

Tate, Georgia Black History Collection
Sgt. Fred Anderson Interview
Conducted by James Newberry
August 19, 2021

Full Transcript

Interviewer: All right. This is James Newberry and I'm here with Sergeant Fred Anderson. Is that how you like to be addressed?

Sgt. Anderson: Yes, that's it.

Interviewer: Sergeant, all right. It's August 19th, 2021 and we're at Sergeant Anderson's home in Nelson, Georgia. And I want to thank you again for sitting down with me.

Sgt. Anderson: You're welcome.

Interviewer: Do you agree to this interview?

Sgt. Anderson: Yes.

Interviewer: Thank you. So, could you please tell me your full name?

Sgt. Anderson: Full name is Frederick Lee Anderson Junior.

Interviewer: And what's your birth date?

Sgt. Anderson: February 19, 1954.

Interviewer: And where were you born?

Sgt. Anderson: Tate Clinic.

Interviewer: And tell me what the Tate Clinic looked like and where it was located.

Sgt. Anderson: Okay, it was located... if you go, right now where we at right now, if you leave here and you drive, go through Smokey Hollow, across the railroad track, go out to the four-way stop where the Tate house is at, you take a left and go up the hill. Okay? You go up that hill about two, two and a half miles, on the left, there's going to be Tate Elementary School. Pass that, keep going, keep going, you're going to go across a little bridge right after the Elementary School, go across the little bridge, go up about two or three more miles and on the right, on the hill there, that's where it was located at. Before you get to the railroad track. If you get to the railroad track, you went too far. But if you go by the school, across a little bridge. You go up there about two miles, maybe a mile and a half, look to the right, up on the hill. That's where it stands, it's still there today.

Interviewer: What's it used for today? Do you know?

Sgt. Anderson: There's a sign out there. They got some kind of medical associated building. They actually have doctors up in there and then people go up there. If you've got insurance or you don't have insurance, these doctors take care of you. It's like I say, I can't think of the name of it. But it's a little bit bigger than it was when I was going there. They added a little bit on, but it's still there and it's still in operation.

Interviewer: And it served Black and White?

Sgt. Anderson: Black and White, yes sir.

Interviewer: Back when you were born-

Sgt. Anderson: Yes, it did.

Interviewer: Obviously. Do you know if most of the staff, nurses and doctors, were all White or were some Black?

Sgt. Anderson: As far as I can remember, all of the doctors in the... Well, actually, they didn't have but two doctors up there. A Dr. Boswell and a Dr. Darnell. Those are the only two doctors I remember. That's who birthed most of the Black kids around here, those two guys. And I can't remember any Black nurses or doctors up there then. But today, there are Black doctors up there today.

Interviewer: And is that where you went for check-ups and regular visits?

Sgt. Anderson: Yes, mm-hmm (affirmative), for shots, chicken pox and measles. Do your regular check-ups and shots you needed, yeah.

Interviewer: So, you never remember going anywhere else for medical service?

Sgt. Anderson: No, no, nowhere's but the Tate Clinic.

Interviewer: So, you grew up there in Tate?

Sgt. Anderson: Yes, in Smokey Hollow.

Interviewer: So, tell me about Smokey Hollow. Can you describe that community?

Sgt. Anderson: Okay, Smokey Hollow, it was an all-Black community. And what it was, it was a community that Sam Tate actually built for Black people to stay in that worked for him at the Georgia Marble Company. Okay, what Sam Tate promised all the Black workers that worked for him, he had these old wooden houses. I mean, they were in good shape. I mean, good old wood houses. Like you see today, they all gone and rotted down, people just passed away and left. But I can't tell

you how many was down there. Over 60 or 70, all Black. Okay, Sam Tate tell these guys, the Black laborers, you can stay in this house and stay on this property as long as you work at the Georgia Marble Company. And that's what everybody did. Everybody down in the Hollow worked for the Georgia Marble Company. In later years, they may have went somewhere else and worked, but he still promised them as long as they was living there, they could stay there rent-free. Everything was paid for, even though you had to pay your light bill and things like that. So, he had a store also that he sold produce and meat to the Black people. He had a store that, okay, you work at Georgia Marble Company, then you want to go to the store, you go to Sam Tate's store and buy groceries from him. He'll pay you today, you go get back tomorrow you go buy the groceries his store. But everybody, I mean, it must have worked out fine because I don't remember anybody getting in any trouble up with Mr. Tate or anything like that. And people, like the old people, a lot of them started dying out and leaving. The thing about it too, if it was a Black family down there, something happened to the house, say I leave my house and go somewhere else, another Black family could just move in without any permission from anybody, just move in. Like a lot of families moved from house to house, house to house. It was pretty rough back then, but we all got along. Down there in the Hollow, there was one White community down there was Mudhead, and Mudhead's right to the left before you get... going down in the Hollow. Before you get to the railroad track, you take a left, there's an old church up on the hill there. That was God's community called Mudhead. That was a White community. And then if you keep going on past the Mudhead, across the tracks... forgot about this, across the tracks, right there is a place they call Rock Cut. Rock Cut, that's another little community that the White folks lived in. One house on the left, one house on the right, and then right before you get to Tate mansion, you'd go down the road, down a hill, there's a white community there about one, two, three... about seven or eight houses. That's a white community there and we all got along with each other, no problems.

Interviewer: So, the houses in Smokey Hollow, I'm sure they weren't all exactly the same.

Sgt. Anderson: No.

Interviewer: But how big were they? If you went inside, how many rooms? What was the layout?

Sgt. Anderson: Okay, you had a... most of them had kitchens, a kitchen, dining room, two bedrooms, and a living room. I can't remember no three-bedroom house. There have been a few three-bedroom houses, but I think most of them were two bedrooms if I can remember. I was thinking about that the other day when me and you had talked that could I remember any more houses having more than two rooms. Two rooms, kitchen, living room, and a dining room. It had no... few of them had attics in them. Few of them had crawl spaces up under them, but most of them were built sitting on... the foundation was marble, flat marble. They set them houses on top of the marble. Didn't have no concrete foundations then. It was all built sitting on marble bricks. And everybody in

Smokey Hollow, for fuel, like for heat, they had no electric... Where they got fuel in the wintertime was... the heaters, they warmed the houses with coal. Everybody burned coal, the whole community burned coal. Like I say, on a good windy day or something, you could go down through there and all you could see was black smoke, and that's how it got its name, Smokey Hollow, from the coal that every house down there, they had... that's what they got the heat from. It had no bathrooms in the house, everybody had an outhouse, so get up in the night, 3:00 in the morning, you had to go to the outhouse. That was kind of rough, but you grew up out there you get used to it.

Interviewer: Did you have like a pot or something in the bedroom?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, we called it a slop jar.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, a slop jar. Yup, everybody had a slop jar in the rooms at night, especially parents, they don't want to be getting up going to the... I was thinking, how in the hell can you sit your butt on a slop pot, slop jar? They wasn't...

Interviewer: You got to hold on to something.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, I mean, they weren't no bigger than that.

Interviewer: That's smelly.

Sgt. Anderson: Yes, it is. The thing about it was usually you had to take it outside and put it on the back porch.

Interviewer: Right.

Sgt. Anderson: 'Cause you couldn't stand it.

Interviewer: So, you still have to get up and-

Sgt. Anderson: Everybody had to get up and [inaudible 00:09:37], you take it back outside. That was amazing. It was amazing people did that.

Interviewer: Do you recall how late it was that they were still using outhouses in Smokey Hollow?

Sgt. Anderson: I went to college in... I'd say about early 70s, I'm talking about '70, '71.

Interviewer: Pretty late.

Sgt. Anderson: Yes, mm-hmm (affirmative). Like I say, there was no running water down there. Everybody had wells until we discovered, most of the houses got [inaudible

00:10:29], there was my house, couple houses on the right, couple houses on the right, couple on the left. We found out where the Shack was at, up on the hill, there was a spring. And what that spring was for, they [found 00:10:50] water up there, big old spring, big old well. And the Black people who worked at Georgia Marble Company, they did this by hand, from Smokey Hollow all the way over to the Tate House, they dug a trench and laid two-inch galvanized pipe in there. And that pipe was just to feed the Tate house. Tate house always had water. We didn't know the water... where's the water coming from? They was getting running water out of the Hollow. So, I think, I don't know who discovered the pipe running straight through Smokey Hollow to [inaudible 00:11:28] Shack, across the road, go all the way to Tate house. [inaudible 00:11:33] Smokey Hollow, from there I went to the Tate house. Can you imagine digging a ditch with a picking shovel?

Interviewer: Do you know when that was?

Sgt. Anderson: Oh, wow, that's-

Interviewer: Is that earlier?

Sgt. Anderson: That was before my time.

Interviewer: So, was that feeding the community at all or just the main house?

Sgt. Anderson: No, just the Tate house.

Interviewer: Wow.

Sgt. Anderson: Just the Tate house.

Interviewer: So, you couldn't be hooked up too?

Sgt. Anderson: Until somebody discovered that it was there. Somebody discovered it was there, so like I say, I'm talking about it had to be '70, '71, '72. Could of been '73 [inaudible 00:12:12].

Sgt. Anderson: They started hooking on to it in late 70s.

Interviewer: So, it was bringing water down-

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah-

Interviewer: Into the house.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, it was free flow.

Interviewer: Yup.

Sgt. Anderson: It was free flow. Guys in the Hollow, these old Black guys, men, they found out where the pipe was at, so they started tapping in and running water to their house.

