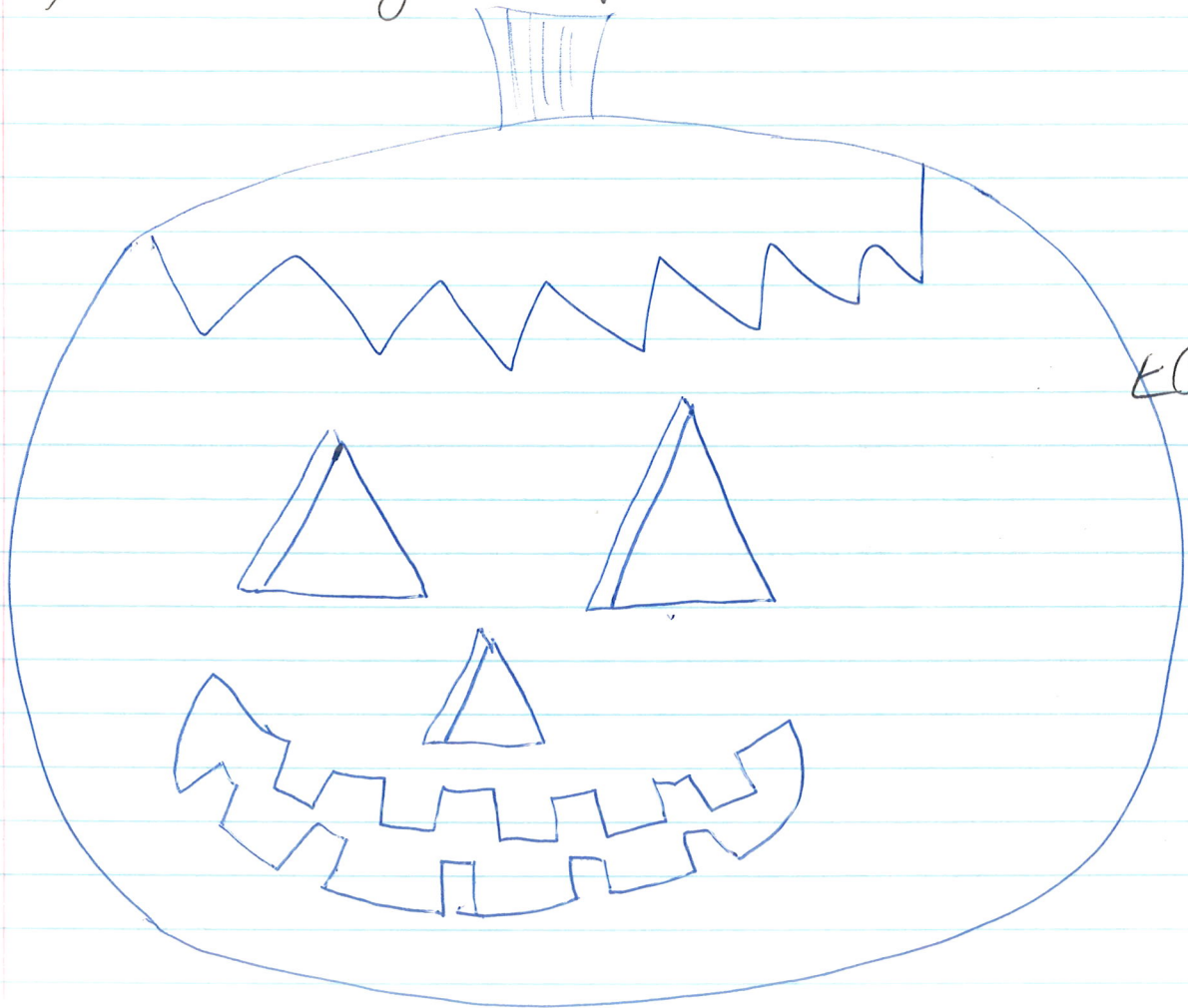


Leslie Durgin's jack-o-lantern drawings



← Carved



← painted

Interviewer's tape no.: 85.2
 Interviewer: Linda Zuch
 Interviewee: Leslie Lurgan
 Place of interview: U.M.O.
 Writing Lab.
 Other people present:

NAFOH Accession no.: 1849
 1849004
 Address: 18 Northern Ave. Hampden
 Address: Camp Benson Rd. Newport
 Date: 10-18-85

Equipment used: Sony

Tape: Brand: Size reel: 1 mil/1.5 mil Speed:

Cassette: Brand: Maxell C-30/C-60/C-120

Amount of tape used: (Side 1): all (Side 2): none

Brief description of contents:

Leslie Lurgan, a Newport, Me. native is a 21 year old senior at U.M.O. This interview is on her early and current memories on Halloween.

