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Maynard Barrows
September 20, 1972

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EVISON INTERVIEW WITH MAYNARD BARROWS

West Yellowstone, Montana

September 20, 1972

[START OF INTERVIEW]

Herbert Evison: This is September 20, 1972, I'm Herb Evison and this afternoon I'm at the Weary Rest Motel in West Yellowstone, Montana; and with me is an old friend - and I can't say just how old as friend, but a real old friend, Maynard Barrows. And Maynard, as I told you, I want to start this off by getting on the record some basic facts about you: just when and where you were born; your family, of whom I know at least one other member; your schooling and college. And then I know you're married; let's get the dope on your marriage on this, too, but start off with when and where you were born.

Maynard Barrows: Herb, I was born in Denver, Colorado, on July 17, 1906. I'm 66 years old and hell! You're only 80 (laughs), how about that!

Herbert Evison: Yeah. Boy to be 66 again. (laughter)

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. Well, you want to know where I went to school. I went to school in Golden, Colorado, to grade school there and completed grade school and I went to North Denver High and then I went to Colorado Aggies. It's now Colorado State University.

Herbert Evison: Now when did you get through high school?

Maynard Barrows: Now let's see it must have been 24, 1924, because I graduated from college in 28.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. (chuckling) Now I'm interested because so very many Park Service employees who give their thumbnail history admit to having gone to what was then Colorado A. and M.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah, that was the ranger factory. (chuckles)

Herbert Evison: Yes. Now, of course, you lived what, 75 or 80 miles away from the campus at Fort Collins. I'm curious to know what you had in mind when you headed there. Did you have a forestry career already in mind?

Maynard Barrows: Oh, yes. I did.

Herbert Evison: What had induced that?

Maynard Barrows: Well, I wanted to be a mining engineer, I used to, when I was in high school, explore these mines and my folks talked me out of this. They didn't think mining was a good career because I'd be underground all the time, so I went in forestry then. (laughs)

Herbert Evison: And regretted it?

Maynard Barrows: Oh, no, not at all, not at all.

Herbert Evison: Well, now, was there anything more than just proximity that induced you to go to Fort Collins?

Maynard Barrows: Well, I don't know; it's the nearest forestry school, and my brother went there, too.

Herbert Evison: Yes, I know he did.

Maynard Barrows: He followed me.

Herbert Evison: Yeah, I believe there's five years difference between your ages.

Maynard Barrows: That's right.

Herbert Evison: Two of you. Well now you decided on a career in forestry and went to a forestry school. Was there any phase of forestry, commercial forestry or wildlife management or range management or anything of that kind you had in mind to specialize in?

Maynard Barrows: No, Herb. There was just general forestry in those days. They didn't have all these breakdowns.

Herbert Evison: I see.

Maynard Barrows: I just loved the hills and the woods and wanted to be a forester.

Herbert Evison: Yeah, yeah. Well now you say you got out of there in 1928. Before we get into your career as a forester, let's get on the record something about your, your matrimonial venture and any children if there are any.

Maynard Barrows: Well, this didn't happen until I arrived in Yellowstone.

Herbert Evison: Yeah? Which was when?

Maynard Barrows: Well, I arrived in Yellowstone, I guess it was the fall of 1930, as a park ranger and I was a bachelor for several years here and finally it was - you remember when the CC's came in?

Herbert Evison: Oh, yeah. I came in with them.

Maynard Barrows: I had the first CC camp at the Canyon and I was out laying a trail out with a foreman one day and we got off to have a drink at a spring and when I

got up I walked over to my horse and started to pick the reins up and he kicked me in the jaw and broke my jaw. Well, this was the winter I'd been shooting coyotes off of him and he thought I was going to shoot when I knelt down, and he broke my jaw. Well, we were four miles from the Norris cut off road, so we rode out there and I guess my face was all bloodied and nobody would stop. You know who finally stopped to pick me up?

Herbert Evison: Uh huh.

Maynard Barrows: Miriam Aiton came along, Jack Aiton's wife, and she took me to Canyon and then they took me into the Mammoth Hospital and patched my jaw up. Well, this was where I met my wife. She was a nurse there, Lillian, and that that's where our matrimony started.

Herbert Evison: Uh huh. Well, now—

Maynard Barrows: Well, now isn't this something. How I had to get kicked by a horse to get married.

Herbert Evison: Did you erect a memorial to that horse anywhere?

Maynard Barrows: Oh yeah, we got horses all over the place (hearty laughter).

Herbert Evison: Wonderful, well when did marriage take place?

Maynard Barrows: Oh, I don't know. Let's see (laughs) it must have been about 36 I guess; I'm not sure.

Herbert Evison: Now, do you have some children?

Maynard Barrows: I have two daughters. One of them lives near Calgary, Canada. We've just been up there to visit them.

Herbert Evison: Oh yes, that's where.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah, and she's married to a guy who had a Fulbright and he was a great football star at Wyoming. They both went to the University of Wyoming and we have four grandchildren up there.

Herbert Evison: Wonderful.

Maynard Barrows: And he has a doctor of philosophy in English and he teaches part-time at the University of Calgary and he's formed his own company and he teaches technical writing to the big companies and this is quite a deal;

yeah.

Herbert Evison: I should say so.

Maynard Barrows: Well, he just came back from Victoria. He was over there and taught the McMillan Lumber Company and this is quite a deal for 'em.

Herbert Evison: Very neat, I would say.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah.

Herbert Evison: Decidedly.

Maynard Barrows: But we've got four fine grandchildren up there. Then my other daughter Betty Ann is married to a Commander in the Navy. His name is Macleod, Bill Macleod. He's a surgeon and they're over at Naples, Italy, now and he's the only surgeon in that NATO base and he's just working his tail off. (chuckles)

Herbert Evison: I'll bet.

Maynard Barrows: They were over in April, and we had a great get together. Carol flew down from Canada with two of her children and all through April we had a family reunion. (laughter)

Herbert Evison: Wonderful, wonderful. Well, that's a very pleasant kind of a history to get on the record, Maynard. Now let's get down to this business of being a forester. I guess by 1930 Colorado Aggies was already getting a reputation as being a ranger factory, wasn't it?

Maynard Barrows: Well, they were in Yellowstone, yes. You know, in my graduating class of forestry there were eight men in our class and now today there are probably 800. (laughter)

Herbert Evison: Yeah. (more laughter by Barrows) Trained in all kinds of specialization.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah.

