

## Tarbox Interview

**Narrator: Gurdon Tarbox**  
**Interviewer: Kloo Chase**  
**Interviewer: Jeremy Hendricks**  
**Date: May, 2003**  
**Location: Home of Gurdon Tarbox**  
**HIST 493M "Tales of the Tidewater"**

Kloo: Um, if we could start out with some biographical information, that would be wonderful, with your name, um, how you came to be here, and anything else you'd like to add.

Gurdon: Okay, you want to know my name?

K: Yes, sir.

G: Gurdon Tarbox Jr. My father is a Georgestonian, and he was, uh, raised in Georgetown. And he left about 1912 or 13 to go to college. He went to Clemson for a little while, then he finished at North Carolina State.

K: Um-hmm.

G: And he took mechanical engineering. Before that came about, he was a, ah, an adventurous young man. He was a great hunter, and he, oh loved this area, just really loved it. And, uh, his brother, Preston Tarbox had, ah, bought an airplane in 1911, and they talked my father into becoming a pilot. So he learned to fly, and they had an airstrip on Willowbank Plantation, and ah, they tested some equipment there and it was successful. And then my father decided, that's when he decided to quit college. And after he finished college, he moved to New Jersey because he was building airplanes. There he met my mother and there I was born. But we've always come back to Georgetown, ah, because my father's, ah his parent - his father was still living, his family was here. So we've been coming to Georgetown all my life. My first recollection is 1934. So we - and then, ah, I came down here permanently in 1954, because I'd been hired by Mr. Huntington to start work at Brookgreen Gardens.

K: Okay.

G: So that's how that came about.

K: M'kay, and um, so you were um - the information that we've got is that you were the Director of Brookgreen for a while, is that correct?

G: Yes, from - see I became the Assistant Director I believe in 1959, and I was Director I, I really don't know for certain, but it was early 60's I became Director.

K: Um-hmm.

G: And then I was Director, and then they changed the name to President.

K: Okay.

G: And it was the same thing. It was just a, an upgrade of names. Uh, but I was their Director of Brookgreen for at least 30 years. Retired in 1954 [*we believe he meant 1994*]. Making my total time, um at Brookgreen at a little bit more than 40 years on the payroll.

K: Wonderful.

J: Kloo, do you want to slide this microphone a little bit closer over that way, it'd probably be ... yeah, that's what I was thinking.

G: That would do.

J: Good.

K: Now, have you raised your family here, and ...

G: Yes, Um, I ... I married my wife in Michigan. I met her because I was a forestry student at Michigan State College. And then, ah, I got a Fellowship at Purdue. And then she finished her nurse's training, so we were married right after she finished her nurse's training. Then we spent 2 years at Purdue, and I was involved in environmental projects there. And then, ah, in 1954, we moved down here. And we had one child who was born in Indiana, and then three more were born here, so we've raised our family at Brookgreen Gardens.

K: Wonderful.

G: In a company house.

K: Wonderful. Um, well, Jeremy, would you like to ...

J: Um, what are some of the biggest changes in, you know, the local area here that you've noticed over the course of your living here?

G: The main thing is development. Um, when Brook - when Mr. Huntington bought Brookgreen, ah, he bought it in early 1930's, and this was nowhere, I mean it was nowhere at all. And, ah, my uncle, who was at Brookgreen before me was having very poor health, and they were trying to get somebody to come down here and, and take his - you know to help him, and then eventually take it over. But, ah, because of the remoteness of this area, nobody would come down but um, family was very important to me, and also I loved it down here. So, ah, we came down in '54. Our closest telephone was the Hammock Shop. It was, I mean there wasn't anybody here, I mean it was just - and you could go all the way to Myrtle Beach, and the trees covered the road. You know, went through Murrells Inlet, and then to Georgetown, there wasn't any development here at all. If you got stuck, uh and hadn't boughten - bought gas, you had to go back to Georgetown or Myrtle Beach to buy gas. And we have seen this area grow so much, and in going back into that, why has this happened? Um, this area in Georgetown County, and Horry County, and the northern part of, ah, Charleston County is probably the finest place in the world. I mean we've got beaches, we've got freshwater behind us within a waterway here, and we've got, ah, Winyah Bay and all of the rivers that come into it. Enormous numbers of wildlife. The climate is good. And there's just so many things going for this area, and people have recognized this. And the development here, ah, it started in the, um, or early '60's, a little bit here and there. But then the last few years it's just been steamrolling. You know, the area's growing so fast, and it causes me great concern, because I see these changes coming, and I'm fearful that we're going to wreck it if we're not careful. And, ah, this is a great concern to me. And I've been somewhat involved with ah, ah trying to help with the planning, but ah, when you're my age nobody pays any attention to you anymore. And you, ah, because, but, ah, I attend a lot of planning meetings, and things of that type, and work with people that are trying to solve some of these problems.

