

## GAA Oral History Project

## Interview Report Form

<b>Name of Interviewer</b>	Seán Kearns
<b>Date of Interview</b>	27 August 2009
<b>Location</b>	Interviewee's home in Yonkers, New York
<b>Name of Interviewee</b> (Maiden name / Nickname)	Joseph (Joe) Carey
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1934 <b>Home County:</b> Tipperary
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> Templetuohy N.S. <b>Secondary:</b> Templemore CBS
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> In the middle of 5 brothers and 6 sisters. <b>Current Family if Different:</b> Widower with 2 children
<b>Club(s)</b>	In Tipperary: Moyne-Templetuohy for hurling, Loughmore for football In New York: Tipperary for hurling, Cork for football
<b>Occupation</b>	Sales Representative
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	Blacksmith and Small farmers
<b>Religion</b>	Roman Catholic
<b>Political Affiliation / Membership</b>	Independent

REFERENCE NO. TP-1-5

<b>Date of Report</b>	1 September 2009
<b>Period Covered</b>	Late 1930s- 2009
<b>Counties/Countries Covered</b>	Tipperary, New York
<b>Key Themes Covered</b>	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Material Culture, Education, Religion, Media, Emigration, Involvement in GAA abroad, Role of Clergy, Role of Teachers, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, GAA Abroad, Club History, Irish History, Earliest Memories, Childhood, Career, Socialising
<b>Interview Summary</b>	<p>Joe Carey is a well-known figure in New York GAA circles, having enjoyed a long and successful career as a player with NY Tipperary hurlers and NY Cork footballers, as well as playing for New York in both codes in the National League. He played Senior football for Tipperary before emigrating to New York in 1955, and gives an interesting insight into hurling and football in Tipperary in the late 1930s, 1940s and early 1950s. The interview covers equipment, travel and school, as well as hurling and football styles. He was heavily involved with the Tipperary club in New York as a player, official and manager and gives an excellent insight into the role of the GAA in New York as a social outlet and career network. He also has a lot to say on the social side of GAA life. Like many young emigrants, he was drafted shortly after he arrived in America and discusses the effects of this. Two points of particular interest are his description of the New York GAA's 1964 Round the World Trip and also New York's games against an Australian rules side in 1964 and 1967.</p> <p>00.19 Earliest GAA memory is playing juvenile hurling at nine or ten –</p> <p>“There was nothing else in Ireland. Coming from a country, what else did we have? We didn't have any money- you went to school and you played football and hurling. There was nothing else to do in the village. You went to the field every chance you got. You were lucky if you had a football or a hurley.”</p> <p>00.40 His brothers and father all played – not on any major scale. There wasn't anything else to do.</p>

	<p>01.00 His local club was Moyne-Templetuohy. They had a pitch, which was given to them by the Power-Lawlor family, who were Protestant landlords of the area.</p> <p>1.30 His parents encouraged them to play GAA.</p> <p>“Sure, it kept you out of trouble...”</p> <p>1.45 There wasn’t any specialised training when he was young – “you picked up a hurley or kicked a football yourself”. In secondary school some of the Christian Brothers, especially Br Murphy from Wexford were good. “But you were at it so much you developed yourself really”.</p> <p>2.10 His brother Billy won a minor All-Ireland with Tipperary in 1959. Another brother, Jim, also played for New York and was on the NY team that beat Wexford in 1958. He also had brothers who didn’t play, so doesn’t think it’s genetic.</p> <p>2.45 His local club, Moyne Templetuohy, was a small country village club, not that many honours won. They won a County Championship in 1949, when his brother Jim played, which caused great excitement. Doesn’t think a county final win would cause same excitement today.</p> <p>3.25 He played football for a different club, Loughmore, because:</p> <p>“Templetuohy had no senior team. A whole bunch of them left in 1949, and they went back Junior.”</p> <p>Neighbouring club, Loughmore were allowed to pick two players from their Junior club to play with them and he was already on the Tipperary Seniors so he got picked.</p> <p>3.50 He played some GAA in school with Templemore CBS but it wasn’t as well organised as it is today.</p> <p>4.05 Training wasn’t like today. “In Templemore you’d go out at noon and maybe one day a week you’d go to the field, not like today.”</p> <p>4.10 When he came out to New York in the 1950s they trained much harder. “Trained every Tuesday and Thursday night, and then you played usually on Sunday, but every Tuesday and Thursday religiously.”</p> <p>4.20 Tipperary were very strong when he came out to NY. Played in 10 finals between 1950 and 1960 and won 8. But it dropped off.</p>
