

061.3[1994] - In April 1992, Shirley Satwell and Maria Pia Casarini-Wadhams took the opportunity of making the first video in the SPRI Oral History Project Series. This was an in-house amateur recording of an interview with the Rev. Harold Duncan, former Missionary at Pond Inlet, Baffin Island, 1929-34. Many people who have worked in the polar regions have no written record of their experiences and a video recording of this nature provides a valuable and permanent record of their experiences which might otherwise be lost. This particular video complements the collection of artifacts and lantern slides that the Rev. Duncan gave to the institution in 1989.

AV1 Harold Duncan

Track 1 Peter Wadhams introducing the Scott Polar Research Institute oral history project and interview with Harold Duncan, who established the Anglican Mission at Pond Inlet in the late 1920s with Canon Turner. [00.01.40] 'The Anglican Mission at Pond Inlet 1929-1933 The life and work of Rev. Harold Duncan' 'recorded at Manorhead Nursing home, Hindhead, Guilford' 'Interviewer Shirley Sawtell Film Maker Maria Pia Casarini Wadhams' [00.02.12] Harold Duncan [HD] came from a missionary family. Description of how he came to be at Pond Inlet with Jeff Turner [JT] in July 1929 after a year's training at the BCMS [Bible Churchmen's Missionary Society] College in Bristol. JT was ordained as Priest and Deacon. HD ordained as Deacon. [00.05.20] Description of transport to Pond Inlet which took seven weeks. [00.06.40] Description of arrival at Pond Inlet and the first week spend building his house. [00.09.25] Mention of support from Hudson's Bay Company for first week only. [00.10.40] Description of establishing the Anglican faith in the community, home visits and learning the language. Mention of the Roman Catholic mission nearby [00.14.25] Mention of being sent home for a hernia operation in the first year. [00.14.48] Comments on spreading the Christian message via wall hangings, the bible and music. [00.17.34] Photograph of his house at Pond Inlet and description of the difficulties of building on permafrost. [00.19.42] Anecdotes about heating the house. [00.21.16] Photograph of the dining room and anecdotes about how busy life was. [00.23.53] Description of operation he performed on a child after a dog attack. The child later died of their injuries. [00.26.58] Description of how water was obtained, mainly from icebergs, and stored. [00.29.04] Comment on the importance of dog teams for travel. [00.29.16].

Track 2 [11 April 1992] Description of establishing their own dog team. Mention of conflict with Roman Catholic mission [00.01.28] Story about the dog team travelling across thin ice and drifting out to sea one spring. [00.03.15] Description of his relationship with the dogs and how he cared for them. [00.04.01] Looking at photograph of two puppies remarked that their names related to their appearances. [00.05.08] Remarks on Eskimo names given to HD and JT. [00.05.30] Praise for JT who HD felt was the ideal missionary. [00.06.05] Description of the death of JT who accidentally shot himself whilst helping a girl to carry ice. [00.09.12] Vague remarks on how Eskimos dealt with death and an anecdote about baptism requests. HD kept house whilst JT conducted most of the visits so he got to know the people better. [00.12.18] Description of Eskimo way of life and the division of labour between men and women. [00.14.28] Dog whip shown to camera and discussed. [00.15.56] Knife [Ulu] for scraping fat off animal skin shown and discussed; anecdote about obtaining skins from the Hudson's Bay Company for his house. [00.17.12] Two items with beadwork shown and discussed; comment on how the women made all the clothes, one set for summer and one for winter. [00.18.16] Description of women chewing seal skin boots to soften them. [00.20.00] Two children's toys shown and discussed both are made from bone. [00.21.12] Comment on payments being made in kind. They did not have money. [00.21.56] Narwhal tusk walking stick with Ivory handle shown and described; anecdote about how prized narwhal skin was in the community. [00.23.41] Book of Isiah shown and discussed. [00.25.10] Remarks on contact he had with community after he left Pond Inlet including a

recent phone call. [00.26.02] Remarks about his communion set being returned to the current Rector of Pond Inlet by the Bishop of the Arctic, Christopher Williams. [00.27.27] Remarks about his role in establishing the community with emphasis on JT not receiving enough credit. [00.28.08] Comment that he had never wanted to return to Pond Inlet until recently now his age prevents him from doing so. [00.28.26].

Track 3 [11 April 1992] Comment about the community's loyalty to the church and anecdote about food supplies. [00.02.01].