K: That's good ...

G: We can get into more of that later if you want, but I just think the area is so wonderful, it is going to develop. There's no way you're going to close the drawbridge and keep people from coming down here. They're gonna come. It's gonna happen. And the thing we've got to do is not get caught short. We've got to get ready for this, before it's too late.

K: Um, if I may, Jeremy, intersect here, what, what would you do, um, do you have any ideas about how you would see Georgetown not getting cut short?

G: Okay. Um, the first thing, we've got wonderful assets here now which are protected. Brookgreen Garden is protected, that includes Huntington Beach State Park, which is part of the property. We have Baruch ... a huge piece of property. You've got ah, South Island ... a big piece of property. Then from there, it joins up with the Cape Romaine and the Francis Marion National Forest. Georgetown itself has a - an East Bay Park. These areas have been set aside. They're green areas. And what has got a - we've got to leave these areas alone. Already, ah, ah, within the last few weeks, they want to build a YMCA on the East Bay Park. It's the only green space down there, but I hope they'll stop that. Um, already the Georgetown - or the Waccamaw Middle School was built on Brookgreen property. And I fear that as we develop, ah because these areas are **unused** green spaces, the politicians are going to be looking at that for areas to develop, and, and use to, to, to do, and this I think is terribly wrong. I

think these places that have been set aside by, uh, very wise people, who looked way ahead, Mr. Huntington, uh, Baruch, and the Vanderbilts too, they've left ...

K: Um-hmm.

G: And Yawkey. They have set aside these properties. They were from up North, and they realized what had happened up North. They could set aside property here and, and take care of these things. But yet our local politicians and our people do not recognize this. And they are looking at these properties to use for development of, of a governmental nature, like schools, playgrounds, what-not, where these are properties were not intended for that. Really. And, uh, I feel very strongly about this, and its, its a very irritating thing to me to see our county government not zoning. They won't zone the western part of the county. They ignore the needs for better roads, and if they think that, ah, they can stifle development by not having good roads, and not having zoning, they're making a terrible mistake, because zoning will give us orderly growth. And this is what we need ... orderly growth. It's going to happen, and if we don't put in zoning and provide land use planning for the county, it's going to develop into a mess. And we see it coming now. And I think they still have time to, ah, at least protect the western part of the county. We are zoned here, but that wasn't done until much of what you see up and down US-17 was already there. And they seem to wait until the developers get their licks in, and the developers do what they want to do, then they go ahead and zone it, which is too late. Ah, the whole western part of the county is unzoned, and it's going to develop. It's too close to the ocean. It's too close to this area. And they've got to recognize that they have to develop, and then the other thing is leave these green places alone. These that have been dedicated. Don't look at them. You know, for, for the, ah, areas for fire departments, schools, parks, when and knows-what. Do more, don't take away what you already have.

K: Right.

G: That's the - this is my soap box.

K: Well to, um, expand on this just a little more, um, how have what you've said so far, how has it personally affected you, and your way of life? Um, in ways that, you know, you said that you're not really heard any more. Could you expand on that?