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	<p>4.40</p> <p>“Then later on here they started bringing out players from Ireland, and if they were doing that in my time I would have said go (and jump), because you play all year and then you get to the final and you’re looking (at it).”</p> <p>5.00 They used to bring fellas over and pay their expenses, but now they’re just paying them.</p> <p>5.30 Doesn’t think the game when he played it in Ireland is too much different from today, although some of the rules were different. In hurling, goalies were fair game and had to really watch the forwards. Now you can’t even go in after the goalie.</p> <p>5.55</p> <p>“The full back’s job was to keep the forwards out, and the forward’s job was to try to get in. It was rougher. Today you have to be able to hurl as a full back and you have to be able to move – not like years ago – if you were a big and tough... and it’s probably for the better.”</p> <p>6.30 Jimmy Doyle of Tipperary was a big hero of his, even though he wasn’t that much older. He started going to games when he was about 13.</p> <p>6.40</p> <p>“It was a great experience to go in to Thurles to see Tipp and Cork. They’d be singing ‘The Banks of My Own Lovely Lee’, by Jesus there’d be 10,000. That time you either went on the bike or in a trap – there was nobody had cars. I played in Thurles and cycled in.”</p> <p>7.15 Shows and discusses photograph of himself with Jimmy Doyle of Tipp and with DJ Carey of Kilkenny with Liam McCarthy cup. Jimmy was on a trip and came up to see him.</p> <p>8.00 DJ Carey was in New York:</p> <p>“He was down at my cousins, right near where I picked you up, and my wife had just died and they called me up and were trying to cheer me up: ‘Come on down and see it – You’re never going to get to handle the McCarthy Cup – being from Tipp.’ He (Carey) had the cup with him. Jesus, didn’t they arrive up with it here – I didn’t want to go down. Y’know they made me feel...How many guys would do that though. I found him a very personable guy.”</p>
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	<p>8.38 On whether he was always aware he had talent:</p> <p>“I don’t know if you were aware, but you were hoping to God that eventually you’d wear the Tipp sweater somewhere along the line, and like I said, from having nothing else to do, you just kept at it.”</p> <p>8.50 Contrasts today’s young people and the distractions they have compared to his youth when you went to the rosary on a Sunday evening and then up to the pitch.</p> <p>“The good thing was that everyone was in the same boat so it didn’t bother you that much.”</p> <p>9.20 Got called up to play minor football for Tipperary aged 17 in 1951/52. He then played Junior and Senior for the Tipp footballers.</p> <p>9.55</p> <p>“Tipperary Senior footballers at the time – I used to say ‘Once you get on you can’t get off’.”</p> <p>10.10 There was a local man called Jim Ryan who brought players in his car to training and he got paid for five players by the County Board. Joe used to say that it was hard to get off the team because Jim Ryan wanted to keep the five pick-up points close together.</p> <p>10.25 The Goalkeeper of the Century – Tony Reddan – had a similar job in Tipp picking up players.</p> <p>10.40 Tipp football were minnows at that stage in Munster compared to Kerry and Cork.</p> <p>10.55</p> <p>“A big thing, I think, with it was that we didn’t have the self-belief. I came out here now and I was playing with Cork and there was Denis Bernard, Johnny Creedon – they had all played in All-Irelands – Paddy Casey of Offaly, Pete Nolan. All of a sudden you’re playing with them and you realise they’re not the monsters you thought – because you looked upon them at home as...you were trying your damndest but deep down you didn’t have the belief that you could be as good as them. But then you come out here and you play for New York...”</p> <p>12.01 Tipp hurling was a different story. They were always winning, so it was unheard of to be picked from a junior club. Later it opened up and was easier for Junior players to get in the spotlight, especially with the U-21 games, but he was</p>
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	<p>gone to NY by then.</p> <p>13.20 “We used to like to think there was a certain amount of politics – that the big shots always got picked.”</p> <p>14.30 How did you decide to come to America?</p> <p>“I had been nosing around the village doing nothing. Well, when I say doing nothing, we had a small bit of land, and I told my mother ‘I’m getting the hell out of here.’ Because that time we might have an hour and a half’s threshing and the guy down the road might have eight hours. I’d be pitching for that guy for eight hours – that’s the way they pooled the resources, and I said ‘To hell with this’, and then the brother out here brought me out.”</p> <p>15.05 No real attempts made to keep him at home in Tipperary as a county footballer. ‘Football didn’t mean nothing’.</p> <p>15.20 Emigration affected different parts of Tipperary differently:</p> <p>“There was a load of fellas from my place, and then you take Loughmore, the parish next door and hardly anyone emigrated. My parish, God Almighty, one time they were all leaving. Sure it affected the clubs. Sean O’Meara came here with the Tipp team in 1957 and never went back.”