



Interviewee: Jane Busch
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Interviewer: Ginger N. Corson
Transcribed by: Donna Williams (January 2006)
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[The interview appears to have begun; the first few words are missing. Microphone may not be close enough to subject.]

GC: "...at the home of Jane Busch, and we're going to be asking her some questions about her early days in Shady Side, specifically because her parents owned the Yendell cottages off of East West Shady Side Road down in West Shady Side. So thank you for having us here today."

JB: "Well, I am glad you came [laughing] took you a long time to get here. You said you were a friend of Linda's. I remember that...I remember that...took you a long time to see me..."

GC: "30 years...that's right. I was a couple doors over a lot, but I never came over here. I think you must've always been over there?" [Laughs.]

JB: "No, I was here from the time...shortly before I was six (6) years old."

GC: "No kidding? OK."

JB: "But we lived in Washington...Spring Road...Northwest Washington, and we lived next door to the Park family, who are my neighbors here on the west side of this house. Mr. William Park came down in 1918...no, that's when the family moved to Washington from New York."

GC: "Your family?"

JB: "My family...in 1921 Mr. Park was down here and purchased the lots Doris Cole lives on, right next door here, but that was before she was born; but the mother and father and three brothers and a sister were down here. But when Mr. William Park bought the property, he came home from Washington – Spring Road again...right next door to us, and said to my Dad 'Why don't you come down and see the property and buy the lots next to me?' Well, they had enjoyed one another's company a great deal, and they used to have picnics at Rock Creek Park in Washington. So, the following week my Dad and the family came down here and Dad bought five lots...three here, and two the other side of the Salem Avery. Mr. Park said 'When the men finish building my house, you want them to start on yours?' And my father said 'Yes, that would be fine.' So when we came down it seemed like they put the two houses awfully close together, but I guess after being next door neighbors in a row house...it was plenty far apart. [Laughing]...[slight pause].

So when we would start out from Washington, we would have to go down through Benning Road, north east, and out on Rt. 4; and when you get down to the Patuxent River Bridge, I remember the big old Buick touring car...the wheels slowing down, and it would jerk you because you were riding in the thick gravel. So it was slow progress."

GC: "So, the bridge was made of gravel?"

JB: "No. On the east side of the road."

GC: "Oh, once you hit the east side?"

JB: "On the east side of the river. Umm hmm.. It was gravel; and now and then, you'd run into just a dirt road... you might see a horse and wagon come along and very few cars. So they built this house in 1921, and my mother and my aunt...her sister...they lived together with us...decided that they would stay here in the summer time when school was out...my cousin was older than I was.... I'm stuck." [Slight pause.]

GC: "Now who all who would be here...your aunt, your mother, your sister?"

JB: "No, I didn't have a sister...I had a cousin... I had one brother...he was a little fella. He was only ...he was born 1919 and ... I'm just lost now"...[pause].

GC: "Well, let's talk about when you were born."

JB: "Oh well, I came from New York."

GC: "What town?"

JB: "Mt. Kisco up in Westchester County."

GC: "Ok, and you were born what day?"

JB: "July, the 18th, 1915."

GC: "And you mentioned your Mom was born in New York also? Rye?"

JB: "Yes, right in Rye, New York, and both of her parents and all of her brothers and sisters were born in England. The first one was born here. My grandfather came here two times. He came here as a young fellow and was a stone mason up in New York; but my mother was their 11th child, but only 8 lived...there were some earlier ones that died."

GC: "What was your mother's name...her maiden name?"...

JB: "Jenny Thomas...Jenny Thomas."

GC: "And your father's name?"

JB: "Fred Yendell and was so...back in 1921...going back again...they decided that they'd build some cottages because people would be happy to rent them. My mother said 'Well, don't put them too close together...you can't put that many on it.' He said 'People aren't going all that way to cut grass.' He said 'What they want to do is to fish and enjoy the water and go crabbing.' So he said, 'the houses are all right close together.'"

GC: "That was a good theory."

JB: "Yes. I'm not using my notes."

GC: "Well let me ask you another question about your father. Where was he born?"

JB: "In Devon, England. And my mother's people were from Penzance, and so, she always liked being near the water because the house that her father built over there ... although she never lived in it. She... I had to tell you that. She...they were always around the water. So when my Dad came to this country, he bought lots out on Montauk Point on Long Island, right out at the very end. But when he moved to Washington, he came here...liked the water on the Bay. He just said he wouldn't pay those taxes any more and he just dropped that entirely. Didn't sell them ...didn't try to sell them...just didn't pay the taxes, and bought this property down here."

GC: "Maybe you still own it. [Laughing.] Maybe nobody figured that out."

JB: "No! I have too many taxes to pay now. Catching up."

GC: "So your family ... what brought them to D.C. from New York?"

JB: "Well, my father's brother was going to work at the Capitol transit in Washington ...the streetcar line, and he said 'So why don't you sell your drug store and buy one down in Washington?' So they did...that's what they did. And that's how it was before we bought the house next door to the Park family, and that's how we landed down here."

GC: “And you did buy a drug store?”

JB: “Yes.”

GC: “And was that on Spring Road also?”