G: Well, I think the traffic here is horrible. It bothers me, every time my wife goes to the grocery store, I'm hoping she gets back safely, because the traffic is, is very, very dangerous. And we see more and more traffic here, and we need to handle it better. Ah, I think this is the main thing, we all enjoy the conveniences. We've got good stores now, and we have movies in Murrel - in Inlet Square. We have all the things that we didn't have before. And now this is a very, very attractive place to live. We have the, the natural area, and we have the things that we need to comfortable in living here. Good homes, ah, nice developments like River Club, Litchfield County Club, ah, Heritage, Will Brook, all of these are great places to live. But, ah, the thing that bothers me more than anything else is the, ah, traffic. You hear the sirens going and you wonder, is that siren for you, or, or somebody you know?

K: Um-hmm.

G: And it becomes very dangerous.

K: Yeah.

J: Okay. Um, do you think the landscape, especially, you know, the historic rice fields and plantations and what-not, do you think that's all important to the sense of place among the residents here?

G: Absolutely. Ah, and I hope they won't gum it up. Because, ah, I think you, you - if you sailed on the river, ah, you may have you may have not, that is one of the most beautiful things in this whole world ... is the area between Georgetown and Wachesaw, up through there. I mean it is absolutely wonderful. Um, when I was at Brookgreen, every once in a while somebody would stick up a bloomin' billboard out there. You know on the road. You know so many, ah, miles to a gas station up the road, well if they're on Brookgreen property I tore them down. And I know a lot of people didn't like that, but I just don't want that gummed up. You know in that, ah, area, and then also, if you go to North Inlet, or, or go out to the jetties, I mean it is gorgeous, you know just you, you don't realize all that is built back behind, but we haven't hurt it too much. We can see the smoke-stacks and

the mill and things like that, and you can see the big bridge, but in general, I think a sense of place is important. To have, ah, the rivers at least protected. It used to be that the US-17 was gorgeous, ah up and down. There's still three of the trees left. And the Highway Department's scared to cut them down. They're on highway property, but they know there'd be an outrage if they cut them down. And ah - but things like that are very important. I'm unhappy the way, ah, some areas have allowed, billboards to, ah, proliferate. And they really ruin the sense of place. And you don't need billboards, I don't think you need them. I think ah, people can find their way without them.

K: I agree.

G: And we have been traveling a lot since I retired, and we go to places where they don't have billboards. And it looks real nice, to, to go in areas which are kept clean. Portions of Europe, which are heavily developed, they've been there for a long, long time, and they've managed to maintain the essence, of the area.

K: Right.

J: Something I've noticed, um you know, with regards to the billboards, is a lot of these billboards are advertisements for, I guess a way of living, and you almost, looking back at the old South, and, and enticing people to, to come here, and, and buy into the myth ... the plantation myth, you know. Um, do you see that as problematic for, the growth of the area or ... ?

G: I don't know. I don't pay any attention to the bloomin' things. Uh, I, I, I just tune them out. But ah, as long as these guys make money, they're gonna do it. And, uh, money is the driving factor, everywhere you go. It's people who are making money. Uh, selling property, selling, uh one thing or another. And uh, I, I can't blame them for trying to make money, but I just hate to see them damage the, the vision of the area. The billboards are, temporary, they will come down I hope some day. But ah, they used to make them out of wood, but now they got them out of steel, you can't just chainsaw them down anymore. And there was a lot of that chain sawing ...

K: Right.

G: They were cutting them down. But ah, what they're trying to do is sell the area based on, the, idea of the past. You know, the, the hammock, and the, the quiet, um, plantation life, you know, of Debediux, or, or this new Allston ...

K: Allston ...

G: ... Plantation down here. And ah, it it's - you're talking about advertising, and this is what they do. And, uh, it doesn't bother me particularly but, the ah it isn't really truthful. They've gotta use more common sense.

J: Something you said right there that kind of, ah sparked an interest in me, you talked about ah, cutting down the old billboards and everything, do you mean residents around here just going out there and cutting it down ... ?

G: It happened here for a while. People ...

J: ... so ...

