

his first wife belonged to the McCoys or the other side, and he belonged to one side or the other. And after one of the battles well the shooting scrapes, they had one night or one evening, well the next day he went up to the house and they been going together and trying to get together but the families were on the wrong side of the fence. Said he met her at the gate and said she had her bonnet on and saw him coming on just a trail that lead up to the house, with a spring. And said that she went out there to meet him, and said they talked a little bit and he said, "Well, if you want to get married, why--well, let's go." Said she went back to the house and told her mother she was going to get a bucket of water. She picked up the water bucket and went to the spring and never did come back. And I don't know how true that was, but that's what she told me.

EARLY DAY PEOPLE AND PLACES

(Well, your mother was born and raised right here?)

Yeah.

(Maybe she saw a lot of history happen too?)

Well, no I don't think so. She died when she was 29. I don't have the least idea that she saw too much but she saw some. It was pretty wild country the first time I remember it. The first time I remember looking around, my daddy owned three houses. You could just fence all the land that you could claim and put a house on it, as far as any of the rest of it, we could see about three houses from where we lived and two of them houses is still in the view. McSpadden was one of those places, and Stokes place out there. A widow woman by the name of Gentry lives there now. And Herb's place was just around the hill down the valley, just about a mile from where we lived. That was his allotment.

(How close were you to the Rogers family home?)

Well, it's--they claim from Bushyhead it's just 6 miles, go out across the country, and we lived in about 6 miles.