Sgt. Anderson: That was when the Tate house finally got well dug over there, got on the water line because it no longer fed them. We cut it off, so it didn't run to the Tate house. It ran from past the railroad track, and we dug a ditch and cut it off.

Interviewer: When was that?

Sgt. Anderson: This was, I cut that off about... about '78, '77 or '78.

Interviewer: So, the house had... the mansion had another source?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, this one they got another source for, and if I'm not mistaken, it got on... I think they dug a well, no. Or they ran a water pipe in through there.

Interviewer: Well before... I want to talk more about Smokey Hollow and ask you some more specific questions, but before we do that let's talk about your parents.

Sgt. Anderson: Okay.

Interviewer: Tell me your dad's name.

Sgt. Anderson: His name was Fred Anderson, Fred Anderson Senior.

Interviewer: And where was he from?

Sgt. Anderson: He was born there in Tate, Smokey Hollow.

Interviewer: Do you know where his parents were from? Or were they also originally from Tate?

Sgt. Anderson: If I'm not mistaken, I think they was from there too. Matter of fact, I think... yeah. Yeah, they was from Tate, Smokey Hollow.

Interviewer: Did you know your grandparents, your dad's parents?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, I knew my dad's parents. I knew his grandad; I mean his dad and his mom. Yeah, I knew them.

Interviewer: What were their names?

Sgt. Anderson: My dad's... his name, my grandad's name Ap, Ap Anderson, and his mother was named Miss Gracie Anderson.

Interviewer: And what did they do for a living?

Sgt. Anderson: You know, I don't really remember. But if I'm not mistaken, in fact, she was the first bootlegger in the Hollow. I'm serious, I think she was the first bootlegger in the Hollow.

Interviewer: What do you know about that?

Sgt. Anderson: I used to know where she stayed at, a long, long time ago, I can remember where she stayed at. I forget where she stayed, I was just a little biddy thing. I just can remember her, and I remember people going to her house buying liquor.

Interviewer: So, this is a woman-

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: Bootlegging?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah!

Interviewer: With a still... like up in the woods?

Sgt. Anderson: No, she, like I say, she didn't have a still, they was getting their liquor from somebody else.

Interviewer: I see.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, yeah.

Interviewer: But she was selling it?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, she was selling it.

Interviewer: I see. And-

Sgt. Anderson: I think that was a long time... I bet that was in the... oh my, late '50s, early '60s. Maybe... she was doing it before then I guess because when I was born, I just remember vaguely. I remember she moved from Smokey Hollow to Ohio, Cincinnati, Ohio, and then some summers I would go up there and visit her.

Sgt. Anderson: But other than that, I know that they was from there, I know they were.

Interviewer: So, would that have been pretty common for people to get it and sell it or have it at home?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, wasn't no problem with it.

Interviewer: Your dad, what did he do for a living?

Sgt. Anderson: He worked at Georgia Marble Company.

Interviewer: And what did he do there?

Sgt. Anderson: Specifically, I think all the Black guys who worked down there was down in the quarries busting big marble blocks. They didn't work in the mills or nothing, they actually worked down in the quarries.

Interviewer: So, [inaudible 00:16:11].

Sgt. Anderson: Hands-on, hammering, slate hammering, drill bit.

Interviewer: Did they work alongside white guys?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, Black and white worked together down there. They all got along.

Interviewer: And how did they get down to the base of the quarry?

Sgt. Anderson: They actually had to climb a ladder, a ladder to get down there. Those quarries down there, back in those days, I'm not lying to you, they had to be at least... about 100 yards deep. Really, actually, they actually had to climb the ladders to get down in there. Some of them would shatter. See, that's the thing about it, they would shatter, they'd dig the marble out of it, make a big old square, big as this house, big old square block. They removed this layer, get this layer pulled out by the crane and they would go down deeper. They just kept going down deeper and deeper. It was amazing to just watch them work down in there. I mean, it was dangerous work. And we used to go down there as little kids and you just walk out there, go to the quarries, look down there and see them work, go out there sit with them while they eat lunch. It wasn't fenced in or anything like that. It was dangerous too. You could easily go there and fall in one of those quarries. But right now, it's fenced in, you can only go so far down in there.

Interviewer: What did your dad wear to work?

Sgt. Anderson: Coveralls. I don't think... they had to have steel-toe boots, steel-toe boots, overalls, and old flannel shirts, plus their hard hats, yeah. And I think they would give them some, what do they call, galoshes.

Interviewer: Oh, yeah.

Sgt. Anderson: Those rain shoes. The company gave them them, the rain shoes, and they would actually... you had to take the boots off. Your foot... shoes don't fit down in these black boots, you were drilling, you got galoshes, it was rain shoes. They provided raincoats also.

Interviewer: Do you remember any, I don't know, work events or things that the company put on for workers?

Sgt. Anderson: Somebody had told me, I read this somewhere, for Mr. Tate would couple times a year would have a big feast with all his workers. It's like it was telling me what I used to go and have these big old cookouts for the company people.

Sgt. Anderson: I tell you who told me that. You remember I was telling you about Sue Cochran?

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Sgt. Anderson: That lady, she... me and her was talking yesterday, she was up here. She's the one that was telling me this.

Interviewer: So, you don't recall necessarily your dad going to anything in particular?

Sgt. Anderson: No, I don't. I don't, I don't remember anything like that.

Interviewer: Did he ever go to the mansion for any reason? Did you ever when you were a kid?

Sgt. Anderson: Yes, go there and play. I mean, actually, I didn't go inside of it, but we used to go over there, go there and play in the yard and stuff, mess around. Because we would walk from the Hollow down to the Georgia Marble Company, that's where we had the baseball field. The only way down there, we had to pass the mansion. We'd just run through the yard. They had one of those big old bouncers out there. That's when we knew where that water was coming from, we didn't know it was coming from the Hollow. He was out there, drinking water, and we'd play around. But we never did go in or anything.

Interviewer: Do you remember who was living in there at the time?

Sgt. Anderson: No, I don't.

Interviewer: A Flora Tate, Sam's sister? Or a Luke Tate, his brother?

Sgt. Anderson: I don't know. Excuse me, I'm going to show you something.

Interviewer: Sure.

Sgt. Anderson: I got a picture, stay right there. If I still got it. This guy used to live over there. This is a slave, his name was Rock, Rock something. And they said, now, I've heard people say that he actually owned some of the stuff in the mansion. He owned some of the stuff in the mansion. He stayed there. He was staying in there.

Interviewer: When was that?

Sgt. Anderson: What year was that taken?

Interviewer: '74.

Sgt. Anderson: Okay, he lived in there back in the '50s and '60s. He was living over there, and people didn't know. People didn't know where that man come from, he just showed up one day. Just showed up in the Hollow to stay in one day.

Interviewer: And what was his name?

Sgt. Anderson: The only thing I know, we called him Rock.

Interviewer: And how long did he live?

Sgt. Anderson: That's '74, he maybe died in... that's when I was still in college. He maybe died in '75, '76, something like that.

Interviewer: So, he was pretty old?

Sgt. Anderson: Oh, he was old.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Sgt. Anderson: He was real old.

Interviewer: So, that was after the Tate family had probably moved out or-

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: And lots of different people were occupying the house.

Sgt. Anderson: I think... from the stories that we heard when we was kids, that he owned some of the mansion. That he was a long resident over there.

Interviewer: Really?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: Well-

Sgt. Anderson: Nobody know where he come from, he just showed up one day and he was living in the mansion.

Interviewer: So, I'll have to look into that, haven't heard about it.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, look into it. Wish I knew his real name.

Interviewer: Do you know this Janet Goss-

Sgt. Anderson: Janet Goss-

Interviewer: And Sandra Hollyfield?

Sgt. Anderson: Sally Hollyfield... Mm-hmm (affirmative), yeah, I knew them. They were, as a matter of fact, they were staying over close by the mansion, close to where he was at, he was raised at, and when he was there. I knew a long time ago, yeah, I knew.

Interviewer: Well, let's talk a little bit about your mom's family. I know they came from Alabama, right?

Sgt. Anderson: They were from Alabama.

Interviewer: And tell me about that process of moving to Tate.

Sgt. Anderson: Okay, her... I never did know her mother. I didn't know her mother, I just knew her dad, my granddaddy, when I met him. Some stories I heard, down in Alabama where all those people come from, not only that family, the Mackey family, there were other families. And they moved up here because they had heard, word of mouth got around that they were hiring people up here at the Georgia Marble Company. They couldn't find any work down in Alabama, they were still in cotton fields, I think. So, I think they all... there was about three or four families, they all got together, and they already knew that Mr. Sam Tate had a house for them where they would have a little stay. So, they all packed up on a couple wagons and drove out from Alabama up here to Tate, and just moved into one of them houses and started working at the Georgia Marble Company.

Interviewer: And what was your mom's name?

Sgt. Anderson: Hilda Mackey.

Interviewer: Hilda Mackey?

Sgt. Anderson: Yes. She worked, from what I remember, she worked at... they had a chicken plant in Canton, [inaudible 00:24:38], that was a chicken plant at one time. She worked there for the longest... to the chicken plant. Used to go in at midnight, go in at midnight and get off sometime in the morning. When she got home in the morning, we were going to school. She did that for I don't know how long. Then she went and worked doing housework for Miss Mary Jane Griffin until her health declined and she stayed at home until she died.

