

This is Brenda Blitz, I am interviewing Tom Tabscott of Main Street, Laurel, Maryland.

Mr. T: I don't know just where to begin -- mostly about the houses or the history of the town or...

Mrs. B: I think a little bit of everything. I would like to start when you first came to Laurel. When you were back in Virginia.

Mr. T: Well, that would be _____ May. The house wouldn't interest me until the early teens. The early teens would be from 1913 to 1919. _____ it would be 1912 then 1913 then _____ teens up to 19 and 20. Of course we moved to Laurel in 1904 and I remember coming down the streets here -- the Bakery shop _____ cakes, candy, things like that, so I started back then. _____ a living here.

Mrs. B: Was there a bakery in 1904 in this house?

Mr. T: Yes.

Mrs. B: When you first came.

Mr. T: Yes. It used to be a home bakery. It was _____ old man Lockey (sp?). He was German, I think. Most of the bakeries was either German or from Holland -- Dutch. Something like that, _____ of a home town.

Mrs. B: Well, when you first came here you moved to Elicott City or something, right?

Mr. T: We moved from Virginia to a place called _____. That's up eight or ten miles past Elicott City. Up there to work in the mill _____ made cotton. Used cotton to make cloth. Used to call it canvas. Like a _____. Years ago it was so much cat (?) people used so many cats in different things, and uh, ebda harveys ? they didn't have _____ like we had years ago. Soldiers, things _____. Used to make this canvas uh, everything like that. You would take your cotton and _____ lot of snow _____ cotton just fall off everything and wash it.

One machine would do one thing and another would do another.

And the first thing you know it would be _____ corn strings.

Then the thicker they want to make the canvas the more them
corn colored(?) strings they'd let you colored strings(?) they were.

If you wanted to make a certain _____ come down
to four and four and a half. And there was another size (?)
and if you wanted to make it real heavy, this thing would make
a heavy pair of pads and a light pair of pads. The heavier
they make it, the more little strings they put in that one
little cord. Then they put, then they'd weave that cord into
what's called canvas. _____

Mrs. B: You didn't work there did you? You were too
little then weren't you?

Mr. T: I was too little. My sister, she went to work.
She was ten, [ten in January. 29th of January, ^{she would have been ten,} she'd a bin ten,
and she went to work there two or three months before that. So
she was about nine, over nine] -- between nine and
a half and ten years old.]

[]
everything
bet.
brackets
could be
left out

Mrs. B: How long did she work? How long was her day?

Mr. T: Well, she worked there until we moved there
then to another place called Illchester. Then she worked there
just a little while and then we moved ~~xxxxx~~ ^{down} to Savage. Then
we moved from Savage _____ then back to Savage, then
the last time we moved back Laurel was 1907. So we had lived
in Laurel, I don't know, three or four years before that because
we moved to Laurel - I want to be straight (pause) — We moved

date _____

over to Savage, then we moved to Laurel, then we stayed in Laurel awhile, then moved back to Savage and stayed in Savage awhile before we moved back to Laurel. So we stayed in Savage for a year and a half and then we'd been in Laurel a year and a half the first time, so ^{that would have been} that'd a bin two places for a year and a half -- three years off of 1907 -- between 1903 and 1904. Course that makes me 25 years old. ~~Laugh.~~

Mrs. B: When you first moved over to Savage, how much did they pay at that time?

Mr. T: They paid 38 cents. 37 on a hirer.