

And the house is still standing here.

INCIDENT OF GOVERNMENT AGENTS TAKING TWO GIRLS OFF TO SCHOOL

So somebody knocked on the door, my uncle was a Peoria, and he said, "Will, answer that." So my daddy got up and went to the door and lo and behold it was the superintendent of the Quapaw Nation--two soldiers and a hack driver. Said, "We've been informed by the government"--this government man said, the superintendent of schools said--"We've been informed that you've got two girls here that needs to be in school." Course it kinda dumb-founded my dad and he said, "Well, now I have two little girls and they need to be in school, but I didn't think it was any concern of the government." He said it never was where I come from and they went to school ever day." Well, we never got to finish our dinner. They picked us up and took us off. Now that's the way it was a long time ago. Even if you was any Indian at tall you didn't even have to be a full-blood. Well my sister was a blond and I was a dark brown haired girl, had dark eyes, my sister had blue eyes, blond hair. Well it was pretty hard to make them Indian kids where we was going to school think we was Indians. Well, they would sai I don't know about Rose and Myrtle, you look like Indian, but she don't, she's white. Well there you was.

Well, that goes with lots of 'em you know. There lots of people--well I've saw German and Irish mixed with a whole lot darker complexion that I am. (not clear)--I never had no opportunity to go back, never thought anything like that would come up. Well I hadn't ever--my mother had been dead ever since '33 and there wasn't much talk of anything and you know I've forgot more than I remember. Because it's ever day talk is something else. Indian kids grow up with that on their minds.

(Your mother spoke her native language?)

Yes, she did. She was a half breed Miami and a half breed French. Her father was a full-blooded Canadian French. He was a merchant.