Interviewer: So, your parents, working at the Marble Company, working at the chicken plant, then doing some domestic work. What kind of money were they bringing home, do you know?

Sgt. Anderson: Wasn't much. They weren't getting... to tell you the truth, I think they would probably bring home at least about \$200, about that. Mom would probably bring about \$170, \$175 home.

Interviewer: And how many children?

Sgt. Anderson: We had... there's five of us.

Interviewer: And were you... where'd you fall in the line?

Sgt. Anderson: I was the... I had a older sister, two older sisters, and then I was in the middle, and I got two younger siblings. So, I was in the middle.

Interviewer: I see.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: And there in Smokey Hollow, did you all live in the same house for the most part, or did you move around like you talked about?

Sgt. Anderson: We moved, how many times? We moved twice. We moved twice because we used to stay over... excuse me.

Interviewer: Bless you.

Sgt. Anderson: We used to stay over, like going over to Head Start, you know where Head Start's at?

Interviewer: Sure.

Sgt. Anderson: Okay, before you get to Head Start there's a road to the right that was called Upper Whippoorwill and Lower Whippoorwill. So, we lived in Lower Whippoorwill for a while, as I can remember as a kid. Then we moved from there to Smokey Hollow to our old house. And we stayed in that house until I went to college in '73. When I went to college in '73, they made a little restaurant, stuff like that at the house, they were moving the trailer which was the old shack that was burned down. So, we moved twice.

Interviewer: What was that restaurant called?

Sgt. Anderson: The Shack.

Interviewer: So, that was the Shack?

Sgt. Anderson: That was the Shack.

Interviewer: So, tell me about the life of the Shack, from the first one to the second one to the third one.

Sgt. Anderson: Okay, the first Shack was owned by my uncle James Anderson, and it was located you go to Smokey Hollow, before you get to the railroad track, on the left there there's a trailer sitting in there, one old house there. That was the first Shack. So, they actually built it there. They built it for, I think, they might have had permission to build it. Yeah, I think they built that house, the shed. Yeah, they built the first Shack. Where that shack was at, there were one, two, three... there were four houses over there. That was the first Shack, it was owned by my uncle James Anderson. They'd sell various stuff, cigarettes, candy, and snacks. His wife would cook, being in the house cooking. If you want a hot chicken sandwich, or a fish sandwich and stuff, you go down to the house and get that. So, it burnt down. I was still in high school, I think, when that burnt down, yeah. That one burned down. When it burnt down, the fire was still contained but it burned all those houses that were there.

Interviewer: It burned any the houses?

Sgt. Anderson: The Shack burnt. Back then, I don't remember the fire department coming and putting it out. It burnt. The house next to it burnt. The house next to it burnt. There was a trail probably leading from it. The Shack and three houses burnt down that day, on a Sunday morning.

Interviewer: Was it one of your houses?

Sgt. Anderson: It's my uncle's house.

Interviewer: I see.

Sgt. Anderson: The one which owned The Shack? It was his house. The Shack was his, and he owned the house. Next door, the neighbors, their house, they wouldn't speak to us. People were going to live; they were kicked out. They were all kicking each other. I was like, from that, and after that, I don't know. After that, it was cleaned out pretty good. It looked like a [Johnny Morgan 00:29:21] cover. They moved some trailers over there. So, people still had to stay in their trailer over there. Okay? Then, the second shack was where -- I was still at home then. That was where we used to live at, in the old house, breakwater up The Shack. Right across from where we were staying, our house, it was right across from the stream. I know this was in '73 because I left that wooden house, where we stayed at, in '73, and went to college. I was in college; my dad had moved out of that house and bought a trailer. That was the second journey. That old house we used to live in, they gutted it, took all the floors and walls out of it. That was the second shack, owned by my dad. He used to do the whole breakfast thing made, with his brother, James. So, no snacks, cigarettes. They had a pool table there, a dance hall. They used to have dances, discos there, live bands. While I was in school, that one burned down. That one burnt down so what they did --

because they were back together. My dad and mom had moved the trailer over there. They had moved the trailer over there, and left the wood house, maybe not the gin joint, but they moved into the trailer. So, when everything burned down at the back of the trailer, they decided they were going to a different area, and that's where the third shack came from. This all happened while I was in college.

Interviewer: I see.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah. It happened when I was in college. I'd come home in the summertime; they were still up there building on it. So, I thought, what were they doing? They said, "We're building us another shack." It stayed there for the longest.

Interviewer: That was up until 10 years ago.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: You ran that.

Sgt. Anderson: I ran that one.

Interviewer: More recently.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, recently. My dad built it, in the community, but after I got out of school, and I had the army stuff. That's when I started running it.

Interviewer: Who was coming to The Shack, besides members of the community there?

Sgt. Anderson: We had people coming from, people from Jasper, of course. Black and white guys from Jasper, Dahlonega, [Forest 00:32:12], Canton and all about there. Marietta, Atlanta, White County, which is Bean Creek. I don't know if you ever heard of that. That was a Black community over in White County. They were coming all the way, from over there, to come to The Shack. They usually would, they had a band over there, in White County. The band used to come over on Saturday nights, to play. Bringing the people. Where the band's going, the people are going to follow, and so, they would come up there. I met Blacks and white both, would dine there. It didn't matter. It was a different place.

Interviewer: Well, tell me about, I assume your dad served liquor?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: Where would he get that early on?

Sgt. Anderson: Well, there was a guy, maybe two or three guys, he was a white guy. They were what they call, they were moonshiners too. They were actually making the stuff. They had a liquor still down in [The Hollow 00:33:15]. This one guy, I remember,

his name was Raymond [Fowler 00:33:19]. This was Dad, James, there was a lady in The Hollow, and another guy in The Hollow, old man in The Hollow. They all would buy their liquor from this guy they called Raymond Fowler. He actually had a still, a liquor still down in The Hollow, up on the hill. If you go down through The Hollow, I remember where this is at, because I went up there a couple of times. You go on down through The Hollow, across the railroad track. As soon as you cross the railroad track, about 100 yards down the road on the right, you look up, you see this big old, it's still there today. This big old marble, rolled up in the back there. That's why they called it rock cut. Rock cut.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Sgt. Anderson: Big, old piece of marble. About as big as this house. It's growing up in the mountain. Growing up in the dirt, up on that hill. That's where the liquor still was at.

Interviewer: What did that still look like?

Sgt. Anderson: This one was, most stills are made of copper, but this was made of a tank. It looked like one of those big, propane tanks, you see at people's houses. Those big old propane tanks--and it sits on a platform--that you could build a fire up under it, in order to get stuff boiling. Pour your ingredients in it. Then, on the side, on the top of it, it had these swirling copper lines, that the liquid actually came out of there and into the jug. They would have to cool it off. Somehow, it came out first, you had to cool it off before you put it in the jars because it was so hot. Then we'd jug it up like that. Yeah. Somehow, it was prolonged, somehow. The police, the revenue people we used to call them, got a little wind of it. So, they went up there one day, one night, they caught this guy, this guy they caught running from them. A couple of his helpers, Black kids, Black guys, young guys. They caught them at the still and put them in jail for a couple of days, let them out, but they burnt the still down.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Sgt. Anderson: There was nothing that was said about it. Nothing that was said about it. But then again, they kept going to get liquor somewhere else. Moonshine liquor.

Interviewer: So that one was destroyed?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, they destroyed it.

Interviewer: You mentioned the Sheriffs Cantrell, Raye, coming around.

Sgt. Anderson: Billy Raye. Yeah, Billy Raye.

Interviewer: They would come around and try to round everybody up?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah. They would come around, mingle in The Hollow with all the old people. All the Black, old men, in The Hollow. They knew Billy Raye came through. They knew him. They knew him. They were coming in all the time. They might have been drinking liquor with them, I don't know. But every once in a while, I guess, they would get jumped on. So, they wouldn't make a show of it. So, they would come down to The Hollow, any time or late at night. They knew exactly what they were looking for. They knew the name; they knew where they were. They would go down there and take them to jail for selling moonshine. The thing about it, they would take them to jail, but then there were cops taking their liquor. They'd take them to jail and they'd stay a few hours. I don't know. I don't even think any of them stayed overnight. They'd go stay for three or four hours, then they're out. Then probably, in the next two or three days, they're back down there, to get paid off. The bootleggers would pay them off to leave them alone.

Interviewer: The Sheriffs would come back?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, they'd make money.

Interviewer: Did you ever go into the jail?

Sgt. Anderson: One time, I did. I think because I went with the damn kids, the old jailer. I had a girlfriend that stayed real close to the jail up there. I think, I probably went up to see, I think I did go up there, where they kept their prisoners and stuff. No, I never go up there. Not me.

Interviewer: Did your dad?

Sgt. Anderson: Oh yeah. He went up there. His ass was in jail.

Interviewer: Just for the bootleg or for something else?

Sgt. Anderson: Bootleg.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: What was, I mean, you talk about the Sheriffs being kind of like friendly with the folks in The Hollow, right?

Sgt. Anderson: They were.

Interviewer: Was there any kind of tension with law enforcement?

Sgt. Anderson: No, not at all. Not at all. Not one bit.

Interviewer: What about other white folks?

