

SMI-ARCH 2005-001
Belfast Historical Society fonds
ITEM LISTING

Note: Partial transcriptions of some of the interviews as well as photographs of many of the informants can be found in *Belfast People: An Oral History of Belfast, Prince Edward Island* (Charlottetown: Tea Hill Press, 1992).

1. *Side A*
Risdon Gillis (25 September 1907 - 20 January 1986). Date: 29 October 1980.
Interviewer: Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 31 min.
Subjects: working as an undertaker, farming, selling machinery, politics, growing up in Eldon, etc.

Side B
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2. *Side A*
Gus Ross (14 August 1904 - ?). Date: 8 August 1979. Interviewer: Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 45 min.
Subjects: farming, thrashing, sheep dipping, horses, going to dances, etc.

Side B
Gus Ross (14 August 1904 - ?). Date: 30 September 1982. Interviewer: Susan Hornby.
Length of interview (approx.): 32 min.
Subjects: family background, helping on the farm as a child, daily life of a farmer, sheep dipping, etc.
3. *Side A*
Major Douglas McGowan. Date: November 1984. Interviewer: [unknown]. Length of interview (approx.): 31 min.
Subjects: Major McGowan's military career, McGowan Motors in Montague, etc.
Note: Side A is mislabeled "Angus Leslie MacLean, 2 March 1983"

Side B
Angus Leslie MacLean (17 July 1889 - 31 December 1987). Date: [unknown].
Interviewer: [Susan Hornby]. Length of interview (approx.): 30 min.
Subjects: funerals, courting his second wife, shivarees, carpentry, fiddling, etc.
Note: Side B appears to start mid-interview

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4. *Side A*

Laura Matheson MacDonald (2 April 1888 - 10 August 1984). Date: 16 April 1979.
Interviewer: Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 41 min.

Subjects: moving to husband's home after marriage, daily work of a mother of eleven children, visitors and visiting, food, stories, etc.

NOTE: There is a lot of static on the tape and it is difficult to hear the interview; Original tape was squeaking, so the tape has been repaired and re-housed in a new tape casing

Side B

News broadcast taped off the radio

5. *Side A*

Angus McGowan (31 December 1906 - 3 May 1993). Date: [ca. 1979]. Interviewer: [Mary Ross]. Length of interview (approx.): 38 min

Subjects: family background, early settlers in Kilmuir, working in father's store, etc.

Note: Tape starts with "And the Band Played Waltzing Matilda" followed by more music and talking in the background. The interview starts about 7 min. into the tape.

Side B

George Davies (28 October 1899 - 13 September 1982). Date: 7 December 1980.

Interviewer: Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 31 min.

Subjects: family background, arrival in Canada as a young orphan, school days, stories about MacEacherns (adoptive family), joining the navy, etc.

6. *Side A*

Annie Martin Gillis (19 April 1905 - 23 May 1990). Date: 2 March 1983. Interviewer: Susan Hornby. Length of interview (approx.): 45 min.

Subjects: home versus hospital births, chores as a child on the farm, school years, attending Prince of Wales College in Charlottetown, teaching, getting married, having children, raising the family after the death of her husband, earning her degree through correspondence, teaching in Nova Scotia, retirement, etc.

Side B

Annie Martin Gillis - continued from Side A

Length of interview (approx.): 14 min.

Subjects: Living in Pnette, family life, etc.

Note: Interview is followed by a news broadcast taped off the radio

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7. *Side A*

Lena MacEachern (1902 - 2001?). Date: 12 July 1979. Interviewer: Mary Ross.

Length of interview (approx.): 15 min.

Subjects: family background, school days, working in A. D. Ross' store, getting married, local concerts, Eldon Hall, etc.

Side B

Annie Murchison (1888-1989). Date: 9 July 1979. Interviewer: Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 33 min.

Subjects: attending Prince of Wales College in Charlottetown, teaching, getting married, life as a minister's wife, having children, home versus hospital births, first impressions of Belfast and its people, courting, etc.

NOTE: Interview is followed by a news broadcast taped off the radio

8. *Side A*

Josephine Byrne Morrissey (19 September 1886 - 26 November 1989). Date: 17 February 1979. Interviewer: Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 30 min.

Subjects: early life in Iona, family background, clothing, school, church, weddings, etc.

