

INTRODUCTION

(July 21, 1969. I'm visiting with Phillip Rider tonight, who is 60 years old. Phillip is the son of a Cherokee freedman and lives in the Longview Community, Mayes county, Oklahoma. He relates some of the things of his family and the experiences that he has known.)

PEOPLE AROUND LONGVIEW COMMUNITY.

(Spend all of his life right here in this country; I guess.)

They used to be colored people. Two left now that I know.

(Well.)

The most I could remember were gone before I could remember. I know I can remember lots of 'em.

(Yeah. Now that was a farming community too down in there, wasn't it?)

Oh down in there in that bottom. Down there, east of where our church is.

(Yeah.)

Where Nelson Harlen used to live. You didn't know him.

(No, I didn't.)

He moved to Claremore. He sold out to Sherman Densmore here several years ago.

(Yeah.)

And moved to Claremore. That used to be all colored people.

(That was good farming land in there.)

Good farming land down there them days.

(I see the Indians down in there, were they in south of you?)

South.

(Around the mouth of Flat Rock.)

That's right, that's right.

(The Tuckers and the Tadpoles, Walkingsticks, Vanns. Who else was down