

Interviewee: Sono Sugie

Interviewer: Elizabeth Fujita-Kwan

Date: August 29, 2013

Location: Toronto, Ontario

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**Note that this interview contains a reference to an Anti-Asian slur.

[the first eight seconds of the videotape contains footage of 10 people sitting around a table and they are talking but their speech is indecipherable, after this Sono Sugie's interview begins]

[Also, Sono mentions Ryerson [Ryerson University] a bit however as of 2022 the university has been renamed as Toronto Metropolitan University]

[Start Part 1]

Elizabeth Fujita-Kwan: 'Cause this is the digital one so it's easier to extract it-

Sono Sugie: I see. [nods head]

EF: This one is harder 'cause it's tape so- [door shuts in background] hi Adrien [?!]

Adrien: Good morning.

EF: Good morning? Isn't it afternoon?

Adrien: No.

EF: [chuckles]

Adrien: It's a permanent beginning.

SS: [smiles] Good morning. [laughs]

EF: [chuckles] Okay hope they won't be too loud [door shuts in background] okay so usually for the sake of the camera in case I lose the paperwork that goes with it and you know what that's like in the archives- [chuckles]

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: So today is Thursday, August the 29th, 2013 and if you could please tell me your full name.

SS: Sono Oyakawa Sugie.

EF: Oyakawa ?

SS: Oyakawa. That's my maiden name.

EF: You know I don't think I knew that.

SS: Oh.

EF: [people speaking in the background] [It's loud out there?] I might wait a minute or two until they're gone at the door there, they're being a little bit-

SS: [chuckles] They're doing parting greetings.

EF: Yeah, they're being a little louder than normal-

SS: Oh that's because it's those ladies that I had lunch with. [chuckles]

EF: Oh [chuckles] I'll wait a moment or two.

SS: Yeah Ms. Kono [?].

EF: Yeah that's okay-

SS: Yeah.

EF: [unclear word] with them, okay let's see- oh! And you got the list of questions that I-
SS: Yeah I did.

EF: I gave to you right yeah so-

SS: I kinda started it and then I get further down and then-

EF: No problem I'm-

SS: The questions are-

EF: I usually kinda follow them but I tend to tangent a fair bit too so-

SS: Yeah that's okay.

EF: I just kinda go with whatever makes sense so-

SS: Yeah.

EF: I'll start at the very beginning for you then. So first of all what's your birthday Sono?

SS: 26 of January, 1941. [flips through papers]

EF: Okay, and do you recall if you were born in a hospital or born at home or-

SS: No born on the farm it's not a recall of course I'm told yeah-

EF: Mm-hm.

SS: My mother had a midwife- I didn't bring a picture of her, I don't think. [flips through papers] Well, Iko Higa [?] was my mother's midwife. She was midwife for my sister and I, we were both born on the farm-

EF: Hm.

SS: Yeah.

EF: And then I neglected to ask, but where was the farm?

SS: New Westminster but portions of it [people speaking in the background] on the lease and everything else it says Ladner [?] well I guess that's an actual road address Ladner [?] chunk road delta. I don't know if delta is still shown I don't think so I think it's just New Westminster.

EF: Okay it did- that was weird I thought they left him maybe they've come back now-

SS: [chuckles]

EF: Now I'm gonna poke my head outside normally this isn't, normally this isn't an issue so I'm just gonna poke my head out and see- [door opens, people speaking in the background] [door shuts]. I think it should be okay, they're taking the elevator upstairs sorry about that-

SS: Oh no that's okay.

EF: I try to do what I can just 'cause of the sound and all that-

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: It carries it through a bit around this building so- I used to have my own interview room upstairs all on its own and it was pretty, pretty soundproof 'cause it was a room inside a room-

SS: Oh I see. [nods head]

EF: Kinda like my office but I lost that when we moved down here so- Okay so I think they've dispersed now or they're just about to, so let's see, so I'll probably work a bit chronologically 'cause that-

SS: Yep.

EF: Seems to make the most sense, so first of all what were the full names of your parents, Sono?

SS: Tokuke Oyakawa.

EF: Okay.

SS: And Ushi.

EF: U-s-h-i ?

SS: Yeah [nods head] cow [?]. [laughs]

EF: I've never heard that yeah. [chuckles]

SS: I find in Okinawa that name- name's and very simple. [chuckles]

EF: Do you know if your mom's name is really meat cow?

SS: I think so [nods head]-

EF: [chuckles]

SS: Ushi [chuckles] isn't that the how you say cow?

EF: It is.

SS: Ushi yeah.

EF: That's kinda interesting.

SS: Yeah so she never liked it-

EF: Mm-hm.

SS: Yeah so anyway in Nipigon she gave herself the name- she says it should be Imi [?]-

EF: Imi [?] ?

SS: Yeah [nods head] so but Hakujin way was Amy so they called her Amy yeah.

EF: Mm-hm, okay just gonna jot that down and so I'll begin with your dad there. Do you know when he was born approximately?

SS: Yeah February 27, 1888.

[5 minutes]

EF: Okay and for him, where was he born?

SS: I got to- Well, I don't know how the geography goes but Haneji Makiya [?] is what I read, what- When I looked on the map its two different names- [chuckles]

EF: Oh okay.

SS: They're connect, kinda connected-

EF: Okay

SS: But I think Makiya [?] they say is just outside Nago or somewhere above Nago I guess I don't know it covers a big area Nago I think but Makiya [?] when they say Makiya [?] they know that's- well that's more or less my maternal, my mother side I guess Makiya [?] but Haneji[?] my father used to say Haneji[?] yeah-

EF: Hm.

SS: I think Haneji[?] is probably closer to the water-

EF: Okay, okay so then my next question for you I see so- well let's talk a little bit about your dad first in that case so do you know if he came from a big family, a small family?

SS: Nine in the family-

EF: Ou.

SS: Yeah.

EF: Nine children?

SS: Nine children. I got most of their birthdays except two people.

EF: That's amazing.

SS: Yeah.

EF: I'll have to make sure I get that info off of you-

SS: Yeah.

EF: I won't expect you to name all nine children right now [chuckles] but do you know which number your dad was?

SS: Yeah *ni-banme*.

EF: Oh.

SS: Yeah second yeah second oldest.

EF: Was he the oldest boy or second oldest like second oldest-

SS: No second oldest boy yeah-

EF: Oh okay.

SS: Tokukichi [?] was the oldest, yeah, he was born a year earlier.

EF: Okay and for your fathers family do you know what kind of work they did, were they farmers or-

SS: It doesn't sound like I don't know too much about that side of the family but I heard they were more commercial industrial type of- my mother's side were farmers-

EF: Hm.

SS: Mia Hida [?] family was farmers, but my father's side I don't know- there's a town called Oyakawa -

EF: Hm.

SS: I found it on the map one- you know the current map- so I don't know if there is any relationship to, you know, my father's side the family or not but that's farther north from Haneji[?] I think-

EF: Okay.

SS: Yeah.

EF: Let's see and oh you know what I just thought of something is this camera okay, yeah that one's fine okay good so, so your father was the second child there-

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: And do you know, you know if there was any particular reason why he decided to immigrate?

SS: I think it had a lot to do with probably him reading up on immigration, Okinawans encouraged to immigrate, but I think it was the adventure in him I think he was that sort- from uh- what we, you know, heard over his past what he's done-

EF: Hm.

SS: [Of interest or something ?] yeah.

EF: And as for his choice of Canada do you know much about that if there was a-

SS: [camera zooms outward] That was an accident-

EF: Ou!

SS: [chuckles]

EF: [chuckles]

SS: He wanted to go to Mexico is what he told us he said he was in Tokyo waiting for the ship and he says he couldn't wait any longer so he got on the first boat there, there and ended up in Victoria [chuckles] that was 1907. [chuckles]

EF: [chuckles] Do you know what part of 1907 if it was early, late, summertime?

SS: I think I have a record of it some place- yeah because I have his [flips through papers] there was his landing papers but I didn't bring anything like that here I should have I-

EF: Oh that's not a problem.

SS: But I'll make a note of it.

EF: Yeah I can always make a note of that one later.

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: [people speaking in the background] Yeah I don't know what's going on out there lots of people making noise-

SS: I think they're just socializing. [chuckles]

EF: Yeah kinda waiting for them to *very politely* take their leave [people speaking in the background]-

SS: Hm.

EF: I'm just gonna double check there [door opens], [door closes].

[door opens] I think your right they're kinda

[10 minutes]

just hanging out there it's a little bit inconvenient but I'll do my best so okay lets see here alright, alright so your dad came over in about 1907 and at that time did he have any particular skill sets or any kind of particular work he was looking for or just wanted to come over-

SS: [shakes head] No I don't think he had that much education compared to my mom-

EF: Oh okay.

SS: Yeah.

EF: I guess back then yeah it wasn't terribly common for everybody to be-

SS: Yeah.

EF: Well educated so okay so he first came to Victoria-

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: And then from there where did he, where did he go to?

SS: Where did he go I think he went up to- well he talked about working on haling ship, Queen Charlotte Islands well a bit, quite a bit north of Vancouver, actually Vancouver Island [flips through papers] and then from there he did a variety of things I think he met up with some Okinawan people as well-

EF: Yeah I was curious actually so your family being from Okinawa which I guess compared to the rest of Japan being so far away from central Japan presumably there weren't many Okinawans that he came across when he got to Canada?

SS: [shakes head] No-

EF: Yeah.

