

Interviewee: Mary Twitchell

Interviewer: Oda Hubbard

Date: March 2002

Topics Discussed: Tracy family,

Mary Twitchell, born in 1939, is the daughter of Laura Wooster Tracy and Marshall Coleman Twitchell and she grew up in Burlington. Between 1945 and 1955, she and ten other grandchildren spent a month each summer with their grandparents B. Harris Maeck and Charlotte Maeck Tracy at the White House on Route 7 north of the brick house and the then old post office where the gas station now sits. Mr. Tracy kept a car, for family use, in the barn behind the house. They also had a large vegetable garden. A wooden cistern and dug well provided the water. Mrs. Tracy kept a cow in the barn for the family's milk.

Some rooms at the house were rented out to teachers. The grandparents moved to the brick house in 1959.

John Tracy, an uncle, kept a vegetable garden/business across the railroad tracks which now is Tracy Lane.

When the grandchildren spent several weeks at the grandparent's house, they slept on the back porch. Their world was from the Library, Post Office and Creamery. "Watching and counting the cars going by on Route 7 was an entertainment." Fishing on the LaPlatte. Their parents took them up to the town dump at the end of Thompson Road for playing and treasure hunts.

Mary Twitchell's grandmother grew up on the Maeck Farm on Spear Street. That was as far as a young man from the village would go courting on horseback.

The Tracy family came from Norwich, CT c. 1787 to Shelburne. They sold the family farm to the Webbs c. 1888.