

NICHOLS, WILLIAM B. INTERVIEW.

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Interview with William B. Nichols, Indian,  
By Nettie Oxain, Field Worker. 101

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John William B. Nichols, part blood Choctaw Indian, <sup>was</sup> born in Pope County, Arkansas, in 1874.

His grandfather, General Cooper, was among the Choctaw Indians who came from Mississippi in 1836. On the way, General Cooper said, the Indians had very little food and many hardships. Some had to stop before they reached the Indian Territory, and some settled in Arkansas. This was the trip that they called the "Trail of Tears".

Mr. Nichols came to the Indian Territory in 1890 and settled near Duncan, Oklahoma. After going to school at his neighborhood school, he attended business college at Ardmore, his room and board being paid by the Government. This was in 1898.

"One of the largest ranches," says Mr. Nichols, "was owned by Cal and Iker Seuggs and was located on the 98th Meridian line between Comanche and Kiowa Counties."

The Seuggs boys were very good friends to the

Indians. When the Indians were planning a large gathering, they would always ask the Souggs for a donation of several calves, which were always given.

The ranch would have about an average of a hundred thousand head and covered several hundred acres of land. They never lost many cattle by thieves. The Souggs and Nichols families were very close friends.

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