Herbert Evison: Well one thing I would like to ask now I asked if you had any particular phase of forestry, specialty or anything of that kind when you started in did you have any goal as to who you wanted to work for?

Maynard Barrows: Well, no, I really didn't Herb.

Herbert Evison: Yeah, well how did you end up in Yellowstone?

Maynard Barrows: Well I started out in Rocky Mountain and—

Herbert Evison: As a seasonal?

Maynard Barrows: No, I got a one of those emergency appointments for the winter, I went to work in Rocky Mountain in September and Roger Toll was the superintendent. My assistant superintendent was Tom Allen, and my Chief Ranger was John Preston and I worked through that winter. Well, I hadn't taken the examination, so they put me on this emergency appointment. Spring came and Roger Toll called me in and said that they just couldn't keep me on any longer because I hadn't taken the examination so then I had to leave and the next summer they put me on as a seasonal Ranger in Rocky Mountain and by then I had taken the examination and that fall I went to Yellowstone as a permanent ranger.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. Well, now what did you do in that interval after Roger Toll let you go and the time you had left.

Maynard Barrows: Well, my father was in the real estate business and I started selling real estate and I did all right, until you remember 1929, they had the stock market crash?

Herbert Evison: I remember 1929 very vividly, yes.

Maynard Barrows: Okay, I guess it was September wasn't it?

Herbert Evison: Yes, the fall sometime.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah between then and Christmas I think I made \$25. I made one sale. Well, after Christmas, my uncle Carlyle Ferguson had the biggest nursery in Colorado, the Northern Nursery, and I went to work for him then and in the meantime I took this Park Service examination, but I learned a lot in this nursery.

Herbert Evison: I'll bet you did,

Maynard Barrows: He finally let me have kind of a crew around there and I went out and planted trees that spring. (laughter)

Herbert Evison: Well you finally went to Yellowstone with a permanent appointment as a ranger in 1930, huh?

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. Johnny Mack, Johnny McLaughlin, became Chief Ranger at Rocky Mountain when I was there as a seasonal, after I'd had this emergency appointment, and Johnny give me a big spiel about what a great place

Yellowstone was. So, I thought, well it would probably be all right to go up there. I left a little early and I camped at Jenny Lake in Grand Teton and I met this fellow Paul Petzoldt.

Herbert Evison: Oh yes, the mountain climber.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah and one sunny day Paul said, "Say, let's climb Teewinot today." So, I said, "Okay." So, we climbed this spire. Now, you can't go up there unless you've gone through mountain climbing school and everything else, but we had no equipment. We had a rope with us. We had no troubles. We went up to the top and registered and went down over across that glacier coming back. Do you know that was the third recorded ascent of the Teewinot? (laughter)

Herbert Evison: Oh, for heavens sakes! (more laughter by Barrows) Now the Teewinot is one of the Les Trois Tetons isn't it? I think—

Maynard Barrows: The one right out of Jenny Lake.

Herbert Evison: Yeah, yeah.

Maynard Barrows: It isn't much of a climb, really, and there's just a little spire up there and we crawled up on this thing, It's about 18 feet tall. Took each other's pictures, stood up on this spire. (laughter) Paul Petzoldt has been a friend of mine for years now.

Herbert Evison: Oh yes, a great man, too. A great mountain climber

Maynard Barrows: A great guy! See, he was going to the University of Idaho than, so he rode with me on up through Yellowstone and I dumped him out. My first station was West Yellowstone and I dumped him out over there and he went on to college from there. (laughter)

Herbert Evison: Oh for heavens sakes! Boy, he's a hardy perennial. He's been there and climbed and climbed.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah, he was a football player down at the University of Idaho.

Herbert Evison: Was he? I never met him, but I don't know very many names that are more familiar to me than his.

Maynard Barrows: Well, then my station was West Yellowstone, George Miller - he was in the office at Mammoth - signed me up and sent me over here; and old Joe Douglas, he was assistant chief ranger in charge of this western district,

was my boss.

Herbert Evison: Yeah, one of the old timers.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. And Babe LaNoue and I were there all winter.

Herbert Evison: Oh, were you?

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. (laughter)

Herbert Evison: Well, I could imagine that there were worse stations to be in than West Yellowstone.

Maynard Barrows: Oh, we had a great time.

Herbert Evison: If I remember rightly there was even regular train service here in the winter, wasn't there.

Maynard Barrows: Oh no, it cut off about this time of the year. It opened up in the spring, but this area here was isolated in the winter. There was nothing coming here, except we had a stage line from over west of here with horses that came in with the mail once a week. Yeah.

Herbert Evison: I'll be darned. I didn't realize before that West Yellowstone was isolated.

Maynard Barrows: Oh, yeah.

Herbert Evison: I knew that the South Entrance Station was isolated, but the North One, that's the Gardiner entrance wasn't. That road was kept open during the winter, and I knew that after a while it became a requirement to keep the road open over as far as Cook City in the winter. Well, do you remember anything about that first winter in there?

Maynard Barrows: Oh yes. At that time these fellas up there had these leather ski bindings.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: Made out of belting on the bottom and leather ski bindings and they were wearing packs to ski in, I had to ski down at Rocky Mountain a little bit and I came in with boots, ski boots.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: And an old Hoog rigging. It is kind of a clamp that went over your front sole and it had a strap around the back.

Herbert Evison: That's right.

Maynard Barrows: And you had to have your heels hollowed out; and these guys said, "Well, you'll freeze your feet up here. You can't use this kind of a ski binding." So, I used it and you know, before the winter was over everybody was using that kind of a ski binding.

Herbert Evison: Pioneer.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. (gusty laughter) Yeah old Doug, did you know Doug? Gae Douglas?

Herbert Evison: No. No.

Maynard Barrows: He was a great old boy. He says, "You can't ski in that; you'll freeze your feet." Well, you had much better control of your skis, see, and the next year everybody had that new binding.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. Well, now, you talk about skis; did you have to do any travel by snowshoe at that time?

Maynard Barrows: Well, some of the old boys did, but I always figured it was so much easier to ski than to snowshoe because when you snowshoe you're picking all that snow up every time you take a step.

Herbert Evison: You're telling me!

Maynard Barrows: It's much more work, so I always skied. Oh we had ski trips! We went up into the Gallatins from here and we went down to South Riverside and to Old faithful, Lone Star Geyser, and on up into the Shoeshone Lake Country. Yeah, we had a great winter skiing around.

