

**SIEGERT, Lucile Kirchner**

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Date of Interview: August 15, 1984  
Interview of Lucile Kirchner Siegert  
Interviewer: Jennie LeFevre  
At Ms. Siegerts home on West Shadyside Road  
Shady Side, Maryland

JL: Mrs. Siegert, could you tell me if you were born in Shady Side?

LS: I was born in Churchton, on South Creek.

JL: On South Creek?

LS: Uh huh.

JL: Um, where exactly on South Creek, would you tell us?

LS: Well, it was a little house there that my father and mother lived in that was on my grandfather's property there on Chalk Point Road.

JL: Uh, could you tell us who your mother and father are?

LS: My father was Marion Richard Kirchner and my mother was Gertrude Bullen and her father lived on Parrish Creek.

JL: I see.

LS: Had a house right on Parrish Creek there, right at the head, right where Back Yard Boats is now.

JL: Uh, did you come to live in Shady Side in your childhood or did you always live in this particular area you just told us about?

LS: Well, during the flu epidemic my mother and father and one of his brothers died and ....uh ... my grandparents were very much up against it ... uh ... they were all sick. And my brother was three years old and I was ten months, so my great aunt and uncle, kept me for them while they were having their struggles, you know, through that sick period or during that time, and every time my grandmother would come down to pick me up, I wouldn't go home with her. At 10 months old I had already established right here...

JL: In Shady Side?

LS: In Shady Side.

JL: Could you tell us exactly in Shady Side, where your aunt and uncle.

LS: Right here on West Shadyside Road, this is the home.

JL: The home that we are in right now?

LS: Yes, it belonged to Harry Hallock.

JL: Did you go to school down here in Shady Side?

LS: Right straight on through.

JL: Could you tell us where you went to school in Shady Side, where the school was located?

LS: The school was located right, uh, where ... it's a new building, the Eastern Star Building, when that, the first year that that opened was the first year that I went to school, I was five years old.

JL: Could you remember who some of your classmates were?

LS: Yeah. Marguerite Trott, George Rogers, Marian Neiman, um, let's see, Dorothy Phipps, I don't know whether you've ever heard of her, Dorothy Phipps, . . . it would take me a while to get all of them, but I could get just about all ...

JL: That's OK. Could you recall who some of your teachers were?

LS: Helen Dawson was my homeroom teacher and she taught four grades, in there; first, second, third, and fourth. And then I went to Miss Ethel; five, six, seven and eight, that's when they had the whole thing. (Laughter)

JL: Well, could you tell us in growing up in Shady Side, uh what you did for entertainment as a child? Were there other brothers and sisters, well you said there were other brothers and sisters in your family?

LS: Uh uh, my brother remained with his grandparents and ... uh ... grew up there on Chalk Point Road.

JL: Well, could you tell us what you did a little bit for entertainment down here as a young child?

LS: Well, let me see ... I followed my uncle in the fields, as soon as he'd let me, you know, I loved outside and I rode the horses and I followed the cows, and um ...

JL: He had a farm here?

LS: Yeah, this was all farm land.

JL: How many acres would you say he had.

LS: He, uh, had ten acres right in here, but he also farmed this piece of ground here that belonged to the Hayes family which was originally, a Hartge, uh from the Hartge family, um, in here and it's about 75 acres of that property and he, uh, kept their stock for 'em, they had some very nice dairy cows and, uh, he took care of those and they had chickens, uh, he didn't necessarily fool with their gardens or anything because they did that when they came down, they were ... they spent the summer, I mean the winter in Washington, D. C. and the summers down here. Is it out?

JL: Could you tell us what else you did? Did you do things on the water or ...

LS: Yes. I was on the water a lot. I didn't learn to swim right here in West River, it was an accident where I learned to swim, it was up in Spa Creek. I was visiting another branch of the Hallock family and I thought; they all went swimming so I went with them. And I was trying to swim out, or walk out to the float and all of a sudden the bottom disappeared so it was either swim or sink, so I swam. (Laughter) And that's the reason I'm here yet, I guess.

JL: So you were really were like an only child, then.

LS: I was raised as an only child, but I mean they had no children and um, I guess my grandmother felt that I was doing ok here and so that was it, I mean ... but at one time they thought of letting my aunt, one of my brother's ... my father's sisters take me, but that never materialized so I remained here with the Hallock family.

JL: When the flu was going around, I believe that you said that both of your parents did die of the flu.

LS: Right, uh huh, one died one day and one died the next.

JL: What year was that?

