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Orleans County Historical Association

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NAMES

Father: Mack Cole Waldo (Homer Daw Waldo) Lucy Cole Waldo)
Mother: Frances Bentley Standish Waldo (Lutner & Frances Ben.)
Married: Alena Bragg
Barre Center sign: BRAGGS CORNERS
Married: Bertha McPartland

1896 -



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.

Thomas L. Waldo

Signed

September 23, 1983

Date

Understood and agreed to:

Helen B. Mathes

INTERVIEWER

September 23, 1983

Date

For the Orleans County Historical Association

This is an interview with Homer Waldo at his home in West Barre. I am Helen Mathes, Historian for the Town of Barre recording this on the 23rd day of September 1983.

M Mr. Waldo, we usually start with a bit of family background. Would you like to tell us when you were born.

W April 29, 1896, I was born.

M Do you remember your folks and your grandparents?

W Oh Yes, I remember them well. They lived in the house that burned across from the barn that burned also later. And I went to house keeping there after I married Alena Bragg in 1918.

M I guess the Bragg Family was well known in West Barre as there is a sign about the family down on the corner.

W Yes, I really don't know too much about that. It's still there at Braggs Corners I believe.

The sign we are discussing was erected in the 1930's. It was furnished by the State Department of Education and put up with the help of the Orleans County D. A. R. It reads (BRAGGS CORNERS) "Solomon Bragg with son Nathan were first settlers west of Barre Center. Blazed forest trail to this place where they built a cabin in 1818)."

M How many children did you have Mr. Waldo?

W Well I had two girls: Helen and Elizabeth. Helen married Walter Carr and Elizabeth married Ned Peters.

M Do you have lots of grandchildren?

W Yes, how far do you want to go? I'm not sure, in the 20's anyway. Bertha had a boy and they had five children. They would be my grandchildren too. One boy that was married first had a child, a daughter and she is married and has two little tots, beautiful children.. I was out there last Christmas.

M Is that California?

W Yes and that was the first time I ever saw them and they are bright , nice children.

M You mentioned Bertha. Was she your second wife?

W Yes, Bertha McPartland, was her maiden name. My first wife died in 1929.

M Did she have pneumonia?

W No, she had T.B. She had asthma very bad and I suppose that made it worse for her. We went to Ashville, North Carolina in 1926. I got the Model T ready with boxes on the side and one on the back

W end of it to hold blankets and things and I cut the front seat down so it tipped back and Grandpa Bragg and Grandma and Alena and the two children went to Carolina in November and I rented a house for about a month there and after we got there and settled in the house we discovered that most everybody in that high mountain air used soft coal. Soft coal smoke didn't agree with asthma so we bundled up and came back home again in the Model T. The roads in Virginia, after you got to Richmond, were all dirt roads winding around through the trees. That was in 1926, and then in 1927, we took the Model T and went to Florida. In those times, there were no places very often unless you stayed in a private home. There were places where you could stay and pitch a tent. It took 11 days going down. We found a nice cottage there. It was waiting for us when we got to Florida. A lady had it ready for us and we stayed there that winter and after awhile, a young lady that lived in another cottage in between the streets in Tarpon Springs, She apparently had a boy friend that ran a gas station down in Tarpon Springs on old route 19. On the corner where they turn to go down what they call the Sponge Exchange. Have you ever been there? Along in May, I think it was May, they decided to get married. They wanted to go on a wedding trip so he got me to work there. I had been working there two or three months I guess two hours a night. So he came up with the idea I would run it 15 hours a day, while they went two weeks on their wedding trip. It was a Standard Oil station. The pumps were bottle up glass at the top. You pumped the handle back and forth and got one gallon or five whichever you wanted. That's the way they got the gas. I ran that station alone for two weeks, fifteen hours a day. Finally my father came down on the train and rode back with us. We put up the tent every night for him. Helen just started school that year. She had a little difficulty the first day of school finding our place back in Tarpon Springs. Flora Northup lived down there and she knew where they lived and they finally got her home alright.

Helen was your oldest daughter wasn't she?

Yes, and Elizabeth is two years younger.

