

TAPE 1

11:29:57.08

Interview with Greg Lynn/Rutherford Wills' Great-nephew

Who was Mr. Wills to you?

It would be my Grandmother's half-brother or my great-uncle.

What type of a man was Mr. Wills that you remember or stories you might have heard, was he a hard worker, what kind of a person was he?

I really didn't know him that well to be honest with ya.

Were there any stories you heard about him?

No.

What do you know about Mr. Wills and the mine disaster?

On the day of the of the cave in x he felt a a vibration on a on a thundering rush of air, so he ran for the ladder and on the way he was he was notifying people to follow him, so there was I believe three other men that were following him up the ladder. When they got to a certain point there was a thud and they looked back and there was nobody coming up the ladder after him he was all alone.

Was his brother working up ground?

Albert Tipet

How did Mr. Tipet find out that his brother was alive?

I guess he looked down down the ladder and he was coming up the ladder and he helped up on to the surface. At that point Wilfer ? just colaped as soon as he got up on the surface, cause he had climbed something like 800 feet straight up the ladder none stop.

How close to being washed away was he?

Very close and he was in x perfect physical specimen, he was only 22 years of age or he may of not made it up, all that distance.

How did it effect him after finding out that he was the lone survivor?

He never, was able, to go back to work in in any mines around here, and they moved to Flint, and he worked in x Buick as a x believe it was a security cop or something like that. They did come back up here once, I think was x 1943, and he got a job on surface at one of the mines but he still didn't like that. And he had nightmares over that event for the rest of his life.

Do you think he went through survivor guilt?

I suppose there was, to a certain degree but, in another way everyone else was happy that there was at least one person survived that disaster. And they were all one big family.

How did it effect the rest of your family?

I don't think any of the other x well I don't x, did Oliver ? ever work in the mine in the mine anywhere I don't think he did either he moved to Flint also. So none of those that, had survived that ever went back to work in the mines. (Sonya agree) That survived that disaster.

Was Wills engaged at the time?

He was married, yep.

How did the disaster effect her/ did you hear anything about that?

No.

What people were hurt by the disaster?

Well my my Grandpa, Jon Wallberg, went to his mother-in-law, law's house, Mrs. Wills, that would be x Wilfred Wills's mother and Walter and William Tipet's mother and x he told her that William Tipet's body was one of those that was found and she said Jon have you ever suffered like I'm suffering now?

Did you hear about the community/what was the mood?

N.A.

Anything else you want to add?

There was a monument dedicated to this disaster, I believe it was August 27th, 1972 I was there. And Wilfred Tippet, who at that time was was ill with kidney cancer was x permitted by his doctor to come up and x participate in those ceremonies, he died the following year, but I I'll still remember that day.

Wilfred Wills or Tipet?

Wills.

Could you start that over, only with Wills?

Sure. Sure. On August 27th, 1972 there was a monument dedicated up in Elly township to the Barnes and Hecker disaster. And Wilfred Wills x was was allowed to come up from Flint x by his doctor, at that time he was ill, with cancer but he was able to come up and participate in those ceremonies. And the next year he passed away.

You were at the ceremonies?

Yes

How was it for Wills when he came up/ hard for him to talk about it?

For many years he would not even talk about it, it was too disturbing, but he was able to talk about that particular day.

How old was he by then?

I think he was about 68.

Were there a lot of survivors there?

Yep.

What about friends and family?

Aunts and uncles and cousins and alike.

Lots of people were related, could you explain, in your own words?

I just read in an article that there was something like three sets of brothers that got killed in that mine.

Interview with Emil Hill/William Hill's son (county mine inspector killed at the mine)

So, how old were you on November 3, 1926?

10.

You lost your father?

And x he was buried on my birthday, the 5th of November.

You turned 11 on November 5?

Right.

What memories do you have from the time of people?

Well the thing I remember the most is x teacher came over x I was in 5th grade, and it was about 10 o'clock in the morning and she said you can go home. She didn't tell me why or anything. And I got home and there was a lot of people over the house. And a, so I run upstairs, change clothes and went out to play, but there was nobody to play with they were still in school. And a, when I come back to the house there then x, my

aunt came over and said your daddy got killed in the mine. So that was, the first x knew about it.

How did your mother cope?

Well she she musta had lots a sisu?, you know what sisu is yeah, well, cause she held up pretty good. And she comforted the children, and talked to the visitors and, uncles and aunties and cousins and,

What does sisu stand for?

Guts. Or intestinal fortitude, fancy name, but a, I mean never give up, keep plugin'.

How many brothers and sisters do you have?

I have two brothers and one sister and the brothers are dead, sister living in Florida, and a, she lost her first husband in auto accident and second husband in a, x he used to x fix fix things, he got fixated. And she had one daughter with her first husband and a son with her second husband and they're both living. And a, the daughter is Shirley-Marie she married to James Todd, and they live down Florida in the winter and California in the summer, cause they inherited some property out in California. And a, we just discovered, my brother's children, grand-children, my x, grand-niece sent sent me pictures of, x their family, we never ever seen pictures of them, so that was the magic of x what do you call that, e-mail e-mail x it come in a round about way. There was a fella from, x Kentucky x was looking for a John Ohola which was my my grand-father, that would be her great-grand-father. And she happen to see on the website and got a hold of him and then he got a hold of Judy Soynee, which, they were cousins but x were cousins other way, they were cousins that way. And then Judy called me, and a, we got on the

phone, talked to them, she said she want to come to Stoneville, cause that's where my grandma and grandpa on my mother's side and my grandma and grandpa on my father's side, ? the mine, so she said I want to come there and take pictures of the house, which they did, but she was limited because x had to get back cause school was starting, but x it was, to me it was just like magic, to be able to see somebody who was your relation and so close and then Judy Soynee and her sister went to Finland and they got a hold of people on my mother's side which would be on her side because her grandmother and my mother were sisters, so it would the same people that they went to see. And that's enough, I ain't gonna talk no more, let somebody else talk.

What kind of person was your father?

Well we didn't get to see him very much, cause he was x campaigner, he x tried for the job of mine inspector, and the first two times he failed then the third time he got in, and the fourth time x x election day was the, what November 2nd, yeah, and a, he got in but he never got to serve because he was killed so.

What was your father's name?

William E. Ellis-Hill?, (spoke something in Finish) really his name, (spoke it again), but x in Finland you can change your name. You can take the mother's, the father's name or the place x where you lived or the location, so when people come from there, if you don't know that they changed their names, you go to the wrong house, (laughing) but they were they were lucky, they found over 30 people x would be Judy's and my relations. But like x my oldest brother he's had 9 children 3 adopted children, 18 grand-children, and, what was it 9 great-grand-children. (Sonya says something) But I've

been getting pictures, and I got some pictures there, that she's been sending up here, which is wonderful, cause we finally got a connection. And a, so so.

Tape 2

Interview with Roy Millimaki/Son of Solomon Millimaki killed at the mine

11:50:23

How old were you when (got cut off)?

I was 8 years old, (Sonya says something), yeah almost 9.

When was your birthday then?

March the 2nd, (Sonya says something) 1918 when I was born.

What do you remember on the day of November 3rd 1926?

Well I remember coming home from school and a, walked in the house and there was all the brothers and my mother. My mother crying and all the boys were there. And a, that's about as much as I remember, they were all in shock and they said x, dad had got left in the mine.

Did you go to the site (got cut off by the answer, so there a little of Sonya talking)?

Yeah we went to the site and they were, bailing water outta the shaft at the skip, that's the x like a bucket or the x, men rolled down in in the water was coming out, but they weren't gaining a bit on it. So we knew what was, not good.

What much have been going through her mind at that time (picture)?

X I wouldn't know, everybody was in shock that was standing around the shaft, there there was very little conversation going on. X they figured they some survivors

would be coming outta there, but when we seen the water that they were bailing outta there was impossible, to have any survivors.

How did your mother go on?

Well, x Cleveland-Cliffs gave her 50 dollars a month, compensation. There was, 8 of us boys and 1 girl. My dad used to say he got 8 boys and 1, and everyone got a sister, (laugh) and a, I tell ya, we didn't eat too many T-bone steaks on, on the money that she was getting, but we did eat quite a bit of deer meat. We had that, farmer's license that was good for 12 months of the year. (Laugh).

What do you remember about your mom not too long after the accident/ how did she talk to you about this?

She didn't say anything, x she just, very seldom she mentioned it.

What was your father like/do you have memories?

Very, x very little. He was supervisor of Ishpeming Township for quite a while. And a, he was mixed up in politics always, and he went to work when it was dark and he came home in the dark so, we didn't see him too much.

