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July 2023

Ralph and Pauline Drinkwater, interviewed by Michael Chaney, Part 2

Ralph E. Drinkwater

Pauline Drinkwater

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1129004

Interviewer: Michael Chaney

Address: RFD # 1 Box 243, Wiscasset, Me.

1189 1

Interviewee: Ralph Drinkwater

Address: MRB # 255 Bangor, Maine

Place of interview: Veazie, Maine

Date: November 19, 1977

Other people present: Mrs. Drinkwater

Equipment used: Sony TR 27

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Brief description of contents: Discussion of Veazie history, particularly Aunt Hat's, the Bangor Hydro, Wyatt Spencer, Herbie Reed, and hijacking "Hand-Brand" alcohol during Prohibition. Mr. Drinkwater was a machinist, draftsman, surveyor, and worked in the Hydraulics dept. of Bangor Hydro. Part of Veazie History and Architecture Project.

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
<p>Drinkwater (5-26)</p> <p>Bangor Orono Veazie</p>	<p>0100</p>	<p>066</p> <p>149</p>	<p>Opening Announcement. <u>[There is a child playing in the background, occasionally he comes into the room where the interview was.]</u> <u>Mr. Drinkwater's</u> mother was a <u>Hathorn</u>. Thinks he was a second cousin to <u>Helen Hathorn Todd</u>. His great-grandfather built this house [5-26 on <u>Veazie map</u>] here in 1847, can tell from the deeds. His name was <u>William Hathorn</u>, and his son was <u>Roderick Hathorn</u>, <u>Mr. Drinkwater's</u> mother's father. <u>[Dishes banging in background.]</u> <u>John Skinner</u> is some relation to the <u>Hathorns</u>. As far as old families, the <u>Spencers</u> and the <u>Veazies</u> were early settlers here too. <u>John</u> and <u>Sam Veazie</u> were brothers. <u>Veazie</u> was originally part of Bangor, and <u>General Veazie</u> had it set off--he had a lot of pull and "a hell of a lot of money." He ran a lot of the sawmills here. The mills were gone before <u>Drinkwater</u> was born. He had some pictures, but he loaned them to <u>Mrs. Hamilton</u>. They are pictures of the old sawmills after they had stopped running. Doesn't know where they came from. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> worked for the Bangor Hydro. Born June 28, 1901, and the mills were gone before he was born. People from Orono and Bangor thought <u>Veazie</u> was the worst place to be, when he was growing up. A big crew of outsiders working here, the log drives would go all summer long. Used to go swimming in the river, at 10 or 12 years old,</p>

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	0200	170	<p>every two or three weeks there would be a big drive come down through. That went through to Bangor, Hampden and South Brewer. Stearn's mill in Hampden. Eastern Manufacturing Co. , which is now Eastern Paper Co. had a big mill. His father worked in New Hampshire, for Eastern, in the chemical industry. Also the Brown Corp.</p> <p>The sawmill in South Brewer was dismantled somewhere around 1916 Or 1917.</p> <p>Raliegh's junkyard in Brewer; there used to be a sawmill in there.</p> <p>There was a sawmill in Milford, one in Old Town but he doesn't remember it himself. Down below the junction of the Stillwater River goes into the Penobscot, there was a sawmill in the "Basin. [Child talking in background.]</p> <p>That Orono mill burned when Drinkwater was 12 or 13 years old. The "Basin mills" burned on a Saturday.</p>
		232	<p>One or two houses of ill-fame in Veazie. Didn't want to mention names as there are still relative around. There was one place down across from <u>Frank Todd's</u>, towards the river [<u>Banging</u>] there was a great big farmhouse down there. That was a rendevous for the riverdrivers and the woodsmen</p> <p>That building was there when he was going to gradeschool. It burned one night. It was on top of a hill, down where the Bangor Hydro steam station is now. There's an old cellar there.</p> <p>It was "a board house, by the hour."</p>
	0300	258	<p>Told story about a friend of his in Shaing-hai during the war. Houses with signs; "5 dollars for 5 minutes and no overtime."</p> <p>There was another place in town, near where he used to go swimming. His mother told him never to go near it. Every once in awhile, the woman in the house would be around, and she would always say, "God bless you, dear." She said that to every kid. She always liked kids. She'd give you a dollar to do an errand for her, go to the store. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> himself got a dollar for lugging a boxful of whiskey for her. She was kind-hearted, her first name was <u>Marsha</u>.</p>
		295	<p>Worked in Boston in 1922-23. He went to a dance at the State Ballroom on Mass. Ave. <u>Marsha</u> was there also, sitting on the sidelines. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> recognized her and sat down and had quite a talk. She was an old lady by then. She had moved to Boston. Her house in Veazie was down Lemon Street to the river and off to the left.</p> <p>The house burned down a number of years ago.</p> <p>Over on Oak Hill, at the corner of School St. and Oak Street there was a store there run by <u>Michael Sullivan</u>. Where the lawn is next door there was a store run by <u>Al Gilman</u>. [<u>Banging noise child playing.</u>]</p>