SS: I think it was like a Toyama-san but I don't know at what year or time that he hooked up with Toyama-san and also Mr. Tamagi, Mr. Tamagi he told me his name was Tamashiro [chuckles] don't ask [me ?]why they changed the name I have no idea but he says oh they're one in the same person so he knew Tom's father for a long time and same with Toyama's [?].

EF: Hm, you don't suppose it's because they came from a similar place in Okinawa or is it just 'cause they all came from Okinawa?

SS: I think it's just because they came from Okinawa [or something?]-

EF: Okay.

SS: Because Toyamas [?] when you look at their roots they come from the Kin area same as your [gestures to interviewer] mum the middle part of Okinawa right-

EF: Mm-hm.

SS: Yeah whereas my family's more from northern part of Okinawan Island which is Nago you know Haneji Makiya [?] area-

EF: Okay.

SS: Yeah, Tamagi's [?] I have no idea.

EF: Yeah, just gonna write that down-

SS: [flips through papers]

EF: [people speaking in the background] Hm, I'm getting a little bit concerned about this [unclear word- noise out there?] hm I'm wondering whether it's possible- I'd hate to do it but I'm wondering if I need to relocate or not you know I'm gonna pause the cameras for just a minute-

SS: Yep.

EF: And I'm gonna check with Maki [?] about what's going on outside-

SS: Okay. [flips through papers]

EF: And then I'll see-

SS: Okay.

EF: Yeah. [camera sounds]

SS: We can do it in your office- [footage jumps]

[interview location changes]

EF: No that light doesn't do anything-

[interview location changes again]

EF: Okay so after some minor delays and a change of location let's hope that that's better okay- oh is that the air conditioner coming on, well, I hope that doesn't make too much noise okay so in the last place I left off before I kept getting distracted with all the noise was your father had gone to Victoria and then you think he went on a whaling ship ?-

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: To Queen- to the Queen Charlotte Islands-

SS: Mm-hm. [nods head]

EF: And the other Okinawans that he, he knew or that he had met you don't know whether he met them up there would you?

SS: No I think it was the CPR [Canadian Pacific Railway], he worked on the CPR line as well with the Chinese coolies I think, well I don't know I shouldn't say coolies maybe but Chinese workers-

EF: Hm, do you know how long he did that kind of work for?

SS: I don't think it was that long I don't have a period of time I don't think actually he told me that he and his friend I think it was Toyama-san more or less ran away from the chain [unclear word] [chuckles] I don't know if he had his stories on thing or if he was just entertaining us but I always remember that, that he had said that and he

[15 minutes]

experienced night blindness I think it's because of lack of nutrition yeah and when they ran away I think they came upon I think a farmer or something and trying to ask for you know chicken, eggs and I think they ate it raw they needed the protein to restore their sight so had- they had the basic skills of survival [chuckles] but the way he used to tell it was funny. And then he went to Kamloops area and got talked into buying land to do some farming type of thing, and then I don't know what point- he was married before my mother, yeah,

his first wife and child I understand are buried in Kelowna. I don't know how long he stayed in Kelowna. I think there is a record of when she passed away [flips through papers] I remember seeing it some place-

EF: Hm.

SS: I have these documents but it's all in Nihongo [Japanese] so I don't know-

EF: Hm, no problem we can- maybe what we'll do at some point is maybe even Eiko can give us a hand in translating some of it, and then we can add it to your file-

SS: Yeah.

EF: Maybe that's what we should do.

SS: Some of this information I got, I think it's my sister-in-law translated, you know, the birthdates, the information, yeah.

EF: Okay, so this first wife and child that your dad had you don't know whether he met her here or if she came from Japan or-

SS: No that I don't have, yeah. I do have her name, I think her birthdate and where she came from, and the child's name as well-

EF: Oh.

SS: Yeah-

EF: Okay.

SS: So I think it was always on his mind-

EF: Hm.

SS: Even after he had our family that, that he had to do Hakamairi [grave visiting] you know but-

EF: Do you know what it- why they passed away?

SS: I understood it was illness of some kind but don't have all the details there yeah.

EF: Okay so where was your father shortly before he I guess met your mum and got married, was he in Kelowna is in Kamloops [?] ?

SS: No I don't know when he got rid of that farm in Kelowna [?]-

EF: Okay.

SS: Or if he still had it but father went back to Okinawa, I think a couple times, but he went back in 1935 and that's- he knew my mother's family before he even left Okinawa so they kinda knew each others family, but anyway he hooked up with her in 1935-

EF: Hm.

SS: And they got married in- must have been before '35 all the way it says here he went back in 1935 but they got married in January 1935 well that was pretty hasty-

EF: [chuckles]

SS: [chuckles]

EF: Okay.

SS: Yeah and then he already had a farm he got himself a farm in Ladner, that the place I was born, before he went to- back to Okinawa, married my mom and then my mother joined him in BC [British Columbia] in 1937 she arrived here on the- [flips through papers] what was it called Empress, Empress of Canada something like that anyway [reads a document] yeah Empress [?] Canada third, third class-

EF: Hm.

SS: You know on the ships they have first, second, third [emphasizes with hand movements] class [chuckles]-

EF: Wow.

SS: Yeah that was she arrived June 2nd, 1937 I got yeah

[20 minutes]

EF: Oh so for about two years then your parents were married but they were on two different continents.

SS: Yes [nods head] yeah, she came in 1937.

EF: Do you know if they stayed in communication with each other during that time?

SS: I have no idea. [nods head, chuckles]

EF: Okay so I guess your, your dad must have gone to Okinawa-

SS: They got married there [nods head]-

EF: Met your mom and got married-

SS: Mm-hm. [nods head]

EF: Then he came back to Canada he set up the farm and then I guess eventually he called for her and she came over?

SS: Yep. [nods head]

EF: Oh goodness-

SS: Yeah, yeah.

EF: Must have been rough.

SS: Because I don't know what kinda paper work was involved or what he had to, if there was any prerequisites you know at that time-

EF: Mm-hm

SS: For her to come to Canada, yeah.

EF: Okay alright so I'm gonna switch gears here a little bit and I'm gonna switch to your mum-

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: So do you know her birthdate?

SS: Yep January, January 10th [nods head], 1905.

EF: Okay and you said that she was born in Makiya. I think it's the area that's called Makiya-

EF: Okay.

SS: But do you know they have house names because they always used to say oh mum was born in [speaking Japanese] when I went to Uchinanchu-[speaking Japanese] I found out that when they refer to [speaking Japanese] that's that particular house [chuckles]-

EF: Oh.

SS: So the actual lot, I guess. Yeah, the family lot I guess house, the house doesn't exist but it got burned down a few years ago when my uncle was by himself-

EF: Hm.

SS: Yeah.

EF: So I guess that's, that's where your mum came from?

SS: Yeah.

EF: Okay.

SS: [whispers, unclear speech]

EF: How do you spell that? [chuckles]

SS: I don't know I just said w-i-m-e-i, yeah, j-o I guess.

EF: That makes sense and so for your mum did she come from a big family?

SS: Mm-hm [nods head] nine as well [looks at papers] and my mother was number seven in the line-

EF: Okay.

SS: And I have all their birthdates-

EF: Hm.

SS: The oldest was female Kana [?]-

EF: Yeah-

SS: I thought Tokio [?] was a man but it's a female-

EF: Hm.

SS: That's an unusual name I thought maybe I made a mistake-

EF: Hm, I'll have to get all that down on your genealogy form-

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: But for you mum sorry what was her maiden name do you know?

SS: Mirahira [?], yeah so when you go to Nago everybody seems to know Mirahira [?] name. [nods head, smiles]

EF: Okay and for your mum's family do you know if they were farmers or something else like that?

SS: Mm-hm [nods head] I think basically they were all famers. Yeah, 'cause my uncle used to talk- he used to complain about the fact that there's no young people to help them with the sugar canes [chuckles]. Now the retirees, the brothers, my cousin they would be my first cousins some of them are retired so they're working you know it's like pass time whatever yeah.

EF: Hm [rips a page from a notebook] and you also mention that your mom probably had better education then your dad?

SS: Yeah she had level six in Japanese [looks at papers]- I don't know what that means, but I was told that it's a little bit more education than my father had, yeah.

EF: Hm that's interesting and so for your mum's side of things do you have any idea why she agreed to marry a man and go all the way around the world? [chuckles]

SS: Oh because she also was married before. It was her mother-in-law that insisted that she marry my father, and go with my father, and start a new life and she will look after her son that would be my step brother Shunichi and because her husband divorced her he took off to California [chuckles] yeah I think it was Cali- yeah I think it was California, I don't know how soon they got divorced like, I think

[25 minutes]

Shunichi must have been about nine, nine years old or something like that-

EF: You said Soumichi?

SS: Shunichi yeah S-h-u-n-i-c-h-i Shunichi.

EF: Oh Shunichi.

SS: Shunichi yeah.

EF: Okay.

SS: Okinawans have funny names.

EF: Okay, wow so then I guess her- so yeah so her mother-in-law so her first husband's mum-

SS: Mm-hm. [mods head]

EF: Was the one that said you better take this chance-

SS: Encouraged yeah [nods head], encouraged my mum to, I think because well I guess because you know the mother-in-law felt sorry for my mom that she's just you know just trying to raise, you know, this boy- but my mother and father knew each other- and she knew that also-

EF: Hm.

SS: Yeah [whispers, unclear speech].

EF: That's interesting so I guess your parents having both experienced something kind of similar kinda came together appropriately-

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: Okay.

SS: Big age difference between my parents 17 years.