JB: “No, no that was a residential area, and the drug store was...we were in Northwest Washington near... just north of 14th and Park Road where the Arcade Market and all the ... a lot of shopping stores...attractive area at that time, and ...I have trouble when you're asking me questions...they throw me off.”

GC: “I'm sorry.”

JB: “That's all right! I know you want to know. See, I've lost where I am.”

GC: “You don't know an address, for instance, where your father's drug store was?”

JB: “Oh, yes! That was in Northeast Washington, when the flu epidemic was going on and he was afraid ... he didn't want to shut the doors at night because so many people were looking for prescriptions. But that's getting away from Shady Side.”

GC: “Well, I just want to establish who you are first.”

JB: “Well, most people know I'm that old gal that had so many kids in church. I get up in church and say...they say: ‘Have you got anything to be happy about?’, and I say ‘I do.’ And I stand up and I say ‘I have a new Great Granddaughter.’ And then I tell whose child, whose grandparents or something, and I'll sit down; and then one of the fellows that's leading the service will say ‘Jane, get up and tell them what number it is.’ I stand up and say ‘Number 14 – great grandchild’ and I've got another one now and more coming, I'm sure. My mother always said ‘We never run out of children.’

GC: “How many grand children do you have?”

JB: “Seven.”

GC: “And how many children do you have?”

JB: “Two. Did I say what can happen? You have two children, and the next thing you've got 15 great-grandchildren.”

GC: “There you go.”

JB: “Plus a few step-grandchildren, too. I count them.”

GC: "How many of them live in Shady Side?"

JB: "None of them right here in Shady Side. Carol's son, Bill, lives down on Mimosa Cove Road...down Churchton Deale Road...it's down that way. He has two boys."

GC: "But both of your children do have one of the original cottages?"

JB: "Yes, yes. Three were built. When that one next to me...my aunt and uncle got it from my Dad and he only charged them \$2,000 for the cottage and the land. And then the next one, my son has...he bought it from his widowed grandmother ... my mother. And Carol and Brent have the one next to the Salem Avery, and they also paid just a small amount to my mother."

GC: "And how about the cottages on the other side?"

JB: "Well, on the east side of the Salem Avery, the first house belongs to Ray Johnson, but that one...shucks the name has just slipped me, and I could tell you any other time who owned that building. And the odd thing... that house, this one and Doris Cole's house were all built on the same plan by the same builders. And it just happened they all seemed to think it was a pretty good plan, now 70 years later they've changed quite a bit. And the two lots beyond Ray Johnson were the two lots that my Dad bought, and the first one Mr. Tucker has [now]; and then the next one was Stella Spicknell's house...and I don't know who has it right now. And beyond that there was a doctor, and his name was Frisco and he had a little daughter, and I went down there one day and she had a pet monkey that would ... she'd give it half of an orange, and he would eat the fruit and turn it inside out and put it on his head."

GC: [Laughing.] "That's funny."

JB: "I thought that was pretty cute."

GC: "That is cute." [Slight break or pause in interview process.] ...

JB: "My first husband was Paul Hawkins from Washington, and I married him in 1936 ... we had two nice children, and seemed like he had an awful hard time settling down, or something, and after 23 years, I decided it was time to look out for myself and get a job. And then I did that, and I worked for about 8 years, and then I worked for ?? photo-Grammatry?, which was government contract working on manuals for training pilots and boys going into mapping and that sort of thing for the service. Then in '61 I married Rit, and I never dreamed that I was marrying somebody who knew how to do almost everything. He could cane chairs. He could repair clocks. He built the hutch in the dining room and the cute little chest of drawers that matched my bedroom set...he made that for me. And I thought I was so lucky and I really was...I knew I was, but he used to say the same thing to me. He'd say 'I don't know how I got so lucky.' So, you see, it was a good marriage, and people noticed it. When he got sick, I'd always tuck him in at night, and I'd ask him if his feet were warm enough, if his pillow was right. And we just

had a lot of love for one another. And he's been dead about 15 months now, but there's a lot of people in Shady Side who remember him. He worked at the 'Salem Avery'. He worked at the church; and if people had a problem, they very often would ask him if he could tell them how to fix it. Sometimes it ended up he'd fix it instead, but that was Rit, and that was what he wanted to do."

GC: "Sure. Did you meet him at that work place?"

JB: "No, I didn't. He lived in Connecticut, and he was married to a cousin of mine, and they had two sons. Both are my boys now and have been almost 40 years, and I'm in contact...close contact with them...and it's a pleasure, and... [Slight pause.] it was a big change for me...married a second time. And the younger son lived with us, and one time he left his shoes by the fireplace, and Rit said 'Donald, take those shoes up and put them in your bedroom.' He said 'Don't leave them here in the living room like that.' After the boy had gone upstairs, I said to Rit, 'Don't talk to him like that'...I said 'You know, his leaving the shoes in front of the fireplace makes him feel more at home because that's exactly the way Jack would have done, and he's gotten married now, and so Don makes me feel at home.'"

Well, getting back to Shady Side again, there was a...I don't know that you needed all of this about cooking on a kerosene burner stove. It had an oven that sat over top of two of the three burners, and that's the way my mother did her baking."

GC: "Was that in this house?"

