

EARLY LIFE HISTORY

(This afternoon I'm interviewing Myrtle Deeringwater. Myrtle lives Rural Route 1, Tahlequah and that's out toward Hulbert, Oklahoma.

About how many miles out in the country did you say this is. Myrtle, about how many miles out in the country did you say this was?)

About---out from Tahlequah?

(Uh-huh.)

Oh, between Tahlequah and Hulbert just five miles Hulbert from here.

And nine miles from Tahlequah.

(Nine miles from Tahlequah. But you still get your mail from Tahlequah, don't you?)

Uh-huh.

(Yeah. And Myrtle, is it true today is your birthday? You're sixty nine years old.)

Yeah. /laughter/

(Well, Happy birthday. I just wanted to ask you a few things about how it was here when you was growing up? Did you grow up around here in this part?)

Uh-huh.

(Right here in Cherokee County?)

Uh-huh.

(More in Tahlequah or Hulbert or --?)

Right here.

(Right here.)

Uh-huh.

(This is your old homestead?)

Uh-huh. Yeah.

(And you grew up as a girl here?)

Uh-huh. Yeah. I was born here, too.

(You were?)