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LYNCH, C. B. INTERVIEW.

Chauncey O. Moore, Supervisor
Indian-Pioneer History 9-149

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Errence Hibbs
field worker

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Interview: Mr. C. B. Lynch
300 . . Cincinnati Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma
January 18, 1937

The first trading post to be opened in Tulsa was owned by Mr. J. M. Hall, and was located between the Frisco Railroad and 1st. Street, and on the west side of Main Street.

In the Cherokee county, it was a law not to permit a white man to operate a trading post without either adopting an Indian name or marrying an Indian woman. But, this was not the case among the Creek Indians. All that was necessary in the Creek Nation was to secure a trader's license which had to be signed by the Chief. So, Mr. Hall, learning of this, crossed the Cherokee country into that of the Creek, and opened his trading post.

Mr. Lynch worked for Mr. Hall in this trading post when he first came to the Indian Territory in 1892, later operating a trading post of his own.

LYNCH, C. B. INTERVIEW

Tulsa, Oklahoma
4 - 23 - 37
Ruben Partridge
Field worker

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Muskogee, Oklahoma

5-23-37
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C.B. Lynch
Office, in Lynch Bldg, 305 S. Cir. Tulsa.

C.B. Lynch left his boyhood home in Mayeville, Ark., in the year 1889, and on the Texas Trail, or "Lard" road, he travelled, on horseback, through Southwest City, Mo., then on north seven miles, where he turned west, going through what is now Grove, Okla., - then crossing the Grand river, and on to Horse creek, and over timbered hills to Vinita, Okla. (then Indian Territory), on what was called the Vinita trail. From Vinita he followed the Frisco R.R. through Chelsea and Claremore to a point where Bird creek flows into the Verdigris river, (Verdigris is from the French and means, "greenish gray"), which he crossed by ferry, or flat boat, landing just at the mouth of Bird creek. From there he followed a cow trail up the Verdigris bottom, bearing a little toward the west, until he reached Halsell's ranch, which was 3 miles N. of Tulsa. This ranch was established in the early eighties by W.E. Halsell, of Vinita, Okla., a cattleman and banker.

At the time that Mr. Lynch made this trip across the country, Southwest City, Mo., had a population of 200, or 300 and there were no settlements at Grove, nor Bernice, I.T. He saw no towns until he came to Vinita, which had around 500 population. Chelsea had a few box houses, and Claremore was about the same size.

After leaving the Texas trail, there was to be seen only broad open country. Once in a while he met a cowboy,

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and he saw lots of deer, prairie chickens, wild turkeys, and great numbers of longhorn cattle belonging to different ranches. Upon his arrival at the Halsell ranch, he got a job as a cowboy, and remained for some time, later returning to Maysville, Ark., by the same route which he travelled when coming to Indian Territory.

In the year 1890, Mr. Lynch decided to go to Colorado. He landed in Pueblo, where he worked for about two years in a retail store, until he became homesick for Indian Territory, and returned to Tulsa. He then worked as a clerk in W. C. Hall and Co's Mercantile store, at First and Main streets, until he later opened up a small store for himself. He also handled a few cattle, and has been in the oil business since its beginning. His office is in the Lynch Bldg. which he owns, at 303 S. Cincinnati, and he resides at 1227 S. Baltimore, Tulsa.