

WINTCH, D
HUGHES, J 2000
LowCountry

Southern Utah Oral History Project

The Southern Utah Oral History Project was started in July of 1998. It began with an interest in preserving the cultural history of small towns in southern Utah that border the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The project was managed by Kent Powell, from the Utah Division of State History, who oversaw the collection of oral histories conducted in

Boulder, Escalante, Bryce Valley, Long Valley, Kanab, the Kaibab Paiute Reservation, and Big Water, by Jay Haymond, Suzi Montgomery, Marsha Holland and other volunteers.. Also in cooperation with the state was the Bureau of Land Management and the people of Garfield and Kane counties, with support from the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The goals of the project were first to interview long-time local residents and collect information about the people and the land during the first half of the twentieth century. In addition, the interviews were to be transcribed and copies of the transcripts were to be made available to the public at the Utah State Historical Society and at local repositories. Lastly, to build a relationship with state agencies and the local communities and provide a medium for the local communities to express their interest in preserving their own history and culture in the areas that are now included in the GSENM.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to care and share their memories and stories.







I Dean Wintch/Joe Hughes
INTERVIEW WITH: Dean Wintch/Joe Hughes
INTERVIEWER: Marsha Holland
INTERVIEW NUMBER: One of one
DATE OF INTERVIEW: March 4, 2000
PLACE OF INTERVIEW: Driving in a truck in the Wahweap-Smith
Run/Sit Down Bench...
SUBJECT OF INTERVIEW: Place Names and memories ranching on the
Wahweap.
TRANSCRIBER: Vectra Solutions/LA
DATE: May 21, 2000

Begin Side One, Tape One

Interview begins as we pass by the Grosvenor Arch area, heading into the Wahweap drainage.

DW: Steve would say, "How come they call it that?"

MH: Well now this, we've just come pass Grovener Arch, we passed this reservoir over here.
How did this reservoir get going? Is it just natural?

DW: (background noise) they just rigged that dike there to catch the rainwater, that's all.

MH: Right, just made the dike. Okay now were moving up to...

DW: ...we just come across Butler Valley.

MH: Butler Valley? Okay.

DW: Yeah. Are you going to turn that on?

MH: It's on. I've got Dean Wintch and I've got Joe Hughes and we're going into the
Wahweap. So we've just come across Butler Flats, turned into Grovener Arch, past the
reservoir.

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DW: Now we're going over the Cockscomb.

JH: What's this hill here. Dean?

MH: What this hill here called?

DW: This is just coming over the Cockscomb. Which is called the Gut.

MH: The Gut?

DW: This is the Gut Hill.

MH: Gut Hill? Okay, I've heard about the Gut.

DW: Slick as a gut.

MH: I'll bet. It's nice and dry today though, thank goodness.

DW: That's why they call it that.

MH: The Gut. Now the Cockscomb, we're at the top of the Cockscomb, huh? This is what stretches out right?

DW: Uh huh.

MH: Okay. And this is where you're winter range is, huh?

DW: This is it.

MH: It's pretty rugged. (Laughter)

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DW: See right out there, that one flat, that's where our cows are.

MH: So we're going to go out and up and over there?

JH: Two weeks from today we are [going to drive the cows out]. I don't know, are we going out there today Dean?

DW: I don't care.

MH: Now what's this little drainage in here called?

DW: This is just part of the Cockscomb. This is a...what do they call this? There's a name that they call this canyon. Trying to think of it.

MH: Now I've been out the other side of this where the main road...

DW: You've never been over this top before?

MH: Not this side. We went over on the other side.

DW: Down through Cottonwood, down to the highway?

MH: Right. Yeah, you don't want to come over here when it's too wet, huh?

DW: No.

(Pause in tape)

MH: Gut Hill. Where is that?

DW: Right here under that bridge.

JH: Right there by that bridge right there

MH: (Laughter)

DW: That's where we used to have to sleep when it would rain and stuff. Then the water would come down there.

MH: Well you wouldn't want to be in that hole.

DW: Well we did, a lot of times.

MH: You don't want to camp in there. What about the wash?

DW: That's part of what you call hell.

MH: And now, you truck the cattle out here? Is that how you get them out here?

DW: No, we drive them.

MH: You drive them? You drive them out through here?

DW: Yeah.

MH: You drive them out this road? Oh. How long does it take you to do that?

DW: Oh, a couple of days from town.

MH: So that's why you have to camp down here in the...

DW: That camp there, that's just an emergency camp, that's all. (Laughter)

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MH: (Laughter) I would not want to camp there in the rain.

DW: Disaster area.

MH: No kidding. So how many head of cattle...you have your cattle out here and you have your cattle here and you have yours?

DW: Well, I'll tell you, there's about 250 that way, over on West Bench. There's Shakespeare and what have they got?

JH: About 250.

MH: Is that Tom? Or Carl?

DW: Carl Shakespeare (Background noise)

MH: And how about you, Dean?

DW: I've got a couple down here.

MH: A couple hundred?

DW: No, not very many.

MH: Not very many? How long have you run cattle? Have you run cattle out here long? All your life?

DW: Forty, fifty, years.

