

RECORDED INTERVIEW OF CANDACE "CANDY" NORRIS

CONDUCTED BY KAREN BREWSTER

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ORAL HISTORY 2017-01-105

KLONDIKE GOLD RUSH NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK ORAL HISTORY PROJECT
TRANSCRIBED BY RUTH SENSENIG

[00:00:00]KAREN BREWSTER: Ok, this is Karen Brewster, and today is May 8, 2019. And I am here with Candy Norris at her home in Santa Fe, in El Dorado at Santa Fe part of town, I guess. And this is for the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park Oral History Project. Um, and Candy, as I said, your name has come up because you worked with Parks Canada.

CANDACE NORRIS: Right.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um, but before we get to that, I would like to know a little bit about you. Um, and so, where are you from originally?

CANDACE NORRIS: I actually grew up in Vancouver, British Columbia, so I'm a -- I'm now a dual citizen.

KAREN BREWSTER: Uh-huh.

CANDACE NORRIS: So and I -- last year, I had lived half my life in Canada and half in the US.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, congratulations.

CANDACE NORRIS: Now I just -- I tipped over.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um, and what's your educational background?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, well, when I worked for the Chilkoot, I had um, done one year of an outdoor recreation management program, but I have since done a master's in science and nursing. So I became a nurse practitioner after I finished all my trail work.

[00:01:16]KAREN BREWSTER: Ok. And so, how did you get from Vancouver to Alaska?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, that's really a long story. Uh, well, when I was, uh, in my late teens, I was involved in a youth program called Katimavik, and that program recruited youth. I think you had to be 18 to 22 or 18 to 23, something like that, and they would have you work in three different regions of Canada. And your goal was to do community service. So I think it's like Vista.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: And then, the other part of it was to learn your -- you know, if you were an Anglophone, to learn French, or vice versa. So my last go-round was in Atlin, British Columbia, which is, of course, far northwestern British Columbia. And um, so I ended up kind of learning about -- I lived in the Yukon and that part of the world for a long time, and um, I hiked the Chilkoot, so I got to know what the Chilkoot was. And gee, now, I have to think about all the sequence of events here. So um, I met my -- well, actually, I -- as I was living there, I decided I was going to do this outdoor recreation program, and at the end of that I -- Well, at the end of the

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first year, they were hiring for a new -- they call them warden patrol people, on the Chilkoot. So I applied for the job, and I got it. So, um --

KAREN BREWSTER: And what -- what year would that have been?

CANDACE NORRIS: That would've been 1981. And so, I um, that's how I ended up on the Chilkoot. And then, I met my first husband there, and then several years later, Frank and I met. So it goes on.

KAREN BREWSTER: I'm going to pause for a second. (pause) [00:03:24]So when you were in Atlin, what kind of things were you doing there?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, what did we do there? Oh, geez. Um, I know we had a big garden, so we were trying to grow our own food, haplessly, but we did all right. And we were doing some work on some old buildings in town. I remember we were peeling lots of logs 'cause they were going to use them for some purpose. Um, we got to do a lot of recreational things, which was fun. We did a big canoe trip all the way to the end of Atlin Lake down to Atlin Glacier and back, and we all survived. And um, I don't know, just what -- I think just whatever community kind of stuff came up. It wasn't any big, major projects that I recall, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: And how many of you were there?

CANDACE NORRIS: In Atlin, there were ten of us, and then there was another group that was in Dawson City, and then another group that was on the Yukon River.

KAREN BREWSTER: Uh-huh.

CANDACE NORRIS: So there were thirty that went to that part of the country.

KAREN BREWSTER: And how long were you up there?

CANDACE NORRIS: Um, three months.

KAREN BREWSTER: Was it a summer program, or -- ?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, it was the -- Katimavik was nine months long, so it was three months in each area that you went to. So the last three were up there.

[00:04:40]KAREN BREWSTER: Ok. And then, you said you applied for this warden patrol position. Was that from Atlin, or did you go back to Brit -- to Vancouver?

CANDACE NORRIS: No, I worked -- I did a lot of seasonal work up in Dawson City for about, oh, two -- two or three years. Working, doing tour guiding things, and oh, lots of different things in Dawson City, 'cause you could work two or three jobs easily there. They loved to have you work. And then, I um, decided I wanted to go to school, so I went into outdoor recreation management. I'm really not sure why I picked that at the time, but I did.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh. And where was that program located?

CANDACE NORRIS: It was in Vancouver, north Vancouver. And so, I did one year of that. And it -- you know, it was a good -- a good program for learning, you know, good outdoor skills, and, you know, how to be a good environmental steward and those kind of things. So apparently it gave me enough knowledge to get the job.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

CANDACE NORRIS: So I was happy.

[00:05:47]KAREN BREWSTER: So being a warden patrol, that was for Parks Canada?

CANDACE NORRIS: Right.

KAREN BREWSTER: Or they -- I don't know if they were called Parks Canada at that point.

CANDACE NORRIS: They were Parks Canada at that point.

KAREN BREWSTER: So --

CANDACE NORRIS: Then they changed it at a later time, and then they went back to Parks Canada. They were Canada Parks or something for a while. It was some --

KAREN BREWSTER: Something Parks and Environment or something?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yes, that's right. Environment and Parks, something. Anyhow, it didn't stick.

KAREN BREWSTER: No. Parks Canada's way easier.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: So what did that job entail?

CANDACE NORRIS: The warden patrol job?

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, my. Um, I guess the main focus was public safety, so we were there to patrol the trail, do trail maintenance, um, make sure the hikers made it across the trail because, of course, you know, we were always dealing with hypothermia or all kinds of issues. You know, health issues, everything from heart attacks to blisters. And um, just, you know, we worked pretty closely with our American counterparts, so we always knew how many people were coming across the trail, and they would always give us a heads up for people that might be potential problems, you know, just in terms of ability or behavioral issues or whatever was going on. Um, yeah, and then we, you know, did a lot of resource management just in terms of the historical resource, just trying to record it, make sure it was, you know, protected as much as we could, and making sure people weren't burning artifacts and things like that. We -- later on, there was more First Nations liaison stuff. I wasn't so involved with that, but I know they involve -- they evolved in that direction. That was just starting as I finished.

[00:07:38]KAREN BREWSTER: Ok. And how many years did you do that?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, ten years.

KAREN BREWSTER: Wow. So seasonally for ten years?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. Seasonally for ten years.

KAREN BREWSTER: So you will know a lot about this subject.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. Oh no, I worked there a long time. It was a great job. It was a lot of fun.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. So when you were doing the -- the stuff on the trail, were you stationed at one of the campgrounds up there?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, we had a big camp at Lake Lindeman. So that was our base camp.

And then we had an outpost up at the summit. Initially, it was at Stone Crib, which was a little area just past the summit. And then toward the end of the time I was there, they got rid of the Stone Crib facility, and we moved up to the summit. So we would patrol out of Lindeman, so we'd either do -- usually, we'd go up to the summit for anywhere from, sometimes a day, but most of the time, for at least a few days up to four days. And then, you know, the next person would change out with us and um -- and then occasionally we would camp along the trail, so we were in the campsites with the campers. And occasionally, we'd stay down at Bennett. We had an arrangement with the Bennett Eating House that we had a facility there that we could stay in if we needed to. Um, but mostly, we were out of Lindeman.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm. So there was a structure at the summit? There's like a --

CANDACE NORRIS: Like a little cabin.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: I mean, it's -- it's -- it's pre-fab, so it's flown in, and then we constructed it.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

[00:09:18]KAREN BREWSTER: So when you started in 1981, were all the campgrounds along the way established?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, they were pretty rudimentary. I mean, there was always, you know, places people could put a tent. And we tried to get people to go to the campsites, which was always a challenge. Um, there was always an outhouse, but there really -- you know, that's it. And now, they've really upgraded things. Like at Happy Camp, there's a cabin. Um, Lindeman always had a couple of cabins available for people, not to stay in, but, you know, they could cook in there or sit out of the rain if it's pouring.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

CANDACE NORRIS: And I'm not sure if they have much at the other campgrounds, but I know they have tent platforms now 'cause we went back and hiked the trail about, um, five, seven years ago with our -- we took our daughter up. And so, I was, you know, impressed that they had changed quite a bit since I had worked there.

[00:10:16]KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. And now, in Lindeman now they have a fairly regular ranger program.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, I don't know, you know, I really don't know what they're doing there as far as the staff.

KAREN BREWSTER: Did you -- did you do any kinds of programs along the trail?

CANDACE NORRIS: You mean, as far as education things?

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: It was all very informal. You know, we had a tent set up in Lindeman that was historic photographs.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: And we would set that up in the summer, and then if people wanted to come over and, you know, have a little chat about what happened on the trail, we were happy to talk about it. Or, you know, if they wanted to know about any of the flowers or anything like that, or any of the animals they might encounter, but there wasn't any formalized programming that was done.

[00:11:03]KAREN BREWSTER: Ok. Um, and so, I'm wondering in some of your -- the job duties you were talking about. You know, patrolling the trail and being in communication with the American side, how did you guys communicate?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, we had radios.

KAREN BREWSTER: Even back in the '80's, huh?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. We -- well, we had single sideband radio, way back in the day. Single sideband, I couldn't tell you how that technology works, but it's not like a little walkie-talkie. It's a thing you have to set up, like big wire antennas and that's -- it's a deal.

KAREN BREWSTER: And was it -- you had to carry it with you? Or I mean --

CANDACE NORRIS: No, we didn't have -- we only had that at Lindeman, so I'm not really sure. I can't remember what we used the first couple of years, because eventually, we got, like, walkie-talkie kind of radios. And I think that was at, um, that was because of Jay Cable, who was

the chief ranger on the American side for a number of years. And I think he really pushed that through and got a repeater set out so that there -- they would actually work.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. I would think -- I don't know the technology either, to know the range of these kinds of communications systems and that. Would it really work between Sheep Camp and -- ?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, the single sideband did work. I mean, we did communicate, so it must've worked. I mean, they must've had a single sideband at Sheep Camp. We had one at Lindeman. We must've -- and then we communicated with Whitehorse. And I'm not sure if we talked to Skagway at all, but we wouldn't have had a need to anyhow, so.

[00:12:36]KAREN BREWSTER: And then, at the summit, was there a radio up there?

CANDACE NORRIS: I don't remember there being a radio up there. We must've had something, though, you know. But I remember definitely for most of the years I worked there, we had portable radios we carried.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: You know, and we always had 'em with us, and we had to sleep with the batteries and things like that because, you know, you lose power when your battery's cold.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. Well, um, yeah, 'cause thinking of if you're keeping an eye out for specific hikers.

CANDACE NORRIS: Right.

KAREN BREWSTER: If you knew at Lindeman, that wouldn't help you if you were at the summit.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, so we must've had those portable radios right from -- right from the beginning. Because, you know, the first year I worked there, I met my first husband because he dislocated his shoulder at the summit. And we had to res -- we had to reset the shoulder because, you know, there's no way he was going to walk outta there, and he didn't want to pay for an evacuation. So we were in touch with the -- the physician in Haines, Alaska, of all things. So I think we were in touch with the American rangers. I remember there was myself, and probably another one of the warden patrol people and then at least one of the American rangers, and then we were in touch with Skagway, who was in touch with the doctor, who happened to be at Skagway. And he told us how to do it, and it worked.

[00:14:06]KAREN BREWSTER: Well, I was going to say that as the trail wardens, did you know how to do that, to reset a shoulder?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, no.

KAREN BREWSTER: Your first aid -- your first aid training didn't cover that?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. No, I mean, I had -- you know, I was trained as an EMT, and I had wilderness first aid, but I think everybody had similar, but shoulder dislocations, they pretty much tell you, put it in a sling and, you know, get them out. But he wasn't going to be able to walk seventeen miles --

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: -- to get out, so, with his arm in a sling. And then he had this massive backpack that that had to get out, too, so anyhow.

KAREN BREWSTER: So you reset his shoulder and he walked out?

CANDACE NORRIS: And he walked out. Somebody else carried his pack.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, that's a good strategy.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

[00:14:54]KAREN BREWSTER: Um, well that was one of my questions was, you talked about dealing with hiker injuries or issues, and what some examples were?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, lots and lots of hypothermia. That was, like, number one, because, you know, the weather up there is unpredictable, and even if it's not pouring rain, it's always chilly 'cause there's always a wind. It's almost never warm up there. Um, we certainly had heart issues. Lots and lots of sprains and strains and burns and blisters. And, you know, foot injuries, like toenails and all kinds of stuff. You name it, we saw it.

KAREN BREWSTER: And so that was, your -- your training to assist them was your wilderness first aid and that kind of stuff?

CANDACE NORRIS: And EMT, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: You guys all -- was that required training?

CANDACE NORRIS: Um, I don't know if it was required. I mean, they definitely wanted us to have some basic stuff, but most of the people I worked with wanted to get more. Because really, when you're out there, you're it, so you kinda want to have a pretty good sense of what you're doing. Um, 'cause you're far away, and there isn't anybody there but you, so.

[00:16:07]KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm. Were there people who, you know, if you get a strain or a sprain, or if you have a foot injury, that's I'd say, a long seventeen miles.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, usually we could get them down to Lindeman. You know, sometimes it was a very slow go, and sometimes we'd have to really babysit them down the trail. But once we got to Lindeman, we had a boat, so we could get people down to Bennett.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh.

CANDACE NORRIS: Then we could get them down to the end of Lake Lindeman, and then there was about a one-mile walk to the lake. And they -- you know, in the early days they could take the train. When the train stopped running, then there was a Casey car, so there was a little maintenance car, and they would -- they would happily take people out. And then there was also for a while boats going up and down to Carcross.

