

TAPE GUIDE (Mrs. Logan)

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ORAL HISTORY

Mrs. George Logan, a former servant at Glanmore, talking with Rob Miller (C.I.P.) on February 5, 1975. *Case Number 6*
Subject Code VI/4/B.

L: Mrs. Logan
R: Rob Miller

R: Maybe we should establish the date. Was it thirty-six years ago?

L: It was in 1937. Sometime in '37 when I started. I think I worked for three years. I was married in thirty-nine and I didn't leave until a few months after I was married, ~~xxxx~~ till they closed the house.

R: Who would you...who would you have worked for?

L: That was for Sandy Burrows, Mr. Burrows. That was Phillipa's father, Mrs. Doctor Faulkner's father.

R: Would Mrs. Burrows have been living then, or...?

L: O she had been dead a long time. I never ~~xxx~~ ever remember seeing her. I don't when she died; quite a long time before that. But mrs. Barfat ~~was~~ had brought the two girls up, and they had got to the age where they didn't want a housekeeper, they wanted to run the house themselves.

R: Right. So what duties did you have when you worked there?

L: I run the house. That's just about all you could say, I planned the meals, I kept the house clean, and I

planned for everything and then I did anything that come up. You had no idea. (laughs)

R: That would be quite a task wouldn't it?

L: Well I kept the whole house. I was the only one there.

R: You were the only one?

L: Oh yes.

R: They didn't hire any part-time staff

L: No. Ah, it was the type of house that^{it} was carpeted all through at that time; had been carpeted I imagine years before, because it was old carpet even, you know, then, but if it was run systematically, you could keep it clean. You couldn't spring-clean it or anything like that, but you could keep it clean, by running it systematically.

R: I'm interested in what your sort of daily routine might be, on an average day at the house?

L: What times, and that...

R: Well okay, ~~let's~~ well we won't...let's not concentrate on the times...

L: Yes but for like breakfast. Ah, usually on Mondays I washed and quite often I started washing before breakfast, and then got breakfast. Lunch was at noon and dinner at night. And other than I caught up on some of the ironing Monday afternoon, that was about it. but that made a full That kept me going all day.

R: Did you have any special duties like things that three or

four times a year you'd have to look after?

L: No. So I didn't do that; it was just keeping the house running was just about...

R: What kind of decorations did the house did the house have?

L: It didn't look like it does today.

R: Like on the mantle-piece, say, what would they have?

L: The one in the dining room, the side-board had two big candleabres with five candles each. And over on the side...on the...ah, fireplace, over the fireplace there was another set that matched the one only just one big candle in them. And the silver-ware was heavy. It was big, and it matched the room. There were cupboards there...(undecipherable)...they were all ~~eeub~~ covered. (probably referring to the china and cuttlery on the sideboard etc.)

R: Now was the drawing room the same room as the the drawing room today?

L: Yes. Yes it is.

R: How did they decorate that room?

L: As far as I can remember, it was a...it must have been painted in a light shade because it doesn't stand out as anything particular about colour or anything like that. There were no drapes, just the shutters, the inside shutters. And there was a big piano there in the big window.

R: Not a love seat like there is there today.

L: Ah, that love seat was there. ~~Sxxxxxxfxxxx~~ That's the same one. Yes, there's some of that furniture there I recognized, that has been recovered and redone. I think that one with the three ... the one that sits out there with the three seats in it.

R: Oh yes.

L: I think that's in the same covering that we had. I had it done when I was there. I sent away to somewhere. Sandy wanted it done and I sent it away and I think that's the way it was done. I'm not sure, but ~~certainly~~ *it struck me* when I saw it, I recognized it.

R: Was that seat considered out of the ordinary when you had it there?

L: No, that was rather an exceptional chair when it was there I couldn't tell you what period or anything about it.

R: I think we probably have that information, but I'm wondering what people thought of it then? Because they come in now you know and, "What's that?"