</p> <p>15.55 He came to NY in February 1955.</p> <p>16.14</p> <p>“It wasn’t set up but Paddy Sullivan picked me up at the boat – I came on the <i>SS America</i> – and it was more or less understood that I’d play with Cork. There was no work here in 1955 either, so things were tough and he got you a job in the warehouse – a tough, hard job. That’s what all the fellas done, unless you had a trade – if you had a trade you were alright.”</p> <p>16.50 He arrived in New York one day and was at a GAA meeting “the following Thursday night. They took you down – they were all looking to see what you were like. They’d have you up in the park kicking around – Van Cortlandt park.”</p> <p>17.10 Didn’t see a big difference between the game in NY and back home and the heat never bothered him.</p> <p>“I played two games down there many a Sunday in 90 degree heat with no special training – I was physically fit though.”</p>
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	<p>17.30 Thinks players today have a lot of extra help- therapists of various types. Players from his day would probably have been better with all that stuff. Fewer modern players have tough physical jobs – fewer farmers. Physical jobs kept the players healthy.</p> <p>18.15</p> <p>“There was very few hamstrings pulled. Mickey Byrnes made a big joke – he asked the doctor one time: ‘Did we have them yokes at all when we were playing?’”</p> <p>Thinks work on the farm or the bog and cycling and walking everywhere rather than having the car under your rear end made a difference.</p> <p>19.00 In NY they trained two nights a week with the club and three nights a week for NY. John Kerry O’Donnell gave them a meal at Gaelic Park when they trained for NY.</p> <p>19.11</p> <p>“I lived on top of the Gaelic Park – as you looked up to the top of the field, I was up in those apartments. Raised the kids there. I could see the games. Sunday morning – Go to Mass then in to the Park...but I often wondered what I would have done if I didn’t play ball - What the frigg – there was nothing else here either.”</p> <p>19.35 – On Gaelic Park in the 1950s</p> <p>“God Almighty – You’d get five, six, seven thousand... all the girls came up – there was thousands of people met their wives and husbands in the park.”</p> <p>19.55</p> <p>“That time Gaelic Park was the Mecca that drew them all. The Jaegerhouse and City Centre were the dance halls – you’d make a date and see her in the Park. I remember myself and Paul Slevin made a date with two women for the Park one Sunday. We hadn’t a notion. Jesus, when the game was over, Slevin looked out the door and says ‘Look who’s outside’ – We’d forgotten we’d made a date - so how are we going to get out? So I told them that this old guy, an uncle, was out from Ireland and we had to take him to the track. So that worked. The following Sunday she came up to me and said: ‘You’re some liar – there’s no track on a Sunday night.’”</p> <p>20.30</p> <p>“But like I said I often wonder what I would have done...I’ll tell</p>
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	<p>you what I would have probably done – ended up in a bar drinking.”</p> <p>20.45 But O’Donnell never pushed anyone to drink in the Park even though he made a lot of money on the fellas – it was up to yourself.</p> <p>21.10 Players were generally conscientious about staying off drinking. Especially because there were so many guys coming for Ireland that ‘if you didn’t you wouldn’t be on the team long. Because you’d be out – they’d throw you out.”</p> <p>21.40 He didn’t think the games in NY were much tougher than the games at home. He played for years there and only got one injury from a splintered hurl from an overhead clash by two other players.</p> <p>22.05 He played centre-field in hurling and centre back in football. He feels his big advantage was that he was fast.</p> <p>22.30 Played for NY versus Waterford in the 1963 League final – He was captain as NY Tipp had won the NY Championship. New York were good enough then to draw with Waterford in the first game. Waterford won the second game in Kilkenny by 5 points, but it was a fabulous Waterford team.</p> <p>23.00 New York had great teams then – He was a sub on a New York team that went back in 1961. It had</p> <p>“Paddy Filbert of Cork, Paddy Dowling of Cork, Mick Morrissey of Wexford – all fellas that had hurled county at home – Brendan Dolan of Offaly, Seán O’Meara of Tipp, Ralph Prendergast of Limerick, Kevin Long...Every one of them had worn the county sweater before they came out.”</p> <p>23.35 Thinks that era probably had New York’s best teams. Even the teams of the late 1960s weren’t quite as good.</p> <p>23.55</p> <p>“I always thought that the crowd from Ireland never liked having New York beat them. In ’64 New York almost beat Tipp – it would have been an awful catastrophe for Tipp if Tipp lost. And I being a Tipp man, I was chairman of the tour, but I could see that Paddy Leahy and the fellas who were over them really wanted to win, y’know, they didn’t want to come out here and lose the League Final. The first time I went over it was the Brendan Cup and the games weren’t that...but when you play in a League Final – Waterford didn’t want to lose that League Final – it would be a blot on their</p>