Herbert Evison: Almost a shame to accept pay for it, uh?

Maynard Barrows: Yah! Well, it takes a little while to learn how to ski across country.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: We did all right.

Herbert Evison: Anything else you remember about that isolated winter? What goes on, what went on in this town in the winter, what kind of a social life was there.

Maynard Barrows: Well, it was pretty wild around here. It was prohibition days and we had a bootlegger up here on Dutch Creek. Two little guys up there made this bootleg whiskey and, shoot, we could drive our car up there most of the winter before everything got snowed in and we'd always go up there and get a gallon or two, you know. (laughter) And there was an old gal here in town and she's still alive; I saw her the other night. Her name is "Ma" Nichols and she had a little bar and you could go in there in the evening and get a drink before we went to dinner. We boarded up here for a while. Old Doug and Babe and I; and old "Ma" Nichols is still alive. She must be 90 years old. She's a wonderful gal. (laughs)

Herbert Evison: You boarded. I'm curious to know what a guy had to pay for board in 1930. Do you remember?

Maynard Barrows: Well, I don't know what it was. For years my salary was \$1,860 per annum, and I don't know what it was. It wasn't much.

Herbert Evison: Probably some outrageous price like five dollars a week, or so.

Maynard Barrows: Something like that. (laughs)

Herbert Evison: Yeah. Well, come spring, what did you find yourselves doing then, the first year as a Ranger?

Maynard Barrows: Well that was the summer of 1931 and I was assigned to an insect control job down in the Bechler country.

Herbert Evison: Oh!

Maynard Barrows: And we were down there and we were controlling these insects by spraying diesel oil on infested trees and touching them off with just firing them, see, and we worked down there on this job until I think it was the 9th of July and we were starting forest fires by that time. These trees would crown out and we'd have spot fires. Well, I came back to West

Yellowstone. I was in charge of the West Gate, supposedly, and my seasonals were operating the entrance station.

Herbert Evison: This one here?

Maynard Barrows: Yes, my seasonals were in trouble. They hadn't kept their books straight so I got the pencil out and figured this out and I had to tax everyone; I think I had five seasonals. It cost 'em \$10 apiece to straighten the books out, but we got that straightened out. My birthday is the 17th of July, and I was up here on a party that night. Do you remember Al Bicknell?

Herbert Evison: Yes.

Maynard Barrows: He was the District Ranger.

Herbert Evison: I taped him several years ago.

Maynard Barrows: Well, Al came up that night and found me over here in one of these places and said, "Maynard, you've got to go to a fire over at Fern Lake." So, I said: "Okay." And so, I had to saddle up and go over in my own car to Lake that night.

Herbert Evison: This was a birthday present?

Maynard Barrows: Yeah, and Al Hanks was the District Ranger at Lake and he was up on this fire and I had to go up and help him. I went up there for a few days and we got this smudge under control pretty well and then I got orders to get out of there and go to Heart Lake. You've heard of the Heart Lake Fire?

Herbert Evison: The famous Heart Lake fire, yes.

Maynard Barrows: So, I went down there and I was on the Heart Lake fire, I think it 36 days or something like that.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. As I remember it, from what your brother told me, that was right after he was married and—

Maynard Barrows: Yeah.

Herbert Evison: He spent most of his honeymoon fighting fires.

Maynard Barrows: Right.

Herbert Evison: Putting that one out.

Maynard Barrows: Well, I arrived down at the Snake River Ranger Station and Roger Toll was down there. Did you ever know Roger Toll?

Herbert Evison: Oh, very well. Yes, indeed.

Maynard Barrows: Well, he wouldn't buy one of these Stetsons. He always wore a Boy Scout hat and he was down there with his Boy Scout hat on and no tie, giving orders. Well, I was sent out to the junction of the Snake and the Heart River with 60-some bums they'd taken off of the freight train down in Livingston and we got up into this burn. It had just burned the day before and it was so hot on this trail that I had to put shovels out ahead to throw the embers out of the trail so I could get my crew through there; and we got over to where we were supposed to be that evening and we were supposed to have a mule pack train come in. Well, nothing showed, so I had one guy that I could depend upon - well, I mean he was a little above the bum field, he was a bus driver from the Yellowstone Park Company - so I assigned him as my runner and I sent him back to Heart Lake Cabin to tell 'em to get us some grub in there. We were 72 hours without any grub, and I had these bums to care for. Well they all got sobered up, of course, (laughter) And finally you know who came in? Ted Ogsten, you know Ted?

Herbert Evison: Yes. I met him.

Maynard Barrows: He came in with two pack horses and from then on we started getting supplies in and our line was right up the Heart River and we controlled the fire in that sector. It never went across the Heart River. But up on Chicken Ridge I could see these spot fires and this guy John Coffman, he was fire control expert, and George Baggley came by and I told 'em, "well, this is nothing here. I've got this under control. Why don't you let me go up on Chicken Ridge and get those spot fires?" And they wouldn't do it. They said, "No, we're moving a camp in on Sickle Creek. You just tend to your own business here;" so I did. And the next day this thing blew up and I think it was, oh 10,000 more acres burned anyway, (laughs) but that was a great experience. My first big fire.

Herbert Evison: My! I'll say! Yeah!

Maynard Barrows: I learned a lot. And then I was telling you about this first summer. I think I came home and got a bath in West Yellowstone and there was a fire up in the Gallatin and I went up on that and then there was a fire across Lake Yellowstone, Chicken Ridge or something like that and I was there until it snowed, so I think I was on my station about three or

four days all summer. Yeah, a great summer. (laughs)

Herbert Evison: Yeah. That was the summer of '31, huh?

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. Yeah. Yellowstone really had a lot of fires.

Herbert Evison: Yes, I remember '31 as a big fire year, a year of many fires and I guess the Heart Lake one was the biggest, probably.

Maynard Barrows: 18,000 acres.

Herbert Evison: Well you got your initiation for fair.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah.

Herbert Evison: Now we've seen you through a year and into snowfall. Where were you stationed that winter? Here again?

Maynard Barrows: No. They sent me to Mammoth and we horsed around in there all winter trying to make these fire reports up and get all the paperwork done.

Herbert Evison: How would you compare Mammoth with West Yellowstone as a place to spend the winter in the early '30s?

Maynard Barrows: We had a lot of fun in there in those days; the boys made their own fun and we had a great outfit.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. Now would Frank Childs have been there that early?

