

Contents of Recorded Interviews

Mr. Servini – Emigrated from Italy to Aberdare, South Wales.

Below are a few questions asked in a recorded interview, and Mr. Servini's answers.

Q. Where did your family originate?

A. The North of Italy. A place about 100 miles South of Milan.

Q. Have you ever visited?

A. Every year, it's very nice.

Q. Which generation of your family originally decided to emigrate to Wales?

A. My grandfather in 1890. There was no work in Italy at the time, and therefore no future. Whereas, Wales was in the middle of the industrial revolution, so there were lots of jobs available.

Q. Did you experience any problems when you first came to Wales?

A. It amazes me, the way that my grandparents settled. There weren't many problems in being accepted. There were some problems, however, during the war. The government sent all foreigners to camps in the Isle of Man, but my dad was released after 6 months. My grandfather died during the war when the ship he was on, was torpedoed by Germans. 700 Italians died.

Q. Did they live in Aberdare immediately or did they first live in a different part of Wales?

A. They came to London looking for work, but were sent to Wales. My granddad worked in the mines in Rhondda originally, but then moved to Aberaman. At one point, he had four shops in Aberaman.

Q. Were there any problems setting up business?

A. I'm not too sure.

Q. Do you have any ties in Italy?

A. Yes, I have an elderly aunt and one or two first cousins.

Q. Would you consider moving back to Italy?

A. I never have, I consider Wales my home, going to Italy is more like a holiday.