

Farmed, yeah. You see farms around here.

(Back then, this first bottom land, how much would that lease for?)

Well, it would bring a deployment--get that on appraisal. It was river bottom land, say, landy loam or clay--depending on along what river it was. Some of this red clay--brought good value, but the sandy loam was the very best.

(How much would sandy loam river bottom lease for back then?)

Oh, it depends--say, two and half an acre or somewhere along in there.

(That would be a year?)

A year, yeah.

(Do you have any idea what that second bottom land might bring?)

Well, it brought about two dollars an acre. Not much cheaper. Two dollars or a dollar and a half an acre.

(What about the ridge land?)

Oh, a dollar an acre. You know, some ridge land is pretty good value. It had sandy loam, too, because you know wherever you find these blackjacks--red oaks, we call them--they always in sandy loam. Like all this right up here is blackjack timber. And that's where the best water is--it's well filtered, you know, and that's the best water. We go out here across the river and around west here and get this sandy loam water on account of it cooks better--beans and such as that. I'm going out and get a cooler of it one of these days and I'll boil me some beans and salt bacon--navy beans. They cook better in this sandy loam water. It's well-filtered and soft.

(Did you used to go get that kind of water back in those days?)

Not necessarily. No.

(This ridge land--is it different from pasture land?)

It's good pasture land too. Good pasture. You know when you come out from Calumet in your car, you come out from that hill up to this side of that car spur--all that is ridge land. That 's all--a lot of that's good