

Interview Subject: Rhea Whitthoft and Pat Brannan
Interviewer: Kristin Meewen and Blake Pavri
Project: Dock Stories
Transcriber: Blake Pavri
Primary Investigator: Jennifer Sweeney-Tookes
Others Present: N/A
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Place of Interview: McIntosh County, GA

00:00

KM: I'm starting this one... and this one. Okay, so this is an interview with Mrs. Bria.

RW: Rhea

KM: Rhea?

RW: Rhea

KM: Rhea, sorry, and Pat Brannan. And it is March 1, 2025 and the interview is being conducted in McIntosh County, Georgia, about the dock called Meridian shrimp company. And it is part of the research project and interview collection titled dock stories. And the interviewers are Kristen Meewen

BP: And Blake Pavri

KM: Okay. So first big question, tell us about your connections to the dock.

RW: My parents were the owners of the dock and ran the dock. It was my father's father's dock before that. So my grandfather- and I was the third and the baby of three children that lived next door to the dock. Our house was built right next door. And other than that, that's, that's how I was involved with it was my family business, you know, my entire life, until they sold it to the state.

KM: What about you?

BP: Your turn.

KM: I know your siblings but!

PB: I fished with my father as soon as I could, and it would have to be weekends and school breaks, whenever you got time off from school and then during the week, when you get out of school, could always go put ice for Mama, or whatever she wanted done, build boxes for the shrimp and make a little bit of money. And then when all the boats would start coming in, they would head shrimp, and we could head shrimp, or either work at the dock packing the shrimp. And I just fell in love with the ocean and been there ever since.

KM: And you said your family house was right next to the dock. Did your family build the house as well as the dock?

RW: Yes.

KM: Yeah, okay. So you've basically been in it since you were born, huh?

RW: Right,

KM: Yeah.

RW: Well, I think we moved- I was probably like six or eight or four? I don't know I was young. It was, What year do you think? Probably 72 maybe something like that. Build a house, early 70s.

BP: Did the dock have any other name besides Meridian shrimp company?

RW: Not that I know of

PB: [I mean]

RW: It might have been named something when granddaddy had it, but I don't know.

PB: I think it was just, just Meridian shrimp dock.

RB: Was it?

KM: You told us a little bit about what you did on the dock, but what was your primary role?

RW: I didn't have any kind of primary role. I just enjoyed watching everything go on. I was a child for the most part. The only thing I remember really helping with at the dock was when we were doing oysters at one time. I don't know how or why or we were doing oysters, we would try and do something. Daddy would try and have money coming in all year round. When the shrimp- we weren't catching shrimp, he was conching or he was what else did he do?

PB: He started the conching.

RW: He started the conching business

PB: First with the state boat. Or the state people came and went with him and checked it all out. And then they started selling everybody licenses, and everybody got into it.

03:54

RW: Yeah, but we were selling oysters, and we had little tickets made up, and they were kept in the cooler. And if somebody showed up [wanting] oysters, I could go over and write them a ticket and take their money and come back to the house and put it in the bag. Mom, daddy weren't home or whatever. But I didn't participate in a lot of the you know, I did head a little bit when it was heading day, when all the headers would show up, they were catching so many shrimp, they were they were heads on, and they bring them to the dock and just dump them all out. And all the people from the neighborhood, they'd collect them, all coming. Everybody head shrimp. And I could head a bucket of shrimp in an hour, compared to all the people that knew how to head and they- they'd fill up a bucket in five minutes or three minutes. It was crazy. But anyway, I was, I was still just a child, and I was gone in the Navy. Actually just got out of the Navy when mom and daddy had sold to the state, and we're moving, we're going to retire.

KM: Okay, so you didn't work in the dock office or anything like that?RW: Not at all.

KM: And did you captain a boat?

PB: I wanted to take his, but he told me to go get another boat. So I found a man that would let me run his boat, and I fished it for a couple of months. And my daddy seen where I actually beat him for the week with less nets, less power. And he said, okay, now you're ready. And I got on his boat and was on it until he sold it to me. And many, many years later, I sold it and got another one.

BP: Did y'all have a favorite part, or a favorite job, working at the dock?

RW: My favorite part was we always had bait to go fishing, because I like to fish in the backyard, and I always had plenty of bait to go fishing. But...

PB: I don't know of any favorite part.

KM: You had to love something! You fell in love with it!

