Mrs. Camilla Saivetto  
April 20, 1976  
"An Italian Immigrant Coal-Miner's Wife."  
Interviewed by Steve Addington  
Transcribed by Karen McPherson

Reel one, Side one:

Businesswoman in Italy...domestic servant in Seattle. Citizenship...returning to Italy. Roslyn...one of the 1st bathtubs...other home improvements. Life in Italy...foundary worker during WW I...father's business & running away from home. Cooking and learning English in Seattle.

Reel one, Side two:

The boat to the U.S....3rd class...seasickness and lice. The train to Seattle..."I never seen a colored person"...immigration officials and lice...Northern & Southern Italy. Seattle...the public market..."It was just like the old country." City girl immigrant..."Everybody expect me to look like old country...you know, them old people come with long dresses...but I was dressed more in style than the people here." Dances in Roslyn..."I had 22 young men calling." Learning English...gas and farts. Visiting downtown Roslyn...where is it? The Druidessa lodge. Business and learning to cook in Italy.

Reel two, Side one:

Druidessa lodge...jokes & plays...closing of the lodge. The Company Store...closure of the store..."the minute the mine would go on strike the credit was cut off." Italian immigrants...bootlegging in Ronald...the Mafia. Jocko's (Husband) citizenship papers. Entertaining at home...making wine...two tons of grapes a year.

Reel two, Side two:

Fermenting grapes. The Company Store...and strikes..."draw a 'snake' instead of pay. Managing a household & stretching money. The Western Miner's Union (WMI)..."most of the miners came out and was ready to split because they were all disgusted...but then they got scared." Working on the highway and in fruit warehouses. The death of Bob Ruff..."they killed him to scare the others"...the picket lines..."but then the Company was stronger and so was John L." Jocko's back broken three times in the mines...
disability compensation. The State Police and the UMU Women's Auxiliary. Dirty work in the mines..."it was like everything else, cheap labor for the one that don't know what is good for him." WMU trials..."it was just awful the way they were lying & saying things." Sam Farrimond...killed Bob Ruff...

Reel three, Side one:

Farrimond..."he felt like he wanted to slap my face"..."his son's hair turn white and got old when he was a young kid." "They only started Roslyn to be fixed up after they closed the immigration, because then they couldn't go back...see, people that they go to old country lose social security." Dangers in the mines..."why does it have to be it's always your turn to get hurt?" WW I foundry work... dangers. Retiring from the mines..."in '53 he was 64 and they had him retire because them at 65 he could draw social security, but he had one year unemployment to draw." Strike benefits..."over here we never had a cent to help us when we were on strike." Sam Craven..."he was so darn nice"...Willie Craven..."it went to his head to be the mayor of the town. Ethel Craven..."Dr. ,Sam has got only his work and that's his hobby, to have kids, and I wouldn't appreciate it that you would spoil his fun."
Proper names in this interview:

Mr. O'Dell
Dick Prescott
Andrew Hunter
Bob Ruff
Dr. Mooney
Sam Farrimond
John L. Lewis
Sam Craven
Willie Craven
Kuchin
Florito
Waddell
Hart

Terms:

Roslyn - a town in the west central part of the Kittitas County. Coal Mining town served by N.P. railroad. Population in 1910 was 3,500.

Ronald - town on the N.P. railroad (Roslyn Branch), 5 miles northwest of Cle Elum in west Central Kittitas County.

Cle Elum - town in western part of Kittitas county on the Yakima River

N.W.I. - Company refers to Northwestern Improvement Company, a coal mine subsidiary of the Northern Pacific Railroad.

Patrick - refers to Roslyn Cascade Coal Company

Mabton - town on the N.P. railway, 12 miles west of Prosser, in southeastern Yakima C
Mr. Addington: How did your family first arrive in the Roslyn area?

Mrs. Saivetlo: I was in Seattle before I came to Roslyn. My cousin came over and they were bacheloring together, a few of the young men, and not one of the cousins brought his wife down and they come over to visit over there and they asked me if I wanted to come to Roslyn and I tried to work over there, but see I was raised with business. I never done housework, I didn't even know how to wash clothes. When I was eighteen years old I had my own business. I was knitting by machine and I had three girls working for me. Then my sister got the bright idea of wanting me to come to America, she was living in Seattle and so she sent for me. When I got there what could I do...I knew how to cook, but I couldn't bake, I didn't have the recipe and I didn't know how to read them. I went to work for a lady that was really well-to-do and she had a nurse that was Italian and these people, they had a cook but she wasn't too clean. The lady asked if I could serve at the table. Well, I could serve all right, but I couldn't understand what they wanted, but this nurse was so proud that she wanted to surprise them. She would be in the pantry and when they ring the bell she would get the message and give it to me to bring over. They said, 'How long has she been in America that she would understand what we want?' Oh she said, 'You know the Italian, they're smart.' It took me at least a week or so to answer the phone when they would call. They would say is...what was his name, he was a lawyer after I was working, I would say, 'Is Mr. George home?' and I would say, 'No, they're not home, but I will carry the message.' Then they would start to tell me and I would say, 'Please, just give me the number of your phone, because I don't speak English...I can't, I just want the number.' Then I would repeat to either the lady or Mr. George. I had an awful time to grasp the English language, but I was so anxious. My dad always used to tell me that when you are with the Romans you got to do what the Romans do. But, God gave
you a tongue in your mouth and gave you brains...use them, both of them. I'd always try so hard to improve myself, to be an American, that's what I wanted to be. When my kids were born I couldn't speak English very well and I didn't want them to go to school and talk broken English. I said that the English language shouldn't be talked foolishly, it should be learned correctly. So, when they went to the school they had to learn on their own, because I heard that the foreigner, they have the wrong accent. My kids would pick it up from me and then it would be double hard for them to learn correctly. So, I managed pretty good. Then they had...I wanted to be an American citizen and my husband didn't want me to go to school. They had night school in them days, and he wouldn't let me go. I said, 'But I think your unreasonable. If you are not ambitious enough, please don't stop me, I got to learn how to read and write.' So, I went to school and I got my paper and then I pestered him and pestered him to get his paper. I said, 'You want to be so many years in this country.' 'Oh, I want to stay here all my life,' he said, 'when we have enough money we are going to go to an old country.' I said, 'You can go by yourself, I'm staying right where I'm out. I'm not going to go back to Italy for no money and you just make up your mind if you want to go on your own.' He finally gave up and then he said that if we had $10,000... in them days $10,000 was a lot of money, I said, 'You think I'm going to deny myself and my kids of all the necessary things that makes life worthwhile for going to an old country...' I said to myself...I never told him, I said, 'You never will have $10,000 to use to go back there.' Then he gave up, he could see that I meant what I said, but you know one day not much before he got really sick and fell, he was sitting there in his chair and I was writing a check and answering the correspondence that we had and he looked at me and he said, 'You know, I've been thinking, how I must of had a rock in my brain...in my head, to forbid you to go to school when you wanted to go so bad and not to be of any help. What would we do now if you couldn't write and you couldn't read? We have to depend on everybody.' Well, sure the family when they grow up they leave. I says, 'Why you amaze me, you never once admitted that even against your will.' Sure, I don't talk perfect, but I can make myself understood and I can write. I'd tell
him before when my gr\textsubscript{1}l\textsubscript{1} would read my...the beginning, see she was already going
to school, maybe the sixth or seventh grade and she could read and she said, 'Cee
mama, you put that funny, let me do it.' 'Oh no your not!' I says. I said, 'You
know, Jennie,...' What that was mostly was orders to Sears and Montgomery Wards and
such...I never had that much of a correspondence because I didn't know, but those were
things we needed. I said, 'Let me make my mistakes. In the old country they said 'by
mistakes you learn.' I said, 'I don't want you to do it for me. When you leave
home who is going to do it for me then?' I said, 'Let me make my mistake and don't
fool yourself, when there is a check in there they understand me! And, they always
did. But, Sears too, at first when I came, they had the interpreter there for seven
languages. I washed for bachelors, but not before, but these people...they were next
door neighbors and they said to me, 'Why don't you wash for us?' I said, 'I would,
I'd like to earn money but I don't have the machine and it's too much.' They were five
or six bachelors there and I said that's too much work for me, but if you...if I had
a washer...' 'But wouldn't Jocko buy it?' I said, 'No, he don't want me to wash
for you guys and he don't want me to buy a machine.' He says, 'How much do you need?'
I said, 'I'm going to write to Sears and find out.' You know they said that $5 down
was enough and they didn't even wait until the $5 got there until I got the machine.
They knew I wanted it, see. They guy gave me...he said, 'Here I give you the $5.'
In two months I paid the machine off with $95. Then the word got around that the
bachelors were so pleased with the work I was doing, everybody wanted me to wash for them.
My husband got mad, he says, 'I'm working for you and I don't want you washing for
everybody.' I said, 'Well, I'm not washing for you, but for myself and for these
bachelors...I want to improve the house.' You know this house we paid $400 when we got