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	<p>copy book for ever if New York beat them in a League Final.”</p> <p>24.40 New York weren't allowed in to the real competitions back home for a good while in the 1955-1965 period, and he's not sure if that was because the GAA back home were really concerned at how good New York were.</p> <p>25.00 New York team for games against Irish opposition was picked by a manager, who was the manager of the previous New York Championship winning team, and three selectors.</p> <p>25.19</p> <p>“And that time most fellas could go because you didn't have to worry about immigration or anything. They had a good team the last couple of years here but they can't go home. So our fellas wouldn't bother their ass when the lads were out here, because if they win they couldn't go home anyway – or they could go home and they couldn't come back.”</p> <p>25.35 On the advantages of getting trips home with the NY team:</p> <p>“The first time I left, the morning I left Cobh, I figured there was nobody going home. But here it is, Connie Doolan of Cork arrived in the same month I did, in February [1955], and the two of us went home in September for the hurling – to play Tipperary in Croke Park. It was a great feeling to be going up to Croke Park – going up to look and to hear you're going out in it.”</p> <p>26.20</p> <p>“I was thrilled to get home. I figured if I had any money in my pocket I probably wouldn't come back at all. That kind of a deal. Then when I came back I got drafted.”</p> <p>26.46 Lots of young Irish in US were drafted then, you had no choice:</p> <p>“Tipp played in the park and I had been called on Monday for a physical and I sprained my ankle and Jesus I was thrilled. There used to be a doctor in the Park and I wouldn't go near the doctor. I went down the next day – I was legitimately unable to walk. I got down, I walk in, the guy took a look at me and I got a classification – 4F – not fit for military duty. Man, was I happy? My brother told me ‘They can't draft you like that. But six months later I get a letter and go down. ‘I'm 4F' I says. ‘Don't worry about that' says the Lieutenant. So I called my brother: ‘They can't take you' he says. ‘Jim' I said ‘I'm at Fort Dix, I'm on a bus for Florida and you're frigging</p>
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	<p>telling me I can't be drafted.”</p> <p>27.30</p> <p>He made the best of his two years in the army although:</p> <p>“We didn't see a ball for two years.”</p> <p>28.30 He tried to play a bit of soccer but he was too physical for the game. He had good duties in the army – clerking in a warehouse, while his friend who was a teacher ended up in the infantry. He was then posted to Kaiserslauten in Germany, which meant he got a few free hops to Ireland and London.</p> <p>29.40 John Kerry O'Donnell sent him money in 1958 to fly home for the 1958 Brendan Cup game. He didn't end up togging out though as the team didn't need him.</p> <p>29.48</p> <p>“But I was never the same after coming out [of the US Army]. When you go away for two years, it's tough...not tough but you begin to lose...”</p> <p>30.04 O'Donnell sent him money from the GAA to fly to that game:</p> <p>“O'Donnell was nice, he sent me money at Christmas and I never played for Kerry. O'Donnell had great points and they said he was a dictator...To run the GAA I guess you have to be...He made a lot of money in the GAA and then when you're hurling and football, it's good for business.”</p> <p>30.30 He was working in a warehouse in NY but it wasn't great money and hard work. One of his Cork GAA contacts, Teddy Kelleher, suggested him for a sales job in a beverage company.</p> <p>31.00 Talks about Denis Bernard of Cork and why he came to NY when he had a college degree and a family business at home.</p> <p>32.00</p> <p>“That time the Irish had great connections here in the city.”</p> <p>32.30 He regularly played a football game for Cork in the morning and a hurling game for Tipp in the afternoon.</p> <p>“But I'd have to hurl with Tipp. The Cork fellas knew that – the hurling game was always first. There were times when there'd</p>
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	<p>be trouble at the meetings – Cork didn't want to play hurling and football the one day, but O'Donnell would insist, because he felt he would have the advantage when Kerry would be playing.”</p> <p>33.20 At first Cork were Tipp's big rivals in NY hurling, then when Benny Connaughton took over Clare, they were, because they brought good players over from home. Galway were strong in the mid-1960s. Tipp waned – it was hard to win many championships in a row because they were so competitive.</p> <p>33.45 He managed Tipp to two wins in 1987 and 1988.</p> <p>34.00</p> <p>“Now it's whoever has the most money. That thing [the 2009 NY Senior Hurling championship] cost Offaly a fortune on Sunday, and it cost Tipp a fortune to lose it.”</p> <p>34.15 When he came out in the 1950s, there was nobody being brought out to play football or hurling. In the late 1960s that started to become a feature.