PB: I loved it all. I loved it all.

RW: There was always something going on. There's always people down there. If you're bored, you could walk from the house down the dock and see who's sewing on some nets or getting fuel or moving their boat, or, you know, you jump in a little paddle boat and go get the crabs off all the [pilings] or something. It's just always something fun to do. You know, the dock had always had activity going on.

KM: Did you all sell the seafood directly from the dock, or did you have a little retail store, or?

RW: No

PB: No direct

RW: Wholesale, directly.

KM: Oh nice

RW: Big trucks come in. They- we iced them. They blow ice on, they get them off the boat. They pull them through. They blow ice on the boat, and they be in the baskets. They pull them through, and they put them in the VAT. VAT would all, wash them all, clean, and pull them all up, dump them in the VAT, weigh them 100 pounds at the time, put ice in layers, put them in a box, 100 pounds a box, tag it, put it on the floor. Then the big truck said, call. Said, well, I need, you know, 100 boxes, 100 boxes, 100 pound shrimp, whatever. And they'd come and pick it up, haul it, take it wherever it needed to go.

KM: Okay,

PB: They sold a lot to WM Smith as his son has got Smith and Sons,

KM: Okay,

PB: And they were a big buyer. And then one from Savannah was Russo

RW: Charles, Charlie

PB: [All] semis would come and we'd load all the shrimp that got unloaded and packed on the semi. And then mama or Kim, my other sister, would do all the payroll for all the boats and crew. And it was used to be a fuel-

RW: Take out for the packing, take out for the-

PB: Ice, fuel packing-

RW: Ice, fuel, packing, and then get paid for their shrimp. And then they divide it by the captain and the two strikers, or three, or however many strikers they had

PB: Crew would usually make 10%

KM: Okay.

[07:57](#)

KM: Do you think your family dock was operating in a similar fashion to other docks in Georgia?

RW: I'd say better. But yes, my mom had it going on.

KM: Yeah?

RW: Daddy, too. But she was all about making it work. And it worked.

PB: It was one of the nicest docks when they built all the new part, all concrete block and it was

RW: Fiberglass head and tables, little big water trough around the top and big VAT. It was all nice rollers roll the shrimp down to the other end. It was all good business.

KM: Was there anything unique about the dock that you guys had that no one else had going on?

PB: It was the closest dock to the fishing grounds and

RW: Straight out.

PB: That's why the state wanted it, because it was the closest to Sapelo Island.

RW: They're using it for timber now, aren't they, or they were.

PB: They cut all the timber-

RW: Cut all the timber off Sapelo now it's just sitting there as a-

PB: Those state people still live in the house, and they have all the state boats in the backyard where we- swimming pool and dock for speed boats and stuff.

RW: I think they covered the pool up.

PB: I hadn't been there in so many years.

RW: I go fishing there every now and then. I think last time we went, there was no pool. And that was put there in 79

PB: I remember the fuel truck would have to come pretty regular, because all the boats would

burn a lot of fuel. And she would go in the backyard and [sheep] had fish, and she could catch a fish when nobody else could, and she would sell them to the fuel man. He always wanted to buy the fish,

RW: Red Fish and cheap head.

PB: Yeah.

KM: A little side hustle huh

RW: Yeah

KM: So I know a little bit of the backstory, but can you tell me what your family dock has been through over the years? Like I know we're talking about, the state came and took it because it was closest.

RW: The only thing that I remember that was memorable was when daddy was 50, he had his first heart attack, and a lot of the guys came to help do the dock and run the boat and whatever, and keep things going. But as far as

PB: Whenever the hurricanes would come, mama would take us three kids and all the animals we'd been go west, and we'd have raccoons and dogs and cats and everything, and daddy would always stay with the house and the boats, and there was always dock work, because boats would crash the dock or something, and me and Kim would help daddy build a dock back.

KM: Did that happen often? People crashing into the dock?

PB: Well, not really. Most of it was just age and

RW: Wear and tear,

PB: Wear and tear,

RW: Bumping into it, just steady, you know, they, when they put the rope around, then they throw it in reverse to swing the stern and, you know, the bow line, put the bow line on, then they throw it reverse, and it pulls on the dock real hard when they're trying to get the stern in or whatever, and it pulls on it and makes it whole rickety, you know? And then Moore's just rocks-

PB: There was always dock work

RW: Yep, dock and boat are nothing but pure maintenance all the time.

