Accession Sheet

Maine Folklife Center

Accession Number: 3658

Accession Date: 2010.09.21

Collection MF 154

Name: Collection

Interviewer Pauleena MacDougall, Cynthia

/Depositor: Merrill, Kyle Kernan, Andrew

Narrator: Stinson Seafood Employees

Catalina, Edward Fontaine, Atlin

Stinson Seafood Employees, interviewed by Pauleena MacDougall, Cynthia Merrill, Kyle Kernan, Andrew Catalina, Edward Fontaine, Atlin Mendizadegan, Elizabeth Nurse, March 30 and 31, 2010, Prospect Harbor, Maine. This accession contains notes by MacDougall regarding the people the interviewers spoke with as well as job descriptions. Also included are a description of 2 slide shows and a list with descriptions of photographs taken by Bill Kuykendall at Stinson (See NA 3805). The interviews concern the Stinson Seafood plant, which was the last sardine canning plant in the state of Maine, and were conducted a couple of weeks before the plant closed. Also included: PDF copies of some of the photos and field notes from 3.30.2010 visit to the cannery.

Text: 11 pp. photo captions, 5 pp. field notes, 8 pp. copies of photos, and in CF folder: 3 pp. salary information and 1 pp. summary

NA #   CD#   Narrator(s)/ Interviewer(s)         Total time of CD
3662    2176    Penny Beal intvd. by Merrill    10 minutes
3663    2177    Donna Eckland intvd. by Kernan    109 minutes
3664    2178    Gail Smith intvd. by Kyle Kernan    13 minutes
3665    2179    Lela Anderson intvd. by MacDougall    20 minutes
3666    2180    Betty Faulkingham intvd. by MacDougall    10 minutes
3667    2181    Arlene Hartford intvd. by Merrill & MacDougall    12 minutes
3668    2182    Myrtress Harrington intvd. by Cindy & MacDougall    9 minutes
3669    2183    Nancy Harrington & Josey Cowell intvd. by Catalina & unknown    15 minutes
3669    2184    Nancy Harrington & Josey Cowell intvd. by Catalina & unknown    7 minutes
3671    2185    Peter Colson intvd. by MacDougall    16 minutes
3672    2186    Rose Davis intvd. by Merrill & MacDougall    8 minutes
3687    2256    Alton West intvd. by MacDougall    37 minutes

Related Collections See NA 3805.

& Accessions

Restrictions
**Description:** 3662 Penny Beal, interviewed by Cindy Merrill, March 31, 2010, at the Stinson Cannery, Prospect Harbor, Maine. Beal talks about different jobs found at the cannery; duties of a block feeder; taught how to read a can by Richard Davis and Kathy Won; introduction of new technology such as the printer; printer’s impact on labor and production; pay role; code system for labeling cans.

Text: 6 pp. transcript  
Recording: mfc_na3662_cd2176_01, mfc_na3662_cd2176_02 11 minutes
Description: 3663 Donna Eckland, interviewed by Kyle Kernan, March 31, 2010, Prospect Harbor, Maine. Eckland talks about her responsibilities as a cutter at the Stinson Cannery; traditions of the factory; close-knit bond of workers; other relatives who worked at the cannery; basic day of a worker; incident with seagulls.

Text: 6 pp. transcript
Recording: mfc_na3663_cd2177_01, mfc_na3663_cd2177_02 10 minutes
**Accession Date:** 2010.10.13  
**Interviewer**/**Depositor:** Kyle Kernan  
**Name:** Gail Smith  
**Narrator:** Gail Smith

**Description:** **3664 Gail Smith,** interviewed by Kyle Kernan, March 31, 2010, Prospect Harbor, Maine. Smith talks about working as an assistant supervisor at Stinson Seafood Company; duties as a block feeder; duties as quality controller in the sealing room; daily routine of a factory worker; growing up with the factory as a part of her life; bond of factory workers; social aspects of work; fires that destroyed the old factory May 8, 1968; memories of the old factory.

