down, but was up before I knew it. He was blind, and he went down. He was a real good horse. We took long walks on Sunday afternoon to walk out to Grandfather's

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[house]. Maybe they'd bring us back, and maybe they didn't.

- K: That was a long walk.
- R: They had horses and buggies to do it. They didn't have cars to do it then.
- K: What is one of the outstanding things that you remember getting for Christmas in a way of a gift when you were small?
- R: I wanted a Teddy Bear, and I got one.
- K: How old were you?
- R: Oh, about two or three. My mother said I hunted all the pictures of Teddy Bears out that I could think of. Every time I saw a picture of a Teddy Bear, I told her that I liked those. So, I got one.
- K: Any particular Christmas customs in your family? Any particular things that your family did at Christmas time?
- R: Yes. We still do. We have the plum pudding instead of hanging our stockings up. Mom and Dad didn't have a place to hang them that I could remember. In the new house at least, there wasn't any fireplace in the house that we lived, so we had the plum pudding. You'd get a package with your name on it. You'd have to pull it out of a box, and then, you'd have to guess what it was before you opened it. We still continue that now to this day. The kids, I think, get more of a kick out of that than their presents.
- K: I assume you went to school in Lisbon.
- R: Oh, yes.
- K: Twelve years or eight?
- R: Twelve.
- K: What was different about school when you were there, from when your boys went or from today?
- R: Well, we went to school at eight-thirty in the morning, and you got out at four in the afternoon. You went to school, you had an hour for lunch, and you went home for lunch. You didn't get it served at school. You went home for lunch. You walked every place you went. Of course you walked from one end of town to the other. You had to remember that it took you a little longer to get to the lower buildings sometimes, than it did to

the upper ones.

- K: What did you particularly like in school?
- R: I don't know.
- K: Do any subjects or any teachers stand out in your mind?
- R: When I was in high school, I had several teachers I liked. One of them was an Economics teacher. She called on you; and if you knew, you were commended for it. If you didn't know, you weren't commended for it. She was the only one that I think I ever got 100 percent for. I got 100 percent in one of her classes on the final exam. I was so proud of that [that] I didn't know what to do.
- K: What kind of activities did you have in school then? Did you have dances?
- R: Basketball. We had a party every year, but then, we didn't have too much other than that. I don't believe. Now, I can't remember. I didn't go to them in the day. Of course, I had to be in bed by nine every night.
- K: Would you say your parents were pretty strict?
- R: I didn't think they were strict. That was just a rule, and you went by it.
- K: It would be nice today, wouldn't it?
- R: Yes. It would be nice today. We didn't have a television to do anything with it. We had an organ we used at home. My mother played the organ, and my dad did too. He played the mandolin too. We would have sings.
- K: What year did you graduate from high school?
- R: [In] 1924.
- K: Then, you were already married by the time the Depression came?
- R: Yes, I think we were.
- K: How did the Depression affect your life--yours and Adams?
- R: Well, we didn't have a lot of things we would have liked to have had right then. Then, we had to work harder. You just had to plug.
- K: Would you say most people in Lisbon experienced the same thing?

- R: If your business wasn't what it was ordinarily, you had to go on less days. You tried to help everybody else out that you could.
- K: Did Adam already have the drugstore?
- R: Oh, yes. He bought the drugstore before he was old enough to run it. He got it because the man died and his wife wanted to sell it. So, Mr. Hamilton took him under his wing. They hired between them a pharmacist to run it until Adam was old enough to take it out of his hands. He had taken an assistant exam, but he wasn't old enough to really run the drugstore. So, Mr. Hamilton came in and oversaw things, and this other guy came in.

He was twenty-one in December. He got the store in September.

- K: So, by the time the Depression came, you were really living from what you made at the drugstore?
- R: Sometimes, there was much; and sometimes, there wasn't very much. Of course, we were living on less than what anybody gets in a day now.
- K: I'm sure. With the Depression here in Lisbon, do you think it was felt as much here in Lisbon as it was in the city? Were there many people starving? What can you remember about that sort of thing?
- R: No. It wasn't felt like that here. I don't remember too much about it. I'm not a very good person to ask. Some things stand out, but not that many.
- K: What are some of the things that stand out? What, just off the top of your head, as you look back through your life really stands out for you, any event, anything that happened in Lisbon in your lifetime that really stands out in your mind?
- R: Yes. The Methodist Church burned down. One thing that happened, and that was in 1944.
- K: You were very active in the Methodist Church at that time?
- R: We belonged to it. I had taught Sunday School for several years.
- K: How did the church burning down, then, affect your religious life? Where did you go for church? How did they deal with that?

