

ABU-5833

Tape #2

Mrs. Lurline Standifer Morrison

Length: 75 min.

"Homestead Life Near Portales Springs"

Interviewed by Mrs. Jean Burroughs  
July 31, 1972

- 002 Mrs. Morrison was married to Paul E. Morrison - son of Uncle Josh Morrison who had first store at Portales Springs before 1900.
- 007 Store was later moved to town after railroad came through and continued as first place of business.
- 013 Uncle Josh probably came from Texas.
- 023 Children: Seth and Paul
- 032 Family probably lived in back of store at Portales Springs.
- 042 Attracted customers because located on trail and centrally located among settlers.
- 056 She lived on Slaughter Ranch, Yellow House Ranch, and Four Lakes Ranch.
- 069 Portales - she says comes from portal (gateway) because it was the Texas gate.
- 078 Mrs. Burroughs says comes from Spanish word "portal" (porches); came from ledges overhanging the springs.
- 100 Discusses caves at springs.
- 134 Doak Good mentioned - gunman people stayed away from.
- 164 1894; Doak Good was the first to file claim on the springs.
- 181 When store was moved to Portales it was located in the area where Wheeler Mortuary is now.
- 195 Used same lumber to build store in town.
- 230 Pecos Valley Railroad mentioned - lots of freight cars.
- 262 First school in Portales was abandoned railroad shack; school built in 1900 on present site of L.L. Brown school.

309 She was born in Duran, Oklahoma on July 27, 1898.  
314 When about a year old, father came to Roswell.  
317 Father was a bartender.  
327 Later moved to one of the Slaughter's farms.  
340 Father was a native of Arkansas; Mother - Missouri.  
396 White Brothers of Roswell persuaded father to come to Yellow House.  
410 Some of schoolmates: Irma Bell Dean, Leta Smith, Clifford Dean, and Laura Fullerton.  
444 Mentions one of the first businesses was First National Bank.  
460 Early churches: Presbyterian, Baptist, and Methodist.  
490 Early amusements: basketball, baseball, roller skating, picture show.  
570 Town was built along railroad.  
607 No street sign until after 1947 - Camp Fire girls raised money.  
643 Names of streets have changed.  
697 Husband, Paul, was County Clerk.  
702 She was also County Clerk for four years.  
704 She worked for Slaten Brothers for twenty years.  
719 Has been retired about ten years.

(Side Two)

004 Husband was veteran of WWI.  
005 She is charter member of American Legion Auxiliary.  
012 Believes farming main influence on growth of Portales.  
032 Believes poorness of people has made them conservative.  
044 Believes churches would be better if they supported one another.  
051 Schools, including ENMU, have contributed to Portales.  
060 Dry county mentioned.

- 090 Democrats dominated politics in county.
- 145 She is satisfied living in Portales.
- 206 Rube Anderson and Bernice Urten of Portales are related to her husband.
- 212 Father filed on homestead three miles North of Portales where they lived summer and fall.
- 225 She rode pony to school; took morale (?) for horse to eat from.
- 263 School terms varied according to money available.
- 295 Chuck wagon mentioned - ordinary wagon with bows over the top and wagon sheet; box on back of wagon contained tin plates and utensils; supplies stored in the wagon.
- 314 Cow chips used for fire.
- 329 There were 15-20 hands in a cattle roundup.
- 330 Drift fences were put up to turn cattle back when they went South during snow.
- 386 White Brothers' and Slaughters' ranches around Roswell mentioned.
- 404 Eating sour dough biscuits mentioned.
- 441 Dutch ovens were used to cook over fire.
- 477 Windmills on ranches used to water cattle when there weren't water holes.
- 502 Cattle drives to Bovina.
- 540 H-Bar Ranch mentioned - it was small compared to the ones she lived on.