EF: Mm-hm, that's-

SS: Mm-hm. [nods head]

EF: That's-

SS: So-

EF: Close to my mum and dad. [chuckles]

SS: Yeah we- so I always used to say our kids like my sister's, my family my sisters and my brothers we grew up old [chuckles] 'cause my father was already old but we didn't think of him as old 'cause he didn't look his age yeah.

EF: Okay, yeah so they got married in Okinawa-

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: And then your mom came over to Canada in 1937?

SS: Mm-hm. [nods head]

EF: Okay and so then at that point your dad already had the- you said [simultaneous speech] it was a farm-

SS: [simultaneous speech] The farm yeah. [nods head]

EF: In Ladner?

SS: Yeah Ladner. [nods head]

EF: Okay.

SS: Yeah, yeah.

EF: And a let's see-

SS: Part of New Westminster yeah.

EF: Do you know what kind of farm it was?

SS: Yeah, he had a fruit like a raspberry, strawberries and they also raised chickens- and you know other kind of vegetables and this is when mum started to uh- there was teens, teenagers used to come out to the farm to help with the you know gardening and so she would make, you know, food for them and it was a way of helping out friends, teenagers to you know to supplement their grocery bill so to speak by feeding them in you know return for their babysitting and you know work yeah [flips through papers] just to show you what happened in the- this is the early part- the farm that my father- [shows photos or papers to interviewer]

EF: Oh my gosh.

SS: Yeah-

EF: These are-

SS: This is, this would be 19- these are the Toyama girls my mother told me who these girls were they used to come to the farm to help them and then they- my mother used to feed them and from them too she learned how to make biscuits 'cause she never knew how to, I don't know, bake or anything like that-

EF: Wow.

SS: Yeah, that's the farm [points to a photo] house my father made you know and those are the people that used to come out and help.

EF: Ah so your dad built your house?

SS: So he says but I'm sure he had lots of help I'm sure because people used to come out you know to visit him or whatever and I think people used to kinda help yeah he used to see a lot of the Toyamas and then there was a time that Toyama-san wasn't too well and this is where it kinda helped out where the you know I guess the teens would come out and help with that-

EF: So I guess they were also somewhere in and around New Westminster, the Toyama family?

SS: Yeah I would think so [nods head]- no well they were in Vancouver-

EF: Oh.

SS: In the city, in the city yeah because when you go to Vancouver now when you say New Westminster I guess it's like Scarborough or whatever [shrugs shoulders]

[30 minutes]

just you know it's all part of the same city it looks like to me you know yeah. [nods head]

EF: Oh.

SS: Oh this was my mother's midwife [shows photograph to interviewer] Ms. Higa [?], Ako Higa [?] that lady on the left [points to photograph]-

EF: Ah-

SS: Yeah so-

EF: I'm assuming she was Okinawan?

SS: Yes, yes. [nods head]

EF: With the name Higa [?]. [chuckles]

SS: Yes, yes, yes, yeah. [nods head]

EF: Do you know who this is in-

SS: That's Toki [?] that's my brother-

EF: Ah.

SS: Yeah and then that's my sister [points to photograph] my older sister yeah so that would- I figure that would be about 19- she was born in 1939 so it's possible it could be 1939-

EF: Hm.

SS: Yeah I don't know why it was important for them to take such a formal picture but-

EF: That's fantastic.

SS: You know yeah-

EF: Yeah these are great Sono I'm gonna have to get a copy of everything.

SS: Well I didn't know what was really required-

EF: [chuckles]

SS: So I just brought these today.

EF: Anything and everything-

SS: Yeah.

EF: We'll take a copy, we're happy to. So let's see, so I guess starting off then how many brothers and sisters- like how many kids did your parents have together?

SS: Five.

EF: Five okay so in order they are?

SS: Toki [?] or actually Tokoishi [?] is his proper name but we've always called him Toki [?].

EF: And when was he born?

SS: May 27, '38. His birth certificate says "Vancouver General".

EF: Hm, okay and then number two is your sister?

SS: Yep Mieko on the birth certificate it just says "Mye", m-y-e but we've always called her Mieko.

EF: Is it m-i-e-k-o?

SS: Yes. [nods head]

EF: Okay.

SS: And she was October 8, '39 and that's delta the birth certificate says "delta" [unclear word]-

EF: Delta- oh okay.

SS: Yeah I just put "(Ladner)" in black- brackets because that's the actual place you know-

EF: Hm, but she was born at home so-

SS: Yes.

EF: Okay just wanted to clarify.

SS: And then next is me I'm the third in line-

EF: Okay.

SS: And January- well I can give you my birthday January 26, '41.

EF: Mm-hm.

SS: And then my brother Takashi [?] he was born July 9th, 1942 Vancouver General Hospital.

EF: And number five?

SS: Kei is Keiko [?] k-e-i her birth certificate also just says "Kei" but we've always called her Keiko well you know parents put a "ko" [?] on the end there and she was born on Halloween, October 31st, '45 she was born in Tashme.

EF: Okay, Mm-hm so you are split from your two elder siblings by about three years at most-

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: Between you and the eldest well between you and Toki [?]-

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: Yeah so I mean you weren't born yet, but do you know much about what your parents lives were like sort of right before the war there because they only got married in '37 but do you know much about what it was like? If they were-

SS: No just stories that I think that they used to say like, you know, I think, well it was friends of the family like Mori Higa [?] was on the farm also and, and George and Roy remembers going to the farm also and their brother Toyki [?] and, and their sisters I think they used to kinda babysit too but I think it was all just farming what we would consider farming yeah-

EF: Mm-hm.

SS: My father had a gun. I think one or two guns and he used to hunt pheasants, the pheasant on his land, he had about 50 acres yeah, and I think that he before when he

[35 minutes]

found out that he had to leave the farm, before he left the farm I think he- I came across some papers that showed, to get some money, two acres were sold or something like that you know for travel purpose I guess, I don't know, there's no detail as to, they- but there's some inference about you know the land being sold they talked about 48 acres so I assume that two acres were given up or something yeah.

EF: Yeah so I guess speaking of which let's see by the time the war started you- Toki [?] was only three?

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: I guess as that point-

SS: Yeah. [nods head]

EF: So your parents or your families move from Ladner to-

SS: B.C. [British Columbia].

EF: Eventually, eventually Tashme

SS: Yeah. [nods head]

EF: Did they go anywhere between that?

SS: Yeah Hastings Park-

EF: Ah, okay.

SS: Yeah so they talked about the, you know, the filth that they had to, you know, when your [?] and stuff that they had to clean off the walls before they you know could settle and things were just separated by curtains or sheets or whatever, blankets yeah and that's not too long after she had my brother. Yeah, that was, I don't know what month in '42 they moved there I don't think I have that detail anywhere.

EF: Mm-hm, did your parents every talk much about that, that period of time later in life, when you were old enough to understand?

SS: I think most of it came about, I guess we started to talk about it when we were in high school because my father had to sit around the table saying 'well I guess were not gonna move from here now' and we asked him why did he think that we were going to move? He said because we have to go because the farm is still back there, and that's when I had to convince him that you don't have the farm so that's when most of the talk came about as to- and that we understood from when I was in high school I started to see some papers, you know the leasing papers he drew up a lease before he left the farm. Those, all those things were over ridden by the War Measures Act of force and Custodian act [I think ?] so it's during that time I think we learned, we talked about things 'cause he talked about going back and we had said 'no, our life seems to be here, our education here there's nothing back there' so that's when we started digging through papers and that's when most of the talk started coming out and then that's when he decided well he should buy a house. [chuckles] 'cause up until that point we were renting a house yeah, this is in Nipigon yeah, so most of that kinda talk came out to Nipigon of course 'cause we were a little bit older yeah.

EF: Okay, ah so I guess your parents must have really thought that they were just going away temporarily and then going back?

SS: My father did yeah.

EF: Okay, do you think your mum thought otherwise?

SS: uhm I don't think, maybe she had hopes but I really don't know, I don't think we really grilled my mother about that you know, it's my father we were trying to convince you know, and then he started going out as different papers [always started looking at it ?] yeah, yeah.

EF: There's a question I forgot to ask earlier but did either of your parents speak English?

SS: No we- Japanese was our first language growing up yeah, my father taught himself to do the ABC's from what I gather anyway and I, I guess from the teenagers that used to come to the farm uh

[40 minutes]

but as we're growing up even while you know we're still in high school, everything's in Nihongo yeah we'd answer a lot of times back in English we started to lose our you know Nihongo because you know we didn't use it as much but and then as they learned English words they were using it- one day I was quite surprised when mother used the word "recreation" [chuckles] I say's "do you know what that means" she says "yes" [chuckles] so.

EF: Mm-hm, actually, interestingly because I know, do you know if your parents spoke with a heavy sort of Okinawan lilt?-

SS: Well I didn't know it at the time I just- we just said that I know- other people are telling, are telling us to say it this way, that your not saying it right. We just took it to be a dialect that they had a heavy dialect. Yeah, my mother used to speak Hogan, sing you know around the house and stuff like that but we just thought it's just the dialect we didn't know anything about an Okinawan language at that time you know, but even then I knew culture and [unclear word] was important to her history yeah. I remember she was telling us about how these- this is war stories, how these young girls committed suicide yeah so they came to be aware of some of this kinda news I think through relatives.

EF: Yeah, did you ever notice or take note of any- 'cause I know at least, within the Japanese community there was some discrimination against Okinawans?

