

Beverly McGee: We Moved Away

BM: We moved away when my dad found out that the interstate was coming through our farm. And so it did come over the top, I guess, of our barns. It left our house.

Beverly McGee: We Bought our Groceries

BM: We bought our groceries mainly from a peddler who came by the door every week. We sent for a lot of things, ordered a lot of things from the Sears Roebuck catalogue, like clothing, although one of my aunts was a good seamstress and she made a lot of our clothes, even the boy's clothes and she sewed for the people in the community.

Beverly McGee: Winter Floods

BM: We lived on the Elk River there, had a farm that backed up to the Elk River, and a little creek came by one side. And in the winter it always overflowed, backed the creek out, and we could maybe not get out. But if we did, the bridge, the water was over the bridge, so we walked to school up through the field, and once I remember the creek froze over and we had a couple of hogs that walked out on the ice until it broke through with them and they drowned.

Beverly McGee: Elkton Stores and Catching the Bus to Pulaski

BM: Taylor's store was always there and it at one time had the post office inside their store. Then there was McFarland's that had also the bus station, the Greyhound bus ran through there all the time. We would catch the bus and go to Pulaski. Harwell's store was there also.

Beverly McGee on the Original Shady Lawn

Yes, I think about '49 or '50, they moved from Fayetteville to Elkton. My husband started to school there where I was going to school, and they ran that truck stop for ten or twelve years, in the original location, before it moved to the site on the interstate where it is now. They bought it from the Houck family who lived down that old road there until that house burned. It was standing there.

NT: Where did the name "Shady Lawn" come from?

BG: I think it came from that, the Houck's had a huge house and a shady yard there, and that was the "shady lawn".

Beverly McGee on the Original Shady Lawn

Well, unlike the big truck stops they have today, it was on a main highway, 31, that carried a lot of the trucks and traffic at the time. They sold gas, fixed truck flats and the whole business, and served food. The lunches were about \$0.85 at that time. And on Sundays, people in the community would come from Ardmore and our surrounding area to eat lunch there. And of course they had some local people all the time that traded there.