- R: We went to the high school, and we had to hold our church services in the high school study hall. One day in front of the services, a piece of the ceiling fell down on one of the girls and broke her arm.
- K: They were much better off in church. How long did it take the people of the Methodist Church to rebuild?
- R: Six years. The first service in the church sanctuary was in October, 1950.
- K: How did you raise the money?
- R: One thing we did, we had a tent over at the fairgrounds. We served meals everyday. Of course, it was just a three-day fair at the time. We served meals those three days. Every night after we got through, they brought me all the dirty dishtowels because I lived near. I remember that part very well.
- K: I guess you would.
- R: So, I spent my time after they closed up over there, washing towels. Of course, they closed up earlier than they do now, too. They didn't have it at night for awhile.
- K: How was the fair different? You lived here very close to the fairgrounds, and so you got a birds-eye view all the time. Do you think the fairs were better back then, than they are now?
- R: I don't know whether they're better. They're different.
- K: How?
- R: They are very different. Well, they have them longer. They aren't so strict at some of them.
- K: Like what?
- R: I just don't know how to say it, but they didn't have some of the games then, that they have now, like the dice. They had the ferris wheel and the merry-go-round and things like that. I don't know whether there were crafts and things like there is now or not. I haven't been down there for so long to see what they have down there.
- K: But, you see the biggest difference basically in the games of chance and the kind of people that it draws.
- R: Of course, maybe I passed that up when I was a kid, I don't know. We used to go in the morning. My aunt

would drive up from down in the country where they lived and park their horse and their buggy over in the center part, and they would have lunch. We always would lunch there, and we would go the rest of the day.

- K: Did you take your lunch with you?
- R: We didn't take it; they brought it. I had the money to get in and [get] as many rides as I could get out of them, but that was it.
- K: What did the rides cost then? A dime, a nickel?
- R: Probably. I can't remember. They certainly didn't cost what they do now.
- K: What do you remember about the house over here that had belonged to the Spirit Fruit Farm? That house would have been vacant by the time you moved here, or was there someone living in it?
- R: No. Because when Donny was born, the man who lived in it--of course, he dressed like a farmer--he walked down the street one day. Don, about two and a half years old was wearing a little overall suit and a little straw hat. He was following Mr. Sullivan down the street mocking him. It had been in the house, out there. Mr. Sullivan told us what some of the stones were for.
- K: Now, which stones are these?
- R: They were boulders. They weren't too big, but they were lined along the walking places. He was telling us what some of them were.
- K: What did he say they were?
- R: Oh, I don't remember, sunflower and something. They were Indian names or something. I don't know what they were. He was a very peculiar man, anyhow.
- K: To say the least.
- R: I went to school with his daughter, who was very nice. Her name was Jane. There was nothing going on over there or anything that I know of.
- K: I can remember playing over there before it was torn down, when I was maybe in sixth or seventh grade. We were always told it was haunted.
- R: I was too.
- K: Were you?

R: Oh, yes.

- K: But, we were never told why it was supposed to be haunted though. Were you?
- R: No. I never heard of that either. They just said it was haunted. They told us never to go over there unless there was somebody there.
- K: They must tell us all the same thing, then.
- R: Could be.
- K: Let's go back to downtown Lisbon when you were ten, twelve years old, even into high school. If you went uptown, what would you see in downtown Lisbon then, that's missing now?
- R: You would see the saloons on the streets.
- K: Were there a lot of those?
- R: There was one across the street from Darrance's, near where Thomas Insurance office is now along in there, maybe two or three of them along in there. They had just one door. I remember the one, but I can't remember too much about it. We didn't go downtown too much. We didn't have time to go downtown in Lisbon.
- K: How did Prohibition affect Lisbon? If we had all of these Saloons in town, what happened during the period of Prohibition?
- R: They went to Liverpool. You did. You got on the streetcar and went to Liverpool. You would take the last streetcar at night.
- K: Liverpool was still pretty wide open, then?
- R: Yes.
- K: Was there anybody in Lisbon that you heard rumors about that was making illegal liquor; or was it that, if you wanted it, you pretty much went to Liverpool.
- R: Well, you heard about some of them making it, but you would always wonder about it. I can't think of anybody, now. I had an idea that I knew who they were. Dad didn't drink or any of that stuff, and he didn't talk about it too much.
- K: With all the saloons . . . apparently people in Lisbon went to them?

