

INTERVIEW WITH:	Jack Chynoweth
INTERVIEWER:	Marsha Holland
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TRANSCRIBER:	Marsha Holland
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Tape 1, Side A

Dry Valley Ranch east of Kodachrome Basin State Park

MH: OK we are out on Jack Chynoweth's Ranch, which is just south of Kodachrome State Park.

JC: East.

MH: East of Kodachrome State Park. Now, who has owned this land....I know your father had it before you?

JC: Yes, my father owned it. His name was Harvey. He bought it from the Baldwin's who homesteaded it here. Angus Baldwin lived right up here. You can see the spot right up here now and his father George lived over, only just a half mile east of here, over this ridge. They built a house there. My dad built an old cabin right there and he died in that cabin. He had a heart attack. Mother was with him. He keeled over there and died instantly. Mother had never driven that Jeep. But he had told her how to get it in four wheel drive, told a little bit about what to do. He must have figured that was maybe what was going to happen to him because he would always tell her, "If something happens to me this is how you do it." She drove that all the way into Cannonville, to Bonnie's and Bill Nelson's...

MH: And got some help. This is the son Baldwin and his dad lived down there.

JC: Yes. They homesteaded this. I can remember when they lived over there. They had a big Mulberry tree out front and I thought that was neat. {They had} corrals and they [farmed] a lot of dry land, corn and like that. They had the water diverted out of the creek over there and so some of it was irrigated land.

MH: Out of what creek?

JC: Dry Valley Creek and it runs down into Horse Valley. There is a nice stream of water over there, and it just runs to waste right now.

MH: And there was a Wilson that lived out here?

JC: He was the son-in-law of George's or Charlie, one of two. George was Angus' dad and I think Charlie and George were brothers. Charlie lived right where Desmond and Gretha lives [in Cannonville]. He had a little cabin right there and lived right there. Gretha can tell you about that.

MH: Now, Dry Valley Ranch is where you keep your cows for a few weeks until you can take them out on the range.

JC: Right, and maybe if there are some that are poor or with a young calf or something, I will keep them here in the winter.

MH: So, you may hold out a few in the winter. How many head of cattle do you have now?

JC: Oh, 125 maybe.

MH: How many did you sell? How many calves did you take out?

JC: I sold 85 the other day.

MH: On video?

JC: Yes. The sale was in Denver.

Recording stops then resumes.

We are now standing on the southern edge of Jack's Dry Valley Ranch at a large red rock outcropping. There are names engraved on the rock that date back over 150 years.

We are talking about the people whose names appear on the rock. Jack refers to the writings as white man hieroglyphics.

JC: John O. Thompson

MH: December 2 1888. That is a while ago.

JC: This Richard A. Thorly is 1886. Over where the park is, that was called Thorly's Pasture and I have wondered what the name Thorly came from until I saw this, then I knew that was where they got Thorly's Pasture from, Richard A. Thorly.

MH: There is a Joe W. Thompson up there too.

JC: Joseph F. over here.

MH: There is Joe below the January 1988, it says Joe W. Thompson.

JC: OK, now I see it. That would be Joe's grandfather. His name was Joe too.

MH: Then there is John whose name is up there a half a dozen times...

JC: ...that would be his great grandpa. That's Joe, they called him Jody, but it was Joe. This little point over here on the flat country is called Jody Point, named after him.

MH: Now there is a Willis up there. Roy Willis.

JH: Where is that?

JC: I can just barely remember him. I did know him. You can climb up there.

MH: There is a William up there.

JC: William has eroded away.

MH: There is also a J.F. Bagwall. And there is a Christiansen, Hyrum. Ever hear of those guys.

JC: No.

MH: There is a Frank Ahlstrom over here from 1893.

JC: I can remember Frank.

MH: What did he do?

JC: He was a sheep man who lived in Tropic.

MH: Is that why a lot of them were out here, herding sheep?

JC: That is right, exactly right.

MH: There are a lot of crosses up there too.

JC: That one cross up there is a brand, the 'T' cross.

MH: There is another one to the right, it has a circle, next to the t-cross. There is May 1916, Harold Ahlstrom. Then there is a Sears Willis.

JC: Sear Willis, I knew him.

MH: Was he in sheep too?

JC: No, he probably was working for a sheep man though. You know Bonnie Willis and Roy was her husband, it was his dad.

MH: OK, I am taking a couple of photos.

End of hieroglyphics segment.

Tape Resumes:

Jack and I are traveling by car from Tropic to the Dry Valley/Kodachrome State Park area where Jack has ranched all his life.

MH: It is November 19th, 2002. We have left Jack's house in Tropic and we are headed out to the area where he does his ranching. How are you today?

JC: I am fine.

MH: Jack how many times do you think you have gone on this route? Have you ever thought about it?

JC: Well, let's see. I have been out here almost every day this year except the last few weeks or two.

MH: Over three hundred days in a year?

JC: Pretty close. I feed cows out here. They don't stay fed. (Laughter) You have to keep feeding them.

MH: Last year when I came out here with you, you had just sold about 85 head and you had 125 head of cattle. That was last winter.

JC: Yes.

MH: So, what about your herd now?

JC: This darn drought has forced me to sell most of them. I only have about 60; half are gone.

MH: Are they on the range or where?

JC: No, I have had them out on private property in Dry Valley all summer and I have had to go out and feed them every day. There wasn't anything for them to eat on the range with this drought.

MH: The BLM, would they let you out there to range?

JC: I took them to Deer Range and my water dried up out there, the first time ever.

MH: So, you had to bring them in.

JC: I had to bring them in, because I can't haul water out there. It is too rough and too far.

MH: How far out is it there to Deer Range?

JC: It is only twenty mile out there, but...it is so rough, one grade after another. There is a sandy spot out there that almost is impassable and impossible if you need to haul water out there. When you get out there, there is no other water out there anywhere.

MH: We are heading out to Kodachrome. We did a little bit of an interview last year at your place by Kodachrome. What do you call that ranch?

JC: Dry Valley because that whole valley is called Dry Valley. I say when I go out to the ranch, "I am going out to Dry Valley."

MH: Otherwise you go out to Deer Range?

JC: Right.

MH: Is it too late to go out to Deer Range?

JC: If we get a good day, we can go out there still. I haven't been out there in quite awhile. There hasn't been much there to go out there for. Cows aren't there and the water is dried up.

MH: When you sold half your cattle, do you anticipate that you can build it up again?

JC: I don't think so. I think I am too old to be going back into it. If I was younger, yes. Someone else, my posterity will want to.

MH: Where are the cattle now, in Dry Valley?

JC: There are none in Dry Valley. I have them out in Round Valley.

MH: In between Butler and Dry Valley?

JC: Yes.

MH: So, what do you think about as you drive down this road into Cannonville so many times?
What are your thoughts?

JC: I just am thinking about what I have to do out there. There is quite a lot to think about
when you go out there.

MH: Have you ever had any surprises when you got out there?

JC: Yes!

MH: (laughter) What kind of surprises?

