

**VOICES OF THE CAPE FEAR
INTERVIEW WITH WINIFRED SHEPARD MORRISON**

AUGUST 15, 1995

INTRODUCTION

This is Sam Bissette, I'm down at Mrs. B. R. Morrison, Sr.'s house at Wrightsville Beach that she's lived in for seventy-five years. It's a beautiful summer day at Wrightsville Beach outside, very warm, the date is Tuesday, August 15th, 1995. I'm going to talk to Mrs. Morrison and see if we can find out about of her recollections of Wrightsville Beach.

INTERVIEWER: The first thing I'm going to find out are a few little basic things about you, and I want to know when you were born?

MORRISON: I was born December the 13th, 1897.

INTERVIEWER: And that makes you 97 years old, and going to be 98 in December. Well that is remarkable. And where were you born?

MORRISON: Wilmington, North Carolina.

INTERVIEWER: Oh, that makes you a native, doesn't it?

MORRISON: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Okay, good. And did your family come from Wilmington too?

MORRISON: Oh yes, my father lived here and my mother with him and he was in the drug store business on Market Street between Front and 2nd.

INTERVIEWER: All right. What was your maiden name?

MORRISON: My maiden name was Winifred Shepard.

INTERVIEWER: Winifred Shepard? Okay and you are a Wilmingtonian if there ever was one. Okay. Tell me a little bit about the first several years and where did you went to grammar school?

MORRISON: I went to grammar school at the Union School and it was on 6th and Ann Street.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

MORRISON: On the corner of 6th and Ann and I went there when I was 6 years old and I stayed there until I graduated from the Union School and went into the Tileston High School, then I left high school and went to Converse College in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

INTERVIEWER: Well that was a big jump, to go to school that far away.

MORRISON: That was all right.

INTERVIEWER: All right, so you were one of the Converse girls?

MORRISON: Yes, I graduated from Converse in 1919 and had an AB degree.

INTERVIEWER: All right, an AB degree. What was your major?

MORRISON: I couldn't hear that.

INTERVIEWER: Do you remember what you majored in?

MORRISON: I majored in history, social science, and the sciences.

INTERVIEWER: Okay, well that enabled you to be a teacher later.

MORRISON: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: I'm going to say for the benefit of anyone who is listening that the little roar you hear in the background are the air-conditioning units we need to be in today as hot as it is on Wrightsville Beach. I'll explain that for anybody listening and wondering what that is, that's the noise of the air-conditioning today we need. When did you meet the young man that you married, Dr. Morrison? Where did you meet him?

MORRISON: Right here in Wilmington. He was a native of Wilmington too. We had been friends for a long time and we finally married in 1923.

INTERVIEWER: Okay, 1923.

MORRISON: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: You, being a lifetime resident of Wilmington, I think you are more a lifetime resident of Wrightsville Beach from what I understand.

MORRISON: Well, I lived at Wrightsville Beach every summer since 1916. My father bought the cottage here because there were so many mosquitos in Wilmington. He hated for us to be mosquito bitten, so we moved to Wrightsville Beach for the summer.

INTERVIEWER: Now tell me, that was before World War I?

MORRISON: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: There were two or three years before the end of the war.

MORRISON: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: What was Wrightsville Beach like between 1920 and 1925? What was going on down here? How did you get to the beach and stuff like that?

MORRISON: Wrightsville Beach has been a beautiful beach all the years and the way we came to Wrightsville Beach was on the trolley car we would have to take at Front and Princess Street and ride down to Wrightsville Sound and then, we'd have to take the car, same car and bring us over a trestle and that trestle brought us to Banks Channel. Then, we'd have to take the same car and come across another trestle at Banks Channel and then we would be on Wrightsville Beach and then the car rode up Lumina

Avenue to the south. There, we had a nice pavilion that we went to for fun, dancing, and a good time called the Lumina.

INTERVIEWER: Okay, the Lumina was around a long time. I think the Power Company built it to try to make some money, didn't they?

MORRISON: Yes they did and they did a good job on it. They had all the big orchestras in the United States right down to Wrightsville Beach to play for the people who went there to have a good time.

INTERVIEWER: So, you spent your summers down here? Now tell me what else was down here, there was no road over here and there were no automobiles over here. If you bought something in the way of furniture and you had to get it down here, I guess they put it on the Trolley Freight car?