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MH: Right. Wow, nice view. Now where are we?

DW: See that creek right down there? That's Wahweap Creek itself.

MH: And we're coming off the Cockscomb?

JH: Maybe you ought to stop right here and explain to her about the "Down". Cause she wants to know about the "Sit Down".

MH: Sit Down? Smith's Run?

JH: Yeah.

MH: Okay.

(Pause in tape)

DW: ...big mountain right up on top of there, that's called Horse Mountain. They you go over right where them "blues" is right there and that right under there is what the call Squaw Flat. All this here country up in here is Long Flat country. See them big flats? You can see them big flats up in there? And then that goes up into, there's a wash that goes up into there, it's called Blue Wash.

MH: Now these "Blues" is the same kind of formation that's over on the way to Escalante.

DW: Yeah. And see, all that "blue" country over there, and that wash comes out and comes down and hooks into the Wahweap right down there. This is the Wahweap country right here. This is the main part. You go up, see them knolls, you can just see them, we're not quite there, but just on the other side there is what they call Headquarters Springs. The reason they call that Headquarters is because good water boils out of there and that's

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where everybody used to stay when they'd come down through here.

MH: How do you get through that wash right there?

DW: Well we can drive across it, we'll go across it. I don't know if you can see down through here, but that, this long flat comes clear down through that, you can see the flats going down through there, on the other side of that, that first hill over there is called Half Mile Bench.

MH: Not the one here?

DW: Not the big one, the one you can see the light on.

MH: Okay.

DW: And then the other one there is Four Mile, that's a big huge one, that big mountain that you can see, that round knoll out there, that's the Navajo.

MH: Right, Navajo Mountain.

DW: Then you come back and this one here cuts back down through there and there's, right where that white is there, there's another canyon that goes down that goes down into the Wahweap and it's called Tommy Canyon, then from Tommy Canyon you come back across this way and the next one is Long Flat Canyon, then on this side, the next one, is Tin Can Alley, and then the Wahweap itself.

MH: And this is the Wahweap?

DW: Uh huh. This is the Wahweap. Then you go back over on this other side and that's West Bank. That's the box country that you're looking at, down through there. This big bench

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out here is what they call Horse Flats or West bank. That big point that you can see right down there, that's Upper Coyote. And that one you can see in the far distance, that big blue mountain down there, that's the Kaibab. That's the Buckskin Mountain.

MH: That little knob?

JH: Beyond that.

DW: ~~Beyond that down there.~~

MH: That's Kaibab? So the first bench where it drops off there where the "V" is, the first V, is that where the Wahweap boxes out?

DW: Well we'll go into the box, we'll go down into the box. We'll go down into it.

JH: Yeah, well take you there.

(Pause in tape)

MH: The point, the one that's sticking out?

DW: That pink one right up there.

MH: Yeah, okay, I've got that.

DW: That's the very head of the Wahweap. Right up in there.

MH: Really. Up in the red cliffs?

DW: Clear up in them red cliffs, all this whole country there comes down through there. See

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where that big, right here close to us where that big ledge is poking out, that's Rawhide up in there. Rawhide Canyon.

MH: Rawhide Canyon. Okay.

DW: This is what we call, where were going through, now is what we call Gravel Hills.

MH: Gravel Hills. So you go through the Gut, along the Cockscomb and down into Gravel Hills? Is that how it works? Okay. Look, there's a bit of gravel on the road.

DW: That's why they call it Gravel Hills.

(Pause in tape)

MH: Joe, you look like a good candidate for this job. Now we're coming down into a wash off of pretty slippery hills. This is Wahweap Creek, huh.

DW: This is it.

MH: Well it's pretty thick today.

JH: Well that might stick to your ribs if you eat that one.

MH: So it looks like it gets a lot of water in here. How high have you seen it? Look at that, look at how it's washed down.

DW: Well, you can see how much that drainage comes up there.

MH: Have you seen it run across that high before? You just can't turn around there, what do you do? That's kind of a tough place to turn around.

JH: When that's washed out, we go down there.

DW: You know, it's really interesting. Let me turn right here.

MH: That's one heck of a hill right here that we just came down.

DW: See them few little trees right there? One day, one day, this is before Joe ever come down here, there was Vern Shakespeare, Marvin Pollock, and old Irving Rose, me and Bob Ott, was involved in it, he wasn't down here then, there was old Arvin and Irv and "Tuffy", and me, and we went over to Four Mile and got some cattle and we was coming out of here and it was snowing. There was about four foot of snow here, and we got, we was coming across this Wahweap and I mean, this was about as mean as looking as, water had run over here, you know, and I mean, this was all covered with three foot of ice. You know what I mean, it was the ugliest looking thing you've ever seen and the State had come down with a CAT and opened the roads, we was taking our cattle out because they were starving to death, and so anyway we got right to here and right there on that bench, right there, we couldn't go around here, we went down this road, and down around there. We stopped right there, in them trees right there. We decided that we was going to go out. Marvin had a ton truck and I had a four-wheel-drive and old Tuffy had a four-wheel-drive and (inaudible) had one. We started out and I told them, I says, once we get to the top of that Cockscomb and head down, were going to go into No Man's Land because we can't come back, you know, because the snow was, so we got to decide whether we're going to stay here and old Op, he says there's a lot of wood here, you know, we can burn, there's plenty of wood, you get over into Butler Valley there's nothing to burn, he says (laughter) and he say's, and so I say's, " Alright, what we gotta do?" so we voted on it and we decided to go. So I got in the front, I mean breaking the trail and we took up through there and it was a blowing and snowing so hard you couldn't hardly see. And we got over in Butler Valley and we got hung up over there and I stopped and Op wasn't with us. He had a four-wheel drive and he was on the back, he should have been able to

