

QUONOCHONTAUG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Oral History

LAWSON (Lonnie) ROWE

November 6, 2008

Interviewed by Anne Schafer Doyle

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DOYLE: I'm doing an interview with Lawson, otherwise known as Lonnie, Rowe. He will relate his memories of Quonnie and his family history. So Lon if you could just give me your full name, birth date, and the place where we are right now.

ROWE: Uh -Lawson Rowe, born 1939. Home address is 9 Old West Beach Road in Charlestown, Rhode Island.

DOYLE: Just give your birth date -

ROWE: Yeah--November 3, 1939.

DOYLE: OK. Now if you could just tell me about your family: how they first came to Quonnie, when that was--especially about your grandfather.

ROWE: My grandfather came down here -uh—started vacationing or summering in Quonnie in 1918. He rented - (thereabouts anyway)— Old —he rented a place in 1918 to 1928 when they built the first cottage, the first house on Ashaway Colony Lane. And they summered there -my grandfather, my grandmother, my mother and my father—I wasn't born yet—until 1938., when the '38 hurricane decided it didn't like our house there and moved it back here to Old West Beach Road. And my grandfather—the house sat in the middle of West Beach Road—*Old West Beach Road*-- for about a year, year and a half. And then my grandfather and Mr. Pitman and another gentleman named Pendleton rebuilt the house.

DOYLE: Oh yes! Do you know which Pendleton?

ROWE: The old guy.

DOYLE: Palmer?

ROWE: I think so. One of them, apparently, built houses under contract for Sears--because Sears used to have cottages, and there are still a couple left in Quonnie; *Bercon* is one of them. And this was not a Sears house, but they built for Sears, so it has a lot of the characteristics of the Sears houses. Well, it landed here in '40 - '41, and I came down, I guess, in '41; my first summer here.

DOYLE: And you said your grandfather bought this piece of land from Thorpe.

ROWE: Yeah. My grandfather graduated from Yale in 1892.

DOYLE: What did he do?

ROWE: He was the Librarian of Bristol, Connecticut, one of the founders of the Bristol Library . And he was instrumental in the Bristol Water Works, the Bristol Water Department; and that's what he did.

DOYLE: Maybe you could describe, in terms of the Hurricane, what part of your grandfather's house ended up here, because this was the second story.

ROWE: Yes; this was the second story; this was the upstairs of a two-and-a-half-story house. And the tidal waves took the first floor out from under it, and the second tidal surge floated it back here to where it was, about a quarter mile back from the ocean, and left it right in the middle of the road, damaged beyond use. So they dismantled it and rebuilt it where it is.

DOYLE: Now you said some of the things were inside the house that you have; oh maybe you could mention about the desk and --.

ROWE: There was a desk, a drop-front desk that was on the first floor of the house and then it wound up on the beach over, by the Blue Shutters. And some nice people returned it to my family because they found some names inside of it --my mother's name. And then, my grandfather's rocking chair—that's still here, that's that chair over there. And then there's a Morris Chair here in the living room that was also some place in the house, and I don't know how it got here but I know it did go through the Hurricane.

DOYLE: Did your grandfather talk about coming down and trying to find anything?

ROWE: No; no. He was too upset about losing everything. It was very devastating to them to lose a house.

DOYLE: But there was no question that he would put part of the house here --

ROWE: He wasn't going to build back on the oceanfront. He kept the property, owned the property still but was not going to go through that again.: the expense and the waste of time and money, because the ocean's too unpredictable , as '54 proved.

DOYLE: Now, you said you started coming down here about 1941. What are your first memories about being here in Quonnie?

ROWE: Mosquitoes and sunburn!

DOYLE: [Laughing] That's a good one!

ROWE: I used to get sunburnt every year. And I used to fight with the mosquitoes.

DOYLE: Now you said that the beach that you used was the nuns' beach.

ROWE: Yeah; We used to call it West Beach. And the nuns did not own it then. It was owned by the --It used to be called the Quonochontaug Inn— not the Sea Breeze - the Quonochontaug Inn.

DOYLE: Did you ever to into the Quonochontaug Inn?

ROWE: No; never had any cause to.

DOYLE: OK; so that was about 1941 when the mosquitoes and - what was that other—?

ROWE: Sunburn!