MORRISON: They came on the freight car and the freight car brought nearly everything else that had to be brought down. We could bring groceries and things like that, that we could pickup in town on the regular trolley car for people, but the freight car had to be extra and we brought larger things on the freight car.

INTERVIEWER: I see. Well now, those were pretty fancy times back then until 1929 when things changed a little bit. I think Black Friday in 1929 is when things changed a little bit. Black Friday turned into what was called the Great Depression, but the early 1920's must have been a nice time to be around.

MORRISON: The early 1920's were a good time for all that could come. We had two nice hotels here and people came from all over the United States. They came here for the summer and a lot of them would come and bring great big trunks filled with beautiful clothes and they'd wear them to the Lumina for the nighttimes and we had a wonderful beach.

INTERVIEWER: That's great. Do you remember any of the beach fires down here? I know we had some massive ones.

MORRISON: I do, I remember nearly all of them.

INTERVIEWER: Well, tell me about the ...

MORRISON: The Oceanic.

INTERVIEWER: ...the Oceanic. The old Hotel Tarrymore?

MORRISON: The Oceanic was burned about 1919 and we were sitting on our front porch with a group of people and we saw the flames begin to go up. The men there got buckets and went to the sound and made a bucket line from the sound to the Oceanic hotel to help put out the fire.

INTERVIEWER: Now what was the hotel that was at Station III?

MORRISON: The hotel at Station III.

INTERVIEWER: At Station III.

MORRISON: There right where the Blockade Runner is now.

INTERVIEWER: And the name of that was the?

MORRISON: The Sea Shore Hotel.

INTERVIEWER: The Sea Shore Hotel?

MORRISON: Right.

INTERVIEWER: Now the Oceanic Hotel was the hotel that is right near here at Station I?

MORRISON: At Station I.

INTERVIEWER: Thank you for straightening me out on those names. I wasn't quite clear on which was which.

MORRISON: Well, Station I was the first station put on Wrightsville Beach.

INTERVIEWER: Let's keep talking about the Sea Shore Hotel. Now there was another hotel built after the Sea Shore burned, wasn't there?

MORRISON: Yes, another hotel took the place of the Sea Shore.

INTERVIEWER: Now that one was the Ocean Terrace, wasn't it?

MORRISON: That was the Ocean Terrace.

INTERVIEWER: Now did it burn, too?

MORRISON: Yeah, I think it burned was destroyed and then, they built the Blockade Runner later on.

INTERVIEWER: Well, we're talking about the great fires of Wrightsville Beach. That's three hotel fires.

MORRISON: Yes, three hotels.

INTERVIEWER: Do you remember the one when the Seashore burned?

MORRISON: Well, when it burned, I was living in town at the time.

INTERVIEWER: I see.

MORRISON: It was during the winter.

INTERVIEWER: Oh, I see.

MORRISON: Yes, and we were not living here. Very few people were living here, but it started at the cottage across or near the hotel.

INTERVIEWER: How about the big fire at the northern end of Wrightsville beach?

MORRISON: Cottage was burned and it took a hundred cottages from the north-end of the beach. It burned that many.

INTERVIEWER: Do you remember when that was?

MORRISON: It was about 1937.

INTERVIEWER: Okay. Well, that was called the great fire that swept the northern end of the beach.

MORRISON: Yes, the northern end.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

MORRISON: It took the northern end of the beach about 1937.

INTERVIEWER: Well that was four major fires on the beach.

MORRISON: Yes, we had. Well, I didn't see that one. I was living in town at the time, but it was a terrible fire.

INTERVIEWER: Yes. Well, the Oceanic was the one that had the pretty round tower on it, wasn't it?

MORRISON: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: I've seen pictures of it.

MORRISON: It was a nice hotel and it had been there for years and it had been made over with so many improvements put on it when I was a little girl, just about 5 years old. My father liked to come down and eat fish like they cooked at the hotel.

INTERVIEWER: I see.

MORRISON: So, he would put us on the beach car after he closed his drug store and bring us down here and we'd have supper and then we'd go back on the beach car to Front and Princess Streets. There we'd get off and walk to our house in town.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, because you were on 2nd Street.

MORRISON: We didn't live too far, about six or seven blocks from the downtown area.

INTERVIEWER: What else do you recall down here? Do you recall anything in the way of storms and hurricanes back in those days?

MORRISON: I couldn't hear you.

INTERVIEWER: The storms and hurricanes, did you recall any of those in those days?