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make it. And I mean, we really had a struggle, but we finally got out and I remember in the middle of the night, June called me and said, "Where's Op?" and I says, "I don't know." (Laughter) And she says, "Well wasn't he down there with you guys?" And I says, "Yeah, but he didn't come." I said, " We'll have to go back in the morning and see where he's at." You know, this was about 2 or 3 o'clock. She was really upset.

MH: Sure.

DW: "What did you leave him for," she says. You know what I mean? (Laughter)

MH: Really.

DW: Well anyway, the next morning when it got light, me and old, we got the County, and we come back and Op had never even left there. He just stayed there. Right there in those trees.

MH: He stayed. He had burned those trees?

DW: And he says, " I can build me a fire here and I'm not a going to go out."

MH: Did you, you made it out that night though?

DW: Oh yeah, we did, but we was lucky. He was right. Biggest wonder in the world that we ever got out of here.

MH: Well it's a pretty big wash, a pretty big flood plain.

DW: Oh that day, this was the ugliest sight you ever saw.

MH: What time of year was that?

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DW: February.

JH: Look over here. Over here in this wash you can see a couple of posts, that's a make shift calf corral. You know you come down here lots of times and you've got a cow that's too weak to come out, drive out or, young calves, you've got find some place to put them.

(Pause in tape)

MH: Okay, so this is the wash after Wahweap?

DW: Uh huh. This goes up into Blue Wash.

MH: Blue Wash? This comes out of the Blues.

DW: That's why they call it Blue Wash, that other comes out of that red up here there.

MH: Yeah, just meets up. Looks like a lot of clay, huh?

DW: Yeah, yeah.

MH: So slippery. Do the horses ever get stuck in this stuff?

DW: No. This is beautiful soil here. This is some of the best soil in the state of Utah right her this long flat...there's an old cow right there.

MH: Is it yours?

DW: No, they're Shakespeare's. Lonny and Bass have got a few here and Lester's got some.

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MH: Pollock, right?

DW: Lester's got a few here and outside of the Shakespeare, who else?

MH: Where's the tank?

DW: Oh, I've got three in here. (Laughter)

MH: Just haven't found them yet. (Laughter) They just drink out of the creek?

DW: Yeah, they have to go back to Blue Wash or go down or go down here to Tommy.

MH: We're heading into Tommy? Wait, one sec, now we're crossing into these flats right?

DW: This is Long Flat.

MH: Long Flat? Okay. Anyway, you heard how Sit Down got its name?

DW: Well yeah, partially. It was something to do with Joe's wife's dad was involved in it.

MH: Joe Hughes?

DW: Uh huh. His name was Elmer. Elmer Smith.

MH: Oh, she's a Smith, huh? Whose is this rig?

DW: Carl Shakespeare's.

MH: Oh.

DW: There were three brothers. There was Tom, Elmer and Jewman...

MH: Jim Bet?

DW: Jewman. Was that his name Joe?

JH: Jewman. Jewman Smith, right.

MH: Sounds African. Jewman.

DW: Jewman. Anyway they was a rounding up cattle. Old Tom was, he was kind of the "Ram Rod". He was the one that kind of run it. They was rounding up these wild cows and stuff. They'd take them to that country down there to what they called Horse Mound, from the canyons down there, they'd stick them up in there and then they could have fences across there and they could hold them in there. And so he'd been out working all day and he come down there and these guys was there sitting down and everything and he says, "my hell, you damn guys are always sitting down here," he says, "I'm damn tired of me going out and doing all the work and you guys sitting". And so they called it Sit Down. So it's as simple as that.

MH: Simple as that. It makes sense. We're not going out there today though, right.

DW: No it's too far.

JH: No, you ain't going out there any day.

DW: Well, I can't say that. I'll tell you how you get there.

MH: Okay, so we just passed through a fork and if you go left it's Four Mile.

DW: And to the right is Tommy Canyon.

MH: Tommy Canyon. And Four Mile is extra long? Long way? (Laughter)

DW: Four miles. (Laughter)

MH: Right, another four miles. But it goes on out right?

DW: Yeah. it wanders on out and it branches out in different areas. (inaudible) Mostly just
horseback. Even used to have an airstrip out there.

MH: I was wondering about that. You could see it on some of the old maps.

DW: This is Half Mile where them old trees are.

JH: They was trying to develop that coal up there and they was going out there.

DW: That's Squaw Bench up in there towards Horse Mound.

MH: There's some cattle out there too. Squaw Flats.

DW: Squaw Bench.

