

TAPE LOG COVER SHEET

Fieldworker Julien Geisinger Date March 5, 1999  
Artist/Informant Lucille Dutton Time \_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Location Great Plains Densenville Project Eng 8700  
Other People Present Blanche Williams & Angela Geisinger  
General Subject Childhood Social Activities Specific Subject Sakwasa  
Cultural Group \_\_\_\_\_  
Equipment Used Wollensak  
Stereo \_\_\_\_\_ Dolby \_\_\_\_\_ Tape Brand/Length Maxell 90 & UT290  
High Bias tape 1 Normal/Low Bias tape 2 Metal \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount Tape Used: Side 1 All & 1/2 2

Summary Description of Recording Context/Technical Assessment of Tape Quality

lots of background noise + interruptions

Summary Description of Tape Contents

Discusses farming-based community events in the year, school activities, & modern day farms

Lucille Dutton  
Great Gran's Donalsonville, Ga.  
March 5, 1999

GG-Tell me about some things you used to do for fun or recreation. Were there fairs in Jakin?

LD- Says that she grew up in the Pineview Community about 4 miles south of Jakin. (Today considered Jakin) However Pineview was an active community within itself, according to Mrs. Dutton. Said her grandmother, Julia Sullivan, inherited the land. Pineview had its own school which was central to the community. The school was located behind her house where she and her husband had a hog farm.

GG-Did you do hog killings? Did the neighborhood gather for that?

LD-Oh, yes. What happened you were going to kill and maybe a neighbor was and they had this huge kettle heated by fire to a boil. A wooden sled was built off the ground and the hogs were dipped in and pulled out and everybody pulled the hair off. The hogs were hung up by their backfeet from a pole with hooks to drain the blood.

Describes the butchering process.

"You won't believe this but some took the chitlins. They were good but you had to thoroughly wash them." Explains the cleaning process. Talks about different cuts of pork.

GG- What did you do at the end of the day?

LD-Tried to get through by the end of the day. The fat was cut up in chunks and cooked in a wash pot for lard. Talks about how cold the weather had to be and describes the smoke house. Talks about how good the smoked ham was "you don't even know what good ham is, we'll never have it like that again."

GG- Was going to town going to Jakin?

LD-We went to Donalsonville, but a lot of people went to Jakin.

Talks about fair her school had featuring, livestock shows for boys, girls, men and women. Said shelves were built in the school to display crafts, canned goods, crochet, quilts, wood crafts.

GG- Did people buy those crafts?

LD- Well people, if they were willing to sell them, they would have it marked and people would buy. They also had food vendor stands, trinkets or all kinds. Talks about her grandfather's stand which had whistles, cheap rings, candy, puzzles and checkers. The men would have checker tournaments.

GG- What kind of entertainment did you have?

LD-Talks about square dances held at different people's houses. They cleared back the furniture and people came from all around. Men played guitar, harmonica, fiddle and somebody called the dances. These were usually held on weekends. Mentions cousin who really like to hold dances at his house.

GG- How late did you stay out?

LD- Said they only stayed until 11 p.m. not very late. They got started about 7 or 8 p.m. No drinking was allowed, said she never remembered anyone drinking.  
Later round dancing came in. (She tries to explain the demonstrates)

GG- like slow dancing?

LD-Nobody though anything was wrong with it. Tells story of one man who wouldn't let his daughter round dance because he wouldn't have her in the arms of a man. Later somebody said she was out on the porch in the arms of a man. Another man said he'd rather see his daughter in the arms of a man on the dance floor.

She says she wonders if young people have as much fun today.

GG- I don't know

LD- Talks about how friends got together for a candy making. They either made peanut brittle or made taffy which two people would have to pull. Describes making the candy pouring it out till it cools and you pulled until it was white looking and would crack.

GG-what was the candy made of?

LD-Talks about making their own syrup. Says she grew up in the depression and graduated from high school in 1933, when the depression was just easing up. Since they lived in the country they always had plenty of food. Talks about animals and vegetables. Talks about banking up potatoes to keep them fresh. They had spring and fall gardens.

GG- What did you buy in town?

LD- Some grew flour, but flour, rice and white sugar, but you always had cane.

Blanche Williams interrupts. . . meal

LD- yes, well most took their corn to Howard's Mill to have ground.

BW- my daddy always had something to grow. Mentions men grinding cane.

LD- Cane grinding that was something to go to. The mill sat in the center and the mule went round and round. You stuck the cane in one end and a spout of juice on the other side. Talks about cooking the syrup down in the kettle. Says her family had an evaporator which was a long

trough for the juice.

Talks about drinking the cane juice. Then skimming the pulp from the bottom and making beer.

Nothing but men drank the cane buck.

Says not everybody had the equipment to grind, but those that did would cook other people's for a percentage of the syrup.

GG- Ask her about current festivals such as the Harvest Festival, Mule Day, the Mayhaw festivals attempting to celebrate these kinds of things.

LD- not the same, but nice, reminiscent of the old.

GG- what's different?

LD- They do a good job of remembering. Says she's glad for us so that we can see a little bit of what they did. Of course for them it was just something they did every year.

BW- you went to town on Saturday

LD-Yes, you didn't go to town everyday of the week. You went to town on weekends and walked up and down the street visiting in town. There were always things to do.

BW- talks about loaning equipment

LD- yes not everyone had equipment

GG-Talk about Miss Daisy's store a general store located in Jakin and how people were always there at the store.

LD- that was the nearest thing to like what it used to be. Jakin was a lumber town. Mentions the school and the churches in Jakin. The children have grown up and moved away and don't have the family farms.

GG- Because farming has changed?

LD-Used to 100 acres was big, you don't have family farms anymore. Now you have big corporations farming the land.

Mentions the paper mill and Highway 84 as things that have been incentives for people to stay in this area. Says at one point that this area had better markets, gins and mills so that people from Alabama moved East.

GG- Did you sell excess food for profit?

LD-yes, a lot of people did, they called it truck farming. Says that Thomasville had a major market. Talks about Seminole Peanut company and how she didn't want her son to come back and farm. She talks about innovations in farming from mules to the two row cultivator, picking