KAREN BREWSTER: From?

CANDACE NORRIS: From Bennett.

KAREN BREWSTER: From Bennett, oh.

CANDACE NORRIS: They were kind of a tour operator thing.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh.

CANDACE NORRIS: But they -- they could be, um, recruited to help if we needed their help.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, I never -- I don't know about those tour boats.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, they're -- I can't remember the name of the company, but they used to bring -- they'd bring -- brought people across the trail, and then they'd get in a boat, and they'd go down to the other -- down to Carcross, so.

KAREN BREWSTER: Hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: 'Cause the train wasn't running, probably, at that time, so that was the only way to get out except to walk the tracks, and the White Pass company wasn't too happy if people walked the tracks.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right, and that would be walking the tracks out to the Klondike Highway?

CANDACE NORRIS: Right.

KAREN BREWSTER: 'Cause by '83, the --

CANDACE NORRIS: The train had stopped.

KAREN BREWSTER: The train had stopped, but by '81, the highway was in?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, the highway was in, and uh, so we used to walk the tracks all the time.

KAREN BREWSTER: It used to be on the maps for the trail.

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. And even when we walked out this last -- 'cause, you know, I knew you could walk out, so there used to be a cut-off trail, and they've actually tried to obscure the cut-off trail 'cause they don't want people to use it.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

CANDACE NORRIS: And they -- there used to be a bridge across a pretty large creek, and they had kind of knocked that bridge almost to the point where you couldn't use it, so it's probably not there anymore.

[00:18:12]KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. But yeah, I didn't think about when the train stopped running how hikers would get out.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, most of the time they walked. They took the cut-off trail and walked out.

KAREN BREWSTER: Back to the highway?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yep. And there was a parking lot there, so sometimes people had two vehicles, so they'd leave one there and take one down to Skagway.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: Or there was a bus that used to go back and forth between Whitehorse and Skagway, so they would make a stop there. Um, I think people could just flag the bus, or they'd arrange for someone to pick them up, so.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm. Were there ever, um, airplanes? Did people use -- charter a flight to pick 'em up?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, I don't ever remember a plane flying in from a person chartering it in. I mean, we did -- we had lots of flights, 'cause that was, um, our supply route. You know, that's how they'd bring in our stuff. Either when the train was running, we'd bring stuff on the train and then pack it over to Lake Lindeman. When that stopped, then they would fly stuff out, I can't remember how often, but probably every couple weeks, we'd get a load of groceries.

KAREN BREWSTER: And they -- they would fly --

CANDACE NORRIS: From Whitehorse.

KAREN BREWSTER: And land on Lindeman?

CANDACE NORRIS: Um-hm.

[00:19:21]KAREN BREWSTER: Oh. Um, did you ever have to have anybody evacuated by helicopter, that you couldn't get them to Lindeman and walk out or boat out?

CANDACE NORRIS: Not by helicopter, but by float plane. We had to fly some people out.

KAREN BREWSTER: That would be getting them to Lindeman?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, that would be getting them back to Whitehorse. So they -- they'd have to get down to Lindeman and then get 'em out. But um, that wasn't actually very common, so mostly it was, we could get them out as far as Bennett, and then they would be able to get out from there, so.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm. So nobody died of a heart attack on the trail?

CANDACE NORRIS: No, thankfully.

KAREN BREWSTER: That's good. [00:20:07]Um, now what was I just going to ask about? Just other hiker issues that you sort of said, you know --

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, just people always overestimate their abilities, or they come completely unprepared for the weather. So we would always have lots of garbage bags at the summit, so we could make impromptu rain gear. Used duct tape and black plastic bags, and off you go. And um, you know, people from the Yukon are notoriously bad about wanting to build fires everywhere because that's what they're used to doing everywhere else and probably had done that for years before the Chilkoot was any kind of place that anybody cared about, you know, but.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: So we were always having to say, no, you have to bring a stove.

[00:21:00]KAREN BREWSTER: So were people hiking from the Canadian side down?

CANDACE NORRIS: No, mostly the vast majority go from Dyea over to Bennett.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: Occasionally, you know, there are southbound hikers, definitely, but you're walking into the wind almost always.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh.

CANDACE NORRIS: So that's not a very pleasant way to do it.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, somebody told me that also that, if you walk nowadays, if you're walking the other direction, you're also walking into all the crowds of people. Not crowds, but you run into lots of people.

CANDACE NORRIS: Right.

KAREN BREWSTER: So there's a lot of stopping and chatting.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, that's true. Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: That maybe for some people would be a slowdown.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, and maybe some people would like that.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: Um, but yeah, it would definitely mean you'd run into every person going over, at some point.

[00:21:47]KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. And nowadays, you know, they have this rule limiting fifty people over the summit at a time.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Do you remember if you had those kinds of limits?

CANDACE NORRIS: We didn't have any limits. So um, there was a time when the Canad -- there was a group called the Canadian Cadets, so they're like a -- a camp for kids who maybe want to become -- I don't know if they want to become military people or something, but they basically dress in uniforms, and they come -- they used to come up to Whitehorse and sort of do pseudo-military things that kids would do, not shooting guns. I don't know if they shot guns and stuff like that, but definitely hiking the Chilkoot was one of the things. And so, we'd have days when the cadets would come through that it would be like 150 people across.

KAREN BREWSTER: Wow.

CANDACE NORRIS: 'Cause they were like a group of 75 kids or 80 kids or something.

KAREN BREWSTER: Wow.

CANDACE NORRIS: So, you know, and they would always come at the peak of the summer when everybody else comes. So that was bad.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, so where did all those people camp?

CANDACE NORRIS: Anywhere they could.

[00:22:56]KAREN BREWSTER: So do you think this change to now with these established campgrounds, you can only camp at certain places --

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. I think --

KAREN BREWSTER: Is that an improvement?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. I think so. I mean, you know, 'cause there aren't any outhouses anywhere else. You know, and it's a very fragile alpine environment on the Canadian side, so you have to be careful about everything. You know, even people just going off the trail can damage the environment so much, so.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um, do you know when that practice was put in place to have the established stop points?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, after I left.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: I couldn't tell you exactly when.

[00:23:34]KAREN BREWSTER: And was there any kind of a permit or registration system?

CANDACE NORRIS: No.

KAREN BREWSTER: When you were there?

CANDACE NORRIS: No, nothing like that. And not really much of an orientation either. I mean, they would often, I think go in and talk to the rangers in Skagway, and they almost always tried to have orientation hikes for the, you know, the interpreters who were gonna talk to people at the beginning of the season, so they would know what they were talking about.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

CANDACE NORRIS: And -- but, you know, some people didn't check in, so they just took off and did the trail and did whatever. You know, they didn't know what to expect, so. But now, they're very -- I think they're very good about trying to really tell people what they're getting into.

[00:24:16]KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. And nowadays, I think, you know, you cross the border, and so nowadays, I think the Canadian wardens are sort of the border patrol, checking passports, or I don't quite know how that works.

CANDACE NORRIS: No, you know, I don't know that they -- maybe they've gotten really strict. I mean, we never cared about anything like that. And the border, you know, never -- the border people never gave us any problem about that, you know, so. And, you know, people were just supposed to be aware that they should check in at the border when they went over.

KAREN BREWSTER: When they went back, you mean?

CANDACE NORRIS: Right. Go back to Fraser and say, I crossed.

KAREN BREWSTER: And now, I'm coming back.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. But who knows if people did.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. And you weren't checking for the thousand pounds of goods?

CANDACE NORRIS: No, no.

[00:25:05]KAREN BREWSTER: Um, so did you enjoy that job?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, I loved that job. It was a lot of fun. It's a great job to do when your knees are healthy and your back is healthy. And, you know, if you don't have any attachments outside of working, you know, because you're -- you're basically gone for a season. I mean, you can come, you know, we used to work a ten-day shift, so we'd be in for ten, out for four.

KAREN BREWSTER: And you'd go back to Whitehorse in between?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, usually to Whitehorse. I did for one -- one or two seasons, I went down to Skagway. Probably after Frank and I were together, I went down to Skagway. And then, another time, I kinda split my time between Skagway and Whitehorse. Because I didn't have -- I wasn't really living in either place. I was just staying with friends when I went out.

[00:25:53]KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. And so, um, what was the season? When did you first go out onto the trail?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, we'd usually go out right around, um, just after Victoria Day in Canada, which is about May 21. And then, we'd come back in, oh, probably by mid-September at the very latest. So we'd always be there for Labor Day weekend, 'cause that's a big hiking weekend still. But right after that, the trail traffic really drops off 'cause the weather starts getting really unpredictable. I mean, it can snow anytime, so.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, well that's what I was going to ask about, snow conditions. May 21 to mid-September. When you went up in May, was there still snow there?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. I mean, our first patrols were always across big snowfields, and we'd have snowshoes. And um, you know, for a long time, it was walking on snow, like all the way from probably Deep Lake, and Deep Lake's about three miles north of Lindeman, all the way to the summit, it would be snow, so. And depending on the year, heavier snow years or lighter. But now, I'm sure they don't get as much snow, you know, and it doesn't stick around as long.

KAREN BREWSTER: But they still on their education and promotion for the trail, in their material, they still have photos of big snowfields and --

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, well, 'cause people -- I think that's a shock to a lot of people. It's like, oh, there's snow?

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: I have to walk on this? And it can be awful because unless you go first thing in the morning, you're going to stovepipe, where your leg goes down to your hip --

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

CANDACE NORRIS: -- with every step. So you know, unless you have snow shoes or you go when there's a crust on the snow, it's awful.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yes.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, so.

[00:27:42]KAREN BREWSTER: And well, you guys -- would you sort of break a trail, and then that would be easier for -- ?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, we -- we carried these huge markers that were tall as I am with a big bright orange flag, you know, like a permanent plastic flag, so they would stand out pretty well in the, you know, against the snow, or even in a whiteout. So we would haul those things. I mean, they weighed a ton. And we used to haul those and mark the trail. So -- and we would -- part of the public safety is, somebody had to reset that trail every day.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, really?

CANDACE NORRIS: In the -- in the snow, because things are changing so fast. It's melting, the creeks are chang -- you know, moving, and snowfields are collapsing. So you have to rework that trail every day, so.

[00:28:27]KAREN BREWSTER: I was going to say, how did you find the trail in the beginning of the season if it was all just snowfields and not marked? How did you know where the trail was?

CANDACE NORRIS: Um, well, the person I worked with there, Christine Hedgecock, had worked there, oh gee, when did Christine start working there? Probably about 1976, maybe. So she'd already been there for several years, and as far as I know, she's still there.

KAREN BREWSTER: Is she?

CANDACE NORRIS: And so, Christine knew where the trail was, knew where the -- you know, and they would always cache markers way up high where we knew there wouldn't be snow that would stay for very long. So um, she knew where the trail was, you know, when we first -- the first year I went, I had no idea where the trail went in the winter. Um, but, you know, after you've done it one season, you kinda know where the trail goes.

KAREN BREWSTER: Even if it's all covered in snow?

CANDACE NORRIS: Um-hm. It's pretty -- you know, there are certain landmarks. You just know where things are. And, you know, it might not be exactly where the trail is, but it's close enough, you know, to it, that people could certainly follow the markers.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, and then get to where there's no snow?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: And then eventually, you know, as the snow melts.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. Then you move it over to exactly where the trail goes.

[00:29:40]KAREN BREWSTER: And so you guys just marked and followed the trail to the summit? The American side, that was all marked and maintained and patrolled by the National Park Service rangers?

CANDACE NORRIS: Right. Right. Yep, so. Yeah. They didn't use the big markers like we did, but they would often have cairns with duct tape, or not duct tape --

KAREN BREWSTER: Survey tape.

CANDACE NORRIS: Survey tape, yeah. And some markers, I think.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, I don't know now if they're, um -- if they have those big markers.

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, the -- I think somebody from Parks Canada made those markers, so I don't know what they're doing now 'cause, you know -- I don't know if somebody else was trying to replace them or not.

KAREN BREWSTER: It didn't -- it never occurred to me that you'd have to carry them in and move them. I kinda figured, they're big markers, and they're there. And they're there.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, 'cause they have to move with the conditions, so they have to be mobile. So you know, we had huge cairns, like big inuksuks that we had built.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: And those would stand out eventually, but sometimes the snow was deeper than the inuksuks.

KAREN BREWSTER: Really?

CANDACE NORRIS: So you wouldn't see them.

KAREN BREWSTER: For people who don't know what an inuksuk is, I know, but it's the piles of rocks kind -- well, sort of shaped like a human.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. Or sometimes, just a big cairn. Sometimes we built, like, an inuksuk human-looking thing, and sometimes they were just really big cairns.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: We tried to build them on higher ground so they would melt out early, but sometimes they were still hard to see. So the markers were important.

[00:31:19]KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. Did you guys keep track of numbers of people on the trail?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Per seas -- per year?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, yeah. Yeah, we did. Every day.

KAREN BREWSTER: Do you remember any of that, like how many in those first years versus the later years?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh. It would vary so much, you know. Earlier in the season, there would be fewer people, typically, you know, the -- if you'd go right -- right up until probably until almost July the first, you know, the big weekend, July 1st, July 4th. It wasn't that busy, because there was a lot of snow, and um, it just didn't seem like a busier time of year. But anytime July, August, it was always really busy. There were many more people. But then it would die off really fast, after Labor Day.

[00:32:10]KAREN BREWSTER: And did you notice from, you know, '81 to '91, a change in total numbers? Were there more people coming than there had been?

