

Orleans County Historical Association

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Orleans County Historical Association

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Mrs. Josephine Andersson Tuttle
Ridge Road (Jeddo)
Medina R.D., New York

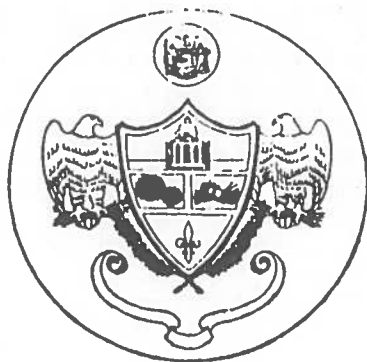
Josephine A. Tuttle was born March 19, 1902.

The interview was conducted by Helen McAllister of Medina.

T Tuttle

Mc McAllister





Orleans County Historical Association

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The purpose of this project is to collect information about the historical development of Orleans County by means of tape-recorded conversations with people whose experiences reflect the county's growth.

These tapes and transcriptions will be preserved as educational resources and possible publication (all or in part).

I hereby release this tape and transcription to the Orleans County Historical Association.

Josephine A. Tuttle
Signed

May 9, 1980
Date

Understood and agreed to:

Helen M. McAllister
INTERVIEWER

May 9, 1980
Date

M For ORLEANS COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION May 9, 1980,
Helen McAllister of Medina, New York is interviewing
Mrs. Josephine Tuttle of Jeddo, New York.

T I was born in Buffalo on March 19, 1902. My father was
Charles John Anderson of Finland, and my mother was Eva
Morehouse Anderson of Jeddo. (Andersson)

M You had one sister ?

T One sister.

M What was her name ?

T Jeannette. Viola Jeannette. She was named after
Grandmother and my aunt.

M She later married - -

T Francis O'Brien of Medina.

I think Grandfather came from Tully with his wife Ruth
and his father came with them. His father didn't live
very long after they got here because he's buried in a
little cemetery on the Mill Road just off from the County
Line.

M What was your great-grandfather's name ?

T Ambrose G. What the G. stands for I haven't any idea.

M And his father's name ?

T His father's name was Joel.

M They came in about 1837 ?

T In 1837 they bought a tract of land on the County Line
just this side of what is now North Ridgeway. Probably
an eighth of a mile maybe from North Ridgeway. **Great, great, great**
Grandfather was Ambrose G. Morehouse and he evidently started
operation of a shingle mill on Johnson's Creek on the
Johnson Farm. In 1838 he hired some men, young men
probably, from \$9.00 to \$11.00 a month.

M And at this shingle mill, what were those shingles like ?

T ~~The shingles were the~~ - - - I suppose they were the old
thick butt shingles ~~that they used on~~ - - - like they use
now on the restorations. They weren't like the ordinary
shingles that we know about.

- M He operated that mill for about 10 years, didn't he ?
- T I think so.
- M Did he also have grain, there, and stock ?
- T Yeah, because he had a farm so he must have had other things.
- M North Ridgeway was on the County Line Road about 2½ miles north of Route 104?
- T Yes, and there was a Post Office there, too. And that was operated in the - - - part of the time by Alice Johnson. She was Uncle Truman's sister . And then by Mrs. Shephard on the Mill Road; she also operated it for a time.
- They lived in a log cabin and after a while they must have got money enough together so that they felt affluent enough to build a house.
- M Is that when they came to this place ?
- T No, 1851. The cornerstone is still there with his initials and the date 1851 on it.
- M Whereabouts is this now ?
- T Well that's on the farm that where he lived.
- M Well when did they come to this - - - your home now ?
- T Well then they - - - he had four daughters and they didn't like living down there in the mud. Because if anybody ever came up the County Line, or if you never did come up the County Line in mud, you've never seen mud! It would go clear to the hubbs. I know what it's like. So they moved out from down there and left their new house and everything and came up here.
- M Was this house standing at the time ?
- T There was a house here but it wasn't as big as this one. Then 10 years after they came up here the house burned. In a terrible storm one February night; below zero. And my grandmother's sister lived almost across the road and they went over stayed with her while they built their new house. The house was planned and let out for contract to "Hy"Robertson in Middleport Lumber Company. Hiram built the house for, guess what ?
- M I don't know.
- T \$1775.00.

- M Oh my ! That was a bargain!
- T That was in 1875.
- M So this house has been standing since 1875 ?
- T 1875.
- M Have you added on, or has it been added on to since that time ?
- T No.
- M This is a large house.
- T Well when they rebuilt, they built it back on the old wall.
- ~~M On the what ?~~
- T ~~On the old wall.~~ They built on the two back rooms; what's the kitchen and the den now, was new wall. They made a bigger house of it. I don't know very much about the old house, only it was one of those that you went upstairs and the roof came down to meet you half-way, and you bumped your head as you went up. My grandfather was six feet tall and he didn't want a new house that did that. When they lived on the County Line, there was a group of them got together and at first they had a Debating Society.
- M This was about 1850 ?
- T Around 1850. And they debated any current topics.
- M Now would this be men and women ?
- T Just men, I think. But I think there was some of the meetings that there were women at; but not very many, nor very long.
- M That would be about the time of the Civil War. Would they have talked about that ?
- T Probably.
- M And slavery ?
- T And women's rights and so on. I think they brought that up.
- M Would that be through the winter time when they were pretty much snow-bound ?
- T That was in the winter. In Grandfather's diary it mentions occasionally a party, and that they went to visit one of their neighbors; but I don't think there was very much social life at all that they had. They didn't seem to have.
- M Another winter they had another society that I thought was quite interesting.

T They had - - - well the minutes are all in the same book, the Debating Society and the Anti-Swearing Society.


~~M Anti-Swearing.~~

T And if they had broken the rules during the week, why they had to ^{PAY} I think, a penny for each time that they broke it.

M Did they keep track of their own swear words ?

T I think they did. I think they kept track of them. It was honor system.

M Now how long did that go before they went bankrupt ?

T Well ~~I don't think that they~~ - - - it didn't last only maybe a year or two. But evidently they tried anyway. It would have been a good thing maybe if they had kept it up. 

M ~~Your grandfather, Ambrose, and his wife Ruth~~ - - - Your great-grandfather, Ambrose, and his wife Ruth were here, is that right ?

