(Son: First recollect was seeing her grandpa out there with his sled and pony. Filling up gullies.)

**T-35**3

## BEGINNING OF STILWELL

B - I

-- (First part of sentence not clear) -- go to Evansville.

-7-

(Had to go to Evansville to trade. Before they even had Stilwell.) Yes. Stilwell wasn't built there until, I guess--let's see, about nine-close to nineteen hundreds. And I remember the first people that started Stilwell. Was the Masons and Crockers. Old Eddy Crockers built a big hotel there and--

(Son: Mamma, he'd probably be more interested in hearing about back in the '80's, when they bought that store they built there when they were putting the railroad through there.)

No the (not clear) when it started out. It was just a swamp. (Well.)

It was a swampy place, boggy. We went through there when we'd go down to grandfather's.

(Son: I heard my dad tell about he used to possum and coon hunt on the ground Stilwell is standing on.)

(Well.)

They didn't start it until -- The Mason's lived way over there close to Flint Courthouse. They moved in to Stilwell. They are one of the first people that started to help build up Stilwell. Next came little Johns and Johnsons.

(Son: It was (not clear) when dad came here from Georgia with his folks., <u>He was only seven years old</u>. He used to (not clear) around and all over the country. And when they lived back there on Barren Fork with the kids. And they start building that roundhouse. They used to have round house on the railroad. Started building that railroad through there.