

EASTERN OKLAHOMA PROSPERITY

Eastern Oklahoma is reaping dividends from river navigation, The Tulsa Tribune reported on Jan. 11, 1973:

"Dam building, river navigation and the accompanying industrial and recreational development of Eastern Oklahoma seem to be having a healthy effect on personal income in this part of the state.

"Fourteen Oklahoma counties had gains of more than 100 percent in median family income from 1959 to 1969, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. And 11 of the 14 counties are in Eastern Oklahoma.

"The biggest gain, 127.7 percent, was recorded by McIntosh County, which contains much of Lake Eufaula, the state's largest, and surrounding recreational areas including Fountainhead State Lodge.

"Second, at 122.2 percent, was Wagoner County, which has a growing population of Tulsa commuters, recreational areas on Fort Gibson Lake and a potential for industrial development along the Verdigris River waterway . . .

"Generally, the counties showing the biggest percentage gains were those with the lowest median incomes in 1959 . . ."



***A synthesis of sky and sea:
The McClellan-Kerr
Arkansas River Navigation
System opened a dying
region to a new world of
waterway work.***