T Well there's one other thing that I want to tell about before they got away from down there. It might be interesting! In 1852 - - I found an item in his ledger - - that William Pulfer went to work for him on the 14th of April. He was to get \$14.00 a month for five months. And the first month his ledger showed up that he had a \$1.50 for shirts, he had three pairs of stockings at 2 shillings a pair which is 75¢, cost for pants \$1.50, cash 13¢, 2 fiddle strings 40¢. So they would part with their hard earned money for that even a little bit. Boots \$3.00, cloth for pants and cutting \$3.45, a coat \$1.50, hat and band 33¢, \$1.00 cash, and \$1.00 to buy - - and I can't figure out what that word is - - - but \$1.00 to buy what ? ~~But at any rate he had - - - and~~ it came to \$14.10 he had out of that, \$1.13 ~~to~~ - - for spending money. Ambrose

died the 5th of August and they were supposed to move in the 1st of September. That was according to the contract. The house was to be finished the 1st of September. So he probably never did live in it.

M So then what happened ?

T Well then Grandmother - - - Great-grandmother, and she had one daughter that lived with her, She had come home. Her husband was in the Civil War.

That was Maria Hinman. Her husband was killed after the war was over, ~~because~~ Communications were so poor that the word didn't get through that the war had stopped, and he was killed after the war was over. His name was Willis Hinman and is on the roster down there in Mount Albion Cemetery, in the Tower.

M That was a tragedy. Then they came to this house ?

T My ^{great} grandmother and Aunt Maria lived here, and my grandfather and grandmother when they were married had built the second house down from here. And they lived there with their three children until Grandma Morehouse died in 1885. She died and Aunt Maria took their house for her part, and they moved over here. My grandfather and his family moved over here onto the aunt's farm.

M And that would have been about what year ?

T That was about 1885.

M Your grandfather was Seymour Morehouse and he married Viola Baker Morehouse? - Yes .

T Well when the oldest daughter, Jeanette, or "Nettie" as they called her, was nine years old they decided that she should have music lessons. She had singing ability. So they bought a Haines Piano, an old square, cost \$300.00 which was a lot of money in those days. And she went to Medina on the stage.

M On the stage - - stage-coach ?

T On the stage-coach. Well, the stage - - - it wasn't a stage-coach - - - it was the stage that they called it.

M What's the difference ?

T Well the stage-coach goes between villages and so on, but this stage brought the mail out and left it in Ridgeway and Jeddo and went to North Ridgeway, and then they came back up and went to Medina. And so if you wanted to go to Medina why you took the stage and then they brought you back at night and I think it cost 50¢ to go to Medina and back.

M And she went into Medina ?

T Went into Medina and had lessons. And there was one of her teachers that was named Miss Gunn, but I think that was a Buffalo teacher rather than one in Medina but I'm not sure.

- M Did you take lessons later ?
- T Later.
- M On the same piano! So, you still have this large piano in your front room.
- T Well, the other aunt had it for quite a few years 'till it finally came back. My folks had an upright that they bought up in Buffalo. An old Krakaur. It was a great big heavy thing.
- M So your grandparents and your mother and her two sisters lived here.
- T Unhuh, and had the farm. My grandmother - - well she did that when she was over in the other house - - - she ran a dry-house. There was a barn and they used the barn to cut, slice and peal 'em. And then she had a brick - - - well it was like a huge chimney - - only it probably was - - oh six or eight feet square.
- M Is this the kiln ?
- T And they used wooden racks to dry the apples on. I have one of them upstairs in the attic now.
- M You have told me that your mother went to school in Lockport, and then she went to Buffalo to school, and became ill so she was home for a while; but she did go back and eventually finished and got her degree there. Well, while she was in Buffalo she went to a Good Templers Meeting ?
- T Unhuh, because she belonged to the Good Templers Lodge here in Jeddo. There was a very active Good Templers Lodge here for years.
- M Yes, now the Good Templer's Lodge was primarily^{an} anti-drinking lodge, but lots of sociability ?
- T It was very social, really.
- M And there she met the man who was to become your father ?
- T Unhuh.
- M Would you tell me a little bit about your father ? Your father was Charles Andersson.
- T That's the Finish spelling. He was born in Finland and he lived there until he was ten years old. 'Till he was ten years old he stayed home. And then the summer that he was ten he sailed with a cousin on what they called a "Coaster";

it was a ship that went from one port to another on the Baltic and delivered goods.

M That ship eventually went down to the Cape of Good Hope ?

T Then later - - - he sailed on a - - that was a bigger ship that he sailed on. And he went down around the coast of Africa to Good Hope and around Good Hope and up into the Indian Ocean.

M You were telling me that in that area they were taking a cargo of lumber, loaded by some Kafir Tribe. Would you tell me about that ?

T They loaded the ship with, of course, with native help.

M What were they like ?

T They were Kafirs. That was the tribe. And they were tall, big strong men, apparently but as they loaded the ship they had to chant and swing the lumber; and if they had to stop chanting, they couldn't have picked up a tooth-pick. They were like that. That would be about 100 years ago.

M Well he came with the freight crew across the ocean.

T ~~was~~ For the crew's meals, they loaded sweet potatoes and mutton. He never could look any sweet potatoes or mutton in the face again, because that's what he had for, I don't know, for two or three months while they sailed to Barbados, with the exception of a few fish that they caught. And otherwise ~~they~~ - - - that was what the crew ate.

M Eventually he got to New York and worked for Pulitzer on his yacht ?

T A-yah, And it was a crew of 20 on the yacht. It was a very palatial - - - he was a publisher. (Pulitzer)

M He eventually came to the Great Lakes and was First Mate on the lake freighter up through Sault Sainte Marie ?

T Sailed up to Duluth. And I think their cargo was lumber too. Well I don't know just how long he did that - - 2 or 3 years probably.

M He took care of the ships during the winter ?

T He took care of the ships through the winter and while he

was taking care of the ship one winter he developed rheumatic fever and was in the hospital a while. And then when he came off he decided that he wasn't going back on the lake again and ~~he ran~~, I think for a while, he ran a tobacco store; and then he went into real estate.

M In Buffalo?

T In Buffalo, ~~and~~ I think that at that time was when he met my mother.

