

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

(March the 3rd, 1970. I am visiting with Elzie Harris, a 81 year old Cherokee of the Bayou Manard country, Muskogee county, Oklahoma. Mr. Harris has lived in the Cherokee Nation all of his life. And he speaks of many things of historical interest and particularly about the Manard country.)

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF BAYOU MANARD COUNTRY

(Where is this place, Bayou Manard?)

Yeah, Bayou Manard.

(Where is that now?)

That's the creek right there.

(Well.)

Bayou school is up here.

(And it's part of the first place that was ever mention in history books.)

Is that right. I guess, yes, sir, I guess Manard was a -- now, I just like to know now, how -- if I understand what the Bayou means is two outfits isn't it. Ain't that the definition for the bayou?

(I think so. You see, it was a -- come from the French. There used to be some Frenchmen in here.)

Yeah, well, now I'll tell you something. You don't notice it now because it's (not clear). But right along that highway between the--our place and Fort Gibson, there's was mounds every so often. You could see them. There one right at the side of my house, right in the corner where them big sassafras trees here. I want you to look at that.

(All right, I wonder what the purpose that they served.)

Well, now, my history taught me that there was a tribe there was finders-