

LOCATION OF GREY'S PRAIRIE

(Your home out here on your allotment on Grey's Prairie--was that Grey's Prairie named for your daddy?)

I guess so. That prairie runs back up in north of the school house and kinda went north and then it didn't run straight. And my grand dad lived on the north side of it and my uncle lived down there on east--south side. And they--dad lived down there where the place is. And I (not clear)-- (But your folks settled that part of the country there, didn't they? That prairie?)

Yeah. George Riggs had a little house there where we lived. Dad bought it from him some way. He didn't have nothing to buy it with much like they do now. He bought it and he kept working. He just had one old horse, he started with, and he finally got around and built another room on to the house. He had one house and built a side room on it. He had a pretty good house anyway. Had an old barn and then he and mother drawed about six payments (not clear)-- (When was that Cherokee Strip payment? Was it 1900?)

Oh, it was '94, I believe.

(In 1894 then? Well. I guess it helped a lot of the fellows there.)

OPEN RANGE GRAZING - OPEN HAY MEADOWS

Back in 1895, I was only about six years old and grass was that high and straight as could be, you know. We could get all the hay we wanted. And they got to runnin' them cattle for pasture--free range they called it-- and they run 'em into some other range. Some of 'em, they used to bring in big herds. Grass got grazed out so it wouldn't make hay. It was that way all over these woods, too. Did you ever pass that place--go over by that school house--big school house west, go in that gate?

(Yeah, I know where it is.)

Well, a little further, is a big hay meadow. You know, I took that out of the woods.