

**Kennesaw State University  
Department of History and Philosophy  
Summerhill Oral History Project**

**Interview with:** James Curtis  
**Interviewed by:** Jennifer Jongema  
**Location:** Gray's Chapel AME Church, Adairsville, GA  
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**Transcribed by:** Steven Satterfield

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(Tape 1, Side A)

Jennifer Jongema: First of all if you could state your name for me please, sir.

James Curtis: James H. Curtis

J.J: When and where were you born?

J.C: I was born in Floyd County, August 27, 1950.

J.J: Okay, do you have any brothers or sisters?

J.C: I have one brother, two sisters living, one deceased.

J.J: Okay, and your family, what did your parents do for a living?

J.C: They were farmers.

J.J Both... okay. And when someone says Summerhill to you, what do you think of, do you think of the school, or the community, what do you think of?

J.C: The community and school as a whole.

J.J: Did your family live in Summerhill or were you bused in?

J.C: We were bused in.

J.J: Okay and where were you bused in from?

J.C: From Adairsville.

J.J: Okay, all right let's talk about your house first, where you lived growing up, if you were standing at the street looking at your house, what would your house look like?

J.C: Well, we lived in several houses, as we were coming up because we were farmers and we moved around, it would be a wood sided house, nothing special, just a few windows, you know just an old time looking house.

J.J: Generally how many rooms were there?

J.C: Generally six rooms, we'd have a living room where'd watch TV, my mother and father would have a bedroom, my sisters would have a bedroom, me and my brother would have a bedroom, we'd have a kitchen and then we'd have what you'd call a pantry where kept stuff.

J.J: Did you have anybody else that lived with you, form the family, any like grandmothers?

J.C: No.

J.J: No? Okay. You said that ya'll were farmers, were you tenant farmers or sharecroppers?

J.C: Sharecroppers.

J.J: Okay, and you mostly lived in Adairsville area?

J.C: Right

J.J: What were your yards, like the outside of your house, the yards generally like?

J.C: Clay.

J.J: Clay?

J.C: Yeah, no grass hardly. We might have a little grass at one of the places but mostly just clay.

J.J: And did most of the houses have indoor plumbing or outdoors?

J.C: No, outdoor.

J.J: Alright, did you have many neighbors near by?

J.C: It all depends on which area we was living in, a couple of areas, we didn't have, we would have to walk three or four miles before we got to a neighbors house, and then some of the younger areas maybe a mile.

J.J: In general the neighbors that you did have, did ya'll get along?

J.C: Oh yes, yes.

J.J: Okay, what was your job in the house?

J.C: Well I was the youngest, so actually in the house I got stuck with washing the dishes, mostly that's about it.

J.J: Okay, let's see if your family were to sit down to dinner or supper what would a typical meal be like, what would it consist of?

J.C: Are we talking during the week or on the weekend?

J.J: We'll do both, we'll do week first.

J.C: During the week, maybe potatoes, some type of pork meat, bread, either some green dried good beans, and (unintelligible). And the weekend, we might have some chicken or you know with the regular fixings, or we might have hot dogs or hamburgers, that was special for us.

J.J: Okay, was a Sunday dinner special?

J.C: Yes, you got a real full course, that's probably mostly when the chicken was ate.

J.J: What type of crops did your family grow?

J.C: Cotton.

J.J: And did ya'll have like a vegetable garden?

J.C: Yes, we had a garden every year.

J.J: What'd you grow?

J.C: We would grow the onions, beets, carrots, cabbages, corn, tomatoes, okra.

J.J: All the good stuff. Did ya'll raise chickens? Did you raise your own hogs?

J.C: We raised our own hogs but we didn't raise any (unintelligible) chickens.

J.J: Okay those were purchased, and traded for?

J.C: Right.

J.J: Did you have a cow, horses, any of that?

J.C: No.

J.J: Just hogs?

J.C: Yeah.

J.J: Let's see, what was your first job that you got paid money for?

J.C: First job I got paid money for was, I was a dishwasher at (unintelligible) Restaurant.

J.J: Where was that?

J.C: That was here in Adairsville on 41.

J.J: Okay, how old were you?

J.C: I was fifteen, back in 65.

J.J: Okay, let's see. Where did most people, that you, like family members or members of the community, what did most people do for a living?

