

Bernie Loveless and Mildred Finlon talk with Mary Eckard who was 101 years old when this interview was recorded in 1986.

Mr. Loveless: Mrs. Eckard, remember we looked at the boardwalk — picture of' the boardwalk? Did you remember walking on the boardwalk?

Mrs. Eckard: Oh, yes, oh, yes. Good Lord, and this is a good one here. This is wonderful.

Mr. Loveless: This is a postcard.

Mrs. Eckard: I remember that as if it was yesterday.

Mr. Loveless: The postcard of the boardwalk?

Mrs. Eckard: Um-hum.

Mr. Loveless: Yeah, that's a nice scene.

And you remember the pier, I assume?

Mrs. Eckard: I was going to say there was a pier out here as far as I know. Now, this doesn't look like they had one.

Mr. Loveless: No, that doesn't show the pier, Mildred.

Mrs. Eckard: That might have been what I thought — was a pier.

Mr. Loveless: But there was a —

Mrs. Eckard: This was a square buildings, little square thing like that and a table in them. And Momma would take the family and we'd have our lunch. And we'd put out things on that table and go on and walk around and go down —

Mrs. Finlon: Do you remember the dance floor where they used to have big circuses and the round dance floor?

Mrs. Eckard: Oh, yes, yes, dance. Of course, I didn't dance. I didn't dance until I was quite old.

(Laughter.)

Mrs. Finlon: You didn't dance as a young girl?

Mrs. Eckard: Oh, yes, medium, when you go out with a boyfriend. And I don't think I went out with anybody until I was about 16 — or 17 I guess, easy before I went out with a boy. Momma wouldn't ever allow anything like that.

Mrs. Finlon: Did you go swimming over at Chesapeake Beach in the part that was netted off for sea nettles?

Mrs. Eckard: Yes, yes, and we had a big flat — and when they pushed off the train — this is where you got off the train. And there was a big flat place, and there was always that store where you eat.

Mrs. Finlon: Yeah.

Mrs. Eckard: That was always there. That was always there.