

Interview Transcripts with Minnie Evans, by Nina Howell Starr and Celestina Ware, 1962-1973

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Tape [[strikethrough]]WII[[/strikethrough]]WI MINNIE EVANS 2. 3-5-71

M.E. girl. My grandmother sat down and told me the story that her grandmother had told her where they came from Trinidad.

C.W. Can you tell me one of those stories about coming from Trinidad? How did they?

M.E. [strikethrough]] Their [[strikethrough]]Well mother said that her great grandmother Margaret. Her name was not listed as Margaret until after she came to Wilmington but her name was [[strikethrough]] Monia [[/strikethrough]]Manney. And there were [[strikethrough]] herself [[/strikethrough]]sold, her husband therself and five children. They were drove somewhere through the forest, through the woods and her husband taken some kind of a fever and he died. She don't [[strikethrough]] really [[/strikethrough]] think he really just died. He couldn't go and she believe they killed him.

C.W. Was this in Trinidad or North Carolina?

M.E. Yes, this was in Trinidad [[strikethrough]] just [[/strikethrough]] this was before they got to North Caroline a long time and then two or three of her children taken sick with small pox or [[strikethrough]]chlorea[[/strikethrough]] cholerea in the woods and they died but she and her youngest child they survived. They didn't get sick at all. So they came on. They didn't like that master that had them he give them over to another man as far as she could understand and they taken a boat and came on to North Carolina.

C.W. I see and your family has been in North Caroline ever since?

M.E. Un huh, and she said they came to a place called Charles' Town

C.W. Yes, yes

M.E. But this town was Charleston, South Carolina and they were bought on from there to Wilmington. So a man bought them bought her and her little baby from Wilmington from New Hanover County from up in Samson County and that's where they grew up at.

C.W. Now did your mother see slavery times?

M.E. Not my mother, my grandmother

C.W. Saw slavery?

M.E. Yes, she saw slavery. She was five years old in [[strikethrough]] when [[strikethrough]] freedom [[strikethrough]] came [[strikethrough]] and then there was some other older children and her mistress and master gave her, take her two oldest children from her and gave them to his daughter for a wedding present. And they stayed upmin Samson County and then she stayed down in Long Creek, down with the other man and his family. So after freedom grandmother then saw this freedom. My great grandmother she and two or three other women

M.E. girl. By grandauther set down and told me the story that her grandauther had told her where they same from Trimided, C.W. Com you tell me one of those stories about enemy from Trimidad? N.S. Their mother soid the her great grandmother Respect. Her name was not listed as Margarell flor she came to Mildrich hat her name was months. And there were Alfalic, her hasboard Margare sanchare through the forest, through the weeds and her husband taken some kind of a fever and he died. No doubt the highest died, No doubt't go and she believe they killed him. C.V. Has this in Triniday or North Corolina? N.B. Ten, this was in Trinted of the before they got to North Caroline a long ting and then two or three of her children taken mick with small you or settlement in the woods and they died but she and her youngest shild fley it was the word to the state of the died by the same on. They didn't get sick at all. So they make on. They didn't like that maker that had them be give them over to another man us for an abe could understand any they lakes a best and came to to be North C.V. I see and your family has been in North Carolina Wifee? H.S. Un but, and she said they same to a place called Charles' Town M.E. But this town was Charleston, South Coroline and they were bought on from there to Wilsington. So a mon bought the Mary and her little biby in "limington," Mr. Henryer County from up in Sanson County and that's where they gram up at. Call. New did your mother one slowery times? M.E. Not my mother, my grandmother G.W. San slavery? N.S. Iss, she new slavery. She was five years ald need freedom same and these there was some other older children and her mixtress and master gave her; take her two closes children from her and gave then to his daughter for a wedding present. As they stayed upoin Samesa County and then she stoyed down is long Greek, down with the other man and his femily. So silve freedom grandmother them saw this freedom. By great grainmother she had two or three other women where their children had hear taken from them sent up into this county and they were gone for three weeks are more walking through that dountry to where they get to where the children was end brought her two children becksell tagether, she had about 12 or 15 head of children from these three different husbands. C.v. Dat your mather was the only child of her mather? M.S. Secon my mother was the only child of her mother, that was my grand C.V. Hight, wight and then you dropped out of school at the ern of

where their children had been taken from them went up into this county and they were gone for three weeks or more walking through that country to where they got to where the children was and brought her two children back. all together, she had about 12 or 13 head of children from these three different husbands.

C.W. But your mother was the only child of her mother?

M.E. No. Now my mother was the only child [[strikethrough]] of [[strikethrough]] her mother had, that was my grandmother.
Sounder [[?]]
C.W. Right, right and so then you dropped out of school [[strikethrough]] at the end of [[strikethrough]] in the 6th grade?

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