T-399-1 Eliza Rogers, Cherokee

Miss Elle Rogers and her sister, Miss Babe Rogers were born only a quarter of a mile from their present home. Their present home was built by their father seventy-two years ago. These two sisters have always lived in this home, on land which was their mother's allotment. Their father was Richard Rogers who originally came from across the river from the Hulbert area. Their mother was Betsie Fields who was born and always lived in the Three Forks country.

Their home is up on the side of a hill and the location commands a wonderful view of the country to the south and west. From this point Miss Rogers has watched the many changes that have come and gone affecting the Three Rivers Community.

One of the first schools that she attended was the log building known as Three Rivers School about three quarters of a mile south of her home. Later a fine sandstone building was constructed which remained use for many years. It was torn down a few years ago to make way or white people to build a homa and ranch. The land on which the school stood was on her Indian allotment. In the early days the school building was also used for church and Sunday School services. summer the big tree-shaded school yard was the scene of many camp meetings. In those days most of the people of the area were Indians. This fact seems evident as one visits the Three Rivers cemetery where most of the early monuments and markers bear names of Cherokee families. About two miles southeast of the old Three Rivers School location was the Cedar Hill School which was more recent, but which also was closed several years ago. The only other school that Miss Rogers recalls as existing in her early days was Falls City School located where the town of Okay is now.

Miss Rogers tells that they have always gone to Ft. Gibson to do their trading as long as she can remember. She says the town of