Text: 9 pp. transcript  
Recording: **mfc_na3664_cd2178_01** - **mfc_na3664_cd2178_03** 14 minutes

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**Related Collections & Accessions**  
**Restrictions** None
**Description:** 3665 Lela Anderson, interviewed by Pauleena MacDougall, March 30, 2010, at the Stinson Sardine Cannery, Prospect Harbor, Maine. Anderson talks about working at the Stinson Cannery for 53 years; cutting sardines with scissors; reasons for not retiring; aftermath of the fire of the old factory; her family; packing with cooked fish; reaching a million cans; working in quality control; being friends with Nancy Harrington; injuries at the factory; pranks.

Text: 12 pp. transcript  
Recording: mfc_na3665_cd2179_01 - mfc_na3665_cd2179_04 21 minutes  

**Related Collections**  NA 3833 second interview  
**& Accessions**  
**Restrictions**  None
Description: 3666 Betty Faulkingham, interviewed by Pauleena MacDougall, March 30, 2010, Prospect Harbor, Maine. Faulkingham talks about working at the Stinson Sardine Company for 43 years; working in the shipping department, in the casing department, and in the sealing room; working as fish packer with scissors; working with family members; working at the old and new factories with Nancy Harrington, Myrtress Harrington, and Lela Anderson; humorous stories and pranks at the factory; injury of Dallas Pennellton.

Text: 8 pp. transcript
Recording: mfc_na3666_cd2180_01, mfc_na3666_cd2180_02 10 minutes

Related Collections
& Accessions
Restrictions  None
Description: 3667 Arlene Hartford, interviewed by Cindy Merrill and Pauleena MacDougall, March 31, 2010, at the Stinson Seafood Factory, Prospect Harbor, Maine. Hartford talks about her experiences working as a packer, in quality control, and switch gauge operator; pranks; number of workers; accidents; leniency of smoking at work; reasons for not retiring; husband’s work at Stinson.

Text: 7 pp. transcript
Recording: mfc_na3667_cd2181_01 - mfc_na3667_cd2181_03 13 minutes
Accession Date: 2010.10.13  

Collection: MF 154  
Number: P  

Collection Name: Stinson Sardine  

Interviewer: Cindy Merrill and Pauleena MacDougall  
/Depositor: MacDougall  

Narrator: Myrtress Harrington  

Description: 3668 Myrtress Harrington, interviewed by Cindy Merrill and Pauleena MacDougall, March 31, 2010, Prospect Harbor, Maine. Harrington talks about working as a fish packer at the Stinson Seafood Company; losing scissors in the chum hole; working with cooked fish; automation at the factory; relationship to Nancy Harrington; reasons for not retiring; being an EMT for 19 years; stories of the factory.

Text: 6 pp. transcript  
Recording: mfc_na3668_cd2182_01, mfc_na3668_cd2182_02 9 minutes  

Related Collections: NA 3835 second interview July 30, 2011. 

& Accessions  

Restrictions: None
Description: 3669 Nancy Harrington and Josie Cowell, interviewed by Andrew Catalina and an unknown interviewer, March 30 and 31, 2010, Prospect Harbor, Maine. Harrington and Cowell talk about working at the Stinson Seafood Company; living in Milbridge; working as partners; working with other partners such as Evelyn; being widows; education; children; driving the carpool bus for workers; plans for work after the factory closes; working nearly all jobs available such as packing and sealing; typical work day; fire of the old factory; working at a fish factory in Wyman.

Text: 16 pp. transcript
Recording: mfc_na3669_cd2183_01 - 03, mfc_na3669_cd2184_01 - 03 28 minutes
Accession Date: 2010.10.13

Collection: Stinson Sardine
Number: P 9623, 9624, S

Description:

3671 Peter Colson, interviewed by Pauleena MacDougall, March 30, 2010, at the Stinson Cannery, Prospect Harbor, Maine. Colson talks about working at the Stinson Sardine Company; closing of the Bath and Belfast plants; Will Colson; running retorts; various positions; aftermath of the fire; purse seining; Richard Claim; Woodmen Harris; Bumble Bee; Conner’s Brothers. Accession includes interview log, photographs, audio interview, and release forms.

