

I really liked our home in Rock Canyon Flat. I lived there until I was about four years old. I didn't have any playmates, boys that is, but I did have the little animals, the calves, lambs and pigs to keep me company. I loved to pick up pretty rocks from the hills. Early in March mother had the oven door down so we could dress by the warm stove. Dad called up from the corral for mom to come see a new born calf and while she was gone as I was pulling on my overalls, I lost my balance and fell on the oven door. I still carry scars from the burn I received.

John Cox participated in the immigration fund, and they sent him a Danishman. Mother could speak Danish and understand it. We spent many hours in the home of John and Cora Cox while the gentleman from Denmark was employed by John Cox. (We always called them Uncle John and Aunt Cora) He worked for John for two years in the summertime and dug coal in the winter until he had enough money to bring his wife and three children over to America.

He was very grateful to John Cox for supporting him in the Immigration Fund so that he could be re-united with his family and they would have an opportunity to live in America.

Dad had a nut that he couldn't get off on the mowing machine, he pulled it down by the door and I oiled it and got it off for him. I used the rest of the oil to oil the wooden tongue and Dad had to buy more oil before he could cut the hay.

Each Sunday we had sacrament services at the Ben Jewkes farm and a pot luck dinner afterwards. At one time they were going to establish a town on Rock Canyon Flat. There were 29 families living out there.

Dad built an ice house on the North side of the granary. He cut the ice and hauled it from John Cox's pig pond. The ice was stored in saw dust and many a dish of ice cream was furnished for socials.

Dad had built a brick house on the North side of the corrals, the alkali came up under the house, the North wall of the home fell outward. It went down so slowly that the glass in the picture frames hanging on the walls was not cracked

We had a garden to the West of the house and a young orchard. The plum tree lived for several years and was watered from the ditch.

There was a little pond at the top of the garden and a pipeline from the pond to the kitchen door. Dad took a load of apricots to Salina in July. I

went with him and we stayed at Grandpa and Grandma Humphrey's. Salina couldn't raise apricots because of the cold temperature. In September we hauled prunes. We made several trips to Salina with fruit during the following years.

We had a garden down by the hog pasture where we raised watermelons and cantaloupes. In the fall he would often bring in gunny sacks full of cantaloupes and watermelons. These were stored in the grain bins for several months.

When Christian Poulsen homesteaded at Rock Canyon Flat, he was required to plant 1000 trees. His son Eugene and wife Ina had the nicest place in the summertime, always flowers around their home. Most of the people moved their families out in the summertime.

THE FAMILIES LIVING AT ROCK CANYON FLAT
BELOW HIGHWAY 10

Al Fullmer
Tom Fullmer
George Fox

WEST OF HIGHWAY 10

Eugene Poulsen
Wilford Humphrey
Bernard Cox
Ben Jewkes
Frank Killian
Gard Jewkes
Earnest Reid
Howard Reid
George Snow
John Cox
Luther Tatton

FIRST GENERATION AT ROCK CANYON FLAT

Ed Cox
George Snow
Alma Jewkes
Henry Reid
Christian Poulsen

Written by Mark Humphrey, December 1991
WHEN WE BOYS LIVED ON ROCK CANYON FLAT

When school closed in the spring of the year, we boys we went out to Rock Cayon Flat on our farm for the summer. We milked the cows and kept the coyotes out of the chickens and turkeys.

There was a cheese factory in Ferron, Utah and we took the milk in 5 gallon cans down to Highway 10, and the milk truck picked them up took them to Ferron and returned the cans filled with whey. This we fed to the pigs and we had to wash the milk cans out each day.

When Tom was born, Howard had the whooping cough, we took him out to the farm with us. He was such a poor eater Mom cried about him not eating. When he was with us at the farm we would make him a sandwich and put it in paper sack. We would tell him where we would be working. He would eat his egg sandwich and about 10 A. M. he would show up at wherever we were working.

We raised oats and wheat. The wheat and oats were stacked and we used horse power and threshing machines. Six teams of horses were hitched up to furnish power and they went around and around. When we stacked the grain it had to be stacked just right or it would tip over.

The first thrashing machine had a conveyor belt for the straw and we had to remove the straw.

We raised corn for the silo. The farmers would get together and put up each others hay and corn.

Myself and Carlton Jewkes were in demand for cutting corn. We could cut 2 acres a day. It was very tiring and hard work. We were very glad when the corn was all chopped and in the silos.

Lee Humphrey contributed the following:

We had about 2 weeks without much work and Dad said we could make a pond for a swimming hole. We dug the pond and it took all of the water from every farmer for a week to fill the "swimming hole". Every day at noon, all the men and boys would come down and swim. At times there would be 30 of us in swimming at one time.