It sound like he was trying to provide for his family.

Oh yes, yeah, we, we never went hungry, we had cows in the barn and we had the old farm at the north lake forks, where the tire shop is now. That's where we were born and raised, he always said that all he could raise there was boys and grasshoppers. (Laugh) So a, then we moved to west Ishpeming from the farm there, so, but we kept the farm and we always had our, meat, spuds, milk, 'bout the only thing that ma bought was coffee and sugar. X so we managed.

Did you and your brothers help around the house/ what was it like around the house?

Oh yes, x x x, in fact I gotta story to tell ya, if you wanna listen to it about (cough) x city of Ishpeming was going to x give a bounty on rats, 2 dollars a head. But that was a rumor ya know, x one of my older brothers heard it and he said "hey he we can make a killing because we gotta lot of rats in the barn." So we bumed ? the revolver on the older brother and he was reluctant to give us that revolver. But he finally relented and gave us one shell. So we went in the barn and x brother Otto his name was, he told me to stand by the light switch and we'll put a pan of corn on the floor. And when I say now, you throw the switch and I'll shoot 'em. So I was standing by the light switch and I could hear old Bessie, she was chewing her cud, brother Otto was standing behind her and he said now, and he shot, and that explosion in that little barn. Old Bessie hopped up and her tail went up and he, she fertilized x brother Otto from head to toe. (Laughing) (Sonya talking) And a, one thing, the older brother was, wise he only gave them one shell, because if he would had another shell Bessie would have been hamburger. (Laughing)

Did you guys ever get a rat?

No, no and the beauty part of it we didn't even get a rat. (Laughing) And x another x story that I, tell ya I was x after a ballgame in Ishpeming one time, an old timer came and tapped me on the shoulder. And he said I worked with you dad in the Barnes-Hecker, and a he said that I'll tell ya why that mine came down. You got the company's version of it, that there was so much, it had rained for weeks and weeks and the overburden was so heavy, there was 200 feet of overburden and broken ground, it wasn't soliding ? under, and that was x official version of that's why it came down. But this old

fella told me he said don't you believe that, he said I worked on the first level, and he said after one blast he said the ore started come down just like coffee grounds and that it kept on running, kept on running. And he had, and then he said we had a quota of shoveling so many little ore buggies everyday. He said well we hit the jackpot, because that was that was easy shoveling that like shoveling coffee. So a, he said this went on for weeks, he said, and x in the evenings he said would plank up the run. So it would run during the night the morning we'd start working, he said we'd take the planks off, and we'd have a running, he said that went on for weeks he said then one day, he said there came some surface flocks amongst that ore and he said he got scared. He quit, and he went to Detroit, and he said he was coming outta the factory when a newsboy was honking. Extras on x x x saying that the mine went down in the U.P. And he said before he bought the paper he knew it was the Barners and Hecker. That's x x that's from the x guy that worked there, it wasn't the official version.

But he knew.

He knew, he had worked right there where it came down.

11:59:03.01

Interview with Dewey Tippet and Irene Vicary/Son and daughter of Walter Tippet who was killed at the mine

M: = man

W: = woman

How old were both of you on Nov. 3, 1926?

M: I was a 5 x almost 6, I was 6 in the following January. (Woman is mumbling a little while he speaks). W: I was 12.

How many people were in your family?

M: 5. Well let's see... W: 5, 6 (Sonya) M: We had had there was 5, 5... W: 4, 5.

M: 5, 5 x survivors. W: See my mother had two children that died when they were young (Sonya) and I looked like x I was liked the one that died, the girl. I was adopted, x x then a she x saw me and she wanted x found out about my, situation and when I was put up for adoption she adopted me, so.

You look like you fit into the family.

W: Well that's what everybody says that we look alike (Man mumbles while she speaks). M: Well the two the two x brother and sister older... W: Yeah... M: x x they both died before my time and that's probably one of reasons I was I was here so (Sonya) but a... (Woman mumble) the farthest.

Were you the baby in the family?

M: No. W: He was a baby when I was adopted. (Sonya) M: Then then there was twins twins came along after me. (Woman mumbles)

Never probably expected twins.

W: x No. (Sonya) M: yeah, they were 2 at the time of the accident.

For woman, what do you remember about that day?

W: x x what I remember the most is my mother walking the floor all the time, from the kitchen to the, through the dining room into the living and, crying her eyes out and had a handkerchief in her hand and wiping her eyes and x x x the little ones were big enough to get around walking x around, so they were following, x mum around so. But that was x that day was terrible and it was for days afterwards to yeah.

Man, what did your mother tell you what had happened?

M: I don't x, I don't remember what we were told but I x remember what she just mentioned about, she had, cause I remember she had a towel that she was crying into back and forth and then she, she was, x it was just a matter of disbelief that wasn't just, x people weren't gonna x accept the fact that, they were all gone you know, x everybody was thinking hoping that they were gonna, be able to get some of them out, but x, I guess before the day was out that it was all realized that x, this wasn't gonna be x anymore survivors in there so, x what was exactly put was x I don't know but I know she that there's been a bad, accident at the mine, and x, our dad wouldn't be coming home so.

What do you both remember about your dad?

W: Well, x, he loved sports and probably x Dewey can tell you more about his going wrestling and his kickball ?, accounts of that and x football. (Sonya) Do you know anything? M: well x he was he was pretty well, known as a football player mostly and as a Carnish ? wrestler and x, one one time my mother said that there was a carnival (cough) came to the Legion ? Park in Ishpeming between Ishpeming and Negaunee. And x, a streetcar track x a streetcar traveled down there used to x run people back and forth to Negaunee past the Legion Park, but he x challenged a wrestler at the local at the carnival and x pinned the guy and he got ten dollars and he said he was afraid he was gonna get held up on the way home, so he hid the ten dollars in his, in x the ban of his hat, (Laughing) so he wouldn't get robbed. But then was x he was well known as a as a football player too and x one time, x Northern wanted him to take a few, x enroll for a couple a courses there so he would be eligible to play football for them, but whether he

ever did or not I don't I don't think he ever got to playing for Northern. W: He had a family to support too, so that made a difference (Man mumbles).

He didn't work for the mine that long before the tragedy occurred.

M: That was his first day. He started x he got he got in a about half a shift that's about it, cause he just started. He x day before was election day so he, brought all his, clothes to x, to the mine to get ready to go to work the next day, so x election day was like a like a holiday, and they, there were the fella that x kid around were talking about them coming out with all brand new clothes and everything so they, they be to wrestling, they start wrestling to x get them dirty before they down, down to the mine (Laughing). No but x there not x, there a few things about him that kinda stand out in my mind that I can remember about him and x, but there really not too many.

He was a good family man, it sounds like.

Both: yeah

Did his brothers that worked there want him to work there?

M: Well he he, well x those were the circumstances in the family when my grandmother died, and x, my grandfather wanted my mother to come and keep house for him, while he he worked at the prison so, it was too far to, to hard to travel in the winter time, back in those days, the back and forth everyday, so he, he had x 2 brothers that were mining captains so he went up there to ask them for a job and neither one of them wanted to give him a job they wanted him, say long as your out of the mine to stay out (Can't really understand last few words). But he said well he said I got to have a job, so he met x Bill, the captain at the Barners-Hecker said will you come to work for me? But he had worked in mines before that, then he, he got out and he was a police officer in Marquette

for a while and then x after an incident down there at the x, got a job over at the prison, and he was working there. X he was involved in a few x incidents at the prison where they, they x x got wind of x prison breaks that were being planned and it foiled attempts x x of the prison breaks and x and x, word was out that some of them down there were gonna out to get him because he x took part in that and I have a I have a gun that was found in a cashed that was supposed to be for, x x made available for the guys when they broke loose from the prison so.

To woman, how did your mother cope after this tragedy?

W: well she was at home, as far as she was concerned that was where she was born and raised in that home and that was home to her. So when we lived with my grandfather, it worked out, he had a garden and he had, he always had animals, he had a cow and sheep, and in the summer he raised x a pig or so, and then we always had so. There was always a garden full of vegetables so, but there was no problems there at all. Exepect that, I think they paid my mother 24, 28 dollars a week. From after, but what could ya buy, much not much. Course prices were a lot cheaper at that time, particular time. Think how long ago that was.

How did you kids get by/feel protective of siblings?