SS: My mother told us that she experienced it, and this is when we were in Camp 72. I don't know about Tashme, it sounds like in Tashme my mother was very much to herself because here she had well, ended up to be five children all under the age of what, six [chuckles] almost you know, so at that time I think Toki [?] was in grade one in Tashme.

EF: Mm-hm, yeah so yeah skip ahead then yeah so let's see your- do you know what- excuse me, do you know at what point your family moved from Hastings Park to Tashme?

SS: That I don't know yeah.

EF: Some time in '42 after your brother was born or-?

SS: To Hastings Park yeah [nods head] I think it was during '40- no I shouldn't say that I really don't know I guess, he was born in July '42 so after that when she had to go to Hastings Park I don't know yeah.

EF: Do you know if your father got to stay with the family?

SS: Mm-hm [nods head]-

EF: Okay.

SS: And I think it might have to do with his age because already by that time he was well over 50 yeah 'cause when my oldest brother was born he was 50. So he was you know mid

50s already probably in Tashme so he wasn't sent to the road camps, but the midwife's husband Seiji [?] [points to papers] he got- was sent to the road camp.

EF: Yeah speaking of which do you know during that move to Hastings and then Tashme were your parents able to keep in touch with any friends or family or where they kinds separated?

SS: I think they were kinda keeping in touch but I guess- no I don't know if there was any correspondence or anything if they were separated from their friends, but in Ontario, when they came to Ontario, they kept in touch. You know this is in the '50s I would say you know after they you know settled in Nipigon and found out the other settles some place else but the Higas [?], Sugiyama [?] family or whatever they settled in Chatham you know we kept in touch with them and then the rest we here in Toronto yeah.

EF: Okay, just gonna make sure before I get too much further on [?] by- hm, this is a bit of an off beat question

[45 minutes]

but do you know if your parents had any kind of hobbies or interests or anything?

SS: Well not hobbies, well interests it was always gardening you know my mother- whenever they went they'd started a garden [chuckles] in the bush camp I don't know I do remember- I don't remember any garden in the bush camp- no I do remember tripping over a barrel of cabbage, tsukemono it was gnawed on the outside by porcupine they were looking at the salt I think, yeah. I don't remember garden in camp 72 I don't know if my sister remembered.

EF: Okay well your- so eventually your family ended up in Tashme-

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: Anyway you cut it so in Tashme do you know which avenue, which house you were in?

SS: Yeah, 5th avenue Arnie [?] told me the house number I forgot-

EF: We can always look that up-

SS: Yeah.

EF: Yeah, okay so do you know much about the years that your family spent in Tashme I mean you were probably too young to remember anything but did your parents every say anything about it or your siblings?

SS: Yeah they- it seems to me I'm always was told about the negative things that happened to me in Tashme [chuckles] no. I do have a faint- well not very much detail but I do remember going next door to see Ms. Arai she was bedridden and I do remember climbing up on her bed, I don't know if my sister remembers me doing that. Another time I remember my sister taking me to the barber shop she told me I cried. Got my hair chopped off right I was a, I was a scaredy-cat she said growing up. You know there was one time the Arai's got all excited because I was sitting on the john outside in the outhouse screaming and I said there was a lion out there it was just a big cat [emphasizes with hand movements] you know I was scared of cats I guess I don't know something new- like I never even thought of pets being around those kind of places but I guess there were, yeah.

EF: [chuckles] Yeah I guess that certainly wasn't a time that people would have kept pets-

SS: [shrugs shoulders] Yeah I don't know but they said it was only a cat you know, yeah.

EF: Do you know what your dad was doing while you were in the camp like if he was working or doing anything?

SS: In Tashme? Yeah he was a- apparently he was looking after the horses in the barn and there was a picture, a group picture, with him holding one of the horses and the other workers you know- we used to- I know we had one but I don't know what happened to that picture it's only- was it last year I asked my brother if he'd seen it around his place, he says 'no you took all the family albums' I says yeah I know I did 'cause I said that I would you know eventually get around to sorting everything out [swooshes hand, rolls eyes] but maybe I'm hoping that I could find it in the archives here-

EF: Mm-hm.

SS: Yeah.

EF: It's possible.

SS: Yeah.

EF: So your dad did that for work-

SS: Yeah.

EF: And then your mom stayed home with the kids?

SS: Yep [nods head] and I was told that- Aiko [?] I think told us, she used to come and visit us quite a bit she used to make dresses for us, these are things that was told to me, she used to make dresses, same dress for me and my sister so we look like twins I guess.

EF: And this is Aiko Higa [?] right?

SS: Mm-hm, no relation but we used to call her aunt yeah.

EF: Mm-hm, I guess was the Higas [?] also in Tashme in that case?

SS: Yes-

EF: Okay.

SS: Well their nephew Mori Higa [?] was- he was separated from his family

[50 minutes]

I don't remember where rest of them were, Alberta maybe? But there's- we have a picture of him our family picture in Tashme with him in the picture at the bottom, yeah so he must have- Mori must have been about 15, 16 at the time. [nods head]

EF: Hm, so you probably wouldn't have been old enough but your older brother, your older brother and sister did they have to go to any schooling while they were in Tashme?

SS: Yeah [nods head] Toki [?] was in grade one, there's a picture of him [looks for photograph] his grade one picture, I don't know who the teacher was. I think I did find out her name during the Nostalgia Day I think somebody told me, I wrote it on there but I have the picture at home I think yeah.

EF: And then I guess your sister wasn't quite old enough, I'm assuming ?

SS: Yeah they took us to kindergarten classes I think. I must have gone too because I still have a certificate, but mine says Church of England. My sister's says United Church [rolls eyes] but it was the Arais [?] that used to take us it might have something to do with the fact that just openings you know number of people or levels done by certain schools I know or certain churches.

EF: Okay, hm so let's see so your- the last sibling in the family, Keiko [?]-

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: She was born I guess a couple months then after the bombs went off and *technically* the war ended-

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: Do you know how I guess what happened with your family in terms of how things got decided that they ended up out in Camp 72 or-?

SS: Yeah I think it must have been I don't know how they were talked into it to choose you know to go to such a place but it- I would think it would have to be to do with work like you know work was available in these camps. Companies like Pigeon Timber on the Pit River you know it was convenient close to, because it was close to Angler and it was already out you know structures there to house people temporarily.

EF: You don't know if your parents had any inclination about going back to Japan, do you?

SS: I think they were considering it because well I guess everybody was given repatriation papers 'cause it was still there in- amongst those papers I don't know if I have it or not though.

EF: I suppose considering it was Okinawan specific it was probably good that they didn't go back. [chuckles]

SS: Yeah- [chuckles]

EF: But-

SS: For sure maybe that's- maybe they you know found out something so maybe they purposely had no choice to stay, [they] never did find out.

EF: Okay so do you know at what point your family moved out east like when that was?

SS: I'm assuming it would have been '46- who would know [pauses, looks away to think] I wonder if Mori [?] would remember, I don't know 'cause Mori [?] came to Neys Hostel with his sister they were- Neys Hostel was right on the shores of Lake Superior and everybody that came out from out west were held at Neys Hostel when then I guess- and then after that they were dispersed to wherever there was work I guess yeah but we ended up in Camp 72 because of the work situation I guess.

[55 minutes]

EF: Mm-hm, so more than likely your parents went up to Camp 72 because they heard that there was work-

SS: Mm-hm. [nods head]

EF: And they went up that way?

SS: Mm-hm, I'm assuming, I'm assuming yeah. [nods head]

EF: Okay, I guess otherwise they probably didn't really know anybody who was already settled in Toronto?

SS: No not at all yeah, yeah.

EF: Okay, okay so in some time in 1946, probably [speakers spoke over each other, unclear speech]-

SS: I think so [nods head] yeah.

EF: Okay so from, from well I guess from the time that you were born up until then you were really only about five years old right?

SS: That's right yeah. [nods head]

EF: Yeah, do you remember anything about I guess the last year or so in Tashme and the going out to Neys, since you were really young?

SS: I remember more times in Neys than I do, you know, Tashme of course yeah in Camp 72 well before that it was camp 7-- I thought it was Camp 76 but then I was looking at notes regarding this homecoming the gathering that they had in Momiji [?] that they had for

people from Neys and it says Camp 73, I always called it Camp 76 so I could be, I could have been wrong, I don't know-

EF: Mm-hm, is-

SS: But we were there first so I must have been at least I don't know, you know between four and five that was the first on the stop well Neys Hostel first, but that was just a few nights I guess, I don't know and then to Camp 76, and then that camp closed down. I don't know how many families were in Camp 76, not very many it was just like two rows of houses like this [emphasises with hand movements] the school was at the end of the street, and then Koharas [?] was next door, and then I learned that Mr. Kohara [?] used to go to the school to light the fire so that the teacher would be you know have her classroom would be warmed up- I wasn't allowed to go to school at that time. I wasn't old enough, but my friend because I guess she was next door to the teacher and the teacher used to have Mr. Kohara [?] do a lot of things, I don't know I understood that they allowed her to go and yet I was just about the same age as she was you know but- uh. I think I remember complaining to my mum about it I don't know if my mum remembered it or not but-

EF: Hm, so that was Camp 70- maybe six?

SS: 70- yeah maybe six [nods head] yeah-

EF: Okay-

SS: And then we moved to another Camp, 72 that was the last place- that's where I started grade one and that's where I had- I didn't have Ms. Sato [?] Gloria Sumiya [?] but the other teacher Toshkio Kanabe [?] yeah.

EF: So do you know how long you were in Camp 76 for before you moved to Camp 72?