It wasn't here, it was down south \textit{and the state} moved it up here. But, I
worked...I learned how to sew and I was washing for bachelors. I used to cook for the
elite of the town. Whenever I had enough money for my project...first I wanted a
bathtub and a toilet in the house...and my husband said, 'Well, I'll pay for the toilet.'
I says, 'I don't care, I want a bathtub, I want the whole set.' My bathroom, that man
that put it in, he used to fix the light for the men on the night shift, on those
lights that they had to be taken in and refilled. He would come down and he was living
here in town. He would come down and I promise him if he could come that I would give
him lunch and he worked two hours for me and then from there he would take his lunch
for the night and go to work. He helped me...I told him, I said, 'I wish you would
help me make the order. I'm not sure I understand how they want it.' My bathtub was
one of the first that they put in Roslyn...the sinking tub you know, on the floor.
I was so proud when I got that set and this man...well, it was in '28 and this man
could not always understand what I wanted, but when Sears set us the set it wasn't the
way I wanted it. I wanted the room, my bathroom is five feet long, wide, and I
wanted it to fit just in that end of the bathroom, five feet. He said, 'But it's not
wise.' He tried to tell me because, 'if you wanted to change it you would have to cut
the house to take it out.' 'Oh gee,' I said, 'Mr. O'dell, I never thought of that.'
He said, 'Well let's put it the other way like I told you.' Well, he made the order
and they sent it the way I wanted it. When it came, he says, 'What are you going to
do now?' I said, 'Well, I don't know. Now you got to change the pipe again and
everything. I'm so worried cause I don't have the money to pay you for the extra work.'
He said, 'Well, how about taking fifty-fifty, the damage? If you would have made the
order I would have thought that you didn't know any better or you didn't make it the
right way, but they send it from Boston.' Seven hundred pounds and we would have to
send the whole set back! He said, 'No, I know it was forty dollars.' So, I had to only
pay $20 and $20 he deducted. Then we used to bring people to see the set we were so
proud. It was something new and he didn't even know how to make it himself. But, oh
that was a big accomplishment for me. Then I had all the neighbors that used to come an
get a bath. If I would have had the electric water tank in them days...but they didn't
have it so it was just the hot water from the stove. I was always out of water, and me
washing for all the bachelors and me and my big mouth...promising everybody...'Oh, come
on, you can have a bath in my house. That's fine! Then I never had water. I was
always.....it was really quite a problem to learn and to manage. My husband is good...
everybody loves him, but he was the most helpless and he was always blocking my
dream. Never gave me a little to the way I wanted it to be improved. When we moved up
here that fence out there...and everything that improvement that we made when we bought
the house here, it was all against his will. I worked and I even lied to get that
fence. The guy from Ellensburg, the contractor that moved the house, and my husband
never found a place that he wanted to put it. The first place that I said...this was an empty lot and I said, 'I'd like to have the house there.' 'Oh no, I want more
ground, I want more ground.' I said, 'You're going to get old and you won't
be able to have so much ground to work.' 'Never mind, I'm not going to have just one
lot to work.' We went all over Roslyn to find a place. He never could find one that
he liked. I went to buy the lot without telling him and then I went to see the
contractor in Ellensburg. Olympia, they came, it was from the State see. The State
offered $6,000 to move the house. Then I told them, I said, 'If you don't except
they're going to push the house down and they were going to give me the $6,000.' Then
I called an appraiser and I said, 'Would you please appraise my house to see if they
could have another one built for $6,000?' He took the feet of floors and everything
what we had and he said, 'No, you couldn't have it for $6,000 but this is an old house,
but it's $10,000. If you would add the four and then you would have a new home.'
Then I said, 'But I like my house the way it is. When I have it fixed it won't be a
palace, but it will be livable.' Then I went to see the contractor and I told him,
you're
I said, 'If you're going to move it you'll have to come down a thousand, because I have
a company from Moses Lake...I wrote to Moses Lake and I asked them and they wouldn't
budge less than a thousand dollars down for their equipment.' I lied to him and said,
'I can have it for five thousand whether you want to contract or not you got to deal
with me because the State, they have to go to Moses Lake and they have other projects to
contract there.' He says, 'Well...' But, you know if you got it...it was down the
gully, really the house was in a bad place. He says, 'I don't know if I would be able
to do it for five?' I said, 'Well, it's up to you.' 'I'm going to feed your crew,'
I told him, 'Once a day I'm going to give a dinner.' He said, that
So, I was cooking for them and they moved my house up here. When it was up here I was so proud and so happy. Then I wanted a fence all around it because I wanted to raise flowers. I wish you had seen my garden in the summer. It's flowered all over and vegetables of all kinds. Of course before my husband helped a lot, but he was raising the vegetables and I was raising the flowers. So, now it's all up to me and it's a lot of work.

Mr. Addington: Why did you decide to leave Italy?

Mrs. Saivetto: My sister was in Seattle and she said if I would come to this country, the way I always did work, I would be a millionaire in no time! I often think of that. My parents were working people. If they would have been in this country, oh what they wouldn't have done, because my dad could read and write. I wish you could have seen our business, we have three stores. He was a contractor for anything and everything. He was a butcher; he was a blacksmith; and he was a contractor for an orchard... fruits and...but, anything you mentioned we had it in our home. We didn't have a nice home because I think we were just manic about working that place. I run away from home when I was fifteen years old because I was too tired and there was just no end to work, work, work. So, I went to learn to knit and then at eighteen I worked two and a half years during the First World War in the foundry. I think every hair in my head was a drip of sweat. I worked until I used to faint. The heat...it dried up the blood in my veins, I didn't have no more blood. When I went to Dr....a friend that was working with me, she said, 'I think you're sick.' Because I used to pass out. Then the director there, he says, 'I can't trust you to work anymore.' Because we were melting metal for the bomb. If I would have fainted with a ladle full of melted metal you can imagine. He used to buy wood from us because they couldn't get coal from Germany that they were against us, so he used to buy wood and he seen me work and he told me, he said, 'If you... No, he told my dad, there was five and they needed six men to load the boxcar with great big pieces of wood. He says, 'You don't have enough people here.' My dad said, 'Oh yes.' He counted me in. He said, 'You mean to tell me that kid is going...?' He said, 'Wait until you see that kid work.' So, he said
to me, 'If you're going to work like that, if you come to work for me, you're sure
going to make a mint.' Well I said, 'Monsieur (Boucardi) if you keep your work to
me you might have to hire me. But, he didn't know how old I was, so when I run away
from home I went to him and I said, 'Well, you told me that you would give me work.'
He said, 'But, how old are you?' I was fifteen. 'But,' he says, 'I can't; you got
to have your signature from your dad. The way your dad talks he needs you.' I
said, 'You know what,...' Then he says, 'Could you get the signature?' I said,
'Well, my dad can't write, but he could sign, but my mama knows how to sign. My
dad would never sign for me I know, because my mama said he was so mad when I run
away.' I was helping in every way, milking cows; waiting on people; working out
with the crew on their field. I tell you how many times I could only hear, 'Camilla'
one call this way. Keeping book for my dad when my mother used to get mad at him
because it was hard to keep book when a person...he used to drink...when he was drunk
he wouldn't remember and then when we had trouble with the books that somebody who
had made a payment and he forgot to tell us or put it down...oh, it was awful. So,
I was too, too tired. I run away. So, then when I was on my own...why, I don't know,
I decided to drop everything and come to America. My sister said, 'Oh you can buy
a machine here.' I had to sell my machine to pay for my ticket, my dad wouldn't
help me. Then when the machine here...I didn't understand them a'tal...they were
round and mine was long...it was coming from Germany, my machine. So, when I...I told
my sister, I said, 'How can I?' I could cook, the Italian way, but I couldn't bake.
I went to work then. The first place it didn't work out. I went to a lawyer and he
was Italian and he used to have such a bang when he would come from work and he would
come in the kitchen and he says, 'Now tell me all the mistakes you made today. My
wife has got her hair up in the air and she is so mad at you.' I said, 'I can't help
it, I don't understand that.' I remember one day so plain, I was on the top steps and
she was on the bottom. She said, 'Open the switch.' I didn't know what the switch
was. So, she come up the step and she was so mad and she flipped that switch and
then went down. When she told him, the way she said it I had to laugh to. He would
get such a kick that he couldn't wait to come home and find out of all the things we done. Then when she thought that he was too complimentary to me, he was so happy that I could cook the way he wanted. He used to have lawyers, doctor, counsel and always really nice crews that would come and eat. She would begin to be jealous of me and I didn't know what was wrong, what I was doing wrong. No matter what I would do she would find fault and I told my sister, I said, 'There is something radically wrong. I don't know what I'm going, but it doesn't please her. I want you to come and talk with him, because she knew them, that's how I got the job. She came and here they were all at the table eating when he started in...my sister didn't have time to talk with him privately, but he says, 'Ah, I made rice.' We call them riso in Italian and he said, 'I wish you would have seen one time when my wife tried to make rice. We had rice for the troops.' And he was running her down. Oh, my sister knew what was wrong right now. She said, 'You know what's wrong? He's the one to blame, not you, but you can't help it.' I said, 'What is it, tell me.' 'He is making fun of her because of your cooking.' Of course I didn't understand what was going on, I didn't know. I wasn't at the table, either, I was in the kitchen and I was serving the meal. Then the consul's mother asked me for a recipe and I made a blunder there. I told them, the lawyer, not to her but to the lawyer, I said, 'But how many years is that Mrs. (Conti) and he says, 'She's 23 years in America.' 'And she can't speak English yet? She must be a jackass.' She says, 'Oh.' I would have told her in Italian, you know, because she said, 'How did I like America?' I said, 'Well, not so good. I was sitting pretty in Italy and I had my own business started good, but if it kills me I'm going to learn the language and I'm going to see to it that I can make a better living than I ever did over there.' I had to skimp and really work hard. Here we don't have to. But, I said, 'I'll be ashamed to think that a lot of people were here and they sure neglect...and are so careless...instead of being proud that God helped them to come to this wonderland and they don't appreciate it, because when you don't want to be...to learn to be one of them, I said it's because they have no ambition. I told that to the Mrs. (Conti). Oh, that poor lawyer, he was
afraid that I would come out with something really offending. He said, 'I was sitting on pins and needles because I know you run away with your tongue so easy.' Oh, but he was a nice person and she was nice too, she was a beautiful woman. I thought... when I told my sister I said, 'You know she made me feel funny. Seems like there is something underneath. Then my sister said, 'She's jealous.' I said, 'Jealous of me when she is such a beautiful woman?' She said, 'Well, because he raves about your cooking.' I said, 'Well, you tell him to cool off.' When my cousin came over from here I came with them. I was a week in Roslyn when I got a phone call from the center. They didn't have a phone, my cousin, but from the center they sent word to call the number that he wanted to speak to me. So, when I talked to him I says, 'Oh no, I got a job here to cook and I don't think I'm going to go back.' See, my cousin they were two, four, five and seven. I was cooking for them.

End of Tape 1, Side 1
Mr. Addington: Do you remember the trip from Italy to the United States?

Mrs. Saiveto: Yes.

Mr. Addington: Can you tell me what you remember about it?

