

SIDE A
PART I

T-274

Informant: Dora Early Tucker,
Cherokee

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BRIEF INTRODUCTION

(June 13, 1968. Today I'm visiting with Dora Early Tucker, an eighty-eight year old Cherokee at Bushyhead Community, Rogers County, Oklahoma. She has spent all of her life in this rural community, and she recalls many events and experiences in her life, and relates many things she remembered before the turn of the century.)

CONDITIONS IN 1894: LOTS OF PRAIRIE CHICKEN & JACK RABBITS. OPEN RANGE FOR LIVESTOCK.

You wouldn't know that it was the same country, because when daddy brought us here in '94, he could go out here where there is homes and farms now, when he wanted a prairie chicken, he just go out and get it. And the jack-rabbits with, he had a couple hounds---and a man at Chelsea was a friend of his, and old Tibs and Fanny, he called the dogs, and when they wanted to have a jackrabbit race, they'd get their dogs together and have a jackrabbit race. And there wasn't anything in their way. There was very few fences in those days. Cattle ran out on the range. And what I mean, they did it most of the winter. I've seen folks that live over here towards these big mounds at McClenon, they had herds of horses, just herds of them that ran out. And I've seen big old grass that growed so tall, just fall over in the winter. And I've seen those horses knock that snow off and eat that grass, in the wintertime, just like hay. We never thought about keeping cattle up, for pasture, you know, like they do now. You have to have have fence now.