Sony 2

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
001			<p>(opening remarks) "What things were brought to mind when Halloween is mentioned?" Leslie, "Orange and black, pumpkins, little kids dressing up and going out. We used to decorate our house for Halloween, not elaborately, but we had cartoon (pumpkins), witches, and things like that. When I go home for vacation I hope there will be a pumpkin, but I don't know if Jennifer (her 15 year old sister) will take the initiative At school we used to carve pumpkins and we used to</p>

NEWPORT

016

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		019	<p>make pumpkins out of construction paper. Any holiday was a big deal in grammar school.</p>
		024	<p>Halloween stopped being a big deal when I felt silly dressing up and going out trick-or-treating, probably jr. high. I don't remember doing any Halloween things in jr. high. Mainly we did those things in the lower grades of elementary school.</p>
		030	<p>In jr. high we had Halloween dances, but I remember it being really hard to get people to dress, they felt stupid and didn't want to dress up. We tried to have a costume dance, but I don't remember whether or not it went over. I probably dressed up for it.</p> <p>(The tape was stopped because I checked the volume.)</p> <p>When I was younger, I never wore anything scary.</p>

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		035	<p>I never wanted to be a witch). I was a hobo one year and I always wanted to be a dancer or ballerina or something gay. When I was little I was not very feminine; I was a prissy girl with long blond braids and patten-leather shoes and bobby-sox. I never wanted to be anything masculine, no cowboys or Indians. I was a hobo because it was an easy costume to get together.</p>
050		042	<p>I got my costumes, and my mother helped me I'm sure. Some years it was store bought and some home made, depending on what I wanted to be. I wore masks, they were hot and I always took them off when I was walking.</p>
		056	<p>my parents or my friend's parents used to take us out. Usually one parent would</p>

Sandy &

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		<p>065</p> <p>070</p> <p>076</p>	<p>take four or five of us out.</p> <p>We went out without a parent when we were older, but I can't remember when. If I was still trick-or-treating in 5th grade, we went out alone then, but I can't remember when my last year out was. One time I remember going out with a group of friends and we could only go to specific places. We were walking. We could only go to people's houses that our parents knew, because they didn't trust just anybody to give us candy and apples. I think they were worried about the candy we got. They didn't check our candy, but we did. We used to paw all through it and maybe they checked it while watching us. We weren't afraid of razors in our candy.</p>

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			<p>I think I remember checking apples; someone saying make sure the apples don't have holes in them.</p>
		081	<p>Apples weren't my favorite, not enough sugar! I got candy bars, gum, popcorn balls, some apples. I don't remember homemade candy that much, but we used to go to one lady's house just to get popcorn balls. She made them for us.</p>
		092	<p>At my house we gave candy that we liked because we always hoped there would be some left over—like candy bars, lollypops, gum, an assortment and we'd have the kids pick what they wanted.</p>
		098	<p>Whoever was home gave out the candy. If I was home, I did it cause it was fun.</p> <p>I took Jennifer out when</p>

Sanuo 2

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	100		<p>she was really small. It didn't last long because I got bored with it. I took three of her friends too.</p> <p>I stopped trick-or-treating because it got to be embarrassing. Only little kids went out and we felt we weren't little kids anymore. We wanted to go out to throw eggs. People didn't tell us we were too old, we just decided we were. A big transformation took place. Most of my friends stopped at the same time, but there was a small group of us, and if other kids were still trick-or-treating, I may not have known about it outside my little click.</p> <p>We threw eggs and got eggs thrown at us - eggs and shaving cream. One time it was cold and my hair</p>
		106	
		120	

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		126	<p>was frozen - it felt awful. We were covered with eggs and shaving cream. We just threw eggs at people we knew, we had specific targets. We went out with eggs and flashlights and said, "Oh there are those people, let's go get them."</p>
		130	<p>We never threw them at houses or cars, unless we knew a person in the car. But I don't think anyone we knew was old enough to drive.</p>
		139	<p>Some people egged houses though - I don't remember any house in particular, maybe it was just random houses. I remember seeing egg shells on houses when we walked to school. I thought it was gross. I remember walking to school the next day and I'd be</p>

Sample 2.