It should be noted here that Bertha had two children; Wilbur Parsons and Elizabeth (Betty) Brace Hakes, (she died in 1981) when they married.

M When you were going to Florida were there gas stations to stop and buy gas, at that time?

W We seemed to have good luck that way. I had a little Coleman camp stove (it's down cellar now). I bought it from Lavern Rhodey's

W father. He was in the Blacksmith Shop. He had the old fashion gasoline lamps that you pump up. I think there is one hanging down there in Rhodney's store now. We had no trouble getting gas for the little gas stove but we had to put up the tent every night and put up the beds and cots.

M What month was this?

W I think it was in the later part of November. Because we figured on being down there in December. That was the second year. When we got down there, Mrs. Northup knew some of the people from Chicago a gentleman that had never been married. I guess he had T.B. at one time and had been coming winters for around thirty years. He wanted a chauffeur. So I chauffeured three winters for him in Florida. He ordered a car in Tampa. I remember going over on the bus with him to get it and drive it home.

It was a 1928 seven passanger Hudson.

M Oh Boy, that sounds like quite a car.

W It was like a Cadillac. I drove three winters for him and before his brand-new car came, I had a 1924 Studebaker. I didn't drive the Model T down that winter. I went to Medina and got the 1924 Studebaker Sedan. I had the president of the Pennsylvania Railroad out riding in my Studebaker and a Jeweler from Patterson, New Jersey came and said, "Homer, can I take your car to go fishing?" So I drove the car three winters there and we had to stay until about the 25th of June. We came back after that. I have been down a couple three times since taking a trailer behind the car with Bertha.

M It's a nice place to be in the winter time. We have been the last three winters. What happened next?

W I saw Calvin Coolidge in St. Petersburg when he came down the hotel steps one time.

M That's interesting. You were telling about the Model T that your father had.

W Oh Yes, John Batchellor and my father were quite friendly and they got together and took the top off the car and stripped it, what they could. They cleaned the shop out, some more than it is now, and drove it right in. They fixed it all up and painted it for the next summer. Never drove cars in the winter time.

M Was it a second hand car?

W It was a 1914, and he got it in March of 1915. So it was apparently a year old.

M Is that when the Model T's came out?

W No, Uncle Harry Waldo had a Model T in 1910. When he was highway superintendent of Orleans County. There was no top on it and I don't know if there were any front doors or not or windshield on it. I've got a picture of my father and mother here in one of those little one-seated Maxwell's with the gear shift up on the left hand side of the seat. Frank Parsons lived in Barre Center where John Seager is and before that they lived across from the school house down here and they had one of those Maxwell's with one seat.

M Did you have any brothers or sisters?

W No, I was the only one, that's why I'm so miserable.

M Oh, come on, "your Kiding" Have you any good advise for long and happy living?

W Yes, I've had a happy life, of course I've had disappointments too. I never drank any beer. I had some near beer one time down to the store and I couldn't wait until I got to the door. It made me sick. I don't smoke either but I might take a whiskey sour now and then which I don't think it hurts me.

M I saw a sign by your driveway as I came in with the year 1868 on it. Is that the year your grandfather bought the farm?

W Yes, the deed is recorded in Nov. 1868. He bought it from Albert Avery. The deeds I am showing you have the original signature of Joseph Ellicott with the date 1823.

It should be noted here that Joseph Ellicott was the principal surveyer-of the Holland Company's lands in Western New York.

M I see your grandfathers middle initial was D and yours is L. What do they stand for?

W My grandfather lived around Daw's Corners and his middle initial was D for Daw. I don't know why but I believe there were Daw's in the family somewhere. His grave is in a cemetery over east of Elba. His second wife and her father and mother are buried in the east part of Mt. Albion in the low part.

M What was your mother's maiden name?

Bentley, Frances Alice, she was some relation to the Bentley Bros. in Barre Center but I can't tell you just how. My grandmother X Bentley lived where Hickman lives across from the Allis road on Eagle Harbor road. She took care of that place for a family in Rochester who had a livery stable up there somewhere. They had one in Buffalo and then they moved to Rochester. We went to

W Rochester in the Model T to visit them one time and had dinner down there off of Monroe Ave.

