

T-428

Informant: Tom Captain Eastern Shawnee
Fay Captain

Side A

Miami, Oklahoma
Interviewed by: Peggy Dycus
May 16, 1969
Transcribed by: Cynthia Bivins

EARLY LIFE OF TOM CAPTAIN

This is Tom and Fay Captain, I am a member of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe, and I live on the same section that I was born on in 1884, and I lived on starvation wages all of my life. First year of school that I went to was up here at the old Quapaw mission. And ah, I wasn't six years old until in December, and ah, Charley BlueJacket taken me up there. He started out of the school room, I started out to follow him, the teacher run and locked the door and I knocked the window glass and tried to crawl out.

Fay: You were not very civilized.

Well, I grewed up here on the prairie in my shirttails. Times were pretty hard back in them days, there wasn't very much farming land in here then. That is there was farming land but it never was put to cultivation. Neighborhood wasn't settled.

Fay: (not clear)

I don't know, I haven't talked very much about my past life, I am looking to the future.

OWNED THE STORE 20 YEARS

(How long have you had this store?)

Well, about twenty years, well not quite, about nineteen years. I was a horse farmer and everybody got to gettin' tractors, and that knocked us horse farmers out, so I had to do something to make a living, so I started this.