Maynard Barrows: Frank, I think, was down in the Bechler River country that winter. He was assigned to Bechler River, I believe.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. Well now, you were down in the Bechler—

Maynard Barrows: That spring on Mountain Pine Beetle central.

Herbert Evison: When you reported back to straighten out your seasonals.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah.

Herbert Evison: Have you ever gotten back down in there again?

Maynard Barrows: Oh, many times, yeah.

Herbert Evison: That's one part of Yellowstone I've never been in and of course it was one of the earliest of interest to me, way back in 1920, when there was all this pressure under Secretary Lane—

Maynard Barrows: To bring a road in.

Herbert Evison: No, to put a big dam in down there, to dam the Falls and the Bechler Rivers.

Maynard Barrows: Well, maybe Curt told you; did he tell you why they named it Three River Junction?

Herbert Evison: No.

Maynard Barrows: Because four rivers came together there.

Herbert Evison: Just because four rivers! (laughter by Barrows) Well, that's a good sound logical reason. Well, what other kind of chores took you down into the Bechler River after that?

Maynard Barrows: Well, after I became assistant Chief Ranger and Chief Ranger I had business down there quite often.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. How do you compare that with other parts of the park as far as wilderness character, and general attractiveness?

Maynard Barrows: Well it's a wilderness all right, but boy! If you go down there in the spring you better have some mosquito oil.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: It's just full of mosquitoes, there's much water lying around all over the place, but it it's a beautiful part of the park, especially if you get up the Bechler River and into the waterfall country.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: You know the falls?

Herbert Evison: Lots of wildlife?

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. Moose and some elk.

Herbert Evison: I would suppose that would be almost ideal moose country you talk

about that moisture.

Maynard Barrows: And mosquitoes. (laughs) And good fishing. It's excellent fishing.

Herbert Evison: When did you become a fisherman?

Maynard Barrows: Well, I was very young.

Herbert Evison: Do you remember how early.

Maynard Barrows: I think it was when I was just a young boy. My father had a place at Glen Elk and that's out of Denver and – it was kind of a private club; in fact, Edmund Rogers still has a place there – or Sally does since Edmund died.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: And right after I was born I was taken up to this cabin for the summer. My father would ride this train up to Pine every weekend and they had a surrey, six miles they'd come up and spend the weekend there and then he'd come back and take the train back to Denver. Well, I guess I started fishing when I was pretty young at this place.

Herbert Evison: You had the right conditions for it.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. (laughs)

Herbert Evison: Is there anything else now that you prefer to do?

Maynard Barrows: Well, yeah. I haven't fished very much since I retired. I've been too busy.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. That's as it should be. You are busy doing something you like doing and can do it when you want to do it.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. I want to tell you; the next year in the Park Service I was assigned as the District Ranger at Thorofare.

Herbert Evison: Oh, yes.

Maynard Barrows: George Walker and I were assigned out there that fall. Well, this was a great experience. There were trappers, several trappers all around the park there which we were supposed to watch so we became friends with them and once a month we'd invite these trappers over to our Ranger

Station. They'd come over and spend the night and we packed in some bed springs and mattresses and we'd have place for them to sleep, but they never slept. They hadn't seen anybody for a month, so they just stayed up all night and talked. (laughs)

Herbert Evison: Well, now were they people that you had to keep a sharp eye on at other times?

Maynard Barrows: Oh no, they were pretty good fellas and they were catching or trapping martin.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: I don't think they ever came into the park. We never found their tracks in the park. We patrolled the boundaries and so on, but just the fact that we were their friends and they respected the park. They were all right.

Herbert Evison: Good public relations.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah.

Herbert Evison: Yeah, incidentally, I wonder if you have the feeling that instead of an arbitrary boundary running up there into the Thoroughfare that that whole watershed ought to be in the park.

Maynard Barrows: No, not particularly. See, that's in the Teton Wilderness Area.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: And actually they're stricter than the Park Service is about the use of that area. For example, they won't let a helicopter land in there. They won't sanction a lot of things that we allow in the parks. I mean for maintenance of their trails - anything like that. No, they have to come in with horses.

Herbert Evison: Yeah?

Maynard Barrows: Yeah, they're tougher than the Park Service.

Herbert Evison: Well, that's something to know. It has always had seemed to me that desirable where you have a park with a stream in it to control the headwaters of it if you can; and now of course that is a special situation, where you have another conscientious agency safeguarding it, but in lots of places - of course the Everglades is a prime example.

Maynard Barrows: Right.

- Herbert Evison: Where the Park Service doesn't control the flow of water into the park and of course Grand Canyon where the building of dams upstream has completely changed the character of the river there in Grand Canyon National Park. Well, let's get back. This isn't supposed to be a discussion or an expression of my opinion. Let's get on with you and Yellowstone. By this time you were a District Ranger.
- Maynard Barrows: Yeah. They had a lotta districts; I think nine districts in all.
- Herbert Evison: Really.
- Maynard Barrows: From then on I was put at headquarters, after I was district ranger at Canyon a couple of years.
- Herbert Evison: Oh yes.
- Maynard Barrows: And from then on I was in the office. Assistant Chief Ranger; and I had charge of many different activities – wildlife; I was in charge of the Chief Ranger's Office quite a few years; law enforcement; and fire control. We had great years at Canyon, two years there.
- Herbert Evison: Yeah. What do you remember about those particularly? What made them great years?
- Maynard Barrows: Well, I don't know Herb. I think the Canyon is probably the jewel of Yellowstone. I like it the best. You can see these geysers play once and they're the same all the time, but the Canyon is always different.
- Herbert Evison: Yeah?
- Maynard Barrows: And we had some great years at Canyon. Well, for example, have you ever been down Uncle Tom's Trail?
- Herbert Evison: No.
- Maynard Barrows: It goes from the old lodge down to the basin.
- Herbert Evison: I've seen the point or two at Great Falls.
- Maynard Barrows: Well, I had a new trail project down there. See, every year they have snow slides come down and the boys would have to come up and put up guard rails every year, new guard rails. So some of us figured out if we'd put

pipe in there and just unscrew these pipes and lay them down then next spring you could come up and you wouldn't have to rebuilt the thing again and this worked real good.

Herbert Evison: That was your idea?

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. (laughs)

Herbert Evison: Wonderful. I'm just surprised that nobody had thought of it before. It makes such good common sense,

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. Well, we just got some pipe fitters to come down there and build this thing and take it down in the fall. I don't know what they're doing now.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. Well now was this taken down right at ground level?