LS: 1918.

JL: 1918.

LS: Uh huh, it was in November, I think it must, because I was 10 months old and I was born in February.

JL: Then you completed your schooling down here in Shady Side?

LS: Yes, uh huh ...

JL: Then when you became a young lady what did you do for entertainment down here?

LS: Well they had a movie theater out here, um, I had a large group of friends and we'd all get together and walk out to the movie theater and they also, in the summer time, they had the dances out at the hall there at Nowell's store and we used to go up there and listen to the music and finally I learned to dance, and you know.

JL: Someone told me it was called Shimmy Hall.

LS: (Laughter) I never heard of it called that, we just called it Nowell's.

JL: Ah ha! When you went to the movies there could you remember who some of the stars were at that time?

A: Oh well ... \_\_\_\_\_ cowboys are Gene Autrey, I mean, and Hoot Gibson, I didn't like those mystery ones, the real weird ones, they used to frighten me, but I did see "The Ten Commandments" there, the first one that ever came out, you know.

JL: Do you remember who was in that one?

LS: No, I really don't. "The Ten Commandments" and another big one ... that they ... I can't (sigh) oh well.

JL: So your father had passed away, could you tell me what his, what his, occupation was?

LS: He was an oysterman.

JL: He was an oysterman? OK, Oh ... sorry, go ahead.

LS: He was only 24 so he didn't, he, you know, he hadn't established himself a whole lot I suppose, but he did make a living at oystering.

JL: He was 24 when he died? Could you tell us ... uh ... then in growing up and as a young lady down here who some of your friends were that you went to these different things with?

A: Well, um, this, when we used to walk out there in the summer time, it was ... there were a lot of people in here from um, from the shores that had summer homes down here and they were usually from the District. One was Lucille Goldstein and Gloria Goldstein, uh, let me see ... well, Ralph Renno was one.

JL: You became very good friends with the young ladies then, that came down in the summer?

LS: Yes ...

JL: And you would look forward to seeing them in the summer then?

LS: Oh yes, that's right. Un huh.

JL: Could you think of any other things you did for entertainment?

LS: Well, I rode horse back. I had a horse and I rode all over this area here before, before, there were so many houses and so many people in here and I finally had to sell my horse because the roads were so narrow and the people would come so close to her and she wasn't the type of horse that um, you know ...

JL: Liked automobiles?

LS: Well, no it wasn't the automobiles, I've had people reach out of the car, put their hand on the horse, try to pet them and you know that's kind of scary, because she didn't go down the road like an old plow horse, she had style. She went first one way then the other, you know, and you never knew which end was coming out.

JL: Did you used to ride alone? Were there other people that used to ride?

LS: Well, only ... uh ... mostly I rode alone because that was ... I rode the year round and in the summer when my uncle's work horses were free, maybe on weekends, then I could saddle up a few of them and we'd ride out through these woods and all around there and there'd be different ones ... Lucille Goldstein was one of them, oh and of course Phoebe Crandell, I don't know whether anybody ever mentioned her, but she was one of my real close girlfriends and uh ... let me see, Bernard Fox, I don't know whether any of you, whether you've heard of him or not ... um ... lived up here where K.D.B. Ranch is, they used to run a boarding house up there.

JL: Could you tell us about the boarding house, please?

LS: Well, the boarding house ... um ... um ... Mrs. Jessie Fox, as I think is what her name was, ran that board house where K.D.B. Ranch is. There was a big house there and they had a big ... a dining room, they had rooms, they had ... uh ... a pier out there with boats and they had a lovely sand beach along that shore there, I don't know whether you've ever seen it or not, it's still there, but you can't, no one can get in there now because K.D.B., they don't allow that.

JL: Uh. Would you happen to know what year she operated that hotel there?

LS: Well, they operated that hotel up until I was in high school, I believe and that would have been up until, oh Lord, I can't, I'm awful with dates ...

JL: That's OK. Uh, would you happen to know what they would charge for people to stay there, for the week? You don't recall?

LS: No. And when if there was an overflow, we had a room that we used to rent to those people, I mean she would call, you know, and asked if a couple could stay over here at the house and my aunt would do that, you know, take in extras, but they didn't eat here, they would just sleep here and go on up there to the hotel and eat.

JL: Did you used to skate on the river in the winter time?

LS: Oh, yes I did.

JL: Oh, good, we would like to hear about that.

