

not approved because we feel like you don't need five acres to make a homestead place, so we cut it down to this so much. And then, they put the figures-- where I don't know the figures they go by--the little--everything....

(Bonnie: Is that really necessary to do all that?)

Yeah. You have to. We have to. So I got mad and I wrote to Senator Harris and Congressman Smith and I said, "I'm not too well educated and I can't spell but I put 'Most Honorable This and That' and I said help me--look into it. I've got nine children and I'm married to a non-Indian, and I know that they were going to jump ahead of us to the Office and see that he was a non-Indian." And I said, "I'm trying to get a loan through the Office and they won't approve it because I'm married to a non-Indian. I'm a full-blooded Kiowa and my children are....". I wrote all that and they called me into the Office and they worked on it for--this house took us six months to build--before they could turn the land loose. Congressman Smith wrote back to me and said he was going to write again, and Senator Harris wrote me so I rushed to the Office. And Mrs. Lacer, she's the head woman that has the say-so--she said, "Stella, you didn't have to write." And I said, "Well, by golly, you wouldn't let do what Papa's wishes were, and I don't want to build when Papa's gone and away from this world. I want to be there while he's giving me the land to be close to them so I can look after them and be there. I don't want it 10 or 11 years from now when, after they're gone, I'll move into town." So they say, "Well, we feel like 5 acres is too big a land for your Dad to give to you, so we're cutting it down to 2½ acres--3 acres she told me. I looked at the measurements and 3 acres looked big enough for me. So I said, "All right, well, let's fix the papers." So she got.....

(Bonnie: How much is 3 acres?)

Well, from the fence, you see right here, to the back--to this fence--you'll see a post sitting out there. From the big post to the road, it's 2½ acres.