Project: Pennylands Camp 22 - WW2 POW Camp.

Respondent: Linda Laidlaw.

Year of Birth: 1957.

Age: 59.

Connection to project: Grandfather had POWs working

on his farm.

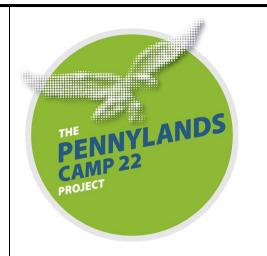
Date of Interview: 24th May 2017. Interviewer: Kay McMeekin. Recording Agreement: Yes. Information & Content: Yes.

Photographic Images: Yes (Number of: 6).

Length of Interview: 06:43.

Location of Interview: New Cumnock, Ayrshire.

Recording Equipment: Zoom H4n Pro.



Time (from: mins/secs)	Time Coded Full Transcript	Transcribed Extract (from- to: mins/secs)
0.00	Introduction, welcome and information about respondent.	0.00-0:30
	Q1. What was your connection to Pennylands Camp?	
	A1. Stories through my father of his father and bits and pieces that have been left for the family	0:35-0:46
	Q2. Can you tell me a bit about your early life?	
	A2. Typical farmer's daughter. Enjoyed playing about the farm.	0:50-0:55
	Q3. Can you tell me about your grandfather and his farm?	
	A3. It's a mixed farm. He took the tenancy in about the mid 1800s and then they bought it when Auchincruive Estate were selling off land in 1925.	0:57-1:13
	Q4. What was his name and the name of the farm.	
	A4. It was Robert Lambie and it was Dalmaca – DALMACA – and that was near Littlemill just outside Patna and coming the other way Drongan.	1:16-1:30
	Q5. During WW2 your grandfather had prisoners of war working on the farm?	
	A5. Yeah. During that time there was the POWs came to work. it would just be the sort of general work that was needed and it would be at different times of the year it would be they would need more	1:38-2:10

than others but there was predominantly two gentlemen that came all the time. They were just let off at the bottom of the road and they walked up and when they went back at night if he needed extra, he would give a note to the camp and extra would be sent the next day.	
Q6. What were the names of the prisoners?	
A6. I know one is Frank and I don't know the other one.	2:12-2:16
Q7. Your grandfather kept in touch with one of them?	
A7. One of them when he went back to Germany wrote to say they had arrived safely. There's two letters from him but I don't know anything of the other when he went back. But I know when they were here my father said they really did worry about their families and what was happening in Germany at that time.	02:20- 02:42
Q8. Were the prisoners were quite happy to be here and doing work?	
A8. Yes.	2:49-2:50
Q9. Not wanting to escape or anything like that?.	
A9. No they didn't. There were no guards with them at all. My father told me of one instance when they asked for extra and they arrived with guards and they were out on the field he said that one of the prisoners with more Nazi tendencies had decided he was going to try and run off but the guard didn't even need to intervene it was the prisoners that stopped it and brought it all to a halt and he was never brought back again. But they were quite happy. Because I know when they came to my grandfather's they were well fed and you know really quite happy. We made our own butter so if there was extra they would get it to take back to them.	02:51– 03:44
Q10. Have you any idea of the age of them?	
A10. Probably in their, sort of, thirties. But my understanding is they were country people because they really quite enjoyed working again with the animals and the dogs. They had really liked the collie dog because it was much more gentle working with the sheep than their dogs. So they really enjoyed that. They had a good sense of humour because there was one day my grandfather had asked them to get the cows prepared for winter-time to go into the byre. Normally you would just run a wee clipping machine down their back and that would let them sweat and be quite comfortable so he'd given them that task to do. Now there were fourteen standing in this wee byre and when he came back from the market on the Tuesday there was only two done and the two of them had been standing behind the door really giggling waiting on him coming.	03:46–5:16

Apparently they were beautiful. They'd been washed and soaped and really brushed up, burnished like horses. It was absolutely incredible. So they had that sense of humour so I think they really enjoyed, you know, being there and the whole situation with the family. Their letter when he wrote back he said that he had enjoyed it and he was really grateful for their hospitality which was really quite nice to know they were treated well. Q11. And you have those letters? A11. Yes Q12. They made toys to sell. Did you have anything like that? A12. Yes, there's two wee toys, they are wooden dolls that jump, two wee sticks with a wee bit string and the doll in the middle and you press the bottom and they tumble the cran. Yeah they're there as well. One of the chaps I don't know which had said to my grandfather. "Here's some money" and he had given him the coins he had in his pocket. So that wasThey're there as well for the exhibition. Q13. Do you have any photos of your grandfather or the farm from that time? A13. Yes and there's the photograph there of the two lads. G14. Was that taken on the farm? A14. Yes, yes, yes that was taken. G15. That's all my questions. Have I missed anything? A15. What they did. Frank, when they did go back, he had got a job in a factory and they were allowed to send some cutlery so they had asked in his first letter what they would like so I know he sent them knives. So that I thought was quite a nice gesture. Closing statement and end of interview. 6:43		
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Le taic bhon

Chrannchur Nàiseanta
tro Mhaoin-Dualchais a' Chrannchuir