Maynard Barrows: Yeah, just unscrew it; and there was usually a platform there and put these pipes under the platform. And these snow slides would come down through there in the winter and in the spring we'd put the pipes up again as a guard rail. (chuckles)

Herbert Evison: Very good, go to the head of the class for that! Now you from then, after Canyon, you were regularly at headquarters?

Maynard Barrows: Yeah.

Herbert Evison: Well now that would have been – did you get in there before Toll's death.

Maynard Barrows: Oh, yes, Roger Toll was the Superintendent here and – now wait a minute, Roger Toll came up here as superintendent while I was still in Rocky and Edmund Rogers was down in Rocky before I left there; but I helped move Roger Toll's belongings out of Rocky Mountain when he moved to Yellowstone. See, in those days the rangers did everything. We went over and helped load the van.

Herbert Evison: I'll be damned.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah.

Herbert Evison: Now, that would have been early in 1929, because Horace Albright went in as director in January and Roger moved up here in his place. You were telling about one contact with him down at the South Gate Ranger Station. I wonder what other things you might remember about Roger Toll that

would be interesting to put on here.

Maynard Barrows: Well, he was an engineer and whenever he went on a trip in a car or anywhere he kept a log of the mileage from one point to another. He was very meticulous about keeping these records and he had a record of everything here in the park. Well Jack Haynes did the same thing in his Haynes guidebook, but old Roger he was always calling Jack because he said the mileage was wrong in the Guide Book. (laughter)

Herbert Evison: Incidentally, there's another guy who was a real Yellowstone character over a great many years and I wonder what you remember about Jack Haynes.

Maynard Barrows: Oh, he was one of the most wonderful people I've ever met. He was just a great guy and Jack and I, with Edmund, had many great trips together out in the park. They had what they called the scientific committee, Jack and Edmund. They'd go out every weekend somewhere in the park and explore around and once in a while I had the privilege of going with them. (laughs) Well Curt Skinner probably told you about this, too.

Herbert Evison: No, no.

Maynard Barrows: Didn't he? No?

Herbert Evison: He gave me a wonderful tape, but he didn't get that in.

Maynard Barrows: (laughs) Jack always had his emergency kit with him. It had a red cross on it and anytime a snort was needed it was ready.

Herbert Evison: Jack who?

Maynard Barrows: Jack Haynes.

Herbert Evison: Oh, yes, Jack Haynes.

Maynard Barrows: Anyway anytime you bogged down somewhere and you got a little thirsty why he always had a little drink for you. (laughs)

Herbert Evison: Yes. I've had some very good ones with Haynes. (laughter by Barrows)
One of my great regrets was that he died just when I was starting this taping program.

Maynard Barrows: Oh, that's too bad.

Herbert Evison: And I never got him.

Maynard Barrows: Well, have you seen Isabelle?

Herbert Evison: Yes.

Maynard Barrows: Have you taped her?

Herbert Evison: No, I haven't. You were saying, Maynard, when we had this turned off, that one of your seasonal's when you were at Canyon was a guy named Dave Condon and I am sure that wasn't the last contact you had with Dave. I wonder what you could tell me about him?

Maynard Barrows: Well, I think Dave was a great person. He was a good seasonal ranger and then he became a naturalist shortly afterwards; and I think he's the best naturalist they ever had in this park.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. Well, I have a very high opinion of him as a park naturalist too. I heard him perform on several occasions.

Maynard Barrows: Well, he's going to perform tonight.

Herbert Evison: Yes, I know he is.

Maynard Barrows: I had another fella, seasonal, Rowe Morrell.

Herbert Evison: Oh.

Maynard Barrows: You probably know Rowe.

Herbert Evison: I taped him about a month ago.

Maynard Barrows: Did you?

Herbert Evison: Yes.

Maynard Barrows: He was one of my seasonals; and Johnny Mink. Johnny Mink was the son of a Congressman from Michigan and he just loved to be dirty. I had an awful time trying to keep him in uniform and anytime he could get out on a fire he just enjoyed this because he'd be dirty for a couple days.

Herbert Evison: The legitimate way.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. (laughter)

Herbert Evison: Ah, yes. Well, I didn't realize – I didn't remember that Rowe had had that experience. He told me in quite some detail though about his Park Service years. He worked in our office back there in Washington in the early '30s and during the start of the CCC operation. You ended up as Chief Ranger

of Yellowstone. Now during what period was that?

Maynard Barrows: Well, that was during the World War II period.

Herbert Evison: Oh yes.

Maynard Barrows: See, Babe LaNoue left and went into the Armed Services. I was appointed the chief ranger when he left. I was a reserve officer and I tried to get in and they were got kind of smart with me, so all they said was, "If you come down to Omaha maybe you can get in or if you come down to Denver." So I kept my reserve commission up for ten years and then they said you had to go to camp in the summer, so I never could get released from the Park Service in the summertime so I kind of dropped that then World War II came and, as I say, I didn't get my reserve commission back and I was drafted and I was turned down. I was a 4-F'er because I had high blood pressure.

Herbert Evison: Oh, for heaven's sakes.

Maynard Barrows: So then I became the chief ranger of Yellowstone and that was quite a deal. I believe we had 27 of our permanent rangers and our buffalo people, and so on, who went to the war and we replaced a few of them. I think we had eight to ten temporary rangers to take their place, but when those guys come back that was really something and we put 'em all back on the payroll and got 'em in the harness again, but there was a great adjustment for those fellas and this was quite a deal really.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: We got them all back. And then I was offered a job in Omaha in the regional office and that's when I left here.

Herbert Evison: Well, now, what was this – let's not leave the park during the war. Although you got some replacements in here, if I remember rightly, you had a greatly reduced force.

Maynard Barrows: That's right.

Herbert Evison: Ranger staff. Now how did that reduced staff affect operations in here during the war?

Maynard Barrows: Well, I think we had less people coming into the park in the summer, but it was a tough job to just protect the place and we had all kinds of crazy orders. For example, we had some dynamite stored at Mammoth, the road crew did, and we got orders that we had to have a

day and night patrol. We had to assign rangers to patrol this thing every hour and we had to watch the bridges. They were afraid they were going to blow the bridges up in the park and we had to have guards on the bridges for a while. This was a crazy thing back then and another thing that happened - do you remember those balloons from Japan?