G: ... were sawing - going out there at night with a chainsaw and cutting them down. You know they're made with ah, poles. Well what happened, uh, they came up with a moratorium on it, you know you weren't going to have any more. And one of the large companies in this this country bought up a whole bunch of space and put up a whole bunch of them and hadn't sold them. They just had new boards, everywhere. Because they, they wanted to get them in before the deadline, and a lot - there were some, uh vandalism along that line, trying to get rid of them. Mainly along US - or I-95. The I-95 corridor.

K: Um, kind of shifting from all that, I'd like to ask you, um, with your job as, you know, working in depth with Brookgreen, and developing that, you know, in a very natural way, um, can - has it changed, um, your attitude or, um, affected your daily life in, the natural envil - environment, how has that um, benefited or, detracted from your opinion of the area?

G: Well I think Brookgreen is a tremendous asset for the area. Because of all the properties I mentioned, it is the

most accessible. Uh, take Baruch is hard to get into. It's real hard to get into Yawkey. And uh, but Brookgreen is wide open, and uh, with the park especially, ah ... But now they do charge fees, and I think the fees are, a little bit steep. 12 bucks to get in Brookgreen hurts.

K: Um-hmm.

G: And you have a family it's going to be hard to go. But I think these are very, very important, uh, areas. Uh, but they are available. And the trouble is if you, can't take care of an area, it'll go to ruin. And uh, apparently at Brookgreen that's what they figure they need to take care of the property. And uh, you must admit they've got some real nice things there. Uh, since I've left, uh they've put in a lot of new things. The last thing I did was the, uh, the, what they call the, Welcome Center, and all of that. And the other thing that I had to do when I was there was, ah, we had to put in a lot of things that don't show. Water and sewer. Uh, we - that has city water and city sewer, and we have paid dearly for that. But I figured we had to do it, because, the area's going to grow, and you just can't do anything without city water and city sewer.

K: Right.

G: So we buried a lot of money out there. And then, then I retired right after that. And then since then they've been able to, ah, put in that Lowcountry center, which is a very nice, ah thing - that's our old maintenance area. And they built a new maintenance area. And they've done a lot of real nice things there.

K: Wonderful.

G: And it hasn't bothered me, I mean, I think it's wonderful that ah, Brookgreen is there. Now it's ah, mission has changed somewhat, mainly to keep up with the times. When Mr. Huntington founded Brookgreen, it was supposed to be a museum of the flora and fauna of South Carolina. That was in the name. And they changed that. Uh, and now they, they have other things. You know like the, the tame animals, if you saw those ...

K: Right.

G: ... Uh, everything was supposed to be indigenous. But they've broadened this, and I don't see any harm in that because, the people are broader now. And we're more worldly, and you want to see different things. And I think ah, they've done this at Brookgreen, and are bringing in a wider interest. They certainly haven't eliminated the original, ah purpose. But they've just expanded on it. And I think this is to be expected. And I think it's a good - it's a strong, ah, thing to do.

K: Wonderful.

J: Um, how have the different industries around Georgetown and this area, uh, the uh, I guess starting off with the rice, but ah, timber, paper mill, tourism, the steel mill, how have they affected the local environment in your opinion?

G: Well, they certainly do. Uh, the thing about it, is that, Georgetown has these industries, uh like the steel mill, and the, the paper mill ... these things make Georgetown real. I mean it's a real, ah town, it, it's a, it's producing, it's providing products that the people need. It provides jobs. Ah when you go into a, a town which is strictly tourism, you know the whole thing's fake. It, it's strictly for the tourists. And I, I kind of like to go to Georgetown, and see a, a ship from Venezuela in there, unloading iron ore. I mean it's interesting. I mean it's real. But uh, it does have its problems. Ah, industry creates, ah jobs, money, and pollution. And uh, I think ah, where you can control the amount of pollution, through ah, ah, ah, different types of ah precipitators and cleaners, that's fine. You can't make Georgetown a viable place, without providing income and jobs. Like my father [*narrator hits microphone with his hand here*] had to leave - oops - had to leave Georgetown in, in the early parts of his cen - of last century because he couldn't make a living. I mean, and, and everybody left. I have four children, they've all left, because they couldn't find jobs here. And they're elsewhere. Ah, and I think it's becoming a little bit better now, there are more jobs around. But ah, you can't have an area which is totally, ah, without income producing faci - ways. Tourism's a wonderful industry, but it doesn't provide a, ah, product. I mean, I, I'm talking about, ah a tangible product ...