L; Yes, well that...oh no we used it just like an ordinary chair. And suprisingly enough; it doesn't look like it; but its quite comfortable to talk.

We never had the doors open, between the drawing room and what do they call that little, the billiard room; that used to be the breakfast room, where they ate breakfast.

R: I guess they thought that was...they've got it as the Card room now.

L: Well that...I don't know what that had been from the time of the Phillips's, before then, but ah, they've blocked the door coming up from the basement, where I used to come up from the kitchen, up the stairs, and come into there to put the breakfast on the table.

R: So there was a staricase behind those panels in the Card room or the Breakfast Room.

L: It came up where the...you know on the other hall there that, I don't...they've got a cupboard there now, and the dumpwaiter that came up...

R: Right

L: So the stairs came up but they were...we used the breakfast room. We didn't use the Dining Room only for dinner at night, and the Breakfast Room for breakfast and lunch, and used the dining room at night.

R: How many people of the family would be sitting in...at the table.

L: Well just the three, just the three.

R: So that room would be plenty big enough for them, wouldn't it?

L: O yes. Well they never ate breakfast together anyway. Mr. Burrows was always up and gone before the girls got up.

They were up for school and you know just not...

R: And now, how would the downstairs be then. Where did they have the kitchen.

L: The kitchen's down in the basement. In the room that's all full of ah, leftovers, down on the west side of the kitchen where you go down; where you come.

R: The storage room area.

L: Yes, that storage room was the kitchen.

R: Right, yes, and I understand you had the bathroom in the electric room now.

L: I had the bathroom, yes, it was in front of it.

And then at the foot of the stairs there, across on the east side, I had a sitting room. That's where the kitchen is now.

R: Oh yeah, the...

L: Yes, I used that, I had it as a sitting room, and the bedroom was in behind the kitchen. There was a small room in behind the kitchen. Then there was another room that we used for a storage room where we kept cold pantry foods (?) in behind that again.

R: What would be the purpose of the room where they have the Canadiana Gallery, when you come down the main stairs, to the basement, and go...turn right, there's a room in there.

L: I don't know. That used to be...well that was just the basement. It had, in my time, it just had an earthen floor

and the big furnace was in there. The small furnace was over by the back door there . And it had had coal bins and all in there; they were still in there. It was just a dark...They had a couple of electric light bulbs in there I never really knew much about it.

R: The original furnaces were coal burners?

L: Yes.

R: Now were they still coal burning when you got there?

L: No, they were oil burning; they were still the old furnaces but they had been converted to oil.

R: Do you have any idea ^{what year} that would be, they were converted?

L: No, it was done before H was there.

R: So...

L: It'd be before '37. It couldn't have been too long before that because I don't think they burned oil, ah, but they didn't pump oil in like they do now. They put it in with pouring; they poured it in. Because that was an awefully , that , he used to put the oil in. I remember that because he'd always come down and get a cup of cup of coffee or something before he went on th deliver more oil.

R: You hear that a lot of old houses, ah, are, tend to be pretty cold. Was Glanmore cold, especially in the winter?

L: Yes, very cold.

R: It was.

L: Yes, it was very cold. The ceilings were so high. I can't remember exactly but I do know that sometimes the oil man called twice in a month, I'm pretty sure. So that would be like; for both furnaces; it could be on four hundred gallons, a month.

R: That would be a pretty expensive deal.

L: It was expensive to keep up, although you could never say it was drafty, it was just chilly. It just never seemed to, it never seemed to get warmed up.

R: They still have the same problem today.

L: Yes.

R: But actually I suppose it's really good, because for a museum, it preserves the artifacts. No so good for the people.

L: But it's cold getting out in the morning.

R: What about those stairs when you come in; when you come in from the back door? Where did they lead?

L: Well they went up and joined the front stairs. They went up and went right up to the doorway that went into the front hall. They come up...like the door was on the, on the east side. They come out to the door, and then the hall was...the door going into the other hall, the front hall was out there.