Sgt. Anderson: No, we didn't have any problems I know of. Every once in a while, somebody would come in and act the fool. You'd put them in their place, but not too often because, I'm not trying to be badass or nothing, but white people know, when they come to The Hollow, you don't come down there and show your ass, because the [inaudible 00:38:35], they going to get beat." As long as you come out there and act decent. Don't get drunk and try to be rowdy, it was okay. But you know, there are some people that's going to try you. Yeah, I remember a lot of times, we had to put some people on the way out of there, and at one time, they did have a big riot down there. I was in college when this happened, and somehow, I don't know their names, this white girl was going with this Black guy, and people didn't like it, and somehow, they were cousins or something. This girl and this guy were cousins, and they didn't like it. So, they said they wouldn't go to The Hollow until he was out. Today, people actually tell me, they think that's what happened to the second Shack. They think somebody saw somebody over there one night, and about two or three or four more hours later, the Shack was burned. It caught fire late, late at night, and early in the morning. Two, three o'clock in the morning, when nobody was occupied. They said that they could believe somebody had actually, that girl, that Black guy was going with, some of her people burned it down. That's what I've been told, but I don't know. I don't know the truth about it, but it sounds about right.

Interviewer: Any other situations? You mentioned some cross burnings?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah. Yeah. Now, the thing about this cross burning, I was told this also. They caused an army when this happened. We got an army at school. I mean, this was in the late 70s when this happened. I may have been at school, in college. Where the stand is at, where the stand was at, there were, this was late at night too, but people stay in The Stand, playing cards all night long. This was after Mister Olin Collins had retired and left The Stand down there. Like I could say again, he left. So, this lady that we knew, Miss Roach, she took over. She took The Stand over. So, she was actually [Truman's 00:41:18] wife.

Interviewer: [Mary Ann 00:41:19]?

Sgt. Anderson: What was her name? Truman's wife, and I ran into the sister.

Interviewer: Oh.

Sgt. Anderson: [Essie-May 00:41:27].

Interviewer: Essie May.

Sgt. Anderson: Essie May. It's Essie May. She started running The Stand. She sure did.

Interviewer: Mary Ann was Preston's wife. Mary Lois was her sister.

Sgt. Anderson: Right. Yeah, oh wow. Got me confused

Interviewer: Because Mary's sorted out.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, now that Mary, yeah.

Interviewer: So, Essie May was running the stand?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: Okay.

Sgt. Anderson: After Mr. Olin retired.

Interviewer: Okay.

Sgt. Anderson: She would cook up there, by herself. Cleaning the stuff. She liked this all, I don't know. That was up there, late at night. Real late at night. Maybe, there were a few people down there, one night late, and this guy looked out the window, and a cross was out there, in the stand and it was burning. They saw these white people driving away from it. They didn't ever know who did it. I don't think so. But I wasn't home then, but I was told that. Everybody says they think they know who did that but if they did, they kept it to themselves.

Interviewer: So, nothing came of that?

Sgt. Anderson: No, uh-uh (negative).

Interviewer: Okay.

Sgt. Anderson: Just a lot of old, but no fuss about it. I get that nobody got in trouble, but I can't remember right off-hand. But then, it might have been when that garage story got done, everybody started, they really had a riot down there one time. I wasn't there either, but they would have had a big riot down there in The Hollow.

Interviewer: Who was rioting?

Sgt. Anderson: White people were coming through The Hollow shooting guns, shooting at people's houses, shooting stands, because again, it was because they got that Black and white couple. So, the people in The Hollow got tired of this shit, so they all got together. The people from Canton, Atlanta, [Dahlonaga 00:43:14], White County, came down The Hollow, and they were actually, just like snipers up in the woods. I think one person got killed. One white person got killed, or really wounded.

Interviewer: So, these are Black men in the woods.

Sgt. Anderson: In the woods.

Interviewer: They're reacting to people coming through.

Sgt. Anderson: Reacting to these white people coming through.

Interviewer: Okay.

Sgt. Anderson: They would shoot the cars up, but I don't, if I'm not mistaken, I was told, I don't think nobody got killed but I'm not for sure. But a lot of people got wounded. They were actually sitting up in the woods waiting for them. But anybody come through The Hollow back then, they would stop them. They would stop people from coming through The Hollow, until they actually found out who they were.

Interviewer: The people there in The Hollow?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: The people living there...

Sgt. Anderson: The Black...

Interviewer: ... would stop people coming through?

Sgt. Anderson: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer: I mean, just like standing at the side of the road?

Sgt. Anderson: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer: So, they were sort of checking on who was coming through?

Sgt. Anderson: Who was coming through there.

Interviewer: So, it sounds kind of like it's a batting down.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, really.

Interviewer: For protection.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: Most of what you talked about is the 70s.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, 70s.

Interviewer: So that's sort of coming after integration.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: Maybe, is that causing some of the tension, that people are starting to mix a little bit more?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah. Black guys and white women. That's what it was.

Interviewer: That's the big thing.

Sgt. Anderson: That was the problem.

Interviewer: Right.

Sgt. Anderson: Seriously. That's what it was about. That's what it was about. It really was.

Interviewer: So, The Stand. Was the stand more of like a convenience store, as opposed to The Shack, which was more entertainment?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, yeah. More entertainment. But the stand did have--like I said--a convenience store, but he did have a jukebox in there, a little dance floor. He did have the kitchen in the back where the ladies cooked simple food. It had a barber's shop in there. The barber shop was run by Truman's brother, which is Chester [Roach 00:45:26]. Yeah, like I said. Yeah. A barber's shop, kitchen, the dance hall. They sold ice cream. No fresh meats or fresh veggies, like canned stuff, drinks, candies, cookies. Mr. Olin would do this sometimes. He loved hunting so he would take off a week and go to South Georgia and kill rabbits. He'd come back, skin them rabbits, hand them over to The Stand for sale. So, he sold rabbits and fresh rabbit. They only lasted about two days. All of them would be gone. He would go get 20, 30 rabbits and they would be gone. They might have caught two lots of rabbit. I don't know.

Interviewer: What kind of a guy was he?

Sgt. Anderson: Mr. Olin was a good, old, honest guy. He was kind of snobbish now. He was kind of mean. If he didn't like you, he was mean as hell to you, because I used to work for him a lot, and he was good to me, and he was, I don't know where he got his money from, but he was well off. He had some money, and where it came from, I don't know. But ever since I've known him--like I say--he was snobbish sometimes, he was mean. But he was a real, honest person. Yeah.

Interviewer: Didn't he live in Jasper?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, he lived in Jasper.

Interviewer: Where in Jasper?

Sgt. Anderson: He lived in a place called Refuge Road. Up from, what's the name of that top place in Refuge? Do you know where Refuge Road is at?

Interviewer: I don't.

Sgt. Anderson: You know, what's the name of that? There's quite a few places over here. I forget. Yeah, but Refuge, so it will be hard to tell you where he stayed. It's really difficult.

Interviewer: You mentioned the other area of Jasper was over behind the inn?

Sgt. Anderson: No, The Woodbridge Inn. That was a Black community down from there?

Interviewer: Yeah.

Sgt. Anderson: That's a Black community. There was a [Pooler 00:47:35] family, they had a Moore family. They had a [Galse 00:47:39] family. They had a Dalson family, and another family down there. It was a Black community there. They had the Black community there. Then, they had another Black community over by, I mean, I was talking the other day about it. I don't know if you know where the old post office would be in Jasper? But right out there. Right there at, like you're going to Jasper, how would you drive to the four-way red light. Right there. You go down, keep straight down. The first road to your left, you take that left, you go out there, there's a church out there. The Friendship Baptist Church, yeah. That's where another Black community was at. That area was about one, two, three, four, five, six. It was a little private site there. Seven, eight, nine. It was about nine, 10 houses up there.

Interviewer: But the majority of Black people and Black families were in Tate?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, in Tate.

Interviewer: That's why you had the churches.

Sgt. Anderson: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer: Did you all attend church?

Sgt. Anderson: Oh yeah.

Interviewer: Where did you all attend?

Sgt. Anderson: I went to Baptist Calvary out here. It's at Brighton Road. Jasper had a church. Nelson had a church. Smokey Hollow had a church. When I was growing up, this is what we did. When I was growing up, first Sunday, all the families went to Jasper's church. Second Sunday, you used to go to Sunday School.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Sgt. Anderson: Third Sunday, all the communities get together and come to Tate, Smokey Hollow's church. Fourth Sunday, they all get together, come to Nelson's church. It's how it was when I was growing up, until I went to school, until I finished school. Then, all of a sudden, the churches, there weren't that many people around here anyway, no more. It's like today. Like when many people aren't around anymore. So, all those churches got this idea that they're just going to have church just by themselves every Sunday, and that's when the members got low, people stopped going. That's like it is today now. Our communities, they don't get together and go to church like we used to.

Interviewer: So, when you were going from one to one, you were kind of seeing everybody?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, seeing everybody, all through the community. I don't pick that one and try to see it, you see everybody, mamas, daddies, grandpas. Everybody used to go to church back then, even kids. We used to love to go to Sunday School. All the kids, we went to Sunday School and church.

Interviewer: How long did it last? The Sunday School and the service?

Sgt. Anderson: Sunday School, from 10 to around 15, to then 30. At least till two o'clock, it tended to. That's Sunday School and church from behind the gallery.

Interviewer: Long services?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, long services.

Interviewer: Talk to me about, you mentioned The Stand, The Shack, did you all shop in Tate, in Jasper? Could you go into places in Jasper?

