

EI-1049/ SPRATT

EI-1049

NAME: CHRISTINA MARSHALL BRICE DOCHERITY SPRATT
BIRTH DATE: NOVEMBER 5, 1898
INTERVIEW DATE: MARCH 16, 1999
RUNNING TIME: 1:29:25
INTERVIEWER: JANET LEVINE, PH.D.
RECORDING ENGINEER: SAME
INTERVIEW LOCATION: NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA
TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY:

PLACE OF BIRTH: SCOTLAND
AGE 23
PASSAGE ON

LEVINE: Today is March 16, 1999, and I'm here in Florida with Christina Marshall Brice Docherty Spratt, who came from Scotland in 1922 at the age of 23. Her birthday is November 5, 1898. With me here today is Grace Gage and her husband Chan who is with me, Janet Levine, who's here for the National Park Service. Do you remember where in Scotland were you born, where in Scotland, in Scotland, where were you born?

SPRATT: Where was I born, I was born in Gladskull.

LEVINE: Did you live in Gladskull the whole time?

SPRATT: Yes.

LEVINE: When you think about Gladskull, what do you remember?

SPRATT: When I think about Ellis Island?

LEVINE: No, Gladskull, what do you remember?

SPRATT: Well, I think often of Gladskull, and there's no one, now the only place we went out in Gladskull was in the summertime to go to the sewer for our vacation and we went every year. My Father especially loved to go to the sewer. And we went to the sewer, different places on the shore every summer for two weeks.

LEVINE: Did you like that? Was that nice?

SPRATT: ohhh, I loved it, I loved it. I was an only girl with a bunch of brothers, there was Bobby, and Billy and Tom, and George. I had four brothers, but Bobby was married when he was 19 or 20. But he had settled his apprenticeship with my father in the painting line.

LEVINE: Oh, your father was a painter?

SPRATT: My father was a painter, ya, and he used to hang the most beautiful paper on the walls. He was a splendid teacher.

LEVINE: Do you remember your house?

SPRATT: Do I remember my father?

LEVINE: Your house (where you lived)?

SPRATT: Oh yes, it was two rooms. A kitchen and a room. And in the room there was a door it was a consealed gate, and two of the brothers slept in there. And then in the living room there was a beautiful big beds with brass, and the other brothers slept there. But that bed was made up so early in the morning, and the place always looked nice, but everybody had a bed in the living room at that time, because nobody had more than two rooms that we knew.

LEVINE: Where did you sleep?

SPRATT: Between the kitchen and the living room there was a space and that was supposed to be the pantry, where you kept all the food, and that and there was a petition between it and steal beam was across that way and was across this way, because the doors on that side were here and the door in the kitchen were here. See, so there was a petition there, no this way and that was the bed for the boys. And that petition was taken down and it was made into a bed, but it was for me because I was the only girl, so that's where I slept. And the door in the living room was never opened, except when it was the place where

they were making the bed and cleaning or what have you. But during the day and the night time, the door in the living room never was opened, but the door in the kitchen, my father had taken off and cut in the middle, you know, across the way. And the bottom half was kept shut and the top half, when I was in bed was kept open.

LEVINE: What was your father's.....

SRPATT: I had a good and wonderful childhood.

LEVINE: What was so nice about it?

SPRATT: My brothers were so, well nobody could look at me sideways. And then my mother was a very good sewer, she never sewed, but she was the most beautiful knitter. And the boys wore the loveliest sweaters with fancy patterns here and stockings up to there and a pulled over cuff here that matched, just beautiful, beautiful the boys were always beautiful. But she couldn't, when you needed a button sewed on, my father sewed them on 'til they learned to do it themselves, or 'til I learned to do it. And when I was, well whenever I started sewing in school, I was crazy about it, and I did everything I could, you know in the sewing line.