Boston
Veazie
Penobscot River
Stillwater River
Old Town
Milford
New Hampshire
Brewer
Hampden
Bangor
map 6

map 5

Woodsman (6-63)
(store)

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
(6-63)		322	<p><u>Gilman</u> was a relation to the <u>Weeds</u>. After he died the <u>Drinkwaters</u> bought the building. They sold it to someone else, later, (<u>Reynold Good?</u>)</p> <p><u>Red's Market</u> was owned by <u>Isaac Spencer</u>, when <u>Drinkwater</u> was a little kid. ITs changed hands half a dozen times.</p> <p>At the end of Olive Street, there was a store down there, remembers going there with his grandfather, at 7 or 8 years old. There was a store in the basement of the brick house over her [<u>brick house next to Red's</u>]</p>
Branson (3-51)	0400	341	<p>[<u>Mrs. Drinkwater speaks to the child, Aaron.</u>]</p> <p><u>Jim O'Brien</u> (?) [<u>Child plays with toy gun</u>] on Olive Street, an Irishman, he had a woods crew, and he always took charge of one of the drives, on the Penobscot.</p> <p><u>Bill Thompson</u>, was "mixed up in lumbering" [<u>Child plays with gun</u>]</p> <p><u>Dingbat Prouty</u> was always in the woods and on the drives, he lived in Veazie.</p> <p><u>Cal Johnson</u>, lived up the road here, always had woods crews.</p> <p><u>Daisy Smith's</u> father, <u>Reid Smith</u>, down the main road here a ways, where the <u>Bronson's</u> live now, always had woods crews and horses.</p> <p>None of these fellows are still alive.</p> <p>His grandfather used to go in the woods. Pay in XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX the woods was \$12.00 a month.</p> <p>Work up around Telos, on the East branch of the Penobscot. Down below Telos is Grand Lake Mattagamon. There was a dam there, to hold the water for a drive. From over in Chamberlain Lake, down through the Allagash. Lock dam, owned by the Hydro, the outlet of Chamberlain into the Allagash. Gatetenders at Lock Dam and Telos in the summertime., to distribute the water as needed down here for power. When water needed on the Allagash, it is let in from Chamberlain.</p>
<p>Chesuncook Lake Allagash River Chamberlain Lake Grand Lake Mattagamon Telos Lake East Branch of the Penobscot River Veazie Penobscot River</p>	0500	420	<p><u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> used to fly in on a Float plane, the Hydro had two planes.</p> <p>He worked in the engineering department at the Bangor Hydro, hydraulic engineering.</p> <p>He flew for the Hydro, to check on things up there, around 1950 or so. 4-place single engine plane. Told about getting fogged in one time over Chesuncook. [<u>Dishes banging in other room.</u>]</p> <p>Just above where Olive Street is now, there use to be a wood crib dam. The sawmills were right along there. In 1911, Bangor Hydro, was the Bangor Railway and Electric Co. then, built the present concrete dam. It was originally built for a pulp mill. On the shore by Lemon Street there are some old pulp stones, used to grind pulp. 5 feet in diameter and 2-3 thick.</p>

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		478	<p>[Dishes banging.] The pulp mill was never put in, this was way back before he was born. 1934, Stone and Webster made an appraisal of Bangor Hydro, and Mr. Drinkwater worked on the appraisal. It was Stone and Webster Engineering of Boston. He knew his way around the Power Company, so he worked with them. There is one volume in that second floor vault, that is historical, gives all the data on the Bangor Hydro. Mr. Drinkwater thought we could have a chance to look at the appraisal. [Calls to his wife in the other room.] Some photos of the 1953 Exxxxx Centennial in Veazie. Mrs. Drinkwater said that she taught school over here in Veazie, mentioned the work that Jean Hamilton is doing with photographs on Veazie history.</p>
		518	<p>[Looked at photographs of 1950 celebration.] The "other" house ?, the house next door to Drinkwater's ; they sold it to Bateman, then he sold it to the Woodsums. Woodsum. The Drinkwater's used to own all the land from the corner [Main and Olive] almost to School St. The Hayes house was built by Veazie. [Child playing with gun (toy).]</p>
(6-63)		537	<p>[Telephone rings.] [Looked at picture of a clock.] [Moved telephone to the other room.]</p>
Hayes (5-20)		553	<p>The big barn that used to be on this house was torn down about 5 years ago, and they built a two car garage. Tore it down because it was too expensive to fix. The house was built in 1847, has been re-done inside. Three bedrooms upstairs, six rooms downxx stairs. Waste of heat--burned \$800.00 worth of oil last year.</p>
Drinkwater (5-26)		567	<p>[Looked at pictures of great-grandparents.] William Hathorn, the one that built this house. Great-grandmother was Mary Brand. [Mrs. Drinkwater speaks to child.] He was born in 1912 and she was born in 1811. He was a farmer. The land that they owned, down to School St., was all farmland. Mr. Drinkwater remembers having 4 cows out in the barn. Mrs. Drinkwater from Brewer, her father a mechanical engineer, graduated from University of Maine in 1892; he was a Farrington. He was the President of the Penobscot Foundry and Machine Company. In 1911 there was the big fire in Bangor, Penobscot Foundry got burned out. Union Iron Works was a big foundry and machine shop. Was at the corner of Oak and Washington street, [Bangor] torn down now.</p>