Sgt. Anderson: Yes, you could. But there were, what I can remember, the things I can remember about Jasper, that Black people, they could go in, but they couldn't go to the front. There was a café up in Jasper, called Lily's Café. It's on Main Street, the café. Can't go there. What was the name of that? Anyway, I forget the name of the café, but there was a Black woman that worked there, her name was Mis Lil, and she was the cook. She did the cooking for that café. It was on Main Street. White folk could go to the front door and go sit at the front and eat. Black people had to go round to the back, go in the back and eat. They couldn't go through the front. They actually had to sit in the back, back then, at the hot kitchen and eat. They weren't allowed to go in the front. That was in one place. Then the movie theater, the Black people, white people sit down on the bottom, but the Black people had to go sit up in the balcony, where the projector was at, up there. That's where they had to go sit. They weren't allowed downstairs. Those were about the only two places I can remember in Jasper that Blacks and whites were separate. But yeah, you could go to the

stores. You could go to the stores, buy the food, clothing, like that, but they're the only two places I can remember that Blacks and whites were separate.

Interviewer: In Tate, Piggly Wiggly?

Sgt. Anderson: Oh yeah, Piggly Wiggly, anybody could do it, going to Piggly Wiggly, the gas station up there, the clinic. I just, I don't know why it was like that in Jasper.

Interviewer: Well, I mean, restrooms in Tate. Public restrooms or water fountains. You know how you hear about Black...

Sgt. Anderson: I never did see that.

Interviewer: Okay.

Sgt. Anderson: I never did see separate water fountains. I might have seen it on TV but not, I don't remember experiencing nothing like that. I really can't. No, I know I didn't. I know I didn't.

Interviewer: Well, tell me about school. What age were you when you started? Was it first grade?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, first grade at Tri-City High. It was a great start there. Then, it was six years old before you went to school for first grade. Anyway, they would go, from Tri-City, it was first grade to the 12th grade. The first grade to the fifth, I was in one room. Six, seven, eight was in a room. Six, seven, eight, nine, I think. 10, 11, 12. All in one room now. First to the fifth, all in one room. The first grade through the fifth grade is all in one room.

Interviewer: One teacher?

Sgt. Anderson: One teacher. Yes. Then the seventh, eight, nine. Seven, eight nine, was all in one room. 10, 11, 12 was all in one room, with one teacher. But the thing about it, that one teacher, she would teach the ninth grade this, she would teach the 10th grade this, she would teach the 11th grade this, and 12th grade this. You all didn't have the same subject. You were in there, the same people, 10th through the 12th. You weren't taking no 12th-grade mathematics or 11th-grade mathematics. You do ninth grade here. Then 10th grade, she taught the 10th grade there. So, she taught three different classes in one room.

Interviewer: What were the other grades doing when the ninth graders were learning?

Sgt. Anderson: See, that's what I can't remember. See that. What were we doing?

Interviewer: Just sitting quietly?

Sgt. Anderson: Just sitting there?

Interviewer: Or going outside?

Sgt. Anderson: I'm serious. I can remember the first grade to the fifth, and I can remember just sitting there, coloring in a book or writing, while she's on the blackboard doing something else for the other people. But you're right, what was the other people but you're right. What the other people doing when she was [inaudible 00:56:00]?

Interviewer: Challenging for the teachers.

Sgt. Anderson: It was! It was about 1, 2, 3, 4. There were four classrooms in Tri-City High, four rooms. Then the big school, right before you get down the hill to the Head Start right there, on the right that's where the original building was at. The original school was at, and they call it training school. Some kind of training school.

Interviewer: Oh, Pickens County Training School?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, that's what it was.

Interviewer: It was wooden. And that's the one you attended?

Sgt. Anderson: Yes.

Interviewer: So, there were four classrooms. Were there any other rooms in the building?

Sgt. Anderson: Yes, we had the lunchroom. Had a library and had a stage you would do little plays and stuff. Had stages in them. Lunchroom, stage, and we had a nursing station.

Interviewer: You had a nurse?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: Would she travel through or would she be there all the time?

Sgt. Anderson: She was from Atlanta, came every day. We actually had a nurse at Tri-City, and she had a room right by herself. She used to do vaccinations. Mm-hmm (affirmative), and like you get sick at school, they'd say, "See the nurse." We actually had a nurse in school.

Interviewer: What were your teachers' names? Do you remember?

Sgt. Anderson: Yes, we had Ms. White, Ms. Henderson, Ms. Brown, Ms. Press, and a guy named Macklemore, Reynolds, and that's all I can remember right there. Oh, yeah. Ms. Whitt was a teacher, but she was before my time though. Mary Ann Roach was a teacher. Then they had Carrie Bridges, she was a teacher. They taught; I don't know if they never taught me. I don't remember none of them teaching me. Ms.

Weaver, Ms. Brown, Ms. Henderson, Ms. Prince. All those people had my older sister and all them before me. They were those teachers.

Interviewer: That's [inaudible 00:58:53]?

Sgt. Anderson: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer: And then is it Lila Brown?

Sgt. Anderson: Lila Brown!

Interviewer: Lila was one of the few who went over to the white school.

Sgt. Anderson: It was her, Ms. Lila Brown, and Ms. Prince.

Interviewer: Do you remember Ms. Prince's first name?

Sgt. Anderson: No, I don't.

Interviewer: Leading up to that point, what age were you when you integrated?

Sgt. Anderson: '68.

Interviewer: So about 14?

Sgt. Anderson: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer: Now, were you entering a grade, or was it middle of the year?

Sgt. Anderson: It was... I went from Tri-City. You're right, I was in the 6th grade and when I went to Tate Elementary School, I was in 6th grade. Then I went to the 7th grade. Yeah, I was in 6th grade when we were integrated in 1968.

Interviewer: Before we move on, Tri-City, what does that refer to?

Sgt. Anderson: Tri means all three communities, Nelson, Tate, and Jasper. Tri, three. They all three went to the same school.

Interviewer: So, students from the Black communities in those three.

Sgt. Anderson: In those three.

Interviewer: Okay, the Head Start was built, that new building. Was it the same spot or across the street?

Sgt. Anderson: Head Start? Let's see. No, where Head Start at now? You know, I can't remember Head Start building that thing. Tell you what, when I did go... What I

can remember. We had the big old white school up there, that wood building. That other school was already down there. It was already there because I remember the older kids was going up to the white wood building, and the little kids was going down to where Head Start at now.

Interviewer: So, it is the building where Head Start is, was a new building built for younger kids.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: Ah, okay. So, it didn't start out as Head Start.

Sgt. Anderson: No, it didn't.

Interviewer: Okay, and so they had built an elementary school, basically.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, basically an elementary school.

Interviewer: And that helped to, I guess, spread out some of the kids?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: The old school, what condition was it in?

Sgt. Anderson: It was in good shape. It was really in good shape. It really was. It had a lot of rooms in it. I think it did have more rooms than the new building did. It had a big stage in it, cafeteria, cooking, and eating. Then it had a basement up under it. Then it had a loft and like the stage we had, it had the reel where the curtains close and open and stuff. Big old lights in it.

Interviewer: Do you know what happened to that building?

Sgt. Anderson: I think it just got old and they tore it down.

Interviewer: They tore it down?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, I think-

Interviewer: So, it didn't burn or anything.

Sgt. Anderson: No, it didn't burn. I think it just got old. Yeah, just got old.

Interviewer: Okay, and the elementary school, they repurposed it into Head Start. So, after integration, all the kids left both of those schools to go to the white schools.

Sgt. Anderson: Right.

Interviewer: Okay, and did you, I mean, expect it, or was it sudden? How were y'all prepared?

Sgt. Anderson: I think it was an ongoing thing. It was like, I mean not no two or three years or something, but it was an ongoing thing like four or five months we'd find out about it. And that's when the teachers would actually get all their students together. They would talk to them and tell them what they expect, how to act. What's going to happen, how different it's going to be. The thing about it, when we integrated and went to the elementary school, Ms. Brown came. She went to the elementary school, and the high school, that's where Ms. Prince went to the high school. So, we had a Black teacher at each school during the integration period.

Interviewer: One at each?

Sgt. Anderson: One at each. One at the high school, one at the elementary school.

Interviewer: And when you got over there, you said you were maybe 7th grade.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: How many Black students in the class? The first class you were in? Doesn't have to be an exact number, but like a percentage.

Sgt. Anderson: I'll give you 12 or 13.

Interviewer: Out of how many?

Sgt. Anderson: Out of about 25.

Interviewer: So, it wasn't like, all white and maybe one or two Black kids?

Sgt. Anderson: Huh-uh (negative). Nah, it wasn't like that. I mean, it took a while to get used to it, but finally did. I think they had more problems at the high school than they had at the elementary school. You know, older kids.

Interviewer: What did you hear about the high school?

Sgt. Anderson: Well, there are some bullies everywhere you go. You know what I mean? There's some prejudiced people everywhere you go, Black and white. But I can remember hearing the guys that were going to the high school, these certain families that thought their kids were better than everybody. You know what, the type I'm talking about? They thought they was better than everybody, so that's what they would do, they would not actually try to fist, to beat them. But the weak Black guys or Black girls, they would pick on them. You know, call them all kinds of names and stuff. What happened, that was the weak kids and these guys that I knew didn't take nothing, would beat these white boys' ass.

They would beat their asses. They would actually fight them. At the elementary school, we got in a few scuffles. The biggest thing I remember, a scuffle I got into in elementary school was when Martin Luther King, Jr got killed. I was in the 7th or 8th grade? 6th, I was in elementary school when that happened. Okay, yeah, we was sad and everything. Then had this certain white guy, he would go around telling people, "These Black people, man. Today's something else." He would go around saying, he would go to the Black people's face, "Oh, I see your King, your leader or something, got killed. Oh, your leader got killed. Well, maybe things will be all right now." That's the only fight [inaudible 01:06:28] when he told me that.

