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2024

## MF118 Don Mitchell / Roger Mitchell Collection

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## Don Mitchell/Roger Mitchell Collection

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Northeast Archives of Folklore and Oral History

5729 Raymond H. Fogler Library

University of Maine

Orono, ME 04469-5729

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Northeast Archives of Folklore and Oral History
<b>Source - ive:</b>	Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988
<b>Creator:</b>	Mitchell, Roger E., 1925-2011
<b>Title:</b>	Don Mitchell / Roger Mitchell Collection
<b>ID:</b>	MF118
<b>ID [aspace_uri]:</b>	/repositories/5/resources/3052
<b>Date:</b>	1976
<b>Physical Description:</b>	2 items
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Material Specific Details:</b>	Audio files are the primary source material. Transcriptions are the transcriber's best effort to convert audio to text, but should be considered secondary to the audio.
<b>Note:</b>	Open to Collaborate Notice



Our institution is committed to the development of new modes of collaboration, engagement, and partnership with Indigenous peoples for the care and stewardship of past and future heritage collections.

### Preferred Citation

Interviewee last name, interviewee first name. Year. NA[unique series identification number], MF118 NAFOH. Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department, University of Maine, Orono, Maine.

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## Scope and Contents

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Donald O. Mitchell (1898-1988), interviewed by Roger E. Mitchell (1925-2011), his son, in 1976. Series of interviews about Don Mitchell's life and work as a woodsman and farmer formed the basis of Northeast Folklore XIX: "I'm a Man That Works."

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## Arrangement

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NA1202 Don Mitchell, interviewed by Roger Mitchell, his son, in 1976. Series of interviews about Mitchell senior's life and work as a woodsman and farmer formed the basis of Northeast Folklore XIX: "I'm a Man That Works." See also: NA 2008. Text: 10 pp. admin. 1240 pp. transcript. Note: Mitchell separated each story topic into "items" in the transcription. Recording: mfc\_na1202\_c0001\_01 - mfc\_na1202\_c0019\_01 (C 0001 - C 0019; CD 0341 - CD 0373, CD 0386). Time: 19 hours. Photos: p05822-p05837, p05858-p05873.

Don Mitchell, interviewed by Roger Mitchell at Mettawamkeag Lake, Island Falls, Maine. Topics covered include a log jam breaking loose; winter shoveling while working at the Hunt Company; working at Rockabema; crossing the border and name changing; mishaps on river drives; getting alcohol while in the woods; bootlegging; WWI stories; naval service during WWI; potato work and harvesting; farming stories; family history; stories of friends; acquisition of property; snow plowing with horses. Recording: Cassette: 1A-1976. Not digitized. MISSING. Transcript only.

Don Mitchell, interviewed by Roger Mitchell at Mettawamkeag Lake, Island Falls, Maine. Topics covered include Jose Bates and alcohol; Jose Bates' family; working for Denny Michaud; horses; the Rockabema winter; the Hunt Company; hauling bark; working for Joe Michaud and Frenchmen; the practice of undercutting; logging wages; being a cookee; Don's first drive; and working on a pulp drive. Recording: Cassette: 1B-1976. Not digitized. MISSING. Transcript only.

mfc\_na1202\_c0001\_01. Topics include continuation of the story of Jim Pratt's pick pole broke; working with his brother Frank Mitchell for the Hunt Company shoveling yards and "road-monkeying;" being told by the boss he worked too hard; loading sleds using a derrick; story about Bill cutting his foot; Joe Palmer; story about riding logs during a drive; ordering alcohol from Boston; bootlegger Jakey Jones; story of the alleged disappearance of a Sheriff named "Hill" after he seized a shipment of liquor in Patten; enlisting in the Navy for WWI and being shifted to the Army the day before the Armistice was signed; Spanish flu; migraine headaches; pranks.

mfc\_na1202\_c0001\_02. Topics covered include dairy farming/milking techniques; Old Bake (Ansel Mitchell); Johnny Francis; sawing; John Botting and tea; childhood pranks; Lowely Noyes (the town's first mailman); Willard Pond and a manure pile; Solomon Shaw; and deer hunting.

mfc\_na1202\_c0003\_01. Topics covered include deer hunting; fishing in the Smyrna region; Fritz Soule; potato sales; hauling pulp; a cookee story about Earnest Bates; cranberries; cows; a town lot; and pulp transportation to Kingman.

mfc\_na1202\_c0004\_01. Topics covered include a barn accident; Coral Ewings; Stanley and Tunk Burpee; Stackpole; selling a cow to Tilly Palmer; bears in the region; French and English relations in the region; lumbering stories; working for the Hunt Company; types of sleds used for logging; losing teams of horses through the ice; and fishing in the Millbrook region.

mfc\_na1202\_c0004\_02. Topics covered include fishing in Bear Brook and Mill Brook; Robert Palmer and his watch; Earl Bell and horse clippers; Jim Buzzle and a horse; Will Shaw pressing hay; blueberrying; stories about Frenchmen and Polacks working in the woods; George Bryant buying snowshoes; family relations in region; apple picking and storage (outdoor cellars); Christmas as a child for Don; home remedies; injury incurred during WWI; river drives; haying practices; Warren Clark's family; logging; working in snowstorms and Mike Cassidy.