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: Sent over here.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: Well one of those things landed just south of West Yellowstone, about six miles, and started a fire over there and the winter keeper down at Riverside near West Yellowstone saw this thing and by gosh Art Jacobsen went down there and found pieces of this paper balloon that came from Japan. They were sending these balloons over with explosives and they had a barometer in them to drop sand kegs so they'd keep flying. A B-29 or one of the early bombers crashed over here, west of us, south of West Yellowstone, and there was only one survivor, the navigator. He was the only one that had a parachute on and we went out and got him in the spring; and all the rest of the people lost their lives. I think they were 15 or 20 of these people on the plane and the bodies were just scattered all over the place, Of course, we had to sack 'em up and bring em in.

Herbert Evison: One of the more grisly kinds of job, huh? Yeah. Think that you remember anything else during that war period?

Maynard Barrows: Well, it was a busy time here, Herb, really, for us and as you say we had a reduced staff.

Herbert Evison: As a matter of fact I don't see how you met the demands of constant guard on the dynamite and the constant guard on the bridges. That must have left you just about nobody to do the regular work,

Maynard Barrows: Well, we didn't do this for very long. Finally it got kind of smoothed out. I remember we had a rest camp over here on the Fire Hole and soldiers would come in for recreation and we had the damndest time with that. They had some of these new jeeps and they even got in the river and tried to run up and down with their jeeps. They were something to control, those guys, I remember one time some major came in and he didn't want his guns sealed. The fella down at the gate at Gardner wanted to seal his gun up and he came up to the office. Boy, he was really mad about that.

Finally, I said, "You can keep your revolver and your holster and it'll be all right." (laugh)

Herbert Evison: Did any of these guys in the rest camp have any tendencies toward injuring game?

Maynard Barrows: No. We had an awful time keeping them from being bit by bears, all the time. They wouldn't leave the bears alone; but, no, we didn't have much trouble that way.

Herbert Evison: Now what kind of quarters were they able to occupy over there?

Maynard Barrows: Oh we had a special campground. You know where the Fountain Freight Road is?

Herbert Evison: Yes.

Maynard Barrows: It was on that road.

Herbert Evison: Oh, yes, It was a tent camp?

Maynard Barrows: They brought in their tents and set 'em up and had a regular camp there. I mean they had mess house or mess tents.

Herbert Evison: Well, now, you were pulled into Omaha after the war and is my guess correct that you went in there primarily as a fire control expert like your brother?

Maynard Barrows: Yeah, yeah. Before we get to Omaha, Herb, I'd like to tell you about the CCC days. I set up a project to map the park for lookouts, seen-area mapping. I got a CC foreman to do this for me and we did all this study of how we should have our lookouts put up; and during the CC days I think we built eight new lookouts in the park. They only had three. I believe, at that time and it was not properly covered. So this was a fine project and we got this study done, then we built the lookouts. Pelican is one that we put up. It's one of the best lookouts in the park.

Herbert Evison: The CCC built the lookout, too?

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. And then we went into the smoke jumper program, and I had a hard time selling this project in Omaha but they got a smoke jumper unit here in Yellowstone.

Herbert Evison: Oh, have they?

Maynard Barrows: And we tried to get the forest Service to come in with us and cover their areas around the park and they wouldn't go for it; and the only way we could get money for the smoke jumper program was to make studies and figure out some fire guards were not necessary. And we transferred money and let some of these positions expire into a smoke jumper unit. We had an old Fairchild, I think it was, the first time. The first year we had one permanent smoke jumper foreman put on the Yellowstone staff and he'd go over to Missoula and train our other jumpers. Now, I was out to the airport this morning and they've got a wonderful smoke jumper unit out here; and the Forest Service has come in with us now. Have you seen that outfit?

Herbert Evison: No. I haven't been out at the airport. I remember when it was built and the agitation over whether to have airports inside of the parks anywhere.

Maynard Barrows: But this smoke jumper program has really worked out. We did the same thing in Glacier, but they fly up from Missoula to cover Glacier. Yellowstone has its own unit here.

Herbert Evison: Well, even so, I guess on occasion they call on some of those Indian units from down in the South west, too.

Maynard Barrows: Oh, yes from the South west.

Herbert Evison: It gives them a great send off.

Maynard Barrows: Oh, yeah.

Herbert Evison: And also – I don't remember what fire – but some Alaskans helped fight it, Indians, Alaska natives, that he said were just some of the best fighters that he had ever seen.

Maynard Barrows: Now there's another phase I'd like to talk about and that's the wildlife and the elk program, the elk reduction program,

Herbert Evison: Yes, you bet.

Maynard Barrows: Well, we of course had a lot of public relations to do on this thing.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: So, we formed the Absaroka Conservation Committee which was comprised of representatives from many sports clubs in Montana and Wyoming. Twice a year we'd have a meeting; and I politicked with

Edmund Rogers and we got Wesley D'Ewart – he was a Congressman from Wilsaw, Montana – as chairman of our committee; and old Wes would come in here and run our meetings. We had wonderful relations and we'd usually, in the spring have a three-day meeting and we'd go out and ride the range with these fellas and play poker at night and drink whiskey. We never had any public relations problem. They'd come out and see the problem and they'd go along with our reduction, but when I left here they abolished this committee and that's when their trouble started.

Herbert Evison: That's interesting of course I knew Wes D'Ewart quite well.

Maynard Barrows: Oh, Wes, was a great man.

Herbert Evison: He was the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for a while after he was out of Congress.

Maynard Barrows: He was a great fellow.

Herbert Evison: That's very interesting. Now, during that period when this committee was in operation, as you say, you got these people all in agreement on what you were doing which included several methods of control. If I remember, there was live trapping and shipping out and then – shooting by rangers and butchering of the beasts for the Indians, but if I remember also a very much smaller scale then became necessary or was agreed upon. Anyway, during the late '50s and the early '60s, how many animals would you say just from memory and by guess – would the reduction amount to in an ordinary year?

Maynard Barrows: Well, in those years the elk were still drifting out of the park, and we got the Montana Game Commission to hold the season open clear into February and so a great amount of the reduction was made on the hunting line. But now they've lost this migration pattern out of the park, and they don't drift out very much. So, the whole thing has changed, but actually our biggest reduction was made on the hunting line. And, of course, this took a lot of work to get the Montana people to keep the season open, but they did. For several years it was open clear into February and all these pansies cried about the cow elk being killed with a fetus and so on. You know, and we had a lot of trouble over that, but actually our biggest reduction was made by hunting.

Herbert Evison: Yeah, yeah.