SS: At least- it seems like a winter and a summer and a winter at least so almost maybe year and a half or something because it was during wintertime the house that we were in camp 73 or camp 76 was pulled by tractor to the next Camp all the houses were pulled by tractor to the next Camp during the wintertime-

EF: Oh and by next camp you mean Camp 72?

SS: Yes, yes, yes, [nods head] I think that's where I was most [yoncha] probably. [chuckles]

EF: I have a hard time imaging that Sono. [chuckles]

SS: [chuckles]

EF: Do you, do you remember much of what Camp 76 was like other than the houses like what the houses were like do you recall that?

SS: The house was the same as one in Camp 72 so it's just the two rooms, I don't know shack yeah and yeah it was cold and the stove was just these oil drums yeah and there was one time- well that was in Camp 72 I think yeah. There was two rooms, so the front room was kitchen, family room, and where the stove was too that's where we did our bathing too I remember how it looked

[60 minutes]

like the, the stove was one of those oil drums [emphasises with hand movements] and it had a galvanized I remember sitting in a galvanized tub I think and my father was washing me I stood up kinda slip and so this is just hearsay like I'm just what I remember what they're telling me I slip, kinda slipped and my bum hit the stove and I had a "1" on one cheek and a zero on the other cheek then I do remember myself sleeping on my stomach yeah, yeah we had a-

EF: Mm-hm. [rips paper from notebook]

SS: We had double bunk beds in the next room they seemed to be long they were big to me, maybe they weren't all that big but all the boys slept on bunk like my father and the boys slept on the top [emphasizes with hand movements] and mom and the girls slept on the bottom.

EF: [writing] I'm just gonna double check actually 'cause I haven't checked on it ? for a while- okay good [sighs] okay so let's see so when your, when your family was in Neys what kind of work was your dad doing?

SS: Well I guess they were cutting pulp yeah, cutting wood and I think they would bring the logs to the river, Pit River and they would gather up after the spring song [?] anyway [?]-

EF: Hm, and then your mom did she mostly stay home or did she-

SS: Mm-hm. [nods head]

EF: Okay.

SS: She used to make tofu I remember her making tofu. How she got the beans I have no idea I remember there was a general store Mr. Akagi [?] used to look after the general store- I don't- I vaguely remember the layout of the camp I just remember the store being-like say this was [camera sounds] the main street-

SS: Oh you wanna take that- oh, that's the camera?

EF: Yeah it- [chuckles] this one unlike that one it only makes the sound and then it goes kaput. [chuckles]

SS: Oh.

EF: So I'm just gonna do this for a second- [footage jumps] just gonna turn that one on [adjusts camera] think I'll move it a little bit more, there we go okay- [adjusts other camera] there we go [camera sounds] okay perfect okay so you were telling me let's see the last thing you were telling me was the layout of the camp and you were-

SS: Oh-

EF: Pointing it out to me but then the camera went out-

SS: Yeah-

EF: Okay.

SS: So [points out layout on table to interviewer] say this was a- the camp, camp street the main street like this so I remember that so called general store being at the end of the sidewalk here and then there was another row of houses this way and then there was barns here I think, we used to walk in the horse buckeye [?] [chuckles] so that we say we're gonna grow taller and then the bath house was down this way too 'cause I remember it came some place like here I think yeah, yeah we were down- there was only three houses here, we were in the middle

[65 minutes]

Yamashitas [?] and Miyatas [?] on either side of us-

EF: Do you know which one was on which side?

SS: [continues pointing out the layout on table to the interviewer] Facing this way [points finger] which I don't know which way is east or west but anyway perpendicular to the river and see the river was like this [emphasizes with hand movements] the left- right side would have been Miyata [?] and the left side would have been Yamashita [?].

EF: So this side would have been Miyata [?] ?

SS: Miyata [?] [nods head] yeah.

EF: Okay.

SS: And that family went to Chatham I think.

EF: So this is the layout of Camp 76 or-

SS: 72. [nods head]

EF: Okay.

SS: Yeah the last place we were at yeah- school house was way over here some place [points out layout on table to interviewer] there was two buildings Gloria Sato [?] looked after five to eight and Toshiko Tanabe [?] looked after one to four I think Gloria Sato [?] is her Sumiya [?]-

EF: Hm.

SS: Yeah.

EF: There we go, okay so in terms of what you remember of Camp 72 did you remember playing with other kids or going to school or that kind of thing?

SS: [nods head] Mm-hm, there was four of us in grade one, two boys and two girls myself and- what was her name then it wasn't Betty it was Kawasoie [?] Ruth Mori's [?] you know that does the bridge club, her sister Betty- Midori Kawasoie [?] that's what it was Medori [?] yeah and-

EF: Ou same as my mum.

SS: Yeah and one of the boys was a Sugawata [?] boy, I don't remember his first name- oh actually there's the class pictures are here I had to have them blow them up and then I had names put on them yeah I think another boys name was Yamagi [?] [what's his first name?] was it Seiji [?] I'm not too sure yeah-

EF: Okay-

SS: So that was grade one yeah.

EF: All and all do you know how many families there were approximately in Camp 72 if you had to take a stab at it?

SS: Gee I don't know over 30 maybe I wonder if there was a- maybe not-

EF: Maybe in and around 30?

SS: Yeah all those [facts art ?] you know those things I gave to you regarding camps it's all in there yeah.

EF: So besides going to regular school what kinds of other things did you do with your time, just play with the other kids?

SS: Yeah my brother and usually my brother and Roy Kusano [?] who's across from our house their house was the only house there the same side as the outhouse actually well you know not that close but you know on the same side and Kimiko [?] his sister, same as my older sister used to hang out I guess there and then I remember going over to Koharas [?] on this side of [points out the layout again] the camp way on the opposite like we lived here and then Koharas [?] lived over here, Yasuko Kohera [?] and Reisuko [?] I'm still in though with Yasuko [?] we still email she lives in North Van [Vancouver ?]-

EF: Hm.

SS: Yeah and her sisters I see from time to time here, her mother I haven't got around to visiting she's in- she has Alzheimer.

[70 minutes]

she doesn't know anyone her older daughter Miesco [?] is [unclear word] so you know so she says don't worry about it she says she doesn't even know us you know and then I told Gloria Sumiya [?] about her and she always meant to- she said to go visit and all but yeah. yeah she used to, when we first came to Toronto you know the family was very receptive they took us here and there you know introduced us to the different organization like I don't know about the bowling well it wasn't the bowling, curling and I don't know social interaction with their friends and yeah so Yasuko [?] and I were kinda close there.

EF: Mm-hm, I'm sorry you said that Roy Kusano [?] played with your brother, you mean Toki [?]?

SS: No my younger brother and I, yeah.

EF: Takashi [?]?

SS: Yeah Takashi [?], yeah.

EF: Okay, and Kimiko [?] Roy's sister would hang out with which of your sisters?

SS: Probably my older sister Mieko.

EF: Mieko?

SS: Yeah.

EF: Okay, that makes sense.

SS: But the younger ones used to always travel [swooshes hand] trail the older ones you know.

EF: [chuckles]

SS: That's what they used to do yeah.

EF: Do you remember what kinds of things you did for fun like what kind of games you played or if you went to the river or anything like that?

SS: Yeah the river wasn't- well the shore line is- was very, very high is what I remember but we would go to the thing. The boys used to chase seagulls I remember following them around and then another time I saw this next door neighbour one of the Miyata [?] boys they were teenagers then I guess you know pounding a porcupine with a lumber and the quills were flying all over the place [emphasizes with hand movements]. And I remember walking, we were bare feet, and I remember getting quills on my foot yeah it wasn't- we didn't think it was a big deal but you know we just took it out you know- another time, silly things, I remember that's when I think used to catch dragonflies, one of us would manage to get a- find a string some place, tie the string to the dragonfly and fly it like a kite [chuckles]. that I remember. then rearranging somebody's wood pile [chuckles] oh and taking sap off the trees or wood pile, like whatever stump or tree or whatever had these syrup you know you see these kinds of things and you used to pry those off and chew on them hoping to- it would become like gum like you know [makes a face] didn't happen. Anyway I do remember that and silly things- sticking my tongue to- this is in the wintertime and wondering if I'm gonna lose my tongue or if its ever gonna get undone you know- I had nightmares about when they put this, this grandmother got lost in the woods and she died in the bush and they made- they cremated her and that kinda gave me nightmares I think after- even I think it- when I was in Nipigon I remember having the nightmare-

EF: Do you remember whose family she was from?

SS: Yeah Kazumi [?].

EF: And so she just wandered off into the woods one day?

SS: Well they- she was berry-picking with others but she wandered off, that's what happens is what we are used to say don't follow the berries make sure you have someone with you,

you know when we used to go berry picking in Nipigon but she got lost and they couldn't find her so it got dark and they went out the next morning to look for her and at least she had the smarts about her, she stayed where

[75 minutes]

she was like she didn't move and that's where she you know passed on yeah she just slumped over yeah and she could have walked around the bush trying to find her way out I think she would have been more lost we wouldn't have been able to find her that quickly.

EF: Do you think she died of exposure or-

SS: Probably I don't know how old she was at the time yeah either that or a heart attack I don't know maybe people like Gloria Sumiya [?] might remember or something you know.

EF: No that's fair. Mm-hm, so while you were in Camp 72 outside of going to school and playing around with the other kids, did your parents ever have any other expectations of you like if you had to do any- take care of small chores or if you maybe had to learn Japanese or anything like that I mean anything else that-

SS: I don't remember things, I remember them helping us with homework but they could only help is with arithmetic numbers but I remember her having this- what you call these old fashion [emphasizes with hand movements] number things?