mfc\_na1202\_c0005\_01. Topics covered include peeling; loading and hauling pulp; Everett Bates; working for Frank Landry; cleaning brooks for drives; working for Warren McGuire; using dynamite for breaking up log jams; being a cookee on the Emerson drive; partridge hunting; Jerry Fanjoy and his family; relationship between Bates and Mitchell families; Uncle Oliver's stories; growing up; teachers at Stevens school; the Botting family; spring poles; first Model T Ford truck; hauling potatoes; working on the road with horses; earning town orders for roadwork; working with Ira Tompkins; banking trucks; Bake losing his leg and hunting after the amputation.

mfc\_na1202\_c0005\_02. Topics covered include deer hunting; Bake's care of his amputated leg; duck hunting; encountering wardens; jacking (a type of hunting method) deer; Steve's (one of Don's sons) hunting experiences; changes in hunting over time including game wardens; snow plowing before power plows; working as a teamster in the woods; remedies for horses; Frasier cutting wood at the Botting place; buying land during the war; the fire on the Botting place; getting water before pump system installed for livestock; treating horses suffering from blackwater; John Mitchell.

mfc\_na1202\_c0006\_01. Topics covered include building the church in Smyrna; cutting the lumber for it; size of congregation; Don Bickford's piano tuning; pine trees and Fritz; trapping a hedgehog; filing saws; Friel's mill; pulping practices; land purchasing/selling.

mfc\_na1202\_c0006\_02. Topics covered include barns on Don's property and others; snowshoeing; boils; buying the Botting place during WWII; drilling wells; installing plumbing in 1951; barn raising; scale rules and stories; tying pulp; cowhide; Fritz Soul's wood buying practices; cutting ice; pranks played with bullets; the man with a glass eye; hunting birch trees; battles with hornets; drinking Jamaica Ginger.

mfc\_na1202\_c0007\_01. Topics covered include Vandy Drew's store; the drive on Alder Brook; living conditions/free time in the woods; pranks; working for Branscombe and Dewitt; cookees; food served; hospital food; eating salmon in camps; farming; balancing both farming and working in the woods.

mfc\_na1202\_c0007\_02. Topics covered include the Bottings' and other house repairs; fires; mailing procedures; cutting seed for crops; feeding livestock; water availability; using lime; road work; balancing farming and logging; planting potatoes with horses; using pesticides and fertilizers; cutting wood on the farm for sale; different properties of trees; piling wood; getting supplies from Boston into the woods.

mfc\_na1202\_c0008\_01. Topics covered include purchasing a window; family and friend relations; Jakey Shur; business transactions; community life; hauling pulp butts to Grindstone; the "Snow Gander"; limited crops in Aroostook; working in the woods; hauling logs; Gus Kennedy; and property lots.

mfc\_na1202\_c0008\_02. Topics covered include the end of a story about selling property to Palmington; property line dispute with Palmington; and family property ownership.

mfc\_na1202\_c0009\_01. Topics covered include Irving Huntley; Harry and Gladys Miller; childhood memories (making soap; types of wildlife in region; need for shoes; spinning; games); fishing; blueberrying; teaching conditions for women; Ina Huntley; joining the navy (WWI) and homesickness; harvest excursions; and building docks.

mfc\_na1202\_c0009\_02. Topics covered include Frank's eyesight; house raising after fires; cutting the paper (using unwanted stumps from pulping for housing projects); community involvement in times of need; Georgie Gould; blueberrying in Millinocket; Old Bake shooting a moose; home brewing; checking radio compasses on boats in the Navy; machine guns on the boats; running on racetracks; George Knight's camp; horse stories; hair-raising stories; working on a log hauler road; pine trees; corduroy roads; making ties and cutting pine; hauling logs at night; furthest trip with a team of horses; and Well Rockwell moving west.

mfc\_na1202\_c0010\_01. Topics covered include being a selectman; helping poor people in the community; getting rid of McKee; Alton Boyle; townspeople who took advantage of help; mixup about lumber with Hosford; working with other elected officials; presidential candidates in the 1930s; patrolling roads; Old Harrison Dewitt; Sam Kilgore shooting off a gravestone; working for Phil Brannen; Arthur and Guy Mitchell; marking logs; and a partial story about a guy testing the saints.

mfc\_na1202\_c0010\_02. Includes stories - the end of the man testing saints; artificial breeding; Doc Newman; Gerald's bull; putting dynamite on a horse's head; blowing up a groundhog; raising sheep for wool; a very lazy man; Alder Brook's layout; throwing Andrew's peavey away; food on the drives; picking beans over; making bean hole beans; eating chicken for Thanksgiving; the first turkey for a holiday; eating exotic meats; McKee's army stories; uncle George dating; marrying cousins; celebrating a fourth of July without money; dumping potatoes; and being on the board of selectmen.