JC: I went out there one morning. I had been out there earlier in the morning. I had come in
for something. I had been staying out there in the little cabin. I was calving out heifers
among other things which is why I had to stay out there. I had just fed the cows in the
corral there that needed attention. When I went back out there somebody had been
there. I had a big truck sitting there with hay in the back. Somebody had been there. I
got to looking around somebody had done quite a lot of damage to my truck. They cut
my fan belts and pulled all the wired loose from under the hood. The trucks those days
didn't have a lot to them, so they could raise the hood up and pull the wires and things
everywhere. They wrote me a note. At the time I had been clearing some of the old
trees of, just old trash trees.

I don't know, an environmentalist, I guess, and said, "I don't like what you are doing with
my trees." Just like that, like they were his trees.

MH: He didn't know he was on private property.

JC: Apparently not, I don't know. He was probably on a little mountain bike, just lifted it over
the fence and in there. I never missed him by five minutes. I didn't catch him. I don't
what I would have done if I caught him out there. I might have...

MH: ...been mean?

JC: ...violent. I don't know, I can't say.

MH: Other ranchers have had similar problems. If they had a cabin down in The Box, it was
burned down.

JC: Yes. In fact they did that to mine. I had a little cabin in Cottonwood, and they burned it to the ground. Anyway he signed it, "I'll be back. Signed, God" (laughter)

MH: My goodness! Now this land used to be used for sheep herding.

JC: Yes, the old shearing corral sat right over there

MH: That is Promise Rock.

JC: Yes that is Promise Rock right over there.

MH: Was more of this land used for agriculture, more arable uses at one time?

JC: Just grazing except right here in these places where you can tell it has been plowed before. They had an old ditch come down here before. See there is the old reservoir right there. Overnight they would fill them up and call them a reservoir. They would hold a little stream of water all night then they would use the water out here in the day time, creating a stream that was big enough that they could push the water through the irrigation ditches.

MH: This was the old town of Wooden Shoe. What about the town of Clifton?

JC: Clifton was up in East Valley.

MH: Oh, I thought it was down here. It is in East Valley?

JC: Yes. You see when my grandfather and grandmother left the old town of Paria, down here, they moved up river because they got flooded out there and they had to move out. They come up river and came to Cannonville. Grandmother is of course buried in Cannonville.

MH: What was your grandmother's name?

JC: Mary. You know it was strange. They were both Chynoweths, first cousins.

MH: On the other side of your family, your dad was a Campbell?

JC: Yes.

MH: So, it was the Chynoweths that came up. Where did the Campbell's come in from?

JC: Down in the Dixie Country. I think Grandfather; well Mother was born in Virgin, the little town of Virgin. He moved up to Tropic and moved up to Campbell Canyon.

MH: I love that place. Let's talk about the river. Some people say the Paria starts here, at the confluence with the Henrieville Creek.

JC: It is the headwaters of the Paria [and] all this drainage that goes clear up towards the Canaan. The Canaan drains down in the Round Valley Neck and then comes back into the Hackberry and then Hackberry goes into Cottonwood and then Cottonwood goes into the Paria.

MH: Then up above the Paria, above Cannonville, what do they call that stream of water?

JC: That is called Water Canyon, a tributary to the Paria. I think Water Canyon is where they dump the water over the canyon, so it is Water Canyon.

MH: How has the road changed in here? We just passed over the bridge and the Paria. Is the road it basically in the same place or did it used to just follow the wash?

JC: This is new. There might have been an old wagon trail down though here. In fact in 1929 my dad bought an old Durant. That was really something in those days. There was an old wagons road out here. We got on out here on it, in the old Durant. We started up over, what we called the Shepard over here. It was all us kids in the back. My brother was the driver. My dad, he bought the car but he didn't know how to drive. So, my older brother was the driver. He was six or seven years older. He was only about 15 or 16 years old then.

MH: Only a teenager still. (Laughter) How did he learn how to drive over your dad?

JC: It seemed like he just came naturally to it. It is just natural for the kids today to run computers, I don't know how to run one of them, but in those days it came natural for us to drive cars and our parents didn't know how and wouldn't do it.

MH: Whose cows are those?

JC: The Richards. This is the Richards ranch and their corral.

MH: Helma told me her dad would grow watermelons out here. They used to camp out here. OK, now we are coming up on the Shepard's.

JC: OK, you go right down there, and see that old dug way over there? The road right over here and down and clear back up that way. We started right off down here and got about

right there, almost three-fourths up there and the car stops. It quits for some reason. We didn't know what was the matter. My brother got in and we backed clear down here, on the level and let it sit there for a few minutes. Then he tried it, and it started right up no problem. So, we headed right back up through there, again and got in that same spot, about right over there, and it quits again. So, this times be backs clear down and around and we came to find out that is had a gravity carburetor. The carburetor was higher than the gas tank. (Laughter) And it ran out of gas.

MH: So, what did you do?

JC: So we came around here and we backed it up the hill and turned around up there and away we went.

MH: How far did you make it out with the Durant in 1929?

JC: We went out to the Dry Valley Wash. That was as far as the road went then.

MH: The Shepard's Curve was named because why?

JC: I don't know. That was before my time. There were a lot of big sheep herds out here. There were also cows in here too. You might find an old, CCC camp in those days. It was about when the Taylor Grazing Act comes into force, they set boundaries out here. They would have a post, with a sign on one side that said, "Sheep Allotment" and on the other side, "Cow Allotment." They were all over here. It hasn't been very long ago I saw one of those signs. It is possible there are still some around.

MH: Where they wood signs or metal?

JC: Wood.

MH: That was 1934 wasn't it, the thirties?

JC: Thirty-eight.

MH: I have been out on this road. They call it 'Road Holler'?

JC: Yes, it is not very far out there to the Paria. This is Road Holler.

MH: So, there is Kodachrome up in there.

JC: It is the entire Park up in there now. It is pretty up in there, beautiful. It is an area, that if you get in there, you have to backpack, it is not accessible.

MH: That is right you have to hike in there. This is another little drainage through here. Does this have a name?

JC: This is little Dry Valley here, just over this next ridge; we always called it Little Dry Valley. This is the drainage in here, just up to those hills. This is Little Dry Valley all though here and not far from here down to the Paria.

MH: There is a wall of rocks right here. What about those rocks. They make like a fence.

JC: OK, in the CCC camp days in the thirties, they did that. They came out here and hauled all the rocks out here and laid them in like that. Right in where those sagebrush are is their camp number. I still remember the name of it. It says DG33. It is still there to this day, but with the sagebrush you can't see the numbers, but you can see a few rocks in there.

MH: So, the rocks formed the number?

JC: Yes. Yes.

MH: So, if you worked around in there you could probably see or find some relics. This was where their camp was right?

JC: No, there was a big wash that came right down through here and they dammed this wash off for erosion purposes. When they did it they just put their marker right there.

MH: So, they didn't actually camp here, but it was one of their projects?

JC: Yes, that was one of their projects. Yep, the CC boys put that there.

MH: It has really endured. OK here is that road that continued out to Cottonwood. We are making the turn into the Kodachrome Basin State Park. Do you remember when this was designated a State Park?

JC: Oh, yes, it hasn't been that many years ago.

MH: Do you remember how they decided to do that? Was there any controversy about it?