Side B

Josephine Byrne Morrissey - continued from Side A

Length of interview (approx.): 32 min.

Subjects: strict rules for Sunday, making yeast, making butter, trading hay for wood, crossing the ice, wakes, parties, etc.

9. *Side A*

Kate MacLean Emery (29 September 1893 - 2 December 1984). 14 July 1980.

Interviewers: Susan Hornby and Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 35 min.

Subjects: school days, going to the United States, returning to PEI with a new baby after her husband's death, her mother's daily chores, getting remarried, shivarees, courting, Christmas memories, etc.

Side B

Johnnie MacEachern (22 July 1904 - 18 March 1989). Date: 14 July 1980.

Interviewers: Susan Hornby and Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 20 min.

Subjects: early life, harvest excursion, trucking, carpentry work, etc.

NOTE: There is a lot of static on the tape, making it difficult to hear individuals speaking; The material from side A (interview with Kate MacLean Emery) appears to have bled onto side B

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10. *Side A*

Harry MacTavish (10 September 1888 - 30 May 1984). Date: 28 June 1977.
Interviewer: Karen MacPherson. Length of interview (approx.): 30 min.
Subjects: family background, never needed government assistance, carpentry work, working in the lumber camps, politics and government, stories about World War I, etc.

Side B

Harry MacTavish - continued from Side A
Length of interview (approx.): 30 min.
Subjects: returning home after the war, stories from Europe, etc.

11. Duplicate of Tape 1 (Risdon Gillis)

12. *Side A*

Cameron MacPhee (12 April 1897 - 24 March 1987). Date: 8 November 1980.
Interviewer: Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 30 min.
Subjects: growing up, harvest excursion, working in the lumber woods, joining up for World War I, farming, selling cars, singing in the Legion Quartet, Belfast Choir and the Belfast Quartet, characters in the community, etc.

Side B

Cameron MacPhee - continued from Side A
Length of interview (approx.): 26 min.
Subjects: characters in the community, victory bonds, hard winters, reflections on the community of Eldon, etc.
Note: There is some background noise and talking after the interview finishes

13. *Side A*

Harry Coulson (22 October 1896 - 27 September 1981). Date: 5 September 1979.
Interviewer: Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 31 min.
Subjects: coming to Belfast, trading horses and cattle, etc.

Side B

Harry Coulson - continued from Side A
Length of interview (approx.): 8 min.
Subjects: trading, buying his first car, etc.

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14. *Side A*

Colin [last name unknown]. Date: [unknown]. Interviewer: [unknown]

Subjects: [unclear]

NOTE: The quality of the tape is very poor and the voices cannot be heard or understood over the static on the tape. The radio cuts into the recording briefly several times and there is some talking in the background, however the informant and interviewer cannot be identified.

Side B

Johnnie MacEachern (22 July 1904 - 18 March 1989). Date: [August 1979 ?].

Interviewer: [Mary Ross]. Length of interview (approx.): 17 min.

Subjects: blacksmithing, stories about Lauchie MacLean and others, etc.

15. Duplicate of Tape 13 (Harry Coulson).

16. *Side A*

George Davies (28 October 1899 - 13 September 1982). Date: 21 July 1982.

Interviewer: Susan Hornby. Length of interview (approx.): 30 min.

Subjects: family background, early life, Scottish cottage homes, going to school, enlisting in the navy, etc.

NOTE: The sound at the beginning of this tape is very poor. There is a lot of static, making it very difficult to understand the individuals speaking. Sound improves about 17 min. into the interview

Side B

George Davies - continued from Side A

Length of interview (approx.): 30 min.

Subjects: treatment when he came to PEI from England, Eldon, getting married, farming, his own children, Halifax Explosion, etc.

17. *Side A*

Neil Morrison (12 January 1887 - 5 January 1978). Date: 27 June 1977. Interviewer:

Karen MacPherson. Length of interview (approx.): 28 min.

Subjects: farming, fishing, canning lobsters, fisherman's union, harvest excursion, early cars, etc.

Side B

Neil Morrison (12 January 1887 - 5 January 1978). Date: 5 July 1977. Interviewer:

Karen MacPherson. Length of interview (approx.): 17 min.

Subjects: horse racing, meeting his wife, church, cars, etc.

