

**Jeanne Pelletier, Clementine Longworth, Maria Campbell**  
**Video 1**

**Start 2.02.13 Maria Campbell:** So, it's good to have you in our kitchen. We worked really hard to get this all set up so it'd look, look like this. I want to ask you your names first, and maybe Clementine I'll start with you. What is your full name and ...

**Clementine Longworth:** From when I was married or?

**Maria Campbell:** Yeah, before you married and then your married name, and who you married.

**Clementine Longworth:** Clementine Flamont. That was my dad's name, Flamont. And then after, when I was married to George Henry, it was Henry, my last name.

**Maria Campbell:** And where were you born?

**Clementine Longworth:** I was born in Crooked Lake, about twelve miles south of Grayson, that's where I was born.

**Maria Campbell:** And your parents, who were they?

**Clementine Longworth:** What?

**Maria Campbell:** Your parents, what were your parents named?

**Clementine Longworth:** My dad, his name was Alexandre Flamont, and my mother was Adele Allery **(inaudible)**..

**Maria Campbell:** Allery. Oh. And your grandparents, do you remember your grandparents' names?

**Clementine Longworth:** No, they were gone before I was born.

**Maria Campbell:** Oh, both, both sets?

**Clementine Longworth:** Both sides, yeah, yeah.

**Maria Campbell:** And how old were you when you left there, or did you, did you grow up in, Crooked Lake, did you say?

**Clementine Longworth:** Ya, well, we left Crooked Lake, when, I'll say I was about ten years old when we left for good. We moved to Yorkton, that's how, were raised, all of them, yeah.

**Maria Campbell:** And where did you go to school?

**Clementine Longworth:** I never went to school a day in my life.

**Maria Campbell:** And your husband, where did you meet him? Where did you meet your husband?

**Clementine Longworth:** In Yorkton, maybe, yeah.

**Maria Campbell:** And you're Michif?

**Clementine Longworth:** Yeah.

**Maria Campbell:** Was that your language when you were growing up?

**Clementine Longworth:** Oh yeah, we would talk, yeah, in mostly Cree and French. We'd talk a lot of French, too. My dad used to talk mostly French.

**2.04.20 Maria Campbell:** And where, where were, what is your name, I should get your full name.

**Jeanne Pelletier:** Jean Pelletier, Jean Desjarlais Pelletier.

**Maria Campbell:** And where were you born?

**Jeanne Pelletier:** I was born in Crooked Lake, twelve miles south of Grayson, same place she comes from.

**Maria Campbell:** And your parents?

**Jeanne Pelletier:** Roger and Seraphine Desjarlais. And my dad's, my dad's dead. My mom's still living—she's ninety-three years old.

**Maria Campbell:** Oh my.

**Jeanne Pelletier:** Yes.

**Maria Campbell:** And what was her maiden name?

**Jeanne Pelletier:** Lavallee.

**Maria Campbell:** Lavallee. From, from where?

**Jeanne Pelletier:** From Crooked Lake.

**Maria Campbell:** From Crooked Lake, too. And did you grow up in Crooked Lake?

**Jeanne Pelletier:** Yes, that's where I was born and that's where I, I was there till I was fifteen years old, and then I left.

**Maria Campbell:** And who were your grandparents?

**Jeanne Pelletier:** My grandparents was Jimmy Desjarlais and Theresa, Therese Pelletier.

**Maria Campbell:** On and, now, on the other side? That's your dad's side?

**Jeanne Pelletier:** Yes. The other side was Napoleon Lavallee, and I can't remember my grandmother's name. She died, she died before I was born, but she was a Sparvier.

**Maria Campbell:** I know some Sparviers there, but I can't think of their name right now.

**Jeanne Pelletier:** Yeah, I just can't think of her name, and we were talking about it not too long ago, like we always talk about them.

**Maria Campbell:** Yeah. Crooked Lake, was that a, a big community?

**Jeanne Pelletier:** It's a, it's a yeah it was like a little Michif colony. There's, it's there was like a mission, a boarding school, and we lived on the outside of the river us. We were the outsiders.