MH: Squaw Bench? This high bench is Squaw Bench, right? Okay.

DW: Uh huh.

MH: Oh, there's another big wash up here.

DW: This is Tommy.

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MH: Tommy Canyon.

DW: It's named after Tommy Richards.

MH: Who is that?

DW: A guy that used to run cattle down here.

JH: He's got a grand kid named after him that lives in Tropic now.

MH: I have never heard of Richards. What's his name?

JH: Tommy. Tommy Richards.

DW: It's his grandson. Have you heard of Melody Richards, his wife?

MH: Oh, I think, yeah, no, I've met Melody. Right.

DW: It's her husband.

MH: There's some more cows down there.

JH: There's a corral right down there.

MH: We're taking a short cut or something? (Laughter)

DW: We're going back to Wahweap.

MH: Oh, okay.

DW: Were going out to the Long Flat. You're not going to like this.

MH: (Laughter) Doesn't look like much of a road.

DW: (Laughter) It's better as we get over there.

MH: Okay. So we just took a sharp right turn and didn't go through Tommy Canyon Wash.

DW: Well we're not lost Marsha.

MH: No. I just would of never come up this road. I would have never come here. I wouldn't think that you could get over this slickrock right here that we're driving over right now.

DW: I'll tell you this much. you'd never get stuck on that rock.

MH: Yeah, that's right.

DW: Got a cabin right there. See that cabin.

MH: Nope. Oh, there it is. Oh yeah, that's a nice cabin.

DW: Oh yeah.

MH: That's a nice cabin. Who stays out here?

JH: Anybody that wants to.

DW: It's only been built about ten years, six years. Six years.

JH: I wish I'd got a lick in on it, but I didn't do it.

MH: What do you mean?

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JH: So I'd have a right to stay there.

DW: I have a right to stay in it Joe.

JH: Yeah, he has.

MH: Do you? Did you help out?

DW: Sure.

MH: And it's for people who run their cattle out here, right?

JH: Anyway, I don't know, there's a guy out here would eject me for going to stay there.

MH: Just tell them that you're a special guest of Dean Wintch.

DW: Is that thing on?

MH: Yeah.

DW: Turn that thing off.

MH: There's a fence out here huh? And you're going to open the gate? There's a gate down here right.

DW: Yeah.

MH: So we just came across, what was this area called?

DW: This is between Long Flat and Tommy.

JH: This that we're coming on to now, Dean will tell you all about it.

MH: Yeah, you made this road, which is a pretty amazing road.

DW: When you go to your house and turn a switch on and the power don't go on, you go out to get in your car and go down to the gas station and get gas and there won't be no gas in it and then you go turn your water tap on and no water comes out of it, you're going to start looking at where all that stuff comes from. And then they will come back and take this coal stuff out.

MH: Yeah, something will go on in the Middle East and that will shut down...

DW: The problem of it is, the big problem that I can see and the one that worries me more than anything else is, what they should do with this coal, this energy, they should develop it in a plan that's not to go in and just rape the ground and take it out. That's what they'll do if they get desperate. I think the environmental people are making a big mistake by locking all of this stuff up. They should be letting them develop some of this stuff. You'd get a lot more stuff out of it than if you would lock it up. If they'd come in and study this and start taking it out in an orderly manner, you wouldn't have all that. Re-seed all this stuff. Recover. But if they get into a desperate situation, they'll just come in and swwoossh. It's been proven before and before, hasn't it?

MH: Yeah. It's interesting. I didn't realize that this is the area that they were going to put that Kaiparowits project in.

JH: It's mostly going to be east out there on the Smokey and around Four Mile.

MH: Uh huh. So this is all BLM land that you permit out from them.

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DW: Yeah.

MH: And how do you gain the permits? Do you just apply for them every year? You buy them or?

DW: Yeah. See in 1932 they just got into the Taylor Grazing Act and that's when they stopped people from going just wherever they wanted to, whenever they wanted to. They started to turn it into AUMs, you know what I mean, you had to comply with certain approved regulations. Up until then it was kind of just a free deal. But since then, you know what I mean, and this is one of the problems that the BLM and the cattle owners and stuff are having all the time. When they issued these permits, there was no monetary value in them, so therefore they're coming back and they're saying, okay, we give them to you and so we can take them back.

MH: Right, so you'd better comply. But it's not that hard to comply? I mean, what's the biggest hassle?

DW: The biggest hassle is that they can come and say, well, there's not any feed down there, you know what I mean. you've got to take the cows out, or else your water's on (inaudible) area, you can't have the cattle there. So you see, I mean these are things that causes big problems.

MH: Well it doesn't look like there's a lot of feed out here.

DW: There's beautiful feed out there Marsha. For winter.

MH: Oh, for winter.

DW: Yeah.

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MH: I don't see it.

JH: Take these bushes here.

DW: Look at all this big old brush here and stuff, that's what cattle eat. Oh man.

MH: That's yummy huh? (Laughter) Are we going to make it through here.

DW: You don't see no grass, much. That's what deer eat, that bitter brush down there. It's just like alfalfa. He's got cows right in there.

