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NAFOH Oral History Recordings

July 2023

Seminar, presented by Henry Glassie, Part 2

Henry Glassie

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Interviewer's tape no.: NAFOH Accession no.: 1192.1
 Interviewer: Henry Glassie Address:
 Interviewee: Address:
 Place of interview: NAFOH office Date: Feb 24, 1978
 Other people present: Edward D. Ives, Mike Chaney, Rob^{son} Bonnich^{son} Toby Lazarowitz,
 Joan Brooks, George Carey, Cindy Foster, Chip Brown, Victor Konrad,
 Equipment used: Peter~~Emulo~~, Margaret Hardin, (2 others)
 TR 23 ~~Peter~~ Barack Holdsworth
 Tape: Brand: scotch Size reel: 5" ~~xxxx~~ 1.5 mil Speed: 15/16 ips
 Cassette: Brand: C-30/C-60/C-120
 Amount of tape used: (Side 1): all (Side 2): 1/4
 Brief description of contents: Seminar by Henry Glassie in connection with
 Ay 125-Veazie Architecture and History

TR23

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		021	tape on <u>Sandy</u> explains why the seminar is being taped and asks if there are any objections <u>Sandy</u> talks about what a typical Maine house is, or is there such a pattern, explains the Veazie project done in Ay 125 class in the fall of 1977 <u>Victor Konrad</u> had done a survey of Winterport together we worked up a survey for Veazie a small town in Penobscot county and near to the University, accessible for the students
		055	<u>Victor</u> explained how the survey worked first a survey of all the houses with photograph of all the houses; mapped the results two major groupings showed up, Cape and Temple types of houses

UMO
 Penobscot County
 Veazie
 Winterport

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		073	<p>then drew floor plans of the houses selected for further study</p> <p><u>Mike Chaney</u> spoke on 8 in the class, also asking about Veazie history connected with the houses</p> <p>references to <u>Aunt Hat</u> who ran the whore houses; also stories about <u>Dingbat Prouty</u> looked at Veazie village and farming area, and main road area</p> <p>Protestant and Catholic sections of town have 22 informants at this time</p>
		113	<p><u>Henry Glassie</u> spoke on appropriateness of tape recorded interviews and some of these being pointless-basket maker is articulate in making baskets but not when telling about it think most useful thing to do is walk with person through the house and ask them about each room, makes the house live</p>
		139	<p><u>Chip Brown</u> told about interviewing <u>Addie Weed</u>, 94, lived in house all life, partially blind, is more aware about house than others might be about their own house</p>
		171	<p>what is there as house, could sometimes see plans from past days, carpenter's manuals are available for certain periods</p>
		189	<p>how different people look at the same house and see different things</p>

Veazie

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		210	how long does it take to gather information for the project
		213	at first you don't go inside the house at all <u>Sandy</u> comments on front doors in houses in Maine, not used but always put in the house <u>Glassie</u> says not even put in the house at all in the western area, Illinois. man-was there a social register in Bangor area, members of social register did certain things, did not cross class lines
		260	<u>Sandy</u> says can only get back to about 1900 for oral information, two or three generations beyond that hard to get accurate information
		287	only interested in those houses before 1939 for Veazie project
		295	<u>Chip (Bruce Brown)</u> showed some floor plan of houses they had measured for the Veazie project do not have the thickness of the walls <u>Glassie</u> says record everything or you do not have a good plan, these are only sketches
		335	<u>Glassie</u> - must make complete accurate diagrams
		341	^{Robson} <u>Rob Bonnicke</u> says a tremendous amount of detail is left out, plan should have a scale tell how many stories are in the house, profile of house, many ways to model the houses; can not go into the field and record everything; is a two stage approach;

Bangor
Illinois

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		364	<p><u>Bonnichsen</u> Bonnichsen still talking, says problem is deciding which details to include, is a two stage thing, he deals with artifacts in the thousands but process is the same for the large number of houses</p>
		375	<p><u>Glassie</u> says can't abstract, must record all since you need real cases not just models</p>
		380	<p><u>Bonnichsen</u> Bonnichsen answers <u>Glassie</u> with different arguments He and <u>Glassie</u> go back and forth for a while with what each does in own work</p>
		437	<p><u>Glassie</u>-how the houses were made does not enter into it. how they were thought is the important thing must understand the design process that went into building the house</p>
		459	<p><u>Victor Konrad</u> says this is not just a folklorist study, he is interested in other things also <u>Glassie</u> says don't just do some of the houses do them all, to the same scale; then can see all kinds of patterns in the data</p>
		530	<p><u>Sandy</u>- started out with a few houses this semester, added more</p>
		535	<p><u>Glassie</u> says they did 85 houses <u>very</u> completely without ever asking questions, sketched molding, everything; took 3 or 4 visits before we actually went inside the house</p>

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		546	could do all of Veazie like this easily
		570	for folklorists to really do their job must study all houses, not just those before certain period, could find wonderful continuity in the newer ones also map those houses not studied also
		591	<u>Rob-</u> Macro tradition and micro tradition characteristics of each
		624	<u>Glassie</u> explains what he did in Virginia
		675	<u>Victor</u> said we did not want to fall into the architectural history type survey; did look at door decoration
		718	<u>Sandy</u> said we can go through a house in an hour <u>Glassie</u> says that is a little too quick <u>Sandy</u> says we are working at a certain level of abstraction
		739	<u>Glassie</u> says use four people and take two hours for each house without recording interview with people, more measurement should be done make plans of moldings, change with individual carpenters, shows difference in level of carpentering styles of houses at certain times, embellishment shows those few people who choose to add to basics

Veazie

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		796	will show patterns of change in architecture
		822	end of side one, continued on side two
		036	begin side two talking about photos of houses on wall from Veazie project <u>Victor</u> says a lot of houses like these in Winterport, upstairs spaces were used more and more used attics as more usable second story 575.1 photo being referred to, not motif index
		061	man talking about houses in the Maritimes, kinds of doors, etc. <u>Sandy</u> says 576.5 <u>Sandy</u> says there is (his subjective feeling) a particular type of house along the Miramichi River, is same in northern Maine; a correlation of settlement patterns could be shown
		081	South shore of Nova Scotia pattern different from around here, is south of my line (which divides Maine into Maritime and New England sections)
		089	set up projector for slides, houses on Nova Scotia connecting barns in some areas slides shown for a while
		120	slide machine off discussion about attached barns

Miramichi River
Winterport

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		137	more talk about connected barns
		182	clustered buildings also in upper New York <u>Sandy</u> , talking about men returning from woods and people gathering to learn the new songs they had learned when in the woods, and now we collect the very same songs as old songs
		199	<u>Sandy</u> thanks <u>Glassie</u> and all for seminar <u>Victor</u> and friends will take a tour this afternoon to Bucksport and back to look at houses, down one side of the river and back up the other side
		208	tape off.

Bucksport