**Maria Campbell:** So it was a like a reserve?

**Jeanne Pelletier:** Yeah, all bunch of reserves, like that, all around us there was reserves, and on this side was White people, and us in between and...

**Maria Campbell:** Was it road allowance?

**Jeanne Pelletier:** Yeah, yeah. I'm a road allowance woman. Born in a road allowance, raised in a road allowance.

**2.06.28 Maria Campbell:** What was it like there when you were young? I'll start with you.

**Clementine Longworth:** Well, I didn't know any different, know whatever we did there, we did, it's all we done, you know, don't know nothing, you know. Mind you, we had a good life, you know. My parents, they were nice and yeah ...

**Maria Campbell:** I guess we're going to stop for a few minutes.

**2.06.46 [No Audio]**

**2.07.40 Maria Campbell:** So, what was it—we'll start back again—what was it like growing up there? Was there a lot of people that were, were living in the community?

**Clementine Longworth:** Well, yeah, there were a lot of people that were living there, you know, every, I'll say over half, half a mile there was somebody lived there. It goes like this, eh.

**Maria Campbell:** Did people live, like, in your family was it just your dad, or did your grandmother and all of your aunts and uncles live close together?

**Clementine Longworth:** Before I was born, my grandma, my grandfather and them were gone, so I didn't know them. Yeah. We had our own place.

**Maria Campbell:** And what about your uncles? They just lived further away, your aunts?

**Clementine Longworth:** Well my cousins there lived not too far from there, and so does my uncle. Yeah, my dad his brother.

**Maria Campbell:** And what year were you born?

**Clementine Longworth:** 1922.

**Maria Campbell:** 1922.

**Clementine Longworth:** I was born, yeah.

**Maria Campbell:** So it would have been ...

**Clementine Longworth:** March the 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Maria Campbell:** Yeah, it would have been the road. You wouldn't have had hardly any roads out there ...

**Clementine Longworth:** Yeah, that's right, this is true, yeah.

**2.08.46 Maria Campbell:** So how did you get around?

**Clementine Longworth:** Well, mostly with the wagon and horses, you know. That's how they'd go to school, go shopping in Grayson or Melville. Went to **(inaudible)** in Melville too, you know.

**Maria Campbell:** Just get in the wagon and ...

**Clementine Longworth:** Yeah, that's right, had nothing else.

**2.09.05 Maria Campbell:** How many brothers and sisters did you have?

**Clementine Longworth:** Six brothers and six sisters, were twelve of us.

**Maria Campbell:** Oh, big family.

**Clementine Longworth:** Yeah.

**2.09.16 Maria Campbell:** So, do you remember how many families lived in Crooked Lake when you were growing up?

**Clementine Longworth:** Oh boy, there were lots, there was quite a few. I know mostly all the, the Métis that lived there, didn't live in any other place, most of all, like my uncles and aunties, were all, used to live all there. My dad's side and my mom's side, you know,

**Maria Campbell:** You had to work hard?

**Clementine Longworth:** Yeah, we had to work hard if we can make a living, with no education.

**Maria Campbell:** Yeah, did you have a kind of a farm? Did you have animals and ...

**Clementine Longworth:** No, just like that. We had horses like that, you know. Few head of cattle, that was all.

**Maria Campbell:** What kinds of things did your family do for a living?

**Clementine Longworth:** Well, mostly dad, he was always working.

**Maria Campbell:** What kind of work did they do?

**Clementine Longworth:** Well, they used to work in summertime with the farmers, you know, all kind of work like that, you know. In fall, they used to threshing, you know, helping, threshing and like that.

**Maria Campbell:** Yeah, and what about your brothers and I mean yourself, your sisters. Did you work around the community?

**Clementine Longworth:** No, and I never went out until I was married when I was 19, always work in the house. We're washing for the boys, you know, ironing the clothes, that was my job.

**Maria Campbell:** I don't suppose you had a washing machine.

**Clementine Longworth:** Yeah, no washing machine in them days. Had to do everything the hard way.

**End 2.10.48**