LS: Well, I guess you might say I was determined to learn how to skate, I had the most wretched pair of skates you ever did ... oh ... I used to have a terrible time keeping the skates on and where I really got the most help was down here at Parrish Creek, with the Neiman family, where Betty Neiman was a close friend of mine and her brothers, so we used to all go skating out there and I'd work on a chair and two of the boys would grab hold my arms and ... uh ... we ... I finally learned to stand up and able to learn to skate and then, from then on I um, the years that the river froze solid that I could skate from here to Galesville, I would do that and I had a dog that I used to take along with me, I guess for protection. He probably would have come home if I'd fell in one of those holes out there or something, because ... uh ... my uncle used to say you be careful about those holes where they're oystering, because they had to break through the ice, you know, and ... uh ... to get to the oysters, well they were easy to see because ... uh ... you know, the moon light and everything, you could see there was a big break in the ice and ... uh ... so I'd go over there and ... all that, we'd just have a ball, we'd crack the whip and skate up until 12:00 and I'd come home half dead and try to get up the next morning to go to school.

JL: Would you know, could you tell us who some of the people were that you skated with?

LS: Yeah, oh well, a lot of them were, well most of them were from Galesville, which would have been . .um. . Ethel Hazzard, Dorothy Hazzard and um, let me see, Dixon. .George Dixon would be down there and George Kirchner, young George Kirchner and Marian Kirchner and prob. . .no the other one would be too young... Jackie would be, probably was too young ... uh ... hum ... Lois Dixon huh, that's about it.

JL: Could you give us some of your recollection of the Emma Giles?

LS: Yeah, I used to see her come in from this side and hear her; blow, she always says she entered the river up here right at ... I think she went in the Rhodes River too. I'm not sure, but there's a wharf there, but when she would get in so far she'd toot the horn and everybody would run to see her and all these fields would be clear, you could see her come in very well and ... uh ... the ... I've ... I've ridden to Baltimore on her and ... um ... went to Tolchester was up on her, on an excursion, that, they had a big place over there with um, amusement park, Tolchester Beach.

JL: How much would they charge you to go to either Annapolis or Tolchester?

LS: Isn't that ... uh ... I don't know.

JL: That's ok, that's ok.

LS: I mean, after all, I didn't pay for it, you know, I never even...

JL: OK. OK.

LS: I guess I must have thought it was for free.

JL: So you would go sometimes with some of your friends?

LS: My aunt would take me. She'd go with a group, you know, and then we had friends in Baltimore we used to go up by the boat to visit them and ... um ... stay for maybe a day or two and then come back and uh, I remember it distressed me because I'd see them loading the stock, on the, on the boat to take to Baltimore to the slaughter house. I learned later, you know, that that's what happened to them and our ... beautiful little calves that we would have around the place here, they'd take them down there and load them on the boat and ship them into Baltimore. Well that, that never did set well with me, I mean I would see that happen, cause all the animals around here were pets, as far as I was concerned, as soon as they were born they were our pets.

JL: Would you know anything about the Shady Side Beverage Company that used to be here?

LS: I remember that, yeah uh uh.

JL: Would you tell us about it?

LS: It was ... uh ... wasn't it, um, Luther Leatherbury and his brothers? Uh, and the Leatherbury family, as far as I know, uh ran that. You know, it would be neat if we had some of the bottles that were ...

JL: It would be.

LS: Wouldn't it though.

JL: It would be.

LS: I don't know, you might ask around, somebody may have saved them.

JL: What type of things did they ... what type of beverage did they make?

LS: Well, as far as I remember it was grape and orange, I remember those two because they were my favorites. Root beer, they made root beer as far as I know and as far as going inside of it I think once or twice I had looked in there and that was about all.

JL: Could you tell us what it looked like?

LS: Well, it was a building right there where the ... you know where the ... road that goes into um the old home place, it was right there on the edge of that road, right there on that ...

JL: Were they filling the bottles by hand?

LS: No, it was, it was a machine that did it and then they had a thing that put the tops on it ...

JL: The caps?

LS: Uh huh. I saw the conveyor belt, you know, going around. They also ... listen, did you know that they had a canning house right down here where Mrs. Smith lives?

JL: We would like you to tell us about it.

LS: Well, they had that, it was a oyster house, they processed oysters or had oyster shuckers come in here and they were mostly Polish and they'd come down from Baltimore and they'd live in these little shanties in there. My uncle used to, um, um, butcher beef here and they'd come up and buy the beef, you know, and stuff like that, and. .uh. . they did the oyster shucking and then they would move on and then another group would come in and they would can the tomatoes and I've seen this road, from all the way down to the canning house, all the way out as far as you could see with ... uh ... loaded with tomatoes that had come down off of the highlands, you know, say Deale on up through that, Sudley, all back in there, all all, they'd haul them down in horse and wagons and they'd be stacked usually two, two tomato baskets high, you know, two layers on the, on the wagons.