0600

Bangor
Brewer
Veazie
Boston

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		603	<p><u>Pete Davis</u> about the same age as his grandfather <u>Hathorn</u>. [<u>Mrs. Drinkwater wraps the pictures up, rustling paper.</u>] They were on the Board of Selectmen in Veazie for years.</p> <p>His father, <u>William Drinkwater</u>, worked for Eastern, in the chemical dept. at the chlorine plant.</p> <p>[<u>Bill, their son, had to move my car in order to get out of the driveway, Mrs. Drinkwater asked about it.</u>]</p> <p>Talked about old cars.</p>
		630	<p>On the land to School Street, they didn't own clear through to it. Where it is all woods now, used to be used for pasture-- within 300-400 feet of School St.</p> <p>Used to butcher a calf around Christmas time.</p> <p>[<u>Mrs. Drinkwater returns to the room, talk about cars again.</u>]</p> <p>[<u>Son Bill and his son return.</u>]</p>
	0700	656	<p>[<u>Voices in background.</u>]</p> <p>The mainroaders had the money.</p> <p>"Veazie Park" was a land scheme. They sold lots 25' wide. Had to buy three or four lots in order to get room. Very few houses down there until the last 35 years--it has gradually built up "Fort Hill" from where the steam plant is now, up through this way. Used to be an Indian settlement there along with white settlers. They used to find arrowheads down there. The settlement would have been before the 1800's. Might've been some shacks.</p> <p><u>Harkness</u> was in charge of the lumber industry for the Great Northern Paper Co. He built a house right below the Veazie Cemetery, in the 1920's. Been dead quite a number of years.</p> <p><u>Jim Dudley</u> was a carpenter and farmer. He built quite a number of houses. On the main road he built two or three houses.</p> <p>The Foster house--he was in the automobile business--just this side [North] of the HO Sai Guy that brown bungalow. <u>Jim Dudley</u> built that house.</p> <p><u>Dudley</u> also built one on the Chase Road. <u>Jim Dudley</u> built the house where <u>Dr. Cobb</u> lives.</p> <p><u>George Spencer</u> was a finish carpenter.</p> <p><u>Ernie Frazier</u>, dead now, was a carpenter, did work on the interiors of churches and things like that--altars.</p>
Foster (1-11)		713	<p><u>Austin Jones</u> lived here quite a number of years. The Jones house is the stone house on State Street [<u>right up over the hill from Drinkwater's.</u>]</p> <p><u>Jones</u> moved here somewhere around 1915. He graduated from UMO, did some farming, had the mot. He's dead, his son is living.</p> <p>The village hasn't changed much in His memory.</p>

Foster (1-11)

Cobb (3-6)

Jones (9-12)