W: No, I don't think so. We fought just as much as we used to do, hey. (Man, agrees while she speaks). M: We survived. W: I was the oldest sister, x x x, they figured I was bossing them. M: One thing that always stuck with me though is and has been x x beneficial to me to this day, is x, being we get a little bit bigger my mother x x always taught us how to cook and how to sew buttons on our clothes and mend our socks or put a x patch on our blue jeans, overhauls is what we called them. And x, x x to do

laundry and stuff like that because she always said if anything happens to me your gonna be able to take care of yourself. And, that's been, we managed to survive when we didn't we didn't have to do, but all that stuff she taught us back then has been very useful to me up till now.

So she thought it was important to be independent.

Both agree.

Things she normally wouldn't have taught you, she had to.

M: (Mumbles at first) she said it was a matter of our survival, x so that those things she thought that we had to know. W: She was an independent person herself, anyways, my mother was. She knew what she wanted to do and how to do it. So she made a lot of her clothes and stuff like that so. M: Made a lot of our clothes and x x, back then, x x most people are x x kinda looked down on homemade clothes and now this day, somebody that can make clothes themselves, they better quality than that. W: x the only thing I remember of we couldn't afford to buy a new coat, and I had to wear a summer coat for a while, in winter, and I nearly froze, but the following winter, they brought me one of these x corduroy sheep, they weren't sheep skin inside but they looked like that, outside and I thought I had the world because I had a new coat after having to wear, x a coat that wasn't warm all winter. M: Well, Roy, Roy and I have been friends since we were young kids, I used to Barnes-Hecker brought us together (didn't catch part of that) from being in the same fix there. And x his mother had cows and sheep and chickens and one thing that x, we used to go up there x where they used to shear the sheep and she would wash and carve the wool and she had a spinning wheel and make the yarn into whatever they had, they had socks and mittens made from, scratch right

from home, you know, so that there's a, so that's one of the things that helped them along too you know, things that their mother would do for them too. W: I have to tell you this one though, my brother joined the navy, so he could get away from home so he would not have to milk the cow, and so what did my grandfather do right after he joined the navy, he sold the cow. M: Well, x that was a job I had from the time I was 10 years old was to do the barn work. Feed the cows and x and x do the milking and clean the barn. X I never got into a, but a, there was no argument about getting your chores done when you came home from school you knew what you had to do so you went ahead and got your chores done. Then if you wanted to go skiing, or skating, or sledding, or something then well that's, that came after the chores were done x x so the sooner you got done with your chores the sooner you could be out and do these things so. I think as a kid we used to have a lot more fun because xx Roy lived up there x, lived up on the hill and it was always x Milamaki's hill when the kids, when the kids went sledding every night and there wasn't very many cars in those days so like the, in the winter, you could probably go sledding up there every night of the week before a car happen to come by so.

TAPE 4

Interview with Ruth Powell/Daughter of Emil Maki killed at the mine.

11:00:45

Ask the Name.

She gives it.

What were some of the stories that you were told about your father?

A man that was sometimes criticized by, his in-law, brother-in-laws and that because he was so good to my mother. Like a, years ago a, if you didn't help a woman in the house but he was always great for, if we go visiting my mother say he'd run around the car and take the baby from her arms and then the other brother-in-laws would tease him, but he was that type of a man very x, much involved with his x wife and his children that way. Good person. X, I don't remember too much of anything basic, just what I was told by my mother throughout the years and a...

Your dad was gone.

That's what she said because after five wars this one girl comes along, oh ? hey, yeah and x when he died, I think I gave my mother hard time, but I remember loneliness of x, going to the window and would say 'don't cry, papa's coming home soon.' And x, evidently I was kind of x, the daddy, daddy's pet there, after five boys x he was very easy on the boys, my mother said, even though x, they'd have to go somewhere and the house would be a mess they'd come home he'd say, 'let that all go, as long as everybody's alright' you know, he had that type of personality. X, I remember my mother saying to me how she got over it, x she said, well course she was very church involved, she said she had a dream one night and he said to her, don't you worry about me, I'm on the twentieth level. And she said, she had such peace over that, from then on. So those are those little stories that I remember, there weren't a lot of them, I wish I had more, to remember and x to, but those stand out very definitely in my mind. I do remember that I had these brothers who were supposed to be my baby-sitters and x, often my mother would go to church for choir practice or, sewing club or whatever they had and, she not out the door five minutes and they were gone to and they'd beat her home by five

minutes, but we never squealed on each other. But in later years, when we'd tell her that, it just, tore her up, she didn't like that at all. But we kind of, raised ourselves in a way.

What did your mother do to try to support you guys?

She worked at the Gazer many, many years and then she wallpapered in the summer months, every evening. And she sewed for the lady and baked for the lady next door. And she did sew for a lot of, she was excellent seamstress. And whenever the lady next door wanted some, where I spend my whole life next door, wanted anything baked, she, my mother was terrific at that, so she, she earned extra money that way all the time. You know on Saturdays, x, her only day out she'd, x wash clothes, iron clothes, bake for the week, clean, do all of that work and then the ladies, x, were home all week would come and visit her one by one all day Saturday and she'd have to make coffee for all, that was a Finish thing you know, you always had x coffee and coffee bread or something, I don't know how they did it. And every Saturday night we were taken to the steam bath. And all clean underwear and the whole works, the four boys would go in first, the mother would wash them up as she was dressed while she was in there. She was very particular about that, and then when they were done, her and I would go into the steam bath, and then we'd all walk home with our coats open and we were so warm and everything, I always remember things like that. And then we would go home and do our Sunday school lessons and we were in church in Sunday school the next morning. And any activity at the church, we were raised in the church. (PHONE RINGS).

What type of a mother was she?

Very strong, x, didn't have to tell us to do anything twice, just the look in her eye took care of that, we were never spanked or anything like that. Very strong, and told us

exactly what we had to do, I once wanted to quit school, can you believe that, and she said 'absolutely not', cause one of my girlfriends had quit. I remember some things she told me about the fact that she bought a radio for the boys to sort of keep them home, and that's cause all the entertainment we had at home, and a, my oldest brother was supposed to get a job and I don't recall where, and the neighbors went over and said, 'no they don't need the job cause they were able to afford a radio' so he didn't get the job, but in later years, do you know that that neighbor came over and apologized to my mother? And they became very good friends, which was very nice, but it was very hard at that time. And I remember us listening to that radio on Saturday nights and Sunday nights of the old, Fred Allen shows and all that stuff so, and there was one bike in the family, I always remember that and x, I was often on the handlebars of the boys bikes and often fell on my head, and that's what's wrong with me today I think. X x I turned out to have a wonderful relationship with my brothers. Very wonderful x, I think my mother built that into us somehow. And my mother was pretty strong lady, she was very active in the church and on the go, she traveled until she was 82 years old when I didn't live here. She'd take the plane down and we ship over to North Carolina to my brother's and she did very well. I suppose because she was so busy, her knees were bad, she had fallen down the Gazert stairs several, one time and down our stairs and she really needed knee repairs.

What was the Gazert?

11:07:59

The Gazert x they did undergarments for years and years you know, ladies' undergarments. (Sonya) Seamstress, there for x, she worked until she was 67 years old. (Sonya) yeah, she did very well for herself.

Did she ever remarry?

She didn't have time ya know. I think they tried to x, oh I used to get so mad, I remember an uncle of mine that used to try and fix her up with somebody and then he'd tease me about it and I'd just hate it, x I just hated that when they would try to, fix my mother up with somebody, but she never went, never.

She was widowed at what age?

31 until x, she died at 87. Imagine, that's a long time to be a widow isn't it? I've been a widow about x 16 years myself and I can't imagine the number of years she.

She was family dedicated to her children.

Oh, and closely, close with her sisters and x, and her church was very important, and I think that's why we all made it so well because we were so church involved and we had our morals set in, and we all did very well for ourselves, regardless.

What was the church like during that time?

Very family oriented, and course x, it didn't belong to any big organizations it was mostly the Sumi-Cina they called it at that time, x the Finish people built one church and they x Swedish built another and the Norwegians built another and so on and so forth and x, in fact I now belong to a club called Vasso ? where they only only took Swedish people at one time and now there's all, in there and I was just looking up some genealogy that I'm working on. And my great-grandma was Swedish for heaven sakes, I was

teasing them, said oh am I disappointed I'm not a full-blooded Fin. (Laugh) I enjoyed that.

Were there special church services held for those in mourning?

I don't recall it, but I remember my x brother Johnny, who died last year, I remember him saying at that x lake, where they had that service that they were, and he saw my mother reaching out with a flower and he got so nervous that he just holding in the back, so she, see afraid of losing another parent again, that's the story he told me about that, I don't know anything more about it, except that, he was nervous about my ma falling into that water too.

Retell story.

