

George West: Yeow, I knowed a Indian guy. He gigged fish and he could tell where they's feedin y'know. He'd get him a fish too. See them blubbers y'know, go over there and gig into 'em y'know. He'd fish--her husband. She'd take him way up 'bout five or six miles and he had one of these long cotton sacks y'know, with inner tube sewed in it and he'd get in that and go down river and where he couldn't wade, why he'd float y' see. Get down close to his house when he come out he was down close to his house. (laughter).

Mrs. West: He fished a lot. Ever time we'd go over, he'd be a fishin. Well one time he was at home, but nearly ever time he'd be off fishin and she'd have to go get him. Certain time he'd float down by the bridge and then--

George West: We was over there one time and they got water off a mountain from the spring they had in the house and we'uz over there and the spring went dry, had to haul water.

(Is Verdigris here, is it a fishing stream too?)

George West: Why yeow. Lot a catfish Verdigris river. Lots a catfish in there. Big catfish in there. Big 'uns. I've seen catfish come outta there weigh a hundred pounds. I've seen two or three catfish caught right down here, weighs a hundred pounds. There was oil in that river. People just skim it off the water some of 'em use it in their old Fords.

(Yes, Verdigris has a lot of oil in it. Comes from up in that oil country they tell me.)

Hurt West: Somewhere round Bartlesville and up in there. You know that field up there round Bartlesville, that's the first oil field in Oklahoma. Bartlesville and Nowata.

(They never did strike any oil down in this part of the country did they or have they ever tried?)

Hurt West: Oh yeow. I reckon they have a few wells right over here. Little well, shallow wells. They didn't mount to nothin'.