

The Creek Indian influence along this part of the Arkansas river left some permanent memorials of their early way work and progress. Witness the old Indian towns of Broken Arrow, Coweta, Oneta, Hedford, Choska, and even a place called Tulsa. The town of Porter took its name from Pleasant Porter, a Creek Chief of the late 1800s.

Mrs. Jones talks about the early days when she and her husband farmed on the rich bottom lands of the river valley below Tullahoma. He planted fine crops of cotton and corn. Some years the elements fought them hard. At other times there would come the hordes of mosquitos, army worm, and drought. Floods, prairie fires and early killing freeze, all to keep life in balance. They worked hard and hard until their backs were red. But for the fact they only had one old mule and a couple shovels to farm with, but they made a little crop and got by that year. Looking back now she says over though there were times when they had very little, they were always happy, and that was the main thing.

Vinnie Jones was the daughter of Caleb Harry and Sallie Davis Harry. She was born near the river at Fort Gibson. She was one of six children. The family moved to the Tullahoma community in the early part of 1880 where they farmed and spent the greater part of their lives. Her father had a number of relatives are buried in the old cemetery at Tullahoma. Mrs. Jones married a man named ~~John Jones~~ who was a preacher. Mr. Jones was a member of the Methodist church. On the 20th of the month of the society unknown to the people were members for the most part, and their work was to preach the gospel by recruitment, moving with the crowd and on the road, and teaching with watchful eye the boiling southern making letters. The preacher's family did not own a stove, but had their cooking done in the fireplace.

After the session closed, the church members left and waited the Baptist at Tullahoma town and Rev. Wells preached to a full church. Methodist and holiness churches later were built in town. The present public school was started about 1907, and part of the building was destroyed by the first building, which in later years had been destroyed by fire and lock.

The town of Tullahoma has seen a new growth since the coming of the railroad and new highway and a new era of progress. At the present time there is a bank, a grocery store, a hardware and a post office. There are a number of downtown buildings and the point of view of the little country store down the highway. As with most towns of this size, it has grown with the coming of supermarkets, quick service shops, and the variety of commodities needed to-day to satisfy the people. The town has seen a new era of progress.