CANDACE NORRIS: More Europeans.

KAREN BREWSTER: Hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: You know, there weren't a lot of Europeans that I recall initially, but a lot of Germans. A lot of Germans.

KAREN BREWSTER: Hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: I think because it became a known, you know, hiking experience, and so there were actually -- there were guides that we'd see every year that would bring their groups over. A lot of individuals. And -- and Germans are just real outdoorsy people.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: So they seem to, you know, really want to do that kind of thing.

[00:32:51]KAREN BREWSTER: So were there guided hikes? There were --

CANDACE NORRIS: Some, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah?

CANDACE NORRIS: And some were just independent.

KAREN BREWSTER: I don't know if you can -- if they still allow guides.

CANDACE NORRIS: I don't know. You know, and there were no permits or anything, so they just did whatever.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. And were there people who, you know, like in the gold rush. You could pay somebody to pack your gear? Were there people who were, like, packers?

CANDACE NORRIS: No. Not that I'm aware of. I never heard about anything like that. I think there were people that wished they could've done that.

KAREN BREWSTER: I was thinking, there's a good little business to start. [00:33:27]Um, well and, as you said, you must've carried heavy packs?

CANDACE NORRIS: Um, yeah, we would carry probably twenty to thirty pounds every time we would go out. 'Cause we had these huge first aid kits. I mean, the things were -- my boss made them, actually, and they would roll up.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: So they had all -- you know, many pockets, and you'd roll 'em up. But the things were like a big sleeping bag. And they probably weighed, I don't know, fifteen

pounds, anyhow, 'cause we had all kinds of stuff in them. And then we'd have, you know, we'd have to take some food up, and water, and whatever you wanted to have for clothing, so.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm. But then in the beginning of the season, you said -- or bringing supplies in. You guys would have to pack that in from Bennett, or -- ?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, it depends. They -- usually, in the earliest part of the time I worked there, they would fly it in by helicopter from -- usually from Log Cabin.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: So drive a big truck down there, and then they'd just sling stuff across. And then, I think it probably got to be too expensive to do that, so they went with fixed-wing aircraft instead that would just fly stuff in to Lindeman.

[00:34:38]KAREN BREWSTER: So how often would you get resupplied with fresh food?

CANDACE NORRIS: I'm thinking about every couple weeks. I don't think they would've done it once a week.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: That's too much money.

KAREN BREWSTER: Or, I was thinking when you guys went out to Whitehorse or Skagway on your days off, did you carry fresh things back in?

CANDACE NORRIS: Sometimes, yeah. Most of the people were carrying their laundry. But I remember washing my clothes up there, because the first year I worked there, we didn't actually take much time off, as I recall. We just kinda worked there, and then, you know, occasionally we'd walk out and go down to Skagway for the Fourth of July or something. It was just a different atmosphere. You know, everybody kind of really liked working, and we didn't really care about going out, and you just go out when you wanted to go out and come back.

KAREN BREWSTER: Hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: So we did a lot of laundry in there with the washboard.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. Oh, is that how you --

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: You didn't pull the washboard off the trail, did you, and use it?

CANDACE NORRIS: No.

KAREN BREWSTER: Maybe.

CANDACE NORRIS: Didn't find one of those.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um, well yeah, that's a lot of work.

CANDACE NORRIS: Um-hm. [00:35:48]I was young. We used to bake our own bread. We used to do a lot of stuff.

KAREN BREWSTER: At Lindeman?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. 'Cause we had -- I mean, I've used these a lot, these Coleman ovens.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: And they fit over top of a gas range, and then, you know, you can actually do pretty good baking in those if you learn how to regulate the temperature.

KAREN BREWSTER: It fits over one of the Coleman, like, two-burner -- ?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. So we had propane stoves and Coleman ovens, so yeah, we used to make our own bread.

KAREN BREWSTER: Wow.

CANDACE NORRIS: Seems unbelievably amazing to me now.

[00:36:25]KAREN BREWSTER: And so, how many rangers -- I call them rangers 'cause that's the American term, but --

CANDACE NORRIS: Right.

KAREN BREWSTER: Patrol wardens.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: How many were on the trail on the Canadian side at any one time?

CANDACE NORRIS: Um, well, when I first worked there, it was a corps of four. Uh, there was the supervisor and three warden patrol people. And then they brought in a bilingual person, so there had to be -- and I think that was one of the four, so one of the people had to be bilingual.

And then, they brought in, um, a big archeological crew one year. That was, uh, I can't remember the exact year, but they were there for a number of years. So there was one year, we had a huge crew in there. There was a bunch of archeologists, about four of them. Then we had trail surveyors; there was about four of them. Then there was the crew on the trail, so there was four of us, plus maybe one -- I think we had a -- they call him a CO-CEP student, so it was like a university student that was getting environmental experience.

KAREN BREWSTER: So like an intern?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, and they'd come out for at least a month. They were there a long time. So there were a lot of people there. There was about fifteen people there.

KAREN BREWSTER: And they were all at Lindeman?

CANDACE NORRIS: They were all based out of Lindeman. Except the archies went up to the summit for a while, which was good. I don't think they thought it was good, but it kind of lessened the burden down there. But we had to get a camp cook that year because we couldn't keep up with all the stuff. Cooking for all those people and cleaning up.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: It was a lot of work.

[00:38:06]CANDACE NORRIS: Well, we had a bunch of wall tents. That's how -- we had a cookhouse. So initially, it was a cook tent. Eventually, it became a cookhouse. So -- and that had a pretty big table, a long table, and it had a wood stove, and then it had a couple of propane, you know, burner stoves. And then there were several wall tents, so sleeping tents, and then there was a tent for the interpretive photographs. There was a tent that had most of our staples, like, food staples and things. And uh, we had a shower set up insi -- you know, like a little -- looked like an outhouse building. Yeah, it was a pretty big camp.

[00:38:52]KAREN BREWSTER: So what were the archeologists working on, do you know? What they might have found?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, they were basically, I think, mapping existing archeological sites, and just recording what was there. I don't think they found anything remarkable. We found something remarkable one year.

KAREN BREWSTER: What did you find?

CANDACE NORRIS: I think it was, um, my second season there, and um, I think we were marking the trail, and that's why this happened, because we got off the trail entirely. You know, like we were trying to find a safe way to get people up out of Happy Camp, and um, there was an exposed knoll, and we -- I think we probably went up there to eat lunch or something 'cause it was off the snow, and we found a briefcase that somebody had dropped during the gold rush.

CANDACE NORRIS

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KAREN BREWSTER: Wow.

CANDACE NORRIS: And it was full of somebody's worldly goods on their way to Dawson City. And it had -- I remember it had a set of gold scales. It had a set of candlesticks. It had a pocket watch. It had mining rules, like a book with mining rules in it. Um, I mean, it was -- Oh, I think, spectacles. It had, you know -- he was going to miss that.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. It didn't have his name written in his briefcase?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, we didn't, um, we didn't want to rummage around in it too much, so we, you know, the superficial things we would -- we looked at, but we -- it basically got shipped out to Winnipeg, which is where Parks Canada's big office is. So I don't know whatever happened to that. I hope it got interpreted somewhere.

[00:40:36]KAREN BREWSTER: Well, my question, you know, on the American side, all the artifacts and archeological excavations and everything goes into the Klondike park's collections.

CANDACE NORRIS: Right.

KAREN BREWSTER: What happens on the Canadian side?

CANDACE NORRIS: I don't know. There's not really anything equivalent, which is sad. I mean, I think they feel like Whitehorse is so far away, you know. They don't want to -- they don't set anything up there, so. And they don't have anything at Bennett.

KAREN BREWSTER: There's no place to preserve -- well, you said, like that one went to Winnipeg. Why did it go to Winnipeg and not to Whitehorse?

CANDACE NORRIS: 'Cause that's the big regional center for, I guess, the west. So things, you know, -- that's where all the big archeological crews would come out of Winnipeg. The survey crew would come out of Winnipeg.

KAREN BREWSTER: So it would be like coming out of Anchorage Regional Office?

CANDACE NORRIS: Exactly. Yep. So, you know, anything that we found, that was, you know, the place they went, so.

[00:41:37]KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, well, I was going to say, I wonder why it didn't go to Skagway, but maybe that was too much of a relationship with Parks Canada and the US.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, 'cause it was found on the Canadian side, so that's probably why. But, you know, even at the time, we thought, we really hope this comes back because it's such a unique thing to find.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: But I don't know whatever happened to it.

[00:42:01]KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, any other interesting things you found?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, you know, if you get off the beaten path a little bit, like places that people don't usually go that we would go, like where the old -- part of where the old Bennett City was located, you'd find lots of really cool stuff, bottles and cans with labels on them still and all kinds of things like that. And the old Sheep Camp, actually the rangers there could take you over to the -- where the old Sheep Camp ruins were, and there was a lot of neat old stuff over there, too. But anything that was on the trail definitely got picked over.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: You know, horseshoes would walk, and --

KAREN BREWSTER: Even on the Canadian --

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: I've heard that for the US side, but on the Canadian side?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. Absolutely. Um, because I had pictures of things from when I first worked there, and then when we went back this time, it's like, oh. There's nothing left.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, I don't know if some of that walked away by, you know, for preservation reasons?

CANDACE NORRIS: Right.

KAREN BREWSTER: Or if it walked away for human --

CANDACE NORRIS: People. Probably both.

KAREN BREWSTER: Because, I mean, certainly nowadays, there's a lot of education about, don't take artifacts home, and leave things where you find them. But certainly, in the '70's, '80's, and early '90's, I don't know that that was happening.

CANDACE NORRIS: No. [00:43:17]Um, you know, there was a blacksmith's shop along the trail. And you could tell it was a blacksmith's shop. There were horseshoes everywhere, and a forge, and, you know, you could just see that it had been a place where somebody was working on, um, horses. And it was right at the -- there used to be a wagon road that went right through the Happy Camp canyon, and so it was right at the end of that canyon. And all, you know, those horseshoes are gone, long gone.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, but so, they used horses on the Canadian side?

CANDACE NORRIS: In places, yeah, where they could. So the Happy Camp canyon, you could take, you know, for a short distance, probably from Crater Lake across Morrow Lake, there's a little bit of a canyon, then Happy Camp canyon down to Long Lake. And then you could take a boat. And then, from there, I think, they had to walk, so yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Because yeah, on the US side, again, they used horses up to a point, but then you had to walk. I didn't think about that then Canadians would have horses on the other end to meet you, and you could hire to --

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. So, you know, horses didn't do the pa -- well, I don't think horses did the pass at all.

KAREN BREWSTER: I can't imagine.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: They did the White Pass summit, for sure.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, they did the White Pass, but you just don't, you know -- Somebody probably tried. But there are pictures of horses at the summit, so they probably were, you know, hauling goods down through -- You know, once you get across the pass, it's a gradual walk, mostly, down.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: To Lake Lindeman. But, you know, there are areas that would be really hard to bring a horse through.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: So.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, and as I say, I think bringing a horse up the pass would've been --

CANDACE NORRIS: Would've been horrible for the poor horse.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: But I don't think that -- I don't think it happened.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, but that -- but I say, I hadn't thought about that the horses could be brought in from Lindeman to meet the men at the summit and help -- and use them to get back down.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, so they had a -- they definitely had horses. Um, you know, whether -- how much they were used, I don't know.

[00:45:27]KAREN BREWSTER: Was there evidence of the cruelty and death of horses to the extent that happened on the White Pass?

CANDACE NORRIS: I don't think they were used to the same extent as on the White Pass. So, you know, I'm sure they weren't well cared for.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: Just given the conditions they were all living in. Um, but maybe the horses on the Chilkoot were more valued 'cause there weren't as many of them.

[00:45:51]KAREN BREWSTER: Maybe. Well, and also, you know, as the patrol warden, I don't know how much you learned on the history and interpreting and all that?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, I did a lot of, you know, a lot of reading 'cause I had worked in Dawson City before I had worked there, so it was cool to kinda work at both ends of where the gold rush had been.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. And was that reading and everything, that was just your personal interest so you would know more?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, pretty much. Um, I don't remember -- you know, I think we were probably encouraged to read, but it was -- I was always interested in the gold rush history, so.

KAREN BREWSTER: 'Cause, yeah, I think, you know, you weren't -- your job wasn't to be an interpretive ranger.

CANDACE NORRIS: No. Yeah, it's, you know, it's different than, I guess, the American Park Service where there are people with definite, assigned roles. That you are an interpreter, you are a back-country ranger. We were kinda, like, everything. And, but we weren't formally, um, you know, given like I said, given the roles of interpreting. But we certainly fielded lots of questions.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: You know, people wanted to know stuff.

KAREN BREWSTER: That's why I thought that you'd self-educated because you knew you'd have to answer questions.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, and um, I think all of us that worked there were all interested in it, so. [00:47:12]Oh, I know what I forgot to say about the -- the staff, too. One of our, um, warden patrol people always had to be a First Nations person. So we had a bilingual person, a First Nations person. I think there were five of us, 'cause I think the bilingual person was an additional person. So yeah, for -- I don't think the first year definitely we didn't have a First Nations or bilingual, but after that, we definitely had a bilingual person, and then probably within a year or two of that, we had a First Nations person always working with us.

KAREN BREWSTER: And did that First Nations person have to be from that region, or it could be any First Nations in Canada?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, preferably from Carcross, so that's usually where they came from.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: And the bilingual was the French-English from the Canadian government?

CANDACE NORRIS: Right. Yeah. You know, they didn't ever have to speak French.