JL: About what years was it in operation? Could you remember that?

LS: Well, it must of been, it must of been when I was at least five years old, so it would have been what? 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, it was in there, in that time.

JL: And it operated quite a long time?

LS: For quite a while, yes, and ... uh ... they ... uh ... I don't know where that old lime kiln is still over there, but that's where they used to put all the oyster shells and they used to ... put a fire under it, isn't that how that worked to make lime?

JL: I really don't know.

LS: Well they and they would process that. People would buy lime to put on their, their ground, their property, you know, to sweeten the soil, I suppose. Well, that used to be there, I remember that.

JL: Well, you're telling me, us interesting things that I didn't know, maybe other people knew but it's been interesting. Is there anything else that you could recall?

LS: Well, they ... I never saw the boat come in, but at the end of Hayes' Road, which is, they call Hayes' Road now, it goes right straight on down to the water. Past \_\_\_\_\_ place, you know, look right straight down there, well, there used to be, the boat used to come in there, too, the steam boat.

JL: Oh, the steam boat. What was the name of it, do you know?

LS: Johnson's owns the property now, they finally closed it off and they pulled most of the piles up, you don't see 'em any more, but at one time the boat used to come in there, but they stopped that and they continued to come in ...

JL: Was that the Emma Giles you're talking about?

LS: Yeah, the steam boat, used to come in there, that would be, for this area right in here, where the other would be for anything above that between, um say, say ... um ... on around to Galesville because they had one there at Galesville, they also had one at Chalk Point, didn't they? The boat used to go in there.

There was, there was one or two here in Shady Side, there was one at ... um, at Chalk Point and then the one at Galesville. They may have gone into the county wharf, too, which was right there near the steamboat, it all depends on, maybe it wasn't the steamboat, maybe it was another company that went in there, I don't know.

JL: Could you give us some of your recollection of when people used to come and stay at the Nowell Hotel?

LS: Well, I didn't know a whole lot about that out there, I really, uh ... I used to go out there to visit Glorious when I was going to school, but I remember when Glorious was born ... when, uh, ... and and that they weren't living there at the hotel then, they were living out here at, right across from ... uh ... what do they call that, the house burned down and I can't think, well I's across from Annie Rogers' house, they ... uh ... that piece of property still belongs to Miss Ethel, I think, anyway. But the house burned down and that's where Glorious was born in there. Uh, but I don't remember a whole lot about, miss about the hotel to tell you the truth, I never was there even though it was run by my great aunt's sister. See ...

JL: So, you didn't go to too many dances?

LS: I went, now this was ... this was across the road, the hotel, the dances weren't at the hotel. The dances were at the, what was the store and the post office and also there were rooms upstairs that I believe they rented out ... uh ... for people that were in there ... uh ... well, like the hotel, overflow from the hotel, probably, and I think Mrs. Mary Nowell and Mr. John Nowell rented those rooms out.. and they lived in another section of ... it was a big building, but that burned also. And then one whole section along the road there, that is where they had the dances and you could hear the music all over the place. (Laughter) They'd have bands come in, you know, and play. They also had dances down there at ... uh ... um ... Danes on the Bay ... but, I never got in on that. My uncle always said well I'd never find a husband in a ballroom and I told him I wasn't looking for a husband all I wanted to do was dance! (Laughter) So he couldn't quite say much about that.

JL: Could you tell us a little bit about some of the stores that existed in the area in your youth down here?

LS: Well the store that's run by, right out here, um, can't, Bresnick I guess is running it now ... that store belonged, or it was run by G.C. Hopkins and they had it for years and prior to that I believe Hartge, some Hartge, ran it ... I don't know for sure, but I think he bought it from the Hartge, I'm not sure of that ... um ... and after he gave it up or had ... I think, I don't know whether he died down here or whether he sold out ... the family of Foxes that run this hotel took it over and they ran it for a while and then I can't remember who took it from there. I don't think the Bresnick's did, I don't believe they did, they were later coming in ... uh. Of course this place where you live, I remember when they built that, Mr. Hartge ...

JL: What year did they build it, I wonder myself?

LS: Oh well, it's ... I must have been at least 9 or 10 years old so I mean that's the only way I could go by ... probably, 1928 or '30.

JL: That, was it built to be a store?