</p> <p>“Bring fellas out for the weekend and give them a couple of hundred bucks..[Reference here to John Leahy of Tipp being unhappy with his payment on one occasion].There was a set fee – you'd give them a couple of hundred. They deserved it for the expenses. They'd come out on Friday and miss a day's work, and they'd miss Monday or Tuesday.”</p> <p>35.00 This bringing of players out was a bad thing:</p> <p>“They'd started a youth movement here and them lads never got a chance, because to compete here you had to bring these fellas.”</p> <p>35.20 Tells story about how his son, who played Minor for New York, was put off playing football in NY by losing his place to guys over from Ireland for the weekend, and didn't go back to the club. Some Irish American players were able to make it. Dermot Earley of Kildare raised close by in Woodlawn for part of his childhood.</p> <p>36.50 People in NY GAA weren't really looking forward and they never thought that emigration from Ireland would stop and they'd be dependent on their youth set-up.</p> <p>37.00 Hard to keep Irish-Americans involved. They play until they're in High School but then lots of other sports compete for their attention.</p>
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	<p>“All their friends are playing something else. You’ll get the Irish kids playing football, but the other ones...”</p> <p>38.00 With hurling you have to start when you’re three or four not 11 or 12.</p> <p>38.15 Donal O’Brien who won two All-Irelands with Tipp was at the 2009 NY Senior hurling final and said that they’d be lucky if that wasn’t the last one.</p> <p>38.30 Things did slow up in 1960s as well when Robert Kennedy made a change to the immigration laws, but during the Celtic Tiger why would people leave.</p> <p>39.00</p> <p>“I swear to God if I had money the first two years I was here, I’d go home and stay home, but what am I going to stay for?”</p> <p>He was lucky because he got to go home too Tipperary a lot, but other guys who came over with him never went home and never went near Gaelic Park either. One guy he only ever say at home and never in New York.</p> <p>40.00 He went to dances every weekend when he was younger in New York.</p> <p>“After the Park on Sunday, you’d get dinner there for a couple of bucks, and they danced there till one o’clock at night...The women would be on one side of the hall and the fellas would line up on the other and the minute the dance started you’d make a drive for whoever you fancied...Plenty of times they wouldn’t dance, they might have their eye on another fella, but you’d take it in stride and go off after another one.”</p> <p>41.40 Lots of women went to Gaelic Park, it could have a crowd of 9,000 and most were real fans, they followed the games. A Limerick woman once threw a glass of coke over him after Tipp beat Limerick at the Park.</p> <p>42.10 In his day there were box seats along the subway side of the pitch and a stand at the Broadway end where the picnic tables are now.</p> <p>42.20 The pitch then was very bad, very sandy, with grass at the side and lots of pebbles on it. But you took what you had.</p> <p>43.00 His wife’s cousin, Jackie Sammon, was President of the NY GAA and was over Connemara, which showed how strong the GAA was when Galway had a team and so did Connemara.</p>
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	<p>Jackie brought out two quality players to play for Connemara, but they weren't that impressed with the pitch. One of them said to him: "There's not much grass on the pitch." So Jackie said: "Did you come out to kick football or to f**king graze?"</p> <p>44.00 He loved playing with New York because he could drop in to the Park on his way home from work and get his dinner and then be straight home because he lived so close to the Park.</p> <p>He also loved the trips. They played in Chicago and Boston.</p> <p>44.30 New York weren't in the National League for his whole career. Got back in to it in 1962.</p> <p>When Pat Fanning was President, there was a referee called Clem Foley over from Dublin. He pulled New York's full-back, John Maher, a few times, and Maher threw a punch at him, and there was a scuffle and somebody sneaked a punch at the referee and broke his jaw. At first Fanning said there wouldn't be any repercussions but when he got back to Ireland, the plug was pulled on NY in the League for about five years.</p> <p>45.00 So for several years NY were out of the League and it meant that if a team came out from Ireland to play in the 'World Cup' or whatever, they wanted to win but they weren't that upset if they lost, but none of them ever wanted to lose a League game to NY.</p> <p>45.45 When NY took teams to Ireland they got a lot of money to spend on the tour. He was Chair of the 1964 tour, they got \$20,000. In 1953 or 54, he wasn't on that team, the team was put up in a hotel in Dublin that wasn't to Kerry O'Donnell's liking. It was off O'Connell St and there was a problem with the water.</p> <p>46.25</p> <p>"He marched them all down to The Gresham - that was the hotel that was going good at the time - Paddy O'Keeffe was the Secretary at the time and he supposedly said: 'Jesus, John, who is going to pay for it? 'Ye will' he says 'when ye come out we don't put you up in a hotel with no water.'"</p> <p>46.40 At that time the players from Ireland really wanted a trip to New York – it really meant something. Tipp were the specialists. It was a real incentive for teams at home to win the National League. Now people come out on a Thursday and go home on Sunday evening.</p>