Note: There is about 2.5 min. of silence before the interview starts

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18. *Side A*

Angus Leslie MacLean (17 July 1889 - 31 December 1987). Date: 31 August 1979.
Interviewer: Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 30 min.
Subjects: stories about first violin, playing at dances, parties and weddings, drinking habits, fiddling contests, getting paid, learning tunes, etc.

Side B

Angus Leslie MacLean - continued from Side A
Length of interview (approx.): 19 min.
Subjects: going to Boston, horse trading, fights, etc.

19. *Side A*

Bobs West (28 December 1899 - 25 February 1994). Date: [December 1979].
Interviewer: Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 34 min.
Subjects: stories about local Eldon residents, local legion, stories about his Anglican minister father; sings on tape, etc.

Side B

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20. *Side A*

Hughie MacPherson (22 February 1900 - 18 November 1982). Date: 29 October 1980.
Interviewer: Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 28 min.
Subjects: early life, working at the mills, social activities and visiting, local politics, local businesses, etc.
NOTE: Poor sound quality and a lot of shuffling

Side B

Music taped off radio

21. *Side A*

Hughie MacPherson (22 February 1900 - 18 November 1982). Date: 14 July 1980.
Interviewer: Susan Hornby and Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 5 min.
Subjects: story about cutting and shipping lumber for a house to Souris, visiting, social activities, fishing, stories about neighbours, etc.
Note: Informant is introduced at the beginning of Side A but the interview doesn't start until about 40 min. into the tape

Side B

Hughie MacPherson - continued from Side A
Length of interview (approx.): 14 min.
Subjects: stories about neighbours, shipbuilders, wharf and bridge builders, working as a miller, etc.

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22. *Side A*

William MacRae (27 July 1906 - 31 January 1985). Date: [ca. 1980]. Interviewer: [Mary Ross ?]. Length of interview (approx.): 17 min.

Subjects: stories about residents of Point Prim, fishing and canning lobster, snowstorms and traveling to Charlottetown in the winter, horses and horse racing, etc.

Side B

Dr. J. P. Lantz (1899 - 14 December 1986). Date: [unknown]. Interviewer: [unknown]. Length of interview (approx.): 5 min.

Subjects: family background of Dr. Lantz read by his wife, etc.

Baxter Ross (6 October 1904 - 19 August 1991). Date: [unknown]. Interviewer: [unknown]. Length of interview (approx.): 15 min.

Subjects: stories about Pinette Corner, the steam mill, the tannery, family background, sea captains in the area, local residents, lobster factory, local stores, etc.

Murdock F. Gillis (15 October 1889 - 1982?). Date: [unknown]. Interviewer [unknown]. Length of interview (approx.): 9 min.

Subjects: farming, meeting and courting his wife, butchering, difficult times, crossing the ice, etc.

23. *Side A*

Catherine "Katie" Smith MacTavish (3 January 1891 - 1994). Date: [24 October 1984]. Interviewers: Susan Hornby and Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 45 min.

Subjects: going to Boston with her mother after her father and sister died, working in Boston, getting married, shivarees, work on the farm, thrashing time, Belfast teas, etc.

Side B

Catherine "Katie" Smith MacTavish - continued from Side A

Length of interview (approx.): 26 min.

Subjects: Belfast teas, christenings, memories of her grandmother, etc.

24. *Side A*

Duplicate of Kate Emery interview found on Tape 9

Side B

Introduction to Johnnie MacEachern interview found on Tape 9

NOTE: This tape only includes the interview introduction; for the rest of the interview, please see Tape 9, Side B

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25. *Side A*
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Side B

Annie MacMillan. Date: 27 October 1980. Interviewer: Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 17 min.

Subjects: early life in Orwell Cove, social activities, school memories, Sunday rules, working as a teacher, etc.

26. *Side A*

Donald Ross (7 August 1915 -?). Date: October 1982. Interviewer: Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 24 min.

Subjects: blacksmithing, life on the farm, stories about grandmother, school memories, etc.

NOTE: The interview is followed by music which appears to have been taped off the radio

Side B

Music possibly taped off the radio

27. *Side A*

Annie Gillis (19 April 1905 - 23 May 1990). Date: 22 March 1980. Interviewer: Mary Ross. Length of interview (approx.): 38 min.

Subjects: moving to the district as a bride, social activities, thrashing, family life, raising her family after the sudden death of her husband, returning to teaching, earning her degree through correspondence, advantages of one room schools, etc.

Side B

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