KAREN BREWSTER: I was going to say, how many -- how many hikers going across were French-speaking?

CANDACE NORRIS: I mean, rarely. Rarely they would have to speak French, maybe. But it was just fulfilling a government mandate, so that's why they had a bilingual person.

[00:48:18]KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm. Well, hopefully the people selected for those positions also had, um, wilderness skills and trail --

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: -- knowledge.

CANDACE NORRIS: They were usually pretty good people. There -- one of them was a local guy from, oh, he wasn't from Carcross, but he was from, you know, on the Carcross road.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: So it wasn't really a community, but he was a trapper, so, you know, he knew lots about stuff. He was a trapper with a lot of environmental sensibilities.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yes. Well, and they do know the area 'cause they're out in it a lot.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. So he was -- and he was a really good guy.

[00:48:53]KAREN BREWSTER: Uh-huh. And so one of my questions was about how you divided the duties between the different, um, patrol wardens. It sounds like you kinda all did everything or -- ?

CANDACE NORRIS: We kind of all did everything, you know. I was the supervisor there for a couple of years, um, which was fun. So I think I designated certain things to certain people. Projects for them to do, you know. Um, but we also shared the communal duties of patrolling and, you know, doing all the work we had to do. And later on, the Parks Canada also hired trail -- trail maintenance crew, and they were mostly guys out of Carcross. Mostly First Nation guys, so all the work that we had done, you know, trail clearing and bridge repair and all that kind of stuff, they did.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, so you had to do all of that at the beginning?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. We did all that. Moving big rocks, digging outhouse pits. I did it all. Bucked all the firewood.

[00:49:59]KAREN BREWSTER: Wow. So you said you had projects for the people to work on. What are some of those kinds of projects?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, they weren't anything big, but, you know, I wanted somebody to um -- Well, I remember what I assigned myself. I had to go and record all the artifacts and photograph them and then put compass bearings on them so people could find them. 'Cause I knew where they all were.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

CANDACE NORRIS: So I wanted to record all that. I had somebody, uh -- we had a lot of airplane traffic that went over, so we wanted to kinda record who was going over, and, you know, if they were flying particularly low, and how long they were flying, and that kind of thing. Um, I think we had to put up a bunch of interpretive signs, so there were these huge, metal signs. Ridiculous. And they all had to be carried by a person out to these places on the trail, so I gave that to one person to do.

KAREN BREWSTER: I would think that would take a couple of people to carry those signs?

CANDACE NORRIS: He -- he was -- it was a guy. He was strong, and he didn't mind doing that, but that -- you know, that took him all summer, to move those signs around. So, you know, just stuff like that.

KAREN BREWSTER: And then he had -- he had to install the signs?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Which means digging a hole and putting in the foundation, I don't know.

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, often they would dig a hole and fill it with rocks. You know, instead of -- because we didn't really do cement, so.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: Stuff like that. You know, painting jobs, all that kind of stuff that has to -- you know, there's a lot of maintenance that has to happen, so.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, and I guess there was free time to do that?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, yeah, I mean, 'cause, you know, basically, there was one or two people who would be doing a patrol. Um, so that would mean, you know, between one and three people were available to do other things, so yeah.

[00:51:46]KAREN BREWSTER: Do you remember when you -- you got the maintenance crew?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, gee. It wasn't until probably -- let's see, I finished in '91. I would say about 1987, maybe. Let's see. It might've been a little bit earlier than that. It might've been even '85, actually.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um, and did they have special assignments, like this year we're going to work on this part?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, I would say it was a little more loose than that, so. Um, the crews that we had later, you know, before I left, they were really good. They were really hardworking guys, and they -- they definitely had specific things they wanted to get done, and they did 'em. You know, like they would do big sections of the trail, put in, um, you know, areas that were muddy, they'd put walkways over it, and they did a really good job. The guys that we had earlier were not so good, so they, you know, there was kind of a -- always a struggle to get them to do the work they were supposed to do.

KAREN BREWSTER: And now, did you have any authority over them to say, do this?

CANDACE NORRIS: I wasn't -- I wasn't the boss then. So my -- my boss at the time was not an effective boss.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, so the boss -- the supervisor on the trail oversaw the maintenance crew? They didn't have their own boss?

CANDACE NORRIS: They did. They had a -- well, actually no, I would say they didn't. The -- later on, the later crew did. They definitely had a trail boss. But the earlier guys kinda answered to my boss.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

CANDACE NORRIS: So it was -- it was a little too loosey-goosey.

[00:53:43]KAREN BREWSTER: Are there bridges on the Canadian side that need to be built, maintained?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: 'Cause I know that's a big issue on the American side.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, not -- we don't have, like the bridges like, you know, Jerry Watson put in. Those are amazing. There's a bridge at Lindeman. There's a bridge at Deep Lake. Those are the two big bridges. So and, back in the day, they were, you know, really makeshift. 'Cause they had a real early crew that, you know, found the trail and then marked the trail, and built the

bridges and built the log cabins. Um, and they were there in the early '70's. Frank probably has that all written down in his book. I can't remember. Anyhow, it was, um, they were part of a kind of a youth group, so it was a bunch of young kids and a couple of adults, and they did all this work.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, I know that that was the case in the US side.

CANDACE NORRIS: Um-hm. Probably the same --

KAREN BREWSTER: Did they -- they went all the way over onto the Canadian side?

CANDACE NORRIS: They must've done.

KAREN BREWSTER: I don't know. We have to look it up in Frank's book.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, it would be in Frank's book. Anyhow, they built the original bridges that were still there when I worked there, so they did a really good job.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: But um, they have been replaced, so eventually they just wore out.

[00:55:03]KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm. Besides Christine, do you remember the names of any of the other people you worked with?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. The first year, I worked there, it was Debbie Tosczak, and then, oh, Tom. Can't remember Tom's last name. And Christine and I worked together for many years. She wasn't there -- I think I was the boss there in '88, maybe, and '89. Um, so she was consistent. One of the Native, uh, First Nations guys was Danny Cresswell. I worked with him for many years. He was there for a long, long time. Um, Mark -- what was Mark's last name. He was one of the bilingual guys. Can't think of his last name. It's in Frank's book. Richard, he was another one of the bilingual guys. Bill Overend, he was one of the guys I worked with out there.

[00:56:14]KAREN BREWSTER: Um, starting in 1981, I wouldn't think there would've been too many women doing trail work.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, you know.

KAREN BREWSTER: Being trail rangers or wardens.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, we're -- yeah, I think we were pretty unique. I mean, there definitely were not many women in the warden service.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

CANDACE NORRIS: Um, in fact Debbie Tosczak, who became Debbie Verhalle, was one of the first women to go into the warden's service. And in fact, after she finished working on the Chilkooot, she went off to become a park warden. She went down to Riding Mountain National Park, which is a big training center for wardens, and became a park warden, one of the first women.

KAREN BREWSTER: And that's like being a superintendent?

CANDACE NORRIS: No, that's like being a park warden. So there really were not women in the warden service, so she was a real trailblazer.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: And Christine, my boss, also went down to become a warden, but she really wasn't cut out for that kind of work, so she didn't become a park warden. So she stayed as a warden patrol person.

[00:57:23]KAREN BREWSTER: So what does being a warden entail? What kind of duties does one have?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, park wardens, um, they, you know, will have more law enforcement ability. So they're gonna work in some of the really big parks and do all that kind of

stuff. They're going to do a lot of wildlife management and land management. And um, the wardens in -- the big park in the Yukon is Kluane, and so their -- one of their big things is they do a lot of the high-mountain rescue stuff. So, yeah. But I think we got a lot of respect from those guys 'cause we had to work with them a little bit, you know, to do some cooperative training and things. And um, yeah, I think they thought we were just, you know, a little -- little women running around out on that trail that doesn't mean anything, but we were pretty tough.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, I would think so. Do you remember, were there women on the US side?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, there were.

KAREN BREWSTER: In '81 when you started?

CANDACE NORRIS: Um, yeah. Cristi Herren was over there. I think she was the only female. There was always -- almost always -- I think there was only maybe one year there were no women. There were almost always at least one -- one woman working on the US side.

[00:58:40]KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm. And did -- like at the beginning of the season, did the US rangers and you guys in Canada, did you all get together for a meeting and meet each other?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, actually for a number of years, we did training for rough-terrain rescue and avalanche rescue stuff. So we would usually hire an avalanche or rough-terrain rescue specialist, and then we'd all get together, usually do something in the White Pass. Or -- not usually out on the Chilkoot because it was too hard to get in and out of there, but on the White Pass because it has a road.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

CANDACE NORRIS: It's easy. So like, Doug Fesler was one of the ones we hired, and Hector McKenzie. And so, they would, you know, we'd learn how to use ropes, and how to, you know, get people onto litters and move litters through rough terrain. And um, you know, avalanche prediction and you know, how to rescue people if they're caught in an avalanche. All that kind of stuff. So yeah, we did that for a number of years. So yeah, we tried to work pretty closely with them.

[00:59:43]KAREN BREWSTER: And -- but on the Canadian side, are there places where there's avalanche risk?

CANDACE NORRIS: Actually, yeah. There was a huge avalanche, um, that didn't kill anybody, but it could -- certainly could have. It came down right around -- just below Stone Crib, right along Crater Lake. Um, early in the season, so we -- we were not out on the trail yet, but we walked through the avalanche debris, so it was still pretty fresh. Um, that was probably about 1984, I would say. So that was really scary.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: And after that happened, like, everybody red alert. Avalanches happen here.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, I mean, I always think about it on the US side, you know, coming up the scales.

CANDACE NORRIS: Right.

KAREN BREWSTER: And the summit and all that.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, well, that's historically where there's a big risk, but there hasn't been anything since. I mean, there's always little avalanches that you can see coming down.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

CANDACE NORRIS: But uh, yeah. That was a bit scary.

KAREN BREWSTER: But so, yeah. There were none on the American side that were potential dangers while you were there?

CANDACE NORRIS: No.

KAREN BREWSTER: So you guys did all that training, and you never needed to rescue anybody.

CANDACE NORRIS: No, thankfully.

[01:00:55]KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, I wondered how -- if you got to know the American rangers other than just on the radio?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, we did. I mean, some of them better than others. Some were more -- had more, you know, ability to communicate and were more personable. But um, yeah. Mostly we, you know, whenever we would go into Skagway, if anybody was in town, yeah, we'd get together and see 'em. So yeah, we got to know 'em. You know, some of them, pretty well.

KAREN BREWSTER: Did they ever walk out the Canadian way and you'd see 'em on the trail?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. They'd come -- always come and stay at Lindeman. And often, um, like I said, the interpreters would always do a walk-through, you know, and they'd come and stay. Lots of times, the rangers would come, too, so yeah. That was fun.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, it seems shorter to go out the American way, but --

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, they wouldn't do that routinely, but, you know, sometimes they just -- like a family member would come and visit, and they'd just hike the trail. You know, so they'd come over, or they wanted to just see the Canadian side, 'cause they hadn't seen it, so they'd just walk out that way.

[01:02:00]KAREN BREWSTER: And did -- I was going to say, doing all that hiking back and forth, from Lindeman to the summit and to Bennett, did you get tired of doing the trail?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, never the Canadian side, because it's just so beautiful. I mean, that's my favorite kind of country. It's all above treeline, and -- you know, until you get down to Lindeman. And it's stunning. I mean, it's just beautiful. Those big, alpine lakes up there, and you spend, you know, when you're up at Stone Crib, if you're up there by yourself, I mean, you're up there, and there's nobody else around for a long, long way. It's beautiful. Um, and -- but I got tired of the American side, I have to say. Because it's, you know, it's a rain forest. It's beautiful. I grew up in a rain forest, so it wasn't anything new for me. Um, just never was my favorite to go through there, but I certainly hiked it many, many times.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, you did?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. Yep.

[01:02:56]KAREN BREWSTER: So if you -- yeah, if you had a day off and you were going to go to Skagway, did you hike down?

CANDACE NORRIS: No.

KAREN BREWSTER: No.

CANDACE NORRIS: Never. Maybe once or twice.

KAREN BREWSTER: You hiked out to the road and then --

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. But, you know, we would -- one year, we -- we had a bunch of Girl Scouts come through, so they were coming with -- I guess they just, you know, a big group wanted to come through. So they contacted us to see if one of us could help, you know, with -- I guess just come through on the hike with them. So I did that. That was really fun. And uh, I don't know, for various reasons, I remember going up and down that trail on the US side. I think a few

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times, actually, they didn't have any rangers available, for whatever reason, so Debbie Tosczak and I went down to Sheep Camp and were sort of the stand-in rangers for a few days.

KAREN BREWSTER: So you hiked down from the summit?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. Yeah, it's not very much fun to go down that pass.

KAREN BREWSTER: No, I wouldn't think so.

CANDACE NORRIS: Um-hm.

KAREN BREWSTER: Especially if it's raining and slippery.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. It's never advisable, but.

[01:04:07]KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. Um, yeah, I was thinking also, you know, back and forth on the trail with heavy packs, that gets old.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, I never -- never minded. I mean, you know, nobody likes to hike ten miles in the rain, and we did that a lot. We'd hike ten miles in the horizontal rain, but we always knew we had a place that we could at least get in out of the weather, you know, at the top. And we always had a little kerosene heater there, so we could huddle around the heater.

KAREN BREWSTER: What luxury.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, felt like it.

[01:04:43]KAREN BREWSTER: Um, so what do you think you gained from that experience of all those years on the trail?