R: Right, did they go up any farther?

L: No.

R: O I see, so they added...because there's another stairs...

L: Well just a minute. Did they come up? Of course they did. I can't remember where they went, how they went from there on out, because I could go right on up and up to the back; the little back hall; they've got it closed off there now I see; and into the back, into the back bathroom, there were two bathrooms in there. And one of the girls had her bedroom. Somew way you go up ther e, but I've forgotten it.

R: They have converted to an apartment for the Building Superintendent now. Was there a door that went out, you know on the second floor the stairs come up, stop and then go up again...

L: Yes.

R: Was there a door right at the back on that landing.

L: Yes, yes, and you had to go down a step or two onto that landing. Well then you had to go up two steps to go into the bathroom. It had been added; that part had all been added at one time.

R: Yes that's something that there are a lot of interesting theories about, about that second part being built onto the house. ⁴/It must have been done a long time ago, because~~x~~ it matches, but I don't know whether you noticed that the

that the chimney off of the fireplace in the Billiard Room; when it was converted, or when it was whatever it was they did to it, they took that off two.

R: So there's no chimney there?

L: There's no, no that fireplace doesn't work.

R: That's right ~~two~~, because they had alk the fireplaces lit up at Christmass this year and that ~~wne~~ wasn't lit.

L: What about the library one. Did anybody put a damper on the library chimney, I wonder if they lighted it.

R: I'm not sure. I know the breakfast room one was lit: the place where the birds are now. And the drawing room and the drawing room. I'm not sure about the library.

L: Yes, there was one up in Phillipa's bedroom. That's the one I think where they have the McDonald, the Manly McDonald paintings up. The one on the east corner. Philipa had that bedroom.

R: So Mr. Burrows had the big long...

L: He had the main bedroom, yes. It had three ordinary sized bedrooms. Suprizingly enough there's just those two bedrooms in that part of the house. Shiela slept in the back in the what had been the nursery. There were two small rooms back there. The one had a wash basin and that in it, and she used those two rooms. Well then straight from the front ~~xx~~ hall they went up the stairs to where the main bathroom was. Well over behind the big bedroom was another bathroom.

A small bathroom. And I had my bathroom downstairs.

R: They had three then. Ah, you know the library, the Suzanna Moodie Room now, with the big table, what was that used for?

L: Well that has been brought in I think, that was...

R: It wasn't used at all.

L: No, they didn't, as I remember, there was nothing much in there, ^{at}all. They didn't use it for much of anything. Other than I'd open it up and give it a quick go round, and. But it's had ah, the draft-heater (?) The draft (?) on the fireplace was gone in that library. We kept plugged with newspapers because the bats come down.

R: I wonder if we could kind of move outside the house for a minute and take a look at the grounds. Were they similar ~~are~~ then to the grounds today?

L: Yes, pretty much the same. Then it went right up to, that street there.

R: McDonald?

L: Yes, it went up to McDonald. That little square in there was ~~p~~art of an orchard.

R: Was there...did you have anybody hired to keep it...

L: Yes, Mr. Foster, Mr. Foster. I have seen him, not too many years ago around here. Whether he's still around town or not; O I don't hardly think so. Because he's quite a bit older than me. But that spot over to McDonald was all

grown up. They left it wild like that you know.

R: Was it something where you'd go for walks, or did they use the grounds...?

L: No, not very much. Mr. Burrows was usually at the office and out.

R: They didn't have a garden on their own.

L: No, they never had, no. They never cared, or never bothered
They were out and around
too much accept wanting (garble) When I was there, they
werd at that age where they were enjoying, you know
they were getting out.

R: Were there any family pets around the house.

L: Yes, ^{Shiela} ~~they~~ always had an Irish setter. She was always buying them, but they're an awefully hard dog to raise, you had to keep them warm, and that cold house, they didn't survive.