mfc\_na1202\_c0011\_01. Topics covered include road monkeying at Umcolcus; working on an ice cart; working for Joe Michaud; working for Brannen; Wallace getting stuck on the track near Kingman; hauling across tracks; teamsters; pranks with Jim Seams; striking a buoy while in the navy; having a party on the boat with a patrolman; Irish policemen; schooling for Don's children; working for Stebbins Lumber Co.; responsibilities of a cookee; and switches in the lumbering and pulping business.

mfc\_na1202\_c0011\_02. Topics covered include a rosher (pulp debarking machine); warming up on a Penobscot Development river drive on Hasting Brook; seating arrangements for meals on river drives; Perley Emery; Graden Murphy; checkerberry; learning how to drink Jamaica Ginger; deer hunting with Dewey; prostrate problems; meeting Roger's mother; McGidney and the lookout at Milimegasset; Lawyer Shaw; doing chores at El's house; El's family members; Rabbi Townsend butchering a hog; selling livestock; and an accident en route to Houlton.

mfc\_na1202\_c0012\_01. Topics covered include staying warm during drives; rigs for potato hauling; puns and buffalo robes; joke about a Frenchman; diets for workers; songs; buying mill wood; potato planting techniques at the end of the 19th century; Bob Palmer's planting machines; potato bugs; the porcupine in the camp's refrigerator; shooting a porcupine and some hedgehogs; sourdough bread; using grease from cooking; raising pigs; Steve and Charlie Bates; the Indian term for wagon; dental work; Charlie Mack; Flora Mack marrying Charlie Carpenter; Fred Hagan's recipe for living; and when Doc Newman moved.

mfc\_na1202\_c0012\_02. Topics covered include cows; getting good deals from Canadian cow sellers; washing pails; hunting with a revolver; an injury from installing a fan and its long-term effects; cutting ties; working with Harry Drew in Umcolcus; tote teams; a photographer from Patten taking pictures in Umcolcus; Harry Drew getting frozen; Amsy Stevens death from a horse; other horse stories; and other accidents incurred by Don.

Topics covered include accidents while working and playing; drive to Kingman; breaking roads; payscale when working in the woods; driving teams; driving pulp down a hill; Don's dad; breaking camp; stealing a cocker spaniel; duration of stay in the woods; railroads in Maine and using tracks on drives; losing loads; fellow lumbermen; potato prices; communal Thanksgiving meals; taking out loans; Ansel and Fielder Botting; jacking; and pranks. Recording: Not digitized. MISSING. Transcript only.

Topics covered include moving camp; Jimmy Wright (a cookee); Gram Clark's bread; the Vinegar twins; Ernest Bates; eating goldfish; beans; and salmon; cutting wood along a swamp; Uncle John Rockwell business dealings; M.I. Lee; Sam Gopan; Jaky; Jose Bates; getting the river ready for a drive; Stair Falls; running boats near falls; Emerson drive; Crystal Brook; Ed Kennedy's drowning; Clair Clayton; working for the Hunt Company; security in the woods with guns; fishing at Trout Brook with Ed; and pranks on Ed. Recording: Not digitized. MISSING. Transcript only.

mfc\_na1202\_c0013\_01. Topics covered include Bake licensing Don's truck; the bear near the house; living in the woods; deer hunting; trying out guns; bear story; Jiggs McNalley jacking; and relations with wardens.



mfc\_na1202\_c0014\_01. Topics covered include Christmas when working in the woods; Arthur Bertlett; getting first horses for farm; financing from the Tarbells; going to Drew's Deadwater on a drive; going to Nantucket while in the navy; pulping on the upper place and transporting it; and hauling bark.

mfc\_na1202\_c0014\_02. Topics covered include potato business; going down the Hasting for a river drive; Perley Hersey fishing; putting a boom of logs in the wrong cove; Orin Mitchell and Mitchell family history; Oliver's corn cob pipe; the Mitchells in Argyle; quitting job with Frank Landry; letting cattle run; a starch job; and loaning farm machinery.

mfc\_na1202\_c0015\_01. Topics covered include Gram Mitchell; desire to move to Patten; old folks burning choppings; Grandpa Mitchell's age vs. size of family when he died; church affiliation of parents; Herb Hardy's big Cadillac; bird and moose hunting; young Frank McManus getting shot; rigging dynamite logs; tying logs to hauler sleds; Clint Corey and the bear; and Clint's practical jokes.

mfc\_na1202\_c0015\_02. Topics covered include Ansel Mitchell; Gene Mason and dam crews; shooting a loon; an ax with a blade sticking up; Buster Mitchell; Cash Harris; Roy Mitchell; playing with pig bladders; farmers going on drives in the spring; coffee story; Ed Seams; family history; bad odors on the farm; Alton Boyle; town history; Scott Bates.

mfc\_na1202\_c0016\_01. Topics covered include the last drive on the river and getting papers to join the navy on the drive; going to Boston once enlisted; navy experiences; planting conditions for potatoes; businesses in Smyrna; Don's first ride in airplane; Mrs. Braun and beechnuts; cost of mortgage on upper place; Don's parents; Frank Bates in the army; Jimmy Wright and his cookees.