Text: 11 pp. transcript
Recording: mfc_na3671_cd2185_01 - mfc_na3671_cd2185_03 17 minutes
Photos: P 9623 - P 9626

Related Collections: See also NA 3834 for interview with Will and Peter Colson
& Accessions
Restrictions: None
Description: 3672 Rose Davis, interviewed by Cindy Merrill and Pauleena MacDougall, March 31, 2010, at the Stinson Seafood Factory, Prospect Harbor, Maine. Davis talks about working as a packer at the Stinson Seafood Company; factory in Bath; physical harm experienced by factory packers; reasons not to retire; apprehensive feelings towards the closing of the factory; her religious thoughts regarding the future.

Text: 5 pp. transcript
Recording: mfc_na3672_cd2186_01, mfc_na3672_cd2186_02 9 minutes
**Accession Number:** 3687

**Accession Date:** 2010.11.30

**Collection** Stinson Sardine

**Name:** Collection

**Interviewer** Pauleena MacDougall

**Depositor:**

**Narrator:** Alton E. “Al” West

**Description:** 3687 Alton E. “Al” West, interviewed by Pauleena MacDougall, May 2010, at the Stinson Cannery, Prospect Harbor, Maine. West talks about being the purchaser of herring for the Stinson Seafood Cannery; the institution of management; migration of herring; four ways of capturing herring; herring in Point Judith of Rhode Island and Cape May; regulations of herring fishing; Blacks Harbor facility owned by Bumble Bee; fish quotas; biographical information; other employment; working at the University of Maine; MariTech Incorporated; oyster agriculture; promotion given by Charlie Stinson; working in the cutting room, as a supervisor, second shift plant manager, and primary fish buyer; Dick Clinging bought the factory and ended second shift; byproduct program; changes in the factory.

Text: 18 pp. transcript

Recording: mfc_na3687_cd2256_01 37 minutes

**Related Collections** NA 3839 second interview September 10, 2011

**& Accessions**

**Restrictions** None

Text: 6 pp. paper
### ACCESSION SHEET
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**Interviewer**: Cindy Merrill, Bill Kuykendall, Pauleena MacDougall  
**Depositor**: Pauleena MacDougall

**Narrator**: Betty Faulkingham, Lela Anderson, Myrtress Harrington, Arlene Hartford, Penny Beal, and Rose Davis

**Description**: 3803 Betty Faulkingham, Lela Anderson, Myrtress Harrington, Arlene Hartford, Penny Beal, and Rose Davis, put together by Cindy Merrill, Bill Kuykendall, and Pauleena MacDougall May 3, 2010 for NMD 301/CMJ 361. Accession is a slide show with audio project (11 min.) titled “Fond Memories” and “Stories of a Lifetime.” Photographs by Merrill and Kuykendall; audio by Merrill and MacDougall.

**Recording**: V 0314 11 minutes
**Description:** 3804 “End of the Line: Stinson Seafood: The Last Sardine Cannery in America,” a slide show with music.

Recording: V 0315 (DVD)

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**Accession Number:** 3804

**Accession Date:** 2011.09.26  
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**Collection Number:** 0315  
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**Related Collections & Accessions**

**Restrictions**
Description: 3805 By Pauleena MacDougall and Bill Kuykendall, March 30 and 31, 2010. Accession includes notes titled “Visit to the Sardine Cannery, March 30 and 31, 2010,” by MacDougall and 96 photographs by Kuykendall with description of each photograph (list incomplete, ends with photograph 80) titled “Stinson Seafood Slide Shows and Picture Accessions.”

Text: 5 pp. paper, 11 pp. list of photographs
Photos: P09322 - P09411

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**Description:** 3833 Lela Anderson, interviewed by Keith Ludden.