JC: There was controversy. It took grazing privileges out of there for the stockmen and they had to get their OK. They probably could have done it without. But it is policy, to get their permission to do it. I can remember that.

MH: So, they had to get the cattlemen's or sheepmen's permission?

JC: Just the cattlemen then, there were no sheep here. They got their permission and this is what they said, "We'll take about two thousand acres right here. We won't take any of your grazing ground. It won't change a bit for you." Well it did, it changed. They came back in and they added clear over here and took up a lot of grazing ground. The old stockmen weren't too happy about it.

MH: Were there any exchanges, any compensation?

JC: No. No, none what so ever.

MH: Do, you remember coming out here when you were a kid, before it was a State Park?

JC: Oh, yes, I was a grown man when they made it a State Park. There was no road up through here. All there was were cows trail though this country. Mostly, on cow trails we came up though here and out, just this side of the high red.

MH: We'll go out to the Chimney Rock area first. So, this road that you come into the park on, wasn't even actually here, even as a cow trail?

JC: None of these roads.

MH: The way you accessed this area was actually down here.

JC: I'll show you where the old trail goes through. The old trail came through that pass in the red rocks up there...

MH: Where the point is, the spire?

JC: Yes.

MH: Let me get a picture of it. So, right where the houses are now.

JC: Yes. That house sits right on the old trail. But this trail came on the other side of these two points right here.

MH: It came from over here over on the right. Which side of the spire would you end up on?

JC: This side on the left.

MH: Well, what would you think when you were driving cows into this area? It seems like it is so unique. Did you always enjoy it? It seems like a playful area.

JC: Yes, I thought it was really a neat place, so pretty. I would ride along on my horse and primp and set out there and watch my shadow. I was just a kid. It was really something

to reminisce on back in those days. I had an old hat that was lippy. When I would come to a water hole, I would put that old hat in the water so I could shape it so it was just like I wanted, then get out there in the sun, and primp and see my shadow and hope that I could be a real cowboy like that some day.

MH: Well, look at that, you are. (Laughter)

JC: Now that trail comes right out through here.

MH: That is still part of the old trail, it is now this [dirt] road.

JC: I don't think there was ever a road or trail where the new road is now.

MH: Was this used as a camp in here, a natural stop off place?

JC: No, because there was no water here.

(We are crossing the wash near the Group Area in Kodachrome Basin State Park headed towards Chimney Rock)

MH: Only a flash flood. Wow, this has filled in...

JC: It has. Now I'll show you the old (inaudible), what they used to call it back here. You can still see parts of that old trail today.

MH: OK right there.

JC: Right there. It forked right here. One went that way and still, one went out this way.

MH: Now where would you end up if you took this one out to the right?

JC: Back out on the road that goes through Dry Valley to Cottonwood.

MH: The purpose of going out this way was to access the different rangeland out there.

JC: Yes. Most of them that was traveling through the valley went through this way. The ranchers that were up in this area, they went this way. This is where my dad ran his cattle, so we went in this way.

MH: Were these guys going into or out of Henrieville with their cows?

JC: Well, I only remember one bunch of cows that would ever come through here; that was the Moore's.

MH: Like Lige Moore and that crew?

JC: Lige Moore.

MH: Did he really used to wear guns slung low?

JC: Yes. He had his six-shooter on all the time and he could use it too.

MH: He could?

JC: Yes, he was a professional.

MH: Did he run with Butch Cassidy a bit?

JC: I don't know much about Butch Cassidy, but he did run with Sid Wilson, the old cattle rustler that came up from across the river there at Lee's Ferry and they would rustle cattle up in this country and take them back down across the river and down into Arizona.

MH: He would rustle your cattle?

JC: Oh, yes!

MH: A neighbor, from Henrieville?

JC: No, Wilson did, but Lige rode with him before he got cattle of his own and moved up here.

JC: Now, from Henrieville, there were three different trails. The one over in Kodachrome, then there is one that comes over from Horse Valley, up in that way and then there was another one that came off in here.

MH: Really! Off in here!

JC: It is steep country there.

MH: Oh, my gosh.

JC: No one in this country knows that trail is there any more, only me.

MH: Is there still evidence of it out there, could you still find it?

JC: I haven't been close in so many years. I can see right where it went up there. It is almost eroded away.

MH: I'll take a picture of that too. Now when you go over that trail, where do you end up?

JC: Well, you know the trail that comes into Kodachrome and this one here, after you got over the hill, they would come together in what they call Feld Shaw. That is what we used to call it. You wind through those little trees right there, this side of the (inaudible), it wound up through that, got up in that tiny plateau, then a dug way back around and up over where that little draw comes out.

MH: I'll take a picture and then I'll blow it up and you can draw it in. We are heading out to Chimney Rock.

JC: We thought this was a spectacular thing, that big old rock standing on its end right there. It is hard rock, not soft. It has probably stood there for a jillion years and more to come. In 1949, the National Geographic has it in their issue, one of the months in that year.

MH: 1949.

JC: There is picture of this rock in there and see the big, I call it the Great Cathedrals, all though it is on my place over there. If you look back on it from where it goes up to my barn there, and there was another picture from there. So, there are two pictures that month of that one and this rock here.

MH: This looks like it was good rangeland in here.

JC: It was.

MH: It is not grazed at all anymore and it looks pretty bad. It must be from the drought.

JC: You ought to see this last year, just yellow everywhere. The year before.

MH: Someone said once, that when they came into this country they described the grass as being knee high, tall, tall grasses.

JC: That is right. It would be that way now but it doesn't get any rain. Isn't that a spectacular picture there?

MH: Beautiful. Now, we will have to turn around here. This is the east edge here and then the start of your land right?

JC: Yes.

MH: You sure wouldn't want to be out here when it is wet. I get the feeling it would be fairly gushy.

JC: That's right. You might not go very far. Now, this is my land out here. That is the rock where the writings, the hieroglyphics are. Then that is 'Eagle Rock.'

MH: So, this is your rock right here. (Indicating the cathedral spire). Oh, the fence line is right there. I'd like to take your picture here.

Break in the recording.

MH: Well, I've hiked all over here.

JC: Chimney Rock is a better picture from the other side. You can see out to Rainbow Point and Bryce Canyon, all of Deer Range and Rock Springs and back out to the Rush Beds. That is the Paria that winds down between those two plateaus. There is great big huge canyon out there.

MH: Would that be out by Johnson Hole?

JC: No, Johnson Hole is on this side of the big canyon. See where Molly's Nipple is, that is where Johnson's Hole is. All the rocks have a different name.

MH: Well, you used to call this Dry Valley.

JC: Yes.

MH: Would you call where Kodachrome, where the park is now, Dry Valley?

JC: That was just a little tributary of the Dry Valley, maybe the top, I don't know.

MH: It looks like an exciting place to go visit from here.

JC: They got a rock over here that I don't believe the park knows anything about it. It is the Queen Victoria. They have a Queen Victoria up to Bryce Canyon. OK, well this one is so much more spectacular than the one up there, there is no comparison. You can see it right over here. I will show it to you.

MH: We are headed back into the main part of the park here.