mfc\_na1202\_c0016\_02. Topics covered include Jimmy Wright as a cookee; catching men asleep on drives; Don's shoulder being broken; losing peavies in the water hole; stories heard on the radio; basketball with Fred and Leon Tarbell and Johnny Fitzgerald; leg injury; finding burlap in beans; Don as a cookee; the foreclosure on a piece of property; paying taxes; cutting logs on sleds; peeling bark; a railroad made of whitewood.

mfc\_na1202\_c0017\_01. Topics covered include Enoch Hughes (minister); the Mitchell girls' musical talents; horses; bulls; boar pigs; the Rockwells (Don's mother's family); other family history; staying with Uncle El (Rockwell); peeling hemlock; working for Ralph Furrow.

mfc\_na1202\_c0017\_02. Topics covered include the social security system; work ethics; WWII; Roger Tozier's stories; Old Bake not taking ether; Les Curtis and Graden Murphy; Dill and Tracey Brook; hunting stories; Clint Corey's camp; Bake's camp.

mfc\_na1202\_c0018\_01. Topics covered include Graydon Branson's saw; Irving's carelessness with private property; Billy Bates running for high sheriff; Billy's character and livelihood; Ed Kennedy's baseball team; sons; and family relations; Gary Chasing shooting a cow.

mfc\_na1202\_c0019\_01. Recorded at Jackson sluice and includes stories about life before service during WWI; the mechanics of going down the river; boys blowing up dynamite at Jackson sluice; people running the sluice; catching up with river companions.

NA2008 Roger Mitchell, Aroostook County, Maine. 31 pp. Handwritten notes, drawings, and descriptions of sleds used in the woods. Made in connection with his biography of his father, Don Mitchell. This was published as Northeast Folklore XIX (1979), "I'm a Man That Works." See also: NA 1202.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

Northeast Archives of Folklore and Oral History

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### Existence and Location of Originals

Located at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress: AFC 2012/047 <https://lccn.loc.gov/2013655211>.

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## Controlled Access Headings

- Folklore
- Oral histories
- Farmers -- Maine
- Lumbermen
- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988

## Collection Inventory

### MF118, Collection Summary

Title/Description	Instances
MF 118, Collection Summary, November 12, 2024 <u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">MF 118, Collection Summary</a>	Text MF 118

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### Don Mitchell, interviewed by Roger Mitchell

Creator: Mitchell, Roger E., 1925-2011

Source: Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988

Abstract: NA1202 Don Mitchell, interviewed by Roger Mitchell, his son, in 1976. Series of interviews about Mitchell senior's life and work as a woodsman and farmer formed the basis of Northeast Folklore XIX: "I'm a Man That Works." See also: NA 2008. Text: 10 pp. admin. 1240 pp. transcript. Note: Mitchell separated each story topic into "items" in the transcription. Recording: mfc\_na1202\_c0001\_01 - mfc\_na1202\_c0019\_01 (C 0001 - C 0019; CD 0341 - CD 0373, CD 0386). Time: 19 hours. Photos: p05822-p05837, p05858-p05873.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988
- Mitchell, Pearl E. (Tozier), 1905-1959
- Mitchell, Clark Ernest, 1873-1905
- Mitchell, Evelyn (Rockwell) Montgomery, 1865-1953

Title/Description	Instances
NA 1202, manuscript, 1976 <u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">NA 1202, transcript: 1979</a>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 1, 1976 <u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 1: June 18, 1976</a>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 2, 1976	Audio NA 1202

<u>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 2: June 18, 1976</a></u>	
NA 1202, audio, part 3, 1976 <u>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 5: June 18, 1976</a></u>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 4, 1976 <u>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 6: June 18, 1976</a></u>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 5, 1976 <u>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 7: June 18, 1976</a></u>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 6, 1976 <u>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 8: June 18, 1976</a></u>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 7, 1976 <u>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 9: June 18, 1976</a></u>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 8, 1976 <u>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 10: June 18, 1976</a></u>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 9, 1976 <u>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 11: June 18, 1976</a></u>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 10, 1976 <u>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 12: June 18, 1976</a></u>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 11, 1976 <u>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 13: June 18, 1976</a></u>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 12, 1976 <u>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 14: June 18, 1976</a></u>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 13, 1976 <u>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 15: June 18, 1976</a></u>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 14, 1976 <u>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 16: December 31, 1976</a></u>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 15, 1976 <u>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 17: December 31, 1976</a></u>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 16, 1976 <u>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 18: December 31, 1976</a></u>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 17, 1976 <u>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 19: December 31, 1976</a></u>	Audio NA 1202
NA 1202, audio, part 18, 1976	

