

This is Bill Savage with Mr. Ed Nix, in Carnegie, Oklahoma. The date is June 13, 1967. Mr. Nix is going to talk about his experiences dealing with the Indians in and around Carnegie in the early part of the twentieth century.

(When did you come to Carnegie?)

Well, we moved to Caddo County in 1900 from Pottowatomie County.

( Did your father file on a homestead over there?)

Yes, I was born between Shawnee and Tecumseh, 1893. And we moved to the Chickasaw Nation in 1898. My mother passed away and we stayed down there one year and we moved to Chickasha in 1899. And my father worked on the railroad; Rock Island railroad, going west of Mangum. And in 1901, we moved to Anadarko. And then 1902, we moved up north of Carnegie. And dad filed in Pottowatomie County and couldn't file here in Caddo County. And we had to wait a year before we could buy a place. Till another man proved up. I've been here around Carnegie all my life, you might say, except when I was in the Army, 1918.

(Said he went into trading?)

In the Fall of 1903, why my dad bought a farm on Cobb Creek, which is now covered by Cobb Creek Lake. And brother and I, we'd do the farming, and dad, he traded around. He was quite a horse trader. We got a hold of a few cattle that wasn't worth very much. We peddled beef to the Indians quite a bit. And white people too. There wasn't no ice boxes and no ice then and couldn't keep beef very long. But we didn't have any trouble selling to the Indians. Sometimes we'd make a bad deal, wouldn't get all the money, but we'd get rid of the beef anyway.

( What about a cow you said died out there?)