

P: So you moved to Branford in 1916.

F: Yes, ma'am. Moved to Branford in 1916.

P: Why did you move to Branford? What made you pick Branford?

F: I bought a blacksmith shop out here and moved here, went in business for myself.

P: How did you learn to be a blacksmith? Did someone teach you or....

F: We had a blacksmith, country blacksmith's shop over down the water mill place. My father was a blacksmith ahead of me and I was raised up in the shop.

P: So you knew it already. You knew how to do it all and.... What kind of business did you do? I mean, what kinds of things did you do?

F: We worked on wagons and buggies, shoed horses, and plows, log carts, whatever we come to have.

P: Uh huh. Did you see a lot of people coming through? People come through Branford on the way going to other places or was it mainly just....

F: Not too many at that time.

P: So just mainly you saw the community here and people growing up here.

F: Not very many people, wasn't very thickly settled here at that time, but most people did a lot of farming around in the country here that wasn't cattle business or timber business, something like that. There was a lot of turpentine going on at that time. The Howells had a turpentine still near to us about a couple or three miles from us that they done a lot of turpentine and those large tracts of land over there which the St. Regis paper company now owns.

?: The Howells over that lived near had _____ They owned a lot of land over there didn't they, in Lafayette county? And Alachua.

P: Is your blacksmith shop still here?

F: No, no.

P: Well, where was it? On the main street here in Branford?

F: Right across the block from here.

P: Right across the block right there? How long did you run the blacksmith shop?

F: I, I'll run blacksmith shop until I was forced out of it by automobiles. Automobiles taken the place of wagons and buggies and tractors taken the place of horses and so one and therefore, I went in the garage business and filling station.