J.C: Most of my family members , they were all sharecroppers.

J.J: What about the kids you went to school with?

J.C: We talking about the ones from Cartersville or the ones from Adairsville here?

J.J: Both.

J.C: The kids, most of the kids that I went to school with here in Adairsville, their parents they wasn't sharecroppers and so they didn't, if they did any work in the field it was because they wanted to not because they had to, and the ones in Cartersville, the city children, their parents didn't do any sharecropping, but you got a lot of rural kids down in that way, they did a lot of sharecropping, and so they were basically like we were up here, you know.

J.J: How would you describe the Summerhill neighborhood for me, what building were in there, what was important, what streets kind of marked the boundaries of it?

J.C: Okay, I'll just start with, well maybe I didn't do all this right, I just did this piece of paper based on the school and the projects across that. But the, I guess when you talk about the Summerhill I still first see the swimming pool, the gym, the school, that it was, the projects that sits across from the school, then as you going and get up in the community I see Jones St. that's where another street of projects lined, we used to go through that project and play a lot. Then I see the superintendent, I see the principal, I see his house, it's sitting right on top the hill, and I see the football field that sits up on the hill and plus, what they got now a gym sitting up there, used to be an old tore down building that's where we'd have our brick masonry class, where we lay bricks and things, a lot of things stick out the church right there on, and up on Jones Street up on the hill the AME church, so a whole lot sticks out there.

J.J: I'm going to ask you about several specific place, and if you could tell me what you know about them, or anything pertaining to them, do you know where the name Summerhill came from? Do you have any idea?

J.C: No.

J.J: Nobody knows. Okay, so Mt. Zion Baptist Church, there's a huge bell out in front of it.

J.C: Right.

J.J: What was that about?

J.C: I can't answer that either.

J.J: It's just always been there?

J.C: It's always been there, yes.

J.J: The brotherhood lodge.

J.C: Oh yeah, it's always been there, matter of fact I'm an inactive member of that lodge.

J.J: Okay, now what's their purpose?

J.C: The brotherhood lodge there? That's actually a Free and Accepted Masonry lodge.

J.J: Okay, so, do you know what the lodge number is, because I know that the lodges have numbers?

J.C: It's been years and I don't have my card,

J.J: My daddy's a mason so I was just curious. Okay, is there a reason why ya'll called it the brotherhood lodge, instead of the Masonic?

J.C: Well, I really don't know, because we don't have the emblems up, up there, so I really don't know why it's called the brotherhood, we just maybe it was the brotherhood lodge and we just started holding meetings there.

J.J: Okay, St. Luke's AME, where's that at?

J.C: I can remember it as when I was a kid, we used to hold, what you call it, Summer Sunday, Summer Church School Convention there every year, and we used to go there every year and I used to love going there and doing that.

J.J: Like vacation bible school.

J.C: Yes.

J.J: Okay, Tabernacle Church.

J.C: I don't quite remember that one.

J.J: Okay, Slab stadium?

J.C: (Laughter) I'm thinking that's one of the names that they gave the football stadium, field there.

J.J: That's what we've been told.

J.C: Because it was just a, it wasn't no, it was just a slab of concrete just there.

J.J: Concrete to play football on?

J.C: Well not the field, but the bleachers, where the bleachers supposed to be, you didn't really have, it was just slabs of concrete, you know.

J.J: The dump?

J.C: Okay, I see something behind the school, the elementary side, there but I can't really say.

J.J: Café delicatessa? The barber shop?

J.C: Oh yeah, the barber shop, we all used to go and get our haircuts down there, well I guess we just hung out there at the barbershop.

J.J: Were you aware of any places in town where drinking took place or anything like that? Drinking?

J.C: Not a bar or anything no, no when you said the delicatessen, what pops in my mind would be the Four Way Food Stop, that sold good hamburgers and hotdogs and stuff. But that was in town, that wasn't on the hill.

J.J: When did you start going to school in Summerhill?

J.C: Oh, I started in 1965.

J.J: So you started as? High school?

J.C: Yeah high school, a freshman.

J.J: And did you graduate?

J.C: No, I spent three years there, and then the integration cam and I had to finish my last year up here in Adairsville in 68-69.

J.J: So you graduated from Adairsville?

J.C: Yes.

J.J: Okay, what was it like going to school at Summerhill, who were your friends, did you have any nicknames?