MORRISON: Well, we had hurricanes every year, but we'd moved to town before the hurricanes came here and we'd be living in town when the weather was very bad and we would take, a lot of times, the last trolley car into Wilmington that the Tidewater was running late at night. We would bring our things that we wanted to save and take us home to our house in Wilmington.

INTERVIEWER: Let me ask you about the ordinary things that you'd do. What did you do for

refrigeration and ice?

MORRISON: Well, we ordered a hundred pounds of ice every day that came down on the freight car in the morning and then the men working on the freight car would put it off right at our cottage and we would...

INTERVIEWER: A street car passed within fifty feet of where we are now?

MORRISON: Yes and they would put the ice off and then we'd send the man out to bring it in to our icebox and we had an icebox located on the porch. It wasn't inside of the house and it had a rubber tube that ran down from the ice chamber down under the house. We would have to get a hundred pounds everyday because by night, we would have used most of what we got in the morning and it melted in our iceboxes. They weren't refrigerators; they were iceboxes.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, Iceboxes? Okay, we go way back then. Tell me please where did you buy groceries?

MORRISON: I couldn't hear that.

INTERVIEWER: Where did you buy groceries?

MORRISON: Oh, we bought groceries in Wilmington. We bought them from the Wilmington Grocery Company.

INTERVIEWER: And brought them down on the streetcar?

MORRISON: Yes and brought them down on the streetcar.

INTERVIEWER: Well now tell me, where you went to grammar school? That was before the new high school was built, wasn't it? You went to the Union School first?

MORRISON: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Oh, I see.

MORRISON: And then, I went to Tileston.

INTERVIEWER: To Tileston?

MORRISON: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Okay.

MORRISON: I graduated from the Union School, went to Tileston, and then I went to Converse College.

INTERVIEWER: You didn't have a high school then did you or did you?

MORRISON: High school...

INTERVIEWER: Did you have a high school like New Hanover High School now?

MORRISON: No, I taught the first year the New Hanover High School was open.

INTERVIEWER: Oh, I see.

MORRISON: Yes, back in 1921. I taught there. I was among the first faculty that they had in the New Hanover High School.

INTERVIEWER: Well that was a beautiful school then and still is.

MORRISON: Oh it was a wonderful school.

INTERVIEWER: Mr. Boney was the one responsible for that pretty design on the school.

MORRISON: Yes, Mr. Boney was.

INTERVIEWER: How long did you teach at the high school?

MORRISON: I taught from 1921 until 1926.

INTERVIEWER: I see. Somewhere along the line came Dr. Morrison.

MORRISON: Oh yes. I married Dr. Morrison in 1923.

INTERVIEWER: Okay. You were still a school teacher?

MORRISON: What?

INTERVIEWER: You were still a school teacher then?

MORRISON: Yes, I was still teaching and I kept on until 1926.

INTERVIEWER: I see and what did you teach?

MORRISON: I taught general science.

INTERVIEWER: I see.

MORRISON: And that was before the atom was split.

INTERVIEWER: That was before automobiles almost.

MORRISON: Yes, we had very few automobiles.

INTERVIEWER: Do you remember your first automobile?

MORRISON: I remember my father's first automobile.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

MORRISON: Yes, but I didn't have an automobile. Yes, I did too. When I was teaching at the New Hanover High School I had one of those Fords that had pedals that you'd have to push to get the gears in

shape.

INTERVIEWER: Okay, good.

MORRISON: Did you ever see those?

INTERVIEWER: I know what you're talking about.

MORRISON: They had a pedal and the pedal would go into first gear and then it would come up and go in neutral and then it would go in, you could push it and push it with your foot and then it would go into the second gear and then push it and it would go into the third gear. That's the way you'd have to drive...

INTERVIEWER: Okay, we've gone back....

MORRISON: And that was a Ford.

INTERVIEWER: Yes. Well, there were Fords and Chevrolets and then there were the Hupmobile and the Buick. We had a few early names like Buick, Hupmobile, Fords, and Chevrolets.

MORRISON: One was a Chevrolet and then there was the one that came before that...

INTERVIEWER: A Studebaker?

MORRISON: I have forgotten the name of it though.

INTERVIEWER: Okay.

MORRISON: It was an old one that came before that.

INTERVIEWER: Let me ask you this about children.

MORRISON: About what?

INTERVIEWER: How many children did you have?