CANDACE NORRIS: Hm. Well, I think I learned that I could really be very self-reliant. And I think I learned -- I got a real deep appreciation for the wilderness and for hiking. I mean, I still love to hike.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: I met two husbands there.

KAREN BREWSTER: Did you meet Frank on the trail?

CANDACE NORRIS: No, I met him in Skagway. Yeah, pretty funny 'cause when -- you know, we would come down into town and meet all the interpreters, so I remember definitely coming down for a meeting with all the interpreters. So we could all meet, and rangers and everybody. And I hadn't met Frank, but everybody said, "Hey, have you met the guy who drives to work?"

KAREN BREWSTER: In Skagway?

CANDACE NORRIS: That's right. He's from California, right, so he used to drive. He used to have a little blue Toyota truck, and he used to drive, like, you know, it's like, eight blocks in Skagway, maybe, to work. I said, "No, I haven't met him."

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, in the winter when that wind is blowing off those glaciers, I could kinda see why you might want to drive to work.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, but this was summer. No excuse. He was just -- I don't know.

KAREN BREWSTER: And so that's how you met him?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, we just met -- well, I was married at the time, and uh, so we were friends. And then my first husband actually drowned up in the Yukon.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, I'm sorry.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, well, that's a long, long time ago. So yeah, things changed.

KAREN BREWSTER: Life does that.

CANDACE NORRIS: Life does that.

[01:06:38]KAREN BREWSTER: Um, you must have enjoyed the outdoors to keep going back every summer.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, it was just such a unique lifestyle. You know, you could -- it was a lot of freedom. That was pretty nice. You know, the -- the managers in Whitehorse, you know, just trusted that we would do a good job, and we did. You know, and so they didn't really interfere with how things were run.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, I was just going to say, what kind of a management oversight --

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, the -- initially, it was the park superintendent out of Whitehorse. And there, you know, I had three -- how many different superintendents? Bruce Harvey, Bob Lewis, Mike Murphy. Mike Murphy was terrible. Hope he's not still alive, and read this. But um, you know, they were -- they were all good superintendents. I mean, and they really -- they just trusted that the trail supervisor, who was Christine, you know, knew what she was doing, and they -- they didn't really interfere with how things were run out there. Which, um, mostly worked out. And then, later on, they brought in a park warden, who oversaw the work of the warden patrol people, and that was Jim MacIntyre and Tom Elliot. I think they were the only two that I recall. So they were a little more involved. You know, they would kinda want to make sure that there were certain things they wanted us to accomplish. And um, but it was still pretty loose oversight, I would say.

[01:08:26]KAREN BREWSTER: Can you remember what some of those things they wanted you to accomplish?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, Tom Elliot was the one who wanted -- he wanted all the warden patrol people to make sure they camped in all of the campsites at some point in the summer for at least one or two nights, just to have a higher visitor awareness and presence. And those -- those -- when Tom was there was the years we were -- I think we had that huge crew, so there was a lot of, um, just trying to manage the -- just the numbers.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: And trying to keep that all organized.

[01:09:10]KAREN BREWSTER: Um, you mentioned one superintendent who was not so good.

CANDACE NORRIS: No.

KAREN BREWSTER: Can you give a general description of what was not so good?

CANDACE NORRIS: He, um -- I think he was just a professional bureaucrat, and he was definitely on his way to bigger things. So I think the Chilkoot wasn't an important place for him. You know, he wanted -- I think he either went to Nahanni, which is a big park in the Northwest Territories, or he came from Nahanni. And then I think I heard he went off to, you know, bigger things, bureaucratically. So, you know, I just don't think he really cared.

KAREN BREWSTER: So by being interested in being a bureaucrat, did he institute lots of procedures and rules and things you guys had to do out on the trail?

CANDACE NORRIS: No, he just had no idea what we did. You know, he -- and he didn't really care to know, so.

[01:10:06]KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. Um, I was going to ask something else, but I wrote a note to myself about getting along with people. So being out there for months at a time with a crew of four to six people, how did that work?

CANDACE NORRIS: Um, mostly it worked pretty well. You know, there were certainly some people that came out there that weren't a good fit. And typically, they didn't come back after one season, you know. Um, but, you know, part of the -- well, it's hard to say. I mean, I worked with a lot of men. I find men are easier to work with, typically, than women. Although the women that I worked with were, um, you know, pretty direct, good communicators, no passive-aggressive

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crap. And with men, you know, you can just tell 'em, you know, you're being an asshole, so you should stop. And they'll say, ok.

KAREN BREWSTER: But it's having -- being a woman, having the courage to say that. That's not --

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, I never had any issue with that. It's like, you're crossing this line, and that's not ok. So, yeah, no. I -- I mean, there were some people I didn't -- didn't care to be around, but um, for the most part, I don't have bad feelings about anybody.

[01:11:29]KAREN BREWSTER: And if there were people who were difficult or you didn't want to be around, was there a way you could separate? Did you have to be up at the summit with them in a little cabin for four days?

CANDACE NORRIS: No, that usually didn't happen, because you could at least say, "You know, I'd really rather do that myself than with this person." And then, we had our own sleeping quarters. I mean, for the first couple years, I think Debbie and I shared a tent, and then we actually got our own sleeping tents. So that was nice, 'cause you actually had your own little space.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: You could be around yourself. And then so, you know, mostly we had communal meals. If -- whoever was in camp, usually somebody would cook, and somebody would clean up, and so -- but you know, sometimes you were the only person in camp, so you just take care of yourself.

[01:12:23]KAREN BREWSTER: Um, see, I keep thinking of these things and forgetting, 'cause -- uh -- Oh, before you had mentioned about having a tent where you kept food supplies.

CANDACE NORRIS: Um-hm.

KAREN BREWSTER: And I was wondering about bear activity and protecting your --

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, well --

KAREN BREWSTER: -- resources from bears?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, well, we had a pretty limited meat diet, and um, you know, a little bit of meat. But we were very careful about how we would dispose of anything. And we had -- All of our food that was potentially able to be, you know, attacked by mice or squirrels or anything, we would have it in great big boxes, like wooden boxes, so, you know, you could put all your nuts and raisins and cereals and all that in there so the mice couldn't get at it. And then, we had a -- we had a small fridge.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh.

CANDACE NORRIS: And then, -- yeah, because we had propane.

KAREN BREWSTER: Fancy-schmancy.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. And then, we actually had -- well, it didn't work that well, but we had some storage in one of the docks so that they were, you know, big, floating compartments in the docks.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh.

CANDACE NORRIS: So you -- And plastic containers to go in there and stay cold, 'cause the lake was cold.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: And then we had some cold storage in the creek, so we had a big garbage can that we could sink. You know, hold it down with rocks and put stuff in there and keep it cold.

KAREN BREWSTER: That's where you kept your beer.

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, no beer. No alcohol.

KAREN BREWSTER: No, I'm kidding because that's what I've done camping. You know, on a raft trip or camping, you put the beer in the creek.

[01:13:58]CANDACE NORRIS: No. So we were, you know, very careful. We never had any bad bear issues at all, actually.

KAREN BREWSTER: And the bears may be more of a problem on the US side?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, probably, yeah. I mean, we certainly -- I saw bears. We saw grizzly bear and black bear, but they never came into our camp 'cause we were always really careful. And, you know, any food -- mostly we burned all of our garbage, and really, we had very little that would be hanging around that would be an attractant for a bear.

KAREN BREWSTER: And did you have to teach hikers about proper bear safety and food storage and camping?

CANDACE NORRIS: Um-hm. We did a lot of that, yeah. Most people are very bad, and they want to throw their garbage down the outhouse holes and dumb things like that, so.

KAREN BREWSTER: And, you know, about not keeping food in their tents and things like that?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, so, you know, we would always try to educate people about stuff like that. Especially if you're coming -- you know, usually the person who was coming down from the summit, if they'd done patrol and spent several days, would be coming through toward evening, 'cause, you know, the days are late.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

CANDACE NORRIS: So you could -- you'd be coming down maybe by seven or eight o'clock at night. And so you'd come through where people are camping, you know, and they're cooking and doing whatever, so you can make sure they're doing the right things.

KAREN BREWSTER: You make a little detour through the campground?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. Always check on people. Make sure they're not throwing their stuff in the creek or down the outhouse or pouring their bacon grease on the rocks or whatever, you know.

[01:15:30]KAREN BREWSTER: Well, it's funny. I was at the Seattle unit a couple of weeks ago, and looking at their exhibits, and they have, you know, the classic list of things the stampeder needed to take.

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: And one was 150 pounds of bacon.

CANDACE NORRIS: Bacon.

KAREN BREWSTER: And I'm like, what? In bear country? No, thank you.

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, I guess because it was winter.

KAREN BREWSTER: It wasn't always winter.

CANDACE NORRIS: No, but that --

KAREN BREWSTER: I mean, that's what people ate back then.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: They needed the bacon, but it clearly was, back then, not quite the same bear safety issues.

CANDACE NORRIS: No. Well, they just shot them, right?

KAREN BREWSTER: Probably.

CANDACE NORRIS: They didn't care.

[01:16:09]KAREN BREWSTER: Which -- that was one of my questions was, did you -- on the Canadian side, were you carrying a weapon?

CANDACE NORRIS: No. Never.

KAREN BREWSTER: I don't know if the US rangers --

CANDACE NORRIS: No. At least in the past, they weren't law enforcement.

KAREN BREWSTER: The trail rangers are not law enforcement?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, there -- there were definitely rangers who had law enforcement background who worked over there.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: And some of them were jerks. I remember them. Um, but they were not allowed to carry a weapon.

KAREN BREWSTER: The regular rangers?

CANDACE NORRIS: Nobody carried a weapon.

KAREN BREWSTER: Even the law enforcement rangers, if they came onto the trail? No weapon?

CANDACE NORRIS: No weapon.

KAREN BREWSTER: Why?

CANDACE NORRIS: I don't know. I just think that's the way they made the rules over there.

KAREN BREWSTER: On both sides?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, well, there were no law enforcement people on our side. Now, I don't know if that's changed, uh, because now they have a warden who's involved. Maybe he carries a weapon, I don't know.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: I can -- there's no need for it, typically. I mean, um, you know, the worst thing people are doing is trying to burn an artifact or something. You know, they're just not doing bad, really bad things. So.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right. Well, and um, of course, nowadays, it's the crossing a border with a weapon is not --

CANDACE NORRIS: A really bad thing. Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: It's not really allowed, so.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um, certainly for hikers, that would be problematic. [01:17:30]Did hikers carry weapons for bear protection?

CANDACE NORRIS: Not that I can ever recall. You know, maybe they had something hidden in their backpack, but you know --

KAREN BREWSTER: Right. Then it doesn't really do you very much good.

CANDACE NORRIS: No. But no, I don't recall. I mean, people would have pepper spray, and um, you know, air horns and things like that. But I never saw anything other than that.

[01:17:53]KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. Um, and so, one of my questions, you had mentioned that the park superintendent was in Whitehorse.

CANDACE NORRIS: Right.

KAREN BREWSTER: So, you know, I know the American side, it's the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park. What's the Canadian side?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, well, it's -- you mean the name of the --

KAREN BREWSTER: The park on the Canadian side. I mean --

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh. It's the Chilkoot Trail National Historic Site.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok. And that's just the corridor, then?

CANDACE NORRIS: It's just the corridor, yeah. And it may take in -- you know, 'cause of the First Nations component, there may be more now around Bennett, Carcross, because that's the First Nations people, you know, that this is part of their traditional land. So, that's all stuff that, um, has since been put in place.

[01:18:50]KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm. Well then, at -- I can't remember the year. At some point, it became an international park with the sort of the two units.

CANDACE NORRIS: Right. '98.

KAREN BREWSTER: Is that when it was?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: So were you involved in any of that? No, that was after you left.

CANDACE NORRIS: It was after we left. We were living in Anchorage at that time, and we were asked to come back. So we came for the ceremony that was at Bennett. And it was just a pretty -- it was a fun day. We all took the train up from Skagway. It was Debbie -- well, at the time, Debbie Verhale, 'cause she got married. And myself and Danny Cresswell. I don't know. There might've been some of the other trail, um, maintenance guys from Carcross that were out there for that. And um, there was a little ceremony out at Bennett, and, you know, speeches and all that kind of stuff. It was fun.

KAREN BREWSTER: So you weren't privy to any of those negotiations and decision-making about it becoming an international park?

CANDACE NORRIS: No. Not at all.

KAREN BREWSTER: Do you think it makes any difference?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, I just think it formalizes the, um, you know, the informal way that we were always doing the work. You know, that we worked cooperatively with the -- the rangers and um, chief park warden or ranger on the other side, you know, so.

[01:20:14]KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, so the chief ranger on the American side worked closely with the park warden?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, not really, actually. Not that I'm aware of. They might now. But back in the day, they kinda worked really closely with the supervisor, so. Or with the superintendent. So the supervisor on the trail or, you know, with the supervis -- the superintendent in Whitehorse. Um, but, you know, because his work had so much to do with what we were doing on the trails.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

CANDACE NORRIS: So he needed to know, you know, what we were doing on the trail.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right. But the US ranger, chief ranger, didn't necessarily need to know what you guys were doing on your part of the trail, is that what you mean?

CANDACE NORRIS: No, but he -- like, Jay Cable was really pretty hands-on. He always hiked the trail, at least once and probably many more than one time a year. And um, you know, we -- we dealt with him a lot, just, you know, over -- you know, if there were any emergency situations, or, you know, radio stuff. You know, he was always the point man for all that.

KAREN BREWSTER: And after he left?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, he left after we left.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: So I don't know.