They were married in 1896 and he was still in the real estate business then. But then the Panic of 1898 kind of finished up the real estate, 'Cause there wasn't anything going on; you couldn't beg, borrow or steal a job and so you couldn't buy a house very well. So he gradually worked into the grading ^{and} sodding business; or we'd call it landscaping, I suppose now. He had teams and men cutting sod. And then cut sod out south of Buffalo in the grass.

M He worked in cemeteries ?

T Cemeteries and lawns and parks; and at the time of the Pan American ^{EXPO} ₄ ^{WAS} that [^] what he was doing. ~~And~~ He bought the Nebraska Sod House. It was a "Soddy". ~~And~~ The sod had been shipped from Nebraska and a house built just like the ones that the settlers lived in out there. That was the Nebraska exhibition. And he bought it at the end of the Pan American - ¹⁹⁰¹ - I think he bought the Sod House for \$25.00 - - ~~that~~ You could buy anything pretty near your own price. ~~There was only one of the whole Pan American there~~ ~~was only one building, that's~~ The Historical Building - - is the only building that is left. Everything else has been torn down.

M Well now, when he bought the Sod House from Nebraska, he also bought with that small amount of money, a desk, a beautiful bureau that you have; right ?

T Unhuh. A Black Walnut bureau with marble; a Victorian kind of a thing.

They came down here in 1904. My grandmother had been

running the farm for five years after Seymour's death and she didn't feel good; she couldn't do it anymore. She had two different men that did work for her, and One of them turned out to be my uncle later. Thomas Copeland married Jessie, the youngest sister.

M So your father and mother moved to Jeddo at that time ?

T To Jeddo, unhuh.

M Into this house ?

T Into this house. It's been home, off and on, ever since.

M How large a farm was this at that time ?

T It's 80 acres.

M 80.

T 'Course, I was born in Buffalo in 1902, so I was two years old when they came out here. And they brought me along, of course, and well, I grew up here.

M And your father was working this farm ?

T Was running the farm, yeah. He had some stock and grain and beans and although it wasn't very good bean land - - too weedy. 'Course there was always wood. Cutting wood was a regular job all winter.

M People used wood for fuel?

T They used it for fuel.

M Your mother worked in the house and helped on the farm ?

T Unhuh. And then Dad started setting orchards. There was just one six acre orchard and that was old when they came here.

M What kind of fruit was that ?

T That was apples, all kinds. And there was an old peach orchard down by the woods, too; but they were Crawfords and things like that. And the orchard that was out here, up near the house, the apple orchard; I think that must have had at least a dozen different kinds of apples in it. There was everything that you could name, almost. Then he started setting orchards and while they were waiting for the orchards to grow he set berries in between.

M Now why did they do that ?

T Well so that they would have an income, because it takes

To

ten years for you|really get production out of an apple orchard.

M So while the apple trees are growing the berries are producing.

T The berries come on. And in the lower land we put Black-caps or black-raspberries and along both sides on the Ridge, we had quite a little frontage, we used that for red-berries. So's we'd have about 20 crates at a picking and 32 quarts to the crate. And he had a light Spring Wagon and a young team and so about 10 o'clock at night, this was when I was about 10 or 11 years old, we'd start out for Akron, which was 20 miles, and we'd get in there, oh maybe, 2 o'clock in the morning and sleep in the wagon the rest of the night and then go into the - -

~~M You and your father?~~

T ~~And go into the~~ hotel - - - we pulled into a hotel shed and we'd go in there and have our breakfast and get washed up, and then we'd go out and start up the street. And that's all you had to do; you didn't have to shout or anything, you just drove up the street and the people would come out and pretty soon you'd be all unloaded.

M They'd buy all of your berries?

T Unhuh.

M How much did you sell them for?

T Well, we got 20¢ a quart for Black-caps and, I think, a quarter for the red ones. Sounds kind of ridiculous but it did make a good cash crop for that time of year because the expenses are always heavy in the Spring and if you have something that comes on And then he set cherries out on the gravel too, where there was gravel, we set cherries and gradually went out of the berries and into the other kinds of fruit.

M I think you were telling me that on the way home you would stop in Middleport and get a treat. Tell me about it.

T ~~We did.~~ Well coming down through from Akron to Middleport there's an awful lot of just hot, dry riding to do and

The extra money helps.

by the time we got to Middleport we'd be pretty well parched, so we stopped at the ice-cream parlor and had a chocolate sode, which was a real treat at that time!

T The first orchards we didn't have to spray - - - or they didn't anyway. ~~maybe~~ They would have had better fruit probably if they had. But there was ~~this~~ San José Scale ^{disease} ~~came~~ from California and affected the fruit trees and it was killing the apples, so everybody started spraying. Our first outfit was a barrel with a cistern pump, a pitcher pump. (see photo)

~~M Ditcher pump?~~

T Pitcher pump; that's what they call those cistern pumps, I think. Hitched to a long - - it was a steel, hollow steel rod, with a cross bar at the end so that there were two nozzles on the end of it and it was quite a thing to hold that up all day to spray.

M It's changed some now, hasn't it?

T And then he bought a rig - - it was pretty soon; I think probably he didn't do that only a year or so. And then he bought a commercial spray rig in Medina from a Mr. Bennett, I don't know what his first name was, For \$135.00.

M That's changed too.

T Yes.

M Did that improve the fruit?

T It got the scales! You put on lime ~~xxxxxx~~ and sulfur solution. At that time where they sold the spray material - - - well I think at first we made our own. Bought lime and sulfur powder and boiled them in a kettle, an iron kettle outside, and mixed it up that way and put that on. And it had to be a real strong solution. It was one part of that to eight parts of water and that killed the scale, but it had to be done early or it would burn the trees.

M I should think it would have caused damage to the people that would be using it too.

~~T No.~~

~~M No?~~

T No, I don't think so.