JB: "Yes, in this house. And then we had a manual operated pump in the kitchen and the icebox. And in the summer, they would deliver ice for you, and they gave a lot of the schoolboys a job during the summer and Dick Kirchner was one of them. And when I moved down here he said - to order you 'a round', I think it was '73 - he said 'I remember you when they used to deliver ice to your mother.' And he had a very nice wife. I was fond of her. One of my first friends when I came down here."

GC: "Marguerite?"

JB: "Marguerite Kirchner. She sang in the choir in the church."

GC: "And was her maiden name Griner?"

JB: "No. She was a Trott. And she was Ruby Trott Steven's sister."

GC: "Oh, OK - I didn't know that."

JB: "Well I didn't tell you about Nowell's store. It was a general store, and you could buy lamps, or crab nets, shoes, paint, tobacco, candy - almost anything you might want. You didn't always have much choice. But you could probably manage - get along -

people did. In the middle of the room, the watermen would gather, and I would be in there with my mother, so I would see these men sitting around and they would be laughing and telling the news and laughing at the daily jokes, and warming their cold buns from being out on the water. And they were right there by the post office, too – it was right in back of it. It seemed like it was a great gathering place. In the summer they had dances on the long, screened-in porch on the side; and my cousin, who was six years older than I - she went there quite often to dance. And the porch was lit up. I don't know now, but there must've been electricity, but they had lanterns strewn, so I think they were

paper lanterns with a light bulb inside of it to light - light bulbs weren't available - electricity wasn't - until about 1929. But it used to be quite a job keeping all the kerosene lamps clean, too. I have so many things, and you can't think of it all...oh, there was ... where Jenny LeFevre lives, there was a store, and it had belonged to Cora Hartge, and it was another general store. And one day when my mother and I were down there at the store, Mrs. Sally Ford came out of the store and put her package in her little Model T Ford. And my mother said to her, 'You've had a lot of good service out of that little car.' And Sally said 'Indeed so, Mrs. Yendell,' she said: 'When I can't get gasoline, I just use a little kerosene in it,' and she said 'It runs.' [Laughing.]

So Mrs. Ford lived in the nice house over here ... faces out to Parrish Creek She sold milk there, so the Park and the Yendell children would go through the woods and then across the meadow where the cow was and buy milk from Mrs. Ford. She had it in jars in a little springhouse that was on the Parrish Creek side of her house, and there was a stream that ran through that little house; and she would have these quart jars setting down cooling. So we would get our milk and then head on home. And my mother, being anxious for my brother and I to get our quart of milk a day, thought that maybe we would drink more if she'd make it into puddings or custards or something, because the cow in the spring would eat the nice fresh green spring onions in the grass, and the flavor carried right on through to the milk. So that's the way Mother got the milk down."

GC: "Onion pudding, huh?"

JB: "Yes."

GC: "I have a question about the... Cora Hartge's store. Did you know Cora Hartge at all?"

JB: "Yes."

GC: "Did you know anything about her?"

JB: "She was a widow. I think when we first came, her husband was there; but later my mother knew that she had gone into an Eastern Star Home north of Baltimore; and I can remember my mother at Christmas would buy a box of candy and send it to her because she just wanted her to know she was thinking of her."

GC: "Oh, that's nice. You don't happen to know remember about what time she died do you? What year?"

JB: "No, I really don't. It was a long while back. There was the Hopkins Store, and that was down on the Shady Side Road just before you came to the turn. There's a big empty space now; they've taken that building down. There was another store there."

GC: "Is that what eventually was Brevneck's?"

JB: "Wasn't it Eddie's when you were a little girl?"

GC: "Eddie Brevneck .. right."

JB: "Right. I didn't know that was his name! But it was Hopkins back in the '20's."

GC: "I remember how close it was to the road."

JB: "Yes, it was."

GC: "I was always afraid when we drove past, because it seemed like we were going to hit somebody walking out of the store."

JB: "That's right."

GC: "Now we had a lot of stores in Shady Side for being such a small town."

JB: "That's right, and then there was another one down West Shady Side, and that one belonged to Bobby Owings and Barbara Owings; but it was his parents that had that store."

GC: "Really? No kidding?"

JB: "And it was in that little house that's almost into the swamp there, right near the shore."

GC: "Right. I can't believe that was a store. That house is so little."

JB: "Yes, Uh huh."

GC: "But it makes sense because there was no plumbing for a long time, other than running water. And to this day when my kids don't have time for a bath, I tell them to go take a 'Miss Winnie bath', because Miss Winnie Owings owned that house, and she had no shower or tub." [Laughing.]

JB: "That's right."

GC: "I did not know that was a store. That's on West Shady Side Road, between Linton Lane and Bass Lane? It's more toward the end of Bass Lane?"

JB: "Yes, it is." [Slight pause.]

GC: "How about...Sorry." [Begins to ask a question, then stops.]

JB: "Way back the boats that you saw were not pleasure boats, they were work boats and watermen. And sometimes I guess there were other kinds of tugboats and barges where they would be moving something from one area to another. In fact, I think the first (?) Centenary Church was brought across from Galesville. I think was in Owensville first, and then they took it to Galesville and went across the river to bring it to Shady Side. But I can remember riding around the West River with Mr. Park and his kids. And it seems that we went to ... it must've been to the Weems' house because where Thomas' lumber is was 'Thomas & Weems' when we first came here."

