

(Taste better didn't it?)

Yeah, during winter and snowing time, we open them and ate. I used to be happy in those days, it was good living. Maybe--my father and elders--it may have been hard on them, I don't know. When we lease our land, my father, being our guardian, he put them up for us and got out little bit at a time and used it on us. It wasn't like what we do now. Carry it around with us (money) make credit and use it up. (laughs) My father planted cotton, wagon load, he'd bring to town. There used to be Jew store name Brown Brothers. I guess he traded there. Sometimes he'd bring back little piece of salt meat. He chewed tobacco too.

(Did you pick cotton?)

No. I used to play in it. I'd go to watermelon patch and broke them and ate them real cool too. (laughter) They were little round ones. Peaches too, we just broke them in half and ate them. Good ones too.

(We was talking about people died--they'd put them away. Could you tell how they used to bathe them first before they took them to funeral home?)

Well, they didn't take them to funeral home in my days.

(They didn't embalm them?).

No. When a person was about to die, they put pallet on floor, they put the person down on floor, it's head toward sunset and they'd die. Yeah, they did. They'd fix pallet hard, and then they bathe the body, get her real clean, comb it's hair, put on clean dress or make her one. And then get some boards and lay her on there till she had a casket made. On these boards, they'd put white sheet on it after casket was made, they put her in. They put black material on outside and white on inside. Make little pillow. Coffin didn't have no box in those days. They put quilt on top and put food in it's casket, such as his favorite ones. There was a man name Jimmy Asbury and I believe--it was Louis Mitchell. They made a casket by a tree in our yard. When they dug a grave they left a space about a foot long--(what she means