DOYLE: Sunburn! Now let's go forward a little bit: 1944 you had talked about—

ROWE: We used to play on the beach, used to play on the little beach down there, every day, weather permitting. And we got chased off the beach one day because a German U-Boats surfaced, maybe a mile, mile and a half off shore. And everybody ran for cover behind the Quonochontaug Inn. And shortly after that, it left. And we all had to go back and play. And then I guess it was a day later, aircraft from Charlestown Air Base or Quonset - I'm not sure which—sunk the U-Boat our off of Block Island. And it's still laying there.

DOYLE: [Now] let's talk about the Birches, who used to live next door to your grandfather on the shore front.

ROWE: Birches; yes, well the Birches owned the house that was next to my father's house, my grandfather's house. And that house was devastated in '38 to the point where we used to call it a haunted house, because it stayed—they left it up for quite a few years before they tore it down, and it looked like a house that had gone through the

Hurricane, with all the windows gone and the curtains flappin' in the breeze and critters living inside of it and upstairs. And the kids were terrified of it 'cause they knew there was ghosts in there! But finally Birch knocked it own and rebuilt. And he got taken out again in '54. So, lesson to be learned there is: the ocean's still unpredictable.

DOYLE: Now, were the people that lived along – where your grandfather lived --you know along the shore – were any of them connected where they lived in Bristol, Connecticut or –

ROWE: Yeah; but I don't know who they are. There was a family, Critchley, that was active in the Library with my grandfather, and there were some other ones there, further down, but I don't know who they are.

DOYLE: And you said that the Birches' cottage, after the '54 hurricane, that didn't actually land in back; it was rebuilt on Sunset?

ROWE: Yeah, that house was devastated. There was nothing left of it after '54. They just [stripped] two new houses over on Sunset Drive. I don't know; I kind of lost track of –you know, that was my growing up years and I really didn't care what happened to people I didn't know.

DOYLE: Now, when you were real small, did you connect with any other kids that were around here?

ROWE: A friend, a good friend of mine, Tony Reeves, lived in this skinny little house next to what is now the Inn, where the nuns live. He and I grew up together down here. And Tony Reeves Smith –somehow there's a Smith name in there, mother re-married or something—I lost touch with them too.

DOYLE: Um-hm. Now as you grew up, did you spend the whole summer down here?

ROWE: Day after I got out of school till the day before I had to go back!

DOYLE: One month.

ROWE: Yeah. Every summer.

DOYLE: And as you got older, who were some of the people you knew?

ROWE: First-- were a lot of years there where I kinda was in limbo. I spent all my time, you know, where the nuns – at the little beach or West Beach.. And then someplace along in there, my family bought some property, and we started going to Central Beach. And I got a whole bunch of new friends at Central Beach that I grew up with. And they're all gone, they've gone their own separate ways, except for the Frosts. They're like –[laughing]

DOYLE: Did you know the Frosts?

ROWE: Oh yeah; I knew the Frosts very well. From the Inn. From the Sea Breeze Inn.

DOYLE: Oh – all right. Would you just talk about your connection with the Sea Breeze Inn?

ROWE: When we used to summer here, my family needed assistance taking care of my grandmother. So they arranged to have our noon meals—we bought our noon meals at the Sea Breeze Inn. And I met up with the Frosts and the Traceys and—who else? Who was the one—

DOYLE: Schmidt?

ROWE: Bobby asked me about the girl last night –Oh Diane Mitchell; Mitchells.

DOYLE: Oh yes—

ROWE: They were all good friends rom the Sea Breeze Inn.

DOYLE: Did you know Neil Thorpe?

ROWE: Yeah. Neil Thorpe, Neil Donovan, their sister Sheila Donovan, Howie Randall, Sammy Back, all the old crowd—you know, Dukstas, I can't even tell you how many old names –you know Pieter Schipper All names gone by. [Pause] We used to play baseball at –there used to be a baseball field over where Phillips' house is now –Mary Phillips, is her name?

DOYLE: Mary, yeah.

ROWE: And I played there as a kid. They could all smell me coming with the citronella. My mother used to load me up with citronella for the mosquitoes and everybody said, “Oh, here comes Lonnie; I can smell him comin'...” [Laughter] That was a long time ago. A coupl' o'years! And then I don't know whatever happened --why they ever changed the baseball field from there to where it is now. That all fell into the cracks I guess when I was [in the] teen years and I wasn't too active down here. That few years ...

DOYLE: I think it was because Mr. Thorpe gave that land for that use. So what position did you play?