BP: What about the people y'all worked with, or the people that worked on the dock? How were they?

[11:46](#)

PB: Still know 'em. One guy, my mom and dad's favorite man, Jake Cooper. He's still alive, and he worked for him every day, always, and then the whole neighborhood would head shrimp, and everybody knew the dock, and it was just a place to go make money as a young person.

RW: They'd call around and go get the pickup truck, and Jake would go get a whole truckload of people that wanted to head, make some money, didn't have a car, 16, 17, however old they were, and bring them all to the dock. And everybody started heading. Easy money, I guess, but yeah, Jake, still he's working for our nephew, little Ricky, who's got a steel hole boat that-

PB: He's just his yard man, though

RW: He's just his yard man, though he's still working, he's still going, Yeah. He was tickled to death to know that little Ricky was moving across the road from him.

KM: And what year did you say the state bought the land?

RW: What year... 88... I had just gotten out of the service or getting rid so probably 92, 93

KM: 92, 93

RW: I'm guessing. I think, was it 800,000?

PB: I don't know,

RW: House, land, dock, everything, and that was after negotiations of saying, you know, this is

our life, this is our livelihood, this is our income. You know, we're not ready to retire. That's not enough, you know what? Well, yes, it is. See you later.

PB: They basically retired.

RW: They retired them.

PB: Basically told 'em you'll take this or we'll condemn your business. So

KM: Wow,

PB: We're going to make you sell to us

KM: For the price we say,

PB: Yeah,

PB: I knew I was going to be in shrimping and everything, and had already thought of stuff because the new dock build on top have a little restaurant, bar. It was the closest spot to Sapelo with all the tourists always coming by, and could always sell shrimp. And

RW: It's a valuable restaurant,

PB: Yeah, just, but they wanted it badly,

KM: Yeah. And you said, now they're doing lumber out there and

RW: Not doing anything. [inaudible, talking over each other] They took all the lumber off of Sapelo. They were using it to get the timber off Sapelo, right? And then I guess they got it all that they needed or wanted. And now it's just, I don't know what they're doing with it. Just nothing that I know.

PB: They just use the land and barges and stuff that hauled the timber. Now they always back and forth with trucks and cars-

RW: Easy access

PB: And anything that needs to go to the island,

RW: Because it's right next to the Sapelo Island Visitor Center. As soon as you pass the visitor center, it's right there

KM: Gotcha

RW: The little bridge going over to the visitor center, but it's the very end of Marie and Dock road. Have y'all? Y'all been there?

BP: I've been there. I went there yesterday, actually, yeah.

KM: I did not,

BP: Yeah,

KM: Yeah. I went to Valona. We split up!

RW: So you saw the brick house.

BP: Yeah

RW: We grew up in the brick house,

BP: Okay

RW: And then the dock was over there where it's- there's nothing now, I guess they bulldoze it now there's nothing. But the dock was over there where there was nothing, and then the house was where we could walk back and forth. We even had two phone lines. One was a house phone, one was a dock phone, so we knew, you know which one was ringing, and we could call it, call the dock. Dock, call the house.

PB: I bet you remember the number

RW: 6196 and the dock was 6100 and I've been at the phone company for 32 years this month.

KM: Wow,

RW: That's why I remember those numbers.

[15:36](#)

KM: Can you tell me your- a funny memory that happened on the dock? Like, your favorite funny?

RW: Oh, I had cats. There was a dump up the road. There was a artesian well, a little well up the road ran forever, but there was a dump. They put a dumpster there, and there was always cats there. Of course, I was a little cat- little kid loved cats. Go up the road. I'd feed them shrimp, whatever I could get a hold of. And I was feeding the cats. Well, I'd try to get them to come home, come home. Well, I brought a mama cat home. It had kittens. Of course, Tim, Tom and Sally were the kittens. They wound up being docked cats. They could stay. Why not be at the dock? Well, the ice crusher that we took big blocks of ice to blow onto the shrimp boats, they had these big claw things. Well, Jake, the cat was laying in it, and Jake cranked it up, and the cat was laying in it, and it- he come flying out. I didn't see him for three weeks. Didn't know what happened. Didn't know if he was okay or whatever. He came out about a month later with a big gash out of one leg, no more, no more little balls and like a half a tail. But he made it. [all laughing]

KM: He probably never laid in there again!