J.C: Oh yes, it was wonderful, I had a nickname they would call me a Honk, one of my cousins gave me that nickname, he was reading the funny paper and they was honking this car, and it was saying honk, honk, honk and so they start saying honk, and then they start saying honk, but they couldn't say, but a few of the couldn't say Honk so they would say Honk, so I got stuck with the nickname honk. But I had a lot of friends in Cartersville, a lot of my classmates, I just you know wont name one, without naming the rest of them because we all got along real great together.

J.J: What'd ya'll do for fun?

J.C: What kids always do, we'd play a lot of sports and then when we clowning and picking at one another, what things boys always do and you know.

J.J: What kind of sports did ya'll play or games?

J.C: We did basketball, we did a lot of baseball playing but we did it mostly during the summer, sometimes basketball mostly, swimming, we jump on the trampoline, you we had trampolines in the gyms so we'd do that.

J.J: What were your favorite hangouts in the neighborhood?

J.C: Jones Street

J.J: Why Jones Street?

J.C: That's where most of the girls were at that we was seeing.

J.J: Okay, that makes sense, if you went on a date where would you and your girlfriends, or you would double date.

J.C: We would go to the Grand Theater, the movies.

J.J: To the movies, okay, were there any particular customs or celebrations you remember in the Summerhill area?

J.C: They were, I guess it was a celebration, might have been a custom, but it was always before football season, it might even be during football season they would have this big parade where the band would march, and then dancing go on through the town, it happen every year, you know so I really liked that.

J.J: What about holidays? Like Christmas pageants or anything like that?

J.C: Don't think I've ever been too involved in stuff like that.

J.J: Did you have anything special you did at home as a family, any traditions or anything for holidays?

J.C: No, not really just gather together one day and have a family lunch, all your cousins and your aunts and uncles and everybody get together.

J.J: Okay, how has Summerhill changed since you went to school there?

J.C: The new building structure that's put there, the gym on top of the hill where the old building was messed up, but other than that I don't think it's really changed that much to me, the field what used

to be the football field, it's been changed there but other than the structure of that new building where the high school was at, I don't really see that much of a change.

J.J: Do you think it's changed any economically, with the projects coming in and stuff?

J.C: It think it could have, but I just, you know I don't really, I see things like it was, you know during the time that I was there.

J.J: What is your fondest memory of Summerhill?

J.C: Fondest memory, I have a lot of memories, I guess working in the shop, I made several items to put books and store things in and up until a couple of years ago I still had those items, I'd say working in shop.

J.J: You mentioned the Grand Theater in Cartersville, where else did ya'll go in Cartersville to shop or have fun?

J.C: Well down by the Grand, now they had this clothing store that was down by, I can't even think of the name of it, but the (unintelligible) ran the clothing store back then so, it was a black family that owned that clothing store we did a lot of shopping at that store so.

J.J: Was there anywhere that you felt like you couldn't go, or knew that you weren't welcome?

J.C: No

J.J: Now a lot of people have mentioned, you brought up the four way stop a minute ago, a lot of people have mentioned that there was separate entrances there, was that still during your time, like segregated entrances?

J.C: You know it's been so, it might have been because we were just used to going, it could have been, I'm not real sure.

J.J: So pretty much you felt like you could go where you wanted to, did you tend to go like you mentioned the Benam's clothing store did ya'll tend to go to stores or businesses that were owned by black families?

J.C: Yes.

J.J: Okay, where did you meet with other people in the community, churches, lodges, things like that, where were the big meeting places?

J.C: Well the church would be the St. Paul AME church, and the other place we met several times for, and it would be in outdoor situation so it would be up on the football field, which was the same thing as a baseball field when I was growing up.

J.J: So sports and church were big crowds, okay. Who were the prominent members of the community?

J.C: The Morgan's, the Morgan family, the Grainer family, the Johnson family, the Strickland family, the Weams family.

J.J: Who are the leaders of the community now, do you think?

J.C: Do I think now? I would say that the Morgan's still have a big hand in it, their kids, and I would say some of the Strickland's still got a hand in it, because I know the Strickland's they help with people homeless and them things, so I know they still got a big hand in it. It's probably a lot more that I really couldn't tell you know, so, but mostly I'd say that they still standing from the old families you know they say the fruit don't fall far from the tree.