[01:21:28]KAREN BREWSTER: Um, I was also thinking, all this hiking back and forth, I'm assuming you were in a Parks Canada uniform all the time?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, we didn't get to wear the first -- the full warden patrol or the warden outfit because we weren't wardens. So that we got shirts that said "Park Warden," "Garde de Parc," which is the French version, and -- but we couldn't wear the hat with the insignia, and we couldn't wear the -- I don't know, there were some other things. We could only wear pieces of the uniform, so. Mostly the shirt.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, I was thinking that might be better. I don't know about Parks Canada uniforms, but US Canad -- US uniforms --

CANDACE NORRIS: Are pretty impractical.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yes, I was thinking for hiking, they're not very practical.

CANDACE NORRIS: No. I mean, mostly we were hiking in rain gear or long underwear and shorts.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: And then, you know, we had the shirt, and then often, we were wearing a fleece over that, which -- I don't think we had an insignia on that fleece. But we had a -- a rain coat that had a "Garde de Parc" thing on the shoulders.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm. So you were identifiable in some way.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Because that's what I was thinking, like, hiking the trail in a Park Service uniform --

CANDACE NORRIS: They did it.

KAREN BREWSTER: Does not sound fun.

CANDACE NORRIS: And they did it.

[01:22:47]KAREN BREWSTER: I mean, nowadays, the Park Service trail uniform might be more practical, but I don't know.

CANDACE NORRIS: I don't think so. They're still the horrible green jeans and polyester shirts and --

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. But you could be more flexible in what you wore?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, 'cause we weren't officially wardens. If we were officially wardens, we probably would've had to wear more official stuff.

KAREN BREWSTER: But you were officially trail wardens or patrol or something. You were still official.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, we were official, but we weren't wardens, so it's a little more loose.

KAREN BREWSTER: Does that make a difference in the Parks Canada hierarchy?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. Definitely.

KAREN BREWSTER: It's very hierarchical?

CANDACE NORRIS: Very hierarchical. Yeah. So.

[01:23:31]KAREN BREWSTER: And did you ever have any interest in moving up into that hierarchy instead of just being a seasonal trail person?

CANDACE NORRIS: I did. You know, I definitely toyed with the idea of going into the warden service. I think I would've enjoyed it, you know, but um, it was right at the time when Frank and

I were getting together, and I just knew if I went down that path, it was going to be challenging to try to have a life with somebody that was American.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, and in American Park Service.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: It'd be hard to get stationed in a boundary park so you could each be on your side.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. So I had always wanted to pursue nursing, so I did that instead, but.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, and you sort of, you know, trail rescue and first aid gave you a sense of that, I guess.

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. Yeah. I don't have any regrets. I mean, I worked as a nurse/nurse practitioner for twenty-five years, so.

KAREN BREWSTER: That's good.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

[01:24:29]KAREN BREWSTER: Um, why did you stay with the Parks Canada Chilkoot Trail for, you know, ten years? That's a long time. At least, a lot of people didn't last that long.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. I just really loved the work, and um, you know, when you -- when we would fly out there every spring, it was just like, I don't know. Just like, I'm home. That's how it felt. It was just such a great place to be. And it did feel like home. It just -- it's a very special -- well, it's still a very special place.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, ten summers, that's a long time.

CANDACE NORRIS: Um-hm. [01:25:08]Frank and I skied out there once in the winter time. We went out to Lindeman. So that was fun.

KAREN BREWSTER: From Bennett?

CANDACE NORRIS: Um, yeah, we must've skied the tracks and then came in through Bennett, skied across Lake Lindeman.

KAREN BREWSTER: I never thought about that people used it in the winter time.

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. And we stayed in one of the cabins. There are two cabins. I mean, they're sound cabins for winter use. They have two nice wood stoves, and there's usually a big pile of wood 'cause it's sitting there from the summer, so yeah. It's quite nice.

[01:25:37]KAREN BREWSTER: Um, were there particular things that made -- that were difficult about the job?

CANDACE NORRIS: Um, oh, I don't know what would have been difficult. I mean, there were seasons that were more challenging than others. The season with all those people was challenging, because just the logistics was terrible. And then there was one person that was working there that was just a pain. It was a bad, very bad fit. And um, they did not come back.

KAREN BREWSTER: But they -- you couldn't get rid of them during the season?

CANDACE NORRIS: I wasn't the boss, so nope. But, you know, for the most part, um, no, I can't really think of a lot of things that I found -- I mean, maybe being far away, I don't know. But I don't really think so.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ten miles in the rain every day?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, I mean, you know, probably, you know, on any given day, if it was a really crappy weather day, and you had to walk up, you know, against the wind all day. I probably wouldn't have been the most happy camper on the planet, but.

[01:26:57]KAREN BREWSTER: And how did you feel about interacting with the public and the visitors?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, I liked, usually -- the visitors were usually pretty interesting. They were always, not always, but often just, you know -- especially if it was sunny weather, they were all having a great time. If the weather was terrible, you know, it was nice to help people kind of have a better experience. So what we always did is, as a greeting was, we would always get people to stop, either at Stone Crib when we were there, or at the summit. We'd always have them come in so we could assess them, and we'd always give them hot lemonade. So it was a way to make sure that they weren't hypothermic and make sure that they could warm up for a little bit and have a little bit of sugar, you know, eat a snack and have some hot lemonade before they headed out into the weather again.

KAREN BREWSTER: And what a friendly way to greet people into Canada.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, I think they still do that.

KAREN BREWSTER: With hot lemonade.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. Yeah. People -- people always commented on that, you know, that it was such a nice way to cross the border.

[01:28:01]KAREN BREWSTER: Did you guys have a guest book or anything?

CANDACE NORRIS: Um, at Lindeman.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, there were, um, well, there used to be lots of guest books.

KAREN BREWSTER: What -- do you know what happened to those?

CANDACE NORRIS: No. You could -- if you ever get a chance, talk to Christine Hedgecock.

KAREN BREWSTER: She's on the list.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, 'cause she, um, she might know. 'Cause, you know, a lot of the things that were put in place were her ideas.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: I'm sure the guest books were her ideas. So she may have kept them.

[01:28:29]KAREN BREWSTER: Well, it just fits with the quest -- the collections of stuff. You know, the US Klondike park is so focused on collecting and having the artifacts, and they did all the archeology.

CANDACE NORRIS: Right.

KAREN BREWSTER: Both on the trail and under the buildings.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, I know.

KAREN BREWSTER: So that's the kind of an item that I would go, "Oh, well, that's an archival thing. It should be preserved someplace."

CANDACE NORRIS: It should, but who knows.

KAREN BREWSTER: And same on the celebration for the international park. There must be material for that. But that might be at the Klondike?

CANDACE NORRIS: That might be, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Since it was a joint activity. [01:29:04]Um, what did you do in the winters for those ten years?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, I traveled. I went to school. Just, whatever. I had lots of fun.

KAREN BREWSTER: So you didn't stay in Whitehorse?

CANDACE NORRIS: Sometimes. Yeah, one year, I lived in a little cabin out at Carcross. So yeah, I did lots of different things.

[01:29:29]KAREN BREWSTER: So school, was that -- you were -- were you -- did you get a degree in the outdoor recreation management?

CANDACE NORRIS: No, I didn't finish it, so. No, I started going -- I went back to nursing school.

KAREN BREWSTER: You already started going back to nursing school. Ok. And why did you decide in '91 to stop doing this?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, 'cause I got my nursing degree.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: That was it. So I got a real job.

KAREN BREWSTER: And where, in Skagway?

CANDACE NORRIS: No, in Anchorage.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, ok. That's right. So by then you -- by then, you and Frank were together and -- ?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, we got married in 1988.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: So.

[01:30:10]KAREN BREWSTER: So for a few years, you did your summers on the Canadian side from Skagway?

CANDACE NORRIS: Um --

KAREN BREWSTER: You were living in Skagway?

CANDACE NORRIS: One year, when Frank and I first got together, yeah. I -- we were in Skagway, and then we actually went overseas to travel for a while. Then we came back, and then I guess I -- yeah, 'cause Frank actually got one of the ranger cabins out in Dyea for us to stay in that summer.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh.

CANDACE NORRIS: So we -- I guess we stayed there, you know, it was like seasonal quarters. So yeah, I guess I was based out of, well, Dyea, that summer.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right. But you were still a Canadian resident or citizen, so you could be hired by Parks Canada.

CANDACE NORRIS: Right. Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. I'm assuming they only hire Canadian citizens, probably.

CANDACE NORRIS: Far as I know. Unless you're a permanent resident, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

[01:31:06]KAREN BREWSTER: Um, do you have any -- do you know why, when you now make a reservation to hike the trail, it's all done through Parks Canada?

CANDACE NORRIS: I don't know why, but I know they have a little building set up right across the street from the Klondike Gold Rush.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right. But to make a reservation, to get a permit for the trail, it's all done through Parks Canada.

CANDACE NORRIS: Right, and that's their outpost there.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: So you can probably do it online.

KAREN BREWSTER: Nope.

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, you can't do it online? You have to go in person.

KAREN BREWSTER: No, you have to phone.

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, you have to phone. Oh, that's weird. But in the summer, they're set up.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right. I know that's where you go to pick up your permit and everything, but the whole reservation system is all done through Parks Canada by phone.

CANDACE NORRIS: Huh.

KAREN BREWSTER: I didn't know if you had any idea why Parks Canada instead of the US Park Service, when you're starting on the US side, for the most part.

CANDACE NORRIS: I have no idea.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok.

[01:32:07]CANDACE NORRIS: You know, maybe -- the other person you might want to talk to, 'cause he would know a lot about this, is Dan Verhalle. And his wife, Debbie Verhalle, was Debbie Tosczak.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: So Debbie has -- you know, Debbie didn't work there as long as I did, but she worked there a lot of years, and she worked there for years after I left.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok. Yeah, I just didn't know if that was -- transition was happening in the years you were on the trail?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, um -- no, but Dan was very involved in getting that permit system established.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: So he would know -- he would know about that.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: So they're in Whitehorse.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: Actually, I have a phone number.

KAREN BREWSTER: When we're done. [01:32:52]Is there anything else that you want to share, that when I broached the subject of doing this interview, that particular memories have come to mind?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, there are just so many. I keep thinking I'm going to write just a little recollection before they're all gone, you know. When I look at all my pictures. It was just such a -- such a wonderful experience, all the years I worked there. You know, that -- you know, nobody said, "Well, you can't do that 'cause you're a woman." You know, it's like, "You will do this 'cause you're working here." So, you know, you're going to -- you're going to work, and um, you're going to cut firewood, and you're going to hook slings under helicopters, and you're gonna, you know, brush trails, get rid of all, you know, the overgrowth on trails. And you're gonna rescue people and do all that stuff. And it's like, I did it.

KAREN BREWSTER: You didn't have to ever carry anybody out, did you?

CANDACE NORRIS: No, thankfully.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: I got -- oh, well, there were -- there were some funny, many funny things. There was the year the -- the surveyors were there. They were funny guys. Like, they were just really a bunch of jokesters. And they came up from Winnipeg. And, you know, when these guys come up from Winnipeg, it's like they want to party, right? There's no alcohol, though, so they can't party, so you have to have, like, you know, do these silly things that are just

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fun. So we dressed one of them up as the Queen of the Chilkoot. So we dressed him all up in an -
- I don't know what we put him in. I think a space blanket, and put a banner across him. And
rolled him around Lindeman in a wheelbarrow. And took pictures.

KAREN BREWSTER: That's great.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, it does show, you know, a little bit of -- it's sort of like cabin
fever.

CANDACE NORRIS: It's a little bit like cabin fever, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: That silliness ensues at some point.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, they were just lots of fun. Lots and lots of fun times.

[01:34:58]KAREN BREWSTER: And may I ask what age you were in those times?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, let's see. I was, how old was I when I started there? I would've been
-- '81, so I would've been -- I have to figure it out. Twenty-four? Yeah, I guess I was twenty-
four. Twenty-three to thirty-three.

KAREN BREWSTER: To thirty-three. Ok. It just gives a sense of the being young and strong
and "I'll do anything."

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, I never felt like there wasn't anything I couldn't do. You know,
and that just reaffirmed it for me.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, and as you say, that it gives you that sense that, "Oh, I really can
do anything I want to do."

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. Yeah. [01:35:43]And one year, we had a music, um -- I guess a
music celebration. We brought people up from Skagway and Haines and actually had a musical
gathering out there. Like, we had a stage, an impromptu stage, set up. I don't remember.
Christine would remember all this.

KAREN BREWSTER: And that was at Lindeman?

CANDACE NORRIS: It was at Lindeman, yeah. And so, you know, it was -- some people came
out from Whitehorse. A lot of it was hikers. And I remember the weather was just terrible, so
that really wasn't so great.

KAREN BREWSTER: I can imagine you're a hiker, and you're just beaten and weathered, and
to come to Lindeman, and there's, like, live music.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, it was, you know, it was just, like, singer-songwriters.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: And I think it was actually a storytelling event, too, so we had First
Nation storytellers and then singer-songwriters. And I remember we fed a bunch of people, and,
you know, it was quite a deal.

[01:36:41]KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. Well, you were talking about First Nations, so on the
Canadian side, is the story of the trail in the context of First Nations people? Is that story
represented, do you feel?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, when I worked there, I would say not so much. You know, not -- not
to any great degree. Um, and I think that has changed substantially. I mean, they were certainly
aware that that was a shortcoming, and that was part of the reason to have the First Nations
person working there so that he could -- or she could represent, you know, their point of view, if
anybody cared to ask, which I don't know if people did or not.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, you know, now, I don't know if then, but, you know, the story is,
you know, it was an Indian -- Tlingit trail.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: And -- and who controlled the trail, and then during the gold rush, they were hired as packers. That's all the US side.