ROWE: Left out! [Laughter] I was little, and a lot of the kids were bigger thanme, so I kind of played left out.

DOYLE: Did they still have the kids in the Old Goat games?

ROWE: No; no. That's something that has transpired since Central Beach's ball field has come into being.

DOYLE: What else did you do when you were older? Can you think of anything else?

ROWE: Set up pins at the Bowling Alley, the old bowling alley; and I don't remember what the name of it was then.

DOYLE: The Casino.

ROWE: Yeah—the Quonnie Casino; I guess it was. I got five cents a string or something like that for setting up pins. Then the big kids used to play Hit the Pin Boy! So it was a –kind of a—you know—just fun. It's a different world; things have changed so much down here.

[Pause; whispered cue from Listener]

ROWE: Oh yeah; the old guy that used to come around with the—

DOYLE: Danny?

ROWE: I don't remember his name. He had an old pick-up truck. And he used to sell vegetables out of his truck.

DOYLE: Yeah, um-hm.

ROWE: Brown, wasn't it?

DOYLE: Well, maybe; there was more than one—

ROWE: Yeah-- I remember one guy that used to come here all the time, with vegetables. He said he'd dug up a cannonball out of the yard at the old Sheffield House. Because the Brits used to love to go up and down the coast and fire red-hot cannonballs at the houses.

DOYLE: He found one?

ROWE: Yeah; pre-Revolutionary War.

DOYLE: Do you know how that happened? How could *he* have found it?

ROWE: Don't have any idea. I think he used to dig and garden or whatever for the family that owned the house at that time. It wasn't – I don't know who used to own it– Sheffield. That was the old Sheffield Farm.

DOYLE: Yeah, but in his day though it would have been – just before the Brown family owned it, probably.

ROWE: Oh, Brown; he was a Brown that used to deliver the vegetables.

DOYLE: Oh; okay. [Maybe] he made it up.

ROWE: Yeah.

DOYLE: [We] were talking about changes in Quonnie – do you want to talk a little bit about how you feel about that?

ROWE: I don't like it. I think they've ruined Quonnie, personally. It's my own personal opinion, that's all. Everybody's entitled to their own opinion. And now it seems that it's gotten to the point where I've got to build a bigger house or a nicer house than my neighbor, and to hell with the Quonnie—you know, the old Quonnie: what it used to be. It's lost; it's gone.

DOYLE: Um-hm.

ROWE: Well, what can I say? Everybody has their own thing, you know. They want to do it; they want to try and impress everybody; they've built these show houses—for what? I don't know. I just – the whole atmosphere of Quonnie has been trampled.

[Pause]

DOYLE: Just tell me a little bit about your time on the beach when your 'olders were fishing.

ROWE: Used to be a lot of spearfishing. A lot of surfing when the surf was good. Wave riding, air mattress wave riding ; and then we graduated into surfboard and surfing and –huh? [to someone speaking in the background} and boats –

DOYLE: When you say boats, did you have your own boat?

ROWE: I have one now, but that was [again repeating someone in background] a rowboat. But yeah, I did have a little put-put boat over in the pond. It wasn't much of a thing; used to sink more than we got to use it, but—

DOYLE: Oh, okay. Did it have a motor on it?

ROWE: Yeah; it had a little outboard motor; it wasn't worth much.

DOYLE: Where did you go on the pond? Did you go all the way across?

ROWE: Yeah; I used to go as far as I dared to, 'cause I knew the thing would sink before I got back. And that was –and then I was a --when I was in my teen years and I discovered what girls were, I didn't come down here a lot in the summer time. I had other places and things and interests that I did, and then I kinda got back into it again.

DOYLE: Now, did you go clamming or anything like that? –

ROWE: No. I don't like clams and never did.

ROWE: I always went with my wife, and I'd get them for her, but clams and I don't see eye to eye at all. So – there used to be a lot of crabbing and blue crabs in the pond, and when I was with my grandfather, I always used to do blue crabbing.

DOYLE: And there were a lot of them.

ROWE: Oh, there was a ton of blue crabs. But with this ecology, things have changed.

DOYLE: But do you remember the Old Breach? Our breachway?

ROWE: Oh yeah; you could walk across it. Over the breachway. And surf fishing, surf casting; we used to go down at night surf fishing.

DOYLE: Where was this?

ROWE: Oh, off Central Beach. All the beach – wherever I happened to be.