J.J: Do you remember place in Cartersville, or Summerhill, Adairsville even that were considered whites only or blacks only?

J.C: Yes, I remember some places like that here in Adairsville, little café, let me rephrase that, you could still eat in the café but you would have to go to the back and you really couldn't sit and eat you'd just have to get takeout orders, now our water fountains and things down at the city you couldn't drink from the water fountain.

J.J: Were they marked with signs?

J.C: Right on it, yes. I can remember those yeah so, but other stores we were able to go into to do business and things.

J.J: Okay, the church, what, do you belong to a Church now?

J.C: Yes, Gray's Chapel.

J.J: Now what role, let me ask another question first, is that the church your family belonged to as a child?

J.C: Well my mother.

J.J: Your mother did?

J.C: Yes.

J.J: Okay, what role do you think the church plays in the community?

J.C: I think that this church here that I belong to right now, the AME church I think it plays a probably a leadership role in the community or I guess I could say since (unintelligible) maybe six or seven years or so, we have it helps people that has trouble paying the bills, it helps people with food, clothing, anytime that, it's just a helping church and it offers its facilities to anybody that needs it and don't have anything so I'd say its more of a leadership kind of helping church.

J.J: When you, did you got to Gray's Chapel when you went to school at Summerhill, what was it like, who attended, what was the music like?

J.C: Good old, old time music, as my kids and grandkids probably would say now, but the older, the older people attended aright, I'd say that the members now their mothers and fathers that's around my age those were the members back then we were the kids and different pastors, you had pastors back then to me what I can remember is they brought the sermon straight from the bible and now-a-days some of these pastors they got their notes and everything, it's a little difference right there.

J.J: Was there any particular topics or passages that constantly appeared in sermons?

J.C: I'm sure there was, but if I had to bring one off the top of my head I couldn't really do it right now.

J.J: Okay, what types of things were preached about, what were the big messages?

J.C: I'm going to be honest with you, I was a kid and being a kid you really don't take all that it, but as I grew older and now the topic is salvation so it probably was taught back then but I couldn't tell you.

J.J: Do you remember the church taking any political stances?

J.C: Not that I know of, no.

J.J: Do you think it does today?

J.C: Well we have, we encourage people to vote, and that's about all that we've you know done on a political stance.

J.J: How do you think your church has changed over the years from your childhood to now?

J.C: Well, to me I guess knowing the Lord no, when I didn't know him back then so, I guess the church is on the inside of each individual and that's to me and now I knew I didn't know him back then, I

know now that I didn't know him back then, but I know him now so that change is the only change that I can really express that I know he is my lord and savior and that he did come to the cross and die for me that I might have everlasting life and he rose on the third again, and I rose up with him.

J.J: Is, in your youth, was the congregation all black?

J.C: Yes.

J.J: And does that continue today?

J.C: No we have a Caucasian, Mexican, anyone that wishes to attend we'd love to have, our doors is open to everyone.

J.J: And you went to Summerhill for high School, and you went there three years?

J.C: Yes.

J.J: What year did you start going?

J.C: '65

J.J: How did you get to school?

J.C: A school bus, the first year was school bus and the second year I started driving.

J.J: You had a car?

J.C: Our family had a car, and my brother he had a car so we ride in the car.

J.J: What were your favorite subjects in school?

J.C: Oh Math, I loved math. Math was my favorite subject.

J.J: You mentioned that brick masonry and stuff, did they teach a lot of trade classes in addition to the traditional academic?

J.C: The brick masonry, how to lay brick, yes.

J.J: What other classes besides like math and stuff would you have, considered to be like trade classes?

J.C: The, I call it the Shop class, that's where you learn how to cut wood and be able to make things.

J.J: Maybe like Home Ec and stuff like that, of course boys didn't take that back then.

J.C: Yeah they did, they sure did.

J.J: Did you take Home Ec?

J.C: I took it one year.

J.J: What was it like?

J.C: It was weird.

J.J: It was weird? How so?

J.C: Because I had to do a lot of baking.

J.J: Did you learn?

J.C: Yeah, I reckon I learned.

J.J: Do you still?

J.C: I cook a lot now.

J.J: You do?

J.C: Yeah

J.J: See it served a purpose. Who were your favorite teachers?

J.C: Lord have mercy, my favorite teacher. I guess I'd have to say Mrs. Elzina Williams.

