

Sebert Douglas

610 Catalpa Street, Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Age: 82

Interviewer: Mrs. Bernice Bowden

I was born in Lebanon, Kentucky. Gover Hood was my old master. His wife's name was Ann Hood.

I remember Morgan's Raid. I don't remember what year it was but I remember a right smart about it. Cumberland Gap was where they met. The Rebs and Yankees both came and took things from old master. I remember three horses they took as well. Yankees had tents in the yard. They were in the yard right in front of the Methodist church.

My mother was Mrs. Hood's slave, and when she married she took my mother along and I was born on her place. I was the carriage boy in slave times. My father did the driving and I was the waiting boy. I opened the gates.

I remember Billy Chandler and Lewis Rodman ran off and joined the Yankees but they came back after the war was over.

Pattyrollers were about the same as the Ku Klux. The Ku Klux would take the roof off the colored folks' houses and take their bedding and make 'em go back where they came from.

We stayed right there with old master for two or three years, then we went to the country and farmed for ourselves.

I went to school just long enough to read and write. I never seen any use for figures until I married and went to farming.

Since I've been in Pine Bluff I've done millwork. I was a sash and doorman.

I used to vote every election till Hoover, but I never held any office.

The younger generation is bad medicine. Can't tell what's gonna come of 'em!