

mother died is the, at the birth of the youngest boy. In 1870, she died. And old man attempted to raise thirteen children by himself, and...

(Well, there's quite a chore.)

He was the head of the older children, you see?

(Yeah.)

So, my father left home and went to work when he was eleven years old. Never went to school a day in his life. And so, he roamed all over the west, and...

(Where was--where did your father and mother meet up?)

Well, they met up--my grandfather on my mother's side moved into the Choctaw reservation.

(Oh.)

Yeah, and his--he was medical corps in the Confederate Army during the war. And he learned to be a doctor of some sorts, and he came back to Green Wood, Arkansas, established a practice there after the Civil War was over. And they built a store out there, and built a first cotton gin that was built in Indian Territory. They certified families and followed them in there. And the name of the post office is Brooken, Oklahoma.

Well, my father, he was chasing around all over the country.

Him and his brother wound up down there. They were together, younger brother. They wound up there at Brooken. And he got to shoveling cotton seed from my grandfather. Him and my mother met and they got married, and I was born there at Brooken.

(Whereabouts is that?)

Well, actually, what is known as Haskell county now?)

(Mmm.)

Stigler is the county seat, you see?

(Oh.)

And right on the Canadian River. It's under forty feet of