

Mrs. Richard tries to recover the family pig from a bear
Gerald Nadeau, Transcript

“Mrs. Richard was left with the small children she had, and Mr. Richard went to work in the square timber business in the fall, and they had a pen with a pig in it not far from their cabin, and she heard the pig squeal, so... the biggest threat then was bears. So she soon went out and heard the pig squealing so she had a little lantern which was a candle in a frame so she got some pans or something that could make a noise, thinking that she could maybe scare the bear, but the bear had lifted the pig over the log fence with his front paws, and he got into the bush with it. So she followed him as far as she thought... I guess he'd drop the pig any time. He didn't. So it was a fight to see who was going to get the pig. So finally she got far enough away from the cabin or house that she couldn't go any farther with the small kids so she had to come back and let the pig go. So that was their winter's supply of meat.

And you know, I've got a book called The Foxfire and they have a bear proof pigpen in the Adirondacks. And those people lived much like the people where we lived. They used the same system of thinking. It was exactly. When I read that, I had to read some of it twice because I couldn't believe that people in another part of the country would be so much alike and be so distant. But those people in the Appalachian Mountains had the same thinking pattern as we had at the river, using an uneducated way of dealing with things.”