

Her Own Ceramic Business

COLLECTOR: Marie Marshall

CONTRIBUTOR: Margaret Goudie

Marie Marshall:

I'm here at Mag Beals.... Mag Goudie's, sorry, she's going to tell me a story about now, how she started her Ceramic Shop.

Margaret Goudie:

Okay ah... well the reason why was because we were living in Goose Bay and Paul took sick and he had to get both of his legs amputated. So after a year or so, we came... we decided to come home, and that was in '79.

So the first year we lived with Paul's aunt and uncle and then we built our house and ah.... we moved in our house and the first year we ... I worked to the fish plant up here in L'Anse au Loup.

Marie Marshall:

Oh, okay.

Margaret Goudie:

And then ah... I couldn't go out anymore to work because I had to take care of Paul. I mean both of his legs were gone and someone had to be with him.

Marie Marshall:

What kind of sickness did he have Mag? What was it?

Margaret Goudie:

He had the main artery to his heart gone.

Marie Marshall:

Okay.

Margaret Goudie:

That was done in Toronto. And then he had gangrene see.

Marie Marshall:

Oh Okay.

Margaret Goudie:

That's what happened to him.

Marie Marshall:

Yeah.

Margaret Goudie:

.... was gangrene.

Marie Marshall:

Yeah. Okay.

Margaret Goudie:

But Rod was only a little boy and he use to take care of him when I was up to the plant and everything. And ah.. I decided ... we decided and where I went to ceramics in Goose Bay and use to do a lot of it, we decided to apply for a grant and get ... have a little ceramic shop. And that's what we done, that year.

So I think 'twas '83 we started the ceramic shop and we called it Margaret's Ceramics and Gifts, don't forget that one.

Marie Marshall:

Yeah.

Margaret Goudie:

And we were having... I forget who it was now, some kind of a company we applied to through manpower and they got us a kiln.

Marie Marshall:

I remember it quite well.

Margaret Goudie:

Yeah. We got a kiln and then we started but in New Brunswick that's where I had to buy the slip. So it had to come on the Quebec boat. And in the meantime, we had to get the basement done up because it had to be all fire proof and everything like that to use the kiln so we got ah.. it was in that Fall I found out a lady in Corner Brook, had a ceramic shop but she was selling out. So I went there and I bought it. We bought... not slip because we had to have that from New Brunswick. But most of her paints and ah...lot of her moulds that was any good to me.

And we started up and we used an old washer belong to Aunt Gert Hawco.

Marie Marshall:

Oh my God.

Margaret Goudie:

For to mix the slip in.

Marie Marshall:

Yeah.

Margaret Goudie:

But the moulds were heavy see and I was having a hard time with it, but people started coming in and in the night time, doing their ceramics and some liked to pour moulds and that's as far as I can get.

Marie Marshall:

I still ... I still got two more down home, yet.

Margaret Goudie:

Yeah.

Marie Marshall:

Two that I did down to your place.

Margaret Goudie:

Yeah. Oh there's a lot of it around here.

Marie Marshall:

I had a lot of it broke, but I still got a few pieces.

Margaret Goudie:

Anyway, Paul.. Aunt Gert and Uncle Bill use to stay with me in the Winter, so that was a little bit better for me to work, see.

Marie Marshall:

Yeah.

Margaret Goudie:

But after died and everything, I didn't have anyone to help me with the moulds....

Marie Marshall:

No.

Margaret Goudie:

And I moved back to Goose Bay.

Marie Marshall:

Who did you sell all your equipment too?

Margaret Goudie:

A woman in Goose Bay.

Marie Marshall:

Oh. A woman in Goose Bay.

Margaret Goudie:

Yeah. We had it come down there, back to Goose Bay and that's who bought it.

Marie Marshall:

Oh. Okay.

Margaret Goudie:

In fact I went to... she lived on the base and I went and showed her how to use it, what to do.

Marie Marshall:

Yes, maid. Did you enjoy it Mag?

Margaret Goudie:

Oh my God, how many times today, if I knew after Paul died, I was going to meet someone like Bill, I would have never given it up.

Marie Marshall:

Bill would be a good help to you, would he?

Margaret Goudie:

Oh, he would have been wonderful. Rod was good.

Marie Marshall:

Yeah. Yeah.

Margaret Goudie:

Rod was good at putting the handles on things but he was going to University and he was gone after that anyway.

Marie Marshall:

That's true.

Margaret Goudie:

I couldn't handle it Marie. I just couldn't because, it was too heavy. The moulds I mean perhaps that's what happened to my back.

Marie Marshall:

Yeah. I got to turn this down. I forgot that. So that's how all that happened.

Margaret Goudie:

That's how it all happened, people use to come from everywhere.

Marie Marshall:

Yes.

Margaret Goudie:

I use to go to Point Amour with it in the What did they use to have then at Point Amour?

Marie Marshall:

Not the Bakeapple Festival.

Margaret Goudie:

I don't think it was the Bakeapple Festival, could be.

Marie Marshall:

I think it was, must have been.

Margaret Goudie:

And I use to bring things up there and sell it.

Marie Marshall:

Oh yes.

Margaret Goudie:

And put jug and basin on tickets.

Marie Marshall:

It was some nice that was too.

Margaret Goudie:

It was too bad though Marie because that should have been...

Marie Marshall:

That's the only one on the coast. To bad it didn't stay on the coast.

Margaret Goudie:

Yeah. Too bad it didn't stay. Hmmm....

I often thinks about it you know. But what could I do I went back....

Marie Marshall:

But you need help maid.

Margaret Goudie:

I had to go ... I went down there and I went to work down there and I didn't have, I was only renting, I didn't have a place for a ceramic shop.

Marie Marshall:

No. So you met Mr. Goudie.

Margaret Goudie:

Oh yeah.

Marie Marshall:

The love of your life.

Margaret Goudie:

We've been together eleven years.

Marie Marshall:

That was eleven years after hey?

Margaret Goudie:

Yes. I don't know about longer than that. And make the best of it, you wouldn't believe it.... that's not on the tape is it?

Marie Marshall:

Yes.

Margaret Goudie:

That he lived right across the street from me. He lived there and I lived here.

Marie Marshall:

And you didn't know him.

Margaret Goudie:

And Richie played with... Richie went around with... not Rod, Rod was only a baby. Richie went around knew his kids, Bill's kids.

Marie Marshall:

Yes, maid.

Margaret Goudie:

Never knew him no more than the man in the moon.

Marie Marshall:

No.

Margaret Goudie:

Didn't know his wife either.

Marie Marshall:

No.

Margaret Goudie:

And she died with breast cancer.

Marie Marshall:

Yes, maid.

Margaret Goudie:

That's the reason why I didn't tell Bill when I found this.

Marie Marshall:

No. You had cancer before you met him?

Margaret Goudie:

Yes.

Marie Marshall:

Did ya?

Margaret Goudie

No, not before I met him. But a couple of years after I come here, I knew.

Marie Marshall:

Oh, Okay.

Margaret Goudie:

'Cause you could see it.

Marie Marshall:

Yes, maid.

Margaret Goudie:

But ah.... Bill would have enjoyed that you know, at the ceramics.

Marie Marshall:

For sure.

Margaret Goudie:

Because he's able to handle the moulds and ...

Marie Marshall:

He's the kind of man...

Margaret Goudie:

But things don't work that way do it.

Marie Marshall:

No that's it. Well that's very good Mag, we got all your information.

Margaret Goudie:

Try to fix it up nice now.

Marie Marshall:

.... about your ceramic shop.

Margaret Goudie:

Yeah.

Marie Marshall:

Oh, yeah, we'll get all that done.