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	<p>47.20 He played in the Polo Grounds in 1955. It was torn down a year or two later. He was on the NY Tipperary side that played Kilkenny in the Polo Grounds. Dublin and Kerry were out from Ireland and they played as well. The last Sunday in the Polo Grounds they got 49,000 people.</p> <p>47.45 On playing there:</p> <p>“There was loads of room inside, you just put the goal posts up. It probably wouldn’t have been as wide and you had the old mound – they didn’t take the mound out – but, hey, you went around it. But they got great crowds. But that time the place [Gaelic Park] was often sold out - in 1964 the tickets were all sold.”</p> <p>48.05 He thinks that the prices they charge in to Gaelic Park today are high in relation to the matches they have.</p> <p>49.00 Before he retired from his job, he was transferred up to Boston for five years in the late 1980s. He didn’t really get involved with the GAA there. He went in the first few Sundays and things seemed to be in bad shape.</p> <p>“Good football, but there was nobody at the games.”</p> <p>** 51.33 Very interesting extract in relation to poster of 1964 NY Football team World Tour, (picture of poster on file), which they did to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the New York GAA.</p> <p>Connie Doolan, who played hurling for NY, was a representative for Ballantine Beer, and they put up the money, because the Park was a big account for them. They went to San Francisco, Honolulu, Fiji Islands, and all around the globe. O’Donnell travelled along but not with the team. They played games in New Zealand, and Australia against local opposition, and played the ‘final’ in Birr, Offally.</p> <p>54.10</p> <p>“They picked a team again, but I’d say there was influence – I’d say Brendan Hennessy and myself got the trip because we’d hurled and footballed for years and O’Donnell felt - he was that kind of a guy – he felt that you played the game and y’know... And then the hurlers – and that was a novelty. They’d never gone on a trip like that - everywhere we went we were treated like...receptions, Qantas Airlines, big receptions, cocktail parties, naturally if you went now it would be a different ball game. It’s so common now, but that time it was like...Auckland, New Zealand we went to Rotorua, that’s a mineral baths. I’d never heard of the Taj Mahal before we</p>
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	<p>went – we went to see the Taj Mahal out in India – a special plane to the Taj Mahal in Agra – you learned something on the trip. And we were in Hong Kong and Bombay – Jesus the night we arrived in Bombay in India – the water was running off the walls with humidity and it seemed to be teeming with people. And we went to Beirut in Lebanon, and then Egypt...then to Rome, Rome to Lourdes, Lourdes to Dublin, and from Dublin back to New York.”</p> <p>55.40 Ballantine beer had crates of beer waiting for them in Dublin for the ride down to Birr and they had a wild day in Birr.</p> <p>55.50 In Melbourne they played against an Australian Rules team – half an hour with the round ball and half an hour with the oval. He refereed the first half with the round ball and the announcer announced that he thought the referee thought he was playing for New York because he pulled Ron Barassi, their big star, every time. “You hopped the ball too many times” I’d tell him.</p> <p>56.44 Tells story of the infamous match between New York and Australia on 5 November 1967, when Brendan Tumulty broke Barassi’s nose.</p> <p>“It came to a clipping match in the middle. This Barassi was a real bully – one of the biggest names in Australia, you know they’re full time professionals....Tumulty was a detective here and he broke his knuckle, but he broke your man’s nose...”</p> <p>Later Tumulty was brought over to appear on Australian TV for Barassi’ <i>This is Your Life</i>.</p> <p>56.30 Even some Australians were happy to hear Barassi got hit because he was a great player but a real bulldog.</p> <p>58.30 The Australians were very tough and they’re professionals, monsters “These guys dwarfed the Irish guys, and they don’t like to lose either.”</p> <p>1.00 He was disappointed that the Féile competition his grandson played in back in Ireland didn’t get much press. He’s 14 and he’s already had three trips to Ireland – “How times have changed?”</p> <p>1.00.45 He managed NY Tipperary for 1987 and 1988 and had some success. He wouldn’t say he had a particular specific idea on how the game should be played but he did have on how a team should run – players had to be at training.</p>