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R: Oh, yes.

- K: I guess I just have a picture of Lisbon people as not doing . . . there wouldn't be enough people in Lisbon who would patronize one saloon in Lisbon to keep it open, let alone, a whole bunch of them.
- R: Well, there was more than one here. I'll tell you that. I can't tell you how many.
- K: I guess I just see Lisbon people more as being involved in their church and that sort of thing than the saloons. I must be mixed up.
- R: There were some people that went to a saloon on Saturday night and came to church on Sunday morning, too.
- K: Still happens. World War II, how did that affect people in Lisbon? Did it affect you personally? How did the war touch your life?
- R: I had a brother go to World War II. It put you on a lot of stress. You're kind of nervous and all upset. I know my brother, when he came home from war, Mother asked him if he'd ever been blown out of bed. He was in England. He said, "I told her no. What I didn't tell her is that I had never been in [bed]."
- K: What do you remember of Franklin D. Roosevelt? I probably shouldn't ask you this, but was your family republicans or democrats?
- R: Republicans.
- K: Wasn't most of Lisbon at that time, pretty much republican?
- R: Oh, yes. Lisbon was a republican town.
- K: That's what I thought. How did people in Lisbon feel about Franklin D. Roosevelt, and how did they feel about his projects to end the Depression and that kind of thing? Did they cooperate with it?
- R: They cooperated. Some of them were a little bit divided on that. Some people in Lisbon were in that working on those projects and things.
- K: What did the people generally think of FDR [Franklin D. Roosevelt]?
- R: Well, I know what my family thought.
- K: Okay. Tell me what your family thought?

- R: When they started the unions, my father said that was the worst thing that could happen. He said, "Then, you'll find out that prices go up, conditions would get worse; and it has to some extent. Some things its been wonderful, but some things its clear out of line. Dad was a staunch republican. He had everybody's picture that he had voted for. He put them in the front window when they ran for office. My father worked in the Firestone Bank. He was a cashier.
- K: Who owned the bank at that time?
- R: Olson's, Ross Firestone, and part of the time, Clark Firestone, he was a brother. He was the vice president.
- K: That would have been Sol Firestone's father?
- R: Yes. Sol Firestone's father.
- K: Going back to the war, I've read history books and so on about the celebrations and that kind of thing when the war ended. What happened here in Lisbon when the war ended? Any kind of celebrating? Did you work in the drugstore downtown?
- R: Full-time. And I did that before I was married.
- K: Were there any kind of celebrations downtown and so on when the war ended?
- R: Oh, there probably were, but I don't remember. I told you my memory is terrible with some things, because I was in the drugstore all the time. You just do that and do your own work, and that's what you get done sometimes.
- K: Let's take a look at that. We talk about Women's Lib[eration] today, and women being out of the home and working. You say that you always worked. You worked here at home, but obviously you spent a lot of time in the drugstore. I can remember when I was in high school. We would come into the drugstore after school, and you were there. Was it unusual in Lisbon for women to be out working like that, outside the home?
- R: I think there were quite a few women that worked around town. Girls in offices. George Lafferty had a girl in his Law office. Doctors' offices had girls in their offices. I think everybody in Kroft & Martin's--if you remember, [there] were women--Kroft's & Martin's, some of them were working outside their home.
- K: Were most of the girls that were working there, young,

unmarried girls; or were many of them married women with children who were helping supplement incomes?

