

Gus Thompson--oral history 765

--Civil War vets wd visit school (in Minn.)

--"I've lived here too long to live anywhere else."

--another guy "pulled back to Minn."

--large ranch "was really strung out"

--h'steaders had to raise feed for cow, chickens, maybe 4 horses

--1919, "farming community" survived, but homesteaders between Choteau and the mountains, on less good land, didn't; turned stock loose (sold if they could) and left; "cleaned the whole country between here and the mtns"

--others survived by borrowing money; some 1919 survivors had mortgages until 1940--or lost out in 30s when wheat was 25¢ bushel

--4 horses on threshing crew "cook car"