THE JEDDO COMMUNITY

- M Mrs. Tuttle, before you were born, Jeddo was quite a thriving community on Route 104 and in 1887, you were telling me, about the community with the stores. Would you tell that again ?
- T There were two stores. One of them was run by Albert Mietz and the other by Josiah Payne and they were nearly across the road from each other. The Payne store was a - - the larger of the two and he carried more things. He also had the Post Office when - -
- M When the Republicans were in ?
- T When Administration was Republican; when it was Democratic it was up in the shoe shop. I'll tell you more about that.
- M I had hoped you would tell about the penny candy, and the penny dolls.
- T Well the penny dolls were X small - - oh they were probably two inches tall, high, and they were china with a wire that ran through the shoulder so that they had movable arms; but the legs were solid. And then they had a little dab of hair stuck on the top, so that we had quite a doll. And then we made clothes for them.
- M And they only cost a penny ?
- T A penny, unhuh.
- M Did they have a face ?
- T Yep.
- M Were they all alike ?
- T All like, unhuh. But even at that time I don't know how they could have turned them out for that much, but that's what they were.
- M And then you also got penny candy ?
- T Penny candy, unhuh. I had a penny every Monday morning to walk down to the store. That was a real big deal before I started going to school. I did that every Monday morning.
- M I think you said also that Josiah Payne's store was quite a variety store, he also sold farm machinery ?
- T Farm machinery. He built a shed to the east side of the building and he had all kinds of farm machinery.

Drags and things in there. Of course they sold kerosene and molasses. All the molasses, of course, came in a barrel. You took a jug and got your molasses.

M Everything really was not pre-packaged ?

T Nothing was packaged ! And crackers were in a barrel.

M Would Mr. Payne's store and Mr. Mietz's store be competition for each other ?

T Unhuh, yeah they were. But they were both good stores and I think both of them ran routes. They'd go around and take orders and then deliver. And then ~~when~~ - - - ~~course after~~ Mietz's went to the farm.

~~M Mietz's went what ?~~

T Mietz left the store and rented it to his nephew, Carl Munzel. Then Carl had a wagon - - - I think he must have had it built probably, because it was a traveling store. And he went all around the country. He had a different route every day, and he kept horses.

M Is he the one that had the wagon shop ?

T Then he was only there in Mietz's old store for a short time, I don't know just how many years, but it wasn't long. And then he bought the wagon shop.

M Now the wagon shop was where ?

T Was next to the church.

M And there was a blacksmith shop underneath this store ?

T But then he used the whole building for his store and there wasn't a blacksmith shop there anymore. Then there was a blacksmith shop that was built up next to the mill. And that's been torn down, of course, since.

M Was there also a shoe shop ?

T There was a shoe shop and that was ~~up~~ - - - ~~that was~~ where Gilbert's is now.

M Who ran that shoe shop ?

T Jim Fitzgerald.

M Were the shoes ready made ?

T No. No he made shoes.

~~M He made the shoes ?~~

~~T He made the shoes.~~

M How would you get fitted for a pair of shoes ?

T Well, I suppose he Took your measurments and you bought the leather and made the shoes. And I think ~~that's~~ - - he was a - - - well now I don't know whether he came ~~from~~ - - ~~came~~ over, or whether his father did.

M Came over from ?

T Came over from Ireland.

M You also had two churches, There were ~~also~~ two churches in Jeddo in 1887. One was a Seventh Day Adventist. Where was that located ?

T That was on the corner of the County Line and 104.

M That building is still standing. And then there was the Jeddo Chapel which was Baptist in denomination, in connection with another church in Johnson Creek. Where were those pews made ?

T They were made in the wagon - shop next door. And they're made of ~~XXXXXXXX~~ chestnut, and that came out of Brown's woods. Jeremiah Brown.

~~M Now what Brown is that ?~~

~~T Jeremiah.~~

Mc Jeremiah Brown's _____ eventually became the home of Horace Bird. The church pews came out of their woods.

T ~~And~~ Horace's father was working for Mr. Brown at the time and he took the logs to Middleport and had them sawed, ~~and~~ Then they brought them back and made them in the wagon shop.

M ~~Now~~ This is Singleton's Wagon Shop, isn't it ?

T Unhuh. Then there was the miller, his name was Gus Smith, and he made the hymnal racks out of red oak.

~~M ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ He made the what ?~~

T

~~M Jim Cromwell.~~

T ~~He~~ Jack Cromwell's mother was one of the ten Fitzgeralds. (ten children in the family)

~~M And he has a picture ?~~

T He has the picture that Kit painted from memory, of the shoe shop, hanging over his fireplace.

M Now, who painted this picture ?

T Kit Mahar. Kit Fitzgerald Mahar. She was another one of the Fitzgerald children.

M I see, well that's interesting.

T And then Minnie Watson, Robert Watson's wife, was another one.

M I think at Christmas time there was something that was really of interest, too.

T Yes there certainly was. It was the thing that made Christmas real big, I think, in Jeddo. Almer Brown, who owned the ^{HORACE} Bird farm, ~~he had gone out to~~ - - - his wife and ~~only son~~ only son died - - - and so he went out to Ohio and managed ^{the} estate ^{of} an uncle, Judge Brown. But his attachment for Jeddo was very strong, ~~and~~ every summer he spent most of the summer buying buckels and belts and scarfs and towels and all kinds of jewelry - - quite a little jewelry and things - - - and put them all in a barrel and sent them to Birds home.

M Would they be wrapped up individually?

T No, they was just things all in a barrel.

M And sent it to the home of Horace Bird?

T Of Horace Bird. And Horace's mother! I never thought about it until years afterwards, what a job it must have been to ^{HAVE} had a whole barrel of things come in. And when people came to Christmas exercises on Christmas Eve there was a present for everybody with their name on it.

M Everybody in the community - - -

T Everybody in the community! The church was packed! They used to have to bring in chairs. And it was real big - - - Christmas Eve was Big! And the tree was just loaded, you know, with presents.

M What kind of a tree did they have?

T They had a hemlock and that was out of Truman Johnson's woods. He bought it up on the bobs. (bob-sled)

M Well that's wonderful.

You said that you went to school at the age of 7 to a one room school-house and the first year you became ill with Scarlet Fever?

T Scarlet Fever. I spent six weeks in one room.

M You were quarantined?

T Quarantined. With a big red sign on the door. Scarlet Fever it said on it.

M Your sister had it at the same time ?

T Same time, she was 2 months old.

M Who was the doctor ? Dr. Roach ?

T Dr. Roach, I think. I wouldn't say for sure about that - - - that was a long time ago. So to entertain me, Mother thought of all the things she could think of and she read quite a lot and then she got out the wax work that her mother had done.

M Now when you say wax works you're talking about very thin pieces, little squares, of wax ?