EF: Abacus?

SS: Yeah she had an abacus, I don't know what happened to it but she used to use it she tried to teach us, I thing she tried to- I remember seeing that thing and her talking about it I guess she was trying to teach us how to use it, but it never got through at least I don't remember anyway.

EF: Hm, so how long were you in Camp 72 for?

SS: We came out in '48, came out of the camp in 1948, came to the beginning of '48- [looks at papers] I think my brother related that wrongly in one of these notes here that was related to somebody else he's got '49 but it was '48.

EF: And the reason that or rather how it was for your parents were able to leave the camp, was it just that they decided we needed to leave or they found an opportunity elsewhere or what was the catalyst?

SS: No, it had to do with the company. I think the company was closing the camps down. Because it wasn't just our family, everybody had to leave, they were closing the camp down in other words it's almost like hair cutting in an area so they exhaust it then they move camp and that's how it's always been in Ontario- the bush camps yeah-

EF: Mm-hm, yeah so I guess when-

SS: 'Cause the trees are all cut down then you have to move on yeah, yeah.

EF: So did everybody at that point just kinda disperse, they went to different places?

SS: Yeah at different times, they left at different times yeah.

EF: Okay and where was it that your family went to?

SS: We ended up in Nipigon.

EF: Okay and how do I spell that again?

SS: N-i-p-i-g-o-n.

EF: Okay and what was the reason you ended up there?

SS: I don't know the reason, I think they decided that they would choose Nipigon to live in I don't- it wasn't just my father, it was Mr. Motamura [?] and Mr. Akagi [?] and our family so

they thought that there would be opportunities there I guess, they did go on a road trip prior to that I understand but nothing came of it- Marathon had a pulp and paper mill that was close to Neys you know but I guess at that time you know it was hiring type of thing, so, why they maybe choose Nipigon I don't know, I think maybe too I think because of the, there was a pulp and paper mill in Red Rock, Ontario, Red Rock Ontario used to be an old German prison camp it was- it's right against the mountain side it's on Lake Superior but the passageway is difficult you know it's 12 miles [road ways ?] from Nipigon- about five miles by rail, yeah. So, that's the only reason I think maybe they saw an opportunity was the mill in Red Rock.

EF: Okay, you said Mr. Motamura [?] ?

SS: Mr. Motamura [?].

EF: Mura [?] okay-

SS: Yeah Motamura [?] yeah.

EF: And Mr. Akagi [?] okay-

SS: Mm-hm.

EF: So you all moved to Nipigon

[80 minutes]

so what was your home like in Nipigon?

SS: It was- we first shared a house with Motamura [?] san that's the only house that they could find that would accommodate well there was a bachelor that owns the property and the big house and he, I guess he offered to rent it so both family went in.

EF: Hm, how many people were in the other family?

SS: [chuckles] Our family there's seven we were upstairs, downstairs was nine and the house wasn't- it looked big when we were small but it wasn't- [chuckles] when you look at it now it so small [?]- the house is still standing there it was on Bell Street-

EF: Do you remember the address exactly?

SS: No they didn't have house numbers- well at least I didn't think they had house numbers, we never went by house numbers we just said third, fourth, or somebody's house the name of the people yeah so and the school we went to was on- we lived on Bell Street the school was on Bell Street and on the top of the hill, it was a hilly, hill street was hilly, but you could see the school from our house yeah-

EF: Hm, what was the name of the school?

SS: Nipigon Public School.

EF: Okay, and do you recall how big the school was like how many classes or kids or-?

SS: Yeah when I started there, there seemed to be- how many classrooms? Was four there and there was an extension I think from there but there was two levels- was it two levels? No, it seemed like it was two levels- oh my memory's bad- but there was a- when I was in grade two it was up to grade- I think they had I don't know? High school- up to grade ten and high school was downstairs I believe- there was an extension to the building-

EF: Okay.

SS: Yeah.

EF: And I guess you went there with all of your siblings, you were all around that age-

SS: Yep [nods head] Mm-hm.

EF: Okay.

SS: So we saw each other everyday-

EF: [chuckles]

SS: And I went to school with the same people from grade two right to grade 12. [chuckles]

EF: How many kids were in your class?

SS: Grade two, I think we were almost- I wonder if there were 32 of us I can't remember it seemed to me a large number at the time but then as we were progressing from grade to grade gradually some you know, especially boys, we found as I learned later in life the boys dropped out once they reach working age which was 14, between 14 and 16 and some of stayed purposely in grade eight until they reached that age instead of going to high school. So a lot of kids quit at grade eight, I started grade two yeah and some kids then, even then their English wasn't good they were speaking Finn. It was a Finnish community so their first language was Finnish not English [chuckles] a lot of the kids so we used to, we learned to used a lot of Finnish words as well when we were growing up.

EF: Do you know how big Nipigon itself was like how many families or population or anything like that?

SS: Population I think it was, when we went there, I think it was just- I wonder if it was barely a thousand I'm not too sure but I knew it grew to well over 2,200 when the Canada, Trans-Canada pipelines came in. that increased the well transit workers, I suppose and then

[85 minutes]

people that settled permanently yeah.

EF: Okay, let's see so while you were living there was your dad working at the pulp and paper place?

SS: No he was working- he, oh what did he do- my father did odd jobs but he always had- he was always working, he worked for the Nipigon Timber Company [that was ?] Clarks company and he was in the bush camps. So there were times in the earlier years in Nipigon we didn't see him sometimes for three, four months at a time, especially in the wintertime. He'd be away because that's when they did most of their cutting. the pulp, the logs, and they would get them ready for the river for the spring drive that's how they used to do the transporting so during the spring when the river was thawed then they would make booms, what they call booms and drag those booms by boat you know to the mill. Yeah, and the mill was in Red Rock, so like Nipigon was here [points out layout on table to interviewer] on the river and Red Rock was down, down river yeah and then Lake Superior so I think there were some ships that used to come in from other part, other ports into Red Rock probably to pick up I don't know whatever but it used to be one of the largest pulp and paper- that's where largest- there was newsprint that they were making and it was the largest news- one of the largest newsprint places in Ontario. yeah but then so was you know and then Marathon was mostly American company I think, you know. And then all along the Superior route pulp and paper was very- how you say, it was very the cutting of it was very intense there was a lot of clear [?] cutting down but they used to plant things so bushes, tree bushes had to be planted right after they were you know thing- in the early years they didn't do that right away you know but the found that you know they had to replant otherwise there would be no pulp and paper. Yeah it was a big industry in the early years yeah and it was for the young people it was a thing to do to get a job at the mill so a

lot of them just wasted time in school, they didn't work hard at school. Yeah, when I finished grade 12 there was only 12 of us- out of what 32, or something like that from grade two, you know. And out of the 12, most of the boys did very well. I think one actually became a professor [chuckles]. I don't know the university but yeah he was a book worm when I first started grade nine our high school moved to Red Rock. Red Rock didn't have very much housing or anything then but as the mill expanded then they had to increase the housing and then the they had, town had the money to build a high school whereas Nipigon didn't so what they did was build a high school in Red Rock yeah. So we ended up taking the bus to Red Rock actually I did high school in Red Rock 11 and 12. I think nine and ten I was at Nipigon yeah.

EF: Did all of your siblings also stay in school all the way through?

SS: Except my older sister yeah she-

EF: Mieko?

SS: Yeah [nods head] she went to business college in Thunder Bay so she did I think it was grade 11 she went to business college and then yeah she got a job at the town office, yeah.

EF: Took business college in?

SS: Thunder Bay.

EF: Thunder Bay [I thought you said ?].

SS: Well it wasn't in Thunder Bay it was Lakehead it was called- well actually Port Arthur it was called Port Arthur in Fort William- the only twin cities in Canada.

[90 minutes]

And then it was changed to Thunder Bay. The university's still called Lakehead yeah Lakehead university yeah.

EF: I have a couple friends who went there.

SS: Oh yeah?

EF: Yeah okay and then the rest of your siblings they all went to grade 12 or did you move before that?

SS: Yeah my brother- they did grade 13, my brother did grade 13, my younger brother actually finished his high school in year in Toronto- actually in Scarborough. He took grade 13 in W. A. Porter Collegiate. Don't ask me why, why did he do that anyway he needed that to get into Ryerson [Ryerson College]. Anyway I think yeah then he went to Ryerson [Ryerson College]. but then he didn't finish Ryerson [Ryerson College] 'cause he got a job at the mill during the summer and the money was so good he stayed on but he took courses when he was working at the- employed at the mill so he ended up with a paying position when he retired.

EF: Which mill was it that your brother got a job with?

SS: I think it was it changed has so many times, originally it was called Saint Lawrence [?] Pulp and Paper at that time when he got the job I don't think it was that- what was it called, I wonder if it was called Dompas [?] already by then yeah then Dompas [?] it changed to new- it's still operating down here when they closed the- they closes the mill in Red Rock, the pulp and paper mill so a lot of people- at that time it just coincided with my brother's retirement yeah No- Novan Weck? [?]- yeah I forgot the name of it the company and that was taken over by BC [British Columbia] company Wester- Western Housing or something like that Western Housing-

EF: Okay.

SS: It was a BC [British Columbia] company yeah but now it doesn't exist yeah.

EF: Mm-hm, okay so you were living in Nipigon from 1948 to-?

SS: 1960.

EF: Okay.