K: Right.

G: ... because tourism that provides spiritual and recreational opportunities is very important.

K: Self services?

G: Self services, yeah. But ah, you need to have that ah, the real thing. The paper company has ah, by using, ah timber, and the timber's being harvested through - throughout the area, it has kept many of the areas in timber production. Ah, otherwise it may have been sold off, for some other use. And the forest - er, and the forest, yeah the foresters from the paper company do a good job. The ah, they ah, replant and it's done in an orderly manner. And it's providing a product. For our paperless society with the computers, there man - there, that's all they do is make computer paper. I mean it, it's - we can't get along without it. Somebody has to do it. And I like to see it where it's done on a sustained basis. What troubles me is where you have industry, and forestry's one of the worst in it, where they, they buy a piece of property, they skin it and run. And it, and that's what happened here in the old days, with the Atlantic Coast Lumber Company. They came and harvested all the big timber, and then it shut down, and that's about when my father had to leave. Because it was lost, the industry was gone. At the same time they lost, ah rice. Rice ah, went elsewhere, because it could be ah, done more economically. So Georgetown was really in a lurch, until ah, 1936 and 37 when International Paper came in. You know they bought a lot of land, and they put a lot of people to work. And they've been able to continue that. It's been a sustaining industry in Georgetown. Now the steel - steel mill, ah that's another situation, but ah, apparently it works. Because the ah, Santee Cooper's providing enormous amounts of electricity, because it, it's an electric mill. So they have to bring all that coal in from West Virginia, and, and ah create the ah, electricity on the Winyah Plant, which is, much of it is used ...

K: Right.

G: ... in Georgetown. But ah, it's a port. And the ships can get in so its functions. But I'm unsure of how long that will last. I really don't think it will be here forever. With foreign steel, ah that mill is having a hard time being competitive.

K: Right. Would you say, that um, more tourism in the future would be, a benefit to the local environment, the economy, and lifestyle of people ...

G: Tourism is, probably the cleanest industry you can get. I mean they don't have children in the schools, and, and it, it - they don't provide a big impact. You know you don't have to provide the services that you have for ah, for tourism, because they come, they leave their money, and they go home. And, and that's really clean, but most of the jobs are lower paying, which is a problem. But tourism is a wonderful industry. And I think ah, Georgetown County and ah, as far as I'm concerned all of this part of the world, along the coast, is ideally suited for recreation. I don't know any place in this world, that has as many rivers and inlets for boating, and boating is just, ah, this is a natural for it.

K: Um-hmm.

G: Ah, Murrels Inlet isn't so good itself because you only can go to the ocean, but Georgetown Little River, you have all the access of the fresh water and behind. And Murrels Inlet has it at Wachesaw. And ah, for boating, ah, it, it's great. Couldn't be better. And tourism is going to remain a very strong part of this area. The idea that ah, you can play golf in the winter, and ah, people play tennis. There's a lot of ah, that type of activity here which is recreational.

K: Right.

G: It's gonna become bigger I think, as more and more people move in. I just came back from Canada, last week, and those poor souls, it is so cold up there. It snowed on us. You know some of the lakes are still frozen. And ah, I mean they're suffering. And you can see why they want to come down here. And why people from ah, ah the upper tier of our country are moving to the south when they have a chance, because it's, it's much more pleasant. When ah, I completed my work at Brookgreen after 40 years there, ah we had to find a place to live. And we - I didn't want to go anywhere, I like it here. And ah, so we bought a house here. And ah, I wouldn't have it any other way. I really like this area. And I, I, I'd feel terrible if I had to go back up north.

K: Yeah.

G: I like it here.

K: That's the ...

G: This is home.

K: Exactly. Want to take over?

J: Sure. Um, where do you see Georgetown in 5 years, 20 years, 50 years?