LS: Yeah, right. A store, right, and they lived in that one side and up, and the rest of it was a store.

JL: Uh huh ...

LS: And they had the front porch out there and you could go over there and sit there ... and get the news.

JL: How long did that run as a store, how many years was the store in operation?

LS: I would say roughly 10 years, I ... I guess.

JL: And people would go sit on the front porch and talk?

LS: Yeah, they would sit there on the porch and talk and meet, you know, it wasn't ... it was, oh, and there was a store down here at the end of this road but that one, is it finished?

JL: No

LS: There was one down at the end of this road that belonged to Wallace Owings ... Wallace and Liddy, Liddy was a Bast, and they had raised two children down there, that was ...

JL: What were the children's names, do you know?

LS: Preston Owings and Mae Owings Thomas, her husband just died last year, and she's living up at, um, Rolling Knolls at this time, but Preston's still here and his son has the list, you probably met ... um ... Bobby, haven't you and ... um ... Barbara Owings ... ok, well they're living in his uncle's ... it would be his great uncle's place.

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LS: OK, Well, should I go by this?

JL: Whatever you would like to tell me, some more of your recollections of Shady Side.

LS: They had a big ... um ... uh ... country fair out at, actually it's in the area where, um, the road runs right through it now, it's part of Lerch's property, I think it used to be. And ... uh ... had these oak trees and everything; well, they had cont ... this fair to get money enough to put the state road down into Shady Side, prior to that we had mud holes and mire and you name it.

JL: Could you tell us what year they held that fair?

LS: It must of been in about, let's see, 18, 19, 20- 21, in 1921 somewhere in that area cause I don't think I was much more than three years old, if I was that old, when they had it and ... uh ... what I'm leading up to is the fact that I was ... they had a beauty contest for babies and, um, Billy Heinz grabbed me up and put me on the platform where they were judging the babies, Billy Heinz lived down on Wagner's Point and he was a great friend of my aunt and uncle's and of course he put me in the contest, and I won ....

JL: First prize?

LS: First prize, which was a pair of baby shoes, blue, baby blue shoes. So in about an hour's time, um, I wasn't interested in anything like that and all I was interested in was horses and the wheels and all that kind of stuff with the buggies, so I went to ... happened to pass this buggy and my aunt says I took my finger and I went right around the axle, where the axle grease was, and I got it all over me, I was full of axle grease from this buggy. Well, she said she heard somebody come by and said, huh ... that's the baby that won the beauty contest! (Laughter) She had to take me home and clean me up and bring me back. But they had, at the fair, of course I remember the horses because I was always crazy about horses and ... um ... my uncle brought his out to use for the ... uh ... um ... you know, to spear the rings, what do they call that?

JL: Jousting, jousting.

LS: Well, they had a contest for that and we had our horses out here, out to the fair and, let's see ... what else now ...

JL: Uh, We would like to know a little bit about the history of your house.

LS: Of this house well ok. This place, as far as I know, in fact I have the deeds, some of the deeds here from it. Well, originally it was ... uh ... a piece of property about ten acres that was given to, um, my husband's um grandmother, who was Mathilda Hartge. The Hartge family owned a great piece of this area here and ... uh ... when she married Peter Clement Siegert, well, they took this piece of property right here which had a log cabin on it and a little lean-to shed, you know, that was a kitchen.



JL: Who built the log cabin?

LS: That I don't know, I don't know who built it, but the original, that's the room right there and it had a stairway up that wall and a bedroom over top and I think they ended up by having at least; I think, it was five children while they were here and then he drowned and my husband's ... um ... father helped to raise the family. He was quite a young man at that time and he helped to raise the rest of the family. Uh ... I don't think she ever married again, his mother, I don't think she ever married again ... uh ... and in the mean time, Mr. Siegert married ... uh ... Ella Mae Nutwell from Sudley and they bought a place in Galesville. First they lived down where the, well let's see, what is, what do they call that restaurant there now in Galesville? The building's still there...

JL: Pirate's Cove?

LS: No, not Pirate's Cove, that was Zangs.

JL: Steamboat Landing?

LS: No, the other one there.

JL: The Fat Oyster? (Note: Actually talking about Topside and its other variations.)

JL: Yeah, I guess it's called the Fat Oyster ... no, no, no, no. That one is, that one is, that one is out here where the pier or where the boats and everything are. No, I can't think of what they call it, but that's ... they lived there for a while and I think they ran a store there and then they ran a store where the post office is now. And then they bought the place down on Lerch's Creek, which is owned by Fred Siegert's widow now. So, anyway, um ... that's where my husband was born, down there. Um.