GC: "Were the Parks related to anybody further down here that you know of?"

JB: "No, only the two couples. They... There were some Park on that side... not the mother's side, but the father's side. I think he had a sister who lived in Chicago. But I don't know. I should try to find out or let Carol.... There must be Thomas's that are related to me in this country, because so many Thomas boys came here from England. But Carol is so busy with the other side of the family now that she's not looking into that. So excited ..."

GC. " (?)

JB: "Yes, because of the Civil War...that's what she's interested in, of course, because her brother is, too."

GC: "Sure. And it was the Parks that had two siblings that married two other siblings?"

JB: "Yes."

GC: "OK, you want to tell us that story?"

JB: "Well, I thought I did."

GC: "We weren't on camera."

JB: "Oh, well they lived ... were next door neighbors at 1357 Spring Road ... was William Park and Margaret, and they had five children... three boys and then two girls. Well, the younger brother, George Park, he got out of the service and came to Spring Road and Margaret's sister came from Scotland, and then the two of them were married. So there were two brothers that married two sisters. Well, they were, I guess, there just a short time of living with them, but they used to come down here to Shady Side real often,

then their Uncle George and Richie's Uncle George seemed like my Uncle George, too. We were always together, all the kids, more than any one else unless somebody had rented the cottage brought some children along. And with my mother and her sister, they lived up in New York, and my grandmother was widowed quite young. It was a heat wave in New York and horses dropped on the streets, and that would have been in 1896, because it was the year my mother would've been six years old. My grandfather died then of heat stroke, and my grandmother had to start renting rooms. Two of the men were brothers: Will and Fred Yendell, and they married to two of Mrs. Thomas' children ... the girls, my mother Jenny and her sister, Fanny. And there were others as well, but another one married an Englishman, too, Laura married one from further north in England. I should know the name but...you know when sometimes when you're trying to think of something, it just doesn't come." [Laughing.]

GC: "You'll think of it tonight." [Laughing.]

JB: "When I go to bed." [Laughing.]

GC: "Right. Now were there many children on this point when you were growing up that were around your age?"

JB: "No, and I guess because I didn't go to school here, that makes a difference. If I went to school down here, I would've known the Nieman children down the point."

GC: "Sure. You were one of those summer people."

JB: "Yes, that's right."

GC: "OK. "

JB: "I don't know whether I've got anything else amongst my notes that I should tell you about."

GC: "Well, why don't you just tell us and we'll just judge that?"

JB: "All right. I didn't tell you about the collie dog, did I?"

GC: "No."

JB: "Well, Mrs. Ford had a collie dog, and he knew the sound of our cars. We would come down the road. And he would run through the woods and be here waiting for us in the backyard by the time the car got in."

GC: "Oh that's funny."

JB: “One time, my Dad was looking over the dog trying to take the ticks off of him, and he ran his hand up around the dog’s neck, and there was a tight rope around it. It was a wonder it wasn’t choking him. I think it soon would. It was on there so long, it was imbedded into his flesh. So my Dad had a pocketknife, it had a narrow blade, and he worked that and he finally was able to cut the rope from the dog’s neck. And then the dog showed his gratitude. He was very happy to get that off. I’m sure he truly wouldn’t have lived.”

GC: “Oh, bless his heart.”

JB: “ So he was mighty grateful that Dad was looking for ticks.” [Slight pause.] “Did I tell you about the dog going up the ladder on the round rungs? My brother and his cousin ... my cousin, too ...were tarring the roof, and the dog didn’t like it when the two boys left him. So he decided to walk up the ladder. And he did. He got up on the roof, and it had round rungs; it wasn’t a stepladder. He got up on the roof and stepped on some tar, and he sailed off of the roof (boomp) right down on the ground, but he decided he wasn’t going to try going up again.” [Laughing.]

GC: “Was that on this house?”

JB: “Yes.”

GC: “Wasn’t that same collie was it?”

JB: “No, it was our terrier called ‘Sport’. Well, then there was a man that rented the cottage where Carol’s brick house is over there. His name was Gall??. Mr. Gall. And he rented the garage. Did I tell you about that before? I told Mavis and George, I guess. He rented a garage-type building I guess across from the Shady Side Market, and he had movies in there.”

GC: “Right, I’ve heard that.”

JB: “And one night when we were there, they were showing ‘The Ten Commandments’; and in one very serious part, the piano player was playing ‘Oh, You Little Blue-Eyed Sally’, and he was giving... pounding it out...giving it all he could.” [Laughing.]

GC: “Well, I have a story to tell on my Mom about that place.”

JB: “You do?”

GC: “When she was a little girl, her parents rented the apartment up above, and while people were in the movie, she used to drop pennies on their heads through the holes in the cracks in the floor. One time she ran out of pennies, so she started throwing ... dropping kitchen knives on people’s heads.” [Laughing.] My Mom’s Dad played the guitar, and sometimes he would be the entertainment for that.”

JB: "You never know what kids are going to do."

GC: "No, no, but I don't think anybody got hurt. But it didn't take long before somebody came upstairs and stopped her."

