

he came to Oklahoma. But when he came to Oklahoma it was Indian Territory at that time, and he, he was a very old man at the time. I guess he was about seventy years old. Well, he'd just sit there and thumped on the top of his snuff can and just spit way off over there with a straw in his mouth and a pocket knife in his hand. And just sit there and rock back and forth on a wooden barrel. And he lived way out in the country. I mean and he just seem to just laugh everytime he talk of something. And he'd say some of the things that he'd speak of and he'd say you'd never believe it but I've seen some of these. And thought if you was interested as you paint pictures, you might be interested in it. And he started telling tales. He's dead now. He died about a year ago, I guess.

(This was at Frances, you say?)

This was at Frances.

(Well, I wonder if you've heard of been told any of the stories about the moving of the, your ancestors and all, to this state, back in the last century, Trail of Tears, this sort of thing?)

Well, all my folks they were raised here. But my mother's mother had an uncle. Now, the uncle had come across, from it seems like from Arkansas, Missouri, or some place right in there, Arkansas more likely, the way they stated. Come across about the time and joined with a band of Indians that was going to, I don't know, was going some place to some kind of a landing and they were all kids in, at the time the way it was state. That the, from the way my mother states it, as she was stating that, this was more likely the time of the removal, coming over. And when they made a homesite, it was Christie, I think, or Tahlequah or some place down in that area. There was a place over there back where they lived. And finally, at that time there was quite a bit of, meanness going on, outlaws