UMO
Veazie

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
(6-49) Brick house		721	<p><u>George White's</u> house, the brick house right next to the store. <u>White</u> was a barber. <u>Willy Kent</u> owned it. His daughter and I [RD] very close to the same age., She was born in March and he was born in June.</p> <p><u>Bob Turner's</u> father worked for the Bangor Hydro. He was a millright. The Turner house is right across from the store. <u>Ernie Pyle</u> (?) lives in the new house next to it.</p> <p><u>Wyatt Spencer</u> used to come see <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> a lot. <u>Drinkwater</u> been retired for 13 years.</p> <p>[TAPE RAN OUT...END OF SIDE ONE]</p>
Pyle (6-1A)		737	<p>[Beginning SIDE TWO]</p>
Spencer (5-6)	0100	071	<p><u>Wyatt Spencer</u> died about 4 years ago, his grandfather was <u>Albert Spencer</u> and he owned the house down at the bottom of Olive Street on the left hand side. He went to California twice, with the 49ers [Train in Background.] and another time across the isthmus of Panama. Also went around "the Horn." He and grandfather <u>Hathorn</u> were always great friends [Albert Spencer & <u>William Hathorn</u>] used to "spin yarns" about the goldrush in California. Lots of fights and robberies out there. He used to swear a lot, when he came down to talk with <u>Mr. Drinkwater's</u> grandfather.</p> <p><u>Wyatt Spencer</u> was his grandson, that he brought up. <u>Wyatt</u> was on a line crew for the Bangor Railway. He was a great hunter and poacher. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> used to have quite a machine shop out in the barn, and he was out there one night in September, it was after dark, and somebody rapped on the window. <u>Wyatt Spencer</u> came in with 10 lbs. of venison, that he just shot, in Sept. A lot of people used to do that.</p> <p>150 Speaking about Penobscot salmon, when he was 14 or 15, <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> remembers a salmon dinner being advertised over at the Hall, and as far as anyone knows, there was hardly a salmon in town, 3rd of July; On the 4th of July there was more salmon than could feed the whole town. They went down below the dam with 2 rowboats and a drift net about 50 feet long, and drifted down-river with the current, and netted the salmon coming up. It was against the law then to net. The wardens didn't dare to show up. From 10-12 up to 20 lb salmon.</p> <p>0200 When he was a kid he'd work on the farm, milked a lot of cows. Used to have a big garden up on the side of the hill [On the river side of State Street, south of Drinkwater's present house.] and out back of the garage over to the school was all garden [Drinkwater's present garage and <u>Graham Sch</u></p>

California

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
<p>Sullivan (2-44)</p> <p>0300</p> <p>Augusta Veazie Bangor</p>		200	<p>Used to go to Bangor fairly easily, with the 5¢ car ride. [<u>Mrs. Drinkwater comes in.</u>] Showed a copy of <u>Veazie In Review</u>. Spoke of <u>Addie Weed</u>. <u>Aunt Hat's place</u>. <u>Mrs. Drinkwater</u> didn't know anything about it, but <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> could remember her "just as well as can be." She ran the house down there on Fort Hill. <u>Veazie Park</u> is across from where <u>Sullivan</u> lives. <u>Mrs. Drinkwater</u> said that was where <u>Hobson</u> is, and thought <u>Aunt Hat</u> lived down there. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> then said she built a house by <u>Withee</u>, but she didn't run any cat-house then. [<u>Some discussion between Mr. & Mrs. Drinkwater as to where Veazie Park is.</u>]</p> <p><u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> remembers when his grandfather was on the Board of Selectmen. She [<u>Aunt Hat</u>] would come and complain about people coming down to her place raising the devil. She would set and talk by the hour. [<u>Mrs. Drinkwater broke in, talked of Helen Todd.</u>]</p>
		258	<p>On <u>Aunt Hat</u> again, she gave <u>Mr. Drinkwater's</u> mother the most beautiful white shawl from the Orient. [<u>Kitchen noises in background.</u>]</p> <p><u>Sarah Haines</u> lived down on <u>Harlow St.</u> in Bangor, almost across from the big Bangor High School. She was a character, barrels of money. The <u>Hinckles</u> ran the Union Iron Works, and she was a relative to them. She owned quite a lot of land, and she was always kicking on her taxes. She didn't like hot tea as well as hot rum.</p>
			<p>His grandfather would come in from the woods and warm up with some rum and boiling water. It was dark rum. That would warm him up, then he'd eat supper.</p>
			<p><u>Hat Foyer</u> was a <u>Dudley</u>. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> knew her from when she used to come up to the house. She'd always pat you on the shoulder and say "God Bless you dear." She made alot of money but died in the poor house. She gave it all the away, to poor people. <u>Ben Ames Williams</u>, <u>The Strange Woman</u>, one of the characters there was <u>Aunt Hat</u>. It was either her or <u>Fan Jones</u> who used to run a place on Spring St. in Bangor.</p>
363	<p>Grew a beard once, in 1933, when he worked for the Coast Geodetic Survey. Headquarters was in Augusta, but they worked from Waterville to Lewiston. It was a cold winter, and tried to grow a beard, but it felt so bad after half an inch or so he had to have it shaved off. Worked for the Geodetic Survey one year, and then went to the Bangor Hydro, worked there 36 years.</p>		
389	<p>Depression wasn't too bad up here, the Hydro laid off quite a few of us. Had a chance to work with the Coast Geodetic Survey through <u>Prof. Stevens</u> up at the University. He was the head of the Civil Engineering Dept.</p>		

