

AN OUTLAW HIDEOUT

They had a hideout over there, and the people didn't know it.

But, nowadays, they know where it is. It was on a creek and from the creek bed, there's some trees and bushes. You go in there, and it was hollow, as big as this house or bigger. That's where they put the horses--in there. And then they went on to the second room. They go on over their head and it leads up, and it had an opening about that big around at the top of the mountain. And they watched from the top.

(Oh, it was sort of a hole in the mountain?)

Nobody knows that there's a hole in there, in the mountain, but people go over there to look, now.

(Does that hole have a name?)

It just had the "Outlaw Hole." That's all. Well, these outlaws went on into Arkansas. And it wasn't about six months, I think, or seven, they captured them in Arkansas. It was the Dalton Gang, I think. Now, that's the bunch that had been coming over there to Uncle Jim's house. After they captured them, they got them and they brought that sheriff's gun back and badge--star. And today, if you go to Anadarko City Hall Museum, you'll see that star and gun on exhibition.

(Now, was this the Sheriff Smith that was killed?)

Frank Smith. George Batts was the undersheriff.

(Both killed?)

Yeah. Now, that's about the closes experience I had with outlaws.

(Well, when they finally captured them in Arkansas, did they bring them back to Oklahoma?)

No. I don't know what they ever done with them. I heard they prosecuted them. They had a lot of other charges on them in Arkansas, I guess and they convicted them there. I never tried to find