<p>Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 20: December 31, 1976</a></p>	<p>Audio NA 1202</p>
<p>NA 1202, audio, part 19, 1976                  Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 21: December 31, 1976</a></p>	<p>Audio NA 1202</p>
<p>NA 1202, audio, part 20, 1976                  Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 22: December 31, 1976</a></p>	<p>Audio NA 1202</p>
<p>NA 1202, audio, part 21, 1976                  Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 23: December 31, 1976</a></p>	<p>Audio NA 1202</p>
<p>NA 1202, audio, part 22, 1976                  Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 24: December 31, 1976</a></p>	<p>Audio NA 1202</p>
<p>NA 1202, audio, part 23, 1976                  Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 25: December 31, 1976</a></p>	<p>Audio NA 1202</p>
<p>NA 1202, audio, part 24, 1976                  Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 24</a></p>	<p>Audio NA 1202</p>
<p>NA 1202, audio, part 25, 1976                  Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 26: December 31, 1976</a></p>	<p>Audio NA 1202</p>
<p>NA 1202, audio, part 26, 1976                  Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 27: December 31, 1976</a></p>	<p>Audio NA 1202</p>
<p>NA 1202, audio, part 27, 1976                  Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 28: December 31, 1976</a></p>	<p>Audio NA 1202</p>
<p>NA 1202, audio, part 28, 1976                  Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 29: December 31, 1976</a></p>	<p>Audio NA 1202</p>
<p>NA 1202, audio, part 29, 1976                  Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 30: December 31, 1976</a></p>	<p>Audio NA 1202</p>
<p>NA 1202, audio, part 30, 1976                  Digital Object: <a href="#">NA 1202, audio, part 31: December 31, 1976</a></p>	<p>Audio NA 1202</p>
<p>NA 1202, audio, part 31, 1976</p>	<p>Audio NA 1202</p>

Digital Object: [NA 1202, audio, part 32: December 31, 1976](#)

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NA 1202, audio, part 32, 1976

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, audio, part 33: December 31, 1976](#)

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NA 1202, photograph, p05822, circa 1900

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05822](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of a log driving crew on the Mattawaumkeag River below Mattawaumkeag Lake near the rough piece of water called "Slew Gundy Heater." Oliver Mitchell is the man standing in the batteau with his hands folded behind him, circa 1900. The men pose during a lunch break. Approximately 36 men stand on a grassy river bank. The men are all dressed in a variety of work clothes--dark woolen pants with suspenders, cotton shirts and hats. One man, standing at the top of the bank, wears overalls. All of the men wear wide-brimmed hats. On the river, some men stand or sit in batteaus.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Mattawamkeag (Me.)
- Mitchell, Oliver, 1883-1972

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NA 1202, photograph, p05823, 1915

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05823](#)

Photo Description: Black and white group photo of 23 men, Emerson Lumber Co. workers, posing with border collie at the Gilman Pond Camps, 1915. Seven unidentified white men, all dressed in winter work clothes, some with beards and mustaches, are seated on a log. The third man from the left holds the border collie in a sit for the photo. Seven unidentified white men in winter work garb stand behind the seated group. Ten additional men, the tallest of the group, stand in a third row behind the first line of standing men. The men also wear winter work gear. Smoke and/or steam rises from a fire behind the group. Mixed forest in the background. 1915.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Gilman Pond (Me.)
- Logging -- Maine
- Emerson Lumber Company (Island Falls (Me.))

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NA 1202, photograph, p05824, 1944

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05824](#)

Photo Description: Formal black and white portrait of Don Mitchell and his wife, Pearl (Tozier) Mitchell dressed in dark clothing and seated side-by-side in a photographer's studio. The portrait was taken in 1944 and sent to their son's Neil Mitchell and Roger Mitchell, when they were

serving in the Pacific War Zone during World War II. Don Mitchell is dressed in a dark, double-breasted suit with a tartan tie. Pearl Mitchell wears a dark dress. They each wear a two-star lapel pin signifying they have two sons serving during World War II. 1944. Unidentified photographer.

Controlled Access Headings:

- World War, 1939-1945 -- Maine
- Family portraits
- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988
- Mitchell, Pearl E. (Tozier), 1905-1959

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NA 1202, photograph, p05825, 1913

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05825](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of Ancil F. Mitchell, one of Don Mitchell's brothers, standing atop the trunk of a felled spruce tree near Umcolcus Lake between Aroostook and Penobscot Counties. Ancil is working to limb the downed spruce tree during the Dewitt and Wiseman job. Ancil is dressed in wool pants that have holes in the legs. He wears a plaid wool shirt, mittens, and a narrow-brim hat. 1913. Photographer is unidentified.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Umcolcus Lake (Me.)
- Logging -- Maine
- Mitchell, Ancil F., 1897-1960

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NA 1202, photograph, p05826, circa 1935

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05826](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of a team of draft horses hitched to a potato digger in a field next to a line of evergreen trees. The photograph is taken from behind the team. A basket of potatoes sits in the dirt behind the back hooves of the larger, lead horse. The photograph was taken on Don Mitchell's farm, ca. 1935. The lead horse (left) is Trim and the second horse is Annie who replaced King. To the left is the last chopping Clark made, now nearly grown up again. Photographer is unidentified.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Agriculture -- Equipment and supplies
- Agriculture -- Maine
- Potatoes -- Maine
- Horse-drawn vehicles
- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988