M I was reading in the Orleans County Signor book on page 492 that Homer D. Waldo's wife was Lucy Ann Cole daughter of Lonson Cole and Mary Gibbons. Do you remember them?

W I remember Lucy Cole Waldo, my grandmother, but the others were before my time. George Cole lived in Barre Center and was a relative some way.

M I also read your grandfather was a Justice of Peace. Do you remember his talking about being a Justice?

W I remember the trials he had in the middle room here. He had a great large desk and he had several trials.

M Did they have a Jury?

W Yes they had a Jury. They were lucky enough in those times, that a fellow who lived up the road knew shorthand. So he had him here for the trials. One of the trials was over in West Barre and the County Line, the house is gone now. Mr. Johnson lived about half way between Wilbur Mulls and the next house. He had turkeys and Mr. Finch on the corner had turkeys too. They had a dispute over the turkeys and they had the trial here.

M So who won?

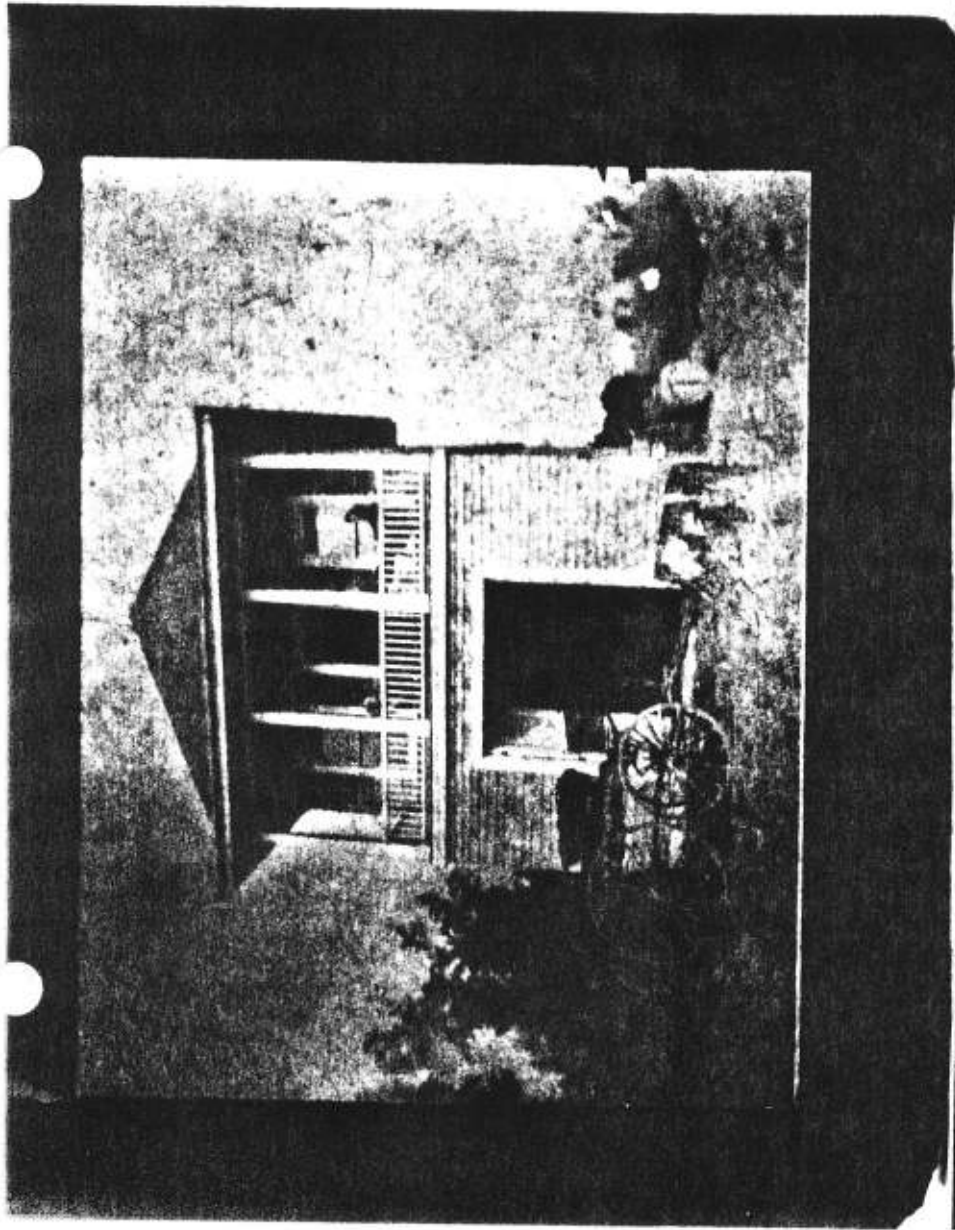
W My grandfather was quite a man to try and figure out a peaceful way to settle things. I don't know if it was decided at all or if he got them to shake hands.