T Little sheets of wax. ~~They made them into~~ - -
Grandma used to sit in front ^{of} the stove so that they'd be warm and just the right temperature. You couldn't have them too warm because they'd melt. And most of them were wooden crosses and they would be all covered with the wax.

M Did she make them into flowers ?

T And then she made flowers. I think that most of them had a kind of a spray of flowers drapped over them. They bought the little insides for the flowers, the stamens and pistils, and then put them together and she sold them. And they covered them with a glass dome. Most of them had walnut base. I think they got those domes for about \$1.25. Probably a small dome would sell for \$5.00 and then the larger ones - - - there were some quite big ones - - - oh maybe they were maybe 18 inches high.

M You made some of these too ?

T I didn't really do much at it, I just played with it. But Grandma did it to sell.

M They had to be kept in a cool room after they were made, didn't they ? In a cool parlor?

T Unhuh. They didn't want to be too cold because then the wax cracked, I expect. You never see them around; for some reason I suppose they disintegrated, probably.

M You went through eighth grade in six years ? That's when you could skip grades in school.

T You could do that then.

M Go as fast as you could.

- T ~~We had four teachers.~~ I had four teachers.' Mrs. Ben Davis the first year, and Russell Silsby the second, and then three years Marie Yerge was there, and the last year was Louella Collins.
- M And eventually you went to Middleport school.
- T Went to Middleport. Drove a horse, Or rode horse-back sometimes.
- M And you graduated from Middleport High School in 1919? and then you went to - - - ?
- T ~~1919~~. I went to Middleport in 1915; started in Middleport. Graduated in 1919.
- M And from there you went to Alfred University.
- T Alfred, two years. I took Home Economics one year and then Rural Teaching Training the next year. And then I taught one year between Dansville, and Hornell up on North Oak Hill.
- M That was a one room school-house you taught in ?
- T That was a one room schoolhouse.
- M And then you came back home; decided teaching was not for you?
- T Not for me! No, it wasn't.
- M You've always liked the farm, haven't you ?
- T Always. A very strong attachment.
- M Well that would be about the time of World War I. Do you have any memories of World War I ?
- T Well, the things ^{to} eat, I guess probably was the thing - - - and the boys having to go.
- M You said several friends were gassed. They used gas on them?
- T Yes, the Germans used gas. There was one older brother of a friend of mine that was badly gassed.
- M How did you celebrate the Armistice ?
- T I went to Lockport to a street dance on the big bridge. And the blocks that the bridge is covered with, were like - - - about like bricks - - only they were made of wood and after an evening of dancing - - wooden blocks - -
- M Even though you were only 16, it really "did you in."
- T It really did.
- M Well, eventually you went to Bryant and Stratton and



after eight months you went to work up in Buffalo and eventually you met your husband, Harold. Where did you meet him ?

T Well I think he came up one night with some friends. We went out to a dance at Lakeshore and that was it.

M That was it ! After dating 2½ years you were married, in Buffalo, in 1931.

T Dr. Purdy the Presbyterian minister. (Andrew Purdy)

M And then you had a honeymoon in Cleveland, Ohio and then what ? Did you work the farm ?

T We went to Ashwood and worked the farm for Bert Hise on shares. (Albert Hise)

M You did that for about 2 years ?

T 2 years. It was a 90 acre farm and there was quite a lot of fruit.

M Now when did you come back to this homestead ?

T The spring of 1934.

M And then you became farmers in earnest ?

T Farmers, unhuh. Yeah. ~~And~~ Harold was brought up on the farm, on the Lakeshore. Their family were settlers down there too.

M From this marriage you had several children? would you tell me - -

T Well we had four. Doris Marie.

M Who married George Hinkson.

T And Virginia.

M Who married - -

T Gerald Stipp, And Harold, Jr. married Gail Palmer. And Katherine married Ed Olear, Edwin.

M Mrs. Tuttle, in talking about your own family, reminds me that you were telling me when you were a youngster you went to your uncle Truman Johnson's for Thanksgiving and that you adults and children shared more than the dinner ?

T Yeah, we shared - - - I don't know what there was to it - - - it was a different experience than anything else, I think. And this went on for about 50 years; that we went there every Thanksgiving. Our children all grew up going down there and it was very close, a

very close family.

M And you always went for a hike through the woods ?

T We went for a hike through the woods, unless it was very bad or some reason. One or two years, I think, the snow was kind of deep but mostly we hiked in the woods.

M You said you and your cousin, Hector ~~their son, Hector~~ Johnson, were very close and that he collected bird's eggs ?

T Bird's eggs and - - - he was six years older than I and 'course anything that he did was - - and not having any brother or anything, why he took the place of a brother. And I spent a lot of time down there anyway. So, of course, if that's what he did, that was the thing to do. So I collected bird's eggs. And also, with some of the girls up here, I collected butterflies and moths and things. I had quite a collection at one time, but I think the bugs got into them. I still have the eggs.

M Going back to memories. What do you remember about the rag man that used to come through ?

T Well there was one that - - he was a Jew, Jewish man.

M He would come in the springtime ?

T In the springtime, and he always had a load of pineapples and you would get your rag bag out and he'd buy up the rags, and you would get so many pineapples for whatever rags you had.

M What did he use the rags for ?

T Well they were processed and, I think, used for fine writing paper at that time. That was the use that they put them to ~~at~~ - - - the linen paper.

M Did he wear any special kind of clothing ?

T No, I don't think so.

M What do you remember about the Gypsies that you said came through ?

T Well they came through with their wagons and their horses. It was kind of a colorful procession but you always kept your eye out and ^{looked} ~~look~~ things up pretty good.

M What about the hoboes that came through ?

T Well they would come to your door sometimes and sometimes they'd ask for food and sometimes they'd ask for a job. And sometimes they'd come, they'd ask you if they could have a meal and they'd cut some wood. ~~and~~ There was always wood to cut.

M They usually came in the spring or the summer?

T The spring and the summer. ~~and~~ Sometimes they'd stay for maybe a week or two, but they never stayed very long. I think besides a lot of them being alcoholics that their main trouble was that they just could not stay "nailed down." If they stayed more than a week, why, you were lucky.

M You said that they would sometimes stay under the maple trees on the County Line Road ?

T On the Ridge. There was a row of beautiful maples that went from the County Line Road to the ~~bridge~~, with a foot path underneath, And they'd lie along under the trees.

