

## JOE DEPAUL

INTERVIEWER: Okay, this is an interview with Joe DePaul on August 3rd, 1982. Just start it, and... Alfonso has told me a little bit about the Italians that lived in our neighborhood, so... Your family came from Gioia de Marsi?

JOE: Yes, same thing. Most of the families did come from Gioia de Marsi, a small town about the size of [unintelligible], not much bigger than that, so I was told. I think the first man that came over here to the Sault was...

I: Mascatelli?

J: Mascatelli. Right. And he bought, sponsored a lot of the local boys from [unintelligible], that's how they did it in those days. He and my grandfather, Tony Rafielli, were very close buddies in Italy. And he came over here because- Mr. Mascatelli came over here, I should say, to work on the locks here in 1902. And my grandfather went to Iselin, Pennsylvania. That was the other group of our home people that went to Iselin for coal mining. And one went and brought another one, he was one of the ones that went down there. Mr. Mascatelli was very successful in the saloon business.

I: Saloon business?

J: Up here.

I: Which saloon?

J: Gosh, I'm trying to think of the name. It'll come. Over here on the south side. He became so successful, before long he retired and [unintelligible] and buggy. My grandfather came from Iselin, Pennsylvania and told me he come up here and buy it. And back in those days, [unintelligible] a few hundred dollars I'd imagine, I don't know. And my grandpa didn't have a lot of money, hardly any- they took in boarders down in Iselin, Pennsylvania. So he come up here and purchased a property on time, or something. [unintelligible] left, and then they all sponsored bringing relatives over and help them to come over. That's how the colony started, Mascatelli to my grandfather, and other people that start bringing brothers over and sisters and so on. They intermarried all through here, and that's how we got a little Italy up here. Most of them came over here primarily to work at the [unintelligible] mine. We started about that time, on the locks. And they brought [unintelligible] here and this is why we're all here, I guess. My father was a boarder down in Iselin at one of my grandfather's [unintelligible], that's how he met my mother. They moved up here about 7 or 8 months later. My father came up here following my mother. Then they got married here. They were born there. Family stayed here, and they started... I think the history of the DePaul family has been written up many times. I don't know if you're interested, you're not interested in that...

I: Where has this been written?

[Unintelligible. There is a very loud rumbling noise obscuring much of this conversation.]

I: Do you have copies of that?

J: I'd be interested in the... This is mostly the DePaul family history. I don't [unintelligible]

I: Oh boy.

J: I'd say it's out there. You might be interested in wanting to go through that.

I: Yeah, I'm sure that it would...

J: [unintelligible]

I: This is wonderful.

J: It's our family. [unintelligible]

I: Didn't speak English?

J: No, didn't speak English. [unintelligible] English language, he had a lot of fun doing it.

[unintelligible]

I: How did you happen to have a newspaper?

J: Over the years we've saved just about anything we can get our hands on. I think I got this from someone- in fact I remember it now- that young Paul Lanberry, he found it over at big old Lanberry Home, asked me if I had a copy of it, I said I didn't have it [unintelligible] stuck that in there again, somebody [unintelligible] way back, my father was a bartender down at the old War Bird, I think they called it back then. [unintelligible]

I: So your dad had a theater before the Sault Theater then? I mean he had to have before the Sault Theater opened, then.

J: Oh yes, he started 1913. [unintelligible] he was a bartender here in the [unintelligible] Saloon. It's the [unintelligible] now, and next door to it was [unintelligible], where the-

I: [unintelligible] Loan?

J: Yeah, that's what it was... and this was the interior. And these paintings down here were done by [unintelligible], remember the [unintelligible]

I: Yeah.

J: ...Back when my dad was a bartender and Mr. Wescott was a physician in the town home [unintelligible] gambled the money away, so [unintelligible] interested in the theater and the [unintelligible] gas station [unintelligible]

[The rumbling gets so loud that it is impossible to understand their words.]

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