

Watonga.

FINISHED 9TH GRADE IN PUBLIC SCHOOL - NO GOVERNMENT SCHOOL

(Did you go to Indian school at all?)

No, I didn't go to Indian school. They wanted to get me in Indian school one time, but my grandmother wouldn't let them. She didn't want me to get away from her, you know. And, so I went into public school here, and I got out of school here when I was in 9th grade. Of course, everybody was going into the army and everything, and I stayed out of school for awhile. But the reason why I got out of school was, everybody that I went to school with in my age, they all quit school. And I was the only one going, to school. And naturally I'd run around with them because they grew up with me and I knew them and went to school with them. And they was always going swimming somewhere and I'd be the only one going to school. And they'd, night before they'd plan what they was going to do the next day, out swimming and how they was just going to stay out there all day and what they was going to do. And I'd be the only one in school. And I just couldn't...

(What made you able to not follow the gang like that? Was it due to your grandmother?)

Yes. It was due to my grandmother's advice. "Cause I figured that if I went along with them and everything, it was just like my grandmother said I'll always buy you anything you want and you won't have to ask for it or do something in order to get it, but I'll buy it for you as long as you take my advice, as long as you do what I tell you.

'Course when I got older I told her that everybody else was out of school, and she knew all these kids was out of school. And so, I was the only one going all the time. Then I begun to get, I begun to play hooky. But the main thing when I quit school and everytime I went up to another grade it was gettin harder for me, cause there