Mrs. Saiveto: That trip...I told everybody and I've never changed my mind. If I had to go back...I went third class and they had lice. The northern Italians are different from the south. I never was in the south and I thought that all the south was dirty. There was women...oh, I must not even think, I could smell it yet! You know for a long time I used to smell the ditches. We were in third class, we had to use the salted water to wash the dishes and it would smell. They didn't wash because we didn't have hot water. I used to smell everything. My sister thought that I didn't think that she was clean enough for me. She said, 'If I see you smell anything anymore I'm going to hit you over the head.' I said, 'Well why?' 'Why in the devil do you smell everything?' I said, 'That salty water never did wash and now I'm so happy.' I was happy to do dishes all day just so they smell neat, clean. She thought that I didn't give her credit to be clean enough. Then to this day I can never forget, there was people...we had three of those beds that you have to climb...bunks...so from... I had a friend, she was on underneath and I was on top. She didn't get seasick, I was the one that got seasick. Everybody when we were leaving said, 'Oh Camilla, she won't have no trouble, but Luchia...' she was so delicate looking, well really a dainty person. They thought that I was tough, but I was the sick one and she didn't. So, I said, 'Luchia...you better go on top because you don't...there won't be no danger of you throwing up on me, but at least I can throw up on the floor. Oh, that place was dirty...i-yi-yi...... Women they had kids that they were nursing and they were killing lice and they were throwing up and I said if I had to go back like that I'd rather be dead...I would never go through! Now they said even third class is better than First Class when we came. It took me a long time to get used to America because America,
it was hard to understand, you have to make yourself completely over. It took me...the food and the shopping, but with a lot of Italian stores here and I would come up. Then they used to deliver at home, too. When I used to tell my husband, 'You would want to go back to old country, look at the service we get here.' Three times a day I could have the fresh bread in the morning and then give my order, they would bring it at noon and if I wanted anything they would come at night again before they closed to bring me my third order. I said, 'Go to old country, are you nuts?' I said, 'You go yourself.' I said, 'This is the end.' We never had a car and my girl was always resenting that and so was I because we could afford a car just like anybody else, but my husband didn't want it. So, I told him, I said, 'I don't know, I feel bad myself, but it is the girl that I feel bad for because everybody else had it and we didn't.' Then I told her, I said, 'Listen, you thank God that you were born in this country. When your going to be a grown-up you can work and you can buy your car, but if we go to old country we could never have a car.' But, now they got them up there too. But, things are not like they used to be up there, either. They are all topsy-turvy and I think they are going to go Socialist now, the way it sounded. I still want to be in America. A lot of people complain now and I think, but if they would have...really this younger generation, they went too big...they wanted to keep up with the millionaire in the life they lead. They really don't miss anything, they want everything. They have boats, they have cars and then they go on trips. Well, sure...money is not growing on trees, there comes a time that you run short.

Mr. Addington: Do you remember your trip across the United States to Seattle?

Mrs. Saivetto: Yes, I remember I was full of lice and I came to Chicago and I heard some people talking Italian. 'Oh,' I said, a colored man wanted to shine my shoe. 'Oh,' I wouldn't let him come near me, I never seen a colored person, you know.

He wanted to take my shoes and I wouldn't let him. I put my feet under the seat and oh, nothing doing! I was hungry and so this friend of mine, she came as far as Montana, she went to Butte, Montana. When we were in Chicago I heard the talk Italian. My hair was long, I had really beautiful hair. I had my hair down...today it would be
perfectly all right, but I lost all my hair pins and I was scratching all the time, so I told this friend that we were traveling together. Well, I got to tell you when we got off the boat... to see if we didn't have any disease to come into the state. They visit me first. They were a Captain and a Lieutenant and they were Italian. Then they had a doctor, American doctor, and they visited me and they said that I could go and dress. When they visited my friend... oh, they asked me where I was coming from and I said from the Piémonte, Northern Italy. Then when they visited my friend they asked her and she said that she was from Northern Italy. They looked at each other and they said, 'Well, Gene Piémonte', Good for Piémonte. see there was a lot of other girls that they were going out with the worker on the boat and they were diseased and we were far from being diseased so when they visit us and then the officer, they were Italian, they said that we wouldn't have no trouble to enter the United States. Then when I was in Chicago I said to that friend of mine I said, 'They didn't look at our hair.' She had very thin hair. She was blond and was a pretty girl. But, I was really so thick my hair they were and I said, 'How am I going to get rid of my lice. I never had lice in my life, never.' So, she looked at me and she said, 'You know that you got... oh, your just lousy with them.' I said, 'Don't tell me, I know it.' They itch, I was always scratching, sure I lost all the pins. So, these guys when they talked, I went close and I said, 'Are Italian?' They said, 'Well, yes.' They had been in America before, both of them, those young men. So, they helped us. I wanted to buy hair pins and buy a comb. I told them that if they could ask for a fine comb to comb the lice out. We couldn't find one. You know you only have so many minutes in the station... you have to leave. So, they said why did I want that. I said 'Cause I'm full of lice and I can't stand it no more.' One was going to Seattle and the other to Tacoma... these young men. As much as I liked them and all that they were so kind to me they would come and tell me, 'They announced that we are going to stop fifteen minutes now.' Because then when we got to Butte this girl friend of mine, she got off and I was all by myself. They were so kind and they told me all the time, 'Would you want coffee, would you want something now?' They...
twenty minutes now.' I appreciated it, but I was so excited when I seen my sister that I didn't get their address. Oh, I felt so bad after, I said, 'As kind as they were..." My sister said, 'Why didn't..." When I seen her I didn't think of nothing anymore, I was so happy and she said, 'You should have told me and I would have asked them.' I said, 'I would do it if I would have thought about it, but how could I, I didn't think.'

Mr. Addington: Was there a large Italian community in Seattle then?

Mrs. Saivetto: Oh yes, quite a few in Seattle. Well, it wasn't populated like now, but one of the things that struck me and that I liked so much was the public market. Oh, when she took me to the public market it was just like the old country. See, all them farmers selling their vegetables and their stuff and they were talking Italian. Oh boy, was I happy. I don't know why, whenever we go in a shop and buy something the clerk, she has to interpret it...whatever, she was talking with me and then talk with them and tell them what I wanted and they ask, 'What language does she talk?' She said, 'Well, Italian.' Everybody expect me to look like old country...you know them old people come with long dresses, but I was dressed more in style than the people here. I went to shop with my sister down at PAlWiw Valley, she was living, and it was men working on the railroad...not the railroad, the track for the buses. I heard one... I had short dresses and I heard one say to the others, 'Say, look at that girl, oh she's got pretty legs, but she sure is not ashamed to show them off.' Because, everybody had long skirts in them days and I had them short. Oh, I got hot all over, you know. I went home and I told my sister and she said, 'Well, I told you before if you're going to go to Roslyn you'll be the talk of the town, because that's a small town and everybody is going to notice you showing off your legs.' I said, 'I'm not showing them off, but my dresses are....what can I do about it, they are all short?'

Four years before they came in this country, short dresses. Well she said, 'Let's go buy some materials, some skirts that they will be longer.' I would look at myself, she didn't have a mirror that I could see. I would go on the chair and look. I said, 'you know what I feel like, a grandma!' I was just twenty years old and I was used to
having short dresses. She said, 'I don't care how you feel, but if you go to Roslyn, you're going to be the talk of everybody.' I was...I don't mean to brag, but I was plenty popular when I came to Roslyn. My cousin used to play...everyone played some instrument. Then it was some friends from No. 5, they had a nice little community down there and they would come up. One time the neighbor was there and counted and I had 22 young men calling. I don't mean to say that everybody was wanting to marry me, but they were all curious to see what I looked like because I looked so different. My cousin was baching with my husband and they were...his sister was Mabton. He said when we going to get married for the honeymoon we were going to go down and meet them. The girls, the one that called just a while before, she was 10 years old and the other one was 7 years old and they were planning they were going to teach me how to dress. When I got down there that girl was dumbfounded. She just just couldn't figure out how was I so different than their mother. See, my husband is really still old fashioned like he came from old country, but I came different than he did and I never did change because that was natural for me the way I was.

So they said they were figuring by themselves what they were going to do with me to show me how to fix my hair and how to dress. I went to the hospital one time when I was in there and when I was writing to them one time and they were so kind and I told them, I said, 'You helped me when I write that when I make a mistake you want to underline my mistake when you have to use the same word and then I will bring my attention to it. Next time I will not make that mistake again.' They helped a lot. But, the doctor and the nurses were always so interested to help me. When they got that letter they said, 'Gee, Auntie has sure improved a lot..my gol, but she didn't make no mistake.' You know I wanted to tell them that after the operation I had a lot of gas , but I didn't know how to say it, so...but, I heard that other people were using 'fart,' but when I asked the nurse, I said, 'What...?' I don't know if it's the right word, but I wanted to tell my nieces that I had...that I was so bloated. 'Well,' she said, 'you say "gas".' 'But, isn't there another name for it?' She said, 'Well, they would understand gas, I don't know what you mean.' I said, 'Don't they use fart?' That
doctor and that nurse, they all laughed. They had such a kick. She said, 'Don't use fart, but gas.' I said, 'But I thought gas was what burns on the light.' I tell you...then I had two neighbors who were quite a bit younger than me, but kind and full of the devil. So, they helped me a lot. We are still friends to this day. One is in Tacoma now, the other one lives in Roslyn. When we are together we still have the best time, but once in while she brings out some of my big mistakes.

Mr. Addington: Can you tell me what Roslyn was like when you first came here?