All I remember is what my brother John, who died last year, x told me, he said he was at that service with her, and they were throwing, after the service they were throwing flowers on that lake. And my mother bent over to throw her flower and my brother grabbed a hold of her so she wouldn't fall in, he was so afraid he, probably to lose another parent. Cause don't forget he was, he was like seven years old at that time. So x, he was kind of my mother's pet anyway, we called him the, angel of, mama's angel of the family, ya know you always got one of those in every family don't ya? Yeah, he sweetie though, oh he was a sweetie. So x, otherwise x it's just all more or less hearsay what I, I might say this, we had a letter that the grandparents were gone in Finland. And they were, then the letter they wanted to have the property x, that was left to us, by our grandparents, some distant relatives that knew them, that we should leave that property to them, x and the grandparents wanted us to have it and my mother said, 'no my children, had nothing from their father' you know. And she wouldn't let it, in fact I had that letter,

my cousin Anna, went through it and put it in English for me and, I've been trying to get a hold of these people, they weren't answering, I think they're still mad at us or something cause my mother wouldn't give up that property, in Finland. So we signed it all over to my mother to take a trip in 1965 to go to Finland to spend all that money. So x, she brought us each, I think brought us all kinds of dishes and stuff and then she gave us each a hundred dollars, what was left over, you couldn't bring the money over here, ya know. So x, my mother just wouldn't allow that she said we have to have something but we gave it to her, cause she raised us anyway so, she enjoyed it, it was wonderful she could go there. (Chatting) She had it hard, she really had it hard.

11:12:57

Could you talk about how you relate that?

I relate to it now because I'm older and I realize what being alone meant to her you know, raising children. I just x relate to that to the point that I have these lonely periods, terrible sadness comes over me at times and I don't know what it is. But being the psychiatrist that I am, yeah, I just figured out that I think x it was that, x, the year after my father died, my mother probably was terrible lonely and so was I. And that's all I can relate it to, and course I lived quite bit, look at that (WIPING TEARS), I lived quite a bit by myself you know, with the boys, they had there own things, what would they want a little kid around for, you know, so I sort of, lived next door to the Riala's ? and was there every chance I got. Sometimes the door was closed into my face, but they were pretty good to me most of the time. And x, it was nice to be with the girls next door, there were no girls in the family. So x, that's about all I can recall, I'm trying to think about what else I could tell you, it's just the fact that x, I had a hardworking mother that raised five

kids pretty well. My oldest brother, was a boss in the mine, the second one was the big union man, but he also went into x welding at the college (WIPING TEARS), the third brother, x, had his own business, he had gone to extra schooling and he x, put in all this gas station equipment and the fourth brother was a civil engineer, went to Tech. And I came out of high school and x, worked for the telephone company, I run Mich. x Ishpeming Bells now. And I went to Chicago, I became a secretary for five years, and the company liquidated and decided, I think I'll go to beauty school. So in eight months I, owned x, went to beauty school, got my license I worked for x, was a manager for a shop for seven years, opened my own shop for five years, then I retired. X I got a bad back. But filled in at my husband's office on the secretarial or the bookkeeping or whatever they needed and x, that's the way it's been going, but x, I had kind of a, education all by itself for all the things I did, you know, so it's been an interesting life. And I'm still very active in most things, and I, I kind of give that to my mother. Cause she was so active, so I think she kind of pushed that, on us to, be self-sufficient, and do for ourselves and keep x, and trust in the Lord.

Do you think life would have turned out different if father was alive?

I think so, I think so. I don't know if would have been better worse, but I think I, I miss the father figure. My brother Ralph, the second to the oldest, x was more of a father figure than the older boy. The older boy left when we were x, but he was the fun guy in our life and he just x, watched over us pretty well. And when he died, it was a shock to the whole family, he was like the nucleus of what was left of us, you know. X, but I think it affected those older boys quite a bit too when father died, they understood more what was going on. I probably, see x had no idea what it is to be raised by

anybody, but I, imagine there's a lot missing. Maybe that's where the quirks of my life come in, where I a little bit (MAKES A CRAZY GESTER) you know.

Things happen for a reason/You need to be a certain way.

I think so, I wonder why (Sonya). Probably makes you just stronger or something, I don't know. But I x, I do it because, I think it comes from, x, upbringing, that's the way it was and that's the way and that's the way it had to be, you know. And that's, I'm now very busy at Hope Free Lutheran. Very busy over there. And a, it's a nice little family church, a small church and I like it that way. So x, lot of good friends and family there. I never had a child of my own either so, I've been teaching Sunday school for years and doing all this sort of stuff. But I gave it all to my mother for what we, has happen to us and how strong she has been.

Tape 5

Interview with Clifford Trudell/Grandson of Louis Trudell who was killed at the mine.

11:23:07

Stories of your grandfather?

Well, I've always been told that x, he was a, fun-loving guy, he really enjoyed x life, I mean he x wherever they were to, he was a lot of fun. And x x, it was just fun to be around and, x, he was good family man and x, and like I said I never, course I never got to, naturally I never got to see him.

What were some stories your dad told you about your grandfather?

Yeah, there was some. You know, one of the, one of the x stories was is a, for instance x, he x shouldn't have been working the day that the mine went down. He x

traded shifts with somebody else, for whatever reason, that they had conflict and x, had x change shifts and x, my dad was x they used to a, you didn't have all the cars you have now and being a new mine, out where it was too, this is how locations form, weather it was National Mine, Winthrop, or whatever, North Lake, x usually when they were gonna have a mine because of, no transportation the a, company would build houses around it and x, rent them out to the people, and possibly even sell them to them after. But anyway, x so there was a truck that went between x Ishpeming and the a Barnes and Hecker mine. X x x, it was x it was an open truck I guess, it had like a flat bed and x, they put a tarp over it in the winter, but x, x my dad was x, there used to be a store right on x the corner of Pine and x Excellcer ? store, I mean Excellcer street, excuse me, and x he happen to be there one day when the x truck came through and you know they were hollering you know there'd been an accident at the mine an accident at the mine. So x, he x, it's kind of x, Excellcer street is kind of a long block and he ran all the way home and in the house and up the stairs to tell his dad that he didn't have to go to work that day. And it wasn't until he hit the top of the stairs that he realized that his dad had changed shifts that day. X, another one of the things that his dad told him is x, he said that it was odd, cause he worked underground and, he said as his dad told him that they would be walking into there a, place of work, they could hear like water gurgling, and x they could never figure out what it was, and of course they were going right into a, I guess what it was is, they, you know they say an underground lake, but I think it was a, there was a lot of mud and I mean the whole mine is filled with water and mud. X but I guess this whole swamp I guess caved in because if you go and look at that area now, in the back where the stockpiles were, x it's a big bog type thing and x, there's a lake there now, or water

there anyway, I'm not sure how deep it is, couldn't of have been too deep cause the mine was very, young at the time so, it isn't like a it isn't like a, x, well, for instance, if you go to the end of Excellcer street, there's like a big lake. When I was a kid, there was no lake there. We used to be able to go from x, the store on the end, we used to ride across the junction location on the railroad beds that went across there and over the years, it x caved in and x so x, that's what happens to your soft ore, mines, eventually they cave in, your hard ore mines, like Cliff-Shaft, which is right under the city of Ishpeming, x they say won't do that, cause it's all on pillars.

How did your grandmother cope/ famous picture?

Yeah and if you look at that, there's a very typical picture, I spent a lot of time with my grandmother, almost every, almost every weekend for probably ten years, so I used to spend every weekend with her, and you know x, I can, there was very little laughter, there was always, she'd sit in her rocking chair and rock and rock and, maybe sew or just plain rock you know, and x the only time I remember seeing her smile and laugh is x, x maybe around the holidays when her and one of her sisters used to, really get going but, you know, people really didn't have a way of getting around like they have today you know, but x, other than that I mean my grandmother was always so serious and and of course, right after my grandfather got killed at first, that's when the depression set in and x when you got eight kids and x, the youngest one was eleven months old when this happen I mean, this is, you know, an awful blow, you didn't, you don't have, he didn't have all the, the things that you have today that cover you know, money wise, and x, back then in order to get any county help any welfare, you had to sign over virtually anything you had. If you had a car x, you weren't allowed to own a car, which x x x, my

grandfather had a, I guess they had an old Model A, station wagon or something like that, but it wasn't, you know, of any value, and then x the x course you had to sign over your house, and that was not up until, that wasn't that many years ago that they changed this. If you went on county welfare, you had to sign over your house, my grandmother and grandfather on my mother's side had to do that. So it's not that many years ago that this was the policy, and my grandmother just refused to give up her house, whatever way they had to make it they, she was gonna make it without giving up her home. So x, it it was a long, hard struggle. And as each one of the kids got older, well of course when they went out and got jobs x, you know they helped out, even to the point to where, like my father when he got married, I think he was 24 when he got married, he had, he saved, he took enough money out to pay for the marriage license and x, pay the priest, and gave the rest of his check to his mother. They started out from scratch. And x, which I think that, you know, it's kind of amazing, and a, so, and of course he, as much as he could, and the rest of them did too they, they tried to pitching in, you know, little here little there x so that x she actually you know could stay in her home, almost till the time she x, x, you know, the last five, six years she ended up staying with, you know some time with my dad, some of the time with an aunt in Racine, kind of divvy up the winter and the summer. And then x, the last couple years in a nursing home. But she x, she always, x, I don't know if you want to call it bitter, but, and like, I guess if you think about it, you can understand why.

