

TAPED INTERVIEW BY: CHERYL DYER

WITH: THOMAS TAPSCOTT

SEPT. 5, 1991

AIDED WITH PHOTOGRAPHS

1907 LIVED IN DOUBLE HOUSE ON "CONGRESS ROW" (9TH STREET) WITH HARRY GIDDINGS AND HIS FAMILY. HE REMEMBERED A WATER SPRING IN THE BACK OF THE HOUSE AND A COMPANY STORE SEVERAL HOUSES UP THE STREET. HE WORKED IN THE SAVAGE AND THE LAUREL MILLS (SOMETIMES HE CONFUSES THE TWO). HE WORKED IN THE SPINNING ROOM WHERE RAW COTTON, FROM VIRGINIA WAS SPUN INTO THREAD AND MADE INTO COTTON DUCK FOR CANVAS. THE COTTON DUCK WAS MOVED TO "SAVAGE SWITCH" BY HORSE AND WAGON, THE WAGONS WOULD FREQUENTLY GET STUCK ON "SHORTS' HILL" (TOP OF NINTH STREET).

MR. TAPSCOTT DISCUSSED THE LAYOUT OF HIS HOUSE (ON 9TH STREET) THE DOOR WAS IN THE SIDE WITH ABOUT 10 STEPS TO GET IN. GIDDINGS AND SMITHS ALONG WITH COUSINS LIVED THERE. THE HOUSE WAS OWNED BY THE MILL COMPANY.

HE RECALLED WHEN FATHER ^{(MYER)*} MORROW CAME TO LAUREL. MR. TAPSCOTT WORKED IN PLUMBING FOR MR. PHAIR AT "ACADEMY GARAGE" EVENTUALLY HE BECAME A MECHANIC AND WORKED THERE 43 YEARS. HE GOES ON TO RECOUNT THE TROLLEY, DIVENS FOUNDRY ALSO JR. JONES FEED STORE AND THE CANNON BALL FOUND IN HIS YARD.

AUGUST 1995 MR. TAPSCOTT DIED AT THE AGE OF 100

MR. TAPSCOTT WAS 94-95 YEARS OLD WHEN INTERVIEWED, IN POOR HEALTH, MAKING IT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND MOST OF HIS STATEMENTS.

* MYER?