

BUSHWHACKERS

('Bout the bushwhacker country here--).

The bushwhackers got bad in here and they had to leave. And the menfolks were all gone and my mother, my grandmother was driving the ox wagon, and they went from here to Evansville. And one woman along with them, she took sick. Down there somewhere on the road. And ah, they sent for her son. And he come up and took care of her, but he had to stay in the bushes and come in and wait on her at night. And the rest of them went on.

(Evansville, Arkansas?)

Um-huh. And he'd come in and feed her, you know, and set some water by the side of her bed at night, and he'd scout in the bushes. And he'd come in one night and he found his mother dead. And he rolled her up in a quilt and dug a shallow grave that night and moved on. He went on. Followed the bunch. I guess.

(Do you remember many of the Indian doings they had back in the early days, what did the Indians do here in the way of living, or the social life, or the --?)

Well, they lived about as much as they do now, the same thing. And they had lots of deer and turkeys - wild turkeys - and they could go out and kill them any time they got ready.

FOOD IN EARLY DAYS

(Did they - they all had their little garden spots, didn't they?)

Yes, they all had the garden spots.

(And food - chickens and cows, I guess - hogs.)

Yes. And let the hogs run outside, you know, and get fat on the acorns in the fall of the year. And they didn't have much feeding to do. Now you commence with that teasin' and well--