SS: I came down to Toronto in 1960.

EF: Okay so during that time did your mum stay home or did she end up having to go out and get work or-?

SS: Off and on my mother was doing house work yeah in the earlier years I remember going with her to do- help her with the house work at Dr. Jeff's house you know the doctor's house and the doctor used to make me sit down in the cold kitchen, make me drink a glass of milk and it's we were just getting accustomed to cow's milk, 'cause during the camp days we never had fresh milk we were drinking Carnation milk, condensed milk, you had hot water et cetera, et cetera. you know I don't even know that they had powdered milk, if they did I didn't know about it. you know but I do remember canned milk, Carnation I guess or Borden's whatever and cow's milk when we first went to Nipigon I remember going with my sister and her girlfriend to this farm at the end of Bell Street 'cause there was the odd farms still it looked part of the town you know except at the end of the street they had cow, it was unpasteurized milk. So when we got the milk we just picked it up warm you know but Dr. Jeff- we never had refrigeration but when we use to go help with the house work if I was there he always set me down and give me a glass of cold milk and it would take me for- I remember it would take me forever to drink the milk, but I drank it you know then I'd help my mum-

EF: Why would it take you so long?

SS: It was very cold and the flavour,

[95 minutes]

Yeah, wasn't used to the flavour yeah. But then we started drinking but my mother started off drinking chocolate milk and that's how we got to thing yeah because my mother didn't have a fridge until 1958 or electric stove 1958. So we didn't have I don't know fresh- I don't know things like that you know but she was going to do house keeping I think it was before that yeah.

EF: At what point was it then that your dad bought property that you stopped renting and you-?

SS: Yeah 1958.

EF: Oh wow.

SS: Yeah.

EF: So from 1948 to 1958 was he renting that whole time?

SS: Yeah. [nods head]

EF: Oh wow, same house?

SS: Same house- well not the same house that we moved into it was another house that we moved into on Churchill Street opposite the hospital yeah. I don't know how we- how long we stayed with the Motamuras [?] but I don't think it was that long maybe- I wonder if it was, I wonder if it was even two years. I don't think so I don't think it was even two years, I do remember summer there and both women having gardens the lot at the back was split

you know Motamura's [?] garden, Bachan's [?] garden, my mom's garden on this side you know and then there was a garage yeah.

EF: So at some point you moved into a rental house-

SS: Yeah.

EF: On Churchill Street?

SS: On Churchill Street yeah, yeah.

EF: Okay and then at what point like where- sorry where was it in Nipigon that you bought a house or that your dad bought a house?

SS: We called it- terrible to say, it was called DP Ville [?] it was us kids calling this area DP Ville [?] because there was a lot of new immigrants in that area you know to call it DP Ville [?] but you know kids could be cruel but it's ignorance yeah.

EF: I don't actually know what that stands for.

SS: Displaced persons. [laughs]

EF: I shouldn't laugh, but I can't help it whenever you laugh-

SS: Oh my God. [chuckles]

EF: Okay so what kind of people were living there then?

SS: Italians, Ukrainians, we were the only Japanese on that side we called it the wrong side of the tracks because the railway cut through Nipigon in half almost like say this is downtown Nipigon [points out layout on table to interviewer] and this is the railway track the CPR [Canadian Pacific Railway] track and DP Ville [?] was on this side [gesturing] of the downtown yeah and we were on like originally we were on this side right yeah so this side was all businesses and then behind all the businesses there was a big lagoon and then you got the Nipigon River yeah. Very picturesque yeah very picturesque yeah.

EF: So when you moved to the wrong side of town I guess [chuckles] what was your address do you recall?

SS: Yeah I think it was 190 Front Street it was a corner house at Front and Radison [?] I have a picture [Nakayama-sensei] and his son I don't know what- I forgot what his son's name is- they came to visit and my mom's on the- my mom, my sister, my brother Toki [?] I guess this would be I don't know what year it would be but it was at that house so it would be after 1958 yeah and I remember Nakayama [?] Sensei coming- that's Joy Kogawa's [?] father Nakayama [?] Sensei-

EF: Oh okay.

SS: He came- he was a missionary, Anglican missionary. Yeah. He used to travelled a lot I remember him Camp 72- just reminded me of silly thing we used to do, there used to be a tractor a work tractor that you know it, the smoke that come out of that thing it looked like donuts right I never told anyone this [chuckles] but I remember, well my sisters and I used to laugh about it. We used to follow this tractor and we used to say [sings in Japanese] [chuckles].

[100 minutes]

That's blasphemy [laughs] where we got that- I have no idea. but I do remember that yeah but just because of his name I don't know I associate because [unclear speech] oh my goodness, silly things we used to do.

EF: Well so I guess yeah actually that's a good question so was Reverend Nakayama [?] was he- was it that he was a friend of the family-

SS: Nope-

EF: [simultaneous speech] Or is it for religious reason, reasons?

SS: [simultaneous speech] He was a religious- yeah he was in- they were through the ghost towns he used to travel the ghost towns too I- maybe I'm wrong but I think so- I don't know if they were in Tashme or not where the Nakayama [?] family was-

EF: I can't remember.

SS: But he's come to Nipigon many times and it was at the Motamura's [?] place that he would stay although the Motamura's [?] are Buddhist but when the five families were together in Nipigon because Mutamura [?] san was the most, although he came in late, there was two Japanese families, Fuyasan [?] and Baba-san [?] they were already established in Nipigon how they got to Nipigon I have no idea but when Nakayama-san used to come he used to stay at Motamuras [?] on several occasion and the last time I think that he visited with my parents was probably 1976 is when- or after 1976 my brother bought this house which was half constructed and my father sold that house there at Front and Radison [?] and my brother bought this other house and Nakayama- san came and blessed the house- it just happened he was on a trip or something I have no idea, it wasn't a planned type of thing, but already then I think he was getting on, yeah.

EF: Were your parents particularly religious?

SS: My mother, yeah she picked it up on her own she used to listen to- this all happened- I think it all started at the Front and Radison [?] house she used to listen to short wave broadcast from Brazil 'cause its all in Nihongo and it had to do with, I think it had to do with [unclear speech] I'm not too sure but since we started going to Sunday school since we were young you know my mother and father embraced it, and it depends on the minister there was one minister that- well all the ministers my mother got to know any way, you know and they used to come visit type of thing but there were other ministers that were reassigned or whatever but they you know took particular interest in my mother and father- I can't remember which minister it was I think was it, I wonder if it was Father Ryemerst [?]. anyway my mother and my father both got baptized and confirmed you know by the archbishop went up to Thunder Bay and everything, and then there was a minister that I think [speaks Japanese] Anglican prayer book that was in Japanese I don't know if it was from the congregation here in Toronto or whatever but yeah-

EF: So your parents were baptised and confirmed Anglican?

SS: Mm-hm. [nods head]

EF: And you said you went to Sunday school, was that only once you got to Nipigon?

SS: Yes. [nods head]

EF: Okay.

SS: If we did go in Tashme I don't remember.

EF: Mm-hm, interesting so aside from going to school did you have any other duties around the house or if you ever had to do any other lessons or things or-?

SS: Duties around the house yeah we learnt to chop wood you know the fire wood you know help with the laundry 'cause my mother used to take in bush camp laundry that's another work that she used to do and that was at the rented house I remember she used to be up late nights sorting out

[105 minutes]

the laundry and these are- and she had to everybody's laundry separate, but so she had to. I remember her where she learned about India ink and all that kind of stuff but she learned to use permanent markers well they didn't have markers but you know ink type of thing to mark all the people's clothing and then by the time she washed and ironed you know matched all the numbers and then the camp boss would come and pick up all this laundry but I think the smell is the [chuckles] the thing that used to stay with us the most yeah, yeah. And that's I think when my mother got her first washing machine I think but even so it was a ringer [emphasizes with hand movements] you know yeah-

EF: I guess because you were so- living in such a remote area there wasn't anything like any like any Japanese classes or anything like that, that your parents made you take?

SS: Oh no there's nothing yeah.

EF: You said there were five families in the area what were the five? So, yours, the Motamura [?], I guess the Akagis [?] who were the other two?

SS: Baba-san [?] and Fuyas [?], they were there first and then the three families came from Camp 72, Akagi [?], Babas [?], and Oyakawas [?].

EF: Mm-hm, so did you often see these other kids or play with them or-?

SS: Oh yeah my sister, the younger ones, my sister used to- I say my sister because she took responsibility [chuckles] taking them out here and there type of thing Fuya's [?] had two young girls- I forgot their age, Shelby must have been about four 'cause they weren't school age they were like my younger sister yeah and George Akagi [?] and his sisters Kasuko [?], Kasuko? [?] was the same age as my sister Kei, yeah so that our houses were all three together in Nipigon [points out layout on table to interviewer] yeah we were on- we the- we were at corner of Churchill and I forgot the street that we- yeah [they left this street ?], anyway it was Oyakawa[?], Fuwa [?], Akagi [?] yeah and Mike is still there in that original house-

EF: Oh really?

SS: Yeah one of the boys yeah, he's a bachelor, yeah he's still there, so between like- besides him, is my two brothers so those are the only Nihonjin people, yeah. [nods head]

EF: Mm-hm, okay so this is a bit more of a general question but through much of your youth so let's say before you got to Toronto do you recall if you were ever discriminated against, you or your siblings for being Japanese background?