JB: "Found out what was going on."

GC: "That's right. Do you know how many years that was a movie theatre?"

JB: "No, I don't because I moved to Cleveland part of the time. I lived up there for three years and I just can't recall. Another thing, you know, when you're in school, you're not here all the time....And there were a lot of changes. I know my folks used to rent these cottages for about \$300, from Memorial Day until Labor Day. When times were pretty good then. But then when the War came and the Depression, too, it affected the gasoline and how much money a person had, so they didn't rent well. They were rented, generally, for shorter terms. If people could get enough gas to spend one week or two weeks, but they didn't have enough to commute."

GC: "How about the 'Emma Giles'?"

JB: "Oh, I remember the 'Emma Giles', yes."

GC: "Did you ever go on board her?"

JB: "I don't think so, but when I was very small I went somewheres. I don't know what ...I don't think it was the 'Emma Giles'. I remember that one well, and seeing it going along the river ... back into the Galesville area."

GC: "But it was a different steamboat?"

JB: "I don't think it was a steamboat. But I went, I think, to Annapolis, and it was from a pier down here, kind of coming out of Parrish Creek and I think Gloria Shenton might know more about that."

GC: "They have a picture of that here. But I don't know anything about a steamboat that left out of there."

JB: "Well I don't know whether it was ...probably some kind of a motor boat?"

GC: "Like a ferry?"

JB: "Not that big, I don't think, but I just know...I just went on it once. And maybe it didn't make that much of an impression on me. I don't know why I don't remember."

GC: "Maybe you were scared?"

JB: "Maybe so. I was scared when I went to England."

GC: "Oh?"

JB: "Yes, when I was seven, my Dad wanted to go over there. And my mother and my brother...four of us went. And I can remember going from this little boat. It took us out to the big ocean liner, and I looked to the left and I looked to the right, and I couldn't see and looked up, and it just looked like a big wall. I guess I was small and maybe kind of timid, but it kind of frightened me. But we stayed over there from late fall until the spring, so I didn't go to school that year either. But that wasn't too unusual. I got moved around quite a lot, and it's kind of hard on a child to move because they have different methods of teaching, and even my handwriting... Sometimes they'd tell me to make it slant the other way. Instead of slanting to the right, make it slant to the left. And then one teacher told me 'No', she said 'don't press so hard', she said, 'you're writing too dark.' Oh, gosh. And when it came to the grammar, I think I had been taught the first three parts of grammar and the others had all eight in the next school, and you're supposed to know it all. So it does make it hard."

GC: "Sure. And they're still working on that today. It's still not the same all over the United States."

JB: "It does affect the children a great deal."

GC: "And you said you were six when your parents bought here?"

JB: "Yes."

GC: "How old were you when you moved here?"

JB: "Oh you mean for all year round?"

GC: "Yes."

JB: "I must've been ...born in 1915...I think it was in 73?..."

GC: "OK, so up until then you lived in DC?"

JB: "No, I moved from DC ... In 1941, I moved to Silver Spring, and Carol and Jack went to school out there in Silver Spring... stayed in that house."

GC: "OK, so nobody's ever gone to school around here from your family until...?"

JB: "Well now my stepson... he went to school here for a while...and my grandchildren. Rit's younger boy, Donald Busch, he went to high school down here for one year."

GC: "At Southern?"

JB: “Yes. He was 17, and one day Rit and I were riding along. Rit had picked me up at my girlfriend’s, and it was before ...shortly before we were married. We were riding along on...now I can’t think of the name of the street. Anyway, it doesn’t matter, we were riding and I looked over at a phone booth at the side of the road, and I said ‘Wait a minute, Rit, that looks like Donald in there in the phone booth.’ And sure enough, he was trying to find his father, and I saw him standing in the phone booth. And Rit says, ‘Well, what are you doing down here?’ And he said, ‘Well, I came down to live with you.’ He said, ‘I wanted to stay here.’ So, he was supposed to be in school, of course, but it seemed like he had broken up with his girlfriend because her grades were being affected and her parents didn’t like it. So Donald came down to live with us.

And one time in Silver Spring, when Rit and I had bought a house on Baden Street in Silver Spring, my next-door neighbor was talking to me over the fence and Donald came out and kissed me good-bye, and said ‘I’ll see ya Ma...I’m going to school now.’ And he went on down to Montgomery Blair High School, and my neighbor thought that he was my son, and I considered that a compliment because he was my stepson. And the day I married Rit, he said to me ‘This is something I’ve been wanting for a long time.’ And I thought that was real nice. And the other son seemed to be happy with his Dad marrying, too, because they weren’t...they didn’t really have a happy home before. The odd thing about it was their mother was my cousin; but she had problems, and I don’t think it was her fault, I think it was from her childhood and her father.

I still have a good relationship with the two boys, and Rit’s brother thanked me for taking such good care of his brother, because Rit wasn’t well for nine and a half years. But I would much rather take care of him than lose him. Because I knew it was time for him to go because each time he would have a stroke, it would affect his brain. But when we moved down here, we never regretted it. I had asked him, I said, ‘Where do you think you want to retire to? Do you want to stay in Silver Spring or do you want to come down here to Shady Side?’ He said he’d rather be down here. ‘So would I’, I said...’The beautiful Chesapeake Bay is a lot prettier than looking at another brick house next door.’ And so, we got to know more people when we moved down and became closer to a lot of them we’d known for quite a number of years. But it’s the ‘Land of Pleasant Living’, isn’t it?”