Mrs. Saivetto: Yes, I tell you. The neighbors said, 'Would you want to come we go to town?' I was living just catty-corner like this on First Street and was almost in town. So, I dressed up and I was all excited. When we got in town it was a Company store, a big store, and then they had a lot of pool rooms and a lot of young people...here it was just full like an egg, so I was waiting and she dropped in at the Company store. I waited and waited. I was coming from a big city and I told this girl, I said, 'Laura, when are we going to go to town?' She looked at me and she said, 'What do you think this is?' And the houses were all black in them days you know, there was no painting. I said, 'Is this the town?' She said, 'Yes, this is the town.' 'Oh my goodness, why did I dress like this? Why didn't you tell me? I feel out of place then.' She said, 'I didn't want to tell you how to dress.' She was dressed neat, too, but nothing that special, but me...then I could see...I got wind of the boys, they were all standing on the sidewalk. You know they were whispering, I know they were whispering because I was new, see...just come from old country. They were amazed that I looked so different than the old country people. So, I got so embarrassed I was even kicking myself because I...then whenever I would come to town I would go the alley...I would cut off in the alley all over, because they were all looking me up and down. 'Look at her.' Oh, dear. I should have been proud, but I was embarrassed because they judge me different. They felt like I was coming from the city and I was dressing so outstanding, they thought that I wanted to show off. To me it was natural, but to them it was different than all the others. I tell you the first dance I went it was at the City Hall right over here and we just lived down below a
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block. I had seven or eight offers to take me home. I didn't know what to do and one dance they counted...my cousin was playing in the orchestra and my cousin counted fourteen partners I change in one dance! So, when we got done...when it was just about time to go home I said, 'Now who am I going to say to take me home?' I didn't know none of those kids. One wanted to take me, the other, 'How about me taking you home tonight?' I said, 'Well, thank you, but I'm not ready to go home yet.' So, then when I was ready to go, what I did, I walk out by myself. I knew it was just a block, so when I got down the neighbor says, 'But where is Laura?' I says, 'Well, I didn't want to tell her I was coming away, she had her boy friend and I didn't want to come with anybody because I don't know those kids.' So, I came by myself. She said, 'But your going to look funny.' I said, 'I don't care, I didn't know who to pick. I had too many offers.'

Mr. Addington: Were there lots of Italians living here then?

Mrs. Saivetto: Oh, there was lots of them. Now, there is not five or six families anymore.

Mr. Addington: Did they have their own lodge?

Mrs. Saivetto: Oh yes, we had a lodge, the Druidessa Lodge and oh, we were doing good. I felt so bad when they broke it up. I was of course the head because I could read and write English and I could read and write Italian. I was one that, in fact, I even offer to teach Italian as a night school. I told them, I said, 'Gee, I'm sorry, but I'm not that well educated. Do you know that I wasn't even 10 years old and I was out of school. Most of the time I wasn't in school but the teacher used to send my homework home.' I was quick in learning. I wanted to go to college and my dad wouldn't let me, that's why I ran away from home, too. Because I wanted to make something of myself. My mother was well educated and she was really a brilliant woman. So was my dad for that matter, but he didn't have an education. I do think it makes a difference in the attitude of a person towards his family. But, you would have thought because he didn't have an education that he would have been proud to have somebody. I had to go with him when he was ordering from the big companies that they
I wanted to have the stuff. He was a blacksmith and he was a good mechanic. He had to make orders. He couldn't read or write when he had to make payments. Of course they were honest, but it was always wise to have somebody with you that knew what was going on. These agents, they were devils, they use to try to get me confused and they would write down the receipt or order and they would fail to put the amount or the number or the date and I would look and I said, 'But, are you sure that's all right?' He said, 'Well, you were here, you seen.' I said, 'Well, that's why I'm wondering because that's not... you failed to put the amount my daddy paid.' 'Oh did I?' So, they would do it on purpose to see if I would understand. That's how I learned how to cook from the dinner. They would always entertain us when we had either give an order or make a payment. They would entertain us, but they would ask me where to go. If I was in some place they serve a dinner that was outstanding and really something that I like I'll go in the kitchen and ask the cook and...'How do you make this and how do you make that?' One cook, he gave me the wrong recipe and we had a store way up in the hills that we used to go once a week to open that store. There my brother and I, he would wait on people and I would be shaking pots and pans and try the new recipe, because they are so conservative there that I'd waste some food....oh, my mother would have crowed me, boy. So, I would try up there. My brothers, they used to travel a lot because we had the horses. They used to deliver materials for the brick layer. My dad would take contract and so when he was in some place that he could find the stuff I wanted I would tell him, 'Now you got to...Did you learn any new dishes?' 'Yes, we got to try this.' Then I would tell him, 'You buy me this, buy me that.' He wouldn't tell mom and dad. Then when we would be up at the store I would cook. If it was good we would save some for mom and bring it, but if it was a flop...and that time was a flop...that man didn't get us...see, he used to put the horses in his barn and then we would do all our business and when we would go with the agent we had the dinner there and we never did go no more. So, this guy asked my dad, 'What's the matter? Is something wrong that you haven't brought your agent for dinner? What's wrong?' 'I don't know. My girl, she is the one that gives order when we are going to have
dinner.' So, he asked me and I told him, I said, 'Your cook is to blame. When I asked him to give me a recipe he thought he was smart and I had to spoil my stuff, so you tell him to go to the devil. I'm not going to go to your place no more.' And those agents, they had such a kick, 'Boy she sure can get even with anybody.' They were real nice and then after when I was living in the city I had to go and meet the guys that were working for us with their mules and horses. Always before they entered the city they had to pay the tax, see. When you enter or when you bring something out. They always knew me until I left. My mother wrote once and said, 'You know the agents still remember how onery they were with you.' I said, 'Well, they were teasing, but they were good.'

End of Tape 1, Side 2.
Mr. Addington: What would the lodge do here when they had an Italian Lodge here?

What kind of activities were they involved in?

Mrs. Saivetto: Oh, we used to have parties for any occasion. We had a big dance on New Year and another big dance at Christmas and then the club, it used to observe any little activity that was in the town. For Halloween we would all dress in costume.

I remember one time for Halloween my friend, a friend of mine that has been friends for many years, her and I were the ones that really would speak good Italian and so she had a job and so did I. Then who was the secretary was the one who had the Roslyn Bakery and she is dead now, but one time we had the lodge got on fire. It was the place...they used to call it Rose Theater. It was right here in the corner where the restaurant is. There was a big building there. The upstairs was where we used to have the meeting. I remember when they were still here we had a play, really like a show. So, I...my friend, she was the man that betrayed me and I was the girl that was expecting. We had everybody crying. I remember when I...she was suppose to have a father and we of course had one that represented the father. This women that had the play...oh, she was brilliant, it was the mother of the barber here...they call him Don't. His mother, she could recite a mass, but never fail a word. You would have thought that was a priest...saying mass. The story, you don't know...she could tell you a story for an hour. I used to be able to remember too, but some they weren't too clean, they should have been sent to the laundry first! But, we were all grownup there.

We really used to have a good time. We gave a card parties and then the money we helped for the different organizations when they needed it. We really had organized and a small lodge because the people were getting old and they would be up at the graveyard...we didn't have them no more! We tried to get in some others to be with us so to keep our club going. Then I guess the younger ones were belonging to the American Legion, to the V.F.W. and to the Eagles and they felt like that our lodge wasn't
active enough. But, if they would have listened to me...I thought that we could be recognized. I told them, I said, 'Why couldn't we with the money we have?' When I would put the motion I said, 'Let's send at least $20 because we have money in the bank.' And we had bonds. 'Oh Camilla, whenever it's to be given she is always a big shot, always stands big.' But when we wanted to do something...to me it seems like why have a lodge and not do something to be recognized that we were doing for others...to be civic minded. No, they wanted to spend and then finally they all got against me. They decide to break the lodge. We had money that...it really did break my heart. I told them, I said, 'Well, if I ask..' They said that we were paying too much for the meetings and sometimes people didn't come because they were older and it was bad weather and they wouldn't show up. I said, 'Why can't we...then if you think it's too much to pay for the lodge, the rent, why don't we take turns. Have each one of us to entertain the club?' One didn't want to, the others didn't. I said 'Well' there I was, the one that was running Roslyn Bakery and her mama was the secretary, and this lady, she would go home too late and she thought that she was tired and she didn't want to have to entertain the club. I said, 'Alright, I'll entertain for her. To me it's fun to entertain anybody and I would be glad to do it.' I said, 'Another one...' the other one that they don't have no business to attend to, why can't they do the same and when they couldn't another one could take over instead of having her turn, to step in and have it ahead of them. Well, they didn't want lodge no more so they broke it up. What did they do...have dinner. They used to have the Presbyterian Church cooking the dinner and they would say how many members there were to dinner and they would pay so much. I think it was three dollars a dinner. 'Don't you want to come?' I said, 'No. I don't think anybody...any of us are hungry. And why couldn't we, that money, give it to like the orhopedic or give it for the March of Dimes or for the Heart...anything like that I would be proud to think that..' They would have a plaque for us if we could give any...say $50 or $75 or $100 dollars and then we could different organizations...they didn't want to. They were all for spending it, but to me it was throw-away money.
Mr. Addington: Did you shop at the Company Store?

Mrs. Saivetto: Yes.

Mr. Addington: Can you describe what the Company Store was like?