M It also said he was a staunch Republican. Is your party affiliation the same?

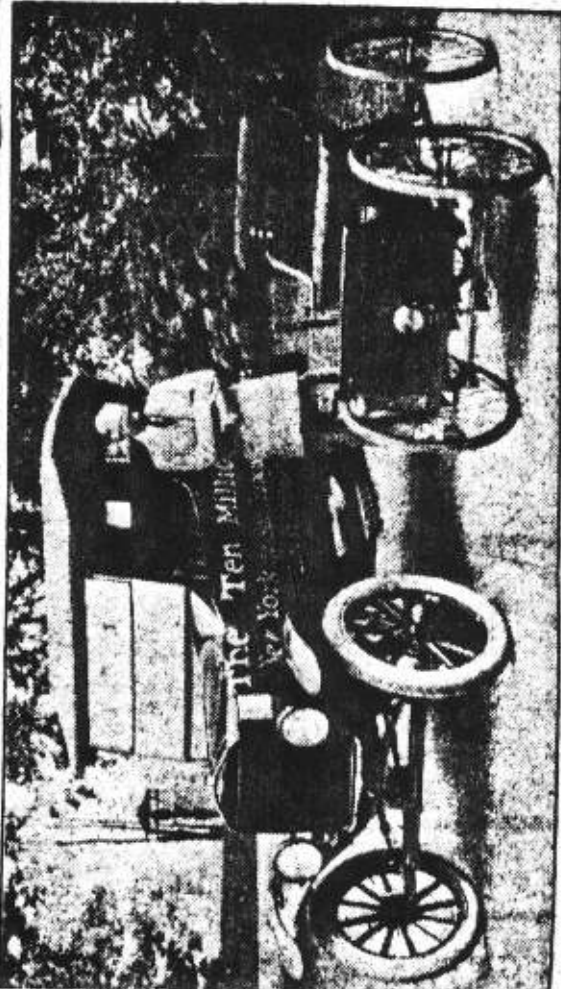
W I've always voted Republican but sometimes I vote for the man instead of the party lately.

M So do I. Politics have changed over the years,

W I have been on election board here in West Barre for a good many years. Bertha was on for some time too and my father was on before me when they had the election upstairs over the store. That was the store that burned and this store now is the barn that was near by and moved over for the store. Those times they had paper ballots. They had a good many arguments when they counted them being intent of the voter. You could see where the voter had made little scratch marks and if it was a marked ballot they couldn't count it. Some of the Democrats or Republicans didn't want a ballot counted. Then they would argue all night. It would be 5 O'clock in the morning before they would get the ballots counted.



*House for powderline
 Patterson on Buena road.
 Wood near Butwin on 13
 house below. Also above*



Car with last laugh on its neigh-sayers is 75 years old today

United Press International
 DEARBORN, Mich. — Today marks the 75th birthday anniversary of the Model T — a no-frills car that brought cries of "Get a horse!" from many non-believers but eventually sent the horse to pasture.

The Model T was introduced by Ford Motor Co. on Oct. 1, 1908, and its first year of production set what was then an industry record of 10,660.

The "Tin Lizzie" was first produced by hand, but 70 years ago this month Henry Ford perfected his mass production method and began assembling the chassis for the Model T on a moving assembly line.