Maynard Barrows: I don't know how many we shipped and how many we killed. It probably wasn't anything like they've done in recent years, but in those days we

didn't kill anything on the open range. We trapped them and butchered them properly right in the trap. We'd set up a regular butcher shop there and the meat was properly taken care of.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. Well, I'm glad you brought up those matters of your years here in Yellowstone. What kind of a chore did you find yourself doing when you moved into Omaha?

Maynard Barrows: Well—

Herbert Evison: Incidentally were you stationed in the regional office all the rest of your years with the Park Service?

Maynard Barrows: No. I mean I wasn't in Omaha all the time. We had seven terrible years in Omaha. (laughs) Well, when we went back there we figured we're going to like this place. We know the climate is bad, and so on, and we're going out and tour on weekends and so on; and we found out you can't do this. It's too hot in the summer and you go out and get chiggers all over you; and finally we just decided all you can do is stay home on weekends. (laughs) Actually I was amazed at the people they had in that regional office who had never been in a national park. (laughs) They were nice folks and so on, but they had no idea what a park was. (laughs)

Herbert Evison: Yeah. Were you able to do anything about changing that? Getting some of them out?

Maynard Barrows: No, I don't think very much.

Herbert Evison: Now that would have been - who was regional director when you were there, Lawrence Merriam?

Maynard Barrows: Lawrence Merriam and then Baker.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. You mentioned seven years, is that what you were in there?

Maynard Barrows: In Omaha.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. Well, now, again let me ask you that question. What kind of chores were you put at?

Maynard Barrows: Well, I was interested in fire control and insects and disease control and in all the parks in the region. That was my job.

Herbert Evison: Yeah, Well now did that mean that you participated in these training

schools, training activities?

Maynard Barrows: Oh, yeah, putting on the training schools. During the summer I was usually out in the field for six weeks at a time. I'd come home for a little while and come back out again.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: And work in these various parks.

Herbert Evison: Of course that was a little better than trying to go out on a weekend picnic in Omaha.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. Well, I promoted the idea rather than being in Omaha I could do a lot better work if I was back in the parks, so they transferred me to Yellowstone then as the forester for all these Rocky Mountain parks.

Herbert Evison: Oh, yeah.

Maynard Barrows: And then I became involved with Frank Oberhansley in Grand Teton on his grazing situation. See they inherited grazing from the Bureau of Land Management. And so, I moved my headquarters to Grand Teton. We were three years after Omaha in Yellowstone; then I moved to Grand Teton and we had quite a deal there. We moved all the cattle off the open ranges and put them in fenced pastures and my biggest grazer down there was Cliff Hanson. He's now a Senator.

Herbert Evison: Still is.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. It took about a year to talk him into this idea. We did and I've forgotten now how many – about 500 head, I think. There was Porter, Hanson and Brown – the three of them ran together and got all their cattle, over a thousand head, and put 'em in the fenced pasture; and then all the rest of the cattle we put down on Mormon Row and fence pastured them on land that Rockefeller contributed money to buy and this was really a great deal and it's still going on.

Herbert Evison: Yes. Well, of course, as I take it, every plan connected with grazing looked ultimately to the acquisition of all the land to which these grazing privileges are tributary so that ultimately there won't be any grazing in Grand Teton. I suspect that's a long way off yet.

Maynard Barrows: Well, I rather doubt this, because their lands see – their base land upon which their grazing permits are authorized – are all way outside the park and I don't think the Park Service is going out and buy those lands up so I

think this grazing is going on for many, many years. Our basic idea was that everything east of the Snake River would be grazed and everything west of the Snake River would be real park and we've accomplished that.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. Now, of course, as you drive up that east side road, you notice particularly the herd up toward the northern and just a few miles from the Buffalo Fork. They told me those are Cliff Hanson's.

Maynard Barrows: Well, that's the old Elk Ranch. Yeah, that is the old Elk Ranch.

Herbert Evison: Nice irrigated land.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. Yeah. But I think this was a great step.

Herbert Evison; Yes.

Maynard Barrows: Before we did this the cattle would bed down under the porte-cochere at Jackson Lake Lodge. They were in the campgrounds and all over the place there and they never drove them home in the fall. They just let them drift home. You could hardly drive through the park in the fall as cattle were all over the roads. (laughs)

Herbert Evison: Open range. Open range in the National Park, which is an anomaly all right. Well, you seem to me to have been pretty successful in getting yourself moved to nice places to work in, like Yellowstone and Grand Teton.

Maynard Barrows: Herb, I'll tell you our tour at Grand Teton – we were there about four years – was the best part of our career; we had a house there and out of the picture window was the Grand Teton. And we had wonderful relationships with the park staff, Frank Oberhansley and all the other fellows.

Herbert Evison: Yeah, well now—

Maynard Barrows: Yeager was there. We really enjoyed our tour there.

Herbert Evison: While you were in there the new headquarters at Moose was developed?

Maynard Barrows: Yeah.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. Your description of the view of the Grand Teton was out of your picture window made me wonder if that weren't the case, because I know Boyd, my son Boyd, is in a house that has that same wonderful view.

Maynard Barrows: Is that right?

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: Well we had a wonderful tour there.

Herbert Evison: Now you were in there summer and winter?

Maynard Barrows: Oh yeah; and Frank got me interested in land acquisition there and I became quite active in that and we bought a lot of land.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. With Rockefeller money mostly?

Maynard Barrows: Well 50 percent Rockefeller money and 50 percent government money; but we finally acquired all the ranches on Mormon Row and we bought a lot of land there. Then I got interested in Dinosaur, as the grazing there was handled by the Bureau of Land Management, and we decided the Park Service would take this over, so that's why I moved to Dinosaur.
(chuckles)

Herbert Evison: You were saying that in the course of this park hopping of yours you left Grand Teton and went to Dinosaur. Now, let's get something about the picture – about what it was like there at Dinosaur and with respect to your particular interest at that time which was the grazing situation. You were saying I think BLM.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah, the Bureau of Land Management was ostensibly handling the grazing in the park which we inherited when this park or monument was created and enlarged.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: And they weren't doing very much and you couldn't blame them; they've got a lot of other land to administer, and so on, so we decided we'd take this grazing over from them. The first thing we had to do was have regulations set up for the park and this was quite a job, I had the same thing in Grand Teton, so I had a pattern to start from as far as regulations went; but I had to argue with these attorneys in Denver and – who was this old lawyer they had in the region?

