

## Behind the Apron Project: Doris Harris Interview, May 12, 1997, Part 1

Extracted on Apr-16-2024 11:57:41

The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website (transcription.si.edu), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the following terms.

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Anacostia Community Museum Archives as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Anacostia Community Museum Archives website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Anacostia Community Museum Archives or transcribe@si.edu

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Anacostia Community Museum Archives. See this project and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

## WEBVTT

00:04:00.000 --> 00:04:18.000 <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: So <i>Doris Harris</i>: Other people doin it. Just standin right there [[?]] other people. <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: How long did it take you to get the hang of it? <i>Doris Harris</i>: Oh about a week. <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: About a week? <i>Doris Harris</i>: Yeah <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: OK. When people ask you about your job and what you do, what do you usually tell them? 00:04:18.000 --> 00:05:10.000 <i>Doris Harris</i>: Just kinda shuck clams.

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: So you use your comment.

- <i>Doris Harris</i>: You mean my comment?
- <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: [[??]][[cross talk]]
- <i>Doris Harris</i>: Clams [[??]] That's a messy job.[[laughs]]
- <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: [[laughs]]Most folks do think that, huh?
- <i>Doris Harris</i>: [[laughs]] Don't wanna do that.[[laughs]]
- <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Gosh. You're still shucking clams?
- <i>Doris Harris</i>: Yeah
- <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Okay. And for how many years have you been shucking?
- <i>Doris Harris</i>: Eleven years.
- <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Eleven years? What's your hours?
- <i>Doris Harris</i>: Five to eleven.
- <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Five to eleven? Has that alway been your hours?
- <i>Doris Harris</i>: No, not always. In the winter time we cut back.
- <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Okay.What's your hours [[??]]

<i>Doris Harris</i>: Right now?

- <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Yeah, when you're not doing five to eleven.
- <i>Doris Harris</i>: When we work five to eleven [[??]] then you just come home.
- <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: What was the other hours you had before?

## 00:05:10.000 --> 00:05:19.000

<i>Doris Harris</i>: Well, that was seven to eleven.

- <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Seven to eleven?
- <i>Doris Harris</i>: Eleven, Yeah, uh huh. Winter time.
- <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Okay. Is shucking clams a part-time job for you, or full-time?

00:05:19.000 --> 00:05:23.000

<i>Doris Harris</i>: Part-time for me.

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: It's part time? What do you do on your other time?

00:05:23.000 --> 00:06:00.000 <i>Doris Harris</i>: Well, I do house cleaning. <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: For the same person? <i>Doris Harris</i>: No, different people. <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: For different people? <i>Doris Harris</i>: mm-hmm <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Okay.What made shucking clams appealing to you? <i>Doris Harris</i>: Shucking, you know. After I caught on then I just liked shuckin. <i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Okay.Uh, as you say, most people think that shucking clams is a messy job. <i>Doris Harris</i>: Oh yeah, most--<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Uh huh, Did you have any reservation about shucking for that reason?

<i>Doris Harris</i>: Oh no, uh-uh, uh-uh. I still like the doin it.[[laughs]]



The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities.Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us! The Transcription Center: https://transcription.si.edu On Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter On Twitter: @TranscribeSI

Connect with the Smithsonian Smithsonian Institution: www.si.edu On Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian On Twitter: @smithsonian