Car had last laugh on its neigh-sayers

FROM PAGE 1A

door of Ford's Highland Park, Mich., assembly plant at the rate of one every 40 seconds.

The Model T was the first car to have its motor block and crankcase on a single unit, the first to have the steering wheel on the left-hand side and the first to have a removable cylinder head for easy access to pistons and cylinders.

Stark simplicity — including the standard black exterior — was the car's trademark. Gasoline levels were measured with a stick and the auto did not come equipped with water, a spare tire, oil pump, horn, windshield-wipers, heater, rear view mirrors, trunk or bumpers.

- W I've been up in that old store when they were counting.
It used to be fun to watch and hear them.
- M Was the West Barre Store right on the corner at one time?
- W It might have been at one time but not in my memory.
- M Where was the one that burned?
- W Right where this one is now. Then there was a store across from Helen & Walt Carr's. Mark Turner built a machine shop there for his threshing machines. Ernie Sole ran the store I think it belonged to Frank Gray. He married Martha Mix's sister and they moved to Akron to live.
- M Do you remember starting school and where you went to school?
- W I went down the road here to the West Barre school practically all my school days. I never had the chance to take High School. I did get in to High School.
- M It was quite a long ways from here to Albion School wasn't it?
- W I stayed in town during the winter. I started in Nov. Do you remember Jim Carriage? Well he ended up Highway superintendent in Gaines. He had a store there. He worked here one winter for Chris Drake and when it come Sunday night he would hook up a horse on the cutter and take me to Eagle Harbor and I would pick up the Trolley there and go to Albion. I boarded one winter with Frank Parsons and his wife, and the next winter with Harry and Elsie Waldo down on East State St. I would go from Nov. to March and then stop and go to farming again. I went two winters down there.
- M Did you go when the old High School burned?
- W No, I went in the school on West Academy St. up on the third floor in the north end. Two rooms they called "the preparatory." Miss Miller and Miss Baker were the teachers and one of them was the same teacher that my father went to school to. I think it was Miss Baker. She was a teacher for a good many years. My agricultural teacher at that time got to be quite a prominent man: H. E. Babcock. His wife Hilda Babcock was my Algebra teacher. She just died recently but he has been dead for quite a few years. They had a chicken farm down around Ithaca.
- M When you went to Country School over here in West Barre were there a lot of children in the school?
- W It was pretty well filled up. Most all my teachers were extra good. We had one teacher that stands out in my memory being extra good was Blanche Hibbard Hatch. She started teaching when she was 18 years old and she was a cracker jack. Very good teacher. She ended up in Knowlesville and I think one of her

W sons still lives there. The school is still standing up on the corner. Ray Markle has bought it now. Its on the north side of the East Shelby Rd. which they call Hemlock Ridge now.

M In the 1950's we bought a registered cow from you. Did you always have purebred cows?

W My father got five, three of them were young and two were mature cows from Fred Daniels over in the southern-tier. I remember when David bought one. Not all the cows have been registered but we raised them from those. Father didn't keep the registration papers up. Those were Holsteins.

M That was one of the best cows we ever had.

W I remember David saying she gave enough milk for two or three calves.

M Let's talk a little bit about farming during your lifetime. You probably started out with horses?

W All horse drawn equipment. I have spent a good many days behind a walking plow too.

M After you came back from Florida did you ever have any other occupation beside farming?

W No, only farming. I remember though that I did work part time in the Gypson plant over in Oakfield for three summers I think. I'd forgotten that. When I came back from Florida, Laverne Rhodey's father was one of the bosses. He had a gang of men over there and I worked for him three summers. It was construction work and repair work, steel work. I enjoyed that. Just once, on a Sunday we went down to the foot of the air shaft. The shaft where the cars would go down the elevator and come up. It was automatic and we had to work on it. That was the only time I was down below I didn't have to work underground. When they built the paper mill over there. I worked down there before it started and some afterward not producing paper but getting machinery ready. That type of work. I remember one day we got things pretty well going and they hadn't got the eavestrough on the building yet; that's quite a tall building with a flat roof and a gang of us went up on the roof to put the eavestrough on and the wind blew so hard we couldn't do it. We had to wait for a quieter day. I made some of the channel iron pieces for that and up to the mill I helped set 40 horse power vertical motors down on the floor below and they went up and connected with the grinding stone upstairs. Thats one of the things that stands out in mind but I did a lot of different things over there at

W the mill. They had to be almost perfectly level. By the time we got a shaft up and the motor down running the machine, just a little bit would throw it out of line. They had to be almost perfect level or plumb.