DOYLE: Did you eat the fish?

ROWE: Oh yeah; used to be blackfish or whatever. Of course at night, you really couldn't tell what you had until you got around to eating it—a lot of times you didn't want to eat what you had on the end! Yeah, it was fun growing up down here.

DOYLE: Did you make trips to Block Island?

ROWE: No. No. After I got my big boat I did, but not when I was growing up. I don't think I went to Block Island once when I was growing up.

DOYLE: Did you pretty much stay in Quonnie, or did you travel like to Narragansett or –

ROWE: Quonnie. Quonnie. In the growing-up years, it was Quonnie. That's where –we were here in the summertime. We used to venture up to the big town of Westerly and go to the library once in a while. That was about it; it wasn't much. And then, for a family dinner, we used to go to the Blue Moon restaurant up at Dunn's Corners. And then there was – for a real treat, to heck with the Blue Moon-- I used to go to Charlie's hamburgers, which was next door to the Blue Moon.

DOYLE: You were at Chickadee's?

ROWE: No; Chickadee's was later. Charlie's hamburgers was right about where –uh—the motel is now. There's a motel and a storage unit

there; that's just where Charlie's hamburgers was. It was the Trolley Car Diner, they were at the Trolley Car Diner: good greasy hamburgers!

DOYLE: Now how did you get up there?

ROWE: Oh my father used to take me up for a treat. When I was big enough to sit on a stool! At the counter! [Laughter]

DOYLE: Did you use your bike to get around at all?

ROWE: Yes, I did, bicycle a lot down here.

[Abrupt change of topic]

ROWE: I attended dances at the Dance Hall. The Sea Breeze Inn was quite a place; if you never were in it or didn't grow up with it, you don't know what you missed. It had its own smells. It really did; it had a characteristic odor; I can't quite describe it, between musk and salt air and Nurmi's cooking, and somebody used to smoke his dreadful cigars. And you kinda mix it all together and that was the Sea Breeze Inn. Quite a place! Fire trap? Oh was that place a fire trap!

DOYLE: Just looking back on it – but you didn't hear about that then – did you?

ROWE: No we didn't – well, we weren't aware of it then. But we probably would have been safer living inside a can of gasoline. It was just that bad.

DOYLE: Did you see it when it got--

ROWE: We missed it. But I have –huh? [Addressing someone listening] Yeah, they burned it.

DOYLE: They burned it, intentionally.

ROWE: Set fire to it. But – I have –several years ago, when they were disposing of the contents of the dance hall, they had a tag sale. And I bought a safe that was in there, for a dollar. Mr. Nurmi's wall safe. And somebody had tried to crack it open and they never did. Why would you take a safe out of a defunct building and try and break into it? It's beyond me. But after a while, I did get it open, and it had a lot of Mr. Nurmi's personal papers in it.

DOYLE: Do you still have them?

ROWE: Still have them: his marriage license, his passport, some papers –the original estimate for repairs on damages after the '54 hurricane, and just interesting things about Otto Nurmi. That were – you know – And one of the things that nobody--that I don't think too many people

were aware of: After Larry LaBlanc bought the place and was building all those big stone walls and everything around there, I did run across the paperwork; and Otto Nurmi's professional [sic], before he came to this country, was a stone cutter. So lot of the big slabs of stone that were around there were things that he did, that Otto broke up and cut. [One was] the old sauna that was down at the pond –

DOYLE: I was going to ask you: did you ever go in the sauna?

ROWE: Oh yeah; we used to go in the sauna all the time.

DOYLE: Was it xxx [hot] ?

ROWE: Oh yeah; we used to go down and light it up ourselves. We weren't supposed to, but we used to go down and light it, make a lot of smoke and steam. And the crazy Finnish people used to take a sauna and then run in the pond and jump off the dock. Ugh! Not what I wanted to do. But old memories! They're all there.

DOYLE: They sure are! And you said you didn't have anything to talk about! See what happened!

ROWE: Otto Nurmi was as gruff as they get. He was not an outgoing person, at least not to kids. He was very—I don't know what you want to call it; he just wasn't the friendliest person in the world. And Mimi, his wife, she was a nice lady. She ran the restaurant at the Inn, meals and everything. Had quite a – and they used to have the dances there in the dance hall, and some nights everyone used to see how drunk they could get and have fun.

DOYLE: Both of them?