Herbert Evison: I don't remember who the regional attorney was.

Maynard Barrows: Well, anyway this was quite a chore. I was telling you Herb, that I ever could make Howard Baker understand that this grazing business was not

just going out as a technician and finding out how much the range was overgrazed and so on. It's a public relations deal. You have to sell it to the permittees and that was the job. We took this grazing over from the BLM and started issuing our own permits and finally got control of the thing there; and the only way you can eliminate the grazing there is to acquire the base lands of these people, which we did. We acquired quite a few base lands within the monument and eliminated grazing, but a lot of those permits are based on base lands outside the monument. Well, I think they'll be there forever. (chuckles)

Herbert Evison: Well, I find that opinion a little disturbing because certainly domestic grazing ought to be removed completely, ultimately, from Dinosaur and do you that the government see no possible solution to it? I would suppose could buy back grazing privileges.

Maynard Barrows: Well, this has been proposed. They tried to put a price on an animal unit month.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: AUM.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: And there's been a lot of talk about this, but you know it is awfully hard to sell to anybody that doesn't understand the problem. Maybe they can do it someday, but it's just like you go out and buy a piece of private property in a park area you have to spend a lot of money to do this.

Herbert Evison: Yes, you do.

Maynard Barrows: So, you've got to spend the same kind of money to buy an animal unit month from these grazers too.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. I can see that this could run to a lot of money.

Maynard Barrows: Uh huh.

Herbert Evison: Well, how long were you at Dinosaur?

Maynard Barrows: Oh, about three and a half years.

Herbert Evison: Yeah, well now what year did that bring you up to?

Maynard Barrows: Gee whiz, Herb, it's hard for me to remember years. I retired in – what was

it? I was 54 years old and I'm 66 now.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. Well you retired seven years ago, which would make it 1965.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. But, see, I bought land in Dinosaur, too. We acquired a lot of land while I was there; and one of my biggest projects was the land exchange I arranged with the state of Colorado. We exchanged every other section there including over 10,000 acres. The State and we exchanged all these lands in Colorado for BLM land in southern Colorado.

Herbert Evison: Oh, yeah,

Maynard Barrows: Well this was a good thing for the Park Service and it was a good thing for BLM, because they got land that they could get some revenue from down there. Most of this land in Dinosaur they couldn't lease it or do anything with it; and that was one of my biggest projects. I think probably this is one of the biggest land exchanges in the history of the Service. I know they had a big one out in where was it?

Herbert Evison: Glacier. 10,000 acres of state land inside for something over a hundred thousand over in eastern Montana.

Maynard Barrows: But we got this thing through. And then there were a lot of mining claims and I got all but one mining claim eliminated in the Colorado portion of Dinosaur and there's just one claim that's still up for more hearings. And I tried to do the same thing in Utah, but those Utah people weren't about to play ball with us.

Herbert Evison: Oh.

Maynard Barrows: And I didn't get very far there. (laughs) But of course most of Dinosaur is in Colorado, most of the acreage.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: So that's pretty well cleaned up now.

Herbert Evison: Wonderful. Boy, I tell you this land program in recent years has been a wonderful thing to watch and a wonderful thing for the park system.

Maynard Barrows: I worked very closely with Jack Aiton. He was in the region. We're old buddy rangers from Yellowstone, and Don Lee was in Washington.

Herbert Evison: Both now dead.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. But we worked together, just a regular team.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: It was a fine thing to work with those fellas.

Herbert Evison: Where'd you go from Dinosaur?

Maynard Barrows: I retired.

Herbert Evison: Oh, that was your last assignment? 1965.

Maynard Barrows: Uh huh!

Herbert Evison: I'd like to ask you this question. Looking back over a career that started and went from 1930 to 1965 – boy! That 35 years is a nice long period – is there any one thing, any one accomplishment of yours or any one thing that you, event or effort that you participated in, that you look back on with maybe a little bit more pride or a little bit more pleasure than anything else in your career?

Maynard Barrows: Well, Herb, I think there are probably several things. In Yellowstone of course fire control was my big deal there and law enforcement and then in Teton and Dinosaur it was land acquisition and grazing, but going back to Yellowstone, and my years here I think we had the best organization of any place I have ever seen. We really had esprit de corps. It was a great outfit.

Herbert Evison: Yeah. So, I would take it from that that anytime you reminisce you think of this with a little more pleasure maybe than others.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah. But it's like this reunion we're having here now. This is a great deal. Get all these boys back and we sit down and go over events with each other and talk about our experiences.

Herbert Evison: Yes, of course, I think it's just a marvelous thing. The only thing that gripes me about it, I haven't heard anybody give a word of credit to Maynard Barrows for it.

Maynard Barrows: Oh, I think they have, yeah. You mean the establishment boys.

Herbert Evison: Yeah, well anybody speaking.

Maynard Barrows: Yeah.

Herbert Evison: They gave credit to – who was it? Howard Baker? No, not Howard Baker, but somebody the other day, maybe Jack Anderson. Well I'm sure you had his concurrence in what you were doing, but I'd be a little doubtful that he contributed an awful lot to it.

Maynard Barrows: Well Jack has been very good, but Howard Baker was the guy I had to deal with.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: And he's been awful stubborn.

Herbert Evison: Yeah.

Maynard Barrows: He decided that our reunion would be held immediately after Labor Day. Well, this is a hell of a time, you fight all the crowds rushing out of the park and usually they have a big storm. Of course, we had a snowstorm yesterday too, but finally I got those dates to this World Conference time. This is when we wanted to have it and Howard has been obstinate about this and actually I don't think he should represent the Alumni. He is still on Hartzog's payroll. (laughter)

Herbert Evison: Yeah, I agree with you. Well, you still have a wonderful lot of tape here and we're not pressed for time by any means; and any observations that you want to put on the tape – I don't care what or how unorthodox they are – there's the tape for you to use if you want to.

Maynard Barrows: Well, I'm I've kind of run out, I think Herb, do you have any suggestions?

Herbert Evison: No, I've been making my suggestions as we went along as well as I could, but certainly we just don't want to keep running this for the sake of doing that and if you feel that the job is done well bring it to an end with a very warm thank you from my part for your—

Maynard Barrows: I don't think you've gotten much really.

Herbert Evison: Well I've gotten some very good stuff on there and I'm very happy to have gotten some sidelights that I hadn't gotten from anybody else. No, but anyway thank you very much Maynard.

[END OF INTERVIEW]