

ALLOTMENTS AND EARLY DAYS OF FARMING:

(Fred, I wonder if..one thing that we've talked a lot about in conversations before, but you've never told me whole lot about is that period, after they started allotting the land. I wonder if you remember mainly how the allotments especially your allotment and your mom and dad's allotments were made, and tell me how they chose the land.)

Well, you see, I heard when they first started, when they allotted these lands, they hunted. My daddy, they hunted. They don't see any place out there (in the country) like I got here (in Anadarko). Well, he went down there and picked that land out, you know. My mother's lot..together. Then he went there and picked his out at the river bottom. Rachel owns it now..across the track down there. It's divided, eighty acres apiece. Eighty down on the bottom and eighty on the hill and that there was his pick. That's what he got.

(That was your father's allotment?)

Uh-huh.

(Is that the one right there, just after you cross the bridge, you know, on the Indian Road. Just before you turn north to go up to Tweet's place? (Tweet is the daughter of Herbert and Clara Redbone.)

No, it's way on down.

(Oh, it's farther west. Is it on that same road?)

Yea, you know where that Wetseling Mission is? Well, that quarter section there. It's supposed to be eighty acres there and he got that and then back up north, toward the river. That's where he got them two. Then they went ahead and got mine down there by Broxton, then my sister's (Connie Mae Bigman) and Clarence Starr, and my mother. They got right there in one section.

(I didn't understand..where is your mother's allotment?)

It's down there at Broxton. I've got that now. It's mine now.

(Were you allotted too, and when?)

Back in 1900 I guess. Course, that's when I was born. They allotted me then. Course,