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		142	<p>side stepping the yolks. My father knew was I was doing because when I came home with shaving cream and egg yolk all over me, he had a pretty good idea.</p>
		147	<p>We got eggs at the grocery store. If you ran out it was impossible to get any more. Water balloons were big for a while too - strong water balloons. But they were hard to carry around, so they weren't as popular.</p>
150		152	<p>I remember someone egging the school, but I don't remember who; but I remember thinking, "Oh my God, I can't believe they did that, they're going to get in trouble." I wouldn't have done it.</p> <p>We didn't take little kids' candy. They all went out earlier. If they went</p>

Scene 2

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
			<p>out at 7:00, we went out at 9:00 - not intentionally, that's just the way it happened. We never ran or into them. We walked all over the place. We had eggs thrown at us and we throw eggs and shaving cream. After jr. high I didn't do that any more.</p>
		168	<p>When I was in high school, I remember (maybe that's the year I took Jennifer) we were in a car and we were trying to decide what to do. We really didn't feel like throwing eggs, so we just gave someone a ride home and didn't do anything.</p>
		174	<p>The police were all over the place looking for eggs. I think maybe they took eggs away from me one year, or shaving cream, a group of us and they took everything away.</p>

Sanyo 2

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		183	<p>We never soaped windows.</p> <p>Private parties weren't popular. I kind of remember one party, but I don't remember where or when. It was in high school I think, but I don't remember it being that you dressed up.</p> <p>Another excuse to have a party. It wasn't elaborately decorated for Halloween, but I remember a spider hanging from the ceiling.</p> <p>At dances ^{put} people would ^{put} up streamers and cardboard pumpkins and faces and fold up pumpkins, like wedding bells. Candy corn reminds me of Halloween.</p>
200		202	<p>One year there was a haunted house. They would put your hands in cold spaghetti and say that it was guts. The recreational center had it, or the fire dept. It was scary, we didn't want</p>

C 214

Samuel

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			to go in it again.
		212	I think maybe in Girls Scouts we'd have a Halloween party at the last meeting before Halloween and have cake. But I don't remember doing anything on Halloween night with any organization.
		218	I didn't bring candy to school after Halloween, I lost interest in the candy very quickly. Maybe the next day I brought two things. Some kids brought tons and tons of candy with them, but I never did that.
		224	At Sunday school they used to give us little boxes to collect for UNICEF. We must have collected at the same time that we were out trick-or-treating. We had to put the boxes together and I remember I had to put the money in myself because I would rather put the money
		235	in myself than ask people for it.

Sanyo 2

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		244	<p>I remember telling spooky stories, but not specifically at Halloween.</p>
250			<p>I remember being at school once and hearing someone say that so-and-so had gotten a pin in his apple last night, but I didn't think it was true.</p>
		266	<p>We felt limited because we could only go to specific houses, where other kids could go to every house on the block. Especially kids who lived in town, who could just say, "Bye, I'm going trick-or-treating. I'll be back in a couple of hours." We were never allowed to do that. We were always driven. I remember one year we got to walk around, but not for long.</p>
		281	<p>When we were younger, costumes were a big deal, as we got older it wasn't.</p>
290			<p>Carving jack-o-lanterns was the big thing. We couldn't wait. We'd buy the pumpkin</p>

Sanyo 2

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			<p>a few weeks in advance and we'd just sit in anticipation until we could carve it. Dad carved it, but we'd draw it. When I got older I was allowed to carve it. When we were younger we probably put our hands on the knife and thought we were doing it. Then we'd ^{scoop} the seeds out and put them in the oven and you could munch on them. We'd put salt on them. We never ate all the seeds, but we ate a few just for the sake of it.</p>
300	297		<p>I don't remember making "leaf people" or "soft people". (There is the noise of a siren in the background. A firetruck went by.) Not many people went by our house to see it if we <u>had</u> make it. They weren't that popular.</p>
318	305		<p>Last year there was a huge party at one of the fraternities and everyone dressed</p>

Scene 2

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		324	<p>up in really fun costumes). One girl was a tube of toothpaste. She had a sheet with "Crest" on it and a lampshade on her head. One girl wore an all white leotard and tights and out of card board she made these Oreo cookies so she was the middle.</p>
		328	<p>Really original costumes). There was a scary haunted house at one of the fraternities that was suppose to be for the little kids, but it was way too scary. I was scared so they must have been petrified). They had a chain saw up in the attic and they had people hanging in the corners). They had a maniquan</p>
		332	<p>that they had cut the hole in and put spaghetti and sauce in it and it looked like blood. It was scary. They must have advertised for the little kids). They</p>

Scene 2

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Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
		341	<p>led the kids through the back door. They had cardboard set up so that you had to crawl through a tunnel. They had people screaming at you.</p> <p>They had a chain saw in the attic and people screaming. They had girls screaming on cue. It was an attic so it was gloomy. You could imagine spiders.</p>
350		355	<p>The guys took it seriously. There was a cemetery set up in one of the rooms (with hand prints). They had a coffin with a vampire sitting in. They may have even had dry ice to make fog in the graveyard. It was elaborate. They had witches cackling over a cauldron. I don't know if they'll do it this year.</p>
		364	<p>I don't remember in the dorms, but in the caf. they always have decorations and</p>

C214

Sanuod

Index	NAFOH	Int.	Catalog
	373	368	<p>they have cake with black frosting or candy corn. They have a Halloween dinner. There's a pumpkin carving contest in the caf.</p> <p>(Closing)</p>