JL: How did the property come into your family, then. All right, yeah, I'm getting way off.

LS: Let's see ... in this, his, his grandmother sold this piece of property to ... Charlotte Hallock or Joshua Hallock ... um ... it must have been during the Civil War or right shortly after the Civil War because that's where Grandmother Hallock met Joshua Hallock. Joshua Hallock was from Long Island and he was down here with the Union Army and ... uh ... when he got his discharge, I had his papers ... his discharge papers from ... uh ... uh ... let's see ... uh ... Falls Church, I think, or Alexandria, Alexandria, that's where it was. He went back to, he had met Charlotte at that time, but he went back up to New York State, next thing you know, he's back down here again and he and Charlotte got married. Now I never did get the whole story on their courtship, but Grandmother Hallock had always promised me that she was going to tell me about it but she never did. I never stayed still long enough, I guess, for her to tell me. Anyway, after Captain Hallock died, he was also a boatman and the Captain part of it was because he owned a boat and he used to run ... um ... um ... goods for the stores ... um, in the area, from Baltimore to here, back and forth, you know, that kind. . . plus he was oystering, too, and fishing. Uh, so, let me see, after he died, uh, Grandmother Hallock's, let's see, second son, which was William Henry Hallock, better known as Harry Hallock, uh, bought the place with, from her so that she would have, wouldn't have to live alone and ...

JL: What year was that? Do you know?

LS: Yeah, it was, let me see, must have been 19- 1900.

JL: 1900?

LS: 1900, I think, somewhere in there. (inaudible aside about tape recorder) I think that was 1917 as far as I, I can remember and I want to give the names of Charlotte and Joshua Hallock's children. It was Thomas, who had two sons, Edwin Hallock and Bernard Hallock; and John Hallock had ten children, I won't name all of them and the third son was William Harry Hallock, who had no children but he raised me. Uh ... anyhow, Annie Hallock Rogers had three children, Edgar, Isabelle and Archie, everybody knew Archie, he was a character and George was the youngest and he had seven children and I won't name all

of them. OK. Now to get back to the history of the, of this place, um ... um ... after Harry Hallock died, um, my husband, Graham Siegert and I moved in with three children to ... uh ... be here with my great aunt.

JL: What year was that?

LS: It was 1951, and um in 1952 is when our son was born, he was born here in this place or at the hospital and brought back here, but anyway, and then when she died, about ... uh ... three years later, they she left the place to me ... it's sort of ironic because the property has done almost a complete circle because his, my husband's, grandmother, owned this place and then the people that raised me owned this place, and when we married, it made the deed go back into his name and my name, so I mean it's ... it's just odd that it should happen that way, but that's the way it did. Uh ... ok, then uh ...

JL: Could you tell us what year you and your husband were married?

LS: 1938.

JL: Is your husband still alive?

LS: No, he died in 1979.

Q: And how many children did you have?

A: We had four. We had a daughter and four years later we had twin daughters and I sort of gave up hope of ever having a son, (Laughter), but eight years later we had a son. (Laughter).

JL: Will you tell us the names of your children?

LS: Sandra, Sandra Siegert Strohm, she just got remarried in December of this past year ... uh ... the twins are Maribeth Siegert Biard, she lives in Melbourne, Florida and she's a registered nurse at Holmes Memorial Hospital, the other twin is Sue Ann Folks, she's a registered nurse, she works for Sibley Hospital in Washington, D.C. Gregory Graham Siegert is a ... works for Illinois Institute of Technology and he's 31 now.

JL: Ok, ok. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about Shady Side? We have about ...

LS: Well, one other thing I'll tell about this ... my aunt had ... um ... a reed organ here and... uh ... Eddie Bast and his wife, Jeanette, used to come up here and Eddie played the guitar and, um, Jeanette would play the organ and we'd have a real song fest here. Everybody seemed to enjoy it and ... uh ... about the bake shop ... also about the bake shop there at the Leatherbury's, I said ... (laughter) distillery, wasn't a distillery, it was the soft drink place.

JL: That's ok.

LS: I hope I didn't mess up here.

JL: No, that's fine ...

LS: Well, anyhow, at the bake shop they used to ... uh ... have the baked goods and a Mr. Wood, um ... well, anyway, his son is still living in Galesville ... uh ... Robert Wood, used to go around with a truck and sell these baked goods and ... uh ... boy, were they ever good, that's when the summer people used to go for them, best pies and I think it was one of the Leatherbury girls, probably Dolores, that did the bakery, did the baking, and uh um, used to sell. I think they also had an ice cream shop in there, so ... that's that.