MH: Oh, so we're just taking a look to see if he can see them? This long drainage that we're coming down into off of this bench...

DW: Long Flat.

MH: This is Long Flat. And what's the long bench?

DW: That's the Cocks Comb. Over further you mean?

MH: Cockscomb. And that high peak out there, that's Escalante?

DW: Yeah.

MH: Escalante Mountain. Okay, so I get it now. So I've never seen that formation at the top of Wahweap. Seep Peak?

DW: Yeah. And down there they call it Headquarters?

MH: Headquarters. That's where you get the water.

DW: The cows now are calving. Some of them are calving.

MH: So it looks like there's some kind of grass or greenery here.

DW: Lots of tumble weeds.

MH: See anything out there?

JH: Not a thing.

DW: It's kind of a rough road out here Marsha. But it ain't too bad.

JH: There's quite a lot of native grass down on these flats, you know.

DW: You wanted to go on a ride. (Laughter)

MH: (Laughter) Well as long as you guys are comfortable, I'm okay.

DW: Have no fear, we're here.

MH: That will be interesting coming back up.

DW: It's easier going up than it is coming down. See, this was the seismograph road and I had to build that other road down into it.

MH: And was that the government that came out and did the exploration or a company?

DW: No, a company.

MH: So this is all the cattle feed, this brush?

DW: Not this, not very good, this old man brush. Horses like it pretty good, but cattle won't. They'll eat that Brigham right in there.

MH: Is that green.

JH: It's white looking brush. They eat that.

DW: No, that's sagebrush. They don't like that too good. Cattle do really good on that bitter brush and that dead brush and the Brigham. That's their three main kinds of grass.

JH: Did you ever drink from bitter tree?

MH: Unh huh. Nope, I haven't.

JH: Tastes like hell.

MH: They used to drink that.

DW: Do I see some cows just ahead?

MH: Yeah, I think I see two in that green opening.

DW: I didn't see any. Give me them glasses.

MH: I think I see what you're talking about.

DW: We'll take that road in a minute. Came down here one time. When Shakespeare's was running here in the summertime, he used to use this in the summertime and so what they decided to do was to get Brahma cattle because they would run in the hot weather better. So they got them some Brahmas and was running them and they, in this country down

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here they got real wild, you know, and man, miserable, mean characters.

MH: They're down in Mexico aren't they?

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DW: Well, Texas. You know, I mean, where it's hot. And so they built this big high corral here and decided to get out of the Brahma business, you know what I mean? And so Obie and Vern, his brother, and I, come down here to round up the Brahmas. Man we had a struggle. What we'd do is, we'd take them down in this canyon, and then we'd drive them up, get them on the side hill, and get them into that corral there. We had a big Brahma bull, he was old, but he was a mean, dirty devil and you couldn't get in a corral with him or he'd chase you. He was vicious, and there was two or three others that was really mean. So we stayed in the old cabin up there that night. We had this out and all in this corral, so the next morning we got up, backed our trucks up there and I had that old steel truck, you remember Joe. Had a steel bed on it because it strong and Ob had that little truck of his and we took the back end of the truck out and tied it in with big chains, you know, so them Brahmas couldn't get out, so we put chains across the top so they couldn't jump over and so Vern got in the corral that day on his horse and it was a great big old horse, and he got in there on that horse to get in the corral, cause you couldn't get in there a foot, they'd chase you, and that old horse, them Brahmas would chase him, and the bull would come after him and that horse would turn and kick that thing, boy just really pound it. Finally it come and went in the truck and I got it in my truck and we got two or three others of them bulls in there, them cross breed...

MH: But it's hot down here right? That's what I was going to say.

DW: This was in the summertime. So we took off for the auction down to Richfield. Non stop because you couldn't stop because if you did they'd jump out (laughter) and so we edged up over the top of Cockscomb, clear into Tropic and we had gas here in cans and we filled it up and we got down to Elsinore and I told him Vern, I says, I cant' make it to Richfield. We're running out of gas. If we do we're really in trouble, better get some here, so we had a can, so he jumped out and got the can full of gas (Laughter) and I kept going around the block and we finally, he got the gas and as I'd move he poured it in, you know, the gas was right here on the side of the truck. We went on over to Richfield and when we got over there, why the old auction was down there by the fair grounds and there

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was a lot of cars down there, you know what I mean, lined up to get into the auction, and Vern, he jumped out and he says to me,

End of Side One, Tape One

Begin Side Two, Tape One

DW: ...on the grounds. Vern got out and he went over and he talked to the other guy, you know, moving their trucks out of the way 'cause we had these wild cattle in there and so he got them out of the way and he motioned at me to back the truck up there, so I backed the truck up there and got it up to the loading chute and he took that big old chain off that we had cinching the thing together (laughter) so they couldn't get out, pulled that gate out, remember that Joe? You remember it.

JH: Yeah.

DW: ...it kind of went in, and we went in there and we jerked that gate out and that old big Brahma bull, he seen that light and he just plowed over the top of them cows. You know I mean, just came right over them. And he was huge, he weighed a ton or better and so that guy was down in there, old Vern Shakespeare told him, he says to him, "You'd better get out of there", he says that bull's going to be coming out there and when comes and when he comes out of here, he says, he's mean and he just laughed at us and he said, "I've handled mean cattle before." You know. (Laughter) That old bull....