RW: Nope. I bet not.

PB: Mine was whenever summer was around, and mama was there, and we had all the coons and we'd be eating watermelon, she'd bust us a watermelon open and cut it up. We're all sitting on the dock, and the coons is eating watermelons with us. I've got the picture on my refrigerator of mama and coons. I had [a bunch of]-

RW: Generations of coons that had babies that come back and bring their babies and come back and just, yeah. I mean, we never, we kept them when they were young and fed them and took care of them if they needed it, and mama left them whatever happened. But we raised several generations of them, and then, you know, they get to an age. You just gotta let them go. You can't. You don't, you don't mess with their lifestyle. You just let them do what they do. And we lived on a river, so we saw them coming and going pretty regular. And then there was a shrimp boat that was- they pushed it up in the marsh, and it was just enough where the bunk was above the water line, and the whole- mama had babies in there. We could swim across the creek and go swimming into the pump house of the boat and see the babies in the [bunk]. That was cool. What else? I mean, there's always minks and otters and just, just stuff always going on.

PB: They put the swimming pool in the back, and mama would always have, like, swimming pool parties and cook out and grill and a bunch of people, and they were just always fun.

BP: What about the best memory you all have? It doesn't have to be a funny memory, but

PB: Mine was always coming in from a long trip of a week or so, and mama just loving on daddy and...

RW: Don't make me cry!

[18:53](#)

KM: So y'all family have been in it a long time. So what changes have you seen in the industry, other than the state come in and takin'?

PB: There's not many boats anymore. It's a dying industry. Has been getting less and less boats, less and less docks, the railways, where we pull the boats out and work on the bottom and stuff. They're all disappearing. They're- the railway spots and stuff is now condos and just places that they put floating docks and yachts and sailboats. And it's just changed so much, and there's very few spots to even go. It's just changed a lot. The only thing that hadn't changed is the prices. Price hadn't went up with everything else. Everything has gone up over the years, but the price has shrimp,

KM: So fuel, ice, all of that has gone up.

PB: Yeah, yeah. When I first started fishing, fuel was like seventy cent, and now it went up to as much as \$5 and then get \$3 for the shrimp, and you can't make it work. I've stopped fishing several times and worked for a dredging company and different meals, whatever I could do, because just couldn't make it shrimping, and they pretty much took the conching away because they wanted to pull shooters like we do for the turtles and the shrimp nets. Well, you can't catch conch with a grid in the net to shoot a turtle out, because it would clog up with the conch and then you lose all of them. And just made it too tough. Everybody quit conching, and the crab plants closed down. And we used to catch a bunch of crab when we was conching and could sell them, but there's no more crab plants.

RW: Do you still catch crab?

PB: Yeah, only certain times of the year. But

RW: I just know from what I've seen from when I was a child and what was caught as the bycatch and I mean, it was so much stuff. It was unbelievable, the different, I mean, the 1000s of different varieties of things that was caught with the shrimp, and now you catch like those them-

PB: [Now it's like clean shrimp]-

RW: But shrimp, it's like everything else has gone away. I mean, and when I go to the creek where I grew up, at the dock, there used to be terrapins popping up everywhere. I mean, every- you would see them every few seconds. But now there's no terrapins, there's no catfish. There's no other like little yellow tails, croakers, toad fish, none of the fish that used to be in that creek. You don't catch any of them anymore. I don't know where everything went or what has happened to about everything, but there's just nothing like it used to be. It's not as active, not- it's just,

PB: It's pollution.

RW: Yeah, I guess it's just nothing like it used to be.

KM: I was going to ask about the- has there been changes in the water or the weather?

22:21

PB: The only changes like, I mean, the weather's been getting worse and worse and worse because of the global warming and all but that didn't affect the animals as much as pollution, just trash, plastic, runoff. Golf courses out here pretty much killed this so much fertilizer and stuff, and then it rains, or they just cut sprinklers on and it's got to run off to the marsh area. And it just killed

RW: Thank God for the state of Georgia, DNR for helping with that

PB: Yeah, to enforce the laws and stuff.

RW: Some of it.

PB: I mean, they try

RW: A lot of it. They try.