Mrs. Saivetto: It was beautiful. It was a real (large) If you could see the building inside you could imagine how big it was and you name it, they had it. The grocery store, the shoes and the clothing department. The variety of things. But, it was...you can not imagine, you can find anything you wanted. It was so hard for me at first. I didn't know how to ask for things, so they let me go behind the counter and I pick what I wanted. When they closed they were...they had to come to buy what was left over, but before they left they had buttons and threads and old whatnot material of all kinds and they knew that I sewed a lot so they called. When I went in they let me know that they were going to sell things at half price...two for the price of one. I can show you how much I have, just thread. You know I was sewing a lot, now I don't sew so much and I don't use it much, but my girl...she sews, too and when she can't find at Frederick and Nelson and Bon Marche, sometimes she can not match what she wants she says, 'I'll go home and I bet my mother has it.' I never fail her. No matter what she want I've got it. I have a young man here that whenever he wanted something fixed, his mom don't fix it, so he brings it up to me. One day he was looking, he said, 'Gee, I've got a windbreak and I got to look.' He was going through...I said, 'Never mind.' It took me time to put all the thread that's the same color together. I said, 'You'll mess it all up.' I said, 'What kind of thread do you want?' He wanted this color here...the green. I looked and I said, 'That's the only one I got like that.' 'No, no,' I said, 'because when I need it I won't have it myself.' 'What do you need it for?' I said, 'You never can tell, maybe I want a dress like that.' So, I didn't give to him, but he couldn't get over it when he looked at all the...and I have the embroidery thread. Not too long ago I had some ladies here and they said if I had the color she wanted. I said 'Wait and I'll go get the box.' When she seen that she said, 'Well, how come you got so much?' I said, 'Well, I used to do an awful lot of embroidery. When they
closed the Company Store I didn't have a car. When you busy sewing or embroidery you got to have the things you need, so I buy it and then I had it. All half price I bought it and buttons, oh, I got a lot of buttons, too. See the Company Store had all the departments, no matter what you wanted they had it in there. Oh, that was sad when they closed it. Then naturally they leave nothing here. Cle Elum...they had another one in Cle Elum, the same thing. When one time I went down to Cle Elum and I went in there, just for curiosity to see.....they had more or less the same thing they had up here. I wanted and I seen a pair of shoes, oh I said, 'Gee.' I would have liked to buy them but I didn't have the money with me. The clerk says, 'Don't you know your husbands' check number?' I said, 'No, I don't know.' 'Well, would you want me to call Roslyn?' I said, 'What for?' 'To see if you could buy without a check number or if they give me the check number up there.' I says, 'O.K.' So, then she must have asked if our credit was good. So, she come back and she said...she was smiling and I said, 'They wouldn't let you give me the shoes?' 'Oh no, not far from it. They said not a cent over three thousand credit.' I said, 'Oh, I don't even want three hundred go three thousand, not even three dollars over what the shoes is worth.' I said, 'No, I just want the shoes.' See, but they are always watching. The minute the mine would go on strike the credit was cut off.

One time I went in and I bought...I ordered a chicken and food for the chicken that we had and they brought it down and it leaked I guess where they stored it and it was all mildewed. So, I went up and told them, I says, 'I don't want that, you tell the driver to come and get it back. The chicken, it's no good for them.' He says, 'Well, well do that and I don't want you to get disgusted just because it happened that we didn't look.' I said, 'I'm sure that the driver had seen it but he thought that he would get by, but that don't work.' Every time they would see anybody that they had good credit they wanted them to buy some from them. They had a variety of everything, there is no two ways about it. Whatever they had it was number one. Clothing...oh, they had the most beautiful suits for men and shoes, everything, everything, everyt was nice. How many people lost a job when they closed because there was an awful
lot of...they had a butcher shop and the grocery. All of these imported...because there was a lot of imported people here and they would ask for things that the American wouldn't use. Here, don't worry you tell them once and they had it. Next time you go they would have it.

Mr. Addington: Were there other stores in town, too?

Mrs. Saivetto: Oh yes, it was...let's see how many bakers shops...one, two, three bakery shops. Pool rooms...I think they said there were fifteen pool rooms. We had two dance halls, two shows. Just think what there is now...nothing no more.

Mr. Addington: Were you here when they had a big fire in Ronald?

Mrs. Saivetto: Yes, that's in '28.

Mr. Addington: Can you tell me about that fire?

Mrs. Saivetto: Well, I heard about it. They were bootlegging, they were all Italian, too. Like now...do you know that I have a grand-nephew, he's just a little tike, and he says, he told his grandma...that is our niece...'Gee grandma, I wish you wouldn't have an Italian name.' She said, 'But why Larry?' 'All the Mafia, most of the Mafia, they are Italian. Couldn't you change it?' Her name is Malano. She said, 'How would you want me to change it?' 'Well, let's see.' He is not quite six. He says, 'Could you make Malana?' She said, 'It's still Italian, honey, and that doesn't mean that I belong to the Mafia. You know there were a lot of them in those days when I came that were ashamed to be Italian, but I never was ashamed. I said, 'Well, if a person used their common sense...there is good and bad in every nationality. The Italian, if they are a conniver like that, well when they have to deal with them they should be on their toes and to watch that they wouldn't be taken, but the Mafia is true...there is quite a few Italian in it. It's nothing to be proud of. No wonder that little boy wasn't proud. But, if they were all like my husband...oh, he is a perfect gentleman. He is so honest and conscientious, oh I tell you he is really...and now it is a shame, such a wonderful person has to be so unhappy that he just...he doesn't know most of the time what is going on around him, but everybody loves him down there because he is so patient, he never complains and they
all like him. They just call him Jocko, but his name would be James. When he got his citizen papers I begged, and begged and finally he got it. Do you that he was so shy and he knew all the answer to get the citizen paper, but if the questioner called them backwards that was enough to get him stuck and he was already so shy and so selfconscious. You know he sweat that you could see in his coat... jacket was just wet. He said it all the time, he said... you know when I'm going to get that paper, I think I'm going to get drunk. I says, 'Oh no, no, I don't want you to get drunk, but I'll be so happy because I want you to be an American citizen.' He says, 'I'm going to take those steps up that county place up there... three steps at a time.' He says, 'I'll be so happy that I'll be over with.' But, the teacher that we had here, Strong was his name, he was from Prosser and he came up here and he really was a good guy. When he came he was teacher for night school for the citizen people that wanted to take the citizen paper. I seen him when he motioned the guy who was asking the question. When he got stuck they asked him what those twelve chairs were for and he couldn't answer and he got stuck and he couldn't. The teacher, he motioned to the questioner and he went like this and then he said to him, he said, 'He knows, I can guarantee you—he knows it, every one of them, but he is shy.' My husband, he was just so embarrassed because he couldn't. But, if all the Italians would be like my husband... there is not a better man. They all love him in Roslyn. You just mention Jocko and they know who it is. All the kids, 'Hi Jocko, Hi Jocko.' And the nurses and the aides down there they all know him... they don't call him Salivetto, they all Jocko. So, they used to ask him to cut all the alley. He had... oh, how many took picture of him with motion picture cutting the alleys... trimming the alleys all over the town. So, he was a nice young man that was an aide down there and I said, 'You know sure thinks a lot of you, Bob.' And he said, 'And we think an awful lot about here. And you know what they told me, what I used to do for Roslyn people and I think it's time we did something for him.' My husband always would tell me, 'Why don't you do something for Bob?' I said, 'Well, I can't give him money, he won't accept it.' 'Well, do something else.' So, I asked him, I said, 'Your baching Bob, aren't you.'
He said, 'Yes, I'm baching. Would you want to take me as a boader?' 'Well, not exactly, but how about me cooking your dinner for tomorrow night?' 'Oh, that sounds good.' So, here he never told me he was going to leave, but I cooked the dinner for him and then the lady that goes down...she got her husband down there, too, and that day I couldn't go so I called her on the phone and I said, 'When you go down would you stop here and pick up a package for me?' 'Oh sure Camilla, I'll come.' So, I told her, I said, 'Give them to Bob.' She said, 'Fine.' So, she brought it to him and the day after I was down to see my husband I just heard him, 'Hey Camilla.' I turned around and I said, 'Yes Bob.' 'I wanted to thank you. Boy did I have a good dinner. I really felt like I was full and I don't mean maybe.' I said, 'Well, I'm glad that you enjoyed it.' He never told me that he was going to leave, but he had his eyes full of tears. I felt like he wanted to kiss me, but he took my hand and he shook it and he said, 'Thank you, thank you again, and I wish I could tell you how much I enjoyed it.' I said, 'Oh, that's alright, that's fine.' Then they told me that...I couldn't see him and I said, 'Where is Bob? Isn't it his shift now to come on?' 'Oh no, didn't you know he left?' I said, 'Well where did he go?' 'He went to Montana to work in the Forest back there.' 'Oh,' I said, 'Gee I'm going to tell my husband because he will feel bad.' He felt free with Bob because he was a man. But, the girls, they are so nice, to them they take care of all of them, men and women and they don't think nothing of it, but he is self-conscious, see, and with Bob he felt different. He felt like he was a man too. He always would say, 'Do you know that they are all good, but Bob is the best. In the morning he would bring me a cup of coffee. I says, 'No wonder I could see on the window always a cup there.' 'Yes, he forgot to take it today, otherwise he would never leave it there.' He was so thoughtful and Jacko surely liked him.

Mr. Addington: What did the miners do when the mines weren't operating and they were closed a lot?

Mrs. Saivetto: Well, all the miners were in the poolroom. They had more fights in the pool room. My husband never, never went to the pool room. He used to before he got
married, but after he got married he said that he could spend his money in a better
way to provide for his family. He used to smoke, he quit smoking. He said, 'With
the money that I buy tobacco I can buy baby shoes.' And he quit. But, he used to make
his wine and our house was overflowing with people all the time because we had wine
and I would be cooking and whenever it was. Memorial, Fourth of July, any holiday our
house...I have to always put the two tables together to have room for everybody.
Sometimes I would have to use the card table, too, to have room enough. Everybody was
welcome. I never remember one...whether it was my friend or his, or relation or his
that he made any remark that it would cost to entertain like that. People from Yakima,
Prosser and Seattle, Tacoma...everybody...we had a lot of neighbors and we kept
corresponding all the time and they were always visiting us. We had...sometime I wonder.
maybe that effected me to....be by myself. I find myself that I talk to the cat and
dog. One day a friend come and she could hear me talking and she said, 'You know I
almost wanted to turn off' Then she knocked and I went to the door. 'You got
company?' I said, 'No.' 'Who was you talking to...oh, maybe you got the t.v. on?'
'No, I haven't, why?' 'But you were talking to somebody.' 'Oh,' I said, 'I was talking
to my cat and dog,'but I was talking to myself, but I didn't tell her. But, my cat
and dog, they understand me. You should see how cute they are. I got them down in
the basement. The cat is bigger than the dog, and intelligent, the both of them!
I was down in the basement and I washed a few clothes this morning and I called the

[JOCKO]

dog to come down...he knows that when I go see [JOCKO] I put him in the basement. He
wouldn't come in. I said, 'When you got enough wind you're going to come.' So, pretty
soon I heard, 'grrr grrr grrr' on the door and I said, 'Oh, tired from the wind
blowing so you come in.' Then I come upstairs and call him to come up. If I call them
they come right away.

Mr. Addington: What did you make the wine out of?