MH: You guys are snickering. (Laughter) .

JH: Yeah, you ain't, that old bull (laughter) came out of there. He made a big dive and went down through there and that guy, he went up on top of top fence, (laughter) you can't believe. But they come out and they were putting, they had a little gate there that they had to get in there and it was, they had a place where they inspected them, you know, in there. This old Brahma, he went around that corral two or three times and seen that hole up in there, you know what I mean, with them cattle, so he stuck his head in there in that gate give, so he went right up over the top of them cattle and right out over into where

they was inspecting them. (Laughter) People come a flying out of that thing (laughter) you can't believe and he got over into the chute that went up into where they sold them and I heard this one guy yell. "Sell him." (Laughter)

MH: Quick. (Laughter)

DW: That bull, I looked, he went up there and then he was going back down. He never stayed in that arena half a minute boy.

MH: Why do you think they turn out so wild down here?

DW: Well, it's so open. You know. I mean and we never see anybody.

MH: There's somebody pulling there.

DW: They'll be coming down here. See that cow in that corral?

MH: Yeah. I saw that. Two. There's two in there actually.

DW: They'll come and load that now. We're going down into the box now.

MH: Into the box? Now the Wahweap is just over here on our right?

DW: No, no, it's over here.

MH: Oh. Did we pass, oh we did pass through it. Okay. So we're on the other side of the Wahweap?

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DW: Yeah, we crossed it down here.

MH: And in the box, it's called...it's part of the lower Wahweap?

DW: Lower Wahweap. And this comes out right down at the Wahweap Marina. Big Water.

MH: Yeah, in Big Water.

DW: This is where this goes.

MH: Huh. So this wash just comes down off of the bench that we just came down?

DW: Well, no. This wash that we're in right here now, comes out of that canyon, you know, I mean, where we come down through the Cockscomb and up over the top.

MH: Oh, right.

DW: This goes up, this is the canyon that they used to have the road out of. A road come down this wash right here and down into the, instead of up over the top of that thing. We used to come, when I first come down here we'd come right down, you know where I told you that Gut Hill is there, we go right on 'down that canyon instead of up over that point and come right down this canyon here.

MH: Down this Canyon? And then the road got pushed out further towards Tommy and Janie?

DW: Yeah. Well, what we used to do down here before we made this road down there, we used to go right down the Wahweap Creek. That's how we would get down in there.

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MH: Oh yeah, that makes sense.

DW: Yeah, and then they built this road. The County built it.

MH: Right. What's the name, is there a name? Is there a name on this road? What do you call this road?

DW: I don't know, there is, there is a name to this canyon, I was trying to think of it, I've heard them talking about it, but it's not very prominent, you know. I don't know what it is.

MH: We've come down that little canyon, do you remember that name of that canyon we just came down Joe? No.

DW: What was the name of that? There was a name of that. There was a name for this canyon. I can't remember it. I've heard Earl say it.

MH: And now we're crossing the Wahweap.

DW: This is the Wahweap right here.

MH: We're in the Wahweap.

DW: We are in the Wahweap. The reason that I'm going up through here, right up here there's a bunch of cattle, we might even see them.

MH: Okay.

JH: I seen them fresh tracks right back there.

MH: Yeah, I saw that.

DW: That's how you tell.

MH: Yeah, I saw you guys checking them out. (Laughter) We saw a couple of tracks though when Joe and I were walking, what was it, a bobcat, do you think?

DW: Yeah, I seen a pair of coyotes one time when I was back here.

MH: Yeah, this is a pretty huge flood plane down here. I just can't even imagine being here at the wrong time. But your cattle aren't in here in the summer?

DW: Oh no.

MH: And that's when you'd really... (Inaudible/background noise) Okay, so we're down at the Hilton at the Box, right?

DW: Yeah.

MH: So it's where the Wahweap boxes out? And there's a fence across there. But this is a pretty exciting area right?

DW: This is the hub of all Wahweap, right here.

MH: Are we going to go out and cross this?

DW: Yeah.

MH: Now they used to haul cattle up, or everyone would herd their cattle into...

DW: ...This area right here.

MH: Right.

DW: Basically they'd put them down in that canyon right there.

JH: We still do.

DW: We still do it. Hold them until we get together and take them all out.

JH: See, what we'll do Marsha, is we'll come down and pick these cows like this and put them right down through that fence, then they can't scatter.

MH: Right, they can't scatter. But they used to box off one of the canyons with...

DW: Didn't have fences then, you know, then them wild cattle, them fences would've meant nothing anyway.

MH: So they would box them...

DW: They built fires so they couldn't come out.

MH: Fueled fires. Right. And when was that, like in the 30's? Is that what you said?

DW: Oh, the 20's.

MH: The 20's.

DW: 18's.

MH: And that was when that train robbery happened?

DW: Well that train robber, yeah, well I don't know, it seems like, you'd have to get that thing. I read it but I can't remember, but they run right out this trail, right out here on what they call, they used to call this West Bench, now they call it the Horse Flats. I don't know what the deal is. But we, I always remember it as West Bench.