R: Did you know any of the friends of Mr. Burrows that would come in.

L: Oh yes. The house was always full coming and going all the time, but I never bothered you know to...I didn't have much to do with that respest. That room off behind the dining room is where I kept oh, cookies and all the things that they wanted to keep. Then the women would come in they knew their way around well then they could set up a lunch in the back. They ~~xxxx~~ tended to themselves like that. Then they left the dished there the next morning for me. But that...I didn't have to think about or do any

OF that kind of thing. They waited on themselves. I left them candies and they could get themselves a cup of coffee. All that equipment was kept in that room.

R: So you didn't come in too close contact then?

L: No, I didn't no.

R: What kind of social events did you hold.

L: Well not too many. Two or three times a year they'd have a party. They would all three of them would have a party. Young people. It was that time when the airport was quite...well for the war there, there were quite a lot of young people around.

R: I understand that Mr. Burrows was a real music lover.

L: Yes. He sang in Bridge Street. There were two or three others who sang with him.

R: We tried this year to celebrate at Glanmore a ~~W~~ Victorian Christmass. How was Christmass celebrated at Glanmore when you were there.

L: It wasn't. Well I mean they went to Grandma's. Old Mrs. Burrows always looked for them to come to here place for ~~XXXXXX~~ Christmass. And the girls kept it up; they always ~~went~~ went to their Grandmothers. And maybe they didn't stay; as the years went on they didn't stay as long, but they always went down to, to the old Mrs. Burrows.

R: Did they have any...open presents or anything like that?

L: O I, yes, they did amongst themselves. They didn't decorate or they didn't go to any great fuss, as to the... The house was too big, you just couldn't, you couldn't live like you could in a smaller house.

R: I'm wondering, I wonder if you can remember any amusing incidents that happened or, peculiar?

L: No, I don't...not that comes to mind at all.

R: Ah, we didn't get them too (?) but do know any names of other people who worked in there, or we re involved in the house at all that might be able to talk to us.

Mr. Foster.

L: No I don't remember. No there was a girl there before I was, but I don't remember her name. But after I left they closed the house because the ~~girl~~ girls left town for New York, and Mr. Burrows went back to his mother's house.

R: You were the last person there?

L: Yes. I'm sure, oh, Philipa was, I think maybe Philipa worked in it again. But I do know that there was a man named Floyd worked there later on. But whether that was after Philipa married Dr. Faulkner, I'm not sure. I don't; I mean I lost track of it then, because I was married myself, at the time, and...

R: We have the name of a Mrs. MacKinna who apparently worked there as well. Maybe she was before you?

L: No, that's not the name. But I, it slipped my mind; I had it a while ago but I can't remember it now. No, she was a young girl that was before me because she married too and left.

R: Ah, first of all, can you tell me how the washing was done at Glammore?

L: Just with an ordinary ringer washer and hung on the clothesline.

R: So you had electric machines then?

L: Yes.

You didn't have a scrub board?

L: No. It was all done with hydro. And I had a gas stove. I had a big cook stove and then I had a gas stove, as well. That was when they made natural gas here in Belleville.

R: So you had a fairly modern kitchen?

L: O yes. It wasn't hard...surprisingly enough, it wasn't a hard place to work. Because nobody bothered me, and nobody, and you know and I could work it out each week, or each day in a week, to do some part of the house, besides getting the meals and things like that, and, you could, surprisingly enough, it could be kept up with one person.

R: Still, with the museum the way it is, we still manage pretty well with the two people on the cleaning end.

L: Yes, it is surprising. I wouldn't just taking a look at it

I was a bit floored at first.

R: I guess that the thing ^{it's} ~~with~~ a very large house but it doesn't have that many rooms when you get inside it.

L: Yes, that's the secret to it I think. And it's big enough that you can get around in. And that way you can keep it clean, when you have to do it.(?)