PB: There's so much that happens that

RW: They can't control,

PB: Can't control and or don't have the manpower. It's just... and when I quit fishing and work the mills, I had no idea- I worked Jesup, Brunswick, Hercules, worked Ferndina, and Brunswick was the cleanest mill that I worked in. The worst was at Jesup. For two weeks, all my job was to do was to wash this black liquor out of these tall tanks that they got to hold it, and it eat my boots, brand new boots up. And I said, Where's all this going? He said, it goes down to retention ponds. Well, they've got them, one here, one here, one here, and they're all staggered. [Well] river runs right by it. And they got this one with a fountain going in it, nice and clean looking. You go down to this one, the jungles all grow- grown up around it, and it's black liquor and

chemicals and just running right over in the river, and then that comes down. And I think that's what wiped out all the catfish. But don't know,

RW: No tellin'.

PB: Mills are terrible.

KM: Was it a saw mill or?

PB: No, it's paper mills

KM: Paper mill, okay

PB: And just lot of chemicals. And when they get ready to work on the stuff to do all the repairs for the year. They just let it all out and wash it down, and they just the overflow goes in the river. And you could see the river, you could go to where it was from the retention ponds, east was black, black as that screen. Or just black, and then you could see the water above. It was nice and clear and brown, kind of fresh looking. And of course, that's where they do all their testing is above where the chemicals are going in.

BP: Did the dock have any financial struggles?

RW: Probably, but not that I would have known of. I know when mom and daddy retired, which is when I was old enough to know what was going on, and they had loaned several people, strikers and captains. The dock had loaned them money because of hard times, and there's no shrimp. And you know, this happened, that happened, need a little money here. Need a little money there. So we had a mom and daddy had a running tablet of so and so owed \$1,000 so and so owes \$3,000 in this and when they retired, there was still a dozen of them that still owed because they hadn't caught up. They just never got paid out. But that's the way it goes. But they were always willing to help because, you know, that's what happens going from trying to live

PB: It's a seasonal thing

RW: Very seasonal

PB: And you know, you can fall, trip, stumble, fall and get behind real quick.

RW: No health insurance, no retirement,

PB: No nothing

RW: No help whatsoever. This is what you get. And you- it's a hard living. You can do it if you, you know, save up, do it right. And you know,

KM: There's a real sense of community in that, too.

RW: Oh, yeah,

KM: Yeah,

RW: Yeah. Been how many generations of families have been doing it? But with all the foreign shrimp coming in and easy, cheap shrimp that aren't you know, from here and that just makes our shrimp-

PB: They're trying to pass a law here. They got it in Texas, Alabama, Louisiana, about the farm raised shrimp and all this,

KM: I think I've heard about this

PB: Yeah,

KM: Where they have to, specify,

PB: Yeah,

KM: Where they're getting it from.

PB: Well, I thought that was a good thing, and it was going and I still do, but I do a lot of TikTok'ing, and I've seen where people are saying, don't eat shrimp. Don't eat shrimp because they heard about the study that they did. They go to 100 restaurants and check them all out, and it was terrible what was in the shrimp and imports and all the different chemicals, and it's just

terrible. And- but them saying that hurts us as far as fresh shrimp, and I put no chemicals, I make short trips my shrimp go in ice water, and that's it. And

KM: Do you have an ice boat? Not a freezer boat?

PB: Ice boat?

KM: Gotcha.

PB: Yes, it's changing and changing.

[28:21](#)

KM: So when you think about the future of commercial fishing in Georgia, what do you think the docks that are still around today need to be successful?

RW: I'd say a good backing from the government, good marketing. Is it- I think it is treated like an agricultural type thing, like the farmers, when a storm gets froze out, or whatever it happens that they get some help, because it's a seasonal thing, and then, you know, like the freeze of the snow we just had, they were all worried to death that we weren't gonna have any shrimp. But thank God, I think the shrimp didn't freeze. So they just need help, the few that are left, that are doing it, that are surviving, you know, if they want fresh caught, wild Georgia shrimp, gotta help them. Don't buy those old foreign shrimp from Timbuktu or wherever they're coming from.

China, pond raised

PB: Indonesia.

KM: Yeah,

RW: Doo-doo eating shrimp. We need good shrimp.

KM: Yeah,

RW: Come from our Georgia coast.

KM: Do you think- did you think of anything that you think they need to be successful that she didn't already touch on?

PB: Well, it- the places like the railways, like if you can't, if you can't haul your boat out, it'll get bad. And then the docks, because it's gotten so bad, they're all selling out to people just building condos and restaurants and. And there's nowhere for boats to even tie up. They just closed one in Darien, and right by Boones. Was Thompsons, and those boats that are there have to go somewhere, and there's nowhere for 'em to go.

