

Henderson: Now the Agency helped you buy the place?

Irene: No, I bought it out of my own money. But they helped me get it from my brothers and sisters. See, it's undivided. So I bought the west fifty by fifty--enough to build a house. And then when I did buy it, they said I didn't have enough loan value on it.

Jordan: She had to work through the Agency to even buy it.

Irene: Yeah, because it's restricted property.

Henderson: Did you tell them initially what you wanted to do with it?

Irene: Yes! They know. They know what I bought it for. That's one reason why I bought it. So I turn around and I paid my brothers and sisters to buy this five acres out here. And then when this new housing came out and I went back in there to see if I could borrow some money--to remodel the house. And they didn't want to loan me seven hundred dollars just to tear down that wall and make it bigger. Put a bath in there. Tear up the two closets and build a bathroom in there so the boy won't have to go way out there to the outhouse. And they said that they couldn't get any water around there. And there it was again--no money for loans.

PRESENT HOUSING PROGRAM: GETTING ON IT AND REQUIREMENTS

Jordan: This new housing program that's come in--do you know people that have got any houses through that?

Irene: Blackie has one (Clarence Chalepah). But he don't have no land to put it on! Elton (Stumbling Bear, Gertie's son) got it approved, but don't have no land to put it on! And Gertie is willing to deed him one or two acres. But these places where she has is kind of a hard place to--too far away from town. But still he'd have a home. He's got to learn to live there and like it. And if you miss a payment on the house, you just lose the lot where--it will go with the house--they will take it away from you.

Birdie: Somebody else can take up payments and live there.