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Cape Verdean Oral History Project: Interview with Philip Martin by Alberto Torres Pereira

Philip John Martin

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CAPE VERDEAN ORAL HISTORY
TAPE #7
TUESDAY AUGUST 15, 1972

CAPE VERDEAN
INDEX Tape #7

Philip John Martin
John Street, Providence, R.I.
Albert Torres Pereira, Interviewer.

- 000 - Tape running...
- 008 0 Introduction: Mr. Martin gives birthdate as May 13, 1897, Sao Niculau, St. Vicente.
- 017 - Attended school for approximately 4 years, worked family farm after finishing school. No farming instruction (mostly agricultural society) learned while working.
- 037 - Mr. Martin uses Crioulo dialect for tape.
- 040 - Discussion of weather on Cape Verde. Drought, lack of free rainfall.
- 048 - Transportation: walking, horse, donkey and cart; mostly walking.
- 059 - Left Cape Verde at age 18. lack of rain and general poverty noted.
- 076 - Food raised on farms: yams, manioc, sugar cane. Had some cows and goats. Food traded for clothing.
- 088 - Left Cape Verde May 13, 1920 aboard whaler. Reminiscences.
- 109 - Four months aboard whaler as deckhand. Western Grounds first area for whaling. Describes whaling as tough job; describes running of whales.
- 124 - harpooner; describes lancing.
- 128 - Types of whales hunted. Whaling in West India.
- 140 - After four months aboard whaler landed in New Bedford. Schooner worked on named Valcaria.
- 145 - Met at port by friends, goes through immigration process. Slept overnight in New Bedford, goes to Providence, 12 September.
- 169 - Recap- arrives in New Bedford aboard schooner, Valcaria after four months whaling. Remained at dock till ship unloaded. Could have signed on after October, chose to go to Providence where two brothers lived, on Brook St.
- 185 - Discusses: brothers, Cape Verdean whalers. 1st impressions U.S. Agrees to meet for second tape re. whaling. Close.