

CONTINUATION OF MRS DICKSONS TAPE JUNE 1984

MRS DICKSON TELL ME ABOUT YOUR HUSBAND WHO IS A BUILDER AND HOW HE DECIDED TO GO INTO THE WOOD YARD?

Because he said to me there is going to be big trouble - a big depression

IS THIS THE 1920's DEPRESSION?

Yes and he said I'll have to get into something once a building trade goes out everything goes out. So he bought this wood yard and in those days there is no gas and everything that was wood depended on wood you see and he went into it. He was doing quite nicely and then the first thing that happened the depression came. A lot of men were railway men and lived in Alphington and they were hit and were out. And then to make matters worse, Gas people didn't come to put gas in because that was another thing we seemed to buy the wood because people got their gas stoves and needed to buy the wood

NOW YOUR WOOD YARD WAS ON THE CORNER OF NAROON ROAD AND WINGROVE STREET?

Yes.

AND HOW MANY YEARS WERE YOU THERE?

About 3 years. And then he went back to the building after that.

AND YOU SAID THAT PHILLIPS STREET WAS NAMED AFTER YOUR FATHER AND NOEL AFTER YOUR BROTHER N LAW.

Yes

MRS DIXON IS GOING TO TELL ME ABOUT THE WREN HOUSE IN ALPHINGTON.

It was a big home beautifully built and was right on top of the bank and when that flood came it was there garden gone in 1934. It was a beautiful garden and I think they kept two gardeners and when that flood came would you believe it rose so high it went right up that bank right up that top of garden, I think there was about 5 tears and it lapped their verandah. They took photographs because you could not believe it could rise like that.

WHAT WAS THE WREN HOUSE LIKE INSIDE?

Big Beautifully furnished modern very beautifully furnished, and tiled verandah right around the place and took nearly 2 hours to clean it. It was so big and wide. They had four sons very nice family.