G: I hope it doesn't change too much, but we can't keep it from changing. It's gonna happen. I think that Georgetown is gonna get much deeper. Um, there's a lot of controversy today about the, the, connector, ah, that will hook up the Carolina Bays Parkway, and go out on US-17. Well I think that will happen. There's a lot of fighting about it, but I think it will happen. Because it is absolutely necessary. And with that, ah, much of the traffic, that goes to Georgetown would go in behind. Probably come out at Nine Mile Curve ...

K: Right.

G: ... Way back there. And so that would allow Georgetown to de - develop deeper. And I think that area, all out in that area, will become pa- more and more of Georgetown. I mean you're looking, num - number of years away. But ah, that road is absolutely necessary. I think ah, Georgetown will continue to grow. It'll have more and more housing. The boating will probably become greater. Ah, I think that many of the areas which are, sub-standard now, because of the prices of, ah land, will have to raise. They'll have to improve them. You won't be able to keep a piece of property here, and not do something with it. This is why I'm concerned about the, ah zoning.

K: Right.

G: We've got to get that under control, and I would hope that zoning would help that area out toward Nine Mile Curve. All of ah, 521, is almost all, four lane in Georgetown County now. It is not zoned. They're putting in water and sewer, along that road and it's not zoned. So you can end up with, a curb-cut every 30 feet. All down there - which would defeat the purpose of the road. The roads that I think that we're needing, are the roads that move traffic from one area to another. Not little roads where everybody's pulling in and out. Not residential. Or business roads. Ah they're fussing about the road on 701. If that is made limited access, there wouldn't be any impact on the local, land. The road would simply go through. It would move people through. And there would be intersections, like interstate every, maybe, 10, 15 miles. And that would give people access to it. But by moving the traffic through the area, without putting in curb-cuts all the way along is what we need. And this would - I would suspect would come in the back end of Georgetown. And then ah, come in there, near Pennyroyal Road on the way to Charleston. Then it would hook up to the new bridge in Charleston. You know have a good, ah Coastal Highway. Unfortunately I-95 is 80 miles in from here. And it really does not serve our area well. And we need that Coastal, ah Corridor. Something that would come through here. The ah, Carolina Bays Parkway in Myrtle Beach now, is a grand road. I don't know if you've been on it or not but it is slick. And I hope they don't gum it up. And ah - but their intent is not to. And then that was - is gonna come in, down here on, 544 near the Wal-Mart. And that's where it ends. And this is what causing great concern to us.

K: Right.

G: Because all that traffic if it's gonna go through, will come down this road and it goes on Church Street in Georgetown ... by Five Points, in a choke. You can't do that. Georgetown has got to get out from under this. And the only way I see Georgetown getting out from under that traffic is to move it west. Because Georgetown - there just isn't any room. Church Street is almost on the ah, ah, rice field as it is. And you don't want to run it down through the historic areas. Georgetown has -

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G: ... this county is going to be attracted to that, th - to these old homes. And if they keep, pouring more and more traffic into Georgetown, ah it's gonna ruin it. And, and that's not gonna do.

K: Right.

G: So I imagine Georgetown will, maintain its historic district. And much of the other businesses will be moving out further. Ah, you go out there on now its 701 ...

K: Um-hmm.

G: Ah, near the plaza area, where Wal-Mart is out there, that's where most of your business is going. And ah - but we got to give Georgetown some more room to grow because it is just strangled where it is now.

K: Oh it is.

G: See that would get the traffic, ah, ah, on the other side of the waterway ,that would come out south of Georgetown, on the way out maybe near the National Guard armory, or somewhere out in that area. You know where I'm talking about.

K: Yes sir. Yes sir, I do. Well, um, I think that concludes our interview. Um, you have given us such a great insight into this, um, environment, and, what needs to be done, and what has been done and Mr. Tarbox I thank you so much for your time.

G: It's a pleasure, I'm glad you're interested in this, because you kind of hit me at my hot button, ah, on this thing because I'm very concerned about it. And ah, I'm glad that there are people like you, who are looking at this, and will be the leaders tomorrow who will make it all happen, and make it happen right. And not let us become just a, a mixed up area.