Interviewer: What did you do to him?

Sgt. Anderson: Beat his butt.

Interviewer: Were you punished?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, I was put off the bus for three days. Had to walk to school from the hill. That walking up the hill to the school, that wasn't nothing. And I think, what'd I have to do? Sit in the corner or something, I had to do. Got a paddling.

Interviewer: Was that, that all marble school?

Sgt. Anderson: Yes, yes.

Interviewer: So that was the elementary school by then?

Sgt. Anderson: That was the elementary school by then. It used to be a high school.

Interviewer: Right, so by the time you were coming along, it was elementary. Where was the high school? The formerly all-white high school. Where you went.

Sgt. Anderson: Jasper.

Interviewer: Oh, it was in Jasper. Okay. And what grade were you in when you went into the high school?

Sgt. Anderson: Eighth.

Interviewer: So, you mentioned when we previously talked, about Ms. Brown, if there were issues or something, white teachers might send you to her.

Sgt. Anderson: They would, yeah.

Interviewer: Why do you think that was happening?

Sgt. Anderson: Because I think Ms. Brown was harder on us than she was on, I guess, the white students. Because they knew she would straighten us out. They probably knew if they tried to talk to us or tell us what to do, we wouldn't listen to them, but we knew better than to talk back to Ms. Brown. She instilled that in us. I mean, all students she taught, you know? She instilled that in us. You better listen to Ms. Brown. If you don't, Ms. Brown would actually beat you if you didn't do what she said. She'd paddle you right there in school. And when you got home, you got another damn paddling. Ms. Brown, she was something else. Like I say, we got in trouble, they'd go tell Ms. Brown; she'd already know.

Interviewer: What was the difference between the Black school and the white school when you got there? The subjects, or learning, or-

Sgt. Anderson: I guess learning was. Because I mean, in the Black schools, we had intelligent teachers, good teachers, you know? They really made us, the Black teachers really made us hunker down and do the right thing. But you know, you get to high school and you going to school with some white people in the class, you say, "Shit. I ain't worried about this, getting no more lessons. I ain't getting no more lessons, I'm not listening to her." You weren't doing the right thing and Ms. Brown had told you to do the right thing. You'd mess up in class, not listening, not doing what's supposed to be right. That's why I'm a telling you, when I was in the elementary school in the 7th grade, I didn't do nothing. I wouldn't do nothing. I would get frustrated all the time. Couldn't get my grades right. They held me back. I got held back in the 7th grade because I wasn't doing the right thing. Sure did, stayed in the 7th grade for two years because I wouldn't do the right thing.

Interviewer: What do you think was making you, you know-

Sgt. Anderson: I guess I was badass. Not really, but I knew I could do better if I wanted to. But I mean, I wasn't like the trouble maker. Some things, I just didn't care about. You know, a lot of it was just like that. We didn't care. We played football, basketball, and that's what we enjoyed doing. I mean, we got our lessons. We didn't start any trouble or nothing, it just one of them things.

Interviewer: For sports, could you use the Tate gym?

Sgt. Anderson: Yes.

Interviewer: When could you use it? I mean, was there a time when you couldn't use it?

Sgt. Anderson: Okay, we didn't know anything about the Tate gym until we integrated. We didn't know nothing about the school, didn't know there was a gym up there. Didn't know that until we integrated. Then after we integrated, I mean you know, we go use the gym. Me and this girl, her name was Theresa Tatum, me and her was in the 8th or 9th grade. They would let me and her open the gyms on, I think it was Wednesday nights and Thursday nights, to let the communities

come and play basketball there. People that was, they were in school, seniors and stuff. But there was some people that just lived in the community. You know, older guys that already out of school. They would have little basketball teams and they would go up and play basketball on Wednesday, Thursday night. And me and this girl had the key to it. We'd go open it and let them come in and play. We used to go up there all the time. Still do today.

Interviewer: You talk about your parents were encouraging you on your studies and getting through school. Were there others who didn't make it through, in the transition to the new school?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, yeah. There was a lot of people that, when they integrated, a lot of Blacks, especially guys my age, didn't even go. They might've went the first year. They might've went to the integration school the first year, or year and a half, but after that, some of them just say, "Forget about it," and quit. A lot of them just fell out, quit. Like I say, though, there were some that went two or three years, a year, and just quit going. I know a lot of the Black guys my age just didn't go at all. I guess their parents didn't have anything to do with it. I don't guess they cared about it, but I guess they just wouldn't go to school. Then didn't get in any trouble, anything. They just went to working.

Interviewer: What did they do for a living?

Sgt. Anderson: A lot of them went to work for Georgia Marble Company and a lot of them got, there's a couple of plants in Jasper back then; the rubber plant and the shoes plant. They might've went to work in one of those, you know? Yeah, but they'd always work now.

Interviewer: Before we move on, I want to check my time and make sure we're doing good. All right, we'll go a little bit longer and then I'll stop and save what we've got. Empty it out. So, tell me about you mentioned that your father's family, the Andersons, it was only your dad and his brother, James, who stayed in Tate. What did the rest of the family do?

Sgt. Anderson: They moved. Most of them moved to Cincinnati because I remember them stayed in the Hollow for a while. Because I was telling you about my grandmother, Ms. Gracie, dad's mama? She moved to Ohio and I think all them went with her and went to Ohio with her.

Interviewer: Why do you think they were moving?

Sgt. Anderson: I don't know. I don't know why they went to Ohio. I have no slightly idea.

Interviewer: Were the jobs sort of falling away at their company?

Sgt. Anderson: No, not really. I don't know why they went to Ohio. I really don't.

Interviewer: Did others... Oh, that's-

Sgt. Anderson: That's my phone. It'll be all right.

Interviewer: Okay, did others go?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, a lot of people left the Hollow back then. A lot of them, some of them moved to Ohio. I remember a lot of families moving to Tennessee. A lot of people moved to, I mean we had people leave the Hollow and move to New York, Chicago. Black people from Jasper did that. Nelson, Canton; they just moved away different places. Because I can remember when I went to the army, when I got back from the army, there wasn't nobody around. Wasn't nobody around. Everybody had moved away. Everybody just moving out.

Interviewer: Go ahead.

Sgt. Anderson: And I think that's when, I guess people could realize, especially young generation, that, "I don't want to work for Georgia Marble Company. I'll go somewhere else and get a decent job and don't have to do that hard labor." That's what I think happened then. People just moved away for better jobs. Like I say, there wasn't much to do around here, you know?

Interviewer: What happened to the houses in Smokey Hollow once people moved out of them for good?

Sgt. Anderson: They just went bad. They did, a lot of the houses down there really got in bad shape and I think people that really lived in the Hollow would go to them old houses that nobody lived in, about fallen in and used it for firewood. Tear a house down, you can use it for firewood.

Interviewer: And the land that it was on, and the house, belonged to the company or to the Tate Estate.

Sgt. Anderson: Right, and you couldn't have done... Like I say, as long as you lived there, you okay. But they wouldn't sell the land to any of the families. You couldn't buy the land. You just couldn't buy it, for reasons unknown. I think right now, those two families that are in the Hollow now, once they get gone, that's going to be it. That's going to be the end of the Hollow. And eventually, I don't know what they going to do down there. There's a lot of marble down there in Smokey Hollow. A lot of marble, and I think they might start mining that marble. I mean, I know I won't see it once everybody's gone. Once it's be out and about. Either they going to make a subdivision or something down there because it's where the land get cleaned out real good. But like I say right now, after everybody moved out, they just started growing up. You know, when you leave a place, it just going to grow up if you don't keep up with it.

Interviewer: I mean, did people try to buy the land their house was on?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, everybody tried. Yeah, a lot of people. I've been told a lot of people tried, but he wouldn't let them do it.

Interviewer: And do you know about people in other communities, white communities, doing the same thing?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, people up in money couldn't do that. Jasper now, let me tell you something about Jasper Black community. If I ain't mistaken, those people own their houses. They bought their houses, but who owned them? I don't know. Because there's some houses in Jasper right now that are still there, that Blacks stay in. They own that land and their houses.

Interviewer: So maybe that wasn't company housing.

Sgt. Anderson: No, it wasn't. Jasper wasn't. Like, Nelson. I don't think Nelson was either. It's just Smokey Hollow.

Interviewer: Okay, so really those in and around Tate.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, just Smokey Hollow.

Interviewer: I want to stop here and turn... All right, so picking up there, tell me about your athletics in high school.