- R: I think they were married women with children.
- K: How did you manage? Today, we have microwave ovens, and we have frozen foods and all of that kind of thing, where we work and try to raise families and so on. How did you manage to keep a house running and put in the number of hours that you did in the drugstore. I know you were there a lot and Adam was always there, so he couldn't have been a whole lot of help at home.
- R: He was never at home. He went to work at seven o'clock and came home at twelve.
- K: How did you manage?
- R: I had help with the housework. Dad's cousin was a retired telephone operator, and when she got social security from that, she'd watch Don. So, I hired her in the daytime for Don. I didn't go out too much at night. I stayed home and did work at home.
- K: You didn't go out and do crazy interviews and bother people?
- R: No, that's not what I'm thinking at all.
- K: I know what you're thinking.
- R: I know what you want to get, because I'd like to have a good history of Lisbon, everything in the background.
- K: A lot of what we're trying to get at is. . . Well, we have the history in the books, what happened in Washington, D.C., and what happened here and there, but what we're trying to do is. . . What was life like for the average person in Lisbon? When you talk about the Depression, you read about the soup lines in the textbook. I don't think we probably had soup lines here in Lisbon. I can't imagine that it was ever necessary.
- R: I don't think we ever did either.
- K: How did people survive? I would imagine we had a lot of unemployment in Lisbon. How would they eat? If they didn't have a soup line for them to go to, how did they manage to eat?
- R: For one thing, the grocery stores and meat markets would carry them a long time, too. They would pay their bills after that. The fact that they sold groceries on credit. That's what they used to do. They

used to go a month at a time. You got your groceries or whatever. A lot of those people carried longer than beyond a month before they paid up.

- K: In keeping books at the drugstore, you probably did the same thing, didn't you?
- R: No, not if we knew they could pay. It was cash. That's the reason we could get on with things. That's one reason we had the refund day. We refunded money one day a month at the drugstore. That was because they gave their cash. If they charged it, they wouldn't get their refunds.
- K: When did you do the refund days? What years?
- R: I wouldn't say the whole time we had the drugstore, but we did them for a long, long time.
- K: You were doing this back in the Depression time?
- R: Now, that, I can't say. That was just shortly after we got the store. We had to work and do without a lot of things that we wouldn't have done otherwise.
- K: What can you remember particularly that you had to do without? Do you remember anything particular that you wanted and you remember that you had to do without it for a long time?
- R: No. I never wanted anything that bad. Isn't that awful? I probably would have like more clothes than I had or two cars. We had one car. Adam went to Columbus over the weekend, I walked back and forth.
- K: When did you get your first car? What was your first car?
- R: Ford. Adam had a Ford. He had a Ford when he was in high school. He got it when he was in high school, second hand; and he used it until he went to college. Then, they got rid of it for \$500 and got another one. He had a Ford Coupe when we went on our honeymoon.
- K: A Ford Coupe? Any idea what year?
- R: I don't know what year the car was made.
- K: It wasn't a new one, then?
- R: Oh, yes. It was new. We may have gotten it a year before or something. You pushed it up the hill. When I learned to drive, I learned to drive on that. My aunt taught me to drive the car. I learned when I was sixteen. She had to drive back and forth. In the

winter time, she'd drive a horse. In the morning, she left it at the local livery stable on the side of the drugstore, across the alley from the drugstore, behind the courthouse, there was an old Methodist Church. They made it into a livery stable. She would drive it in there, and the fellow would keep it over the day; and then, I got it for the day.

- K: Wherever you wanted to go?
- R: Of course I didn't drive it too far, because she was due at 5:00. But she worked in the courthouse.
- K: Doing what?
- R: She was a probate court report officer.
- K: Now this was your mother or Adam's mother?
- R: This was my aunt. She lived out at Grandfather's.
- K: You said that Adam started working when he was fourteen?
- R: Somebody had quit, and he heard about it. He went and asked for the job.
- K: Did he really do it out of financial need or because he also wanted to learn the business?
- R: He wanted to be in the drugstore. He wanted to be a druggist. He had that idea from the very beginning.
- K: It has been good to the two of you, hasn't it?
- R: Oh, yes. We put some work in, but it has been good to us.
- K: You and Adam worked in he drugstore how many years?
- R: Forty-two.
- K: Forty-two.
- R: He got so that he couldn't take it on his feet much, and he had a chance to sell it. So, he sold it.
- K: What changes did you see in the business in those years? What kind of changes in business in general and in the drug business in particular did you see?
- R: I don't know how to answer that. We went from selling seeds and things like that in the drugstore to selling other things. I do know that. We always had a soda fountain. Our nephew was here from Minnesota, and he

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took his wife right downtown to get a soda. He didn't tell her what they were going downtown for. He went down to our store after we had sold it to get a soda, and there wasn't any soda fountain there. He was so upset.