Recordings: **CD 2544** 1 hour 4 minutes (MIA)

Photos: **P09621 - P09622**

**Related Collections** See also first interview NA 3665

**Restrictions** none
Description: **3834 Willard Colson and Peter Colson**, interviewed by Keith Ludden, July 30, 2011, Southwest Harbor, Maine. W. Colson, who was born in 1923 and went to work for Stinson in 1943 and retired in 1990 when Stinson sold the plant, and his son P. Colson, who also worked at the Stinson Sardine cannery, talk about a typical day at the cannery; bus driver for workers; how workers were notified they were to work that day; W. Colson worked as shipping room foreman, then assistant manager, then manager, and finally Vice President of Operations; his children also worked at Stinson; Peter was born in 1955; description of retort; during WWII a big percentage of sardines went to the troops; early 1950s was peak of sardine industry; lack of fish was contributing factor to decline of the industry; fishing methods changed; weirs; fire in 1968; within a year plant was rebuilt; family; one of Peter’s first jobs was helping pump fish out of boat; pranks; process for manufacturing cans; story about using sardines to attract bears; changes in technology; modernized Prospect Harbor plant in 1987; primary brand was Beach Cliff; fires; mustard; story about electrician falling into barrel of mustard; description of processing of sardines in the cannery; sardines now promoted as healthy food; impact of regulation; competition for labor; personal attachment to sardine industry.

Text: 28 pp. transcript, 6 pp. interview log (in CF folder)
Recording: mfc_na3834_cd2446_01 61 minutes
Photos: P09623 - P09626

**Related Collections** See also NA 3671 for first interview with Peter Colson

**& Accessions**

**Restrictions** none
**Accession Number:** 3835

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<td><strong>Narrator:</strong></td>
<td>Myrtress Harrington</td>
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**Interviewer:** Keith Ludden

**Depositor:**

**Description:** 3835 Myrtress Harrington, interviewed by Keith Ludden, July 30, 2011.

- Text: 4 pp. interview log (in CF folder)
- Recording: mfc_na3835_cd2447_01 48 minutes
- Photos: P09627, P09628

**Related Collections** See also NA 3668 first interview March 31, 2010

**Restrictions** none
Description: 3836 Arlene Hartford and Keith “Pete” Hartford, interviewed by Keith Ludden, July 31, 2011. The Hartfords talk about their work at the seafood canneries in Maine and at Stinson; picking blueberries; picking potatoes in Aroostook County; Arlene’s first job in cannery cutting fish with scissors and putting them in cans; Pete working maintenance at the cannery; operating switchgate; being with good friends when working; long hours; Bumblebee taking over plant; fire at plant when they were living in Prospect Harbor; weir fishing; unloading fish; Beach Cliff; packing sardines in mustard; stories about workers; how canneries died out partly because the government restricted the amount of herring that could be caught; plant closing; how after hauling sardines were stored in fresh water which made the sardines soft; use of powdered mustard; sold packed in mustard and soybean oil.

Text: 5 pp. interview log
Recording: mfc_na3836_cd2448_01 55 minutes

Related Collections See also NA 3667 for first interview with Arlene Hartford and NA 3803 for video which includes Arlene.

Restrictions none
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**Collection** Stinson Sardine

**Name:** Collection

**Interviewer** Keith Ludden

/Depositor:

**Narrator:** Carey N. Lewis

**Description:** 3837 Carey N. Lewis, interviewed by Keith Ludden, July 29, 2011. Lewis, who operated the sardine carrier Joyce Marie until 1988, talks about the fishing industry: fishing; factories; fishing then verses now; herring; storage technology; women’s work in the factories; Joyce Marie (his boat); the tiring work; it as a business; purse seining; his father’s work on the boat; weirs.

Text: 4 pp. interview log

Recording: **mfc_na3837_cd2449_01** 67 minutes

Photos: **P09629**

**Related Collections**

& **Accessions**

**Restrictions** none
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**Accession Date:** 2011.10.17  
**Collection Number:** MF 154  
**Collection Name:** Stinson Sardine  
**Interviewer/Depositor:** Keith Ludden  
**Narrator:** Elaine A. Lowell

**Description:** 3838 Elaine A. Lowell, interviewed by Keith Ludden, July 30, 2011. Lowell, b. 1915, talks about working in a sardine factory: various jobs she had including taking injured people to the doctor; leaving for health reasons; hours worked; packing fish; stories; factory burning; enjoying her job; working in the winter.