M But your folks did hire some of the men to work ?

T Oh, we did.

M And they slept in the house ?

T Some of them did.

M And ate with you ?

T Oh, they always ate with us. We were still doing that when my husband and I were farming; they were still coming through. ~~and~~ Then it got so that the hoboes didn't come anymore, ~~and then~~ They began bringing in the blacks from the south, and the migrants.

M Did you hire any migrant workers ?

T We never hired any migrants. No, it didn't work out unless you could hire a lot of them and we never had that much help. We never expanded that much. See the Reservation isn't very far from us here.

M What Reservation is that ?

T The Tonawanda.

M And Indians used to come through ?

T Used to come through with a load of baskets.

M Baskets that they had made ?

T That they had made. Oh, they're beautiful things.

They're very choice now; if you have a good Indian basket they stopped that. Oh, quite a lot of years

ago - - that they didn't do that anymore. But those did come through and every year you bought a basket. Grandmother's sister ~~was a~~ - - did hairwork.

M That was Eliza?

T Eliza Oliphant. She later married William Arlington.

~~M She made what?~~

T She made hair switches. Women would save their combings in a shoe box and bring them to her and then she'd take - - - it was a frame that was set up - - - it was probably about 2 feet long and the posts were maybe 18 inches high. And then she strung those with thread and then she'd take little bits of clumps of hair and straighten them all out ~~and~~ so that the ends were all even and then she would turn the ends over and weave them in to this tread that she had on the rack. And when she got through she could pull that - - - the two ends of the string so that it made a tight knot and then she twisted it up and put a loop in the end and milady put a hairpin in it, and pinned it on the back of her head.

M It added hair to her own hair?

T Added that to her own hair. And it was her own hair that it was made of so that it matched exactly because she brought the combings.

M Now this was before women bobbed their hair?

T Unhuh. That was when they had long hair. ~~and~~ They'd save every combing because they wanted a big wad to put in the back ^{of the head} to run their hatpins through. The bigger wad you had, the better.

M Did Eliza also make hair-weaths or flowers?

T No. Grandfather's sister, ~~Myxx~~ Maria, was the one that made the hair-weaths.

M Were they made in a similar way?

T ~~They were made - - it was wire.~~ I think the flowers were made of wire, twisted with hair - - or probably the hair wound around the wires and then the wires twisted into flowers.

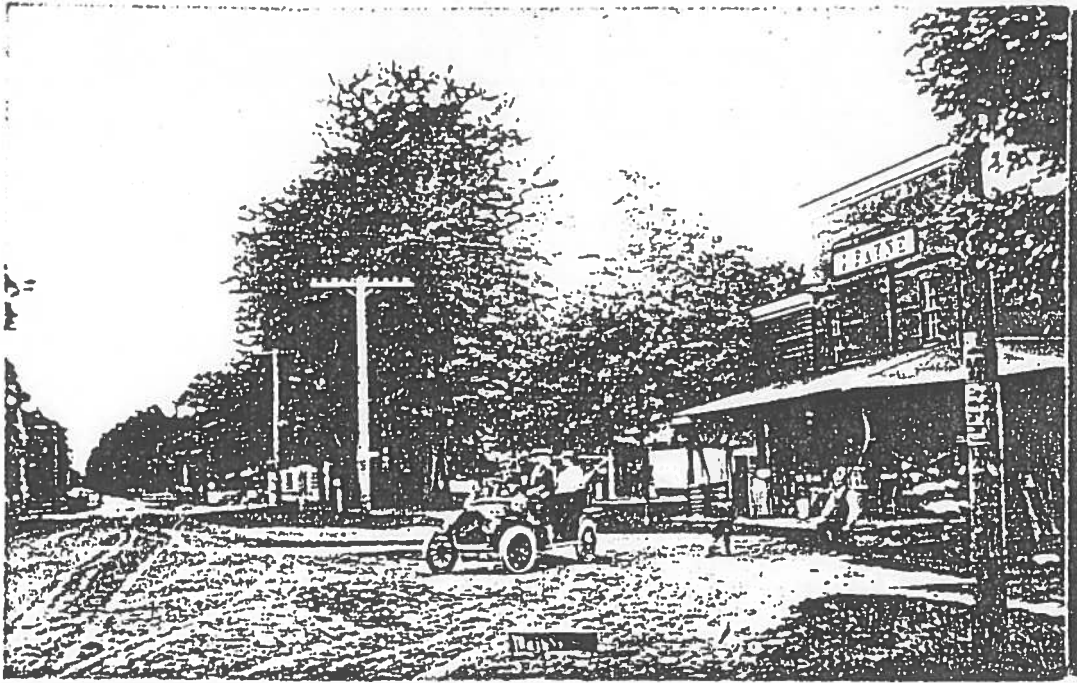
- M Now that you have lived here in Jeddo all of your life, what are your feelings ?
- T Well I can't think of a place I'd rather live. 'Course the attachment for the farm was the thing that probably brought us here. But it's a nice community to live in.
- M Your church is still active ? (the Baptist, Jeddo Chapel)
- T The church is still active. The Adventist Church has been sold 2 or 3 times, ~~and finally~~ ~~finally is out of~~ - - - ~~well~~ Somebody uses that for a home now.
- M And the road has changed. From a foot-path of an Indian An Indian Trail.
- T A trail. It was - - ~~when~~ - - Until I was 12, it was a dirt road. And the first cars used to get stuck up on the hill here 'bout a quarter of a mile, maybe. There was deep sand. The rutts would be, oh maybe, a foot deep and it wasn't anything for a car - - cars to get stuck. (see photo)
- M But now you have trucks and cars zooming past here!
- T I'd just as soon have it a dirt road. Because it certainly is busy now.
- M Yes, yes. Well I want to thank you very much for this interview, Josephine Tuttle. I think you have added greatly to our history. I appreciate it.
- T It's been a pleasure. I like to talk about Jeddo and, you know, things were. I don't intend to live in the past but you can hardly help remembering it.
- M You should remember the past, so you can appreciate today.
- T I try not to live in it.
- M Well, thank you very much.

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Mrs. Tuttle was interviewed by Helen McAllister of Medina, N.Y.

This tape was transcribed by Lysbeth Hoffman, Waterport, N.Y.