JC: We will stop and look at this skyline and see if you can pick it out.

MH: If I squint, then I can see the formations.

JC: Well have to go a bit farther, right there. Roll down a bit further.

MH: OK, there she is.

JC: OK, can you see standing there facing that way, with her crown and her big gown and she is shaped just like a woman. Long toward evening you can really see that skyline. My dad or anyone I can ever remember ever said anything about Thorly's Pasture, just that it was Thorly's Pasture. They never did say why it was named that. After I found those rocks that I took you to (the hieroglyphics rock south of Dry Valley Ranch) there is 'Richard A. Thorly' and that would have to be where this name came from here. I don't

know one thing about him. I never remember any of the old timers mention a word about Richard A. Thorly.

MH: Well, if you speculated, would you think he had a little place up here?

JC: I don't know. There is no water up here, no place to stay.

MH: So, there never was a settlement up in here?

JC: No, it was too dry.

MH: But people knew about this area because...

JC: ...the scenery. Now right here now, from this rock over to this rock is where we would put the big herds of cattle up here and camp up here. Right there in the wash, this side of the red hill we would stretch tarps across and put ropes out there and throw tarps over them to hold the cows in here. (Jack describes an area along the road that is narrow as you move up into the upper part of the Park)

MH: This is the narrowest part going up into the Basin.

JC: The narrowest part, where we would camp right there. If we didn't then a lot of them that would go down through and go in the night, and we couldn't find them the next day. But this place up through here and all over, was massive cows. Now stop right here and I will tell you about that. Now the ole' CC trail that was put in, you come over through the gap right there, you can see it on an angle and then off. I was quite a big kid when they did that. I was a teenager. The old trail before that went right over here with that steep part in it. It was terrible. We would have to run those cows up over that. There was a little winding trail and it would go right up the steep part. Later on they put that other trail in. It was five or six feet wide.

MH: They would use this trail to drive the cattle over to Henrieville. (Indicating the Eagle's View Trail)

JC: We would have to have our pack horses, packed with our camp, they would have to go up over that steep part too. I remember one of the pack animals slipped and fell down through there and went parumph....

MH: Oh, no, how awful.

JC: Scattered the camp and popped out the bottom. That was the end of him. Now, that used to be a big wide trail up through there.

MH: This is called the Eagle's View Trail.

JC: These are all new names. This is Thorly's Pasture.

MH: Look you can see part of the trail there. It has steps in it.

JC: Yes, see where it turns. It looks like blacktop

MH: Those are steps. That looks like a scary trail.

JC: Well, it is. It is high, especially that old one over there. Boy, that make you stand right up in your stirrups.

MH: Looks like they are working on the reservoir.

JC: That is their head house. They are working on it. This is always a pretty area. I always liked it. The red underneath. It is so colorful. The blue way on top, then the red, the white and all the different color there.

MH: I'll take a picture here, of the trail.

Recording stops and then resumes.

JC: This was quite a place before the park, what happened right here. There is not another soul that knows anything about what I have told you here, that is alive today.

MH: Who were some of the other folks who would ranch out here, or drive cattle?

JC: The Smiths, the Moores, Chynoweths, the Gouldings and that is about all of them.

MH: And they would use this area to drive their cows over to Henrieville?

JC: Just access from one valley to the other.

MH: It is interesting how the cows were boxed out up in here. And then that they would willingly go up that trail?

JC: You would have to come up in here and literally force the first ones up and over there. If you ever got any started, then the others would follow.

MH: Aren't there always a few older ones that would know the way and lead?

JC: Yes, with a little bit a pressure, they would go on over there because they had been there before. (We turn around at the top of the Park and begin our drive back down)

MH: OK, here is that narrow spot again. What would you tie your rope onto?

JC: A tree and stretch it tight and throw a tarp over it and it would be a fence high enough, that they couldn't see through it, it was a good fence. Then we would camp right in the trail there so they wouldn't go by us.

MH: Well, the trail was in the wash and came out right here. And no water! So what did you guys do for water?

JC: We packed our own water in kegs. Fill a keg with three or four gallons, a little wooden barrel, that had a little wood cork in it to plug it off. You would put it up in the forks of the pack saddle and carry it from place to place. Then you usually put a quilt over it and tied it and it stayed right there. As far as our animals were concerned, we would have to water them where we left water over here and they would have to wait until we got over the hill for their drink. They were thirsty by the time they got to Henrieville.

MH: So, then it isn't completely unreasonable for them to go without water for a day?

JC: Right.

MH: So, they would spend a few weeks in Henrieville corralled?

JC: No, the reason we were going there was for the sale. When we would get over there, Dad would sell most of those cows on the market. That was the only way; you had to have a sale. That was the way we did it.

MH: Just once a year?

JC: Just once in the spring.

MH: Because they are nice and fat?

JC: Yes.

MH: So, let's talk about what is going on with the weather here. It has been so dry lately.

JC: I just remember that we just had a lot more storm and that the grass was always waist high and now, it doesn't get a chance. There has been a big change in the weather patterns. Maybe it is a hundred year cycle.

MH: Maybe it will turn around. Not many people get to be a part of that, huh?

Recording stops and resumes at Cottonwood Road junction and the Park.

JC: My dad didn't ranch in there.

MH: His permits were mostly where down there?

JC: Here, Dry Valley, Round Valley, and Butler Valley and down Cottonwood and down on Brigham Plains and Coyote, and the Paria River at the lower end of it.

MH: Well that takes you down to the Colorado [River]?

JC: Yes. We would usually go right down to where the Lower Box was; they call it, where it boxes out for the last time before it hits the river. Now it is on a 'primitive area' there now and I don't how far you can drive down there now.

MH: Would your dad run his cattle down there?

JC: No, not over there, not anything on the other side of the Paria. It was all in the Paria or this side. I have never been there since it has been a primitive area and so ...[required permits]. The time I was there last, you had to ride a horse and there was no road, nothing down there.

MH: It is still a rough road, but there is a staging area and a trailhead down there now.

JC: One day, me and my older brother in 1937, we took a big tank that is down there now, to this area we are talking about at the head of the box there, and there is what they call Whitey's Spring. We loaded this big tank that filled the whole truck bed; it was about eight by twelve. There were no roads down there at all, not even from Kanab way. We started on into Sheep Creek where the dam is, we went right down that canyon and came out in the Paria. There were no roads, we just picked our way clear down there in that big old truck and went clear down there. That tank is still there today. We left it right there where the spring was and they installed it later.

MH: So, the tank is still down there? (We are around the bridge south of Cannonville on the Kodachrome Road) So, is this Desmond's [Twitchell] work?

JC: Yes, this is Desmond's property.

MH: This is still ditch irrigated here?

Heading back into Cannonville looking at Escalante Mountain, Blues and Promise Rock.

JC: Flood irrigated. This is a wonderful view here. You get the pink here.

MH: Are any of those trails used now for cattle?

JC: No, they are never used any more except if somebody wants to ride, but they never use them for anything other than scenery or recreational.