- K: Did you enjoy the soda fountain, or was it more trouble than it was worth?
- R: It was a lot of trouble. It was a good calling card, though. It attracted people in. Of course, we only had a place for nine people at the soda fountain. We had sandwiches and pie. We had two people bake pies for us for a couple years. Somebody said, "You don't bake pies." I said, "No, I don't need to. We got somebody who does those pies. I don't want any pie when I get home."
- K: You put in some long days, didn't you?
- R: Yes. We kind of did.
- K: What about advertising and that kind of thing? Did that change over the years--the kind of advertising that you did? Did you find that in a town like Lisbon, you didn't have to do much advertising?
- R: Oh, yes. We ran a full-page ad every Friday. We'd go in the Rexall Drug Company all the time and bought from them. They had a good advertising set up. We used it all the time. It paid off.
- K: You mentioned refund days. I guess, vaguely in the back of my mind, I remember the refund days; but I don't remember exactly how it worked.
- R: Someone would pull a ticket out every first of the month. Somebody would pull a date out.
- K: Then, how did people get the refunds? Did they get money back from everything they bought?
- R: They got their ticket back, their register tape. If it was for that day, why, they got it.
- K: Everything they spent?
- R: Everything they spent in the store. Of course, the liquor department wasn't in that. The liquor department was in the back of the store, and that was run by the state. Then, the state rented the space to Adam.
- K: Did it pay you to do that?
- R: We allowed so much for advertising.

- K: That came out of your advertising budget?
- R: That came out of the advertising budget.
- K: I would imagine that was a good drawing card, too.
- R: It was. It was a very good drawing card.
- K: I can remember my mother saving register tickets.
- R: Yes. But you don't remember the ones who tried to change the date on them either.
- K: Did you have a lot of that?
- R: Not too much. We had one fellow that--I was so dumbfounded when he brought it in. I thought he was a person who wouldn't do something like that in a hundred years.
- K: How did you deal with something like that? These are people you've known all your life: neighbors, and, like you said, people that you didn't think would do something dishonest? How did you deal with it?
- R: I said, "I'm sorry, but the date is not right." That's all you can do. It was obvious. I don't know why, when they brought it in, they thought they could get away with it; but they did. We had to go over to Youngstown, to court over there, and take a lawyer and prove that it was one of our projects. Somebody said that we couldn't do that kind of stuff. We had to go to court over in Youngstown--I suppose [to Federal Court, I don't know. When we found out that it was okay and alright, they found out several more people had been doing it in different places around the state.
- K: Who charged you with fraud like that? Another business person in Lisbon?
- R: No. I don't know who it was or what happened. I don't know what was brought up because of it. Maybe Adam could tell you. I don't remember what it was.
- K: Was there much cutthroat among business people in town? There were always the two drug stores in town.
- R: There were five.
- K: Oh, there were five?
- R: Yes.