M That was interesting. How many acres did you say were on this farm?

W You want the one down there too? 320.

M Did you have to hire a lot of help in the 1920's and 30's when you were still working with horses?

W No, it wasn't to long before I got a International tractor and I Had a Fordson too at one time. It killed me, pretty near. It was hard to get started. One more thing about the tractor. We had a 918 Case that the motor set crossways of the frame and steel tires and lugs. We got it down in Knowlesville. A fellow there wanted to get rid of it and I don't blame him any. That would pull two plows. Then we had a 1020. We graduated to an international H.

M What do you have here now?

W We have a 85 White and three or four more around here. My gtdanson is running the farm. Ronald Carr, Helen's son. He's taking it over.

Side two of Tape

M Could you tell about the windmill that used to here. There is a picture of it in the "Historical Album" of Orleans County 1879 on page 241.

W The windmill had two wires which went from here over to the West farm to a pump with what they call a walking beam. There would be an arm out here, which went up and down and pump water over there. One time there was a barn on the north side of the road here. In the picture you can see the wires going over there to the barn and also we had a shed out here and a lot of other buildings There was one where we killed cattled in and one where we raised cattle. Up above they had a feed grinder. A place where they could dump a bag of feed in and it would slide down to below. There were two holes through the building where wires went to that feed grinder and it was connected with a sprocket that had notches on it. Every time those wires went back and forth it moved that sprocket one notch and I don't know if it would grind a bag of feed in one day or not. I had the feed grinder taken down out of the barn and was going to keep it for a relic. One day when I was away some of the folks decided to clean up so they took it over to the dump. It was the only one I ever saw or heard of. My grandfather had friends out in Michigan in the manufacturing business. They used to send him machinery here to

W use and try out. He had one of the first grain binders and I almost think it tied with wire. I don't remember seeing it but I've heard them tell about it. I had a John Deere wire baler you had to ride on it and stick the wires through and hook them. I went down to Clifton Springs and bought it for a \$1000. Brought it home and used it one year and every time you got so much hay in you had to put a board in between it. It took three or four people to work on it and it took one good man to start the engine mostly. I put an ad in the Rochester Democrat & Chronicle the next spring. I was lucky I got my money out of it.

M We had one of those balers in 1944 and I was the two people on the back doing the wiring. It was a killer!

M How did you make out during the big depression of the 30's.?

W Well we kept alive. Milk checks were around \$70 a month. They didn't go very far. Prices were considerably lower what you had to buy hay for.

M Did you buy your groceries over here to Rhodey's store or did you go to Albion for them?

W Well I think mostly we bought them here to Rhodey's at that time, Since then the stores in Albion have been changed and we go more down there for a variety. Rhodey's is a wonderful store and I'd say they have a good trade right now. They have quit going around with their peddler cart. At one time we had Culver Bros., Jackson & Rice in Barre Center all came here, and Floyd Phillips and Allen Bentley, William Benny from Shelby all peddling here. Bob Genny ran the peddling cart. It was one of the first International hard tired wheel trucks on the road. It broke down over here and was in the barn for awhile, almost a week before they could get parts.

M Did a lot of tramps come around at that time?