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		400	<p>Worked for awhile, 10 men in a crew, then <u>Steven</u> put me in charge of a crew, "I Had ten men under me."</p> <p>When asked about <u>Roosevelt</u>, <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> said that he was a Democrat, and voted for <u>Roosevelt</u> the first time he ran, and from then on he changed over to Republican. He thought <u>Roosevelt</u> was alright, "he done alright during the Depressi he kind of pulled us out of it." "Alot of things that he stood up for I didn't believe in."</p> <p>Remembers World War I very well. In 1917, the flu epidemic was around here, everywhere. They closed the Bangor High School for 5 weeks. Spent the biggest part of the 5 weeks with [<u>Ibrie Lancaster?</u>] and couple of the other boys in a cottage out to Pushaw. Hunted, but never got anything, had a motorboat and went around the lak instead of being in the service. Had a good time.</p> <p>Stole a keg of beer up there.</p> <p>He and his wife got married in 1936, had one so Been in Veazie all his life, worked a year and a half for Merrimack Chemical which is Monsanto in Everett, Mass. He was a draftsman there. That was in 1923-24.</p> <p>First job he had was down to Eastern, he was 15 years old. His father had a job there. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> earned a dollar a day, 52 hours a week. Worked in the machine shop a couple years at East ern, too.</p>
	0500	468	<p>Talked about his home machine shop.</p> <p>Wanted to get a mowing machine .</p>
		507	<p>"The small farm is out." [<u>Mrs. Drinkwater enters conversation again.</u>]</p> <p>Spoke of ancestors on the Mayflower, he thought one of the <u>Drinkwaters</u> might have been one of the crew. Its in the geneology of the <u>Drinkwater</u> family, [<u>Mrs. Drinkwater</u> said she had the geneolo of the of the <u>Farrington</u> family.], it has been traced back to England and Scotland clear back to <u>William of Orange</u>. He remembers in 5th grade or so, having <u>Miss Beattie</u>, who was Tory English. SH asked <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> what his geneology was. He said they come from Derwitt; Scotland. When they moved down to England, they changed from Derwitt to <u>Drinkwater</u>. They hung one of them for piracy on the yardarms of a ship.</p>
		532	<p>He used to hijack liquor during Prohibition. A fellow that <u>Drinkwater</u> knew had a Packard Touring car, one Saturday night he saw this Packard going up Center Street in Bangor, and <u>Drinkwater</u> followed him in a Ford Roadster, 1930. [<u>Water run in background.</u>] His name was <u>Ed Webb</u>, and the bac seat of that car was solid full of liquor, in 3-gallon cans. mr. <u>Drinkwater</u> said he stuck one of those cans under his overcoat and beat it.</p>

*Bangor
Scotland
Everett, Mass.
Veazie
Pushaw Pond*

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
			<p>The can was covered with grease so it wouldn't rust when they brought it across on ship. Called it Hand-Brand alcohol. There was an imprint of a hand on the side of these cans.</p> <p>At the cottage out to Pushaw, saw this truck on time, leave something over by a wood fence, in the bushes. This was on Essex Street. Turned on to Stillwater Ave. and waited till the truck left. Went back and found 3 of those cans, 9 gallons of alcohol. The stuff was shipped from France.</p> <p><u>Herbie Reed</u>, dead now, had a cottage out to Pushaw. Found a stash of 190 odd gallons of alcohol out there. <u>Herbie</u> took the whole business and put it upstairs in his cottage. <u>Herbie</u> had a pretty tough reputation around Bangor, but <u>Drinkwater</u> was always friendly with him.</p>
	0600	587	<p>He [<u>Herbie</u>] had been breaking into cottages off and on [<u>Mrs. Drinkwater</u> said something.] <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> gave <u>Herbie</u> a set of keys to his camp and had him look after it, said he'd pay him to do it. <u>Herbie</u> stayed out there the year round. Everybody else said that <u>Herbie</u> would steal evrything in the cottage. When it came spring, <u>Herbie</u> wouldn't take any money from <u>Drinkwater</u>, "you been too good friend of mine." Underneath the stairs was a 3 gallon can of alcohol that <u>Herbie</u> gave him.</p> <p>It wasnt'a disgrace to steal alcohol, it was a disgrace to get caught. Most of the cops were paid off.</p>
		616	<p><u>Wyatt Spencer</u> was quite a character, he could sing all the old time ballads. Somebody from the University of Maine tape recorded <u>Wyatt</u> singing these songs.</p> <p>[<u>Mrs. Drinkwater</u> comes in again.] It was 6 or 7 years ago that <u>Wyatt</u> got recorded.</p>
		658	<p>[END OF INTERVIEW With <u>Ralph Drinkwater</u> of <u>Veazie, Maine</u> on <u>November 19, 1977.</u>]</p>

*Veazie
Bangor
Pushaw Pond*

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 Interviewee: Ralph Drinkwater Address: MRB # 255 Bangor, Maine
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Brief description of contents: Follow-up interview with Mr. Drinkwater at his home on Main Street in Veazie (Map 5 Section 26). Part of the Veazie History and Architecture Project.

