

Carmen Stubinski      Date of Interview: March 16, 1972

Time 4 hrs.

1. Laura Smith
2.      Ef
3. Laura De Wolf
4. 679-5624
5. 70 Nickel St.
6. 84
7. Claire County Michigan, USA Dac Kingston
8. 16 miles our of Kingston
9. Kingston
10. 1908
11. Trian
12. West North 70, North Bay north to Cobalt
13. 5
14. Prospector, sold insurance in winter
15. housewife
16. dead, prospected all his life when there'd be a rush he'd take off
17. .retired

18. I came to Cobalt when my dad who was here ahead of us wrote to Mother for us to come up. So my mother brother Frank and I came to Cobalt. I was 18 yrs. old at the time Dad rut a tent up on Nickel St. we stayed there all summer. Dad said I think will stay here, so he went back to Kingston and packed up our furniture. Where the first tent was. Dr. Hare built himself a home there. Dad moved our tent near the tracks on the corner of Commission Street and Grandview for the rest of the summer. When Winter came we moved into a house behind Paddie Martins. We had a good view of the lake on the hill, it was quite a drop to the tracks and lake on the hill, The station was like a show everyone went to the station to see the trains come in. Prospect Hill was so slippery at times welt just slide down in the mud. There were wooden sidewalks on each side of the road. We use to canoe on Cobalt lake every night after supper. Dad use to worry about us out on Cobalt Lake in the canoes, Mother made him sell his canoe we felt bad. I used to sail with Vince Keepey. Keepey's had a drug store on Lang Street. Vince and his sister Blanche ran the drug store. There were a pump house on Cobalt Lake so had to keep his eye on the kids in the canoes.

There was one boat on Cobalt Lake owned by Northern Power. Howard Holley was operator of the ship

Remembers the day the Catholic Church blew over across the East side of the railway bridge.

One day my dad said were going out to stake some claims. We walked from Cobalt to Giroux Lake walked the pipeline and returned this was 20 miles. We used snowshoes- dad and I. I staked 3 claims. The next day we were to go to Haileybury to register the claims at the Registration office. I couldn't walk for 3 days. I was 24- yrs. old at the time. my Husband had the oldest prospecting licence in Ontario prospecting

20. Because my dad was a blacksmith. He had a blacksmith shop on Lang St.across from Daminani's Store/ Later he sold his blacksmith shop to Ambrose Murphy. My dad move to the Soo 1913.

21.

22.

23.

24. We owned and built the house beside Dr. McGarry on Prospect Ave. Harold Fleming owns it and I remember we'd go by horse and wagon to Lorraine Valley to pick blueberries. We got so many I preserved a lot and decided to go up in the attic and dry some on the floor. I forgot about them. In the spring the boys used blueberries for their pea shooter. I nearly died laughing. Blueberries were plentiful in those days.

25. Can't remember

26. Had it in the house. These seem to be a lot of silly questions.

27. Hydro

28. cook stove, burned wood for cooking

29. Hot water system

30. We had 4 children. Four millinery shops here at one time.

31. Milton Carr built the building that Woolworths had their store.

I was friends with Mr. & Mrs. Carr in those days. He built his house on Silver Street. Later Murray Watts father bought the house and they lived in it. Cliff Moore owned the Cobalt Mess, that stood near where Leo O'Shaughnessy lives today directly across the street was the one Cobalt Mess that I knew of. It was private, owned by Cliff Moore. He hired a full time cook to cook for the guests. That came and went steadily. They used to have some great poker games there in the early days and stakes were high. They all had lots of money and played the stock market. One time dad went on a prospecting trip for Cliff Moore. He had one room full of expensive tents, sleeping bags, some silk ones, pack sacks any of the guests who went prospecting left their equipment behind. This was in the early 30's Cliff Moore owned the drug store on the corner.