MORRISON: I had two sons.

INTERVIEWER: Okay one was B.R. Morrison Jr., Robert?

MORRISON: Yes, Robert was one.

INTERVIEWER: And who was the other one?

MORRISON: In 1930 or 1931, I've forgotten which, Joe Shepherd Morrison was my oldest son and he was born in 1926.

INTERVIEWER: I see. Well I didn't know. I've known Robert for a long time and of course his wife Pat worked with me for a number of years.

MORRISON: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Now, we've talked about the Shepard family a little. I'd like to see if you can tell me what kind of things you have been interested in doing in connection with Wilmington in the past. What did you like to do? Were you a gardener, somebody that was interested in sewing, or what were the things that you liked to do?

MORRISON: Well, I took part in the school work and also in my church work for the First Presbyterian Church. See, I'm the oldest and the longest time member of the First Presbyterian church.

INTERVIEWER: Well what a distinction.

MORRISON: What?

INTERVIEWER: What a fine distinction. That's great.

MORRISON: Is it all right?

INTERVIEWER: Oldest and longest. Yes, that's fine. I'm glad you told me that.

MORRISON: When I did church work, I was the president of the women of the church in 1956 and 1957 and I think they are the right dates. I'm just telling that from memory now.

INTERVIEWER: Well, you've been interested in your church.

MORRISON: And then I have been circle chairman and the president of the women of the church in 1935 and 1936.

INTERVIEWER: What do you remember when you were spending nine months of the year in Wilmington. Let's get to that. Did you and Dr. Morrison build a house on 2nd Street or did you buy it?

MORRISON: No. I bought an old house on 2nd Street that was built before the civil war and it was built about 1846 and you see the Civil War came in 1864 and 1865. So it was twenty years older than the Civil War and so I had the old house with a long end on it moved and the end taken off. Then, we had it moved over on a lot that my father owned next to him on 2nd Street and ...

INTERVIEWER: I see.

MORRISON: We never had air-conditioning put in it because I used the window air-conditioner.

INTERVIEWER: You were at the beach during the summers?

MORRISON: Yes, I moved to the beach in the summer. I had three or four different steam furnaces in it to keep me warm with radiators?

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

MORRISON: And that was a fine way to heat and I had a great many things there that people were interested in that were from the colonial days.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, you saw Wilmington then through quite an early period of time.

MORRISON: There is another thing.

INTERVIEWER: Do you remember anything about World War I?

MORRISON: The house was old and it was built right in the corner of a great big tall concrete wall and so we had it moved from that concrete wall about ten feet back, so I'd have a pretty front yard.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

MORRISON: And then we had it moved over on to my father's lot eight feet and I had a nice side lot over there.

INTERVIEWER: I wonder if you remember what Armistice Day, 1918 was like? When the armistice was signed.

MORRISON: Armistice Day, 1918?

INTERVIEWER: Yes. Were you in Wilmington then?

MORRISON: No, I wasn't in Wilmington. I think I was in Spartanburg at that time.

INTERVIEWER: Okay, that's when you were probably in school.

MORRISON: They had a big camp for the soldiers in Spartanburg and that's where we had a lot of celebration.

INTERVIEWER: Let's talk about something else a minute now. About 1927 or 1928, the country began to go to pieces and we began what was called the Great Depression. It was that period of time until about 1935 or 1936. People nowadays have so many things and they have so much entertainment that they can do that they don't seem to have any trouble getting a job and wouldn't understand about the depression, but you and I would.

MORRISON: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: I would understand the way it was in Rocky Mount where I was from, but what do you remember about Wilmington at all during the depression days?

MORRISON: Well, we didn't suffer for the lack of food or anything. We had plenty of food, we were warm, and our houses were comfortable. I remember going to Rocky Mount to the June Germans during the early period.

INTERVIEWER: Do you?

MORRISON: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: That was in one of the old tobacco warehouses.

MORRISON: Yes, in the old tobacco warehouses. We'd have a good time there and I was in college with one of the girls that went to the dances. I had a real good time there and then went home, while we would go to different restaurants and the different clubs in 1928. Dr. Morrison and I were members of the Cape Fear Country Club and they had dances and a good time there.

INTERVIEWER: Well, my recollection of you is more clearly in seeing you and Dr. Morrison dancing at different places. I know one night at the Blockade Runner we saw you down there.

MORRISON: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Another night at the Cape Fear Country Club.