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
	035	037 045	Opening Announcement. Began with <u>Mrs. Drinkwater</u> talking about the Veazie school. She taught 3rd and 4th grade over there, first year of teaching, 1926. <u>May Fanning</u> had first and second. <u>Mrs. Schumway</u> had the 5th and 6th, <u>Mrs. [Cully]</u> had the 7th and 8th grade.
	113	103	<u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> could read when he first went to school. Could get a better education down to John Bapst than you could in a public school up here. Discipline is good there, no dungarees or long hair. Religion doesn't hurt anyone, that's a Catholic school. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> is Protestant, but has always been friendly with the Catholic Church.
	206	168	<u>Mrs. Drinkwater</u> doesn't think the slow learner are getting the attention that they should be over at the Veazie school. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> thinks the educators should go back to school and learn something themselves.
		217	On the Congress and Senate, we got two that are alright, <u>Cohen</u> and <u>Emery</u> . <u>Muskie</u> and <u>Hathaway</u> don't know what they are talking about. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> used to be a Democrat, but is a Republican now. "Got so damned disgusted with the way things were running with our federal government. <u>Curtis</u> didn't know what he was talking about.
		245	They've got into education too much, it would be better on a local level. He gets the labor news every week, after he reads that over he starts swearing. "Boycott this, boycott that....Democrats are no good at all."

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		260	Back to the town of Veazie, [<u>got sidetracked on school thing again</u>].
		287	<u>Frank Bostrom</u> , he is a retired Colonel in the Air Force, and he was the one that flew <u>MacArthur</u> out of the Philipines, he was originally from Veazie. His father was a Swede and his mother was German. <u>Frank Bostrom</u> went to the Veazie school and to the University of Maine as a mechanical engineer. He went in the Air Force in 1929, down to Kelley Field. He flew a bomber from the West Coast to the Hawaiian islands, about the time of the Dec.7 raid. He was a major then, until he got transferred to England where they made him Colonel in charge of the Air Force Sqaudron in Germany. Flew a fighter plane as an escort to the bomber squadron. His sister is <u>Frieda Fleming</u> , who lives in Veazie now on Oak Hill at the Bostrom house. He is now living somewhere around York, Maine.
	300	349	Looking at Archives photo [<u>said 494.5&.6&.7 on tape, but is supposed to be 594.5 &.6 &.7</u>] the old sawmills. Veazie had those mills, and also <u>John Naucross</u> . <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> has an old handsaw with <u>Naucross'</u> name stamped on it. <u>Naucross</u> was in the lumber business along with the <u>Veazies</u> [<u>Mr. Drinkwater not sure of spelling, could be Norcross.</u>]
		369	[<u>Looking at NAFOH Photo 594.4-.7</u>],, taken from the Eddington side of the river. The old dam used to be up above, a wing dam went along the Veazie side, the logs went down in there and also water to run the watermills. When he was a kid, they ran just logs, but at the last of it they ran a lot of pulpwood down there, and picked it up at the Eastern Corp. Down in Everett, Mass. Monsanto took over Merrimack Chemical. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> worked there a year and a half in 1923-24. He went to night school at M.I.T. at the same time, studied power plant engineering.
	400	406	NAFOH photo 594.12-.16, the top one [<u>.12-.13</u>] is the old sawmill from the Veazie side. And this [<u>14-.16</u>]-is where the Veazie Hydro station is, they are putting in the foundations for the plant there. The man with the hat on his head, and the moustache, fifth from the right in the first row, is <u>Roderick Hathorn</u> , his grandfather. These picture were taken "long before I [<u>Mr. Drinkwater</u>] was born. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> surveyed for the <u>newer</u> Graham station. But those pictures taken back in the 1890's or so.
		445	The <u>Pingree</u> family owned a tremendous amount of land, <u>woodsland</u> in Maine. The <u>Pingree</u> Estate still owns a lot up there [<u>around Telos, where his grandfather worked</u>] you can check with

Bostrom? ()