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	<p>1.01.10 You didn't just walk into the job – you had to be proposed and seconded and voted on at the convention and you might get 40 or 50 at the convention. Now they probably get ten. It's very hard to keep the game going now.</p> <p>1.01.55 The standard was high in the 1980s when he was manager. He found a programme from that time recently and Eddie Hogan was a sub on the Tipp team and he had a U-21 medal with Tipp back home. Joe asked him recently why he was only a sub on that team and he said 'Because you left me off'.</p> <p>1.02.30 They played Westmeath in a final in the 1980s. Westmeath brought out a lot of good players then and got to some finals but faded then.</p> <p>1.02.45 Tipp kept their team going while Cork and Kilkenny have lost their hurling teams.</p> <p>**1.03.10 The culture of the Irish in New York has changed.</p> <p>"The younger crowd is different. I mean it's a different time. They have money. The old dance halls when they finished up, that was tough – tough on the young girls coming out. The culture is the bars like. That's alright – there's nothing wrong with it, but y'know you get the certain type that are not made for that kind of thing. But in the dancehall, they went there and they met everybody and could have a good night and they didn't have to drink. But there's no dancehall anymore, it's all bars – now my son-in-law has a bar and I'm not saying – but they don't want you in there unless you're drinking – that's what they're in friggng business for. They're not going to tell you you have to drink but I've often said I feel sorry for the young girls and fellas coming out. I've often said what would I have done if I hadn't [had the GAA]. I have a cousin now he never played and he thinks I'm friggng nuts playing two games in 90 degrees. 'It didn't do me any harm' I said 'What would I have been doing if I didn't?' I often thought 'It was the best thing – you were amongst the fellas you grew up with – y'know – amongst your own kind and you came up there and you had kind of a purpose. You looked forward to Tuesday and Thursday night training. It kept us going. Life could be dull if there was nothing else only the bar scene."</p> <p>1.04.55 He was involved with the Tipperary community immediately. They had a strong Tipperary Association and the old-timers got the new arrivals to join.</p> <p>1.06.00 When he was over first the Tipperary club were always broke. They did a couple of benefits each year. It's</p>
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	<p>different now – they sell \$100 tickets for Tipp now. “And they go through money like it’s going out of style.” Roscommon went through about \$40,000 on their football team this year and they’re not Senior.</p> <p>1.07.00 When you were looking for players to bring over from Ireland, you would need to find fellas who weren’t in action at home that particular weekend.</p> <p>1.07.30 But those guys don’t come cheap. “You put them up for the weekend, and I ‘m sure...I know they give them money – otherwise they wouldn’t come, but then you couldn’t expect a fella to come if he was going to be out money.”</p> <p>1.09.30 He refereed when he finished playing. He never found it that hard – you got some abuse. He had an argument with Larry Tompkins about a wide once. Tompkins was over playing for Donegal. He found out later that there was an argument in the stand between his friend, Jimmy Chambers, and another spectator over how badly he was doing.</p> <p>1.11.00 Good story on his refusing to referee a Junior Football final between Kerry and Connemara because his wife and her cousin, Jackie Salmon, were involved with Connemara and “I won’t get fed for a week if I do anything wrong on Connemara”. But before the game The NY President, Mike Flannery and John Kerry O’Donnell, told him he was doing it. He ended up sending of one player from each side in the first few minutes. The crowds were jeering O’Donnell, and the player sent off was mad at him for months. Kerry won.</p> <p>1.14.00 When you referee you try be fair, but you make mistakes and you obviously don’t see everything. Sometimes you miss the player who’s niggling at somebody but you see the reaction from the injured party and have to send him off even though he didn’t start it.</p> <p>1.15.00 He didn’t mind opening up the GAA to members of the security forces in the North and opening Croke Park to outside sports, as long as they make money at it. “You can’t live in the past I suppose”.</p> <p>1.15.50 In terms of paying players, he does think the players should be looked after</p> <p>“But the day they start paying, it’s the end of the GAA. What are you going to do with the club guys? I mean, you got thirty guys playing for the county. What about all the guys who keep your club going on?”</p>