MH: That's funny I heard Bob last night, he corrected himself, called it West Bench and then he said Horse Flats. He says both.

DW: Yeah, same thing. So that's where that comes in.

JH: Wasn't you down there last night and this morning too?

MH: No, he was out in front of my house this morning. I just went out and harassed him a bit. So tell me about the train robbery. That happened in the 1880's, right?

DW: Well, I can't remember. It was right at the turn of the century, somewhere there, 1890's, or you know, early 1900's.

JH: Butch Cassidy wasn't involved?

DW: No, no, there was eight or ten of them involved. The names of them's in there. And this

one guy was named Smith. And they ran out here on this sink and they took after them and they didn't think they could get off. but they did, some of them got off down there and that one guy went down in that canyon down there where it boxed up and his name was Smith, he was running up through this canyon and they shot him, killed him, and the called it...

MH: Smith Run.

DW: He was running away from them. so, that's where that goes now.

MH: Famous Smith Run. And so then when they were out camping up here at the Junction of Tin Can Alley and the Wahweap, there was maybe one of the guys who had just maybe gotten out after twenty or thirty years. So you think maybe they're still looking for that gold from the train robbery?

DW: Yeah, yeah, I think, you know, that's what the theory was, you know, they never did prove anything, you know, but Harv has always anticipated that that's what happened. And you know, it was interesting in, oh, this was the late 40's, 1949 I think when it happened; me and a guy by the name by Verdog, was coming down here and I hadn't been down here very much, and we used to have to come down here on pack horses, and me and him was coming off that trail there, up where it comes up over the Cockscomb there down into the Wahweap Creek there, right on that steepest part of that hill there and it was in the middle of the winter, colder than a dirty devil, and we met a guy walking up through that.

MH: Really? Did he have like gear or anything?

DW: No, well he just had his little, I don't know how he even stayed alive, but he told us that

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how he'd sleep at night. he'd go set a tree on fire and warm the ground up and then he'd sleep on the ground where it was warm. That's how he stayed from freezing to death.

MH: You didn't ever find out who he was huh?

DW: No. He come to Tropic though I guess, I don't know. I can't remember that much about it.

MH: Do you remember him Joe?

JH: Heavens no. (Laughter)

DW: It was way before Joe's time. (Laughter)

MH: Just a youngster huh?

JH: I just remember the outlaws in Panguitch.

MH: That's right, you were over at Panguitch until the 50's.

JH: Yeah.

DW: Oh these were even before Joe was born.

JH: I moved over in 1955.

DW: Yeah, this was before he was even over there.

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MH: Just for the winter?

JH: Just for the winter.

MH: That's Smith's Run, huh?

DW: He's kinda like old Lester Clark told me day, the other day, he says, we come down here for a visit he says, almost seventy-years ago and he says we're still a visitin'. (Laughter)

MH: That's how we think about it to. Okay, we're crossing through, what is this that we're crossing through? Just another wash?

DW: Yeah.

MH: Up on West Bench.

JH: They call this wash Shakespeare Wash.

MH: Whose?

JH: Shakespeare Wash. They built a corral right there.

MH: Uh, Shakespeare Wash.

DW: They name everything after Shakespeare?

MH: Yeah, they have a lot of stuff named after them.

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DW: Them and the Hughes boys.

MH: We're renaming this Hughes Wash. (Laughter) So we're headed out to Yellow Jacket.

DW: Nobody knows what you're talking about, you see something in this wash here and I'd say, now the Shakespeare Wash where they built that corral.

MH: And then they'd know what you're talking about?

DW: Yeah.

MH: Well this has all been chained or railed?

DW: Yeah.

MH: And there's not much crested, whatever they've planted. Crested wheat didn't come up. It looks like a war zone really. So we're headed out to Yellow Jacket and it's named Yellow Jacket because?

DW: There wasn't any water there, only just a little seep, only enough to water the Yellow Jackets, so they called it Yellow Jacket. When they railed it, why they dug it all out and made the dam there and now it's got enough water that the cattle can water there. Back before they dug it out, all the cattle had to come back to the box for the water.

MH: To the box? Okay. So now they can stay up on the bench and water here or...

DW: Oh, yeah, they go down off of the Smith Trail, or we built this chute off down here where (inaudible) ran water. The cows would just go down in there and water there.

MH: I can't even believe all the cedar that's just lying out here. There's a chute off there, off the bench?

DW: Christie's Deep Trail.

MH: Not Smith Run? Smith Run is one of the ones that comes down into the...

DW: That's way down in here.

MH: Okay.

DW: See that big bench right over there? That's Four Mile come down off of that.

MH: What's it called?

DW: Four Mile. That's Four Mile Bank.

MH: Four Mile.

JH: It's big.

DW: This here, what they call this, Horse Flats, we used to call West Bench and Four Mile. Kind of come together right down there at the head of the box and then right on this side here is, well, Brigham Plains, then there's another thing, what's its name? Then it goes down in off into Sit Down and that's where you wanted to talk to us about.

MH: Sit Down?

