

## **Felix Carter (interview5)**

Pete James (Interviewer): Tell me about the day the 1952 tornado hit, what you remember, where you were, and what you remember seeing.

FC: Well, I was at work at the shop down here on Main. And I was outside there, getting some tires off a truck from a guy. I don't know who he was, I can't remember his name. But anyway, he looked around and said, "Look here, here comes a tornado." I said, "what?" He said, "a tornado." Well, I had never seen no tornado before. I didn't know what he was talking about. And oh, I guess about five or six seconds or something like that, maybe a little longer, come this big puff of wind and hit the top of the building and blowed tin in some places off of it. And I tried to get on inside, we had some big old double doors. I tried to get on inside. I couldn't close them. The wind was so strong. And after that happened, well I went out front and looked, and it was old buildings over there in front of the cable place down there. And shoot, it had blowed part of it away. People were running and hollering, so I got scared, and I come on home (on Maple Street). And when I got over to the corner, I looked around, and they was out there in the yard sweeping the leaves and things. And I said, "Y'all know there's a tornado?" And they said, "Naw." And shoot, Market Street and West End, it was not a building down, but you could tell where it had been through. And next thing you knew, out here in West End, there were some houses they had just built, and there was a big field over there. It'd been plowed and had corn in it. And those corn stalks stuck in the house. Just like somebody took a hammer and drove them in there. And, it was an awful thing. That's about all I can remember of it now.

Pete James (Interviewer): What do you remember about the days following the storm?

FC: Well, they were going around trying to clean up what had happened. So, it's a lot of people that I have forgotten their names. And they were around trying to help get things straight.

Pete James (Interviewer): What do you think nowadays when you see the skies turning dark?

FC: I'm ready to get out. I'm ready to go.

