

EAST FRISIAN ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The Reminiscences of Wayne Busboom

1995

Excerpt

Sowing Oats

Museum of the Grand Prairie

Champaign County Forest Preserve District

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Q: Did anybody in your family ever tell stories about coming over or family stories?

Busboom: Well the first year he came over here, my grandfather Buss, he was a prideful little rascal, a little short guy... But he was sowing his oats the first year he came here from Germany. He borrowed an oat seeder from a Hinricks and he drove too wide into the field with his horses, so he had bare spots in between where nothing grew. So, he went out there underneath the full moon with a hoe and seeded them in in the middle of the night so nobody could see what he did. Because he didn't want anybody to know that German boy made a mess, the new guy from Germany. So, there's a lot of pride in that, a lot of pride.