Sgt. Anderson: I played in high school, I played football at the middle school and basketball, but I liked football better, so I played football there. When I was playing in elementary school, I played with a guy named Luke Darby. So, he had me at [inaudible 01:18:58] and then went to running back, and I was a pretty good running back. And the two years I stayed at Tate Elementary School, we were undefeated the two years in football and basketball. So, the coaches at the high school heard about me and when I got to high school, I didn't play on the junior varsity team. I went straight to the varsity. Straight played four years of varsity; 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th. Five years of high school ball and I was a good running back, good track player, basketball player. I was good in all sports, but I just stuck with football the most. Got a lot of records and stuff at the high school. Still got records at the high school, and I'm going to give you these photographs of me and my records and stuff. You can take them and scan them. You'll see. So, playing football there at the high school, Don Enic, I was averaging like 250, 270 some yards a game. Had most touchdowns in a game, but like I said, you can read about that. I was looking at those pages the other day and remember I told you that I had got recruited by Georgia, Clemson, and Southern Mississippi, and Georgia Tech. I ain't know that til I looked at that paper the other day, so Georgia Tech recruited me too. I remember going to Georgia Tech and staying on campus for a few days down there, but I chose Southern Mississippi. Got there, played football for four years and in college, I thought I was good. I thought I was good when I was in high school. I mean, I was good when I got to college, but they're a better, high-quality player in college than it

is in high school. And I realized that, but I did make it through school. I come out pretty good. Played football, you know? Did good, four years. I got that and I got a degree in athletic administration. Could've been a school teacher if I wanted to, but I just decided nah, I didn't want that because I did my student teaching... You know you do your student teaching while you're in college? They give you the opportunity to go to a high school or junior high school to do your student teaching? That's where I found out I couldn't be a teacher, because I did my student teaching at an all-Black school down in Mississippi now. And those were some bad kids. I'm talking about some bad kids. Them just the kids that you want to just knock in the head. And I knew right then, I said, "No, teaching ain't for me. I couldn't handle that." After I graduated from school, I came home after graduating from college and I stayed at home, doing little odd jobs in and out, around the community. Really wasn't much doing to it, and I just realized this ain't for me. And some of my buddies older than I was, they had been to the army. Some of them had been to Vietnam and they was telling me about their experience in the army. And this one guy in particular, he told me, "That's what you need to do. You need to go join the army. You'll like it. You need to do that." So, that's what I did. I joined the army about a year after I'd been out of college and went to Oklahoma for basic training. Stayed in Oklahoma for a while. Went to Fort Sill, Oklahoma again, for some training. Became a drill sergeant at Fort Jackson. Did men and women's training. Women one cycle, men the next cycle and did pretty good in that. I was named the drill sergeant of the year a couple of times. Enjoyed it, stayed in there. Went back to Fort Sill, Oklahoma and that's when the war started, Desert Storm and Desert Shield. So, I went to Desert Storm and Desert Shield. I stayed up there a couple of years over there, because the war didn't last that long, but we had people that stayed back and get everything ready to send back to the states. So, I was a field artillery, which it's a weapon like a tank, but it's not. A tank, you can shoot while it's standing still. No, a tank you could roll around and shoot while it's on the move, but this thing they call a houser. You actually had to dig it in to shoot it. So, I was in charge of 13 guys. Took about 13 guys to operate everything on it, which I did good in it. Got married, had kids and stuff, and still in the army. Then I just got word, I was having problems with my wife in the Army, so I decided the best thing for me to do is just get out. I got out early. I got out of there early. I could've stayed in, but they were offering older soldiers, "We'll give you a bonus if you want to get out now." And you still get an honorable discharge and everything, so that's what I did.

Interviewer: And that was '96?

Sgt. Anderson: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer: And at what point did you return to Pickens County?

Sgt. Anderson: I came back in... No, when did I come back? I think I came back here, I want to say '92 or '93, with my kids. I brought my kids back with me and they stayed with me. Up until today, they're still staying with me. I raised them, three girls. So yeah, I think I came back in '92 or '93. I do not remember. After I got out the

Army and everything, got out, that's when I started running The Shack. I start running The Shack from then on. And I stayed in The Hollow that whole time, up until about 10 years ago when it burnt down. I moved here in Nelson.

Interviewer: How many people in The Hollow at that point?

Sgt. Anderson: Oh, my word. Oh, wow, it was over 200.

Interviewer: Still?

Sgt. Anderson: Still. When I got back home at night, yes, over 200. A lot of people that lived in The Hollow, okay, they might've moved. Like a lot of houses were going in. There was a few still down there, but they might've moved, some of them might've moved to Canton. All the younger people might have move to [Jasper 1:26:05.] But every weekend, during Sundays and Saturdays, they would all come back home to The Shack. They would all come back home. We'd have parties, and dances, and picnics. All the little kids would come down there, had stuff for the kids to do. A lot of people loved to come to The Shack. They'd bring their kids, because I had things to do. I had each day, having picnics, having a water slide, trampoline. The kids would always have something to do when they came to The Hollow.

Interviewer: So, since The Shack burned and you moved to Nelson, have you been able to recreate that event here?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah. Yeah, I do, but there's not as many as when I was in The Hollow. But every weekend, I still have a yard full. Every weekend I still got a yard full. All the fellows come down, drink beer, sit around, tell lies. We set up a barbecue pit last time you was here. So, I had to treat it. That's what I do on weekends.

[Break in interview 1:27:17] Recording stopped because of technical difficulties; restarted and continued with some questions from above repeated.

Interviewer: All right. So, continuing on, talk to me a little bit about high school and your sports in high school.

Sgt. Anderson: Oh, like I said, I played... Like I said, I come straight from elementary school to high school. And like I told you, I went straight to the varsity. They never played no junior high school games or anything. I also ran track. And I was in track, and I went to the... My specialty was the 440 dash, 400 meters, they called it. And I went to the state twice in the 400-meter dash. And I came in, the first year I went, I think I came in about second. Next year I went, I came in about fifth. The only two times I went to the state in track. Like I said, I played baseball also. We really didn't have a good baseball team back in high school. But we helped ourselves down and did the best we could do. Basketball, I went out for basketball one year. And was practicing one day, this guy I know, big old tall guy named Jerome Benson, we were just practicing. And I was going up for a layup,

and so he blocked my shot and knocked the ball in my face. And I walked off the court and never did play basketball again. Everybody laughed at me, when I was walking out the court. "Where are you going?" I said, "I'm going to the locker room. I quit. I don't know this stuff." Yeah, it made me mad, so I quit playing basketball. But I kept playing football, kept running track, and baseball. And I got to say, I was good. I was really good in high school. I really was. I was really good. And I kept up with my grades and everything too.

Interviewer: I assume, obviously there's Black and white players on those high school teams.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: How did you all get on? What did sports do for integration?

Sgt. Anderson: It did a lot for it. Believe it or not, there's a lot of guys that I played high school football with, white guys and Black guys, and I got a lot of white guys still around. And we get along just like brothers. That's what we were, the Black and whites and the football players. The football players, we were different from anybody else at school. Because it was our coach instill this in us. Our coach was an Indian. He was an Indian. And he would actually talk to us, make sure we mingled with each other, because we used to go to football camps. And he would make sure that the Black guy would have a white roommate. We had the white guy... He tried to get us together and make sure we got along with each other real well. And we did. Football team, if you played sports, everybody got along with each other. You still had the little hard heads that want to fight and stay in trouble all the time. But athletes, we really stuck together. Like I said, I still got friends in Jasper that I played football with. Oh, they love to see me. I'll go see them sometimes. I got one that's a druggist, one's an insurance agent, I got one that's a lawyer friend up there. I go see them all the time. Go up there and start talking, they don't want to let me go.

Interviewer: What was that coach's name?

Sgt. Anderson: Don Enic.

Interviewer: How do you spell the last name?

Sgt. Anderson: E-N-I-C.

Interviewer: And he was from Pickens County?

Sgt. Anderson: No, he was from... What was he from? He was from Alabama. He came from Alabama. But when I got to high school, he was already there. But he did, he came from Alabama, because I remember some of us went to Alabama with him to something, to move something, help him move? Somebody moved. But yeah, he was from Alabama. He came from Alabama.

Interviewer: And where did you all, I don't know what divisions were like at the time, but where did you all go to play in high school, the football team? Some of those cities?

Sgt. Anderson: Okay, we went to Rabun County, I remember. Dawson County, Lumpkin County, White County, Cherokee County, Cat High.

Interviewer: All north Georgia?

Sgt. Anderson: ElliJay, mm-hmm (affirmative). Yeah, all north Georgia. Murray County. We played few teams out in Atlanta. Because I'm going to tell you, we were so good in high school, but my 11th and 12th grade, we were talked about everywhere. we were beating other teams in our division, so they got a couple of teams out of Atlanta to play us, see what we do with them. We beat them. Cherokee County was triple-A. We get single-A. We got a game with Cherokee. They wanted to see a Cherokee could beat us. We beat them. We had a good athlete [crosstalk 01:33:14].

Interviewer: What was your mascot?

Sgt. Anderson: A dragon.

Interviewer: What were your expectations in high school for after graduation? You mentioned your parents encouraged you, but did you all think, yeah, of course college? Or did that-

Sgt. Anderson: College was the farthest thing from my mind. I was playing football just to have fun. All of us jocks did. We weren't thinking about, who are we playing? Play football, have a good time, get out of school, get you a job. And there was a lot of guys, my Black guys, like I got two of them here, they went to college. They were before me, about a year in front of me. They went to Tuskegee, but they couldn't cut the mustard or something. I don't know what happened. I think they just got tired of it and quit. But they were in Tuskegee, they sure were.

Interviewer: Had they gone there on a-

Sgt. Anderson: Scholarship.

Interviewer: ... on a football scholarship?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah.

Interviewer: And maybe, were they just not enjoying it?

Sgt. Anderson: I don't know what made them get out. I really don't.

Interviewer: Well, when did you realize that there might be opportunities to go to college through sports?

Sgt. Anderson: When I was a junior.

Interviewer: And who did you speak with about that?

Sgt. Anderson: We had a counselor. For all the students that played football, we had a counselor. His name was... What was his name. I can't even think of his name.