R: When they redecorated the house there was some confusion, just when the museum began, as to what ~~was~~ the colour scheme should be. I was wondering if I could get some Idea as to what the colour sceme was like.

L: Now that I can't remember. It must have been so neutral that It doesn't stand out in my mind.

R: Can you remember what the colour of the carpet in the front hall was?

L: I think most of that and in what we ~~used~~ to call the Reception room and the Dining room: I think it was all in a deep burgendy red. Very dark, quiet; it had been a very thick pile car pet. And the walls, would the walls have been papered? No, as far as I can remember, they were a neutral paint of some kind. I couldn't bring to mind, no.

R: Well that tells quite a bit in itself.

L: Yes, There were corded-valore drapes (?) in the dining room and in that...what you use as an office, like when you first go in, and they were in this very deep red shade,

and they went to the floor, right down to the floor. They were wine; they were really heavy

R: The atmosphere you described the way it was decorated, sounds very heavy, solid. Did you find...?

L: Yes. ~~xxxxxx~~

R: I'm trying to picture what it might be like. What about, did you have a uniform of any kind?

L: No.

R: I think I can assume about this question. Did they go on picnics or have picnics around the house?

L: No, no the girls used to go out you know, but not in family, not as a family. I think missing their mother kept them from things like this.

R: Yeah, I can see how they were...would kind of all three of them living in the house and all have their own lives.

L: Yes, they all went their own way. (garble) The girls were very good.

R: It's an interesting phase of the house.

L: I think Philipa came home to the house a lot after she was married. (One sentence, undecipherable)

R: I think she ~~used to have~~ put the living room where the birds are now in the south-west corner of the first floor.

L: Yes, well that's where we always had the living room. It had a red linoleum floor on it, and a big chesterfield sat in the middle of the floor and I can't remember the

sideboards and the different ~~xxxx~~ things around but it was heavy furneriture, but that's where they lived there The east drawing room was closed most of the time; they only openned it if they were having a party.

R: So the part where they'd concentrate was that room...

L: Yes, they'd come in and out that back door, off from the garage, yes.

R: When they went out, what would the mode of transportation be?

L: Car. Mr. Burrows had a car.

R: Was there a garage attached to the house?

L: Yes, there was a double garage attached there.

R: What side would it be one?

L: On the south-west. The car would come in tha driveway, the garage was you that back driveway there, ^right there, ^turned and went into it. The doors openned onto the driveway.

R: So they backed out onto Dufferin?

L: Yes.

R: What kind of cars did they use?

L: Well I'm not up on cars; I couldn't, I know ~~ix~~ ^{there} was a small green one. Mr. Burrows drove a big black one.

R: The last question that I have is a little more ~~xxxx~~ ^{vague} than the others. First of all, what, can you give me some idea of some of the attitudes that Mr. Burrows had. How did Mr. Burrows feel about how children should be brought up...

L: I don't know. The Burrows' seemed to be up and on their own by the time I was there. I don't imagin he ever would have ever been a very strict father. Although a lot of people said he was quite strict.

R: Was he a businesslike kind of person.

L: Yes, he was an insurance man. And he'd come in for his lunch .

R: Was he very dedicated to his work?

L: Oh I don't know. He seemed to like it. He had always been an insurance man, and his father was before him.

R: That pretty well covers everything that I have. Is there anything else you'd like to add?

L: Not that I know of at all. I had always wanted to go to the museum to see what it had become.

R: Do you like Glanmore the way it is?

L: Ah, it rather startled me .

R: The funny thing is, they tried to take beyond your time, back to when the Philipps were there. We'd be very happy any time you'd like to visit.

L: I'll show you a spoon that came out of the silverware that stood under the archway behind the front stairs. There was a great of old silverware there. This, I think came from before the time of the Phillips'.

R: Do you know why they called it Glanmore House?

L: No, I was as surprised as... I haven't any idea.
(garble)

R: I guess there was a Glanmore in Ireland where they came from and I guess there's a Glanmore in this area.

