

Neighbors

Long said, “Yancy Horton was up close to the road (F-264).” Yancy’s property was bordered on the west by the road going down to the river (McAlpine) and on the north by the Farley-Triana Road (Buxton). Long went on to say that Ernest Jacobs, Frank Jacobs’ brother lived on the property east of Yancy (see Jacobs family interviews).

Long described Yancy’s house as weather board (overlapping planks), and said he had barns and other outbuildings and good looking mules. He noted that Yancy’s son Savoy wore shiny, high-topped boots and rode the best saddle horse. Yancy provided well for his family. Long commented:

We were taught to call all Black people older than us Uncle and Aunt. Yancy was on the board of the co-op. I saw him and said, “How are you, Uncle?” He said, “If I was your damn uncle, you wouldn’t claim me.”

When Yancy died, Savoy took the reins. By the time of sale to the government, the house was mortgaged.

To the east, the neighbors were the Woodward. Details of the family can be found in the interviews of Edith Woodward Price and Duncan Woodward. Long commented:

Charles and Lee Woodward’s brother Jack was a fisherman. He moved out of there to Lacy Springs. He had a metal disk like on a turning plow. He’d come across in a skiff and bring you some fish. He’d put out trotlines. It wasn’t agin the law to use nets. They’d catch blue cat and buffalo. Daddy liked a blue cat that was about 8 pounds. Men built their own boats—skiffs. Cut it [tree] and have it sawed and let it cure and dry it and make the boat.

James Long knew Sam Harris, Sr. and his family well. He is quite knowledgeable about the property of Sam Harris and people who worked for Sam. Long’s comments that relate to Sam Harris are presented in the section about the Harris family, as they help to build the picture of the property, the people, and what took place on Parcel D-167 where Sam Harris, Sr. and his family lived.

School

James Long went to Farley School, as did the other White children from Pond Beat. They caught the school bus. His father drove the bus. He explained that Farley School went up to the 9th grade. After the 9th grade, the students had to find their own way to Farley; from there they could take the bus to New Hope High School. James said that if those who had a ride to school would take other kids with them, the County Board of Education would pay them \$15. James remembered riding the bus with Duncan, Harry, and Edith Woodward, whose parents were Lee and Ruby Woodward.