MH: We are now at the confluence of the Henrieville Creek and the Paria

JC: This is the headwater of the Paria. It goes up to the Canaan drainage, not all the way, and up to the old Pink Cliffs, up where the road goes to Escalante. Then of course this goes up towards where we call the Dutton and up there and of course, East Valley. It is a big area of drainage.

MH: It is a big area. Did you ever spend much time at Promise Rock?

JC: We used to go over. In those days it seemed like most of the whole community [would go over there] I don't know about Cannonville, I never did over to Cannonville much because it was so far away. You would have to ride over there on a horse. We never got very far away from Henrieville. Most all of the people from Henrieville, when they would have outings with the whole community, they would all be down to Promise Rock.

MH: It is pretty on the east side [of Promise Rock]. There is an arch over there.

JC: Yes, a little one over there.

MH: And the wavy rock you can get up on?

JC: We used to have a lot of fun on the wavy rocks out there.

MH: Some folks told me when they were teenagers they would go out there and play music and have barbeques.

JC: Oh, they would dance in there. It was quite a place. You would go down and sleep overnight.

We continue by car over to Henrieville to try to get up by the Feld Shaw trail.

MH: Over here we have Peter's Crack.

JC: That was where the old road used to go through to Cannonville and come over through that crack. I can remember when they built that crack. It was a WPA project. It was quite a project to cut a big whole like that.

MH: Did they cut this out too?

JC: Yes they cut this out too. But they had modern equipment for this, but down there, we didn't have much equipment, mostly hand work down there. We would ride the school bus to Tropic, to Henrieville and we would wind around those little ole' rocks and get through there. When we got the crack there, we could sail right through there. They call it Peter's Crack. He was the boss. He was from Tropic. Nels Schow was his name. You know where the Pizza Place is now, he was just across the street to the east, is where he used to live.

MH: Now this is an interesting area up here. (Indication an area north and west of Henrieville off of Highway 12)

JC: That is Wild Cat. Then Coal Bench on the other side.

MH: This is where you grew up, right? Henrieville.

JC: Yes. See that canyon coming out this big hill going out here, with this other hill in front of it, that is what you call Fell Shaw.

MH: That is where the cows came through?

JC: Yes. See this little ridge right here with a backbone on it that goes up and out and it goes right up and around, that first point is where the trails turns over into Kodachrome, right there.

MH: I bet we can get out there.

JC: Well, I think that just goes up to those farms. This is all new to me, over here; I haven't been over here since I was a kid. Right up in that same holler' there is a little canyon that forks and turns that way, that is where the other trail meets. That is Fell Shaw right in there.

MH: Fell Shaw? You are going to spell it? (Laughter)

JC: Fells Shaw...that is it. (Laughter) I know it. F-e-l-s-h-a-w, I don't know. (more laughter)

MH: Where do you think that name came from?

JC: I have no idea. [It was] Way back before my time.

MH: Now to get out there...

JC: I believe you have to go up to the other side of Henrieville, by the bridge up there.

22 Jack Chynoweth

MH: We'll go try it.

JC: I think they put this bridge in to access it from the other side. I haven't lived here in so long, I don't know.

MH: When did you move away from Henrieville?

JC: About 1940.

End of segment on the Kodachrome Basin State Park area/Dry Valley Ranch

Recording resumes with a trip out the Deer Range Road where Jack owns private land.

MH: OK, what do you call this road that turns off to Kanab, Jack?

JC: This is the Deer Range Road [as] we call it. Skutumpah is on the way, over 15-20 miles on over.

MH: But between here...

JC: I figure past Bull Valley about four or five miles.

MH: Where does it become Skutumpah Road?

JC: From there on, farther past Deer Range.

MH: OK, now we are entering Grand Staircase Escalante lands.

JC: We can't leave town unless we are in that.

MH: How many times in your life do you think you have traveled this road?

JC: It would be hard to guess, but a good many times every year for the last almost fifty years.

MH: Did your dad have a ranch out here before or did you acquire this land?

JC: My dad bought it from Max Henderson, that lived in Cannonville and he later lost his life down in Bull Valley Gorge. That was Max's ranch. He bought that, he only had it about a year when he sold it to me, my dad sold it to me. He never did come out here and do anything with it. Even when he had it, I had the responsibility of it.

MH: How many acres is it about?

JC: It is 640 acres of private land.

MH: You can run a lot of cattle out there then.

JC: Oh, yes. I reseeded all of it.

MH: What kind of grass?

JC: Crested wheat. It seems to adapt better than any of the other we tried. There is Intermediate. I might have a little of that, Intermediate Wheat Grass.

MH: Once it gets a good start then it just...

JC: ...keeps coming.

MH: Isn't it good for it to be grazed?

JC: Yes, it comes in the spring, grows good, and then a long in the summer between June and July, along in there, it kind goes dormant when there isn't enough moisture. Then when the rain in the fall hit, while it will really come green again.

MH: Did you have to do some land clearing?

JC: Yes.

MH: How did you do that? What was the method you used?

JC: We used big heavy machinery, Cats and big heavy plows.

MH: Are there bigger trees up there?

JC: There are Ponderosa up there.

MH: What is the elevation?

JC: Right at the ranch house it is 6600'.

MH: That is like around Tropic isn't it?

JC: A little higher. The difference is that is a north slope, and Tropic is a south slope, so it is a lot colder out here because of that.

MH: So, the Deer Range Ranch is your summer range?

JC: Yes.

MH: Where would you drive your cattle from to get to your summer range?

JC: We would drive them right out this road here, out the Sheep Creek corral here and we would usually spend the night right there and we could usually make it out to Deer Range that day and it would take two days of trailing to make it out there.

MH: You would camp right here at the Sheep Creek spillway?

JC: No, at the Sheep Creek corral, just around this bend right here.

MH: Was that a CCC project?

JC: A CC project.

MH: There were a lot of CCC projects that supported ranching.

JC: I know it. It was their main purpose, what they came in for.

MH: Economic development?

JC: Economic development and erosion work. They did a lot of erosion work.

MH: The philosophy is so different now. It is "hands off", no building, no improvements to the land now.

JC: Yes. This is the corral here. We would camp right there overnight, next morning at daybreak we would head out the road.

MH: That is a good little corral. How many cows can you fit in there?

JC: You could put two hundred in there.

MH: A couple hundreds, huh?

JC: Yes, it is bigger than you think it is.

MH: Looks like that one fence comes out...

JC: That is a wing. Well, it just a convenience to get the cows in there. If you didn't have that it would be hard to get them in there. They avoid you unless you have a little help like that wing. You will see those wings on all the corrals

MH: Do you remember when this spillway was put in?

JC: In recent years.

MH: Was it an experiment?

JC: I thought it was for erosion.

MH: What was the erosion problem?

JC: It had really helped all the way up the river here. The dam here, it stops all the silt. This is Sheep Creek. This is the 'Head of the Box' we call it. The Box is right down there at Sheep Creek Box.

MH: How far down is the Box?

JC: It is eight miles from here down to the Paria, down this canyon. See how this boxes up right there.

MH: I have gone about half way, not the whole way. Do they ever come in and clean this out?

JC: No, those floods will come over that and clean it all out.

MH: Do you remember any particularly high waters on the spillway?