8 But ~~xxx~~ no one is exactly sure you know exactly why they call it that.

L: Well, Philipa would do things like that. I mean, she was a little erratic in a lot of ways. She got her painting from her mother.

R: Did you ever see her at work?

L: No, she didn't do too much while I was there. She hadn't gotten onto the period where got onto the...(garble)
She had just gotten onto the stage where she had begun to enjoy herself.

R: Did you know that she later converted that room at the back of the hall into a studio. It's beside the Manly McDonald room.

L: Ah, well that was, when I was there...Mrs. Barfat had always used it for the sewing room where she did all the ~~sewing~~ sewing, and there was still the sewing machine and a lot of stuff in there, but Philipa had started to convert it over and I imagine she did eventually convert it over for her own use. Because her bedroom led into it.

R: I understand she used it as a studio later on.

L: I imagin she would. Because it was ideal for her.

There was nothing much else they could use it for.

R: There was one question I missed. A big house like that is always a curiosity. Did you ever have anybody coming to the door wondering about the house.

L: No, I don't think they did. If I was,...if anybody was to come to the front door, and I was in the basement or the kitchen I wouldn't hear. There were no electric bells or anything.

R: In the museum now you can see an old intercom system...

L: What was that?

R: In some of the rooms now there are little white speakers...

L: Yes, oh, yes.

R: Did you use them?

L: O yes. Mr. Burrows used to call down in the morning There was one right by the kitchen door and the big Bedroom at the back of the house.

R: That wasn't electronic was it?

E: No, no.

R: Just a tube was it?

L: Yeah he just used to whistle down you see. Yes that used to keep me going all the way up the stairs.

END OF TRANSCRIPT

chapel on Friday, June 01 at 1:00 p.m. Interment: Beachwood Cemetery.

LOGAN MAUD ALICE, at the Belleville General Hospital, on Wednesday, May 30, 1990. Maud Alice Gimson, of Herchimer Avenue, Belleville, daughter of the late Mr. & Mrs. Edward Gimson. Beloved wife of George A. Logan. Dear mother of Thomas Logan and his wife Geraldine, of Stirling and George Logan of Tweed. Sister of Elizabeth McLeod of Belleville and Agnes Boyer of Toronto. Predeceased by brothers Edward and George Gimson. Survived by grandsons Craig and Andrew Logan of Stirling and cousin Theresa Smith, of Belleville. Resting at the John A. Bush Funeral Home, 80 Highland Avenue, Belleville from Thursday 7:30 p.m. Service in the chapel on Friday, June 01, 1990 at 2:00 p.m. Reverend James Hutchinson officiating. Interment: Belleville Cemetery. JOHN A. BUSH FUNERAL 958-5588.

The Intelligencer May 31, 1990, A2

Funerals

MAUD ALICE LOGAN
Belleville

Funeral was held June 1, 1990 for Maud Alice Logan 79 of 277 Herchmer Ave. Belleville who died May 30 at Belleville General Hospital.

Service at the John H. Bush Funeral Home was conducted by the Rev. James Hutchinson. Burial was at Belleville Cemetery.

Daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward Grimson, she is survived by husband George Andrew Logan, son Tom Logan and wife Geraldine of RR 4 Stirling and son George Logan of Tweed.

She is survived by sister Elizabeth McLeod of Belleville, Agnes Boyer of Toronto, grandchildren Craig and Andrew Logan of RR 4 Stirling and cousin Theresa Smith of Belleville. She is predeceased by brothers Edward and George Grimson.

Born in Prince Edward County, she was a 60-year resident of Belleville. She was educated in Picton. A housewife, she was a member of St. Columba Presbyterian Church.

Bearers were Steven Carmichael, Terry and Ted Grimson, Andrew and Craig Logan and Robert Grimson.

The Intelligencer June 7, 1990, p. 19