MORRISON: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: It looked like to me that you two knew what you were doing.

MORRISON: Well, we had a real good time. Both of us liked to dance and we kept on dancing until he was 92 years old and I was about 90 years old. Then, we had his birthday party at the Surf Club at Wrightsville Beach and at that time, both of us danced.

INTERVIEWER: That is remarkable. Most of us can't even get to that age. I gather that you have enjoyed doing is social events.

MORRISON: Well, that's one thing we enjoyed doing together.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

MORRISON: And we like that.

INTERVIEWER: Well tell me...

MORRISON: He didn't play golf a lot because we were not very athletic, but we had other enjoyments.

INTERVIEWER: Did you do any traveling on the train out of the station in Wilmington?

MORRISON: Well yes, we went to New York nearly every winter and we saw the plays that were coming out and then we'd take a cruise nearly every year to the South Seas.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, that was in the days when Wilmington had an overnight sleeper every night heading to New York.

MORRISON: Yes, going to New York, we would take the sleeper from Wilmington and change when we'd get to Washington and then take the train on to New York. One year, we stopped and saw the Army and Navy game. They were having it right there in Philadelphia at that time.

INTERVIEWER: Who were some of the people that you remember back in those days that were your friends that you enjoyed their company? I know you've outlived most all of them.

MORRISON: Well, there were a number of people in Wilmington that we enjoyed being with. Dan and Frances Penton were a nice couple and Ann and Frederick Burr were another nice couple. They were our good neighbors where we lived in the city. I'm trying to think of his name.

INTERVIEWER: Well, we've pretty well covered...

MORRISON: I said Dan and Frances Penton, and then...

INTERVIEWER: And everybody you've named so far I knew about.

MORRISON: And Edith and Neveland Brand.

INTERVIEWER: Neveland, right.

MORRISON: Yes, Neveland was such a nice man and we enjoyed being together a lot and then Dr. and Mrs. Broughton.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, okay. What are your remembrances of your husband?

MORRISON: Do what? I couldn't hear you?

INTERVIEWER: What do you remember about Dr. Morrison particularly, that you would like to talk about. Apparently he made a good husband.

MORRISON: Well, he made a good husband and he was good to his mother. She lived with us for nearly twenty years and he was good to his children. When they were grown, he saw that they were doing the right thing, had the right things, and they had homes with us for a while.

INTERVIEWER: Let's come up now a little. Let me ask you if you have any recollections about the years that you were teaching at the high school? Who was principal back then?

MORRISON: Yes, I taught a good many people and one person I especially thought was a fine student was Dr. Robert Fales.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

MORRISON: Yes, he was one of my students and also, let me see if I can remember now.

INTERVIEWER: You are doing very well.

MORRISON: The minister that was here so long. His family lived here.

INTERVIEWER: Which church was he with?

MORRISON: He was with the Presbyterian church on Market Street.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, the Presbyterian church.

MORRISON: Hall was his name.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

MORRISON: Frank Hall.

INTERVIEWER: Frank Hall at Pearsall Memorial Church.

MORRISON: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Well, Frank Hall was one of the finest people in my opinion that Wilmington has ever

seen.

MORRISON: Well, I taught him in high school and I had some of the names that I put down on those lists there.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

MORRISON: But my memory has gone slightly.

INTERVIEWER: Well, your memory is a lot better than mine. By all means, I have trouble, but I feel pretty good about it because the people around me are having the same kind of problems that we are having. Would you have ever thought that Wrightsville Beach...

MORRISON: Couldn't hear that.

INTERVIEWER: Would you have ever thought that Wrightsville Beach would have these big condominium buildings, not be able to get a place to park on the whole beach, and everything would be filled up?

MORRISON: The time that we were still in our one lot over here, we practically had to give it away to make people buy it because nobody was coming to Wrightsville Beach and that was in the 1940's. 1940 was a bad time for here, but it began to grow and now it has gotten so big, I hardly know where I am.

INTERVIEWER: Do you have any wartime memories of World War II? You know we had tankers being blown up off of Wrightsville Beach and things like that. Do you have any stories about that era?

MORRISON: Well, the only thing, I was with the group of people that had to go down in the Post Office and watch the airplanes that came over?

INTERVIEWER: Airplane spotters?

MORRISON: Yes and spot the ones that were coming over and put them down on the map.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

MORRISON: So, I went down and did that kind of work while the World War II was going on because I had a family and I couldn't do work that took an awful lot of my time because I had to look after the house and see that everything was in order.