W Very few, usually one or two would come to the door in the summer nothing to bad. One thing we did have when they built the first line through with the three legged towers right out here, they had a camp up west of the barn and before the tents got here, about 100 workers landed here one night and they slept in the barn. They had a cook tent and that wasn't here so the barns were still over there and my grandfather had charge of the farm at that time and he let them sleep in the barn that night. When the tents came there was an Austrian tent, Italian tent, Polish tent and a cook tent four different tents. These towers out here were put up all by hand digging the holes and mixing the cement and hoisting them up. The road that was originally along the power line here was made with two

- W horses on an ordinary town road scraper. They hoisted pails of cement up. Those pipes and three legged towers are supposed to be full of concrete. I remember seeing that when I was going to school down here in 1907, when it was put through.
- M I heard once that there was another road going back of your farm here that would come out over south of West Barre.
- W It never went through all the way. There were two houses down it. There is a fence down it and we have a right of way through which originally was 38 acres my grandfather gave Albert Waldo when he started housekeeping. There is partly a stone road down through there and Mr. Bishop and his wife Alma who ran the store started housekeeping on that road. The cellar wall part of it is still there and we have used it to put our tin cans in.
- M Why do you think they discontinued that road?
- W I don't know, unless there was a wet place to go through. It came up by the goose pond where the school house used to be. There was a fence, its gone now, they cleaned up the field down below. At that time you could see through. Our line goes back to Richard Miller and the Wilbur Mull place back that far and then from there on its the Martin place over on the Burns Road.
- M What kind of crops did you usually raise?
- W Beans and wheat and potatoes and of course we filled silo. We had a 16ft. square silo and it was 16ft. high.
- M When was that built?
- W Before I ever remember. Years ago. They used to fill it with a ten horse power gas engine. It was one of the first ones I remember seeing around here. It was so heavy we had to draw it around on a heavy slip boat made purpose for it. It had a cutting box, with rollers in it. We had to feed three or four stalks at a time. It was set up outside and it went up a wooden carrier. The whole thing was wooden except the chain. That was the way we filled the silo. A number of years with a 10 horse gasoline engine. We forked it out by hand. It held a lot of material in those days. It probably wouldn't last very long now.
- M When did your big barn burn?
- W September 1st. 1971. It was just west of the house. I have pictures of it.
- M Do you remember the first World War and what effect it had on your family?
- W In 1914. Most all the young men, at that time, were producing food for the war.

M I have been admiring your old clock here on the wall can you say something about it?

W Well it has run almost perfect time for a good many years. I've had it a number of years and my grandfather had it I imagine soon after he came here in 1868. There is another cover goes on it and at one time it was a perpetual clock and it would give the 28 days in February and 29 every four years. The small lower section below was the Calender. The fellow that made it had a pretty good idea on how to figure it out. It keeps the days good too.

M Do you remember when the women first got to vote?

W No, I don't remember about that. I think I have voted every year since I was old enough. I don't recall ever having skipped anything that was important. They have changed things a lot, some for the better and some I wonder about. We have lost some of the good men. I was Justice under (Stub) George Batchellor and Harold Hill.

M When you were Justice did you hold court here in your house?

W No, I never had to do that. I let the other Justice do it. I didn't think it was necessary for the town to maintain that many books. I was glad not to, as I have just as many friends. I would have if it was necessary. When (Stub) George Batchellor was Supervisor we had an opportunity to go out to Ohio where the Gayland works are, Maxi rollers and graders. We went to Niagara Falls airport about 16 from the county and went out to Ohio and stayed over night. They had their own motel where we stayed and own food. We went all around the different operations where they were making the rollers and graders. It was very interesting. The grader was bought before we went.

M What year was that?

W I can't tell you off hand what year it was. I have some pictures I took out there here in the house.

M How did they get it back to Barre?

W I surmise by truck, or it might have been shipped into Buffalo. They came with a two motor plane a D. C. ³ up to Niagara Falls to pick us up.

M Did you go to the Pan American Exposition up at Buffalo in 1901?

W I remember my grandmother came over. We were living in the house that burned and stayed with me. I wasn't very old, about five years. I remember seeing my father and mother drive away in the horse and buggy. They went to Oakfield and took the train into Buffalo. I suppose they went there only one day but I don't recall for sure. That was the year President McKinley was shot.

Did you

M Did you ever show cattle or anything at the Agricultural fairs?
W No, I was always too busy. I have pictures of a lot of the heifers. Nice looking heifers. I turned them out and cut their horns off and took pictures on both sides so I could mark them off if I had to. Those pictures are still around. Bill Parsons was here and he used to hold them for me, I remember because he is in the pictures.