KM: Wow

PB They just don't know what to do,

RW: Yeah.

BP: What about the future of the commercial fishing industry in general? Do y'all have any recommendations to how to make that better?

RW: I'd say just the- to market our shrimp and to help the shrimpers to keep providing people with good shrimp, to let everybody to know that you know, this is where they come from. This is supporting your local shrimpers that this is the state of Georgia, you know, other than that, they're going to wind up, you know, selling out for a condo or, you know, because they can't, they're not making any money. Everybody's just, you know-

PB: And the imports, the imports is just killing it. They don't have anything in it. They raise them in a pond. Have chicken coops and hog pens above it, so all their stuff goes down, and of course, the shrimp will feed on it. And

RW: How can they taste good?

PB: They don't

RW: Can you imagine poop shrimp?

PB: They've made people sick, and that's why on the Tiktok, people's like, oh, don't eat shrimp.

Don't eat shrimp. It's because of what's coming into this country from other countries that's not safe to eat. It's the way they grow them. It's...

32:11

RW: Food and Drug Administration should put a lockdown on all the imports and how they're pond raising shrimp, and what they're feeding them to raise the pond, raise shrimp and to just, I don't know. I don't know what the answer is, but

PB: Been looking for a long-

RW: Slowly but surely. It's a dying lifestyle

PB: And-

RW: Living

PB: Over the years just like me. I'm 57 and all the people that I grew up with, a lot of them's died out and crew, crew is a hard thing now, because there's no young people that want to get in it, because it's seasonal, it's short time,

RW: It's too hard! And they're lazy

KM: It's hard work

RW: Heck, yeah. Can't get somebody to get on their back and get down and do all what they do.

PB: And it's really changing. I remember you used to go to the bars when we was young, and if you wasn't careful, they say hey what boat you own, and they'd be buying you drinks, free drinks so and they take your job, they'd show up that morning when you didn't. [laughing]

KM: Oh man! That's savage.

RW; Now you can't pay somebody enough to go on the boat

KM: So no younger generations come in?

PB: Nope.

KM: Do y'all have children in the industry or?

PB: I told my son... he wanted to, and he's been fishing with me, but I sent him to the Coast Guard, and he's happy with that. The only time he wasn't happy with it was when Trump, he's got his place down there in Miami. He was on the cutter going back and forth, back and forth. And then something happened, where state- I mean, the military people wasn't getting paid for a little while, and he [fussed at] me. He said, you told me I'd always get paid! [laughing]

RW: I'm sure it didn't last but a second. He got paid

PB: Couple of months.

RW: Was it?

PB: Yeah, a couple of months.

RW: But they fed him, they clothed him, they housed him. What he need money for anyway? If you're in the Coast Guard, I mean, they're taking care of you,

PB: Yeah. And they finally paid out, and

RW: They've got back pay, I'm sure.

KM: Well, this is the part where I don't have any more questions to ask you. So if there's any stories or anything that you want to talk about that we didn't even think to ask you, because we're new at this,

RW: I'm new at this too. I've never done it, and like I said, I was the youngest, and, you know, it wasn't long. I was there what, not long enough to even realize what all was going on, but I enjoyed living by the dock and on the creek, and, you know

PB: We used to always play and ski and hydro slide in the creek, and was just always and, they stuck me with Pat Pat the river rat. [laughing]

RW: You know, the ferry from Sapelo was right next door, coming out of our creek, and he'd

have a little boat, and he could pull me with like a 9.9 or something behind that little boat, and then he'd take the boat and go over the big old waves from the ferry that was coming,

PB: And all the kids- we just got off the school bus, and all the kids that was on the school bus going to the island, they would see us and think it was the greatest.

RW: Yeah. We were like, the only two or three little white kids of the whole bus, from all the kids from Sapelo, which they were all black, but all Meridian was mostly black. We were like, the only white people-

PB: Yeah,

RW: In Meridian growing up. But we knew everybody, and we were friends with everybody. It was all, it was all good. We still know everybody. It was a whole different ball game.

PB: I don't know what to say.

KM: All right. Well, on that note, I'll go ahead and stop the recordings. Thank you so much for talking to us! I hope we did okay

[36:40](#)

Ends interview