INTERVIEWER: Well what kind of hospital facilities did we have back when you were a girl, from 8 to 12 years and up into high school?

MORRISON: Well, we had a good hospital here and I had graduated from Converse College in 1919 and taught school a year. I wanted to go and get a little bit more education, so I matriculated in the University of New York and I went there, but while I was there, I developed appendicitis and I couldn't finish and I couldn't get any credits from there. My father brought me home and I was operated on by Dr. Hooper and Dr. Bridger, who was an intern at James Walker Hospital at the time and he was good. After I had been operated on two weeks, I said to Dr. Hooper, "I want to go home and my family is at Wrightsville Beach. He said, "The only way I will let you go home now is for your father to go by the Tidewater Power Company and have them send a freight car over to the hospital and take you on a stretcher to Wrightsville Beach." That was after two weeks. Well, I did that, but Dr. Hooper said, "You will have to have Dr.

Bridger to take you down to the beach on the car and have a nurse along with you." So, that's what I did and that was in 1921.

INTERVIEWER: That's a remarkable way to come to Wrightsville Beach.

MORRISON: Now, I want to tell the rest of that. I am going to Dr. Bridger's grandson for my doctor now and he is practicing in Wilmington.

INTERVIEWER: Well, he's fortunate to have you for a patient. He certainly is.

MORRISON: Isn't that something?

INTERVIEWER: That's remarkable, a trip to Wrightsville beach with your own doctor and your own nurse on the freight car.

MORRISON: They let me come home.

INTERVIEWER: What other instances do you remember?

MORRISON: I stayed home maybe, for about a couple of days and then I got up and started again and I've been going ever since.

INTERVIEWER: Still are.

MORRISON: And then later on, the next year, I wanted to go to school again, so I went to the University of Northern California at Berkeley and there I got six or eight credits on my Master's Degree.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

MORRISON: I had a great time there and I didn't get sick.

INTERVIEWER: Okay. After 1926 then, you didn't do anymore teaching.

MORRISON: And I was teaching then.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

MORRISON: I was teaching at the New Hanover High School.

INTERVIEWER: I see, but after you stopped teaching at New Hanover High School, you never taught anymore?

MORRISON: Well, after I stopped teaching, I was married and I had to be a housewife. I had two sons and a family.

INTERVIEWER: I see. I think that you have been quite helpful in filling me in having lived down here at Wrightsville Beach that I didn't know and didn't remember about such as the hotel fires and how people lived down here. Here we are this morning and you're still in the same house seventy-five years later.

MORRISON: Yes and I remember this....

INTERVIEWER: And you've got a memory a lot better than I have.

MORRISON: Well.

INTERVIEWER: I find that very remarkable.

MORRISON: Yes, they passed a law at Wrightsville Beach that the men had to wear a shirt on the beach. The women were all dressed in a longer bathing suits and even some of them had sleeves and necks up to their chin. They also had men going up and down the beach to see if they were obeying the law.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

MORRISON: I thought that was an interesting thing. I don't know how many were arrested for not having on shirts.

INTERVIEWER: What do you think about the bathing suits that the women are wearing on the beach now?

MORRISON: I don't know why they call them bathing suits. You give me a name for them.

INTERVIEWER: There's not much to them, is there. Mrs. Morrison, I appreciate your letting me come down this morning. I've known you off and on for a long time. I've known the family and it's been a real pleasure to visit with you and I do thank you for your time. What you have said here, if the mechanics work all right, will end up in the North Carolina records room of the New Hanover County Library along with a lot of people you know and as years go on, your voice will still be there saying things about Wrightsville Beach. I'm going to close out now and see if we can end this, but it's been a nice visit down here and thank you so much.

There needs to be added a postscript to this interview. Mrs. Morrison wanted me to say that among her students that she overlooked was Hazard Reeves. Hazard Reeves lived in Wilmington and also lived at Harbor Island and he is the inventor of magnetic tape. The very tape that has made these interviews possible, has made video tape possible. Reeves has had an outstanding career as an electronic scientist. He is a Wilmington boy from Harbor Island that certainly made his mark on the world.

Again, I apologize for the background noise that is created by the air-conditioners, but it's absolutely necessary to leave those on and no way to eliminate the noise, so I hope it has not detracted very much from the interview.