11:38:52

Interview with Thomas Friggens-Michigan Iron Industry Museum Director

What was the miner like during those days?

It was largely an immigrant labor force, x, the miners were from European countries, the British Isles, Scandinavia, northern European countries. Also from Canada, but it was indeed largely, x x, an immigrant work force. There were fathers and sons, at the Barnes-Hecker mines for example, the day of the accident, there were two sets of fathers and sons, Thomas Kirby x senior Thomas Kirby junior, Edwin Chapnum and Herman Chapnum. X there were a couple sets of brothers, the Tippet brothers, Walter and William Tippet, x William Tippet was the x well respected, x x the well respected mine captain, William Tippet was the well respected mine captain, and as it turned out, this was his brother's first day on the job, Walter's first day, working at Barnes-Hecker mine, but, in the case of of x one one family, the the wife lost two brothers and her husband and one of her brothers was a widower, he had four children of his own, who were instantly orphaned, but it fell upon his sister to bring those orphans into her family, joining her own four children, who had lost their father. So suddenly she had a family of eight children with no wayer ?, x and having lost two brothers as well. They hailed from neighboring communities, Ishpeming, Dieright, x Greenwood location, x Barnes-Hecker location, x most of them, driving distance away, although those who lived at Barnes-Hecker location could actually walk to the job site.

Why did all these men decide to work in mine, though it was dangerous?

It was stable employment, for one thing, x x, the work ethic among residents of the Upper Peninsula, especially among the immigrants, was very strong work ethic. X many of the immigrants who migrated to the U.S. and to the Upper Peninsula left their own nations behind, seeking a better life, whether it was for economic reasons or religious reasons or for political reasons. And so while the streets may not have been

paved with gold, in the Upper Peninsula or in America, work in the mines provided stable employment x for the immigrant workers.

Did they realize that mining was a dangerous job?

I suspect they realized it, but they accepted it, just as we accept driving in our cars today, how many people are a, die on the roads today. You know, we we realize it, we take care, but it happens. X leading causes of accidents and deaths underground, in the mines were were x falls down shaft, collapsing rock, x falling tools falling from overhead, injuring or killing workers. Some accidents, probably several accidents actually, were simply in carelessness, but also the fact that that there were so many nationalities underground, speaking so many different languages, exacerbated the situation. The x x the fact that there was not generally a common spoken language underground, in some cases, workers simply did not understand words of warning or instruction until it was too late.

TAPE 8

Interview with Friggin continued.

What happened?

The best was x of the day coming from the mining engineers, x who were convened to study the accident, determined that it x, probably resulted from, a midday, noontime blast, which ruptured an underground water reservoir called a vug a V-U-G, and it was x the rapid discharge of this water which acted almost like a huge vacuum, which caused the cave-in, from above, from the surface, and in a matter of 15 minutes, water and sand filled the the shaft, from above, filled the shaft and then began back filling

the shaft, x and in those 15 minutes, you know, 51 lives were lost, 42 women were widowed, 132 children. . .

12:23:43

What did those 3 men above ground do?

Edward Hillman and Olivian Miners had x both emerged from the shaft just moments before and actually x Hillman was on the cage when it was within 15 feet of the surface and it was buffeted by the by the, what he described as what seemed like a big wind, coming from underground, x but while the incident is obviously one of loss, you know, examples of courage, were Hillman and Albert Tippet, whose two brothers and his stepbrother were still underground, put on oilskins and descended the shaft to investigate what the problem was and see if they could help x in any way, and Olivian Miners and x another mine worker remained on surface, and after a second large rending crash came up to the surface to the shaft, Miners drew more and more concerned about Albert Tippet and Edward Hillman, and he himself put aside, feelings of his own personal safety and descended the shaft, to make sure they were ok and to assist them. At the other end of the of the afternoon actually and at the other end of the mine, William Conabear, the CCI safety inspector, and I think it was four other supervisors, attempted to enter the Barnes-Hecker mine through the drift and the raise that connected it, with the neighboring x Morse_Lloyd mine, and again a very courageous act, personal act of courage in which they entered this very dangerous environment, went as far as they could by electric motor, and then dismounted the motor and continued on foot, until they came to to the x actual evidence of the sand and debris, the sand the sand and mud is described as being waste-deep and they were actually claiming to to the wires of the x tram cars, the haulage

locomotives and walking on piping and from stump to stump, to log to debris, attempting to find the party of captain x x Bill Tippet, mine inspector William Hill who tried to escape from through this ?, x Conabear came across the first body and recognized, after removing some of the mud, his friend and hunting companion, Captain William Tippet. X the second body they found, they they couldn't identify it first, but after, cleaning it up on site, they identified it, several of them agreed, that it was Thomas Kirby senior, whose son, Tom Kirby junior was still in the mine shaft itself and never returned, but it is, time and again, a story of courage, individual courage, in some cases of corporate courage, I believe. William G. Mather, was fiercely determined to recover all the bodies of the companies' employees and to salvage the mine, x to clean the mine, and, I think it was toward the end of November, they had reclaimed the mine to a depth of just, x, just over 600 feet so they could actually enter the first level, and, 20 minutes after the rescue party left that first level, a dam broke and the mine flooded again, but it was a, an extremely difficult effort, a valiant effort to reclaim the mine, but also an extremely difficult effort. And following that second flooding of the Barne-Hecker mine, the decision was made by all the experts, not only with CCI but other mining companies and geologists, this was far too dangerous to attempt any further, so the decision was made to abandon the mine, to ultimately fill it and to cap the a x void at the shaft opening.

Was there a service for the men in still in the mine?

Actually ten bodies were recovered, seven of them from the raise connecting with. and then three bodies were recovered from the shaft, the three, Wills three companions, x Tom Kirby Junior, Joseph Manki, and x x x the third one, x oh, Jack Hanna. (Sonya)

Three bodies were recovered from the shaft itself and they were they were the companions of Rutherford Wills, the lone survivor, who attempted to climb out of the shaft. Joseph Manki, Jack Hanna, who was x Wills' x brakeman on his motor on the second level and then Thomas Kirby Junior on the first level, but in their flight up the ladder, the ladder was struck by x a heavy piece of equipment or material, it was shattered, somewhere between Wills, who was leading the way and the other three, the other three were very quickly overtaken by the rising, flood waters and were lost. Their bodies were recovered within the following week, I believe it was in the shaft itself. X x and so ultimately there were funeral services for the ten bodies, the people who were recovered. X at one of the services, it was a triple funeral, which x was conducted by the x pastor of the Ispheming-Finish Lutheran church, the Reverend Hugh ?, who drew upon the book of Revelation for his sermon, and he he promised mourners and comforted them by saying that 'God shall wipe away all the tears from their eyes, there shall be no tears in heaven.' The following May, Memorial Day actually, a funeral ceremony, which was also lead by the Reverend ?, was conducted at the site of the cave-in, which x, by this time x was a lake, x x x, right there on the shore of the lake, bouquets of flowers were tossed right there on the surface on the water and x x one can suspect that that brought a sense of closure, if you will, to the families and other mourners, who were mourning , this this grievous loss.

TAPE 9

Interview with Leo La Fond-Grandfather was Louis Trudell and he also had an uncle who worked above ground at the mine.

12:41:12

What did your uncle do during the Barnes-Hecker mine?

He x, he was responsible for lowering the guys, into the mine and hoisting them out, and on the day of the accident, when he went to lower the cage down, the power went out. That's x x, at that time that's when the x accident was occurring. X and the mine was x filling up with water and it shorted all the electrical system out. X when x, when he, x couldn't lower the cage and found out the mine filled up with water, x he x x felt very bad about it because 51 of the 52 miners down there drowned. X he, x left town, for nine years, he moved to Iron Mountain, and the company finally convinced him, x, that x x, it wasn't his fault, and he moved back to Ishpeming again and worked at the Morris mine, doing the same type of job, lowering the guys back in the ground. But he didn't work there very long because x, just seeing the guys, x, putting on their hard hats and getting into the cage with the work clothes, it brought back memories, and x, and it wasn't very long that he, he also x left that mine too.