Dr. Rouchie had an office on Lang St. Later his office became a millinery shop. Later it was Belgium's Jewelry store. Next down to the imperial bank. We were burnt out in the Lang St fire in 1910. After the fire we stayed at Trypps till we built a house on Nickel St. We sent all our clothes to Arnprier to be cleaned after the fire. Everything was by train in those days. The box car our clothes were in caught on fire.

32. we had good times in those days we use to drive by horse and buggy to Haileybury to and dance. We use to have lots of dances in the hall on Argentite Street. I use to wear hobble skirts. They sure were foolish things to walk in. We had lots of card parties, good lunches and not much drinking in those days, just the men.

36. Mr. McLaren

37. Miss Reed use to run the Mines Hospital after she left. Mrs, Dr. Mitchell took her job.

38. Wilfred, Shaft and Bill Donaldson lived here then. When Mrs. Dickson was nurse, her first

baby she helped bring into the world was Evan Donaldson, when Mrs. Dickson died Evan Donaldson was a Pall Bearer. Evan was very good to his family. They lived here for many years. He sent his Mother and Sister on several trips to Europe, USA. Evans Donaldson is living in Toronto today. He is a millionaire.

39. in their 20's

40.

41. Both in mines.

42. There wasn't the safety features in the mines those days. Didn't even wear the mines days., Didn't even wear hard hats or safety boots. Dad worked in the mine when they use to use candles they'd take a handful of clay put water on it. Make a mud pack .-stick it on their hat let it harden and put their candle in it. In 1911 they brought in the Hydrolic Air System from Ragged Chutes. There was lower oxygen n content so they couldn't use the candle anymore. That is when they started to use the Carbide Lamp

43.

44.

45. Printed satin dress, chiffon dress

46.always wore french heels. Had a pair of white kid high laced boots had back and brown ones toe. My wedding hat was small rim with a large black feather Plume that started on the top of my head and came down the one side. Mrs. MacDougal made it she had a millinery Store. I had a cream tailored serge suit to go with my white high boots. Everything was tailor made. Had the boys suits hand made by Mr. Carlson in Haileybuyr.

47.Have a rocking chair my father bought when my brother was born 88 yrs. ago. Would like to have it refinished some day. Have an old quilt 200 yrs, old. My great grandmother gave this quilt to my grandmother when she got married,

48. Went to church then picnic at Sass Lake we'd paddle across to the island to eat our lunch.

We picnic at Moores' cove and the spur line.

The Caris, MacKays, Keeleys, Dr. Sommerville, Evans McCraig, Bob O'Gorman my husband

used to go to Haileybury to catch the Meteor and Cruise down Lake Temiskaming. We Always took a picnic basket.Later we'd go with the Ralph Taylor's they had a boat. We were able to cook own meals on his boat. We went down Lake Temiskaming and the Hudson Bay Post was there. George Taylor started the hardware Store when he died Bill and Ralph became owners Ralph lived across the street from us.

Larry Stadlemen, his sister Angie and Bert often dropped in to have a cup of tea with us. We were friends like a lot of others. When we were burnt out on the Lang St. fire

We lost our piano. We asked everywhere finally a year later it turned up in North Cobalt. The man that had it tried all over to find out who owned it. We were lucky it turned up. It was

given to me by my father in 1901. the same year the queen died. It had won 1st prize in a fall fair in Kingston

49. I've lived here 64 yrs and I like it

50. Wouldn't feel at hone anywhere else

51. Improvement in homes

52. Removal of mines, payrolls, downgrading of employment, depletion of Ore

53. yes

54. Lack of facilities for parts, conveniences, regardless of this knowledgable Characters, engineers, Dr. , Professional people made their academic home here people. Lots of wealth came out of Cobalt

55. Yes

56. Would like to see a V.O.N. Make daily visits again. People should keep their sidewalks shovelled

57, Spring

used to love to sew. Bake and read paper daily

59. not now

60. its universal

61. Tourists point of view

62. Unique mining town with a good past History Artists think this is an artist's paradise.

Mrs Smith has a lot of antiques and pictures very interesting woman.