Edited and underlined by Helen McAllister.



J. Payne store, Seddo

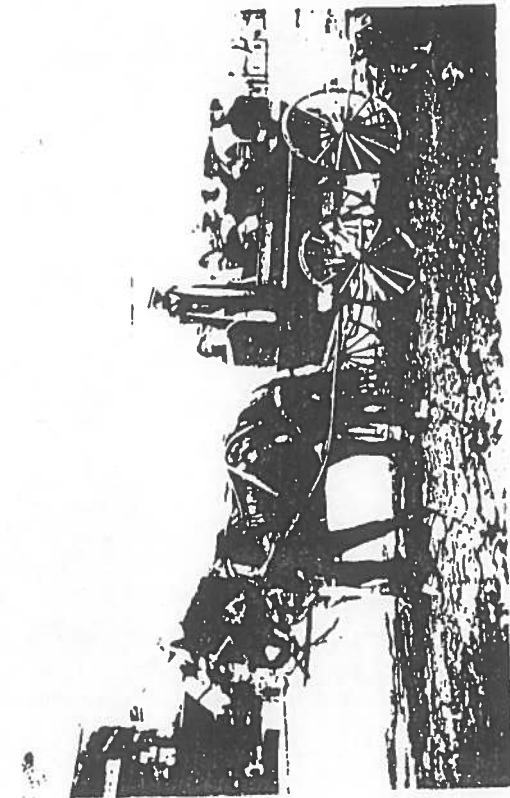




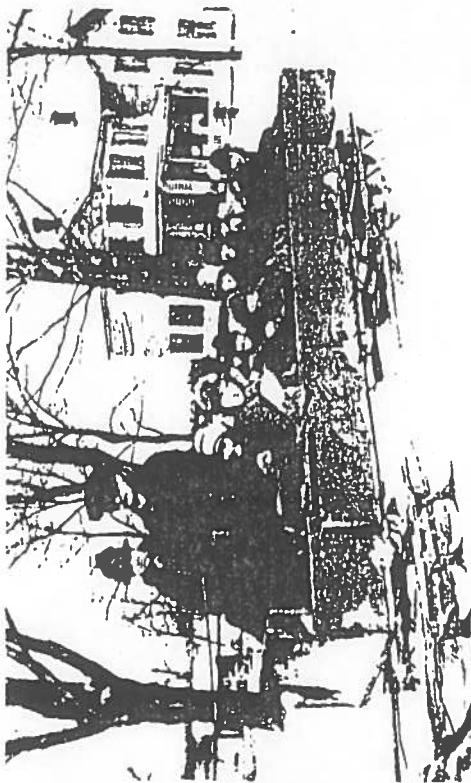
the Ridge Road, pre-1914
old Jeddoites:
Will Beck / Jim Arlington



Jeddo Store



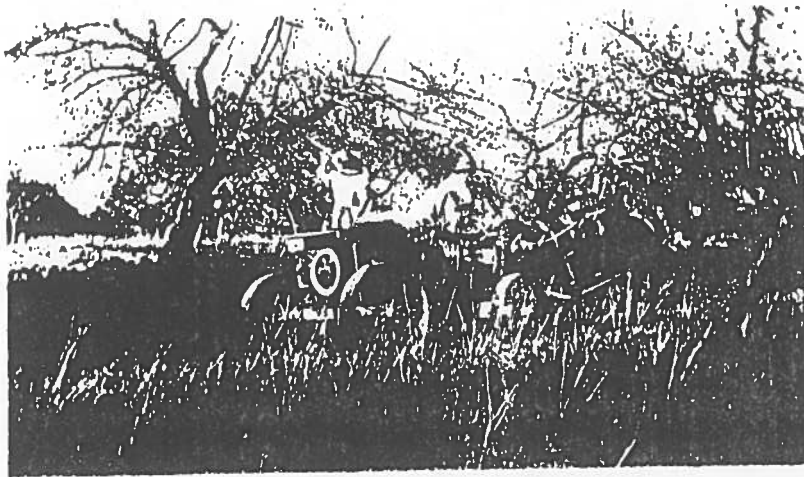
Jeddo, N.Y. Sunday School
summer-time transportation
with Mr. & Mrs. Truman Johnson



