

McMENAMY, TOM

INTERVIEW

#4473

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INTERVIEW.

Form A-(S-149)

#4473.

BIOGRAPHY FORM

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

201

Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name Warren D. Morse

This report made on (date) June 14, 1937

1. Name Tom McMenamy

2. Post Office Address Waurika, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) _____

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month - Day - Year 1868

5. Place of birth North Carolina

6. Name of Father _____ Place of birth _____

Other information about father _____

7. Name of Mother _____ Place of birth _____

Other information about mother _____

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached _____.

Interview with Tom McMenamy
Waurika, Oklahoma

Field Worker - Warren D. Morse
June 14, 1937

I came to Oklahoma in 1901 and made the trip to Lawton. There were five of us in a wagon and we crossed Red River near Fleetwood and camped at a place which we thought was all right.

I went up to a house and a young man came to the door. He told me that his wife was old and the girl was away from home just at that time. This young man had married Old Lady Fleetwood just to get a claim. He wanted her to give him the money to put in a saloon at Nocona, Texas but she would not do it.

We went across country; there were no roads nor bridges then. We managed to get to Lawton, and register but our numbers were so big that we did not get anything.

I thought I would go on out to Hobart and find some kind of location for a home, so two of us drove on West. We came to a kind of open arbor

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affair. We stopped and I went over to this place. It was an Indian's home and they were eating. The old Indian came over to me and I asked him how to find the way toward Hobart. He wouldn't talk but he called a young girl to talk to me. I couldn't understand a word she said.

The old Indian had a red band around his waist just completely filled with bullets; you know seeing those bullets made me feel like I wasn't wanted there.

When I got to Hobart I could not find anything that suited me and I did not like the looks of the country around there.

I started back and came to that Rainy Mountain Mission and worked there for a long time.

I came back here and bought a claim from a man west of Waurika; all he wanted was the cost of registering.

On our road to Hobart we followed the old '49'ers trail a ways. We camped at an old spring where a wagon train was said to have been attacked

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and burned and men, women and children killed.

A man who camped at this place found old wagon tires and iron pieces scattered around.