JL: Are there other things you can tell us about Shady Side?

LS: Upph, well, I don't know.

JL: Are there some other things you would like to tell us about Shady Side?

LS: You try to think, give me some questions.

JL: Who, when you were a little girl down here, who was the oldest person you knew of in Shady Side?

LS: Grandma Hallock, she was 90 some years old when she died, and I was about 16, but wait a minute, there was also a Mrs. Tucker over here um, I don't know what her real name was other than it was Mrs. Tucker and she was a great big fat lady and she used to ... um ... her daughter was Mrs. Harry Wilde out here and she used to go out there to be with her daughter and she'd always have this great big bundle of ... handbag like this, you know, and it would be stuffed full of things that would be heavy, and I'd come riding along on the horse, you know, and I'd say, Mrs. Tucker, would you like for me to cart your bag down for you, so I would take her bag and hook it on the um ... I had a hook, uh horn on the saddle, I'd hook it on there and take her bag on down and hang it on the gate post down at her house, and she did love that, you know, I mean it freed her up ... God, was the thing running.

JL: Yeah.

LS: I didn't know that.

JL: Are there some other interesting things that you could think of?

LS: No, I don't know right off hand, I mean I'd have to sort of mull it over ... easiest place up here. Well, I mean I don't know whether you would want to ...

JL: Yes mam, we would like to know what's in your photograph album here.

LS: Well, this here ... um ... this was a Bernice, she, uh ... Atwell, I guess was her name and John Atwell and this was when I was about three years old and I used to walk up there, this house right up there, not this new one, but that one up there. This is Hayes' place and that's Mrs. Hayes' granddaughter, Chere, who was a good friend of mine, and she live in Mexico and used to come up and visit. This is Lucille Goldstein sitting on the haystack here. This is the dog that used to go ice skating with me, Lindy. He was a very famous dog, at least I thought so. This is Ralph Renno and his mother. This is Phoebe, my girlfriend and my brother there and that's me when I was 14 and ... uh ... this place here, is now, it was built by the Stork family ... um ... I wished I knew what the man that um ... owns it now, very nice people, they are ... he's, he was a gunsmith and he lives, it's down the road past Preston's place, and this my uncle, he was grading that property there, straightening it, you know, making a nice lawn for it. And, of course, that's the horse that I used to ride all the time.

JL: There you are sitting on the horse.

LS: Lady, and this is the dog.

JL: That took you skating?

LS: Well, I had him for 10 years so I mean he was quite a member of the family and ... uh ... these are just some of the ... this is Ralph Renno and his mother and father and ... uh ... oh, I won't go any further, and that one. This is also down. Oh, there's a picture of the oyster, where they used to shuck oysters and had the tomato canning factory, right there, that's part of it.

JL: OK.

LS: And, uh, this is Grandmother Hallock, she was 90, almost 92 years old, when she died. And this is the horse that I had and this horse was born here on this place, his name was Dick and this is the barn as it used to be.

JL: How many farms were down here in Shady Side?

LS: Well, on this, this, this one I say my uncle farmed, which was about ten acres, then this piece over here that the, the Hayes' owned, he farmed that too, he had hay and corn and one year they raised one whole field full of cabbage over there. You talk about when that spoils, if that doesn't smell to high heaven ... and even tried raising tobacco over there, but it, the thing of it is it won't cure down in this area,

so I don't know really what happened to it. Mostly they had dairy stock and the chickens up there, but. . .um ... the other part, the other farm would have been Wilde's farm down, down, on the other side, on the Bay side of the peninsula.

JL: Would you know some of the names of the men who were the boat builders down here at that time?

A: Captain Ed Leatherbury was the closest one to me that I knew, you know, and really saw at work. He built those, what they call the ... um ... um ... deadrise sailboats, and they were heavy as lead, I mean that's one thing, they used to race them in the Labor Day races and they would win, if we had a stormy Labor Day weekend and high winds, those boats would win because they were sturdy, but if we had little wind, and a calm bay, his boats didn't do too much and the boats, the light weight boats would always win. Um, and there are still a few of those boats that Captain Ed built, in fact there's two of 'em down here in this creek now, smaller ones, I think one's 18 feet and the other's about between 12 or 16 feet, maybe it's 14 and ... uh ... the other, I don't know whether, well that's it.

JL: Would you like to show us some more of your pictures?