SEGMENT ENDS AT 12:42:35

B-roll begins at 12:47:43

TAPE 11

Interview with George Walimaa/Father killed at the mine was Solomon Walimaa.

Could you tell the fishing story?

13:17:58

My partner and I were fishing on Lake Superior was x in the late 30's or early '40's, and we picked up this Mr. Camanen ?, to go fishing with us. And I don't know how it come about, talking about Barnes and Hecker mine, and he told me, he said x, I was your dad's partner. He said x this Mr. Tipet, the one that was in the shooting scrape in Marquette, he quit the police force and his brother give him the job at Barnes and

Hecker mine. So he went, my dad and Mr. Candon were split up, my dad stayed day shift, and he went night shift and Mr. Tipet went to work with my dad and that's the day he got killed, his first day in the mine.

SEGMENT ENDS 13:18:48

Please tell us the story about your knife.

13:25:56

X we started picking blueberries over by x North Lake, the lake, and x, he lost his knife, into the lake. So I had a knife with an orange plastic handle on it, cause he needed a knife in the mine, so I give him my knife, and x, when they thought the lake went into Barnes and Hecker mine, they dug a canal and it drained off the lake, cause they thought the water came from there, but it didn't. And x, I went up, looked around up there, where he had lost his knife, and I found it there, it was all rusted.

13:30:10

**Barnes-Hecker
Memories of a Misfortune**

Based on *No Tears in Heaven*

By Thomas G. Friggens, the Director of the Michigan Iron Industry Museum

<p>Fade in and out of re-enactments.</p>	<p>Pulsing music with a serious and melancholy sound. Sporadic Interviews (reverberated) beginning with the son and daughter of Walter Tippett. Short sound bytes such as Hill was buried on son's birthday and how Wills could never work in a mine again.</p>
<p>Re-enactment Video</p> <p>Pan Miners Group.</p> <p>Re-enactment Video.</p>	<p>Narrator: Each day, they left for work, entering a place where daylight never shone—the Barnes-Hecker Mine. Each line on their faces represented an hour of hard labor. On that cold, autumn day in November 1926, fifty-one of them never returned home. (Music fades)</p>
<p>Fade to black and back up on the title, "Barnes-Hecker" (on the top line fades in first) "Memories of a Misfortune" (on the second line fades in two seconds later) Fade to black.</p>	<p>Silence</p>
<p>Salisbury Group</p> <p>Workers in the hole (ZoomOut from a shovel)</p> <p>ZoomOut from 5 suits</p> <p>Pan CCI Execs</p> <p>ZoomOut from Mater's Eyes</p> <p>Happy Group</p> <p>Pan Across Nationalities</p> <p>Mining Action</p>	<p>Music with an 1800's sound.</p> <p>N: During the late 1800's, Michigan produced 43-percent of the nation's high-grade iron ore, but extraction of the mineral from underground mines was becoming more difficult and expensive. By the turn of the century, Minnesota took charge of iron ore production after large mineral deposits were developed, but despite this, Michigan mines were still producing over 18 million tons of iron ore. Slumps in the market at the end of the 19th century, however, created a volatile environment for the survival of smaller mining companies, so several operations merged with larger ones. By mid-1920, one of the three largest mining companies was Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc, also known as CCI. (Music up/under) Business leaders at this time, such as CCI president William Gwinn Mather, believed employers needed to protect investments by protecting their workers. From the standpoint of economics, this meant caring and providing for employees by offering social welfare programs. Companies such as CCI also taught English to immigrant employees, but despite these programs, mining at this time remained the most dangerous line of work.</p>
	<p>Interview w/ Thomas Friggens, "Leading causes of accidents and deaths underground, in the mines were x falls down shaft, collapsing rock, x falling tools falling from overhead, injuring or killing workers. Some accidents, probably several accidents actually, were simply in carelessness, but also the fact that that there were so many nationalities underground, speaking so many different languages, exacerbated the situation. The x x the fact that there was not generally a common</p>

	<p>spoken language underground, in some cases, workers simply did not understand words of warning or instruction until it was too late." Tape #7</p>
<p>Mining Car Group</p> <p>Male Tippetts</p> <p>North Lake (Need to Get) Video of Ishpeming</p> <p>Re-Enactment lights in mine crossdissolve to Video of Water Lagging Photo Video of flowing water</p>	<p>N: In 1922, the CCI-owned Barnes-Hecker Mine in western Marquette County began iron ore production. Some Barnes-Hecker workers lived close to the mine in company-owned homes in the Barnes-Hecker Location and the Village of North Lake, but over half of the day-shift workers lived in the City of Ishpeming, which was only a few miles a way from the mine. (Pause with Music) After the Barnes-Hecker opened for production, problems developed. The ground was full of water and despite the construction of cement walls underground, many workers still reported quicksand spilling through the cracks. To deal with the large volumes of water in the mine, engineers eliminated surface water that was causing problems. (Pause w/ Music)</p>
<p>Graphic of levels</p> <p>Re-enactment Video of pick Graphic of raise</p> <p>BH Workers Group Dissolve to pan of a row (BH Workers)</p> <p>BH Miners Group ZoomOut of bearded man in ---nationalities</p>	<p>N: The Barnes-Hecker shaft went 1060 feet below the surface. Workers were deposited into the mine's three sublevels by electric cages at 600, 800 and 1000 feet. Ore was extracted at each level by using picks, shovels, and machines. The Barnes-Hecker was connected to the sixth level of the Morris-Lloyd Mine, but was divided by a 200-foot raise. (Pause with Music) There were approximately 150 men employed at the Barnes-Hecker, split into two shifts. The average age was thirty-six; and four out of five were married and had children. In total, Michigan's iron industry employed over 12,000 men during the 20's, with most of the workers being immigrants, or sons of immigrants, from Canada, the British Isles, and Scandinavia. (Pause w/ music)</p>
<p>Walter Tippett w/ esse Walter Tippett wresteling Walter Tippett in snowZoomIn</p> <p>Video of Chocolay Tight of W. Tippett (w/ wife) Walter Tippett FamilyZoomIn ----to Tippett</p> <p>Tippett in the snow</p>	<p>N: Some of the miners are remembered as being great fathers, athletes, and even local heroes. Former Marquette City Police Department Night Captain Walter Tippett shot and killed a murder suspect who was fleeing authorities by swimming across the Chocolay River. Distraught over the shooting, 31-year-old Captain Tippett retired from the force and worked briefly for the state prison system, after which, he made a fatal decision. He took a job at the Barnes-Hecker Mine where he had planned to work side-by-side with his brothers. Tippett's first day on the job would prove to be his last.</p>
	<p>Interview w/ Dewey Tippett and Irene Vicary, Walter Tippett's son and daughter. "While he he worked at the prison so, it was too far to, to hard to travel in the winter time, back in those days, the back and forth everyday, so he, he had x 2 brothers that were mining captains so he went up there to ask them for a job and neither one of them wanted to give him a job they wanted him, say long as your out of the mine to stay out." Tape #2</p>