GC: “It sure is.”

JB: “And I’m glad I’m here, and I’m glad for the people that have come to Shady Side, but I’m really hoping that it’s not going to keep growing and that Deale doesn’t turn out to be like Edgewater. You get a big chain store, and then you get a lot more of them. That’s what I’m afraid of. Then that means wider roads, more traffic, more schools, more houses, and more problems for the Bay. What are we going to do? Lose our crabs, and fish, and oysters? I’d hate to think of that happening; but when I was a little girl, and you wanted a fish dinner, you’d just go out in a row boat way out in the Bay, and you could catch a half a dozen in no time ... pretty good-size ones. And you could

catch a lot more than that if you wanted to stay a while. But they did share them with the people, and they ate them.”

GC: “Did you crab much?”

JB: “Oh, I loved to crab, yes.”

GC: “And it used to be, you could just go around the shore with your basket and your tennis shoes on...”

JB: “That’s right.”

GC: “But you can’t do that any more.”

JB: “No. Now they say the swans are bothering the Bay.”

GC: “Yes.

JB: “They’re eating the grasses that are growing, and it’s important to have the grass for the young crabs and fish. I guess it puts oxygen into the water, too.”

GC: “Yes, I remember how much grass we used to have just as a kid, and we used to clear an area right next to our docks so we could swim without getting tangled in it, because it was a good 18” tall.”

JB: “There used to be spots here, and you could walk on a nice hard bottom, and you could feel the ripple, something about the water movement, I guess, caused that; but I could feel ... and I could look down and I could see my feet. They were little then! [Laughing.] And it was just so much fun...they played ball out there on the water. Sometimes we’d swim under a boat and up the other side.”

GC: “Did you have boats here for your renters?”

JB: “No, they rented them around in the creek.”

GC: “OK. So there were technically no piers here? Or were there piers coming up?”

JB: “Very small piers, at first because they were working on the houses; but they didn’t want to stay out of the water while they were building the house, so we had a little pier.”

GC: “Now were they local builders?”

JB: “Yes, they were local builders.”

GC: “You don’t happen to know their name, do you?”

JB: “No, but I think that some of my family probably do, I don’t remember. But they were more interested, I guess, in the construction of the houses. I do remember lying in bed and there was no ceiling, and you could look right up at the underside of the roof. We just had partitions in here for a while.” [Slight pause.]

“My mother was a wonderful woman.” [Another pause as Mrs. Busch puts on her glasses to refer to her notes.] “Well, maybe I should start by saying that my mother...she had a wonderful personality, and very outgoing. During the Depression, Roosevelt sent a lot of girls to work here in the government. And Mother became “Mom” to them, and sometimes she’d say, ‘I have to go down to Shady Side this weekend. Now, if you want to bring your bedding along.’ She said, ‘We have to make up your bed when you come home,’ she said, ‘because I won’t get around to it...but if you want to do that’, she said, ‘you can come down with me.’ And she would feed them and all. After my father died, well, during the War, they both went to Buffalo, New York... worked in airplane factories, and Mother was awarded for her work on the crankcases for planes.

When we moved after my Dad died, and I had married Rit, Mother, a widow, joined the Congregational Church on Colesville Road in Silver Spring; and she was the head of the senior group, and she seemed to be very popular. It was quite a big church. They had three ministers there, and one was a woman minister. And she said ‘Jenny,’ she said ‘I think you ought to have a little Bible lesson when you leave.’ My mother said, ‘No,’ she said, ‘I don’t want to do that.’ She said ‘they can read their Bibles at home, and they come to church. This is a social hour,’ and she said, ‘that’s what they want, just to get out and meet people and have a little social hour with them.’ And the younger women would make cakes, and they’d have tea or coffee, and Mother did that for quite a number of years. And then when she came down here...cause she lived with me. She came down here and she was into a fashion show that the church put on. She was 80 years old, but she didn’t look it, she didn’t act it, either. But when she died, Rit had been good to her, he always had, he said, ‘I loved that old lady.’ I thought it was real nice he felt that way about her because she was his mother-in-law.”

GC: “Sure. Now what year did she die?”

JB: “‘83...”

GC: “Now what year did she move down here with you?”

JB: “The same year we moved. Mama went with us. She lived with us in Silver Spring. She always lived with me. She raised me, and then I told her she was my little girl now when she got older. She was 93 when she died. But she had a stroke, and they called me in the night and told me they had bad news for me. And I said, ‘No, you don’t have bad news for me.’ I said ‘I was lucky to keep my mother till she was 93.’ I said ‘some people don’t have their mother for all those years, and,’ I said, ‘she was a good mother and a wonderful person.’ And I said ‘It was time for her to go, and she knew I loved her.’ [Slight pause.]

