

Like I said, they don't know what "graded" was in them days. In this district here. It was just a wagon trail.

(What about the bridges? How did you cross the rivers in the Model-T?)

Well, crossings (fords). Unless it's a big bridge over here southwest of Fort Cobb. That was the biggest bridge that was going. When we get to that bridge, you know, it was something exciting to go across, you know! Get right in the middle and you know how kids are! Jump up and down and you can shake it!

(Was it a metal bridge?)

Yeah. It's one of them suspended ones. (Suspension bridge).

I think it's still there. I don't know--maybe they took it down.

(Was that across Cobb Creek or--?)

No. Across the Washita. I think there were two bridges like that, right west of town (Anadarko) over there--Hog Creek bridge. That's the same kind. But it's longer.

(But these other creeks you just had to cross?)

Yeah. It's all crossings.

(How did that car do in those?)

Well, lot of times cars drown out. Till somebody come along and pull you out.

(Did you ever have to push them out?)

Oh yeah. It's kind of a favorable, you know. Get a whole gang--bunch of kids--and push somebody out of the creek. Those cars was rare them days--from 1925 up this way, maybe three cars out of every ten families.

(Was that Henry's car?)

Yeah, that was Henry's car.

(Did you drive or did he?)

I start driving 1924. Start driving 1924.

(Interruption. Conversation resumes on Alfred's life history.)

#### ALFRED'S CHILDHOOD AND SCHOOLING

We were poor. What I mean--we didn't have any roof over our heads--just short times, you know. And my grandma, she lived right east of Boone, there. She had a home there. And we made our home there for a while. After she died, well, we lived in