

Willie Kirk, Kickapoo

J. Jordan

(Were there some Kickapoos over there?)

Yeah, Kickapoos. So we stay there for quite a while over to where we been and we stayed out and I was a big boy then. I known it then, you know. Pretty soon the people's going back to the other place, Coahuila. There's some of them going over there and my folks went going, but my father and my mother has got troubles--separated. And I stayed with my mother. So we went down there with him. The people, some of 'em stay up there. We come to Coahuila, Mexico. So we stay around there, and pretty soon my mother she come up here by herself. Come here, oh, maybe two weeks, and then he come back. Well, we're going to move back to Oklahoma, they said. So we come on.

(So your mother lived here ever since?)

Yeah, we live here then. But I once in a while went back to Mexico, myself, just go over there. But we live here.

(Did your father stay down there?)

Yeah, he stayed down there in Coahuila. That's where he got killed. My father, he's the main one, the head man go to Coahuila from way up there, Chihuahua. Took lots of Indians down there. See, he's the main one. So they come on to Coahuila. I come on up here myself and my mother and grandma and my father stay there and my other grandma stay over there. And he got killed down there. And I came here and pretty soon I'm a big fellow that time and I went to school little while--not even a year.

(How long did you go to school?)

About a year, I guess.

(Did you meet your wife at school?)

Yeah, I met her at school. I didn't go to school very much. I just stayed there not quite a year. Pretty soon I go back.