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BRIEF INTRODUCTION

(July 6, 1970. Today I'm visiting with May Snell Butler, a 72-year old Cherokee of Southwest City, Missouri. Mrs. Butler was born and raised on Butler Prairie and the Honey Creek country and this is the area that she tells about.)

OLD SOUTHWEST CITY WAS A BUSY PLACE IN EARLY DAYS

(First part of sentence not clear)--a real old lady that used to come to church down there at--(not clear)--She was a member...her husband was 72 in October and so he passed away in November in '68 (1968). I was 72 this May.

(This Southwest City has played a great part in the life of the life of the early day Indians.)

Its an old town.

(I guess it was the only town when the Cherokees first came to this country that they could come to to trade.)

Yes. Yeah, we used to have a saloon up here.

(Well.)

Oh, we used to live down there on the ridge. People would come up here and they'd get their liquor, you know, and come back by. And some of 'em would be wanting to stay all night. Or stop and want something to eat. Even the negroes, then, they'd come up here a lot.

(Well, it must have been a busy part of the country a long time ago. And, of course, there were lots of Indian families lived on White Water creek and Honey Creek out on Cedars Prairie there. And, of course, there's still quite a few. Are there many Indians living around Southwest City here or in town?)

Oh, quite a few. And then over around Maysville.

(Maysville, yeah.)

Yeah, there's quite a few--quite a few as you go.

(Yeah, that Maysville its also an old place, too.)

Its old, yeah.