

FIRST SETTLING IN OKLAHOMA:

(This is Bill Savage with Mr. Preston N. Holbrook, Carnegie, Oklahoma, June 28, 1967. When did you come to Oklahoma Mr. Holbrook?)

Well, sir, we came to Oklahoma in 1905. Stratford, Oklahoma and then that fall, my brother, well, we moved to Carnegie. Three miles north of town and my father bought a farm and we established a home there. And we have lived here all these years in Carnegie and I'll and we've been in town now about 2½ years. And when we moved here, why the population at Carnegie was, I believe, 11 hundred, between a thousand and 11 hundred. And I guess a third of the population at that time was Indians, now we haven't got so many Indians living in town. Of course at that time the whole hill here on the southeast part of Carnegie was covered with tipi's Indian camped here for times, they'd move and they would come back. They just moved back and forth--but we didn't have no road so to speak, we had roads, but they was bad. And the bridge was located on the Washita River at that time, and the traffic it would go back and forth into town without any trouble and back in those days, well the principal crops that was raised here was corn and cotton, some broom corn, however, but corn was stacked up for a quarter of a mile by the side of the railroad tracks here in 1906 and 10. But since then and up til now, there is no corn raised here at all, I don't guess there any corn in 40 miles of town. It's funny how time changes the country with the things that we lived on--depended on as a livelihood is gone now, we got--so we--peanuts now and some cotton, not too much cotton, but some cotton. And I can't think of anything could be much of interest.

(Did your family draw the land or did the--)

No, my father bought the farm. He bought the farm from old man name of