Mrs. Saivetto: Grapes from California. The Company Store used to get it for $35 or
$40 a ton. Then it went up to $50, then to $60, $65 and then $100 and $125 and so on.
Now, of course the Company Store is not there, but as long as they had the Company
Store they used to have grapes for their customers, all the time.

Mr. Addington: How many grapes would you buy?

Mrs. Saivetto: Well, mostly, when we were living below, just a ton... we didn't have no more room for anything else... more. But, up here he built a tank, a cement tank with a divider. In one side we made white wine that was just made with half a ton and the other was a ton and a half. We still have old wine that when we moved up here we didn't cork anymore wine... put it in bottles like that. But, we had three barrels full of all the years back. If you give me a thousand dollars I couldn't tell you what year that they are. The other day I had a fellow that worked for us, he is so nice, and I told him that I wanted manure. He says, 'O.k., I'll bring it to you as soon as I can.' And he says to me, 'How about a drink?' I said, 'Would you want it now?' 'Well sure, and then when I bring the manure too, of course.' So, when he came and brought me the manure I gave him a bottle of the old wine. But, when we moved the wine, it makes deposits when it's so old. It stays in the bottle and if you move it then it's cloudy. I told him, I said, 'It's old, old wine.' 'But how old is it?' I said, 'I don't know, because when we have to move we mixed it all up.' He had it divided under the barrel. He had a space he used to put sand, so to keep the wine. See, it's better than to have cement. Down where we were in the other place we had dirt floor, but up here we had cement. So, he put sand and here we had all that wine and all cloudy like that, because it was so old. He says, 'Then you can't tell me how old?' 'No,' I said, 'I can't, but you enjoy it. But, you know what you should do if it is too cloudy,' It's not cloudy, it's all that sediment, I said, 'strain it with a clean cloth and put it on top of the funnel and then strain it into another bottle and it will be o.k.'

End of Tape 2, Side 1.
Mr. Addington: Can you tell me what you would make wine out of... what ingredients you would put in?

Mrs. Saivetto: You just put grapes and the grapes ferment and that's all. When it's quit fermenting the heavy... how would you say... the skin of the grape and the stem comes on top. When you notice that it doesn't ferment anymore it get cool and before when it ferments it's like boiling, it boils on it's own. It is the strength of the sugar that the grapes have. Then my husband used to let them come up and draw from the bottom and spill on top to make it clear. When it was clear enough then he would draw it and put them in barrels. We used to have quite a few barrels to put for our ton of liquid, you know that takes quite a bit. Then we have a press... you should see, I got a press that... oh, they offer me already many a time $25 and they said, 'Well, how much would you want?' I said, 'I don't want to sell it.' For three years I made it myself, the wine, but now I don't think I will anymore. He is in the home and for him I still have wine to bring him. Every day I bring him a little bottle. Down there they laugh and say, 'Oh Camilla brought you the wine. Going to get drunk.' He said, 'No, no I won't.' So, he is used to drinking. He never used to get drunk, ever. He never made himself sick... now... his nephew... we had him boarding with us. He would drink until he made himself sick. Then when he would throwup I said, 'Now you go clean that mess you made. I will not clean it.' I said, 'Your uncle never would do a thing like that, but you do, you clean it.'

Mr. Addington: Can you tell me what effect the Depression had on Roslyn?

Mrs. Saivetto: Oh, that was bad. Everybody, though, was in the same boat. Nobody had anymore than the next person. If anything, I think we were better off than lots of them. We never did spend in pool room, he never smoked anymore and he never was the type to travel. So, we never did borrow five cents from anybody, never
We managed and I was always proud to think that whenever I would go and buy anything our credit was in good standing. But, a lot of people...you know there was the stores, they used to charge and I remember one time I heard a women, her husband was working at the Company Store and she says to this guy...I was standing close, see and I heard her say, 'And why don't you buy at the Company Store?' This fellow said, 'Why should I buy at the Company store when we were a large family, and we didn't have no money and the miner carries us on that we had a bill of $600.' Six hundred dollars is almost $6,000 almost, you know. And he says, 'If I had my way no matter what is going to be my place to trade, not the Company Store because the Company Store, the minute they go on strike the miner was cut off...they have no more credit. That was quite a let down, because how many they used to get everything at the Company Store. Some, they had wifes, they didn't know how to manage and they would always...they used to call it 'draw a snake' instead of pay. My husband never had to worry for me to get a snake, on his statement. One time I remember that he had $15 coming and they gave the money rolled up. He took it and put it in his pocket, come home and he only had 10 dollars. I said, 'But, where is the other five, your statement was $15?' He says, 'I don't know, I put it in my pocket.' I knew he never go in the pool room to drink like the others...most of them would go in the pool room. I said, 'You go right back and tell them that they're $5 short.' 'But can't you go yourself?' I said, 'No, you should count the money when they give it to you. It's your fault, you should have told them right there at the window, go right back.' The banker said...the banker was living next house to this one...the next one that has a red roof. He told him, he says, 'Well, if there is $5 too much when we are going to balance the book you'll get it, but if there isn't you lost.' And he says, 'I never did take it out of my pocket. When I took them out I give them to my wife and there was only $10.' Just think $10 for $15 for two weeks. Maybe save that, it might have bought a little something at the Company Store. But, very little cause I never buy too much because I was balancing always what earned with the expenses we had. One time
I would pay for the meat and milk, another time I would pay the groceries. See, the next two weeks...because we were paid every two weeks. I always manage to make it go. I bought a set of dishes and it was in '28 when I got those dishes and I was proud of those dishes. You know what I used to do...pay fifty cents, twenty-five cents when I pay the bill. It was at Roslyn Bakery and she sent for a barrel of dishes and she called me, she said, 'Which set would you rather have?' I went to pick out the set. She said, 'Well Jimmy will bring them down.' I said, 'Oh no, no, wait until I got them paid.' 'But what's the matter with you, I trust you.' I said, 'No, let me pay them and then I will enjoy it.' I paid and then when I wanted to buy something that my husband wouldn't approve of, I write to either Montgomery or Sears and ask them for an account..open an account. When I give the reference it was to the store. They knew that they never lost a penny from us. Then when I go to the store, 'What are you conniving now, Camilla? What are you buying?' I said, 'Well, I have to...Jaco said that he let me have the cupboard, if I can keep the other bills paid, but I have to buy on payment for the door and knobs and everything else.' Even the insurance...you know we had insurance when we lived down below, three years for $28 a month. I went to the lawyer, he had the insurance. I said,'Mr. Brown, could I pay my insurance on payment?' 'Well, well, what happened?' I said, 'Well, I got to fix my kitchen and I don't have the money and I got an open account all over.' 'Oh,' he says,'don't worry.' I hope nothing will happen, but if it does I will keep you covered from fire insurance.' That guy that I...I put two guys together to carpenter. I said the one that give me the better price will get the bid. I can't help it, I know that maybe when they gave me the bid one was maybe $120 and the other $100. I told the one with the $100, I said, 'Johnson, I know it's not enough, I'm ashamed of myself, but I'll feed you while you work for me.' 'O.k.' He had that poor devil, so I would always have something light and that he could eat. think for $100 what he did. He put the ironing board in; he made those arches; and he put the tile board and he made the cupboard....$100. I could prove it to you now, I still have the receipt...$5, $7, $4. I told him before, I said, 'Now don't expect to get your
money but in small payment. 'Well, that's all right as long as you pay me,' he says, 'Every time I come then I'm going to have something to eat.' I said, 'Well, don't come too often, maybe I wouldn't have that much food ahead, but when I have your welcome.' 'O.k.' One time I told him, I said, 'Don't come next payday because I won't have no money to give you.' He says, 'Well, but what if I wanted to come to say hello.' I knew he wanted to come to say a bowl of soup or something, so he didn't come and that was the way we were managing in them days. I told Jocko a lot of times I said, 'See, if I didn't fix the house when it was cheap labor, how could we do it now?' He said, 'But now we got more money than then.' I said, 'Yes, but it cost a heck of a lot more to have it.'

Mr. Addington: Can you tell me a little about the Western Miner's Union?

Mrs. Savietto: Why that was a fizzle. The men were split, some were for the John L. What they started, it was before they had a strike and instead of gaining anything they got a cut and they wanted to pull out of the United Mine Workers...they didn't want to be in it. They had the guys that were ahead, one was Hunter and another one was Dick Prescott, those were the two heads of the Western Miners. Most of the miners came out and was ready to split because they were all disgusted. But, then they got scared. The Company was threatening to close. You know, who had a home and children...they were worried so they went back to work. We lived down below, we had all Austrian people around us. Jocko was in doubt what to do...he said, 'I don't know what to do.' I said, 'Well we came out...let's wait! and then they come and asked him to go back to work because he was such a good worker and good. Everybody wanted him to work for them, but he worked for the Highway, when they were making the highway from Seattle over and he worked one summer there. I went to work in Yakima on the fruit, sorting apples and picking. I wanted to buy a radio for my girl. She, poor honey, she was only not quite 12 years old. She used to put her clock, ringing alarm clock, for four o'clock in the morning for her daddy to fix a bucket and send him to work up on the highway. Then she would have the alarm clock at half past seven for her to go to school. I was working in Yakima. We had a building
in Cle Elum that belonged to my brother-in-law, my husband's brother. He wanted to let the taxes take...you know, not to pay taxes. I said, 'Are you crazy?'

It was where Safeway is now we had the building. I said, 'If we don't pay taxes we lose everything. You know how long...it takes no time for the taxes...the interest...I'm going to go to work.' And I went to Yakima to work and I paid the taxes. It was $200 and some dollars then and my brother-in-law was sick and he didn't know what he was doing anymore, but he knew enough to tell the lawyer...it was lawyer...oh, what was his name, he knew my brother-in-law. That day...he was pretty clear in his mind and he said, 'I want my sister-in-law to have the building because my brother doesn't know business no more than I do, but my sister-in-law knows business. So, he gave me the building with the understanding that I would take care of him when he needed care, but we couldn't keep him because he would run away all the time. He didn't know what he was doing. So, here that building...I could have sold it for a lot more money, but when I wanted to sell it my husband wouldn't let me and then when we were forced to sell it, because keeping it empty it was nothing but going to pot, so we sold it after...but, we surely had...that was all while the strike went on.