Telos Lake
Everett, Mass.
Eddington
York
Hawaii
Philipines
Veazie

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			<p>Prentice and Carlisle in Bangor, they take care of the woodlands fro different companies in the State. They could tell us anything we wanted to kn about land transfers and things like that.</p>
		470	<p>The Hydro built a dam to,run water on Lake Matagammon. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> was an engineer on the job, in the 40's, during the war, a lot of boys enlisted in the service. It was a storage dam to control the water. they built it in the winter, an awful cold one. Had 50 men working up there.</p>
		492	<p>[<u>Telephone rings. Mrs. Dri nkwater goes into kith</u> While he was up at Telos, he stayed at Shin Pond, at a great big boarding house, 17 miles this side of Grand Lake [Matagammon]. <u>A.P. Wyman</u> was the contractor for the dam, <u>Scott Dunbar</u> was the superintendant for Wyman, and <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> was the engineer. the food at the Shin Pond House was out of this world. They raised their own beef, they had everything, baked beans, roast beef, and steak...wonderful food. Plenty of it.</p> <p>They had a bunkhouse up on the lake also, for the crew.</p> <p>This was a concrete dam that they built, but years ago, there was a wood-crib dam there. when they were buildingthe dam in the 40's, there wasn' any logging going on up there.</p>
	500	552	<p>This was during World War II, because after the job was through, a lot of the boys enlisted. After the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor a lot of boys enlisted right off the bat.</p>
		569	<p>World War I, in the town of Veazie, every boy or man who was the right age, enlisted, nobody was drafted. [<u>Mrs. Drinkwater comes back in room.</u>] Some of them had a good time over there, but the trenches were pretty bad. There was one man [<u>from Veazie</u>] killed and two or three was wounded. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> tried to go in the Navy, but they found out he was only 16 1/2 years old, so they wouldn't take him.</p>
		605	<p><u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> showed me a 75mm artillery shell that came from France. <u>Ernest LeBlanc, Allie and Walter Dwelley, Richard Jones, and thinks Tom and John Davis</u> were in World War I.</p>
	600	623	<p>On <u>Pete Davis</u>; <u>Mr. Drinkwater's</u> grandfather, <u>Roderick Hathorn and Davis</u> were on the Board of Selectmen together, they were about the same age and were always good friends. [<u>We thumbed through some old town reports while talking.</u>]</p> <p><u>Pete Davis</u> was Irish Catholic, a very nice man, tall and straight, and a very good businessman. Everybody liked him.</p>
		665	<p><u>George White</u> ran the barbershop over in the brick house next to the store, down in the base- ment. Had two pool tables there too.</p>

*Hawaii
Grand Lake Matagammon
Shin Pond
Telos Lake
Bangor
(6-49)*

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<p><i>map section</i> <i>Jones (9-12-14, 16)</i></p>		682	<p>Later on, he moved the shop upstairs and rented out the basement, he died 6 or 7 years ago.</p> <p><u>Austin Jones</u> lived in the stone house right up over the hill from <u>Drinkwater's</u>. Had 50-75 head of cattle over there at one time, 1917-18. When they came to build a big barn, <u>Austin</u> had a whole lot of bagged cement that needed storing, so he put it in <u>Drinkwater's</u> barn. They put so damn much in there that they caved the floor in. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> said that he threw it outdoors after that, and <u>Austin</u> said that he'd sue him. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> made <u>Austin</u> fix the floor, and he "was madder than the devil." We was friends afterwards. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> said that, "I never had too good a reputation for having a good temper."</p>
		705	<p>Couldn't remember if <u>Dingbat Prouty</u> ever worked for <u>Austin</u> or not, quite sure that <u>Dingbat</u> went to California and never came back.</p>
		717	<p>1934 Stone and Webster Appraisal for the Bangor Hydro. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> was one of the field engineers. Went around to different plants, the different circuits that would come down on [line-work?]. Measured feet from one pole to the other, and went to every house to get serial numbers off their meters. This was for Orono, Old Town, Veazie, Bangor and Lincoln, Enfield, Howland, and then Eastport. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> said he didn't work in Veazie on that. All this [Appraisal] is in the second floor vault down at Bangor Hydro. There is an historical volume in it. The Appraisal does not have the names with the houses, but it does go by street.</p>
	700		
		744	<p>The house next door to <u>Drinkwater</u>, originally owned by <u>Tom Carey</u>. He sold it to the <u>Haley's</u>, then <u>Drinkwater's</u> mother bought it from them. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> sold the house to <u>Bateman</u>, then <u>Bateman</u> sold it to <u>Woodsum</u>.</p>
<p><i>Woodsum (6-63)</i></p>	722	754	<p>END OF SIDE ONE</p>
	037	036	<p>BEGINNING SIDE TWO</p>
<p><i>(6-63)</i> <i>Eastport</i> <i>Howland</i> <i>Enfield</i> <i>Lincoln</i> <i>Bangor</i> <i>Veazie</i> <i>Old Town</i> <i>Orono</i> <i>California</i></p>	100	049	<p>The Post Office used to be in the <u>Bateman</u> house years ago, before his [<u>Mr. Drinkwater's</u>] mother ever owned it. In the front of the house.</p> <p>On how his land has changed hands over the years; Has owned from his house almost down to School Street, and from State Street over to the schoolhouse [West to East]. He has an old deed to the place. He sold the place next door [on corner of <u>Main and Olive</u>] to <u>Bateman</u>. <u>Drinkwater's</u> present house built in 1847, the <u>Bateman</u> place in 1842.</p> <p>The only time he remembers a lot of houses springing up all at once is in recent years.</p>

