

looked back, there was northern soldiers after them - said they was - must running so far and they was afraid there was a standing army down there in the bottom.

(The Union soldiers was afraid there was?)

Um-huh, yeah. And meantime grandpa fell off his mule and Uncle Sain said he got down and picked him up and sit him on his mule and got up behind him.

(Threw him off?)

Yeah.

(What kind of law protection did you have around this place in the early days?)

Old Judge Parker down there.

(At Fort Smith?)

Um-huh. Yeah.

(He was pretty mean, wasn't he?)

Yeah.

LIFE IN EARLY DAYS

(Did you have any U.S. marshalls come around in here?)

Yeah. One night when I was a little kid, somebody knocked at the door, and Momma says, "Who is it?" He said, "The U.S. marshalls." Well, she just thought it was papa, you know, he had been up here, and said, "Jim, get up and let the U.S. marshalls in." And when they opened the door, a whole slew of them come in. And they kicked up the fire - jumped up the fire and made a light - and they was hunting Ned Christie. And they thought they had seen him 'bout Old Sully Eagle's down there. But Momma told them no, nobody was down there at Old Sully Eagle's that she knew about. There was respect for women and childrens then.

(What are some of the happiest times that you remember about this place,