JC: Oh I'll say! Big streams of water, flash floods.

MH: And you just have to wait it out?

JC: Yes, hours and hours sometimes wait on the other side of the creek. Not only here but over on Willis Creek out here. Which is another couple of miles or so.

MH: It looks like they graded this road.

JC: It's been graded recently, I can tell. It's a nice road now. There's the little visitor center.

JC: A little information booth out here.

MH: Can you think of any adventures you've had out here.

JC: There are a few things that have been strange. Right back on that little ridge over there, behind us, we just came over it one day. There was a cow that started to bleed out of her nostrils in her mouth and then it started gushing. Well just a few minutes later she was dead. I suppose it's what we call an aneurysm now.

MH: Like a stroke or something?

JC: Uh, huh. Well we've had a lot of flash floods right here, that have caught us right here with water gushing everywhere. We got soaked, no shelter at all.

MH: Do you anticipate the flash floods when you're out?

JC: Oh yes. We watch the sky and try to avoid driving this road when there are black clouds rolling around. One night right here in Willis Creek I spent all night.

MH: In Willis Creek?

JC: Um hum. I got stuck in the mud and there I was. I was in the truck. Evan was with me, our son. The next morning he walked in to town to get some help.

MH: From there?

JC: From there to get some help.

MH: Oh my, that's a long walk.

JC: It's quite a ways.

MH: You must have been pretty stuck.

JC: Oh yes, I had to have some help besides the truck.

MH: Someone yanked you out?

JC: Yeah. That's Deer Range, well our Deer Range. That little knoll you see right through there? Our little cabin is just to the left of it right there.

MH: We're going all the way out there?

JC: Yes, we have to go way around the back to it because of that Bull Valley Gorge right there. And Willis Creek, right here.

MH: It's big country.

JC: Oh it is. It's big.

MH: And it just comes out of the park [Bryce Canyon National Park] and becomes the big ridge out of the park, right? Deer Range?

JC: Yes. The park see is right at the end of that Rainbow Point right over there.

MH: Is it the high point there, Rainbow Point?

JC: Yes. The park comes down underneath the mountain.

MH: And when you keep following that ridge out it becomes the Deer Range?

JC: Yes. Now slow down here just a little bit. Now you can see our cabin right through there. You see that shiny thing right through there? That's it.

MH: Yeah I see it. Now what's this craggy stuff, right there, what part of the country is that?

JC: That is Pasture Point they call that. And that other higher one is what we call Kill 'em All Point.

MH: Killamall? Why did they call it that?

JC: Well they would go out there and hunt deer and there was a narrow little neck in there that we would force the deer through. We went down in there and you could "kill them all" if you wanted to as they came through..

MH: So that's where that little high point is out there? That's out by No Man's then?

JC: Well 'No Man's' is off of Deer Range Point to the other side.

MH: There's your cabin. You can see it really well.

JC: Yeah. Now you can see how long it takes to get out there.

MH: This is [Road Number] 530.

JC: This is Stan Mecham's road. He goes to his ranch up here.

MH: Does this go up Willis Creek?

JC: Yes, it goes in to upper Willis Creek. We crossed lower Willis Creek down. That goes up over and hits Willis Creek and then you follow the canyon clear up to the mountain up there at the park.

MH: I would like to go out here. Stan told me about some inscriptions on the trees out here that I wanted to look at. Some old sheepherder's. They left inscriptions out here.

JC: Yeah they did. Those old sheepherders, they made their marks all over it. If they didn't do it on rocks why they did it on trees.

MH: It's hard to imagine sheep ranging on this land; it's pretty rough.

JC: It is. You would think they'd get lost.

MH: Which do think are smarter, sheep or a cow?

JC: Cow!

MH: Someone was telling me how herders would use goats to lead the sheep because the goat was so much smarter.

JC: Yeah, they're leaders.

MH: The goat would lead the sheep in to the corral to be sheared.

JC: Sure.

MH: This road is in good shape. People used to sharecrop out here at Willis Creek, right?

JC: They used to farm right over there on that little slope over there. They had this little stream of water diverted out there you know and they used to raise a lot of crops right over there. And there was a little house right here, right through this gate. It sat right in there.

MH: I went in there the other day to see if I could see any evidence but it's pretty much all gone. I didn't even see where the house might have been.

JC: Well it wasn't very far through the gate right there.

MH: I came out here with Arma Stock. She said her family used to come out in the summer and raise crops.

JC: Is that right?

MH: But it wasn't their land, it was like the Henderson's land or Clarke's.

JC: Clarke's used to own that.

MH: Oh there's a car out here.

JC: Maybe we've got some hikers.

MH: This is Willis Creek, we're crossing Willis Creek now. And what do you call this hill coming up out of here? Is there a name for it?

JC: I just call it the Willis Creek Hill.

MH: Well I know coming out of Butler where they call it Slickrock, you know that one hill?

JC: Yeah.

MH: This is a pretty steep hill.

JC: Especially when it's wet. You can go skatin', you've got no control over your outfit, and you're just helpless. There's been many of 'em stuck on this hill, especially outsiders that don't know, that aren't acquainted with it.

MH: You can see the frost on it.

JC: That is steep right there.

MH: There's a little spring right here. You can see somebody skidded right in here, look at that.

JC: Right down in there.

MH: It's pretty steep. I'd bet it had a little ice on it too.

JC: Oh, when it gets a little snow on it, stay home. See where the pinks [Pink Cliffs] are over there, that big mountain? His is just down that canyon a little way from those pinks.

MH: Where it starts to be gray?

JC: Just between the gray and the pink.

MH: That's up pretty far.

JC: This is Bull Valley is what they call up in here

MH: So just over here to the left of that gray plateau is Bull Valley?

JC: Yes, and that's Horse Mountain that higher gray hill over there.

MH: The closest one to us is Horse Mountain?

JC: And then Rainbow Point.

MH: So that's the head of Willis Creek up there on the right?

JC: Yeah.

MH: You can get up there. I know you can drive quite a ways up in there.

JC: There was a road out of there years ago. It almost hit the pink and then there's a canyon that turns to the north and you go way up there. You see all that black timbered area right up there? There was a road that went out on the top of the hill right there. I don't suppose you could get out there now but I remember a few years ago you could.

MH: But you would go through Stan's [Ranch] to get there. He probably has it locked up.

JC: I think he has a lock on his gate. Well this is Bull Valley Gorge right here. And this is where four men lost their lives I know of right here.

MH: I know about the three, there was a Henderson.

JC: And Clark Smith, and Max Henderson and Lee Johnson, no Hart Johnson.

MH: So it was a Johnson, Smith and a Henderson.

JC: And then just a few years ago there was two out here scaling these walls here, going up and down. And they had this, what do you call it, you get in a little bucket and let yourself down in? You have these weights that pull you around. And they were going off right there and they both came up out of the canyon and they were taking their gear off and the older one says he heard something and he looked back and he was gone. He fell off down in there backwards.

MH: This is really an amazing place.

JC: It's a long ways down in there.

MH: We hiked through there one time with the boys. Now this little place, you can imagine them sliding back here. It's easy to imagine falling in there. That's a very dangerous spot. There used to be a bit of a guardrail there, it's gone I noticed.

