

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

June 5, 1969. I'm visiting with Swimmer Henry, a 78-year old full-blood Cherokee of Little Rock community, Mayes county, Oklahoma. Mr. Henry talks about the many people that he has known in this now Rose Prairie country. He also tells about this country in its early days as he remembers it and talks of the things that he has seen and experiences that he has had.)

EARLYS DAYS OF LITTLE ROCK COMMUNITY

(First sentence not clear) I think there's two boys living though.

(Yeah. Swimmer how long have you been here in this--)

All my life.

(You been right here all your life and its called Little Rock community.)

Uh-huh. Yeah. I was born and raised right in this community.

(Well.)

I kept my own allotment right here.

(This is your allotment right here. Who was your Papa?)

Tom Henry.

(Tom Henry. What family did your mother come from?)

She come from west of Vinita, west of Vinita about 9 miles, west of Vinita.

Cornassel's her name.

(Corn tassel.)

Uh-huh. Corn tassel. That's her name--

(And you say you went up to school at Vinita when you was a young fella.)

Yeah.

(Well. And then Wyandotte.)

Uh-huh. Wyandotte. I entered up there in Wyandotte in 1915, August 15,

I believe it was.

(Yeah.)

15th or 16th, and I stayed there until Oct. 15, 1923