There was no money and everybody was desperate around here. I tell you it was no fun to make a go because there was nothing. Now they got the forestry and there is the highway working, but then there was hardly anything. The highway, yes, they were building it then, but there is so much more chances for anybody that is willing to work.

Mr. Addington: Do you remember when Bob Rupp was killed?

Mrs. Saivetto: Oh sure, I remember. That was a dirty job. That was the Company that had him killed. He was a quite man. They killed him to scare the others, to see that they stayed in...bowed to their orders...that they would sooner or later get the same end. Oh, my husband was upset when that happened because he was such a wonderful person, but they killed him without any reason...not on the picket line. But, on the picket line it was quite rough work then, too.

Mr. Addington: Can you tell me about the picket line, were you ever on the picket line?
Mrs. Saivetto: Oh yes, a lot. In fact, I was one of the first to go. Oh yes, I was very active. In fact, they were blaming me for different things that I didn't do. They said one time I was throwing rocks and it was the man that worked for us... I was putting the bathroom in that I told you he was working... I liked that man and I would no more throw a rock at him than I would to a dog. Here he was... I seen them when they threw rock on the windshield and he was sitting inside. Oh, I was so sick. When I come home I said, 'Just think Jocko, they were throwing rocks at Waddell, he was such a nice person.' I said, 'How can they be that onery and mean?' I said, 'If they go at it to have a strike and to be as onery as that I don't think I'm going to be in the strike... no more, I don't want it.' My husband never came on the picket line, he never did. I was carrying on. When people were getting impatient... one night I got up and I told them, I said, 'Well, if you think that you can do things in a short time like that we never will be able to keep up.' I said, 'We have to be patient. You can't not seed a garden today and harvest tomorrow. We got to take time.' But then the Company was stronger and then so was John L. Now, if it wasn't for John L. what we would do? We have social security and then the pension for the miner and the black lungs. How could I keep up to pay as much as I do every month for my husband... thanks to John L. Lewis. Of course the one that went after him did very good, they even better, because they gave us the black lung, where before they didn't. My husband's lungs are really bad. Doctors, they examined him and they said that his lungs are like a sponge, so full of flym and everything. His back was broken three times.

Mr. Addington: In the mines?

Mrs. Saivetto: In the mines. One time he come off and he had both feet broken here. We lived in the gully, like I told you before, we had steps going down, and he walked on those, both feet broken. He had his back hurt too, but not broken, but it was hurt. I remember when we went to have a settlement it was a doctor in Cle Elum, Dr. Mooney. We had it here, the one that was taking care of Jocko and he never mentioned that he had his back hurt, too, but when we went to Cle Elum to Dr. was his name and when he
said, 'Well, what do you think...what is it that you were so hurt?' My husband
said, 'Well, I had both feet broken and my back hurt.' 'Now there is nothing here about
your back.' He says, 'But, my back is hurt...it still does hurt.' He said, 'Well,
in that case you got to go to Tacoma.' They had a set of other doctors over there that
belonged to the Company here. So, we went to Tacoma and he got more. I don't know
if it was $600 or $700 that they gave him at the time, but

when you were sick...a man with a family, $50 a month. What can you do with $50 when
you had all the other expenses to pay? I tell you it was not fun to keep up with
children...oh, it was terrible.

Mr. Addington: Do you remember when the State Police came in during the strike?
Mrs. Saivetto: Oh, you bet you I do.

Mr. Addington: What did they do? Is that when the miners went back to work?
Mrs. Saivetto: Oh no, they didn't go back, but they wouldn't let them be on the
picket line, they put them in jail if they were on the picket line so they had to stay
home. Eventually one by one they went back. There was nothing here and most were
foreign people. They didn't have no profession of any kind. They were just miners,
good miner and that's all.

Mr. Addington: What about the women's auxiliary, how did it get organized?
Mrs. Saivetto: Well, I belonged to the auxiliary, but it didn't last either because
when the men went back to work that was the end of it, see. I wish you would read
those books on the United Mine Workers that they are sending...the Journal, there
you can tell when the people do stick together. The women, they go out and they
protest. They lobby at their...at Olympia and I tell you they're not given that up easy
and that's why we're getting so much. I think they should be more than satisfied with
what we're getting now. Now they get more in one day than we used to get in a month.
Sure. Oh, they had it figured out that they would make them go back to work. Then
again another time when they were putting the machine in the mines, but then they were
protesting...the miner didn't want it. They said it was too dusty and it was too
dangerous. A lot of them, they protest. But, the Company won and put the machine in
and then there was just company work, it wasn't contract anymore. Before it was contract and the ones that was good workers could get good wages. The ones that work for the Company has got a set scale. You get so much and that's all. My husband never did work for the Company. He was a good worker, but he was too good for his own good. When he had a place well set...because they had to prop up and make it clean and clean the rock, then when he was ready to load, to have good coal, they would...somebody pay and he would be put in another place to clean up and the other one made the money. It was like everything else, cheap labor for the one that don't know what is good for him. I would tell him a lot of times, I said, "how can you be that stupid?"

When you've got a place...they've done it once and twice and three times. Why can't you speak up and tell them, "Well this is my place, I work to clean it and I'm going to stay here now." You know it was just last winter his mind was wondering, if he had nightmares or whatever, he says, 'I think you were right Camilla, I could see it now.' He was working in the mine then, see, that night. 'I could see it now. You know that I told you I had a good place yesterday, now they put somebody else in there.'

I knew his mind was off, but I told him, I said, "You never would admit it before that I was right, but last night in your delirium you were saying, that they were cheating you and put somebody else in there." The bosses were fighting for my husband to work for them. He heard them himself, one telling the other, 'Oh, go on, you're nothing but a crook, you got away from me.' The other one said, 'Well, you had him long enough, it's time that I'll have something out of it.' See, they were like pushing him around and he wouldn't ever say anything.

Mr. Addington: They would wait until he cleaned an area up and send a Company man in.

Mrs. Saivetto: Yes, when it was time to make coal, because they used to give them so much each boxcar that would go out...they put their check on them. He was getting only company work when he was cleaning. Oh, I used to be so mad at him. I said, "You're to be good is fine, but you're stupid, you don't see that they were using you. Why didn't you speak up?" 'You want me to lose my job?' I said, 'They will never lose you. Don't
Ill call you back and how because just to good for words;
good for yourself and for your family. You are wrecking your health.'
I'd have seen the clothes he used to bring home. When he was any
would leak, wet, he was there. He would bring his clothes and they,
full of coal dust and sweat. I was so glad when he quit working and
those damn clothes to wash. It was terrible and when I washing by hand
b.

Q: Were there people arrested during the Western Miner's Union strike?
A: Oh yes, some of them were. I don't remember really who, but a few

Q: Do you remember their trials...when they were tried?
A: Sure, that's when they shot that Rump, to scare them. You know
he went to the trial and he says...oh it was just awful the way they
and saying things, but it is all the same all over...they had a good lawyer
they paid. The person that they were before in the picket line, then they
and swear that...what they were saying there was that Bob Rump, he never
wrong and still he lost his life and it was to scare the others. But,
shot him come out fine, but he didn't enjoy himself. One day I met him in
works, he was a boss in the mine, see, and worked for him and he
know...you hate him because he was the one that was swearing.' He swore
up tackled him or tried to shoot him or something, I don't remember what it
said, let's see, what was his name...Sam...

Q: Farrimond?
A: Farrimond

Q: Farrimond...Sam Farrimond, he was a good guy, he said, 'I work for him
always considerate and good to me.' One day I met him in town and he looked
I didn't look at him.
Mrs. Camilla Saivetto
June 23, 1976

Accession No. KIT 76-69sa, Tape No. 3, Tape Side 1.

Mrs. Saivetto: I think he felt like he wanted to slap my face.

Mr. Addington: Because you wouldn't speak to him?

Mrs. Saivetto: I didn't speak, because I always did talk with people...you know everybody in a small town like this. He looked at me like he wanted to say hello and I looked to the other side. He says, 'How come you didn't talk to me?' I says, 'I guess I didn't feel like talking today.' He just walked on and I didn't say no more. But, his family...oh, he had a good boy that used to go to school with our girl. My girl said, 'Oh mama, my heart just aches to see how that boy feels so shunned from the others.' Because everybody knew that it was a bought and closed up case. There was nothing to be done because he had the Company behind him, see, and they paid him to do that. His wife is still living and still here, but his son's hair turn white and got old when he was a young kid. His hair was just white.

Mr. Addington: Did the strike have a long term effect on the community? Was there a lot of bitterness after...?

Mrs. Saivetto: Oh yes, yes, there always is you know in a small place like this. It was people not talking to one another. I remember we had a club up at Ronald and people used to gather there and they had their head to arrange for the...mostly it was potluck, what we bring, drink...everybody brings something to eat for midnight snack....and dancing, oh the good time we had in that club. And it broke up, because it was one that was speaking for the Company and he was always one of the committeemen and so they said, 'What are you going to do with him?' I said, 'Well, if he behave himself, everybody has to get used to gathering together.' Well, one they wanted to tell the other they didn't want to tell, so they decided that it was safer and not to hurt anymore feelings of feelings of people than we already had before, and to drop it. And we dropped it then. That was really a lot of fun that club we had. Oh, it was so
Mr. Addington: What kind of people were the leaders of the Western Miner's Union? Were they local people?

Mrs. Saivetto: Oh yes, sure.

Mr. Addington: Mr. Prescott... and...

Mrs. Saivetto: Prescott and Hunter were the two heads and those were... I think that Hunter was an Englishman and Prescott, I wouldn't know what exactly he was, but well liked. But you know in order to win anything you really have to have the right backing. The people here were too timid. They were always afraid that... see, they were rough with the foreign people before. They said that at the beginning when they came they used to be insulted because they consider that they were nothing. They come from old country to make a living and they wouldn't improve their property, they would let their... live in a shack just so they could make a little money to go back to their country. Well, they only started Roslyn to be fixed up after they closed the immigration, because then they couldn't go back, they couldn't go back for six months, but they had to have the permit to come back and they have to claim it before and not to wait that the permit would expire, otherwise they couldn't come back. Then what they really established to fix and to be a citizen here, it was after the social security. See, people that go to old country lose social security.

