

## Flossie Durham talks about her friends in the mill and the mill village as one big family.

## Flossie Durham talks about her friends in the mill and the mill village as one big family.

## Flossie Durham talks about her friends in the mill and the mill village as one big family.

Flossie Moore Durham interviewed by Mary Frederickson and Brent Glass, Bynum, North Carolina, September 2, 1976. Interview # H-66 in the Southern Oral History Program Collection (#4007), Southern Historical Collection, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

### Audio

### File:

**Duration:** 1:43

**Transcript:**

### *Audio Transcript*

Mary Frederickson

When you worked inside the mill, what was it like? Did you have a lot of friends who worked in the mill, too?

Flossie Moore Durham

Oh, yes, they was all... [UNCLEAR] one big family. A lot of people'd say, "Aw, it's just about like one big family."

There weren't so many houses over here then. No. This house was here, and them over there, of course, and the parsonage. But there's a lot of these other houses was not here.

Mary Frederickson

Did you have time when you were working to talk to the people around you and sort of joke around?

Flossie Moore Durham

With most of them you could. Yes, they had pretty good overseers. No, they weren't bad, no.

Mary Frederickson

If you got tired and wanted to sit down and rest or something, could you do that?

Flossie Moore Durham

Oh, yes, if you had your work up, you could sit down any time you wanted to. What water we had was drawn out of a well and brought in there in the bucket.

Mary Frederickson

So could you always stop and get a drink of water when you needed it?

Flossie Moore Durham

Whenever you wanted to. And there was always that bucket sitting up on the big post place, and a dipper in it. I can almost see anybody go there now, take that dipper and knock the lint back off of it, and get them a drink of water.

And a lot of the time, when they'd first bring in the bucket of water, that's when a lot of them would get their water.  
Mary Frederickson  
[Laughter] Before it got lint on it, huh?  
Flossie Moore Durham  
Before it got lint on it. [Laughter] In my imagination I can almost see anybody take the dipper and then kind of push that lint back and get them a drink of water. And we didn't think nothing about it.  
Mary Frederickson  
Did the lint ever bother you? Did you ever have trouble?  
Flossie Moore Durham  
Oh, not enough to know any difference, no.  
Mary Frederickson  
You didn't catch colds from it or have asthma or anything.  
Flossie Moore Durham  
[Laughter] Anyway I've lived through it till I'm ninety-three years old. [Laughter] And so I'm the oldest one here in Bynum.

**Usage Statement:**

**Creative Commons BY-NC-SA** <sup>[1]</sup>

This item has a Creative Commons license for re-use. This Creative Commons BY-NC-SA license means that you may use, remix, tweak, and build upon the work for non-commercial purposes as long as you credit the original creator and as long as you license your new creation using the same license. For more information about [Creative Commons licensing](#) <sup>[2]</sup> and a link to the license, see full details at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/> <sup>[3]</sup>.

---

**Source URL:** <https://ncpedia.org/media/audio/flossie-durham-talks-1>

**Links**

[1] <https://ncpedia.org/category/licensing/creative-commons> [2] <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/> [3] <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>