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DW: Uh huh. Then you go own down and then the trail goes over into Nipple Bench country. Then you go over to Nipple Bench through the John Henry's there. (Background noise/inaudible) then the strip tanks, you know and then you go you go to.... (Laughter)

MH: (Laughter) I'm getting it, I'm getting it. (Laughter) Well I just think that Sit Down Bench is a good name. It's a good story. (Pause in tape/starts) Yellow Jacket, it was dug out, who dug it out?

DW: Who was that guy? James Henry.

MH: James Henry. And then you guys came up a couple of years ago and used a backhoe.

DW: Well we cleaned it out.

MH: Right. And then the Yellow Jacket?

DW: The drainage goes down into Upper Coyote.

MH: Upper Coyote, and that was where you made the path down into it?

DW: Me and Bob. Bob made that trail down in there. Ahh, Earl and them probably made it first. They had cattle going down in there and then we put a fence across the canyon down there. The cattle would go down in there, you know, and water and then they'd come back out. That was before this was ever done.

MH: Yeah, right. Right. Yellow Jacket Water Hole. (Pause in tape) We're coming back through the pass...

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DW: Brown Belly, Brown Belly Nick.

JH: The road goes to...

DW: ...you mean down in towards Hackberry and Starlight?

JH: This is it right here.

DW: And then down into Upper Death Valley and then down to Lower Death Valley and then you go down on to Carlo Ridge and then from Carlo Ridge down Paria, is that what you're talking about Joe?

MH: Can you hit the Little Death Valley from up here, or Upper?

DW: Oh yeah, this is the road that goes down in there. This is what we're going down off right now. This is Upper Slick Rock.

MH: Upper Slick Rock? Okay. That hill we just dropped down was Lower Slick Rock. This is the road that goes down into Hackberry.

DW: (Background noise/inaudible). This is Hackberry.

MH: Where?

DW: There's a road that goes over and you go down into, hey, you ought to go down in there once of these days. It's really neat to see.

MH: Yeah, we're going horseback ride down there. Well where's the road? Up here?

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DW: I'll show you.

MH: Okay. Yes, Don is going to bring the horses out here.

DW: See that point, Marsha, that's sticking up off that. That's Killamo, that big high one out there. That's out on Deer Range.

MH: Oh. That comes off of Bryce, right?

DW: Well Deer Range Point. That's right at the head of Deer Trails, right down into the south side, Deer Trail, that's the point, you can see that. This big old point up here, see if you can see that.

MH: That's Deer Range.

DW: No, that's Rainbow Point. See that big dead spot right up in there? Up there's Crawford, that's coming around there. (Background noise)

MH: What about this bench right here? (Inaudible/background noise)

DW: That's Jody Point.

MH: Jody Point? The one front.

DW: That big point out there, that's Rock Spring Banks. There's Hackberry Road right there.

MH: Hackberry? And it's up at top of the canyon? Right?

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JH: No, that's Cottonwood. that's part of the canals.

DW: We've gone into Cottonwood. Now remember, Cottonwood.

MH: Right. But it, this is the top of Hackberry?

DW: Uh huh. Like this, (background noise/inaudible) Lower Slick Rock. All of this country is Lower Slick Rock. Goes down in and then you got on out into Death Valley, whatever. This point here is Jody Point.

MH: Oh, so there's where Hackberry goes down in, right.

DW: Right down this canyon right here.

MH: Right, you can see it break out, break open right there.

DW: Go down in to what you call Hackberry and then Starlight. Then you go down in to what you call Upper Death Valley and then you go down to Lower Death Valley and you come back around this side of Snake Creek and then you come Johnson Hole and then Paria comes back down through there, then Caller Ridge and you go over on the other side and you've got Deer Trails. and then you got Camp Basin and then you go over into the Nipple country and then got the North Strauss Swag, then you go (Laughter).

MH: We'll have to do that another day.

DW: Then you go up onto Nomad, and then on one side of it's Deer Spring and then on the other side is Cap and then you go down through (Laughter). The Cap pasture sits back up there. You don't think I know this place.

MH: No, I know you do. That's why I'm out here doing this with you.

DW: I've been around.

JH: I know there's a lot of that country don't there, but I've forgotten a tad.

DW: I haven't forgot it.

MH: I am disappointed; there is one wash you couldn't remember the name of.

DW: Not anybody could.

MH: Yeah. It'll come to you.

JH: This down through here is called Cedar Fort.

DW: But you know it's hard to remember all this stuff. Especially when you get old, you forget a lot of this stuff.

MH: I think you have a pretty good memory. So this is like, what do you call this in here?

DW: This is just shale.

MH: Makes a good roadbed.

DW: Yeah, perfect road. If you add this shale into your campsites for a road, you wouldn't have to worry.

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MH: I wonder where we can get some? Out by Hammer's place right?

End of Side Two, Tape One

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I hereby give to the Utah State Historical Society the tapes and transcriptions of the interview/interviews recorded on _____ and grant the Utah State Historical Society the right to make the tapes and transcriptions available to the public for such educational and research purposes that are in accordance with the policies and procedures of the Society's Utah History Information Center.

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DATE 2-13-04

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