

another wife. Her name was Mary Short Woman, and this first one they called Down Woman. That was his wife after my grandmother died. And then when he passed away, when he was getting very sick he wanted to go and stay with his first wife (Down Woman; the first of the two wives he had after the death of his first wife). He went and stayed with her. He had been with this Mary Short Woman most of the time. And while he was there (with Down Woman), he died of a heart attack. And when they had a hearing on his estate, I guess it was the law at that time, that when a man had two wives, the one that he was with when he died was the only one to come in on his property. So it just left this Mary Short Woman out. And it was Down Woman that come in.

(Down Woman--is that the one you said was sort of bad-tempered?)

Yes. And this other one, Mary, she was very easy to get along with. I remember one time both of my mother's stepmothers came to live with us. One lived on the east side of us and the other one lived west of us. And that way my grandfather just went back and forth --his wives were close to my mother.

(Which one was her mother's cousin?)

Down Woman.

(What about this other one--was she related?)

No, I don't think she was.

(Then if Mary Short Woman had inherited it--would she have passed it on to your mother?)

No, it would have gone to her relatives. Just like this share Down Woman got, it went to her son. She just had one son living.

(Then how could your mother have gotten it--if her Dad had willed it to her or something?)