

around with a log chain running through it. And they tied their horses to that. Log chain you know. All the way around the capital square. There was no such thing as a side walk. Paved side walk in those days, you know. And our only means of traveling, of course, the horse and buggy or wagon, or saddle horse. And people would come to town.

(Then that court house yard was the center of activity then.)

Yeah, it was. And it was considered as a beautiful place. There was locust trees--those locust trees have been replaced by them hard maple trees. And it was a beautiful sight especially when those locust blossomed out, bloomed out. It was beautiful.

(What other buildings are still--)

Well, the old court--the old jail, the old Cherokee Nation jail, it's still down there. And the old court house is still standing. And that's why later on that's where the Supreme Court set and later on the Cherokee Advocate was printed there. And those were the three principal buildings. And the jail is still standing. And that jail is used as a county jail now. And when we came here, Jim, the old gallows where they hung them was still standing, in 1897.

RAILROADS AND STAGE COACHES

They built what was called the Ozark Cherokee Central which later became a branch of the Frisco connecting Fayetteville with Okmulgee. The main line through Okmulgee and the main line through St. Louis, and through Fayetteville through St. Louis to Dallas. Those two lines were connected by this branch. And they took that out about 15 or 20 years ago, and all--

(Then there has been two or three different railroads through Tahlequah then?)

No, just the one. It was called the Ozark Cherokee Central but the Frisco bought it out. And we had to survey a railroad through here but they never did build it. Would have two roads if they would have built it.

(At one time did they have stage coaches running?)