

INTRODUCTION

May 16, 1969. Today, I'm visiting with Tom Rider, a ninety-one year old Cherokee of Zeb community near Hulbert in Cherokee county, Oklahoma.

Mr. Rider has lived in Cherokee county all of his life, and he tells of many things that he has seen and observed and of his experiences and of the people that he has known.)

(Rider.)

Yep.

EARLY DAY SETTLERS

(And a Civil War veteran. Well, he kind of raised that country and broke it in down there, I guess, didn't he? He kinda broke that country in and settled it down there.)

Oh, yeah, yeah. I seen a wild things. Nobody even lived there for years and years.

(Yeah.)

White people wasn't allowed to come in there without the government's permission and the Cherokee chiefs knew that. And that's the only way they could come in there, just Indians. And the Indians lived far apart.

(Yeah.)

(sentence not clear) my daddy. He lived there.

(Yeah.)

And old man Mike Sanders and old man Manuel Holland, them were real settlers.

(Yeah.)

First people that come in here.

(Well.)

Mike Sanders, he was another old settler. Me and Jess and Jim and him