K: Right. And ah, I totally agree with you, I really do.

G: Wish you all well. What are, ah what's your ah, major?

K: History.

G: History? How interesting.

K: Yes sir, yes sir.

G: Okay.

K: And he is ...

J: I'm a history major as well. I'm, I'm going to be going to graduate school next year for ah, Public History with an environmental focus, so, I'm really interested in these environmental issues and, how the past has played into it, and how it can help shape the future.

G: You know ah, since I retired w - ah, geography and history are very important to me. And we've traveled extensively. And I go where there's history and a good environment.

K: Um-hmm.

G: You know that's what I go to see. And I really enjoy it, and see, see how other places in the world are handling it. Switzerland's probably the best. I mean those people, they've got it figured out. Ah, you don't realize it's so densely populated. But I mean they've managed to work their way around in that country. You can go anywhere you want, but yet it all looks good. And they haven't messed it up. They've done a beautiful job there.

K: That's wonderful.

J: That's something I'm interested in, is looking at the European you know ways that they've kind of, developed their societies, um, you know without the urban sprawl and you know really just kind of managing ...



G: But ah, what it takes, it takes strict rules. And the people have to accept these rules. And Americans aren't really used to that, we're still cowboys. And we like to ah, be able to do what we want to do. That's my land, and I want to do what I want with my land. Well, this is the way, the American way. But ah, as you get more and more people, you have to have more and more rules. And the people have to accept these rules. Because they're there for the betterment of everybody.

K: Right.

G: And, and it's hard to do.

K: It is.

G: Because the ah, people in Georgetown County are very independent. And they don't like rules. But they ah, ...

K: That's very true.

G: We, we've gotta realize that ah, these rules are going to be necessary, to keep the area, um, without losing its character.

K: Preserve it.

G: Um-hmm. Well, preserve and conserve. Ah, conse - preserve means you don't use it at all, but - so I'm more of a conservationist. I like to see these properties used. Ah, you know, and on another subject, you - we have Baruch. And we have South Island. I think ultimately we're gonna see, ah, more use from that property. Public use.

K: Right.

G: I mean they don't want it. I mean they want to hold it back, but I think that public pressures will ah, demand more access to the property. I mean - I don't want to change its character at all, but those properties can be used, if they're used carefully, and they won't ah, disturb the integrity of the property, and will give the people a great deal of enjoyment, and will add to the area. But they're ah, big, ah, sleeping giants, those pieces of property. And I don't want anything to happen to them.

K: Oh yeah. I definitely know, ah my family has you know talked about this with me for so many years. I've grown up with it, so ...

G: Well the Dawson's [*Kloo's mother's family*] are wonderful folks, and ah, there's one of them on the hospital board. I serve on the hospital foundation. And they're all good people, I mean they're doing the right thing for the county.

K: Oh yeah. We try our best. We really do.

G: Where's your home? You ...

J: Ah, Spartanburg.

G: Oh, so you're across town - across state?

J: Well, that's where I kind of grew up, ah, I actually live now in a little place called Saluda.

G: I know it.

J: Kind of west of Columbia there, and ah, little farm there, so.

G: Well that area there has managed to hold itself together very well. Our daughter lives in McCormick. And you talk about somebody - that's out of - really out of the way over there. And I don't think that they're going to be forced into much development right away. Those areas are, are relatively safe, because of their, ah, their rural character, and they're, they're nice places to visit, but they don't have the problems we have here on the coast, where

people are the problem. If you could extract people from any problem, the problem goes away.

K: Right.

G: But ah, we're gonna have people here. And ah, the more people we have, the more rules you have to have. And people have to learn to accept the rules. Just like on a highway you've got to realize that a stop sign means a stop sign, and a red light means a red light. But we got some people who don't play by the rules.

K: Right. That's exactly true. That's exactly true.

G: Well, it's been a pleasure talking to you.

K: It has, it has.

J: It's been a pleasure talking to you too. I'm going to go ahead and ...

**\*\*End of transcript\*\***