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		118	The land that he owned down towards School St. and on the hill he sold to the Town of Veazie with a restriction on it that it be used by the Town or the school for recreational purposes, other than that the Town can never sell it, or it comes back to him.
		134	His grandfather was a farmer, but he started working in the woods and on the drives. The Davis family had a big farm. His grandfather did raise a lot of potatoes, he sold them in Bangor. Down cellar they had a big potato bin, would hold 150-200 bushels of potatoes. The cellar was 8 feet deep, and the bin was about 2 feet off the floor, made out of slats to get ventilation up through them.
Drinkwater (5-26)		180	The inside of the house has been redone, the plaster was falling apart. It has two ceilings in the house, part of the old ceiling went right up to the peak of the house. Their living room, or den rather, measures about 12'x 12'. Towards the front of the house is a longer living room. Originally there used to be a small dining room, or pantry, and a hallway to the kitchen, which was originally back further in the ell of the house, where the washing machine room is now. The kitchen is now moved toward the den, and much bigger, without the pantry and hallway. The kitchen is one big room, now. Where the wash room is now, there used to be a little bedroom. Made part of it into a closet, not much closet space in the house.
	200	240	<u>Wyatt Spencer</u> lived on Olive Street the last house down on the left, near the river. <u>Abbie Spencer</u> , his son, lived right next door. <u>Abbie</u> could tell a lot about <u>Wyatt</u> . In the Town Report, there are a lot of items on <u>Albert Spencer</u> , the one that went with the 49er's to California. <u>Abbie</u> is about 50 years old now.
Spencer (5-6)		283	Used to be a school down on Rock Street, before <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> ever went to school. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> cousin who visited him last week went to school there, though. At the corner of School st. and the Main road, across from <u>Lou Silver's</u> , there was a school there once. <u>Dr. [Briggs?]</u> had that house built where <u>Lou Silver</u> is, he was a dentist in Bangor. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> was 8 or 9 years old when they built that house.
Silvers (3-40)		310	The Morris Canoe Factory in Veazie, where Stucco Lodge is now, was that whole lot there, bigger than the Old Town Canoe Factory. Their canoes where known all over this world. It burned in 1917, <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> was in high school, it was in the fall. <u>Mr. Drinkwater</u> and <u>Ed Sullivan</u> had the first hose on the building, they had a lot of hoses up there for protection.
Stucco (3-43)	300		
California Veazie			

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			They couldn't do much of anything from the outside, the basement was all on fire. The present building there now was the office, but the rest all burned flat.
		345	The sheriff's dept. and evryone else came down to see him about it, because he was one of the first ones up there. He had an idea what started it. There were two big motors down in the basement to run saws and so forth. Thought the fire started from those motors.
		355	George Stenchfield was in the State Hospital, and broke out and went on a rampage; arsonist. He was a big rugged man, probably 7 or 8 years older than Mr. Drinkwater. He jumped in the river up above the Bangor dam, and swam across the river. thinks it was in April. Walked up the Eddington side and swam back across where the Veazie Hydro station is. He went back to his home up on Oak Hill. They notified the State Hospital and they said he was perfectly harmless. About two weeks later, Austin Jones big barn was on fire. The Warren Prouty plae, where Davis is now, the barn up there caught fire. Sheriffs came up to the house and said that you got to have protection, Mr. Drinkwater said he had protection, an old 44 revolver. Sheriff told him to stay home and if he saw the guy, to shoot him, in the leg or hip. Mr. Drinkwater stayed home, but his father went out with the posse. The next day out by the manure pile at Drinkwater's barn, he had a whole box of matches and he lit them and threw them into the back window, they landed behind the cows and they all went out. "Almost burned our place down." The next day; the Stenchfield's had a barn out on School St. and there was 25 people out there there with rifles, and he was there saying "don't shoot me, don't shoot me." They threw him and jail, then found out he was as violent as could be, out of his head. Sent him to Augusta Hospital for insane criminals, lived in a padded cell for 4 or 5 years and he di. This was in the early 1920's.
	400	438	Talked about the school some more. Drinkwater's say the educational system a mess. We had discipline when we went to school.
		468	[Mr. Drinkwater asks for pen to put his name on the following Town Reports that he let me borrow: Veazie year ending March 1893, March 1899, 1910-1911, 1911-1912, 1973-74.] Mrs. Drinkwater has a geneology of her family, the Farringtons. There is a Drinkwater geneology also.
	471	496	END OF INTERVIEW WITH RALPH DRINKWATER ON 12-15-7

Jones (9-12)
Davis (9-18a)

Eddington