CANDACE NORRIS: Right, and --

KAREN BREWSTER: I don't know if that continues into the Canadian side.

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, you know, it's -- it wasn't ever really interpretive. I mean, there was -- there's a trapper's cabin down at Bennett that belonged to Edna Helm, who was the chief at the Carcross Indian band. I'm sure Edna's long gone.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: She was, you know, quite old back then.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: So, you know, that trapper's cabin is still there, unless it's burned down. It was right below the church, and so, you know, they still were trapping the area. So their presence is still there.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: But you know, there wasn't really anything done to interpret that. The person who's done a lot of the work along that line is Dave Neufeld.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. So he would know a lot more.

[01:38:28]KAREN BREWSTER: Ok. Yeah, I just was wondering how much Parks Canada focused on that. And, I mean, I don't know enough of the history of the trail. So you hear it all on the American side. I don't know if the First Nations people on the Canadian side did similar packing, and how that trail and stampede affected their lives.

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, I'm sure it affected it incredibly.

KAREN BREWSTER: I would think so.

CANDACE NORRIS: Especially in Carcross. But um, you know, I don't know that that was ever discussed. You know, did they -- did they do the same kind of work? I would say not. You know, once they got up to the summit, there were other ways to move your goods, you know. You could probably hire a horse to pull a sleigh to get it down. You could pack it -- I have a sense that they used horses quite a bit.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, well, and then as you say, they -- at Bennett Lake, they built their boats and were on their way.

CANDACE NORRIS: Right.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um.

CANDACE NORRIS: Or Lindeman.

KAREN BREWSTER: Or Lindeman.

CANDACE NORRIS: Sometimes they did it.

KAREN BREWSTER: They did it at Lindeman, too?

CANDACE NORRIS: A little bit. Not as much, because there were rapids between Lindeman and Bennett. So, but there is at least one death recorded of somebody that went through the rapids.

KAREN BREWSTER: I would think there would be -- those boats, I'd think there'd be a lot of deaths of those stampedeers.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. Oh, yeah. Um, yeah, that's a good question, though. I don't know how much of that Dave Neuf -- he was supposed to be doing a lot more of that kind of work as far as First Nations people, but I don't know exactly what he did.

KAREN BREWSTER: And he's sort of the historian for the Parks Canada side, right?

CANDACE NORRIS: Exactly. Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

CANDACE NORRIS: So.

[01:40:04]KAREN BREWSTER: Ok, well, unless you have anything else, any other fun stories that come to mind.

CANDACE NORRIS: Eh, I remember one -- I always remember this older couple, and we heard about them from the American rangers. And they said, "Oh, there's this older couple coming, and they're -- they're pretty old." And they -- they basically, I remember -- this was like, probably 1982. And uh, you know, we were hearing reports about them coming, and um, and then once they got to the summit, you know, we met with -- I remember meeting with Cristi Herren, and she said, "Ok, they're all yours now." There was no way -- like, they had moved, like, maybe three miles a day. They were taking a long time to get up and over. So they made it up to the Pass, and then we had them at Stone Crib, and then, you know, we -- we camped -- we had them camp in all the illegal spots because there was no way they could go very far. So we were -- you know, we interacted with them for, oh, probably a good ten days, you know, and they were the sweetest people. They were about, you know, now I think of it, they weren't that old. They were probably 70 and 68.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: Something like that, a husband and wife. And he said, "Oh, I was so worried they wouldn't let me come across the trail because of my age that I put black shoe polish in my hair." So, they were just really sweet.

[01:41:34]KAREN BREWSTER: Neat. So you keep talking about Stone Crib. What was that?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, um, Stone Crib was the anchor for the tramway that went up to the summit, so they would also -- you know, there's this big -- it looks like a crib of -- it's not there anymore. It's all fallen down. When I first worked there, it was log -- not logs. They were like milled beams that built a crib, and then they filled it with rocks.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: And that was -- there was a cable that would come from the summit and sling goods down to Crater Lake. So that was the anchor for this cable. And so, it was called Stone Crib, and that's where we had our initial cabins. We had our little shack that we stayed in, and right next door, we had a little A-frame that the people would stay in.

KAREN BREWSTER: And so, it's below the summit?

CANDACE NORRIS: It's below the summit about a quarter mile.

KAREN BREWSTER: So before -- if you're coming up over the summit, then Stone Crib. Then you'd get to Happy Camp. It's sort of between?

CANDACE NORRIS: Right. It's just right below the summit.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: Like, you know, you would see it from the summit. It's that close.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok. Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: I just never heard -- you know, I've heard all the places along the trail, the Happy Camp, blah-blah-blah-blah, you know.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, so Stone -- yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: But I hadn't heard of Stone Crib.

CANDACE NORRIS: Stone Crib was our -- our outpost for a number of years. It was only the last -- I think it was about 1988 they put up the new building at the summit, which seemed like a palace compared to what we had. It was quite big. So there's -- now there's a facility for the -- the warden patrol people to stay in, plus there's another little place for the warden -- or for the hikers to --

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

CANDACE NORRIS: -- go into.

[01:43:20]KAREN BREWSTER: Ok. Um, ok. Um, so yeah, that older couple, did Cristi, did she hike all the way up the -- to the summit with them?

CANDACE NORRIS: Cristi? Yeah, she did. And then, we would, you know -- we pretty much had to kinda handhold them the whole way out. 'Cause it was either that, or we were going to have to fly them out. Because there was no way they were going to make it otherwise.

KAREN BREWSTER: I -- you know, I didn't realize the rangers kept such track of people.

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, we did back in the day, you know, certainly. And there was one guy, I always remember him coming -- I was up there by myself, and this was when we were still at Stone Crib. And I heard from the American rangers, "Oh, there's still one more coming." And it was a brutal day. It was pouring rain, sideways rain, whiteout. I said -- and they said, you know, he should -- he -- I think the ranger had left him at the summit, and he was just making his way down to Stone Crib. So I'm sitting there waiting for this guy, and it was getting dark. And I thought, "I don't want to go out there and have to find you." But he showed up. He showed up, of all things, and um, so I made sure, you know, I said, "You're staying the night here, so you know, we'll just get you dried out. Get -- Here's some hot lemonade, and, you know, you'll be fine. Tomorrow morning, we'll see how the weather is, and you'll get going down the road." So anyhow, he made it, and I saw him again down at Lindeman, and he was doing ok. And then, for -- I don't know, for the longest time afterward, I would get -- I don't know how he got my address, but he would write -- I was living in Seattle at the time, and he would write me letters.

KAREN BREWSTER: So you almost met a third husband!

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, he was like -- you know, he called me his Angel of the Chilkoot, and I was like, "No, just doing my job."

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, he must've felt like he was really in trouble.

CANDACE NORRIS: He was really in trouble, yeah. He would've died up there, I think.

[01:45:15]KAREN BREWSTER: Well, it's nice that people appreciate that you helped them.

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh yeah, it was fun. And I -- I was just thinking of one of the guys I worked with, Ron Tate. He was one of our -- our uh, bilingual guys, and he was a real athlete. You know, people used to always think of him as this Greek Adonis, you know, because he liked to run around without his shirt on on a sunny day. It was like "Ron, you have to wear a shirt." But one time, we had these two plant biologists out there, and they were, you know, methodically going along the trail, recording all the different plant species, the alpine plant species, and one time, they did not show up at Lindeman. And so, we were radioed. You know, it was -- Ron and I were up at the summit, and we get this call, probably from Christine, and she's like, "Well, these two guys haven't showed up down here. We don't know where they are." And

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they had said they were going to go around the other side of Crater Lake. And it was, once again, pouring rain. So Ron said, "Well, I'll go out. You stay here in case they show up here." And so, Ron heads out in this horrible weather, and um, he said, "I'm going to go around the other side of Crater Lake, so if I don't show up, you know where I am." So he goes, and he comes back, and these two guys in the meantime had showed up in Lindeman. But Ron shows up back at Stone Crib with a package of bacon. And I said, "Where did you find the bacon?" And he said, "I found it on the trail. Let's have some." So we're sitting up there, late at night, cooking up this bacon.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, at least his -- his search was fruitful.

CANDACE NORRIS: Ah, it was funny. It was really funny.

[01:47:04]KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, did -- were there other -- any times where, you know, hikers would go off the trail and get lost? Or had to be found?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, nobody got lost-lost, but people certainly, you know, especially in a whiteout, you know, you could -- you know, we tried to mark it super well, but people did wander off. But the way the trail is, you know, it's -- it's a pretty narrow valley. You know, you could wander off for a bit, but you would eventually figure out you're going in one direction. But you could wander around for a bit.

KAREN BREWSTER: But you never had to go out and find somebody, other than these plant guys?

CANDACE NORRIS: Not that I can recall, no. People would sometimes cut across from the highway. You can cut -- it's called Paddy's Pass. You can drop down into Stone Crib, so um, Debbie got lost up in there one time. Not lost, but she went up there with one of the other -- with one of the bilingual guys, Paul, and they -- 'cause there was a lot of snow, and they got kind of stuck.

KAREN BREWSTER: So that was a way to take a shortcut?

CANDACE NORRIS: It was like, sort of a shortcut, but not really.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. If you know the way.

CANDACE NORRIS: If you know the way, and there's no trail, so it's just cross country.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: So.

[01:48:27]KAREN BREWSTER: Well, and the -- the -- so, besides the archeological surveys, and there's plant work going on, was there other research that went on based from the trail?

CANDACE NORRIS: Um, there were park planners. There were park planners that came through, oh, that was probably mid-'80's, too, out of Winnipeg. And there was a group of about four of them, and they -- they were looking at long-term planning for the park. You know, how will it be developed? And um, you know, I don't think very much was ever put in place, obviously, but there were all -- you know, they were -- I think they had public meetings. So they hiked the trail, and they had public meetings in Whitehorse and Carcross and probably Skagway, and tried to get public input and all that.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, and you mentioned that year when there were so many people that there was a trail survey crew.

CANDACE NORRIS: Right.

KAREN BREWSTER: So what were they doing?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, they were just surveying the trail. So I don't know what surveyors do, but they were just --

KAREN BREWSTER: Like mapping the trail?

CANDACE NORRIS: Mapping the trail.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

[01:49:36]KAREN BREWSTER: Ok. I keep saying ok, we're done, and then you -- we think of something else to talk about.

CANDACE NORRIS: I know.

KAREN BREWSTER: So that's why I don't want to turn it off, because I want you to think of another good story.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. Well, lots of romances came out of the trail.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, that's a good question. There you go.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Good subject.

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, the year -- the year I started, actually, Chas Dense, on the American side, and Cristi Herren got together. They're still married, as far as I know. So that's thirty-five years or something, yeah, so. And then, I met, like I said, my first husband, and then I met Frank, so that's another one. Um, Debbie, who's now Debbie Verhalle, didn't meet her husband in Whitehorse, but they met in Riding Mountain and ended up coming back to Whitehorse. When she went down there for that warden training.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: So yeah, but, you know, it's -- it's kind -- it kinda makes sense 'cause people are at that age, you know.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm. Well, there perhaps were also some summer romances?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, I'm sure there were lots.

KAREN BREWSTER: Amongst the crews.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: That may or may not last.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. Mostly not, I think.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. But it makes for good stories.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. It was a lot of fun.

[01:51:05]KAREN BREWSTER: Ok. Oh, and the -- the stuff at Bennett now, there's sort of interpretive material, and there's some old buildings still standing at Bennett?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, there's the old train building. That they called it the Eating House. And I think Parks Canada has some kind of interpretive thing set up down there.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: But I don't know, 'cause it wasn't there when I was there.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: Um, and I really don't know what's happening with the Eating House. You know, last time I saw it, it was kind of slowly being, you know, just falling apart because nobody was doing anything with it.

KAREN BREWSTER: And the Eating -- was it the old train depot at Bennett? What was it?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, it wasn't a depot really. I mean, I guess, a depot. But it was basically, where, you know, the trains would come from Whitehorse and from Skagway, meet there, and people would get off the train, go and eat their moose stew, which came from a can, um, biscuits, and pie, and then they'd pile back onto the same -- either the same or a different train, depending on which way they were going to go, and so, yeah.

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KAREN BREWSTER: So this was part of the tourist experience?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: So yeah, they did that every day at noon, or whatever time they would show up in Bennett.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right. But by after 1983, they didn't do that?

CANDACE NORRIS: They didn't do that anymore.

[01:52:31]KAREN BREWSTER: But again, they started in '88, so you were still, um, on the trail. Didn't they start again in '88, something like that?

CANDACE NORRIS: I don't think they were -- they were running by the time I left. I'm trying to think. Maybe they were. 'Cause I seem to recall there were hiker -- there were trains, and they had cars just for hikers, so maybe the last couple years.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. We need Frank here to tell us the date.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, 'cause the --

KAREN BREWSTER: I didn't carry his whole admin history book with me on this trip. Um, but I kinda have the date '88 in my head.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: I don't know why.

CANDACE NORRIS: Could be. We used to -- because, you know, when we were going on days off, they would -- Parks Canada would pay for us to ride the Casey car in and out if we were -- happened to catch it, you know.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: Um, which was just the little work car. It looked like a little orange car with a few seats inside, and they could move it up and down the tracks to do trail work.

KAREN BREWSTER: How was it moved?

CANDACE NORRIS: Um.

KAREN BREWSTER: You didn't use a hand crank thing.