JC: It just keeps going down. Right there is where Mae would balk on me, right there. She would say [imitating Mae's voice] " I'm not going to ride across that, you're going to stop. Stop, stop right here!" I would have to stop, and she would get out and walk across and

I'd pick her up over there on the other side. She would not cross that especially when it was wet, you know and muddy. You'd kind of skid down through there, [again, imitating Mae's voice] "Oh, Oh!"

MH: She'll ride across there now won't she?

JC: When it's dry. She won't come out here in a wet storm, not unless she's caught out here in one.

MH: That's probably wise through. Now there's a little creek that runs through here, what's that?

JC: This is what they call Bull Run.

MH: Bull Run, so it goes right in to the gorge.

JC: Yes it goes right down there in to the gorge right there. You've got quite a fall there in to the gorge. Right here is [the trail] we would drive cows on.

There is a short interruption in the tape

JC: That means quite a lot when it's the first of July and the calves are little and it's hot, their tongues are hanging out and it's three miles is sure a lot different than six.

MH: Well, then there is no good reliable source of water right here.

JC: This is all just wet weather seeps in these little washes. In extreme wet weather there is a stream of water and after a dry spells, why, it will dry up.

MH: I like the road today. (Recently graded)

JC: Yes, it is nice.

MH: So we are six miles from the...

JC: Six miles from the cabin.

MH: We haven't seen a soul out here.

JC: No, we probably won't, even going back. We used to come out here and stay. We were out in the wilderness, no one out here. You could stay out here for weeks and see no one.

MH: We are coming out of Bull Valley...

JC: Bull Run and then we go right over into Indian Hollow. In the summer time there are quite a few tourists that travel this road. One day we came through here. It had been raining and there was a big stream of water down this canyon over here. We would hit some tourists on almost every bend who were stranded. They panic; they have never seen anything like that, so they leave their outfit and start walking. All they have to do is sit there and wait a little while and then they can go. But they walk off there quite a few miles and say, "Hey, what is this?" Then they start walking back and by the time they get back they are all give out and no energy left. If they would have just stayed in their car and waited a while, it only takes an hour or so then you can go anywhere again.

MH: There are flash flood warnings here and there, but I think people don't understand what that means.

JC: I think so many of them are foreigners, maybe they can't read English.

MH: And 'Flash Flood' doesn't mean a thing.

JC: They think, oh it is nice here now. It can be nice early in the morning in the summertime. It could be like this and then in another hour it can be pouring down.

MH: This is Indian Hollow?

JC: This is the Indian Holler drainage.

MH: Does that come out of the [inaudible] too?

JC: No, it heads [up] right here in Deer Range, just a few miles up the road, following the road. There is scattered Ponderosa through here. There are quite a few.

MH: They look a little stressed though.

JC: I know it. This year had taken a toll on these trees. They look half dead. The lack of moisture this summer...wouldn't that be terrible if we lost our Ponderosa because of the drought?

MH: Boy, this Indian Creek crosses the road a lot of times.

JC: I have spent a lot of time right there, with some tourists, waiting for it to pass. There is a lot of Indian signs out here on the ranch. In fact through the years I couldn't tell you how many points have been found. We still find them every year.

MH: What is the name of the plateau we are on right now?

JC: We are on Deer Range right now.

MH: Look there is a speed limit sign. We better slow down. (Laughter)

JC: OK, this is where you split right here. You go out to our ranch and that over there about fifteen miles is Skutumpah. So, that is the Deer Range Road through there. It is quite big across here.

MH: When it gets out by Lick Wash, is that Skutumpah Road?

JC: No, Skutumpah is a little farther out there. This is still Deer Range, and Deer Range Point is still out this way. I'll show you in a minute.

MH: There are some nice cedar trees out here.

JC: They are big for a juniper. This is just a little access road, and a reservoir out there that Layne LeFevre, the Brinkerhoff's; Ferrell and Raymond, part of their range in here. They catch the water in that pond over there that they made for the range in here.

MH: So, this is leased land?

JC: Yes this is on the Staircase. I last came out to winterize the house about a month ago. You have to do that every fall.

MH: Is this what the land look like before you cleared it to plant grasses?

JC: Exactly. It is thick. You can see what it like after the clearing over here. We are getting up in a higher elevation. That means quite a lot. Right here, there are pine nuts. Mae came out with me and we picked up several pounds of them.

MH: How do you collect them? Do you put a tarp under and shake the tree?

JC: No, one by one, picking them off the ground. I don't like the tarp thing because you get so much [debris]. I would rather have a few clean ones than I would than some with a lot of trash in it.

MH: And how do you use the pine nuts?

JC: We usually roast them and crack them. This is a great pine nut area. The Indians in the early days, they lived on the pinenuts here.

MH: The closest water then was that Indian Spring back there?

- JC: Yes, and then the water spring over on our place. Right now, it was so dry this past summer, it did dry up. It has never happened before.
- MH: It is a bit rough right here.
- JC: See, a few deer tracks out there.
- MH: Probably some cougar too?
- JC: Yes, this summer there was a big one. I saw his tracks; he came right up to the house, to the steps, right back around the house, looked in the window...
- MH: The prints I saw look like dog prints, not so big. Boy, this area is really sandy.
- JC: This is what we call the Sand Patch. You can get stuck here pretty easy if you don't have four-wheel drive, then stay out of here. You can get high centered. Right now it isn't too bad, because it is a bit wet. When it gets dry in the summer. It gets really bad.
- MH: And this set of prints...
- JC: Coyote. There are a lot of coyote out here.
- MH: There is a coyote calling completion coming up in Henrieville.
- JC: Oh, really?
- MH: Do you think you could call in some coyotes?
- JC: Oh, I have never done that. I have been with Dennis Wintch, when we went out and called coyotes. He was a professional at it. He called in three of them that day.

End Tape 2, Side B

Begin Tape 3, Side A

- MH: There are a lot up where we live. We hear them come through.
- JC: I hear them up there every night. It seems like they are right close.
- MH: Well, this is nice to go somewhere new to me. (Indicating a small canyon south side of the road on the drive into Jack's Ranch)
- JC: Yes. It comes right out where No Man is. It narrows up in a few spots, but it opens way up right down in there. It is quite an area. See all these stones right here...
- MH: I think it would be beautiful to walk on down through that canyon.

JC: Yes, it would. It is a beautiful canyon. You can see all the way down there.

MH: Another fence line. Where are we now?

JC: This is mine.

MH: This marks going into your property?

JC: This is my allotment. It is now private land.

MH: Look at this. This is beautiful.

Recording stops, then resumes

MH: All right. We are almost there.

JC: A lot of Ponderosa Pine in here.

MH: So we are crossing your allotment?

JC: Yes, the allotment. Now see these small caves, where it looks like they had fires in there to keep warm?

MH: There must have been quite a few Indians around here. It is a good spot; game and cover, shelter, nuts.

JC: Years ago they put a dam here, a dirt dam, the BLM did. There are not very many that are privileged to see what you have seen today.

MH: Well, I know. I sensed that, and that is why I have tried really hard for the last two years to go out here with you.