ROWE: Not so much him. He was kinda—he kinda kept to himself. But I remember him running the place. He'd be around there with his old truck and going up and down the -- taking garbage down the back and feeding the pigs. [Inaudible question from listener] Huh? [Question repeated] Yeah, but I don't remember any of the kids or anything—

DOYLE: Now they lived in Westerly, didn't they?

ROWE: The kids.

DOYLE: Oh, the kids.

ROWE: I don't know. The Nurmis lived at the Inn.

DOYLE: All year round?

ROWE: I think so. See, there's there income tax statement: "Otto and Mimi Nurmi, Sea Breeze Inn, Quonochontaug, Rhode Island. "He was the

proprietor of it. There, for one year, he made a ton of money: 28 hundred dollars. [Laughing] Paid 161 dollars tax. And this is all old papers. 1949 Income Tax return. But it's just – Hurricane estimate from Thorpe, for the damage on the place. It's kind of interesting, getting the old papers and looking through them.

[Sudden change of topic]

Used to see Grant Sclater walking up and down the little road here; always passed the time of day. He was a nice gentleman. I don't remember anything much more than that about him other than-- You know --

DOYLE: You knew him? [Question addressed to listener]

LISTENER: [Assenting]

DOYLE: What do you remember about him?

LISTENER: He was so sweet; if I was out in the yard, he'd stop and chat with me and –xxx my daughter when she was a baby. We didn't have a mailbox] and he got us a [mailbox-]-

ROWE: We knew the old cemetery was across the street, for a long time—ever since I was here. We knew the headstones were in there, and people used to come by and ask, "Who's buried in there?" And we always used to tell them it was pirates that washed up on the beach! [Laughing] There was no place to--

DOYLE: So you're the one that started that rumor! Oooh!

ROWE: [We said] "There was no other place to stick 'em, so there's a couple of bodies with no heads!" We used to scare the heck out of the neighborhood kids; they wouldn't come around here because of the pirates in the cemetery! That's the old Sheffield cemetery. And there was – from what I didn't determine—that's on hearsay—that there was a couple of bodies from a shipwreck that did wash up that are in there.

DOYLE: Do you remember where that came from? Or who told you about that?

ROWE: I don't know; but it was supposedly from the *Larchmont* and the –uh– there was a collision between two ships, *Larchmont* and something else; I can't think what it was. And from what I was told, maybe by old man Brown, that used to do the vegetables, a couple of them from that were in there, but nobody identified them. How true that is there again I don't know.

DOYLE: Yeah; things get lost pretty fast if you don't preserve it. That's one reason why I'm trying to do this.

ROWE: Hearsay is that there was a family that lived in the cottage, I think it's called "Barnswallow," down by Priscilla's. In the '38 Hurricane, there again what was their name . . . They were from Bristol. Can't think their name – Supposedly, I was told, they were here during the Hurricane. There was a daughter, who had a baby, and the mother and father. They knew that there was something really bad happening, so they were getting ready to leave and they told the daughter to go out and get in the car. She went and got in the car, the old Packard they had, with the kid, the baby—and that was when the tidal surge hit. And the tidal surge killed both of the people in the house and carried the Packard up to the other side of the Pond and dropped them off.

DOYLE: Do you know who that was? That was Marjorie Pendleton.

ROWE: Was it Pendleton?

DOYLE: Yes; I've talked -- I talked with her several years ago.

ROWE: So that's another story that evolved, about the '38 Hurricane. That was a Pendleton, then?

LISTENER: That's the name she said.

ROWE: I thought it was Crowe, or something like that, from Bristol.

DOYLE: Crumb?

ROWE: Crumb:
That's what I heard.

DOYLE: The Crumbs were probably the ones that were left behind, 'cause they were the ones that died during the –

ROWE: Yeah; Okay. 'Cause they were friends of my grandfather; the Crumb family. I remember that, 'cause he was upset that they'd died.
And then friends of my father built this house next door to us. Used to be called Rocky *Horn*. Their name was Kirkwood.

DOYLE: This was in the '40's?

ROWE: Just the same time we were building this house. Because some of these pictures of me – this is me standing on the porch of their house; this one too.

DOYLE: Oh, I see.

ROWE: That's Kirkwoods' house.

DOYLE: Now when did the Sandwells --

ROWE: Oh, I couldn't tell you when that happened. Well, the Kirkwoods got old along with my folks, and they sold -- I think Bob sold the house before my father died -- I'm not sure.