CANDACE NORRIS: No. It wasn't a hand crank. I think it must've been a little gas-operated thing, so you know.

KAREN BREWSTER: Was it covered, or was it open?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, it was covered.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: And then, it had a little, um, wagon they could haul the tools and stuff in the back so we could throw our packs in there. So that was nice, if we could ever hitch a ride with them so we didn't have to walk those seven miles.

[01:54:00]KAREN BREWSTER: And sa -- you know, as you said, there was that cut-off.

CANDACE NORRIS: Right.

KAREN BREWSTER: To the tracks. And then you'd walk down to the highway. That they don't want people using anymore.

CANDACE NORRIS: They didn't want people using it then, but because they weren't running trains most of the time, they didn't care. But now, you know, I understand why. 'Cause they don't want people to get run over by the train.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

CANDACE NORRIS: Especially now, people like to walk with headphones all the time, so.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, and it does provide that much more income for the White Pass if you have hikers who need a ride.

CANDACE NORRIS: Um-hm, to take the train.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: Um-hm. [01:54:36]Yeah, there were a lot of people that came and went all the years I worked there, and now, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: And besides Christine, you worked very closely with any others who were particularly influential for you?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, my friend Debbie Tosczak. She and I are still friends. You know, we're lifelong friends. Um, and she worked there one year before I got there, and then, um, she and I worked together for several years, and then she went off and did her warden training, and then she came back, and I actually ended up supervising her one season. And then, the next year, she supervised me. Because she wasn't finished her warden training. When she came back, she was a warden, so she was my boss. Um, and then, Danny Cresswell. He and I were real close. He was one of the First Nations guys. He was a fun guy to work with.

KAREN BREWSTER: Anybody you could think of as a mentor, because you went out there pretty young and inexperienced.

CANDACE NORRIS: You know, I think Christine was a mentor, um, when I worked there. Initially, at least.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm.

CANDACE NORRIS: I learned a lot from her. She -- you know, she's a walking encyclopedia. If you want to know anything about the Chilkoot, I mean anything, she's your woman. She just, you know, she's got an institutional memory. She's been there forever.

KAREN BREWSTER: She's like Karl Gurcke.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Equivalent, it sounds like.

CANDACE NORRIS: Just, you know -- and I think she probably, I mean, I don't know, but she used to just instant recall. You know, she knew all this stuff.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: She met her husband there, too. They're not together anymore, but they did meet out there, so.

[01:56:15]KAREN BREWSTER: Good stories. Good times.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, it really was. I was glad to have all those years out there, that's for sure. It's not -- you know, I can remember hikers, you know, they'd talk to me, and like -- well like, "Oh, how'd you get this job?" It's like, "Well, I applied for the job, I got the job." "Oh, you must know people." It's like, "No, no. I just got the job. I was lucky."

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, probably after the first year or two, it was easier to get rehired.

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. There wasn't -- um, you know, I didn't have to be interviewed or anything like that, so.

KAREN BREWSTER: But you did have to reapply every year?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, I don't think it was a real formal process. You know, I think I had to signal my interest, and they had to put the paperwork through, but I didn't have to submit anything particularly that I recall, so.

[01:57:13]KAREN BREWSTER: Was it a particularly competitive, um, position, that it was coveted and it was competitive to work on the Chilkoot?

CANDACE NORRIS: I really don't know. The way I found out about it was, um, I was going to school in Vancouver, and my friend, one of my oldest and dearest friends, was living in Whitehorse at the time. And she -- she knew, um, a guy who was -- had worked on the trail the year before, and he wasn't going to go back. And he told her, "Oh yeah, I worked out there, but I didn't like it. I'm not going to go back." So she immediately got in touch with me and said, "He's not going back. Apply for this job." So uh, you know, I don't know how many people applied, but they must've seen that I was young and enthusiastic.

[01:58:06]KAREN BREWSTER: So when you became the supervisor, were you responsible for hiring the crew for that season?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, I don't think I -- I hired anybody. I think everybody was returning, so it was just the same people.

KAREN BREWSTER: Did you get to fire anybody?

CANDACE NORRIS: No, but I got to caution a few people about their work.

KAREN BREWSTER: And then, they did not return?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, one of them was a -- just a young guy who was -- he was actually the First Nations guy that year. He wasn't highly motivated, and he, you know, I don't think he really enjoyed being out there, so he didn't come back, so. It's not everybody's cup of tea.

KAREN BREWSTER: No.

CANDACE NORRIS: To be out in the bush, nobody around. Nobody to party with, no video games, no nothing.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, and for months on end.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: In bad weather.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. Yeah, I don't miss the mosquitoes.

KAREN BREWSTER: There you go.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. They were bad, I remember that.

KAREN BREWSTER: Were they?

CANDACE NORRIS: Not always. You know, Lindeman's often a very windy spot, so that -- that's the savior. But there were times, bad.

[01:59:14]KAREN BREWSTER: Did you have a favorite spot on the trail?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, I think I just really liked being up at, um. When we had Stone Crib, I liked being up there. Especially when I was up there by myself. And, you know, the people would all have gone through, and then it would get dark, and maybe the northern lights would come out, and the stars would come out, if you're lucky. And it, you know, during the day, it was beautiful. Just the lake was a turquoise blue, and mountains all around, snow-covered. It's beautiful.

KAREN BREWSTER: Sounds beautiful. Um, ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: Well.

[01:59:58]KAREN BREWSTER: Anything else? And here you thought you didn't have anything to say about it.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. Well, I thought -- well, I don't know -- I don't know any of the -- the insider trading that went on, you know, as far as getting things established. As far as the international park, or any of the hiring, firing, or, you know, any of that stuff.

KAREN BREWSTER: But no, but it was nice to hear sort of the representation of what it was like, you know, living out on the trail for a summer.

CANDACE NORRIS: Um-hm. Yep.

KAREN BREWSTER: Not everybody gets that experience.

CANDACE NORRIS: No. It's a -- it was a very cool experience.

[02:00:38]KAREN BREWSTER: So any regrets?

CANDACE NORRIS: Uh, a regret, maybe, that I didn't get to go into the warden service a little bit. Just a little bit. You know, I -- I would've enjoyed -- I would've enjoyed that life, I know I would've.

KAREN BREWSTER: Um-hm. Anything about what you did on the trail that you wished -- is there something you wished you could've had an opportunity to do that you never did?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, no, I don't think so.

KAREN BREWSTER: Like, there wasn't some project you wished had been done that wasn't done?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, there were things that never got finished, but not from us. Like, I know that the archeologists, you know, for all the -- they were there for at least two different seasons, and they were there for months on end. And while they were nice guys, they never turned in a report.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh.

CANDACE NORRIS: So, you know, and I heard that from my boss, the warden at the time. I don't know if they eventually managed to come around, but he said the little thing that I did, you know, my little photograph with the compass bearings and everything, was the most complete, um, gather -- you know, collection of all the artifacts.

KAREN BREWSTER: Wow.

CANDACE NORRIS: That they had. Which is sad.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. And what year would that have been?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, around '88.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. And, you know, that took me a season to go -- to walk to all the spots, photograph them all.

KAREN BREWSTER: And that was before GPS.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, it was before GPS, so. Um, but, you know, they were supposed to be doing whatever they do, but they didn't do it, so.

[02:02:27]KAREN BREWSTER: Um, do you think there's any memory of you that people think, "Oh yeah, she worked on the trail. We remember her."?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. Well, Debbie and I, when we worked together, I think we had quite a reputation for being pretty tough. It sorta got back to us. When the archeologists were out there, they said, "Oh yeah, Debbie and Candy, you gotta watch out for them." I think just because, you know, we didn't take any crap from anybody. You know, it's like -- but I think we were a lot of fun. I think people would think of me as somebody that liked to have a lot of fun. But that, you know, I worked hard. I was a really hard worker.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. Well, were you and Debbie tough because it was in a man's world and you had to be, or that was just your personalities?

CANDACE NORRIS: I think partly that. Definitely, you know, that you were expected to work as hard as a man. There wasn't any, you know, concession, "Oh, you're a woman, you don't have to carry the big pack. You're the woman, here's the big pack." Um, there -- oh well, we -- [02:03:29]I have to tell you one story. So we did have a little bit of interaction with the Kluane

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guys. We did some training, like, um, I think, first aid stuff and shotgun training and things like that. And uh, so we got to know them a little bit. And then, when I left, when I said I wasn't gonna come back, one of them -- or actually a couple of them came out to the -- out to Lindeman 'cause they were kinda looking at the terrain as far as rough terrain stuff. And we played this game called Spoons. Have you ever played Spoons?

KAREN BREWSTER: No, I don't think so.

CANDACE NORRIS: Spoons can be a very docile game, or it can be a really rough game. So basically, if there's four people playing, you deal out four cards to each person. And um, you pass cards until you get four of a kind. And in the middle, there's a spoon. And so, you take the spoon. And then everybody else tries to take the spoon from you. So we were playing at Lindeman, and the game was -- it was a rough game, and we had this big, like, this -- the table was here, and then we had this big wood stove that was here.

KAREN BREWSTER: Behind you guys, yeah.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah. So this park warden and I were fighting over this spoon, right, and he didn't know that stove was off. But I knew it was off. So I was pushing him toward the stove. And he thought I was gonna incinerate him just to get the spoon. But, you know, I was strong enough to pin him down, so.

KAREN BREWSTER: Wow.

CANDACE NORRIS: So, yeah, so.

[02:05:12]KAREN BREWSTER: Um, so what other -- yeah, entertainment. You said, you know, playing the card games or the dressing those guys up. What else did you guys do? Did you -- played a lot of cards or cribbage or read books?

CANDACE NORRIS: We played cribbage. Read books. Um, oh, I don't know. We did all kinds of crazy things. We -- I remember there was a guy, Bill Overend, he was the athletic guy. You know, when we came out in the summer, we -- you know, we could make, you know, buy certain foods that we all -- we liked. And you could share or not share. But, you know, mostly it was all communal food. But I really liked chocolate pudding. So I remember, I actually had a garbage can full of chocolate pudding for the summer. And Bill decided he liked my chocolate pudding, so I noticed my chocolate pudding was disappearing. So anyhow, we ended up having a big chocolate pudding fight one night. So I have pictures of us covered in chocolate pudding.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, it was literally a chocolate pudding fight?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah. A food fight. [02:06:18]And then, our -- Debbie and I, when we worked together, we had this boss, Tom Elliot, um, and Tom was smaller than both of us, like, he's not a very tall guy. And we picked on that poor man mercilessly. We were so mean to him. But he had a good sense of humor. He took it all in stride. Every time he would come out to the trail, which was several times in the summer, there was always going to be a time when he was going to get a meringue pie in the face. Always.

KAREN BREWSTER: Did you -- did you know when he was coming?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. We always had a pie.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, and I wondered -- you mentioned, you know, the supervisors and the people in Whitehorse, and I wondered how often they came out?

CANDACE NORRIS: He came out, you know, several times in the summer. But sometimes, you know, we'd see the superintendents once or twice.

KAREN BREWSTER: I wouldn't expect the superintendents, but some of the other people.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, the park wardens when they started working, they'd come out some. But -- Like Jim MacIntyre, he might've come out once. He just wasn't a backcountry kinda guy. But Tom Elliot was more, so he would come out more.

[02:07:20]KAREN BREWSTER: Um, I was thinking about the male/female differential, and it made me think about salaries and how much you were paid for this work?

CANDACE NORRIS: It was all the same. Um, I think we got paid about \$16 an hour, which was pretty good money for that time.

KAREN BREWSTER: Really?

CANDACE NORRIS: We were, like, rich compared to the poor American rangers. I remember they got paid a pittance.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, really?

CANDACE NORRIS: It was bad. Like, I think they got half of what we got, plus we got a food allowance. So they would buy our food, and we got our wages. And so, basically, you know, came out ahead at the end of the summer.

KAREN BREWSTER: And if you were not in Whitehorse, and you had to get there to start the job for the season, you had to pay your own way?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, yeah. Yep. Yeah. So.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, I was wondering, yeah, it made me think about, yeah, was it a decently paid job? You could make a living at it?

CANDACE NORRIS: Well, you know, seasonal living. Yeah. But yeah, I mean, I would come out with, you know, a little nest egg for the winter.

KAREN BREWSTER: So you didn't necessarily have to work in the winter?

CANDACE NORRIS: I didn't always work in the winter, no. Often I didn't work, actually.

[02:08:29]KAREN BREWSTER: Well, I guess at -- Yeah, I mean, \$16 an hour doesn't sound like a lot by today's standards, but again, you didn't have any expenses, and you were out on the trail.

CANDACE NORRIS: Exactly. Yeah. I mean, you know, when we came off, I was staying with friends, so it was just whatever you spent on food or entertainment when you were off the trail.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right. Or maybe you lost a few bucks gambling in Spoons?

CANDACE NORRIS: Right. No, I won at Spoons. Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Cool. Ok?

CANDACE NORRIS: Yeah, I guess so.

KAREN BREWSTER: I'm open to hearing more.

CANDACE NORRIS: No, I mean, you know, I could go on for hours and hours, I'm sure. But no, it was fun. It was always fun.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, it sounds like it. I can't believe that it was always all fun, but.

CANDACE NORRIS: No, it wasn't always all fun, but, you know, my overriding feeling for it forty years, thirty years later is, that was a lot of fun.

KAREN BREWSTER: And would you do it again?

CANDACE NORRIS: Oh, in a heartbeat. Absolutely. Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Ok. Thank you very much.

CANDACE NORRIS: Yep.