

PATTON, DAN W.

INTERVIEW

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Indian Pioneer History, S-149

No. 2119 514

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Field Worker

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Interview: Dan W. Patton

OLD TIMER

Dan W. Patton was born August 1, 1885 near the town of Greenwood, Sebastian County, Arkansas. Mr. Patton came to Indian Territory in the latter part of 1900. He is of white blood. His brother, J. Gus Patton, being already in Indian Territory as a government civil engineer, Mr. Dan had a chance to come to him and be employed as a chainman, so he made a deal with his father that if he would let him come he would give his father half of what he earned. His father consented and bought him a suit of clothes, costing \$7.00 and gave him \$11.00 in money. He came to Coalgate, I. T. to where his brother-in-law lived and his brother-in-law drove him in a buggy to Connerville, where he joined his brother's surveying party. From there the surveying party moved to Wapanucka. After finishing their work there, they moved to Lehigh and then to Haleyville and then to Hartshorne. He went to Poteau, I. T. after finishing this work and in 1906 on Christmas day married Ella Wall of Choctaw Indian blood. Her family were considered one of the prominent families of the Choctaw Indian tribe. Miss Wall was very well educated, getting her education in the Indian Schools here in I. T. She went to school at the Indian School at Durant, Muskogee and the Spaulding Institute at Muskogee. Dr. Brewer was head of this school at the time of

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her going there. Mr. Patton's wife died at Coteau in 1912 but he still lived on there and later became Mayor of Coteau in 1915 and served in that capacity until 1917, in which year he came to Tulsa and served here from that year until 1928 as County Engineer and in which time he built the Tulsa County Highway system. In 1928 he was elected Mayor of the City of Tulsa and served in that capacity until 1930 after which time he went into private business as a civil engineer and which he is still following.