Text: 2 pp. interview log  
Recordings: mfc_na3838_cd2452_01 24 minutes

**Related Collections & Accessions**  
**Restrictions** none
Accession Number: 3839

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**Description:** 3839 Alton E. “Al” West, interviewed by Keith Ludden, September 10, 2011. West, b. 1950, talks about family history; starting at the sardine plant in 1986; first job running a cutting machine as quality assurance; doing all the other jobs at the plant; plant in the 1980s; the retort process; when the fish got messed up in the pipe; sardine business; changes in the business; the women workers; the machines; Stinson family selling the company in the early 1990s to Dick Klingerman and Woody Harris; steaks vs. small fish; sauces; shifts; changing jobs to boat fleet; timing of the fish landing; his mother’s factory experience vs. his; company towns; friendships among workers; decline of the industry; the company sold again to Connors Brothers in late 1990s; impact of overfishing

Text: 6 pp. interview log
Recordings: mfc_na3839_cd2456_01 61 minutes
Photos: P09630

**Related Collections** See also NA 3687 first interview May 2010

**Restrictions** none
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**Collection** MF 154  
**Number:** P 9631, 9632  
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**Collection Name:** Stinson Sardine  
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**Interviewer/Depositor:** Keith Ludden

**Narrator:** Diana B. Young

**Description:** 3840 Diana B. Young, interviewed by Keith Ludden, September 10, 2011, Prospect Harbor, Maine. Young, b. 1945, talks about moving to Winter Harbor when his dad retired from the Navy; family background (including fishing); Stinson factory; working for Annie Tracy (bookkeeper) in payroll; getting a raise; prank story; stripped fish; moving to sales and then logistics; getting fish; factory fire; the women workers and their friendships, teasing, productivity, and pride; Japanese visitors; truck drivers; Cal Stinson; business during WWII; changes (pumping, overfishing, phones); enjoying her job; stories; the carriers.

Text: 4 pp. interview log

Recordings: mfc_na3840_cd2457_01 38 minutes

Photos: P09631, P09632

**Related Collections & Accessions**

**Restrictions** none
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**Collection** Stinson Sardine

**Name:** Collection

**Interviewer** Keith Ludden

**Depositor:** Charles B. Stinson

**Description:** 3841 Charles B. Stinson, interviewed by Keith Ludden, April 19, 2011, Prospect Harbor, Maine.

**Recordings:** mfc_na3841_cd2458_01 90 minutes

**Related Collections & Accessions**

**Restrictions** none
Accession Date: 2011.10.17

Collection Name: Stinson Sardine

Interviewer/Depositor: Keith Ludden

Description: 3842 Charles B. Stinson, by Keith Ludden, April 19, 2011. Photographs of Stinson.

Photos: P09412 - P09415

Related Collections & Accessions
Restrictions: none
Accession Date: 2012.01.03

Accession Date: 2012.01.03
Collection MF 154
Number: 3845
Collection Stinson Sardine
Name: Clell N. Genthner

Description: 3845 Clell N. Genthner, interviewed by Keith Ludden, August 29, 2011. Genthner, b. 1936, talks about fishing for Stinson Sardine with Hap Gilbert in 1960s; running the Eva Grace purse seining in late 1970s; starting fishing; stop seining; machinery; where they fished; long hours/days; the crew of 6; changes; decline of industry; hard work; story from fishing off Gloucester, Jeffries Bank; trying to keep the factories happy; dangers in fishing; a Nor’easter storm; injuring his arm; first day on the boat September 1978; his partner Gilbert; his two years in the service.

Text: 3 pp. interview log
Recordings: mfc_na3845_cd2514_01 48 minutes
Photos: P09633