<p>Valimaa Head Valimaa Wedding George in Walimaa Family</p> <p>Valimaa Head Walter Tippett Family(Tight)</p>	<p>N: Solomon Valimaa moved to America from Finland when he was only 16. He began working at the Barnes-Hecker Mine in his mid-forties. His son George was almost 12 when he lost his father on November 3, 1926. It wasn't until several years later he heard a story about his late father and Walter Tippett.</p>
	<p>Interview w/ George Walimaa, "My partner and I were fishing on Lake Superior was x in the late 30's or early '40's, and we picked up this Mr. Camanen to go fishing with us. And I don't know how it come about, talking about Barnes and Hecker mine, and he told me, he said x, I was your dad's partner. He said x this Mr. Tippett, the one that was in the shooting scrape in Marquette, he quit the police force and his brother give him the job at Barnes and Hecker mine. So he went, my dad and Mr. Camanen were split up, my dad stayed day shift, and he went night shift and Mr. Tippett went to work with my dad and that's the day he got killed, his first day in the mine." Tape #11</p>
<p>Trudell as young dad Video of C. Trudell</p> <p>Trudell family ZoomIn to Grandfather</p>	<p>N: Louis Trudell would never know his grandson. Only pictures, and a teacup and saucer, which belonged to his grandfather, remind Clifford Trudell, Jr. of whom his grandfather was. Clifford remembers the stories his father told him about his grandfather who was killed in the Barnes-Hecker.</p>
<p>Trudell Carnival Pics</p>	<p>Interview w/ Clifford Trudell, Jr.-Grandson "Well, I've always been told that x, he was a, fun-loving guy, he really enjoyed x life, I mean he x wherever they were to, he was a lot of fun. And x x, it was just fun to be around and, x, he was good family man and x, and like I said I never, course I never got to, naturally I never got to see him." Tape #5</p>
<p>Hill Head Video of re-enactment</p> <p>Hill Head ZoomIn</p>	<p>N: Emil Hill remembers his dad as the politician he was. His father would leave for work in the dark and return home in the dark. William Hill was re-elected for a second term as County Mine Inspector November 2nd, 1926, a day before he was killed at the Barnes-Hecker.</p>
	<p>Interview with Emil Hill-William Hill's son "Well we didn't get to see him very much, cause he was x campaigner, he x tried for the job of mine inspector, and the first two times he failed then the third time he got in, and the fourth time x x election day was the, what November 2nd, yeah, and a, he got in but he never got to serve because he was killed." Tape #1</p>
<p>Millimaki Wedding ZoomOut -----to include wife Millimaki Head Video of Roy</p>	<p>N: Solomon Millimaki had a wife and nine children to support, so he took a job working underground in the Barnes-Hecker Mine. Large families were common during this time. Son Roy Millimaki remembers his father's sense of humor before that tragic day.</p>
	<p>Interview w/ Roy Millimaki-Solomon Millimaki's son. Oh yes, yeah, we, we never went hungry, we had cows in the barn and we had the old farm at the north lake forks, where the tire shop is now. That's where we were born and raised, he always said that all he could raise there was boys and grasshoppers. (Laugh) Tape #2</p>

<p>Musician Group Tight of Maki Maki Wed Maki Widow 5 Kids Ruth Powell Child</p> <p>Emil & Baby Ruth Maki Emil Maki Close Up Maki Widow 5 Kids (tight of -----mom and Ruth)</p>	<p>N: At the age of 16, Emil Maki came to America from Finland. He then married his sweetheart Lempi Kulju (Cool'you). Maki later went to work at the Barnes-Hecker Mine to support his family. His daughter Ruth was only two when she lost her father in the accident, but says she was daddy's little girl during her brief time with him. Although Ruth says she has no memories of her father, her mother told her stories of what kind of a dad Emil Maki was.</p>
<p>Interview with Ruth Powell-Emil Maki's Daughter. A man that was sometimes criticized by, his in-law, brother-in-laws and that because he was so good to my mother. Like a, years ago a, if you didn't help a woman in the house but he was always great for, if we go visiting my mother say he'd run around the car and take the baby from her arms and then the other brother-in-laws would tease him, but he was that type of a man very x, much involved with his x wife and his children that way. Tape #4</p>	<p>Interview with Ruth Powell-Emil Maki's Daughter. A man that was sometimes criticized by, his in-law, brother-in-laws and that because he was so good to my mother. Like a, years ago a, if you didn't help a woman in the house but he was always great for, if we go visiting my mother say he'd run around the car and take the baby from her arms and then the other brother-in-laws would tease him, but he was that type of a man very x, much involved with his x wife and his children that way. Tape #4</p>
<p>Fade to Black</p> <p>re-enactment of men showing up for work at the mine.</p> <p>Walter in snow</p> <p>WM Tippett & Grandma (tight on -----Tippett) Hill Head Mining Car Group (tight on -----Mongiat) Mining Car Group</p> <p>Conebear</p> <p>BH Workers Group</p> <p>Mining Car Group (WmTippett) Hill Head (on screen together)</p>	<p>Melancholy music up and fades out to silence.</p> <p>N: The morning air has a familiar chill as the Barnes-Hecker Mine day shift report to work on Wednesday, November 3, 1926. The main topic of discussion is about yesterday...Election Day. (Pause w/ Music) Several of the men are related to one another, brothers, cousins, sons, and fathers. Walter Tippett is anxious to begin his new job and reports to the well-respected mining captain, his 43-year-old brother William Tippett. Also underground is newly re-elected County Mine Inspector Emil Hill. A 43-year-old pumpman Peter Mongiat, Sr. is filling in for an absent co-worker and is working a double shift. The day is ordinary. Nothing foretells the fate that lies ahead. (Pause with Music) Just three weeks prior to this day, the mine was declared safe by CCI's safety inspector after an unannounced visit. He questioned many of the workers about the mine's condition. Mine Captain William Tippett and County Mine Inspector Emil Hill accompanied him on the tour of the Barnes-Hecker and came to the same conclusion: Barnes-Hecker was safe. (Pause with Music)</p>
<p>Wills Wedding Wills on Porch</p> <p>Re-Enactment Video</p> <p>2 on screen (WmTippett/Hill)</p> <p>Charles Stakel (ZoomIn)</p> <p>Re-enactment from mine 2 on screen (WmTippett/Hill) Charles Stakel (ZoomIn)</p>	<p>N: 22-year-old newlywed Rutherford Wills reports to work on November 3rd. Wills, a tall and lean man, has worked two years underground at the Barnes-Hecker. Today, Wills is working on the second level of the mine, 800 feet below the surface. At 11:05 AM, Captain Tippett and Mine Inspector Hill pass Wills on the second level as they look over operations. As fate would have it, the wife of mining district superintendent Charles Stakel takes the family car to run errands. Stakel who would have performed his weekly inspection of the Barnes-Hecker with Captain Tippett and Mine Inspector Hill now decides to visit a different mine closer to his home, not knowing how his wife's action saved his life. (Pause w/ Music)</p>

<p>Wills Head Re-Enactment of feet</p> <p>Crazy Video Jack Hanna Pic Dissolve to Black Re-enactment of mine Wills Wedding Mankee Video of water Crazy Video Dip to Black Video Leo into Intv.</p>	<p>N: At 11:20 AM, just as Wills and his co-workers are about to ascend to the surface for their lunch break, the muffled sound of explosives is heard. (SFX) Suddenly, an enormous blast of air knocks Wills and co-worker Jack Hanna to the ground and extinguishes their carbide lamps. The earth trembles; Wills and Hanna scramble in the dark for the way out. Wills calls out to his good friend Joseph Mankee to also leave. Without warning, sand and water pours into the first level and down the shaft. Power to the mine is cut off, leaving all fifty-two men in the underground world of the Barnes-Hecker in total darkness. Leo LaFond's uncle was the cage operator.</p>
<p>Re-enactment of feeling wall Re-Enactment of ladder</p> <p>Thomas Kirby, Jr. Pic</p> <p>Water Video Crazy Video</p> <p>Water Video and Ladder</p>	<p>Interview w/ Leo LaFond, "He x, he was responsible for lowering the guys, into the mine and hoisting them out, and on the day of the accident, when he went to lower the cage down, the power went out. That's x x, at that time that's when the x accident was occurring. X and the mine was x filling up with water and it shorted all the electrical system out." Tape #9</p> <p>N: Wills and his co-workers feel their way in darkness to the shaft and begin the 800-foot towering climb up the ladder as mud and rock rain down upon them. When the men reach the first level, another co-worker, Thomas Kirby, Jr., joins them in the climb. The level of water, mud, and debris is rising behind them at an alarming rate. Suddenly, something falls from above narrowly missing Wills, but shatters the ladder behind him. He hears the haunting screams of his companions as they fall to their deaths. (Brief Pause) The water rises to Wills' waist as he climbs faster and faster. Workers from above, including Wills' half-brother, are climbing down the ladder to aid their comrades and helps Wills to the surface.</p>
<p>Re-enactment of falling to the ground</p>	<p>Interview w/ Thomas Friggens, "Edward Hillman and Olivian Miners had x both emerged from the shaft just moments before and actually x Hillman was on the cage when it was within 15 feet of the surface and it was buffeted by the by the, what he described as what seemed like a big wind, coming from underground, x but while the incident is obviously one of loss, you know, examples of courage, were Hillman and Albert Tippet, whose two brothers and his stepbrother were still underground, put on oilskins and descended the shaft to investigate what the problem was and see if they could help x in any way, and Olivian Miners and x another mine worker remained on surface, and after a second large rending crash came up to the surface to the shaft, Miners drew more and more concerned about Albert Tipet and Edward Hillman, and he himself put aside, feelings of his own personal safety and descended the shaft, to make sure they were ok and to assist them." Tape #8</p> <p>N: At 11:30 AM, Wills, pulls himself out of the mine, and immediately falls to the ground in exhaustion. He has climbed 800 feet up a ladder in just ten minutes. (Pause with Music)</p>

