

(Yeah.)

Where the branch comes down there.

(Yeah, I remember that.)

The branch between it, but its covered up now. It's been overflowed.

(Well.)

Been lot of people looking for it.

(Yeah.)

That water was just as blue. It tasted like burned powder smells.

(Well, what about that.)

I've been to it a lot. And we used to go there to pick up a lot of great big chunks of blackjack.

(Yeah.)

I don't know what it was.

(And then, let's see. The mother, Mary Anne (not clear) Houston, was from Tuscumbeah, Missouri. Mary Anne Houston was seventeen when Mack Houston, the first of four sons was born. She was 24 when widowed and her children orphaned. Tragedy took the husband and father while Mack Houston was only seven. But he was not forgotten. It happened when 32-year old Sequoyah Houston was deputized to help capture a band of outlaws identified as the Cherokee Bill gang. As Mack Houston recalls, it was made up of Cherokee Bill, Bill and Jim Cook, Jess Cochran, and Jim French. Names of these men were also imprinted on the mind of the child. Every fact about them drew immediate attention from Mack Houston. A year later Jess and Jim were killed while robbing the depot at Catoosa. He associates this with much thought--phenomena of the Black Snow of January 1895. At the time of the Houston tragedy, Cherokee Bill gang was staying at the Halfway House on Fourteen Mile Creek. A place