

INFORMANT: JESS MAYES, CHEROKEE
INTERVIEWED BY: J. W. TYNER
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TRANSCRIBED BY: FLORA QUINATA
PROOFREAD BY: NONA KERR

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

(June 27, 1969. Today I'm visiting with Jess Mayes, an 82-year old Cherokee of Proctor community, Adair county, Oklahoma. Mr. Mayes talks about this community where he has lived all of his life and some of its peoples and some of the events that he has known.)

IN EARLY DAYS, GREASE LAMPS WERE USED - MATCHES WERE SCARCE

I knew that and he was a doctor. (static) Had a brother. And he was good one.

(Well.)

(sentence not clear) up on the side and that thing was boiling for hours.

(An old grease lamp)

An old grease lamp. Well, they've got this general store over there. (static on tape.)

(Well. Well, that's all they had they had to make out with--)

All they had. I guess they'd have coal oil in town, but if we did I don't remember ever having any. Coal oil and matches. Well, we didn't got no coal oil. Matches-many a time of freezing blizzard why everybody would go to stay all night with neighbors, you know. And lot of times we'd got a big old log, make a fire out there. Sometime it would go out you know, we would go over and get coals from neighbor and come back home. Sometimes it'd go out and have that little old (words not clear). Put lot of ties in there, and have a good fire. (words not clear) Take 'em in the house. That's the way we had to do.

IN EARLY DAYS, MUCH TIMBER WAS CUT AND HAULED OUT BY RAILROAD

(sentence not clear) They're always talking about Proctor down here. He changed his name. That's all ever I knowed. Well, for the last few years