Yes. When I first came here it was, oh, by... I guess it was Mrs. Griffith. Her son was Coates, and his wife was the daughter of the Larsen that lived over here where Terrence Smith lives. They had four children – two girls and two boys, and when I was six or seven, early on when I came down here, I remember seeing ‘Putzs’ ... they called him. His name was Paul Coates in the baby carriage on the porch over there at the Salem Avery house. When...that’s the one...the same woman was Griffith, I think the name was, that my Dad bought these lots from; and it was divided up and called ‘Allview Manor’. From Doris’s house over to where Frisco was, a few lots beyond Ray Johnson, all along the waterfront here and back to the road...East West Shady Side Road. That area was called ‘Allview Manor’. Now whether it’s on my tax papers as ‘Allview Manor’, but I don’t know whether it’s on the others down by Nieman Road...down that way or not? So I’m not sure whether it was just named that...this parcel of land that was being divided between the Bay and East West Shady Side Road, as I recall and from the map I had, I should say, the plot shows Doris’s ...Doris Cole’s, and then right on down past the Salem Avery to Ray’s and those other three lots.”

GC: “Now I’ve never heard that term, ‘Allview Manor’.

JB: “You haven’t? Sometimes it’s right on the envelope I received from somewhere.”

GC: “No kidding?”

JB: “So some people know that’s the name of it any way.”

GC: “I mean I don’t even remember when East West Shady Side Road got its name, because when I was coming up, it was just the road by the ball field.”

JB: “Yes, yes. Well, it had other names, but it seemed like, one time, the firemen decided to change it for us.”

GC: “Sure.”

JB: “And they did. It’s Shady Side Road, and then there’s West Shady Side Road; but this one runs east, off of west, so it’s East West Shady Side Road. Well, they’re confusing. [Laughing – slight pause.] When the Coates people moved out, it was of the Salem Avery ... it was some Jewish people ... very fine group. And most of them were Masons don’t know where ... Masons ...quiet family. There ...they had I think eight bedrooms with half baths...eight of them ... it was eight families... and it was called ‘The Masonic Hunting and Fishing Club’. And finally it seemed like they were losing interest over the years ... their young ones ... and so many of the old ones had passed on; and then they were able to sell it to the Shady Side Rural Heritage. And Mrs. Andrews came to me, and she said, ‘Jane, would you object to having the historical society right next like that ... right close?’ I said, ‘Of course not. I think that it would be nice to have them there.’ It always has been a quiet place, I mean ... it’s not like a lot of young people with their loud music would be having partying or something over there. And this

whole area, you can't believe it sometimes. You could almost hear a pin drop. It's just no sound at all ...it's so quiet. But when the... of course when the families come, and the children, there's a little excitement, but that's what you want. You want the people to enjoy it, this spot, and I think they do.

"Mrs. Andrews used to come here to see my mother, and I hoped she came to see me, too. But Glorious and Howard would have dinner with Rit and I in the dining room, and I fixed dinner plates and put them up at the round table in the front of the room, for Mrs. Andrews and my mother, because both of them were hard of hearing, and one on one was much better for them. And besides they had things that they were interested in and wanted to talk about, and so it was very pleasant for them."

GC: "Now you mentioned a cooking class?"

JB: "Yes, there was a cooking class in that little place where they had the ... repairing the lawn mowers on, what is it 'Snug Harbor Road'? You know where I mean? Down near where Joe Ferguson lived at one time?"

GC: "OK, where you turn in to the youth lodge?"

JB: "No, it's on the other side of the road."

GC: "OK."

JB: "The same little place that ... what else did they do there?"

GC: "Is that where it says 'Sail Menders'?"

JB: "I guess it is. I don't go down that way very often, so..."

GC: "Right across from St. John's Church?"

JB: "I guess it is, about there."

GC: "OK, there was a cooking class there?"

JB: "Yes, and that was before I was married, so it was in the early '30s. They had several of them ... consecutive weeks. And we went with Margaret Park, Mrs. William

Park, next door, and her daughter, Annabelle, and Mother and I, and enjoyed seeing the folks and did a little baking down there and sometimes cooking. And the last day, we had little ticket stubs, and they were going to have a prize. And who won it but Margaret Park! She won a set of silver from them. And I got a recipe that had nothing to do with the prizes, it was just a recipe that they had for biscuits. And I used to make those real often, and I got pretty good at it, so I got lots of compliments. And I always told them that the recipe came from Shady Side."

GC: “What other things did they have you cook? Were they just normal things or were they things that were...that you found to be different from things you might have...?”

JB: “Oh, you know, it’s only about 65 years ago, and I don’t remember what else they were cooking.”

GC: “Oh. OK. They didn’t teach you how to make Hard Jelly Cakes or anything like that?”

JB: “No, I was going to say, that Hard Jelly Cake, no, they didn’t ... I’m sure they didn’t teach us that. But I know they’re very popular here. Some of the girls are offering to make them for you. I think they’re charging \$20 for them; but after all it’s a lot of work and good ingredients, and some local bakers.. I think Elaine Catterton is one, and Marguerite’s daughter...?”

GC: “Brenda Kirchner.”

JB: “Yes, Brenda Kirchner. I think they’re making them this year. Maybe some other girls, too, perhaps they’re making them for the church. I’ve had so much on my mind lately, but I do recall that they’re making the cakes, and I’ll have to order one.”