Sgt. Anderson: Well anyway, what he would do, he and the head coach, Don Enic, they started telling me that, keep playing like I'm playing, someday you may be able to go to college for it. Just keep your head up. Just keep playing like you are. And so, I guess they were writing these schools, these colleges. When I got to be a senior, they were writing these school to come see me. And they would send some recruiters out from these colleges, to watch high school games, and talk to people like that. So, like I said, that's when I then realized, why I might be going to school. I said, yeah, that'd be good. don't want to be close to home. I just want to get away around here for a while. Actually, why I chose Mississippi. Like I said, they would talk to me, sometimes at night and stuff, after the games. "So, and so is wanting to talk to you." "So, and so is here to see you." And still, I wasn't really thinking I was going to go. I really didn't. But it ended up that I did go. And I enjoyed it.

Interviewer: How much had you traveled out of Pickens County by that time?

Sgt. Anderson: When I was in high school?

Interviewer: Yeah. Had you had any opportunities to travel? Did you visit family?

Sgt. Anderson: We really didn't. We traveled; I don't bet we traveled out of the State of Georgia. We might've went to Dahlonega to see my mama's family. I did go to Ohio, as I told you, my grandmother, a lot of her children had moved to Ohio. So, we did travel to Ohio during the summertime and visit them. Dahlonega, we may go to Canton. I might read it, but we didn't venture out far when I was growing up in Smokey Hollow. A lot of people, they didn't go nowhere, didn't travel that much.

Interviewer: What did you see in Ohio? Was that different than where you were living?

Sgt. Anderson: Oh yeah, one big city. We'd go up there and stay, what, I actually went up there and stayed the whole summer by myself. But me and my brothers and my sister, we would go up and see... That's when my aunt lived there. Our grandmom and grandpa and some of my uncles, so we would travel up there and stay about a week or two during the summer, stay with them.

Interviewer: And where were they at in Ohio?

Sgt. Anderson: Cincinnati, Ohio.

Interviewer: And do you know what they were doing for a living, most of your uncles and aunts?

Sgt. Anderson: No, I don't. I don't know what they were doing.

Interviewer: So, tell me the colleges one more time. Tell me the colleges that accepted you on a football scholarship.

Sgt. Anderson: Clemson, Georgia, and Southern Mississippi.

Interviewer: And Georgia Tech?

Sgt. Anderson: Georgia Tech.

Interviewer: But you chose University of Southern Mississippi because it was far from home?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, I just wanted-

Interviewer: Just as simple as that?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, simple. I just wanted to get away from home. I really did.

Interviewer: What did your parents think?

Sgt. Anderson: Oh, they were proud of me. They were proud. They said, "That's what you want to do, you do it. If that's what you want to do."

Interviewer: Had your two older sisters been to college?

Sgt. Anderson: No. They did go to; they had a technical school at [Jasper 01:38:30] back then. I think, they did go to a tech school, technical school.

Interviewer: You were the first one going to college. So, tell me what was different about Hattiesburg, where you went to Southern Mississippi?

Sgt. Anderson: Well, Hattiesburg was, it was really, it was an old town. It was an old town also. And then where it was at, some of the football players that I played with, became friends with, they would take me home with them on the weekend and stay with them. And this was actually, where they were staying at, was actually out in the country. It was as country as tape, but they still... And they were out in the country. And I used to go home, stay with them on weekends, and have fun with them. But okay, Hattiesburg was back where the college was at, there was a lot more stuff to do. You could go out to eat anywhere. It wasn't like you had to go to a certain store. There was a lot of places to go to be entertained.

We had a lot of stuff on campus you could do. It was just, it wasn't a fast-paced place, but like I said, there was more stuff to do, more things to get into.

Interviewer: And what were you studying in school?

Sgt. Anderson: Athletic administration.

Interviewer: And tell me about student teaching.

Sgt. Anderson: Student teaching? That's where... Let's see what we did. During your senior year, and what you were majoring in, they'd give you an opportunity to go out in the community and do your student teaching at a high school or junior high school. And I did that. I think they sent me to a junior high school to do some student teaching. I think this lasted like four weeks or something like that. So, I went to this junior high school, all Black junior high school, and kids were so, what you call it, being a bag? There was some real mean kids. You're doing student teaching, and you see that those kids are treating the real teachers, and then you get a chance to mingle with them, mingle around with them and try to take some stuff, they don't want to listen. They think it's a joke. They'll make you mad. They made me mad. Look, there's some bad kids in that junior high school I was at in Mississippi. I'm telling you, there was some bad kids. They really changed my mind about becoming a teacher.

Interviewer: So, you had hoped to do physical education?

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah. I wanted to be a coach, a high school coach. I wanted to do. But I know the being a coach, you still have to teach. You still have to teach a class or something with your students. You got to know how to talk to the athletes and all that. I would have enjoyed that. But like I said, my mind was made up to be a coach, but after I went and talked to them little kids, I said, "No, this ain't for me. No siree." I couldn't handle it.

Interviewer: So, you finished school, and did you not know what you were going to do at that point, because you were turned off from teaching?

Sgt. Anderson: No, I didn't know what I was going to do. I just come home, come home and just start hanging around The Shack, and hanging around the fellas, doing odd jobs. Like I said, then I talked with one of my buddies and he told me to go to the army to try that. So, I tried it. Stayed there for 14 years, enjoyed every minute of it, wished I'd have stayed and retired. But things come up. So, went to the army, had a good time. Was a drill sergeant, everything like that. Had a good time. Enjoyed the army. Went to war. Wasn't even scared either. I didn't even think about getting shot at. It was the last thing that crossed my mind. I thought it was, not fun, but I thought it was just interesting, just to be in a war? And I never thought, when I joined the army, I never thought I'd actually be fighting somebody, actually be a war like Vietnam and stuff. Because everything was

peaceful back then. There wasn't no war going on. And then that came up and I was willing to go. I was ready to go. Sure was. And enjoy it.

Interviewer: Well let's, I want to come back to when you returned here. You were talking a little bit about people coming around here on Fridays, getting together. And tell me about those people, who they are, where they're coming from. Are they mostly here in Nelson? Or are they farther out?

Sgt. Anderson: Well, we had a... Now, when I was coming up to, we had a... The Shack was down in The Hollow, of course, had that. But in Nelson, down here, in Nelson, they had an old house down here they converted into a little cooking joint. And they would sell sandwiches on the weekend, had a little juke box. And the people that come here and take Nelson, most of the people, like I said, most of the people come from Canton. In Georgia, the people come from Canton, Smokey Hollow, and Jasper, and the others of course. But we did have people coming from all the way from Atlanta, Marietta. There were people who would even come from Tennessee, down here on weekend, to The Shack. People would come. And a lot of people used to come, I think this is why a lot of people moved out, there were people coming from Ohio down here. They had people down here. They had folks around here. And the kids, they would come down here and stay the whole summer with some of their folks. And these people were from, like I said, Tennessee and Ohio. Like I said, New York, Chicago, they were actually, they had people that lived in Smokey Hollow. And they would love to come to Smokey Hollow in the summertime and hang around. And we did that. And then, up in Jasper also, well I'll tell you, a little Black community. They had a little club up there, a little eating joint, a little dance floor. But it wasn't nothing like The Hollow, like The Shack. There were just few people come in, they have them eat, dance. I don't think, they weren't serve no alcohol or anything like The Shack was though. It was more like a family all intended place, it's a family thing. Because I remember my mama used to take us to Nelson down here, when they had the cafe in Nelson, just a little cafe. Going there and eat. Play a little music, sit around, and talk with people. We used to go as a family thing. That was a lot of the older folks, that they knew The Shack was there, but some of them really... We get rowdy down there sometimes, they did back in the old days, the old folks. A lot of people wouldn't let their kids come into The Hollow, to The Shack, because they thought it was just so bad, so bad down there. But once those kids got older, got on their own, where they was at? Down there in The Hollow.

Interviewer: It sounds like it had a little bit of reputation.

Sgt. Anderson: Yeah, it did. It did. It really did.

Interviewer: Well. My last question is, when you think about The Hollow today, or if you drive through what was Smokey Hollow...

Sgt. Anderson: It's a pitiful sight.

Interviewer: Oh man. It's only been like 50 years.

Sgt. Anderson: Is it 50?

Interviewer: Like no time at all really.

Sgt. Anderson: I know. It's a pitiful sight. It really... If I could have, if I could have afforded it back then, if I'd of had the money, and knew what I knew today, I would have stayed down there. Even after The Shack got burned down, I couldn't have bought the land, but I did talk with a guy named... It's not the Georgia Marble Company anymore, it's Blue Ridge Marble and Granite. His name was Jim Homes, or something like that, that owned that. I personally talked to him, wrote him a letter. Because I found out his name through a guy that worked at the Georgia Marble Company. And he told me if I wanted to, I could go back down there and clean that place off. This was when The Shack first burned up, mine thought... But he said, if I wanted to, I could go down there and clean that place off, and he wouldn't mind if I built The Shack back. But I told him I can't afford it right now. That's what I actually called him for, to see if I could put it back. I thought I could afford it, but I couldn't. I couldn't afford it. But if I had the money back then, like I said, he was going to let me be on back. He was going to let me pull another trailer in there. But I couldn't afford it. So, I said, well, I'll just go rent something and see what comes up.

Interviewer: Well, I appreciate it. And we will conclude there.

Sgt. Anderson: Okay.