- K: How did you survive in a town this small?
- R: You didn't make a lot of money and you didn't spend a lot of money. There was one where we are; and there was one where the restaurant is there, the Appleseed Restaurant; one where Morgans is; and one across the street from Morgans and the second door down, Ourants. It was run by Lewis.
- K: Did all of you sell basically the same things and do the same types of business?
- R: Yes. There was another drugstore, too, Nace's up on North Market Street. I forgot it. Of course, they were older people, and I don't think they even tried to sell out. It ended up where we had Nace's, Morgan's and Hamilton's.
- K: It's almost hard for me to understand how that many drugstores could stay in business in a town this small.
- R: I think it's probably, because the courthouse was here and they had that business. Anybody who was sick there, they would have gone to the doctor. They had more doctors in town, too. I know Doctor Harris and Doctor Nevan, Doctor Maxwell.
- K: You were in business at an interesting time, then. You started before all of the prescription drugs were discovered and available. Then, you were in business after the discovery of sulfa and penicillin and all of those kind of things. So, you saw a lot of changes in the way medicine was practiced, didn't you?
- R: That changed an awful lot. What's changed even more is the generic drugs on top of everything else.
- K: Yes.
- R: They've got so many new drugs, you can't keep track of them.
- K: Do you think the changes were good or not for the good, sometimes?
- R: Some of them were for the good, and some of them weren't. I think they've done some things, that they've taken away the incentive for people to do things. They've made it too easy. Not drugs, necessarily, but with other things.
- K: Like with what?
- R: You have computers that they don't have to have some-

body to do this and to do that. I think computers are awful hard to get along with. I don't know. I never had anything to do with them. I've got a nephew that loves them. He works with them all the time. He teaches them. He goes all over the country with them. He thinks they're wonderful, if the right person runs them and does the work.

- K: That makes me think of something else. You and Adam though the years, employed a lot of different people down there at the drugstore. We hear a lot of how people today don't care about doing a good job and so on. Do you think that that's true in a small town like Lisbon? Do you think that even here in a small town, where we know one another and all, we've kind of lost that desire to work hard? You mentioned people had it too easy.
- R: They seem to think that things should be given to them. They seem to have that impression, now. Of course, Adam trained his people. He had a meeting every Saturday afternoon for the ones that came into take over Saturday afternoon. They came early, so the other ones could go to a meeting. The other ones stayed late when they got through that night and had another meeting. He had a meeting with his people every Saturday night to tell them whether they had done something wrong or praise them for what they had done right, everything. I think that depends a lot on the person who is hiring, too.
- K: So, you don't think it's just that people expect to be given everything, so much as even management is not doing its job well.
- R: Right. I think it can be improved.
- K: You're probably right. Anything else that stands out in your mind throughout the time you and Adam have lived here in Lisbon that you think should be put into a history collection? Anything that those of us in the historical society should be looking into and gathering information on that should be saved?
- R: How about the cemetery right up on Chestnut Street?
- K: There's not a lot that I know about it. In the library down here, the Ohio Genealogy Society put out that series of twenty books that lists all the headstones and all the graveyards in Columbiana County. If you've been over in the last few years, you know there's not a whole lot left over there. What do you remember about that cemetery?
- R: Nothing except that it was always there and we were

told not to run through it and tear it up.

- K: Now, it's only tiny little corner. There's maybe ten or twelve little headstones in it. What was it like that, when you first remember it?
- R: I never was in it. I can't tell you anything about it, really. I thought it as a lot bigger than that. Of course, a child, you can't always tell what a child thinks is big or whether it isn't.
- K: I've heard the same thing. I've heard that it filled that whole vacant lot there.
- R: That was my impression too. Then, I really never paid that much attention to it when it was there. It seemed to go from the alley over to that house. I just supposed it went all over that.
- K: You apparently had a very close-knit family when you were young. You said you had gone to your grandfathers, and it was of a large, close-knit family. Were you ever told any stories about your ancestors or things that they did?
- R: No. I never did. I have a grandfather who published a genealogy in our family in 1740 down to 1920. I knew who they were and all about them, where they lived and things like that. Then, my other grandparents, my mother was the first child born in this country. They were English.
- K: Is that right? Your grandfather Armstrong came here from Ireland?
- R: Ireland. My great great grandfather. Eventually, they settled east of town in Elkton. The Armstrong house down there is where her great grandfather lived. Then, Uncle Frank lived there. That's the youngest one.
- K: When they came to the United States, they lived in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania? Do you know anything about your relatives, who would have been here during the Civil War, or about any of them who fought in the Civil War or World War I?
- R: No.
- K: You never heard any family stories of any kind?
- R: At least if I did, I didn't pay any attention. That's all I've got to say about it.
- K: Typical kid?

- R: Yes.
- K: Okay. Well, thank you for the interview.
- R: You're welcome.

END OF INTERVIEW