

And they found this and that here and there. And just know what they found here in Washita County--what is now Washita County--they found everything that these cowboys left behind. And some of that wire is still on my place over here east of town. The wire that my father--well, he was one of them that found it in a cave. And they told Mr. Seger about it--he was the first Superintendent here in this part of the country. And they told him about it and they went and got this wire out, and whatever they left behind, and my father was the first one that got his choice of this wire, because he found it, too. And that's why it's still on my place. He used it there when they allotted my grandfather. See, he wasn't married then, but he just had it on hand. And when he married my mother, he put a fence up around his father-in-law's place. Few placed right next--adjoining it, like--you know I told you about this northern Cheyenne selling that place where my mother was deeded? That wire is still on there, here and there. It's so brittle that when you turn it, it breaks. It's all rusty. And they say it was good wire at that time. It wasn't like what this barbed wire is that we have now.

(Why was it better than what they have now?)

Well, this one, they say it's weak. That one was bigger wire, you know how barbed wire is twisted? And those little sharp things here and there? And today I think they say it's a finer wire, maybe weaker, than what they had way back there.

(Did the cowboys leave any other things behind besides wire?)

I don't know. The only thing I heard my father say was that wire they found in the cave. Well, they left cabins, I guess. But they didn't live here, but what few came, I guess they left their cabins.