

T-258

Informant: Laura Stanberry, Delaware

Interviewed by: J. W. Tyner, May 6, 1968

Transcribed by: Pruda Shank

(Today we are visiting with Laura Stanberry, 75 year old resident of Claremore, Oklahoma. She is of Delaware Indian ancestry and has lived all of her life in Rogers County. This interview deals with the community of Tiawah, early day Rogers County town.)

SCHOOLS IN EARLY DAYS

It was prairie. It now has timber on it, and when I was a kid, we'd always go up there on Easter and things. I taught there 12 years. Besides I went to school there. Then I came on up here and finished high school up here. They didn't have but two years.. and I just got one years credit. I took standard examination, which is the reason I come on up here and finished. But I started to school there, up on the hill in the west, and had a little box, one-room school, and it was called an Indian school. Before statehood...and I was in the first grade up there. Mother paid \$1.00 a month for us to go to school there. And there was just 15 or 20 kids in the room, one teacher. And I was there and I was in the first grade, and she told the big kids--I think the 5th or 6th was the highest she had, told them to learn to spell Oklahoma. She was comin' down, and she got down to me and I ran up to the board and spelled it out. And she said, well, I'm surprised, I didn't think you could get it. (Laughter) I will never forget that. Family named Bond; and they were our neighbors there in Tiawah, my mother lived there 'til she died there, and I lived there for years. In '42 I left, I sold