Jeddo, N.Y.
winter-time transportation
with Mr. & Mrs. Truman Johnson

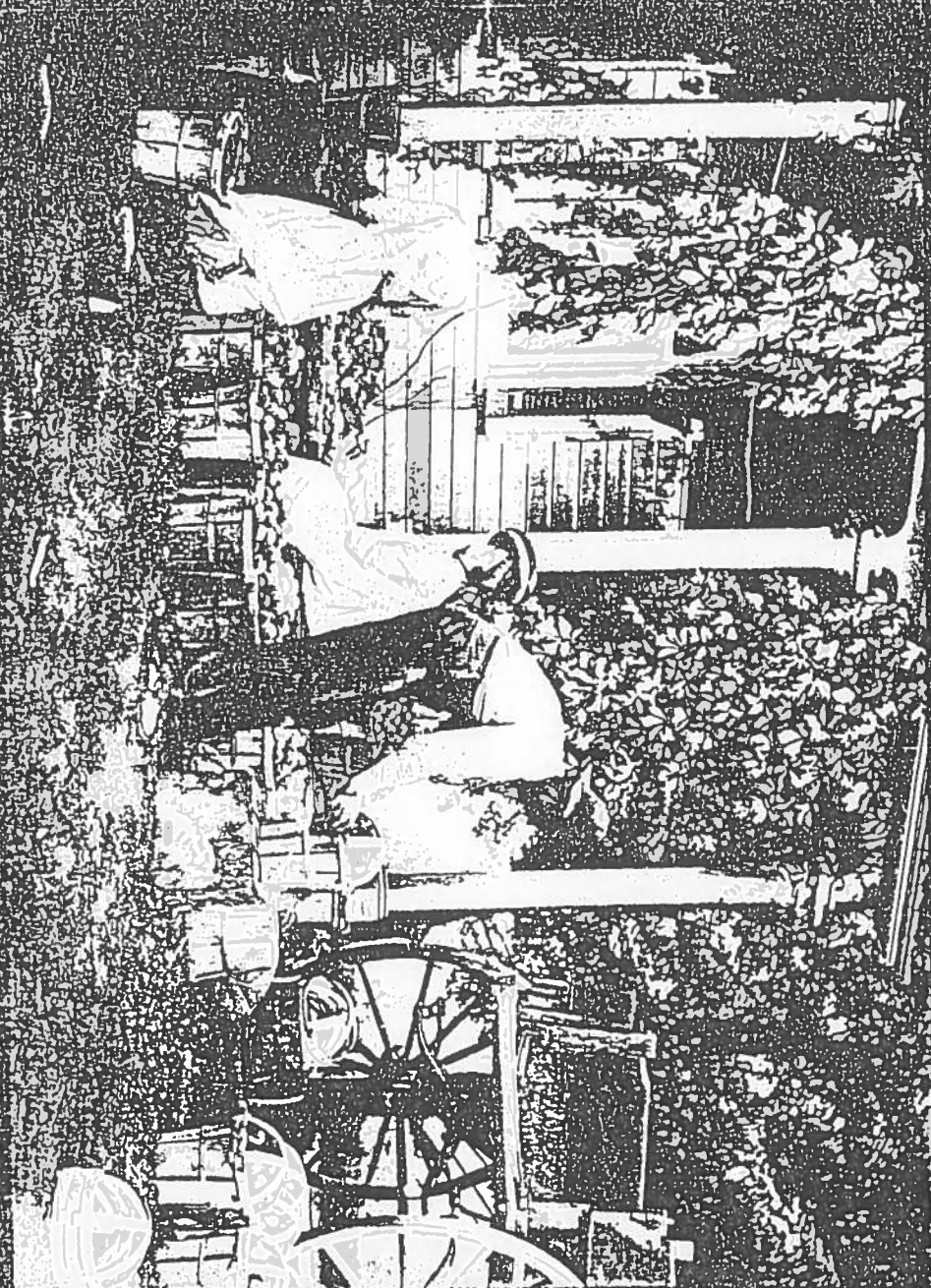


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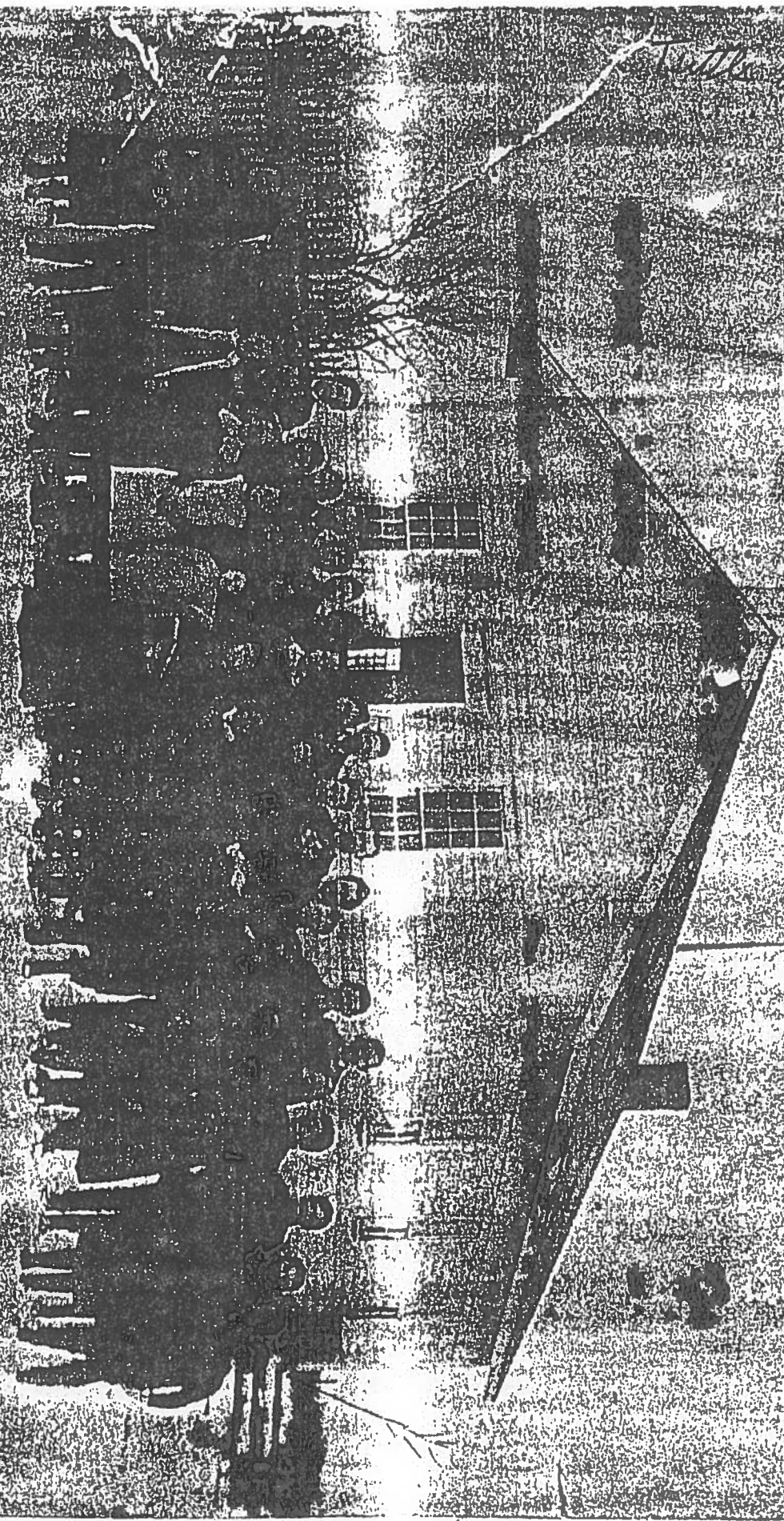
Spray rig - about 1912

Packing peaches, Jeddo, N.Y. Note the wagon. This had small wheels in front & regular wheels in back; note springs.



Joint District No. 13, Town of Bridgeport, Orleans County, Vermont, and Town of Portland, Niagara County, New York.

1890 SCHOOL, as altered by Act of March 1, 1898.



Teacher Mrs. Frances M. Wallace (later Mrs. E. W. Huntington)

Reading on May 12, 1956, at 270 S. Goodman St.,

Rochester, N. Y.

With the best of good wishes