LS: Um ...

JL: Ones that are really pertain to Shady Side.

LS: Well, there's Ralph in his kayak. He and his father built that little kayak and ... uh ... it's, what would you say, it look like it's about 10 feet long, but we used to get on that and paddle all the way across to Galesville in it, which is about a mile, you know, but all of us could swim, so we didn't worry about it too much, but, oh boy, did we ever take water on in that little thing, but it didn't sink, it wouldn't sink and that's it. That's about ...

JL: Could you tell us if you met your husband down here, you didn't tell us ...

LS: I didn't know Graham Siegert was alive until I went to high school and I was sitting in the, in the um, class room and we were eating lunch, because it was at the old Tracy's Landing High School and it was the first six months before they put us over into the new high school, so luckily, I went to two new schools when I first started, but, we were sitting there eating lunch and I was sitting next to Mack Hall and Graham Siegert started edging up and Mack poked me in the ribs, he says, now that's one guy you should stay away from.

JL: Uh oh.

LS: But, uh Graham won out. So, I knew his brother, Fred, because Fred used to get around I think because he had a car, and ... uh ... but I didn't know Graham was even alive until I went to high school and from then on he started saving me seats on the bus.

JL: You were telling me earlier about the type of lights you had in this house before you had electricity.

LS: Yeah, we had ... uh ... Mr. Person Leach (Peirson Leitch?) from down at Friendship was selling these systems that operated from a carbide gas and that was a combination of carbide crystals with water and as those crystals hit this water they formed a gas and that gas was the most beautiful white light you ever wanted to see. Um, my uncle bought the system and had it installed and it's uh, the tank is still out here in the yard, I mean it, heck, it's been there for however long the ..., I don't know, how long has it been ....

JL: A heck of a long time.

LS: A long time.

JL: I was going to ask you, I was going to ask you if you remember when you did get the gas light here?

LS: Well, it was a few years before they ever had the electricity put in down here, whatever year that was

...

JL: Were you the only people down here with gas lights?

LS: It seems, I don't know of anybody else that had them and they were beautiful lights, um, all you did there was pipes through the house that carried this gas from that tank and they ... uh ... would have a little piece of flint that you would flip and it would throw a spark and the gas would light, you know, and the only thing ... trouble with that was it would only last about nine months and then you had to take the, refill the tank and put new carbide in.

JL: Could you tell us where the carbide came from?

LS: The carbide was shipped in here off of, probably on some of those steamboats or some boats from Baltimore and it was a product of Union Carbide, which still makes batteries and things like that and other things.

JL: Well, I guess you were the envy of everyone in Shady Side because you had gas light and they had kerosene light.

LS: Yeah, it's true, and it really was a nice light, and ... uh ... we really enjoyed it excepting that when the nine months was up and everything went like ... psst ... like that and we'd have to fill the tank up and my uncle would get provoked at that, but the byproduct from that was a beautiful whitewash that he used to whitewash all the out buildings, like the barn and the chicken house and, and uh ... things like that and it really was nice to have that ... fence posts ... all the fence posts would be painted white and

Q: Are there any other reminiscence of Shady Side that you would like to tell us about?

LS: Can't think of anything else?

JL: Mrs. Siegert, you were just telling me about when you learned how to drive, could you tell me about it? How old were you?

LS: Well, I was about twelve or thirteen years old and I learned to drive on a um, 1916 Model T Ford that you had to crank up, but it was alright unless I choked dead and my uncle had to get out and crank it, he didn't like that too much..

JL: Was that before there was paved roads here?

LS: Oh, yeah ... dirt roads, dirt roads. We had a dirt road and shells on the road and in the summer time you'd walk out there in you bare feet and the dust would squeeze up between your toes and if it had rained, it wouldn't be dust, it would be mud, and the summer people would come down and we had a real good rainy spell, they really got stuck and my uncle used to have to hitch the horses up and pull them out, pull them out, and finally, that's when we had that fair and we talked and, I don't know whether that was the fair for this road down here or not though, but the fair was for the road to come into Shady Side, say from Galesville on into, just down to the ...

JL: Shady Side proper?

LS: Down to the Eastern Star building, actually it made a turn there and went out to Hopkins store or to Bresnick's store, that's where they stopped it, but I can't even remember when they tarred this road down here, but it was wonderful to have that happen. So ...

JL: Mrs. Siegert, we thank you very much. It's been a delight talking to you and it will make a grand contribution to the listening library. Thank you very much.

LS: Thank you.

End of Tape