[A man’s voice interjects something to Jane, and she replies as follows:]

“Centenary Church started out down, I think, I believe in, down in Owensville. They moved ... it was a little frame church they moved to Galesville and brought it across the water and put it up to the present ... where it burned, and the little church was underneath the brick one. Rit, getting around like he did, he was under buildings, over them... everywhere - good thing he was not too big because he got around real well. He was up in between the two roofs of the old church and the one that ... the outer one that everybody could see. And he and Dick Higgins were taking a lot of shingles that had all come loose off of the old roof, and they took them out. I don’t know, afterwards ... it’s all been burned now. They’re going to build another church, and I think that it’s particularly important for the young people.”

[Male voice asks: “Well, was it bricked up before you came down here?]

JB: “Yes. I have that information over there by my fireplace in a booklet just when it was that they bricked it, and I thought it was a very pretty little church. But it had ...was badly in need of repair in various places, and it was coming along just fine when it burned. And four of my grandchildren were married there, and two ... I think it was just two babies christened there ... Bill Anderson’s boys. But I felt bad when it burned. It’s important for young people to have faith, because in your lifetime, there’s times when something seems to bother you, whether it’s someone’s health or your own, or your finances, or your love affairs, whatever. There’s problems that come with living, and if you have faith, it does a lot to help you through.”

GC: “Jane can you come tell us who’s in this picture by pointing at them?” [Holding black & white photograph in front of camera.]

JB: “Oh, that’s the Park family and the Yendell family that lived on Spring Road, and where the two sisters married two brothers in both houses. And the lady on the left here is Doris Cole’s mother, and her father is this man here. This is my Dad holding my little brother, and here’s my mother, right in there. And this is my dad’s brother, Will, and his wife, Fanny. And this is Jean Park, Margaret’s sister. And I think that the man that must’ve taken the picture was the man that she was about to marry. This is my uncle by marriage, my mother’s brother-in-law, and he had lost his wife the year before, and this is their daughter... my cousin Stelle, Annabelle Park, the baby, Bud Park, Jane Yendell, Richie Park and Bill Park.”

GC: “Did we get everybody?”

JB: “Yes, I think that’s everybody, and I think that was taken at Rock Creek Park where the two families used to... [Another black and white photo is now being shown of a house.] Not much to see [laughing]... plain little house with a porch on the front.”

GC: “Do you want to point out like where the kitchen was and that sort of thing?”

JB: “Kitchen’s on the back. This is the front porch.”

GC: “And what’s this? [Pointing to the right side of the house.]

JB: “Oh, that’s the bedroom. That’s where they go to bed.”

GC: “And...any other pictures in here...?”

JB: “This is the roof. Rit changed the roofline. He put a foundation under the house. He dug a basement room. He took out all the interior walls and replaced them. He built the cabinets in the kitchen and put them up, hung them up all by himself. I said, ‘Do you want me to help you hold them up?’ He said, ‘No, I’m used to doing that myself.’ Hold them up there and hammer!”

GC: “That’s incredible.” [Showing another photo of another house.]

JB: “It was. But you know he fell off the roof here and broke his back, yes. But that same summer, after his back healed, he was out there water skiing.” [Laughing. Attention turned to current photo.] “This is Carol’s house. Of course..? the porch? he took it right down.”

GC: “It doesn’t look anything like that any more.”

JB: “No.”

GC: "So this is the house that's immediately west of the Salem Avery House?"

JB: [Pointing to yet another photograph.] "Yes. And this is the one Jack has, see there's Carol's and Jack's, and this one was built just a little bit later the one in between."

GC: "And these two houses are really close together?"

JB: "Yes, look how little the trees are, and they went way up. You would never believe. [Looking at still another photo taken to the left of Jack's house.] See this ... then this blue house that's next door, McQueenies have now, was right in here. And that's Jack's and that's Carol's. This booklet was put together for renting purposes."

[Another photo of a group of people standing in the water is now being identified by Jane.]

"And that's more of my family relatives. My mother had twenty-five people for a week the first summer they were here."

GC: "So this is like your advertising brochure here."

JB: "Yes." [Explaining another photo of the water, etc.] "And there's some steps going down to the water, and that's Mr. Park's boat. Mr. William Park." [Another photo is shown.] "And that's my mother here in the water with her hands up in the air."

GC: "So somebody was out in the water taking this picture?"

JB: "Yes, my Dad, my uncle and my aunt."

GC: "Glad you knew that."

JB: "Yes." [Another more scenic photo of shoreline is shown.] "And that's just a picture taken across the water ... little bitty pier." [Another photo of two people sitting on a bench overlooking the water is shown.] "And that was the way they had made a path around a flower bed in the middle at one of the cottages, and a couple of my uncles sitting out there on a bench." [Another photo is then shown.] "And I think that's a boat swing in that picture, too."

GC: "A boat swing?"

JB: "Yes, you know. Well, that's what they used to called it."

GC: "Oh, where you sit across from each other."

JB: "Yes."

[Camera now moves outside and shows exterior of Jane Busch's house and the road just outside the fence. It then moves out to the pier on the water and shows the waterfront side of Jane's house and the other current houses that face the water to the west of the Salem Avery House.]

TAPE ENDS