[Unintelligible comment from listener]

DOYLE: I had wanted to talk to Betsy and never got a chance to do that.

LISTENER: xxx She was so sweet.

ROWE: Yeah; they--she was a nice lady.

DOYLE: And it's Megan is it, or Martin?

ROWE: Meg.

LISTENER: Margaret.

DOYLE: Margaret.

ROWE: They've got it now. They bought a few other interests.

[Change of Subject]

ROWE: Another thing about Bill's Island: if you ever want to get bitten by ticks, that's the place to go. You cannot go on Bill's Island without getting -- finding ticks.

DOYLE: If you don't get bitten by a mosquito, you're going to get bitten by a tick!

ROWE: No; you won't get mosquito bites 'cause you're covered with ticks! [Laughter] No space left for the mosquitoes! You don't remember -- maybe you do: the mosquito control down here years ago? You know, all of those channels that they dug out in the Pond?

DOYLE: Yeah --

ROWE: They used to go around the perimeter of the Pond with things called Indian pumps, which is what the forest-fire fighters use, to spray water-- But they put kerosene in the pumps to kill the mosquitoes! Now the ecologists would be rolling over in their graves -- but they controlled the mosquitoes with kerosene!

DOYLE: It would go in through the channels here? All the--

ROWE: All the way around the Pond: kerosene! Killing mosquito larvae. And we lived! We're all still here. And the environmentalists now are – "Oh no, you can't do that!" We used to spray oil in the water!

DOYLE: I don't think you'd like to see that happen now! [Pause] Say you wouldn't like it-----

ROWE: OK; I wouldn't want to see it. [Laughter] I just—the ecology has changed to the point of –

LISTENER: They used to burn!

ROWE: They used to burn; they used to burn all of the brush here—

DOYLE: Now tell me a little bit about that., because I 'm wondering: when did that stop? When do you remember it happening?

ROWE: I remember, every spring when we came down here, everything would be fresh, green. No brush; no underbrush –

DOYLE: This was like in the '40's.

ROWE: Yeah; the 30's-'40's--

DOYLE: They were still burning --in the '40's--even though there were structures around!

ROWE: They'd control the burn; people would watch it. And they'd burn all of the pasture land and all of this -- you can see by these pictures.

DOYLE: Oh, I know 'cause yeah, I've seen a lot—but I didn't know they were burning at that point—

ROWE: I used to be able to sit on the top of my front porch, peeking over the door here – I'd shimmy up the railings. I'd sit out there and look down at the ocean.

DOYLE: Yeah.

ROWE: But I could sit on the top of the garage roof and look at the Pond. That's how there was no brush.

DOYLE: Was it Mr. Thorp that controlled – I mean, did he have control over the xxx –The Indians used to do that –

ROWE: I don't know. I don't know who did it or who used to control it or when they stopped doing it. But I know for a long time, when I was – when we'd come down here in the spring –

DOYLE: Now do you kind of remember how old you might have been when you remember that happening?

ROWE: No. No.

LISTENER: Eight, ten?

ROWE: Up 'til I was maybe seven or eight. I remember coming down here and—

DOYLE: OK; so it was just into the '40's—

ROWE: Yeah. But they did used to burn.

DOYLE: Now, did you see anything charred?

ROWE: Oh yeah; you could always see charred underbrush. And down here Whistling Chimneys--there was a pig farm down there, 'cause I remember pig sties out in back--they used to burn. And then Nurmi had a pig farm up there that he used to feed the—

DOYLE: Where was his pig farm?

ROWE: Someplace between the Inn and the - yeah, he always used to take the garbage down the back to feed the pigs.

DOYLE: Huh! Was that his pig farm or was that somebody else's?

ROWE: No; that was his. I don't know what he -- We never went down there cause it smelled pretty nasty. But Otto used to have pigs and - you know -

DOYLE: Oh my gosh!

ROWE: And there was a road that went from the Inn all the way down , a dirt road that went down through there, down to the sauna.

DOYLE: Was Sunset [Drive] not there at the time?

ROWE: It was there, but that was also a dirt road. The xxx of these roads were dirt roads, and I don't remember when they started oiling them.

LISTENER: Oh I remember this road being [tarred] xxx--

ROWE: Yeah.

DOYLE: Um hm.

END OF RECORDING

Quonochontaug Historical Society



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