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NA 1202, photograph, p05827, circa 1935

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05827](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of two men and two boys posing together near a campfire during blueberry-picking. A large boulder stands behind the

group. The group is identified, left to right, Neil Mitchell, Irving Huntly, Don Mitchell, and Roger Mitchell. All four carry galvanized, five-gallon buckets. Roger also carries a paint pail. Tent stakes are visible in the foreground of the photograph. ca. 1935. Photographer is unidentified.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Blueberries -- Harvesting
- Camping -- Maine
- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988
- Mitchell, Roger E., 1925-2011
- Mitchell, Neil C., 1927-1952

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NA 1202, photograph, p05828, 1914

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05828](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of three men posing next to a pile of logs in a temporary log yard during Elmer Bryson's job at "Sodel [Sawtelle?]" Brook. The logs and ground are coated with light snow. Left to right the men are, an unidentified man (hands on hips), Bill Palmer, a teamster, seated on a log, and Dennis Robar, a tender, standing and wearing a sweater and checkered cap. A parbuckle chain hangs over the logs in the background. Beside the men on the left stand a team of horses. 1914. Photographer is unidentified.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Logging -- Maine
- Horses -- Log transportation

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05829, circa 1917

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05829](#)

Photo Description: Black and white formal portrait of four men in a photographer's studio. "The boys after coming out of camp, buying new clothes and having a couple of drinks." Seated, left to right are Jim Seams and Virgie Mitchell. Standing, left to right, Wilber Estabrook, Don Mitchell. circa 1917. The men are all dressed in three piece suits and ties. The names "Don" and "Virgie" is written across those men's shirt collars.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Logging -- Maine -- History
- Portraits
- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988
- Mitchell, Virgil "Virgie" H., 1895-1971

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05830, circa 1919

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05830](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of three men posing in the woods. The men are dressed in work clothes. Left to right, Jack Emery stands holding the end of a peavey as he stands on top of a large log wearing shirt sleeves. Seated next to him, also dressed in shirt



sleeves, is Wallace Palmer. Palmer sits on a large log, his arms crossed as he looks into the distance. Gus Kennedy stands on the ground, one foot propped on the log beside Palmer. Kennedy wears a dark sweater. Herseytown, Alder Brook, ca. 1919. Photographer is unidentified.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Logging -- Maine
- Logging -- Equipment and supplies

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05831, 1913

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05831](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of brothers (l-r) Virgil Mitchell and Ancil Mitchell stop work for a photograph in the snowy woods while on the DeWitt and Wiseman job, Umcolcus Lake, 1913. Snow is sticking to the trees in the background. The brothers wear similar work clothes--wool pants and checked wool shirts, as well as narrow-brim hats. Virgil sits on a tree stump a single-blade axe and splitting maul resting on his knees. Ancil stands holding a two-man saw by the blade and resting an axe on his shoulder. Photographer is unidentified.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Umcolcus Lake (Me.)
- Logging
- Logging -- Equipment and supplies
- Mitchell, Virgil "Virgie" H., 1895-1971
- Mitchell, Ancil F., 1897-1960

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NA 1202, photograph, p05832, 1913

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05832](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of Ed Kennedy's "Bully Crew," in the Patten area. The eight men are all dressed in winter work gear. They sit and stand in a small, smokey clearing, next to a fire. These men cut and yarded the most logs of any crew on the winter's job. Left to right, first row Vic Jeandreau, Robert Palmer (Bill and Wallace's father), standing Irving Bates (Don's cousin), last, seated man, unidentified; back, Jack Welton, Fred Bell, three unknown. 1913. White ink writing on the photo reads, "Edd Kennedy Crew 1913."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Patten (Me.)
- Logging
- Kennedy, Edward E, 1864-1913

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05833, 1900-1920

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05833](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of men posing outside the woods camp at Umcolcus Lake Standing, left to right, Goodman "Goody" Wiseman, co-boss; Irving Bates (with foot propped on the log, Don

Mitchell's cousin and clerk); Harold Hews, cookee; Ray Condon, cook; and Don Mitchell, cookee. Seated on a log, an unidentified man smoking a pipe, and Vandy Drew, a hotel operator from Smyrna Mills (and father of Harry Drew). The log camp building appears to the left in the image. The roof has been shoveled clean of snow but long icicles hang from the eaves. A large pile of logs is visible in the yard behind the group of men. A second log building appears behind the men on the right side of the image. ca. 1900-1920. Photographer is unidentified.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Umcolcus Lake (Me.)
- Logging
- Lumber camps -- Maine -- Photographs
- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05834, circa 1935

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05834](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of (left to right) Roy Mitchell and Don Mitchell standing side-by-side near a flower bed near the road in front of the Mitchell homestead on the old Cassidy place in Dyer Brook Township, circa 1935. Across the road is a view of thick softwood trees behind which is over one hundred square miles of unbroken forest. Don Mitchell cut pulp in Dyer Brook Township for Great Northern Paper.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Dyer Brook Township -- Maine
- Mitchell, Leroy "Roy" Montgomery, 1884-1966
- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05835, circa 1950