M Anything else you want to tell about farming or threshing?

W I went threshing with John Bannister and Harold Perfitt one year in the fall. We had quite a few experiences.

M Is that the Harold Perfitt that lives in Barre Center Now?

W Yes, He lived on the corner here in West Barre, his father worked a farm there.

When I was in Florida one winter John Bannister, (before we had electricity, it was only as far as Cyler Paines place) worked during the winter trying to get the right of way. At that time you had to provide the right of way for the electric company to put their poles down. You had to get signers for the right of way for them. You had to guarantee them \$70 a month for every mile they extended their line. John worked at it one winter and gave it up and couldn't get it. When I came back from Florida I went after it. You know the place called hog's back, across from Cyler Paine's, it goes crossways and a fellow has a house in the woods. That was in the Stacey farm and five people had interest in the settlement of the estate. One of them was in Geneva. Stacey had a milk truck and started drawing milk here and got involved in some way with the fellow. He got part of the place and Mattie Standish was one and Charlie Stacey in Albion and there were people down around Gaines and the Ferry Standish on this side of Pine Hill. I think that is the five of them and I had to get all five to sign for the power line going through that hog's back. It went corner-wise through there so it kept the distance shorter that they would have to go.

M Why do they ^{call} ~~call~~ that hog's back for?

W Its a regular hill, a narrow hill. That was in 1928.

M Was it hard getting the people to sign?

W Some signed for two dollars a month and some for four and one fellow in particular over on Pine Hill Rd. near Walter Sanderson didn't sign up. If he signed up the power line would come by him and if he didn't it would go another way and then he would have to pay to come back. One of the neighbors was interested and went over the last night before I went down with the papers and he signed

W up for four dollars a month. The pole out here in our yard has been here since 1928. Thats where the line ended right here. Two years afterwards President Roosevelt had the Rural Electrification go into effect and the line went on West. You didn't have to get the right of way for the power company any longer.
I guess we did it a year or two to quick.

M What about telephones. Did you have one always?

W Yes, I had part of a telephone rigged up in the shop. To change the subject for a minute, when the post office was here I still have the cubby holes for it out in the shop.

We had two telephone companys! The Home telephone company and the Bell telephone company at that time. Capitolla Grinnell was manager of the home company and it cost a dollar a month. It was in Barre Center and they had a pretty nice gal operator. Loretta Willhaimer was her name.

M You were showing me some of your old tools in the shop. What were they?

W They were the old fashion bolt threaders. Two different ones. One for threading short bolts and one for the larger bolts. The dies were interchangeable and fit right into the handle.

M What about the yoke for oxen?

W That has been here as long as I can remember. I don't know where it came from or who had it.

M Maybe it belonged to Solomon Bragg. It tells about him coming with oxen in one of the old histories about Orleans County.

Do you belong to the West Barre Cemetery Association Inc?

W I don't know as I belong to it but I have a lot over there.

M Does the town take care of it?

W Right now Albert Narburgh takes care of it. Homer Gillette was for awhile. Wilbur Hill has something to do with it and the Wrathal Brothers. Last year I gave them two rods on the back as they were getting short of space. That takes it back on all the high ground. A lot of the things about the cemetery they don't know about. When Joe Bodine died he carried it with him.

M I have a copy of names of people buried there. The D. A. R. copied them in 1932. I heard once there are some people buried on the farm that Ned & Liz Peter own.

W Yes I think so. They are almost across from Albert Narburgh. I believe in the corner of the orchard. There must be stones, I know I talked to Liz about it not to long ago. Its in the northeast corner of that orchard.

- M Whoever told me about that burial place said Charlie Palmer had a copy of who was buried there. It probably burned in his house. Do you belong to the Methodist Church here in West Barre?
- W I joined in 1909. I think right now I am probably one of the oldest members.
- M We are nearing the end of the tape Mr. Waldo so I want to thank you for this interview. It has been fun.



Mr. Homer L. Waldo

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This interview was conducted by Helen Mathes.
The taped interview was transcribed by Helen Mathes.