	Interview with Greg Lynn-Wills' Great Nephew "He was in x perfect physical specimen, he was only 22 years of age or he may of not made it up, all that distance." Tape #1
Graphic Wills Head ZoomIn	N: Mud and debris plug the connecting entrance to the sixth level of the Morris-Lloyd Mine, avoiding further flooding that could have taken more lives. By early afternoon, it is determined Wills is the lone survivor.
	Interview with Greg Lynn-Will's Great Nephew "He never, was able, to go back to work in in any mines around here, and they moved to Flint, and he worked in x Buick as a x believe it was a security cop or something like that. They did come back up here once, I think was x 1943, and he got a job on surface at one of the mines but he still didn't like that. And he had nightmares over that event for the rest of his life."
Mining Car ZoomIn to Tippett Hill Head Kirby, Sr. Pic 3 Shot of Hanna, Mankee & -----Kirby, Jr. Re-enactment of mine Bh miners group	N: At 4:00 PM, the first body is recovered 1000 feet from the raise connecting the Morris-Lloyd Mine and the Barnes-Hecker. It is the body of the beloved mining captain William Tippett. Nearby are two more victims, William Hill and Thomas Kirby, Sr. Four other bodies are also recovered from this same area and brought to the surface. Wills' companions from the ladder, Jack Hanna, Joseph Mankee, and Thomas Kirby, Jr. are found days later in the shaft and brought to the surface for burial. As the recovery work continues, another dam breaks within the mine, causing alarm among rescue workers. It is determined too dangerous to keep the shaft open, the recovery efforts are abandoned and the mine is closed, turning the once productive, Barnes-Hecker into a final resting place for fifty-one men.
	Interview w/ Thomas Friggens about mine being closed
Some of the widows Pic Video of 4 People Trudell Family (Zoom In to Clifford, Sr.)	N: Forty-two widows are left behind to raise 132 young children. Descendants of those who perished were just children at the time of the tragedy on November 3, 1926. While their memories are dim from time, the emotions felt that day still run fresh in their minds. Clifford Trudell, Jr. says his father told him the story of how he found out about the tragedy.
	Interview with Clifford Trudell, Jr., "There used to be a store right on x the corner of Pine and x Excellcer ? store, I mean Excellcer street, excuse me, and x he happen to be there one day when the x truck came through and you know they were hollering you know there'd been an accident at the mine an accident at the mine. So x, he x, it's kind of x, Excellcer street is kind of a long block and he ran all the way home and in the house and up the stairs to tell his dad that he didn't have to go to work that day. And it wasn't until he hit the top of the stairs that he realized that his dad had changed shifts that day." Tape #5
	Interview with Emil Hill "Well the thing I remember the most is x teacher came over x I was in 5th grade, and it was about 10 o'clock in the morning and she said you can go home. She didn't tell me why or anything. And I got home and there was a lot of people over the house. And a, so I run upstairs, change clothes and went out to play, but there was nobody to play with they were still in school. And a, when I come back to

	<p>the house there then x, my aunt came over and said your daddy got killed in the mine. So that was, the first x knew about it...and he was buried on my birthday, the 5th of November." Tape #1</p>
<p>Some of the Widows Pan of the Widows ZoomOut of BH Workers W. Tippet & Wife ZoomIn to Wife</p> <p>Albert & Walter Tippet ZoomIn to Walter Tippet Family Dew/Irene</p>	<p>N: After the accident, widows were thrust into the role of mother and wage earner. CCI did provide compensation to families for their losses, but that could not replace the men who had fallen. In a letter to CCI, Walter Tippet's wife wrote a letter to the company thanking them for financial assistance and ended the correspondence with a quote her late husband often said: "I may be down, but I'm never out." Dewey Tippet and sister Irene Vicary remember their mother's extreme sadness over the loss of their father.</p>
	<p>Interview with Tippet/Vicary about mother. "What I remember the most is my mother walking the floor all the time, from the kitchen to the, through the dining room into the living and, crying her eyes out and had a handkerchief in her hand and wiping her eyes and x x x the little ones were big enough to get around walking x around, so they were following, x mum around so. But that was x that day was terrible and it was for days afterwards to yeah." back and forth and then she, she was, x it was just a matter of disbelief that wasn't just, x people weren't gonna x accept the fact that, they were all gone you know, x everybody was thinking hoping that they were gonna, be able to get some of them out, but x, I guess before the day was out that it was all realized that x, this wasn't gonna be x anymore survivors in there so, x what was exactly put was x I don't know but I know she that there's been a bad, accident at the mine, and x, our dad wouldn't be coming home so. Tape #2</p>
	<p>Interview with Emil Hill "Well she she musta had lots a sisu?, you know what seisso is yeah, well, cause she held up pretty good. And she comforted the children, and talked to the visitors and, uncles and aunties and cousins" (Music Up and Fades Out to Silence) Tape #1</p>
<p>Fade to Black.</p>	<p>Interview w/ Ruth Powell when he died, I think I gave my mother hard time, but I remember loneliness of x, going to the window and would say 'don't cry, papa's coming home soon...Very strong, x, didn't have to tell us to do anything twice, just the look in her eye took care of that, we were never spanked or anything like that. Very strong, and told us exactly what we had to do, I once wanted to quit school, can you believe that, and she said 'absolutely not', cause one of my girlfriends had quit. Tape #4</p>
	<p>Interview w/ Thomas Friggens, "In the case of of x one one family, the the wife lost two brothers and her husband and one of her brothers was a widower, he had four children of his own, who were instantly orphaned, but it fell upon his sister to bring those orphans into her family, joining her own four children, who had lost their father. So suddenly she had a family of eight children with no wagger ?, x and having lost two brothers as well. Tape #7</p>
	<p>Interview w/ Dewey "Mom taught us to be independent. Tape #2</p>

<p>Dissolve to the night photo and zoom into Mrs. Millimaki.</p>	<p>N: Later that evening, family members surround the mineshaft painfully longing for information on their loved ones. Roy Millimaki's mother stands for hours in the cold waiting for word on her husband, Solomon, who she would hear later, had perished along with fifty of his co-workers.</p>
	<p>Interview with Roy Millimaki about mother, "Everybody was in shock that was standing around the shaft, there there was very little conversation going on. X they figured they some survivors would be coming outta there, but when we seen the water that they were bailing outta there was impossible, to have any survivors."</p>
<p>Trudell Family (Tight of Wife) Trudell Wedding</p>	<p>N: Trudell says he would visit his grandmother every weekend as he was growing up. He says the expression on his grandmother's face the day of her wedding to Louis Trudell would be rarely seen again. (Brief Pause) The pain and anguish on her face is a stark contrast to the Trudell's wedding photo. This picture of the Trudell family was taken shortly after the tragedy.</p>
	<p>Interview with Clifford Trudell, Jr., "There was very little laughter, there was always, she'd sit in her rocking chair and rock and rock and, maybe sew or just plain rock you know, and x the only time I remember seeing her smile and laugh is x, x maybe around the holidays." Tape #5</p>
<p>Maki Widow 5 Kids ZoomIn to mom Emil Maki Wed. ZoomIn to mom</p>	<p>N: Because of the Barnes-Hecker cave-in, Ruth Powell says her mother was widowed at age 31. She would never remarry. Ruth says her mother was a very strong person and worked various jobs to support the family.</p>
	<p>Interview w/ Ruth Powell, "She wallpapered in the summer months, every evening. And she sewed for the lady and baked for the lady next door. And she did sew for a lot of, she was excellent seamstress. And whenever the lady next door wanted some, where I spend my whole life next door, wanted anything baked, she, my mother was terrific at that, so she, she earned extra money that way all the time. Tape #4</p>
<p>Video of newspaper headlines Cave In Site Frozen Wills on Porch (Tight) Video of newspaper headline</p>	<p>N: News of the catastrophe spread across the country. An early headline incorrectly announced fifty-two miners had died. That number was later changed to fifty-one. Court proceedings were conducted to try to determine what caused the Barnes-Hecker to cave in. Various witnesses, including the only survivor, Rutherford Wills, provided testimony. CCI was not held responsible for the incident.</p>
<p>Cave-In Site</p>	<p>Interview w/ Thomas Friggens, "The best was x of the day coming from the mining engineers, x who were convened to study the accident, determined that it x, probably resulted from, a midday, noontime blast, which ruptured an underground water reservoir called a vug a V-U-G, and it was x the rapid discharge of this water which acted almost like a huge vacuum, which caused the cave-in, from above, from the surface, and in a matter of 15 minutes, water and sand filled the the shaft, from above, filled the shaft and then began back filling the shaft." Tape #13 (RE-SHOT)</p>