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05835](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of Evelyn (Rockwell) Montgomery Mitchell (1865-1953) sitting in a chair on the porch of the house where she was living with her son Don Mitchell in the house that he and brother Ancil Mitchell built following the fire that destroyed the Mitchell homestead in 1938. Mrs. Mitchell wears a cartigan sweater over a housedress. Her hands are folded in her lap, a wooden cane propped beside her. She has white hair and wears glasses. She looks pensively into the distance. ca. 1950. Photographer is unidentified.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Mitchell, Evelyn (Rockwell) Montgomery, 1865-1953

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05836, circa 1919

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05836](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of two young white men standing side-by-side with arms crossed

over their chests. They wear pullover sweaters, wool pants, and work boots. Left to right, they are Ray Emerson and Gus Kennedy, boss, standing in front of a landing of logs, ca. 1919, Alder Brook, Hersheytown. Ray Emerson was one of the younger sons of the Emerson Lumber Company, Island Falls, Maine. Gus Kennedy was the brother of Bertha Kennedy who married Oliver Mitchell.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Herseytown Township -- Maine
- Logging
- Emerson Lumber Company (Island Falls (Me.))

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05837, circa 1920

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05837](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph capturing a rare scene of Lew Cole, the camp cook, posing with members of his family inside the camp. Left to right are, Alice (Palmer) Cole, Tena Cole leaning against her father, Lew Cole, and Sadie Cole. Alice Cole was a sister to Bill and Wallace Palmer. circa 1920, Patten area. The group pose behind a table filled with various pitchers and glasses. Two pairs of snow shoes hang on the wall in the background. Behind the family is a tall set of pantry shelves filled with cans and boxes. On the top shelf are two unlabeled cans, boxes labeled Sauer's Pure Vanilla, Sauer's Extract Lemon, and Stickney & Poor's Pure Cream of Tarter. Five large cans of Wyman's blueberries line the next shelf. There are additional shelves lined with canned goods with illegible labels.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Patten (Me.)
- Lumber camps -- Maine -- Photographs
- Cole, Llewellyn F "Lew", 1885-1962
- Cole, Alice (Palmer), 1889-1958
- Cole, Sadie L, 1909-2004
- Cole, Pearl Robertena "Tena", 1919-1997

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05858, April 1978

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05858](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of an older couple sitting at a kitchen table as the gentleman opens a gift. Left to right, Avis Ernestine "Teen" (Garrison) Mitchell and husband, Don Mitchell, on Don's 80th birthday, April 1978. Don's first wife Pearl, died in 1959. He remarried in 1964.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988
- Mitchell, Avis Ernestine "Teen" (Garrison), 1913-1985

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NA 1202, photograph, p05859, 1975

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05859](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of an elderly, white haired, white man wearing horn-rimmed glasses, seated on a stool, repairing a shoe. Don Mitchell wears a workshirt and work pants as he sits in what appears to be a shed or screened in porch. In the background are a 1950s Maytag washing machine. Several life preserving vests are stacked on top of the machine. Mattawamkeag Lake, Maine, 1975.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Mattawamkeag (Me.)
- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05860, 1971

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05860](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of an elderly, white haired man dressed in overalls and plaid flannel shirt walking through a kitchen on the way to the barn. Don Mitchell, age 73, also wears a wool cap and horn-rimmed glasses, 1971.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Agriculture -- Maine
- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988

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NA 1202, photograph, p05861, 1971

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05861](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of Don Mitchell and Ernestine "Teen" Mitchell seated side-by-side on a couch. A third, younger female on the right is unidentified. Don wears dark work clothes and horn-rimmed glasses. He gives a small, tight-lipped smile. Teen smiles broadly, wearing a dark, long-sleeve dress covered by a classic, floral-patterned smock apron. 1971. The wall behind the couch is paneled.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988
- Mitchell, Avis Ernestine "Teen" (Garrison), 1913-1985

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05862, 1965

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05862](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of Don Mitchell and Ernestine "Teen" Mitchell, dressed to attend church, 1965. Don wears a dark suit and tie and clutches a bible in front of his chest. Teen wears a light-colored coat, light hat, and white gloves. She carries a wicker-style purse over her left wrist. 1965. Photographer is unidentified.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988
- Mitchell, Avis Ernestine "Teen" (Garrison), 1913-1985

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05863, circa 1955

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05863](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of Don Mitchell dressed in light-colored work clothes, standing in front of his hay barn, circa 1955. The barn is sided in cedar shakes. Immediately behind Mitchell is a hay conveyor reaching up into the loft inside the barn.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Agriculture
- Haying equipment
- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05864, 1972

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05864](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of Don Mitchell standing next to his snow sled in the yard in front of his house. The house was built after the 1938 fire. A collie--possibly a rough collie--stands on the snow-covered front steps of the house. Mitchell is dressed in a knit wood cap and full snow suit. In the background is the Botting place, where the cows were kept and where Don's son Stephen lived. 1972, Dyer Brook Township. Photographer is unidentified.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Dyer Brook Township -- Maine
- Snowmobiles
- Snowmobile suits
- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05865, circa 1930