Mr. Addington: So that's when they started thinking of staying here?

Mrs. Saivetto: Staying and fixing their home. Because a lot of people, you should see, the beautiful home they have in Roslyn. Myself, I don't like to spend that much, because we only have one girl and now... the property got better priced than it did before, but because... I know from the tax, it's twice as much. It has more value, but I wouldn't want to spend that much money when our girl has got a beautiful home of her own and I think, why spend so much for us, it's good enough as it is, as long as it's clean and it's comfortable. We have all the conveniences... sure, it's not a modern home because this is an old house, but I bet our house could stand the wind and the bad weather better than lots of them... the new ones... sure.
Mr. Addington: Was it dangerous working in the mines?

Mrs. Saivetto: Oh it was, because look at when my husband got his back broken three times. He got hurt so many times. I think he was just too anxious to work and to do good that he didn't look at the danger. How come others never went to the hospital as often as he did. And he would more scare me when he would come home...oh, I used to get so mad, I would say, 'But why, why does it have to be it's always your turn to get hurt?' He says, 'Well, I thought the rock was solid and it come down.' Now that he could enjoy his pension he is sick and his mind don't work right no more.

Mr. Addington: Do you remember during World War II when they arrested some of the Italians here? Did you know anything about that?

Mrs. Saivetto: They weren't allowed to have radio and I don't remember that anybody that I knew of was arrested. They did....I know that we had a friend that he was here years before us...before my husband at least because he came in 1912 and he was almost nine years that he was here when I came. Then I kept telling my husband, I said, 'You see, if you didn't listen to me, if you don't want to...you never know when there will be another war and maybe they would...you would be in the same boat if you don't get your paper. You got to have your citizen papers!' But, he didn't think he could make it, but my pushing, pushing, finally he made it.

Mr. Addington: How did you feel when the United States went to war against Italy?

Mrs. Saivetto: It is just like anybody else, you feel bad because I had my own up there yet. I come down in 1920, that was over, the War, but it wasn't...I never had no trouble up there because they had a lot of strike too and a lot of fight. Oh, it wasn't easy at all during the war when we had Mussolini. Mussolini was in the Second World War.

Mr. Addington: But during the First War you had lots of problems, too?

Mrs. Saivetto: I was still up there.

Mr. Addington: That's when you worked in the foundry?

Mrs. Saivetto: Yes. There was a lot of men that couldn't stand it, but I did.
A lot of men they couldn't...of course men, they had bigger ovens and they were melting steel, where we were melting aluminum. We were making rings, round rings and the form that we had...it had twelve holes and it was about this big and it had a lid. So, we would fill them cups and it was a ring. Then of course it was a little knob right in the center where the hole was. Then they had, they used to call them but they go by hand. To get that knob off they pay so much...it was piece work. They pay so much for so many hundred. But, a lot of women they couldn't get use to using that it had two big balls that was swinging and with one hand you would feed it and the other you would swing it and then you would feed it. I was so quick at it whenever they were short...but, if you ever were missing...I've seen a women leaving the whole four fingers there because that come down so hard, see. Then there was another machine that was boring holes on tubes and that too was dangerous. If you didn't hold it right and bring your machine down to bore the hole...up and down, up and down to turn it, then if you miss it that would and I seen one that it almost disfigured her face because it broke the , the one that was boring the holes and she got hurt...oh, we thought that she lost her eyes, but no she broke her nose and she had all her face disfigured and she had plastic surgery done. But, I was game to do anything just so I earned money, I didn't care.

Mr. Addington: Why did your husband stop working in the mines?

Mrs. Saivetto: Because he wasn't able to do much of anything else. He never tried to improve himself. A lot of people...he is a good worker in the farm, in old country way...he was using his back instead of using his head. A lot of people said to me, 'Why don't you...when likes to work on the farm so much why don't you go?' I said, 'Sure, if I had to be on the farm driving the tractor and doing all the work outside and all the work inside...all the business transactions. I'm not but one person, I can't do everything like that.' That's what it would have been to be done, because he is not a good businessman and he is just a good worker when he has somebody to direct him, but he can't use machinery. He is scared...any motor, oh he wouldn't touch it.
Mr. Addington: You worked in Yakima?

Mrs. Saivetto: Yes, at the Big Y and then another place I went to pick pears and pack pears...I can't remember the name of the other place I worked, too.

Mr. Addington: Was that during the Depression?

Mrs. Saivetto: Sure.

Mr. Addington: That was during the strike?

Mrs. Saivetto: Yes, he was working on the highway then, see and that's when I went...I wanted to earn money to pay for the tax for the building.

Mr. Addington: Did your husband have any trouble getting work with the mine again after the strike?

Mrs. Saivetto: No, they called him, the superintendent sent a note to him that he could go any time, come back to work if he wanted to. I told him, 'Didn't I tell you?' 'Oh yes, but how did I know.' I said, 'Jocko' when anybody is goofy like you for working...I wasn't worried that you wouldn't get work, but I let you have your way. You wanted to go on the highway working.' He got burnt from the cement. It was hot, that was during the summer and the dust of the cement they were spilling and instead of having goggles to cover his eyes, he didn't and oh he burned his eyes bad. So, then my girl called and told me to come home. So, I come home, but he had already gone to the doctor and got medication that did help, but then after he didn't go back to work on the road and they called him to go back in the mine.

Mr. Addington: When did he stop working in the mine?

Mrs. Saivetto: Let's see, '61 or '62.

Mr. Addington: Is that when the mines started closing?

Mrs. Saivetto: Yes.

Mr. Addington: How did the closing of the mines make Roslyn change?

Mrs. Saivetto: Well, the older, they retired because my husband retired in '53, and there was quite a few that they weren't willing to quit. Those were working in Patrick, but the N.W.I. was another Company, see and he was working...he never did work in Patrick, he always did work for the N.W.I. So, when he was already retired...and a
lot of them, they retired them themself, because they already had social security
then, see. I know that was...in '53 he was 64 and they had him retire because
then at 65 he could draw social security, but he had one year unemployment to draw.
If you got fired you could get unemployment...see. The Company would see to it that
he would get the unemployment. He got the unemployment the whole year and then he
got on social security. Then later...I don't remember, but if I look at the paper..,
when we got the pension. Then after the pension he got the black lung. All together
it helps. I don't know how could I keep up any length of time if I didn't have that
income...paying so much for him. I can't take care of him at home because as I said,
he is good but he is not type that anticipate any movement that he could help. He
is so afraid to fall he hangs on and he is strong like an ox with his hand. I tell
him, 'Jocko, let loose, let loose you're going to fall, if you go on the floor at night...
no body here at night to help me.' I said, 'Jocko you make me so mad sometimes I'd
like to hit you over the head...oh.' But, he really was lucky that he was old enough
to draw first the unemployment and then the pension and then we got...no, the social
security and then the pension came after. The pension at first was $75 and they
raised it to $100 and now it's $115

Mr. Addington: That's the United Mine Worker's pension?

Mrs. Saivetto: Yes. Jocko said a lot of times, he said, 'See, if we would have
pulled out and they would have.....' see, back east they had another union, Progress
was their name. They killed an awful lot of people. Back there, too, they wanted to
pull out from the Company....John L. See, because I think after John L. Lewis
figured that he had his pocket well lined and it was time to think of the miners. So,
then when they start to have strikes and organize better and help the people. But,
before when they were having strikes, over here we never had a cent to help us when we
were on strike. But, when back east they had a strike they used to deduct it from the
pay...deduct it from the statement to send back there. If the Company wasn't with them
they wouldn't have done that to help the striker, because it wasn't a union. I don't
know how they managed to draw that money. Oh, all the miners resented to
pay to help them when they never helped us here.

Mr. Addington: When you first moved to Roslyn were there very many blacks living here?

Mrs. Caivetto: No...there was Craven and Hart, three or four family that's all.

Mr. Addington: That's all that lived here when you first lived here?

Mrs. Caivetto: Yes. This lot here was where Craven were living...they raised all their family here on this lot. But, the house was down at the end and it was burned and they tore it down after...so one day Craven...oh, Cravens were nice, everybody liked them...were going by and, 'Hi Mrs.' 'Hi Sam, where are you going?' 'Oh,' he said, 'you know I was looking at this lot and I saw the change.' You know they had chickens roosting in their car or roosting on the apple tree down there. One time my girl and I were walking to Cle Elum...in them days people used to walk an awful lot and they used to pick us up whenever they...because they knew us. He stopped and I had a black coat and when I wanted to sit down he had chicken feathers all over...and me with a black coat. I didn't want to hurt his feelings to refuse his kindness and not to ride with him because he was so kind, but oh my gosh...then I told my girl in Italian, I said, 'You know before we get to Cle Elum I'm going to tell him that we go visit somebody and get off and I want you to clean the coat because I'm sure that I'm full of feathers.' So here when we got down to the railroad crossing I got off and then my girl...we let him go and we pretended that we were going to visit somebody. She said, 'Mama you were right, you got plenty of feathers on you and with a black coat. He was so darn nice. But now, I heard we got the son is Mayor of the town. The other day a lady, I don't remember who it was, that mentioned him...'Oh ask Willie he was a janitor,' it was something about the school, 'he's a janitor and he ought to know.' 'Well Mam, I want you to know that I'm the Mayor of the town and I don't want to be called a janitor.' They said, 'My gosh, it went to his head to be the Mayor of the town.' They thought his...his father was so happy go lucky. They said one time th
had ten then already. Mrs. Craven said, 'Doctor, Sam has got only his work and that's his hobby,' to have kids, 'and I wouldn't appreciate it that you would spoil his fun. So you just forget about it. We are raising our kids and we don't want nothing to be different.' That was his hobby because he didn't have no other hobby a'tal. Oh, but we laughed when we heard that.

End of Tape 3, Side 1.