JC: Yes. Every time we got ready to go something just came up.

MH: Boy, this thing gets going through here.

JC: Yes, big streams of water can go right through here.

MH: Is this still used as leased rangeland?

JC: Yes, still use it. There is Layne, Raymond and Ferrell and Danny. They are all in there. And some guys from Kanab are in there with them.

MH: So, they share it.

JC: Yes.

MH: And you bring your cows up here for the summer...

JC: ...through the shortcut.

MH: And they stay on your land?

JC: Oh, yes.

MH: Did they come up here this year?

JC: Yes, I had them up here about two months, but I had to take them out because the water dried up...first time ever. They say there is a first to everything.

MH: Well, hopefully it is the last too.

JC: I hope it is the last.

MH: When you got back from the War, is that when you bought the land from your dad?

JC: Yes, right after the War, my dad bought it around 1950. We came home from the war in 1946. I came home on January of 1946. The War was over in '45. It took a year to get back home. My dad bought that shortly after that in about 1950, and I think I bought in '52.

MH: Now, did he buy it because Max had died (in Bull Valley Gorge)?

JC: No, he bought it because Max had his loan foreclosed on, the Farmers Home foreclosed on him because he got in some trouble with a Fish and Game guy, and they got caught. And they just cancelled his loan, so he came to my dad and asked him, "Will you buy this here? They are closing my loan and I have to go pay them off." So, my dad did. He paid him. I can't remember what he gave for it, but they made a deal and went over and paid his loan off. Then my dad had that for about two years when I got it.

MH: You were the one mostly working out there?

JC: Yes. I have had it since about 1950.

MH: Basically your kids, you probably had one or two by then, they basically spent their whole life growing up out here?

JC: You out where that old reservoir is, where you turn to go out up on top there. We used to have our little cabin there. Right down in the trees the girls had their little playhouses. You know, it has only been you haven't been able to see their little playhouses where they played in there. For years and years they would come out and look at their little playhouses (chuckles) and reminisce.

MH: Now, the girls helped out a bit with the ranching?

JC: Oh, yes, you bet they did. Our son was older; he was born when I was in the Army. He was a little older. The little girls, they were really small when I first bought that. They can tell you some pretty good stories.

MH: About driving cattle?

JC: Yes. Down below the ranch, down in there, there was a canyon down there that had some water in it. Water is awfully scarce in this dry land country here. There was a little water in the canyon down there. I thought well, I'll go down and envelop that and put it into a tank. So, I did, but once I got it done, I didn't know at the time that there was so much iron in it that it would clog the pipe right up and shut the pipe right off. Every four days I would come out and blow that pipe out, with my mouth you know. The girls were watching me and they thought, "We thought you were going to explode from blowing so hard with the veins coming out of your neck." (Laughter) They worried about me. They tell me about that every once in a while now.

MH: Well, that would clean it out?

JC: Yes, so it would run another four days. It was a regular chore.

MH: Then what did you do with that?

JC: I ended up abandoning it. I couldn't do it anymore. But by that time, I got this other water up by the house. It was a lot better source, and I didn't have to go down there then.

MH: So, for the last fifty years, you have ranched out there?

JC: Yes, that is right. Exactly on fifty years. It was a bad year, so it wasn't very good.

MH: This is a good view of Rainbow Point coming back?

JC: Yes, a beautiful view right there.

MH: So, what do you think about the future of ranching? If people are selling out their cattle because of the drought, they won't get back into it.

JC: I doubt it. I for one am not. I know it is because of my age. But a younger fellow may want out. We don't have a lot of young fellows in that business anymore. They can't afford to do it. There isn't much money in it.

MH: Sort of a past time now?

JC: It is just really ...they like the lifestyle. They love ranching.

MH: The ranching culture is unique. How can you not like the silence and peace?

JC: I like the wide-open spaces, and breathe some nice clean air and not too many worries.
A few worries, but not too many.

MH: A couple of adventures?

JC: Bad years, bad prices and things like that is all you have to worry about. There is something about ranching that gets into your blood, I guess, necessarily, there isn't much money in it, but it is a satisfying job.

MH: There has to be some aspect that is gratifying, makes you feel good about what you do.
Now we are onto the main road, coming back into Indian Hollow. Remember to show me that little spring. A good thing to know if you get trapped here.

JC: OK. Right over this hill there used to be a little mine in there. Over that pass, they had a mine, I think it was copper, not sure what metal it was. Over there to this day, there is a little scrapper to this day, a little hand scrapper, that they pulled with a horse and move dirt, level the ground up. I have one at home, one just like it. It is where the drainage comes down. You can't drive there; it is just a walk place or a ride horse place.

MH: I bet there is a story about each one of these draws though.

JC: I know it. Right here on this little turn, it had just got through with a rain storm, the ground was really wet. Right here crossing I see a track or something right there. I went over there, I get over there and there was a big bear track, right there. I followed that track. It was fresh, because it had just got through raining. I followed it over there, quite a ways down this road, then took a draw and went back out that way. I didn't see it. We went out to the ranch one day, you know where the house is, down to the water. There is quite a little canyon down there, from there to the lower gate. I needed to go down there and shut the gate that was down there because I was putting cows in there. Mae was with me. We got out right where the tank is there. I said, "I'll be back in just a little while." I got down there, not very far where it was wet, sub-irrigated there, and there two bear

tracks! You know I felt really uncomfortable myself. I just went, eew, going down that little narrow canyon. I was looking everywhere, out of the corner of my eyes, to see if I could see those bears. I went down, finally got down there and back. I got back up [to the truck] and Mae was gone. The car was there, but she was gone. The only place she could go was back up to the house, which she did. I went over, got in my car, went back up and said, "I thought the bears had got you." You know that old saying, 'the bears will get you', and I said, "No, there were really bear. I saw two, really big bears tracks, right there where you were at!" "Oh!," she said, "I'm never going to leave the pick-up anymore!" I've seen plenty of bear tracks through the years, here and there. I suppose they come in here from the higher mountains. I think they spend most of the summer in the high mountains. I don't know where they hibernate.

MH: Yes, I wonder where they do hibernate. In what caves?

JC: Right here is this spring I was telling you about.

MH: Indian Spring?

JC: This is Indian Spring. I used to have some troughs that sat right over there. The spring is up on the hill up there, if you can imagine it up on the hill. I had a little pipeline coming down from it and some troughs right in there. The cows watered there for years, right there.

MH: It is pretty steep.

JC: Yes, it is, steep up through that spring. You never would see it wet. It came out in one little spot. It didn't take much to collect it and hand it off down to the tanks.

MH: Do you still run cattle through here?

JC: No, I used the water from right there because I didn't have any from here on over, then when I got water over there, the BLM put a fence that goes clear to the Bull Valley Gorge, and can't go through there any more.

MH: Did we already pass the place where you take the short cut?

JC: Right here is where you go up to the mine, where the scrapper is up in the canyon.

40 Jack Chynoweth

MH: I would never be able to find it again? No, distinctive marks, except that hill looks like a tailing pile.

JC: Yes.

Interview ends out on the Deer Range Road headed in to town.

Recording stops