

**SUMMARY OF TAPE L102 INTERVIEW WITH ELIN LEWIS  
1975**

**Interviewers: Connie Fahnestock and Hank Alderfer**

Elin Lewis talks about her girlhood home while Hank Alderfer shows her pictures of the homestead taken at the time of this interview. Her parents' home was built before Colorado became a state in 1876, and she alludes to it being built even a decade or two before. A man by the name of Everhart built an original cabine, ranch house, barn, and several outbuildings. Hank remarks that the construction was very sturdy, as the buildings are still in good shape. Elin's memory is that Mr. Everhart was a carpenter or cabinet maker and perhaps also a teacher.

Elin's father and mother earned money in cash and trading by baling hay for other ranches, raising and selling crops, selling some cattle, and raising dairy cattle that provided milk and butter for income. There are three balers till on the property, along with a manure spreader and other farm equipment from the early part of the last century.

The youthful Elin that comes across to the listener in this tape was an adventurous, mischievous girl. She relates that she has climbed most of the rocks, pinnacles and mountains in the area. Her recount of going down into the working F.M.&B. Mine is fascinating. Camp Neosho is remembered; even where the "Johnnies" (outhouses) were located. Dan and George Berrian are remembered, along with residents at Camp Neosho such as Miss Kidd, Ellen and Hilda Anderson and Mrs. Elmgreen (Rosalie Hooper).

Throughout the tape Hank Alderfer asks about buildings in the photos he has brought to the interview. Hank talks of the possibility that the ranch might be bought for public use because of the history and public recreation opportunities. He mentions Jefferson County Open Space.