SS: I think in the earlier years I think my sister reminded me- well there was an incident on the way to school kids were calling us "Japs" type of thing, you know, and I don't think I really understood but my sister got her back up about that apparently yeah but yeah she reminded me of the fact that thing and then because of the way they were talking us. I must of reacted to it and I remember my sister holding me back [chuckles] that's all I remember but it didn't last long yeah.

EF: Yeah I remember you saying that you were- you said that you were probably kinda [unclear word] or something were you more of a tomboy?

SS: I think so yeah, yeah.

EF: Okay so let's see so from '48 to '60 your family was in Nipigon. During that time I guess your elder brother and elder sister did they leave Nipigon or did they stay?

SS: I came to Toronto with my sister in 1960 yeah so it was the both of us yeah, yeah.

EF: Okay, what was the reason you decided to leave?

SS: Well I said to my father I think I'd like to go to school, I was thinking of going to Ryerson [Ryerson College] you know thinking- not thinking that you know it costs money to go to a post-secondary school-

[110 minutes]

very naive. Anyway, he made my sister quit her good job at the town office and she came down with me, she found a job in three days she end up working at a stock brokers office and she did that kind of work until she retired, that's how she met her husband. Me, because I didn't have any experience, no training of any kind. I end up working in a government office, it took me maybe three weeks to find a job. Yeah, it was at Coxwell and Danforth I think I went to the employment office-

EF: And you said it was with the government but what kind of work was it?

SS: It was Unemployment Insurance, but I was working- end up working in what they call administrative services you know the mailroom this kind of thing and then I was helping- now they call it human resource but at that time they call it personnel so I was in the personnel branch yeah- do you mind if I go to the washroom?

EF: Oh not at all you know what I'll check the cameras in the meantime 'cause [unclear speech]- [camera sounds, footage stops]

[footage jumps]

SS: Sisters, family-

EF: Ah.

SS: Yeah we stayed with them when we were in Naha.

EF: Oh, okay.

SS: Yeah.

EF: That sounds very nice.

SS: Yeah.

EF: Okay let me see where we went to here, oh okay so at this point you were in Toronto and you were working oh! Right so when you came from Toronto from Nipigon where were you and your sister staying?

SS: With Mori [?] and Rieko [?] Higa [?]-

EF: Okay.

SS: Yeah from March until the summer I think. Then we moved to our own apartment.

EF: And where was that?

SS: On O'Conner drive, O'Conner north of St. Clair.

EF: And did you and your sister stay in your respective work positions for a while?

SS: Yeah I stayed with UIC [?] until- for 17 years-

EF: Oh okay-

SS: Yeah and my sister was there until 1986, '87-

EF: Oh wow-

SS: Yeah.

EF: Okay-

SS: Yeah.

EF: So what about your family did they ever come down to Toronto did they stay up there?

SS: Oh yeah no my family stayed up there yeah 'cause my father was still working he worked until he was 75, so what year would that have been- he was born in '88 so 1975- oh no-

EF: 1963?

SS: 1963 would be, he would be 75?

EF: I think so.

SS: Oh okay so in the '60s he retired then yeah-

EF: Oh okay.

SS: He did a little bit more work off and on I think during the time too but, yeah.

EF: Okay and then your mum stayed there too, presumably?

SS: Oh yeah.

EF: Yeah okay and what about your other brothers and sister?

SS: Yeah my brother had a job he end up- he was working- what did they call it now? His first job was, it was with [Dompar, too] but it was- gee what did they call it, what he had to do was to map out areas for cutting, for the company. like in other words it was- he went into aerial photography. And by the colour of the you know trees he knew what kind of trees they were yeah- first it was oh what did they call it, scale- he was a scaler where they used to do odd jobs before he went into this specialized area, and then he went into this area of photography and then he got a little bit more you know thing that instead of being out there in the field he ended up in the office

[115 minutes]

at I think it was- first it was from Beardmore [?], he was based in Beardmore [?] he lived- he got married in- worked at a Beardmore [?] and he was with the Woods Division I think they call it and then when he started doing that he ended up in the [Domtar] office-

EF: Mh, okay-

SS: In Red Rock I guess-

EF: And that was your brother Toki [?] right?

SS: Yeah my older brother Toki [?] yeah-

EF: Okay-

SS: And then he retired early and then he went into consulting work and then he was in and out of Marathon I think it he was doing it for the American company Marathon- based in Marathon, yeah he's fully retired now but his- he's always been hunting and fishing since he was a youngster so he would never think of moving away from there, he's been to the you know Toronto many times yeah.

EF: And then what about your other brother?

SS: Yeah Cory- I called him Cory, Tak [?] went to Ryerson [Ryerson College] he stayed with us we helped him you know go through schooling grade 13 in Scarborough and then Ryerson [Ryerson College] and then he went back home well he in between the summertimes our [?] schooling he was working at the mill and then once- I guess one year he did come back to school [flicks hand]-

EF: [chuckles]

SS: So they both had good jobs at the mill yeah that was there life yeah- I don't know what year my younger brother bought [unclear word] property to make a cabin sort of like cottage what they call cottage country here but they just called cabin but then it was on the

Sturgeon River but the Sturgeon River was renamed back to its Indian name which is long [emphasizes with hand movements] I don't know what it- it throws into Lake Nipigon so it's about a I don't know how many hour drive, almost three hour drive plus a boat ride you know to the cabin and that cabin they made, they feel all the trees that were on that property. My brother took all the trees they cut, you know, logs by boat to a friends I don't know sawmill brought back the lumber and they started building when they were building the cottage my mother started making a garden [chuckles] the first thing they erected was a steam bath because of the mosquitos and they started up the cottage of course that and the outhouse of course you know but yeah. I started taking my- when the cabin was getting cleaned [?] I think the youngest of my kids were, wonder if they were about six or seven yeah when I started taking them up there maybe even younger-

EF: Is it still there?

SS: Yep- [nods head]

EF: Oh, okay.

SS: They still go there- this picture here [flips through papers] shows my father I think he's about 108 here [hands a photograph to interviewer]-

EF: Oh my gosh

SS: His last-

EF: Good gravy.

SS: Yeah 'cause that's a year before he passed on 'cause Tami was with him I think the year before 'cause he passed on in '97- in 1997 in November and that same year that summer too my brothers took him out fishing yeah.

EF: That's crazy about your dad though, okay so and then your youngest sister there-

SS: Yeah my younger sister there's- she worked at TTC [Toronto Transit Commission] she came down to Toronto as well, and she went to college here [hands a photograph to interviewer] that's my younger sister with you know my dad, I don't know what year that would be my father looks quite a bit younger there but I was gonna put these two pictures together one with Tami and Gichan and then you know my sister within that yeah [hands another photograph to interviewer]-

EF: Awh, that'd be nice [chuckles] okay so I guess your family just kinda continued its connection with up north

[120 minutes]

and nature?

SS: Yeah well I- we always called it home because my parents were still there, my brothers were there so then my kids started calling it home when they were growing up you know going up to Nipigon 'cause I would send them- I sent them as much as possible you know whenever I could afford it and you know the summer months or whatever but this last time that I know I sent Tami up there she went up there with my sister was to take my mom you know to the hospital and then from that time on in '96 my mother was put into extended care yeah she kinda lost her marbles type of thing but there was signs of it before like dementia before but we didn't know about these things until you know my brother told us- they'd be living you know they had a lower suite down in the same house yeah so they were always there in Nipigon but they made- my parents made numerous trips to Toronto yeah, yeah.

EF: So where is- if you don't mind me asking, where is your father intered?

SS: Nipigon [nods head] both my parents are entered in Nipigon yep, yep.

EF: Okay.

SS: Yeah.

EF: Okay.

SS: So there's a big marker you know that says Oyakawa[?]- why my brother put such a big marker I don't know, it's about this high [raises arm] says Oyakawa[?] on it-

EF: [speakers spoke over each other, unclear speech]

SS: Yeah, yeah Nihongo on top you know but-

EF: So are your two brothers in Nipigon?

SS: Mm-hm- [nods head]

EF: Okay-

SS: They're still there.

EF: And then your sister Keiko [?]-

SS: She's in BC [British Columbia] now with my older sister they're both in- they're in Vancouver Island yeah they retired there.

EF: When did they move out that way?

SS: 2007 and that was my first time visiting Vancouver Island-

EF: I was gonna say-

SS: 2007 yeah.

EF: It's interesting that they would move quite that far at that point of their lives it's a little bit unusual.

SS: They spent their time- they used to spend their free time driving around Ontario for Gods know when, in their free time but you know looking for retirement places, and I went to a few places with them, you know thinking that there might be a time in my life I might be able to join them type of thing you know but it's not gonna happen. But they took a trip out to BC [British Columbia] one year like, just them [?] and Kei and then the second time my older sister went with them yeah and then they kinda when they came back they kinda thought about you know the house they saw and the place you know so they ended up in Courtenay yeah and then not only that my nephews been living and working on Vancouver Island for over 15 years-

EF: Oh, okay-

SS: This is my oldest brother's oldest son

EF: Oh, okay.

SS: Jamie yeah, yeah-

EF: Okay I'm just gonna 'cause I feel like this camera is about to give up so-

SS: Oh, okay-

EF: I'm gonna check here-

SS: Okay.

EF: And yep good time so I'm gonna cut it short here-

SS: Yep that's fine.

EF: And then maybe the rest of my questions I'll ask you next time-

SS: Yeah.

EF: If that sounds okay?

SS: Yeah or what I can do is just put more stuff together [unclear word] just a little bit more intelligently- [chuckles] [packs up papers] [camera sounds]. I don't know if you have time to read these things or-

[End of Part 1]