J.J: And what'd she teach you?

J.C: She taught science, but she would, I call, I'd say she'd always pick on me, but that was because she loved me more, I think you know so, we just had a nice relationship with one another.

J.J: Did you like her because of the relationship, or be cause maybe she challenged you?

J.C: I guess because she challenged you a lot, a lot.

J.J: Did you belong to any clubs organizations, play any sports for school?

J.C: I played football, but I didn't belong to any clubs back then or organizations....

(Tape 1, Side B)

J.C: ...Played basketball you know during the school year.

J.J: Were there any, was Summerhill known for any particular sport being very good at or being kind of bad at?

J.C: Yeah, we were known for the, we played hard football we were kind of bad at it though, but you know we give it our best; we never won too many games. It was fun.

J.J: What position did you play?

J.C: I was an end.

J.J: What'd ya'll do after school?

J.C: During the football season we'd practice football, track season during track season after school we'd practice track, so ran track, see I'm getting to remember a little more as we go, during that you know basketball, so basically your sports ran you all year round so you was always doing the practice after school after that, and we used to, we'd have to catch a greyhound bus to get home from school.

J.J: Really?

J.C: But as I was saying, we used to have to catch Greyhound after practice and it would drop us off on the side of forty one right up here as it came through. During the football season we had, I had a cousin and they would let him drive the bluebird, the bus and so we would have a way home from practice after football, by him driving the bus.

J.J: How much did it cost to ride from Summerhill to Adairsville on Greyhound?

J.C: I'm thinking we paid somewhere like fifty cents.

J.J: And you said you went to Summerhill for three years and then you graduated from Adairsville, what'd you do after you finished high school?

J.C: Well, after I finished high school I just started working.

J.J: What type of jobs did you?

J.C: I started with cotton mills, cotton mill started working at a cotton mill running (unintelligible) frames.

J.J: How do you think education has affected your life?

J.C: Well, I think it did good in my life, because as I went on maybe a couple years later after graduating from high school I went on to working in carpet mills and what knowledge I obtained from school, helped me to better myself in the job field, so I think it helped a lot.

J.J: I forgot to ask you, did you have a lot of homework when you went to school?

J.C: We didn't have that much stuff that I can remember, we had a little bit but not a whole lot, we did a lot of our work in class.

J.J: Do you think that your education that you received because you went to both segregated and integrated schools, do you think it was equal to what the white kids got?

J.C: No, not when I came to Adairsville up here I actually decided to go to summer school before I actually attended the school you know, we had a choice whether we could try to get some classes in before school started and I started finding out then that we're not doing the same thing, basically they had a lot of stuff that we didn't know how do.

J.J: How did they have this advantage, do you think it was money, or they had more tools available?

J.C: I think it was, it might have been more to, we had some of the books that we would have to purchase our self at Summerhill and so I couldn't purchase it, but I still think everybody go some kind literature whether they purchased it or it was given to us. But It was just, some of the stuff was just, I don't know, how can I put this, I was expected to know more of certain stuff, than what I had got when I entered into this high school up here.

J.J: Would you say that like they had a higher level of knowledge?

J.C: Yes

J.J: With that, do you think it was good for ya'll, for the schools to integrate at that point, or do you think it should have been more gradual in order to adapt for the changes, what do you think?

J.C: Well, I think it was good that it went on at that point; doing it gradually still is not going to help some of them. You still going to go through that same phase, but it's going to take you longer, when we went through it was just like that.

J.J: Right, you said we spoke earlier about the signs and things, were you ever personally and I'm sure you were affected by segregation in any way that stand out prominent in your mind?

J.C: No I wasn't, simply because a lot of the kids that I was in my class when I started up here I already knew them, because one way or another sharecropping, or my mother had worked in their household and I grew up with these kids because like I said when my mother went somewhere, guess what, I had to go.

J.J: You just mentioned your mother worked in houses; did she work for the white families in Adairsville?

J.C: Yes, from time to time, when she wasn't in the fields.

J.J: And what did she do?

J.C: Clean houses and cook.

J.J: What were your family's feelings about segregation was it ever discussed, or was it just kind of the way it is?

J.C: It never was discussed it was just that's the way it is, you know, I didn't want to go because I wanted to do my last year here, my last year at Summerhill but it didn't work out that way but I knew I had to go so I went on and like I said I knew a lot of the children, kids that was up there so you know.

