

(That made it nice then for all of you to be together. Was that pretty much timbered country around there? Like it is now?)

Well, it was all prairie at one time.

(It was all prairie at one time?)

Well, it is yet, where we are now. Well, part of Dad's - bought in the woods there a little bit, and Mother's too. Part of Mother's - the old home place was part of it -- timbered land. The rest of us was up on the prairie. Mine was all of it and Mary's ...

(It was used for boats coming...)

BOATS ON GRAND RIVER

I know of furniture right there come in there from Pennsylvania by boat.

(How big a boats were they that came be on the Grand River?)

Well, I think there was - I couldn't tell you. But I know one things, grand-dad had ordered some kettles - he made salt over there where salt was, and they had 'em on a boat and that boat broke in two down there at Fort Gibson and them kettles went right down to the bottom. They didn't get home with them. It broke in two. (static)...many years ago.

(They used paddle wheels?)

Yeah. They might a done that. I don't know, but I have an idea that it was.

(Let's see, these river boats went up as far as Chouteau posts up there at Saline, I guess?)

Well, that's where my great grand-dad lived - there at his house - just right east. Yeah...(static).

ASYLUM BURNED IN 1903

(They had a lot of children going there, I guess.)

Yeah. I was nearly 22 years old when it burned.

(Oh, I see. Some of the Cherokee Nation officials then knew about - ?)

No. No officials, just the ones that they had - say you had some children -