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05865](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of Evelyn Mitchell dressed in a dark dress, sitting in a stuffed, upholstered arm chair next to a brick fireplace in a livingroom in her son Frank's home. Evelyn Mitchell in her 70s when she flew to Washington State to visit her son Frank. It was her first major trip and first time on a plane, circa 1930s.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Spokane (WA)
- Mitchell, Evelyn (Rockwell) Montgomery, 1865-1953
- Mitchell, Frank L, 1900-1984

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05866, circa 1940

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05866](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of Don Mitchell and Pearl (Tozier) Mitchell standing beside a small porch on their new house, circa 1940. Dyer Brook Township. Don wears dark pants and button-down shirt. Pearl wears a housedress. The house is sided with cedar shakes.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Dyer Brook Township -- Maine
- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988
- Mitchell, Pearl E. (Tozier), 1905-1959

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NA 1202, photograph, p05867, 1918-1919

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05867](#)

Photo Description: Three men in uniforms Wallace Palmer, Bill Palmer, Earl Bell; Camp Devens, New Jersey. Some of the boys up at Camp Devens that went with Don Mitchell to cheer up Frank. Left to Right, Wallace Palmer, Bill Palmer, Earl Bell. ca. 1918-1919.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Moro (Me.)
- World War, 1914-1918 -- Maine
- Palmer, Wallace, 1896-1965
- Palmer, William J "Bill", 1893-1980
- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988
- Bell, Earl

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05868, undated

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05868](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of a man seated on a wagon behind a team of large horses. The team and wagon stand in front of the full-facade porch on a white farm house. An unidentified woman stands looking out the window on the front door. The man driving the wagon is John Mitchell, Don Mitchell's uncle "who was a great fancier of horses." Don says this was the biggest team ever to "come in on the road." They weighed around a ton each and were chestnut with white markings on their faces and white stockings.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Horse-drawn vehicles
- Mitchell, John, 1867-1913

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NA 1202, photograph, p05869, 1918

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05869](#)

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NA 1202, photograph, p05870, undated

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05870](#)

Photo Description: Black and white, formal portrait of Don Mitchell wearing glasses and smiling. Photo was used on the cover of Northeast Folklore Vol. XIX, "I'm a Man

that Works": The Biography of Don Mitchell of Merrill, Maine.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Merrill (Me.)
- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988
- Mitchell, Roger E., 1925-2011

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05871, undated

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05871](#)

Photo Description: Black and white, formal portrait of Don Mitchell and his second wife, Ernestine "Teen" Garrison Lewin. They were married in 1964. Mitchell wears a dark cardigan sweater, white dress shirt, and tie. Teen wears a top and jacket with matching geometric designs.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Family portraits
- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988
- Mitchell, Avis Ernestine "Teen" (Garrison), 1913-1985

---

NA 1202, photograph, p05872, undated

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05872](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of 14 white men dressed in a variety of wool sweaters, shirts, and pants, posing. The men were part of the Umcolcus Lake crew. Seated in front (l-r) are Don Mitchell and an unidentified man. Seated in the second row (l-r) is an unidentified man, Virgil Mitchell (Don's brother), two unidentified men with their arms around each other's shoulders, John Botting (with a heavy mustache) and an unidentified man. Standing in the third row (l-r) are two unidentified men, Ancil Mitchell (Don's brother), and three additional unidentified men. The men are in a clearing in the snow-covered woods.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Umcolcus Lake (Me.)
- Logging
- Mitchell, Don O., 1898-1988
- Mitchell, Virgil "Virgie" H., 1895-1971
- Mitchell, Ancil F., 1897-1960

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NA 1202, photograph, p05873, 1921

Audio NA  
1202

Digital Object: [NA 1202, photograph, p05873](#)

Photo Description: Black and white photograph of the Emerson Logging Company's steam-operated Lombard log hauler, Camp Number 5, Herseytown, 1921. Left to right, standing: Frank Brooks, steersman; Gus Kennedy, boss; Charlie Ryan, fireman; Raymond "Babe" Pelkey, a visitor. Left to right, sitting: George Green, engineer; and Walter Varney, conductor. The above is according to Bill

Palmer. Don Mitchell says George Green was steersman. The photograph is blurry and over-exposed washing out the men's faces to a degree. 1921.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Herseytown Township -- Maine
- Lombard Auto Tractor Truck

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### Handwritten notes, by Roger Mitchell

Abstract: NA2008 Roger Mitchell, Aroostook County, Maine. 31 pp. Handwritten notes, drawings, and descriptions of sleds used in the woods. Made in connection with his biography of his father, Don Mitchell. This was published as Northeast Folklore XIX (1979), "I'm a Man That Works." See also: NA 1202.

Title/Description	Instances
NA 2008, manuscript, 1976 <u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">NA 2008, manuscript</a>	Text NA 2008

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