J.J: Were you able to participate in the same sort of sports and stuff at Adairsville?

J.C: Was I what?

J.J: Able to participate in the sports?

J.C: Oh yes, I went straight in to the same sports that I was doing at, didn't miss them a sport or anything you know, went straight into it.

J.J: Do you think that your relationship changed with the white families, or the kids that you grew up with after integration?

J.C: No, we played with each when we was little.

J.J: How did you feel when they tore down the school?

J.C: Well, I really I think they might have tore the school down during the time that I wasn't aware of when it happened or, but when I did finally saw it was tore down, I, you know it's just, well they're going to put something else there, so.

J.J: So it didn't really?

J.C: No, not that much.

J.J: Do you think there's a place for all black schools in society today, whether it be a high school, middle school, that sort of thing, or university level?

J.C: No, I don't,

J.J: Why?

J.C: I don't think there's a place for it, because we're all the, I just feel like that everybody should you know get along with one another, this we're in this world where you've got to keep going forward if you go back to all black or all white you're backing up, we don't want to do that, we want a world where everybody can live together in peace and harmony.

J.J: Did you ever become involved in the Civil rights movement, or any of your family?

J.C: No, the only thing I've ever done and I can't say that it was really a movement but when Martin Luther King was killed we did a protest march, I was going to school at Summerhill and all the students and things did a protest march and I can tell you right now to the day why, I don't know.

J.J: Let's see, do you feel that racism affected your family in your life, in any way?

J.C: It always affects you a little bit but you just got to go on, pick your feet up and go, even today where you, it affects my grandkids, I got a grandkid that I raised brought him home form the hospital and had him for 12 years almost 13 years and he's beginning to feel the effect of what I've been trying to talk with him and tell him, well everybody is not going to treat you like Papa, going to treat you.

J.J: Talk about some broader things, did you have any, was your family affected by some of the big events of the twentieth century, the depression, WWII, civil rights, Vietnam, were ya'll affected in any way by that?

J.C: Not that I know of.

J.J: Nobody was drafted or?

J.C: No, not that I know of.

J.J: How did you feel about the civil rights movement, what did ya'll know about it?

J.C: Basically you know what we saw on TV, that was about all that we knew about it, and again, you know a lot things that you see, you have feelings for those that aren't right, you know they shouldn't do that, but that basically it.

J.J: Was that something that was discussed in school, that your teachers discussed or?

J.C: Not, you might have one teacher or so might would speak on it, but not really.

J.J: When did your family get their first television?

J.C: When did we get that first television, I was still, I hadn't begun school yet, so I want to say that it was around '55. 1955 or '54 something like that.

J.J: And you said that ya'll had a car pretty much all of your life, what about telephone?

J.C: When did we get a telephone? I really can't say when we got it, what I can say is that when I remember us having a telephone was probably in '61 maybe '62, right around eleven or twelve I can remember our telephone at that point in time.

J.J: When did you, ya'll have a house that had indoor water and plumbing and stuff, do you remember that?

J.C: I surely do, it was 1965.

J.J: 1965, my goodness, was that a big thing?

J.C: This is when we moved from the country and had stopped sharecropping in '65 about the same time they put 75 through here, our house actually set on the on-going ramp, north on-going ramp that's where our house was actually sitting, right there. It was in '65 and we moved to a house that had indoor plumbing, indoors bathroom.

J.J: Makes life a lot easier.

J.C: Yes, it did.

J.J: Who is the person, or persons that has had the most positive influence on your life?

J.C: My sister who is deceased she had a great influence on my life, and my mother.

J.J: Who are your heroes or heroines?

J.C: I guess I'd say my mom.

J.J: Your mom, why?

J.C: She gave everything to us that she could give to us, she loved us, she just took care of us, she instructed us on behavior and everything she (unintelligible).

J.J: That's all the questions I really have, is there anything that you think I've left out?

J.C: No

J.J: Let me look over your map real quick and see if we have any questions. The swimming pool, that's the Matthew Hill?

J.C: Yes

J.J: Was he one of your teachers?

J.C: Yes he was, actually the Mt. Zion church would've been right there and the brotherhood lodge would've been right in there.

J.J: I'm going to turn off the tape.