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	<p>1.16.00 Players do deserve to get looked after and have doctors. In his day you were delighted if you got a cup of tea and a sandwich. He once hurt his knee playing for Tipp against Kerry in Ireland and the treatment he got was to pump water out of a well.</p> <p>1.17.00 If players have to miss work to play then they should be reimbursed.</p> <p>1.17.30 He would still have a problem with the way the Cork team went on strike to get what they wanted. A few players shouldn't be able to get rid of a manager. They should go through the proper channels.</p> <p>1.18.30 His best GAA memory would be the 1964 NY football trip around the world.</p> <p>"I mean I saw places that I'd dreamed about. Like I was never in Hawaii, or Beirut in Lebanon, or Cairo in Egypt, and Hong Kong, I mean I'm a country boy at heart. And the Taj Mahal, I'd never heard of it. If I was asked now I know it's in Agra, so you get an education."</p> <p>**1.19.00 His worst memory is from the 1963 League final between New York and Waterford in Croke Park. He was captain for New York. They caught Waterford on the hop and were winning by four points with a couple of minutes to go when Waterford got a fortunate goal. He was running out to pick a ball after that goal when he felt he was pushed by Phil Grimes, who got the ball and the equalising point. New York lost the replay. He was disgusted because he really wanted a League final medal and because he later got a football League medal. He thought that would have been a good trivia question: "What Tipperary man has a hurling and football League medal?"</p> <p>1.21.00 His best game was one he played in when NY Tipp bet NY Cork to win the NY hurling championship, which made him captain of the NY hurling team for the National League game mentioned above. He still has a clipping from the paper that his wife kept.</p> <p>1.21.45 The team of his life time would have to be the Tipperary team of the late 1950s.</p> <p>"They were very well balanced – Jimmy Doyle, Donie Nealon. They had all great hurlers – big, powerful..."</p> <p>Of New York teams the 1961 team that played Tipperary in Croke Park was a very good team with 15 inter-county men. He was a sub on that team. But the New York boys struggled</p>
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	<p>because they didn't play together as often as a team.</p> <p>Guys who worked and lived far from the park made a big sacrifice to be involved.</p> <p>1.23.30 He took up golf briefly when he stopped playing on the insistence of Mick Morrissey of the famous Wexford team, but he gave it up because it took too long away from the family.</p> <p>1.24.20 His wife, Bea, liked the GAA and spent a lot of time in the Park as well. Her mother was a rabid Connemara fan and when Bea brought him home her mother said "Are you one of the crazy Careys who were playing in the Park today?" When they took her home for All-Irelands, she'd fly a Galway flag and Joe would tell her "I should make you walk home" but she'd just say "I'll get home". When players came out from Connemara to play she'd put them up.</p> <p>1.26.00 In hurling Jimmy Doyle would be his GAA hero. He like Eddie Keher. Keher had everything. Dj Carey was great. The last ten years – Henry Shefflin never seems to have a bad game.</p> <p>1.26.50 The GAA makes him proud because of the way they kept everybody together when times were bad.</p> <p>1.27.00 He was disappointed when it seemed like the GAA didn't do enough to help fellas who might be out of a job. Sometimes teams make an effort to get work for players. There wasn't much industry there that could have got him a job to stop him emigrating. In 1940 nearly all of the Tipp players were farmers or worked on the land. Now there's very few.</p> <p>1.28.40 What does the GAA mean to you:</p> <p>"I think it was great that it gave us something to do in life as you go along...When I came out here – a country guy coming from a country village, never away much – not used to life really, y'know you're in a vacuum in a country place. You come out here, if I didn't have the GAA to fall back on what would I do? If I didn't play games? Y'know, you were meeting fellas from the team, you were meeting your own kind of people as well. Some people say you're mixing with you're but Jesus, there's nothing wrong with that. We met all kinds on the trip...More than one fella said to me "Carey you were nuts – playing two games on a Sunday in 90 degrees – I said I got great enjoyment out of it"</p>
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REFERENCE NO. TP-1-5

<p><b>Involvement in GAA</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coach <input type="checkbox"/> Steward</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p>
<p><b>Record as a Player</b> (Titles won; Length of time played)</p>	<p>Played Minor, Junior and Senior Football for Tipperary in Ireland. Won County Tipperary Club Football Championship with Loughmore before emigrating.</p> <p>Won several New York Senior championships with Tipperary; Played for New York in the National League Finals in both hurling and football and was captain of the hurlers in 1963 final.</p>
<p><b>Record as an Administrator</b> (Positions held; how long for)</p>	<p>Delegate from NY Tipperary Club to NY Board; Chairman of NY Tipperary Club; Chairman of NY Tour.</p>
<p><b>Format</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual</p>
<p><b>Duration</b></p>	<p>Length of Interview: 1.29.29</p>
<p><b>Language</b></p>	<p>English</p>

**To be filled by Interviewer:**

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Signed: Sean Kearns

Date: 28 Oct 2009