

BIOGRAPHY FORM

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

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Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

PIPKN, INEZ FARR. INTERVIEW.

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Field Worker's name Hazel B. Greene,This report made on (date) April 25, 1933. 193

1. Name Mrs. Inez Farr-Pipkin. 1-3 Choctaw Indian.
2. Post Office Address Antlers, Oklahoma
3. Residence address (or location) _____
4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month 1893 Day _____ Year _____
5. Place of birth _____

6. Name of Father John Gist Farr Place of birth Union,
South Carolina.

Other information about father White man.

7. Name of Mother Anna Eliza Harris-Farr Place of birth Eagletown,
South Carolina.

Other information about mother 1/4 Choctaw Indian

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached _____.

Interviewer, Hazel B. Greene,
April 25, 1938.

Interview with Inez Farr-Pipkin,
Antlers, Oklahoma.

My mother was a sister of Henry C. Harris, who was born on the newly settled place of their parents situated on the road between Ultima Thule and Eagletown, although Henry C. Harris was years older than my mother, having been born in 1834. They were direct descendents of the prominent Peter Pitchlynn, a well-known Choctaw Indian who represented his people in Washington, D. C. Mother died when I was so young that I don't remember so very much that she told me about her people. But I have heard her say that she was closely related to the noted Peter Pitchlynn.

Mother, whose name was Anna Eliza Harris-Farr, and who was a quarter-blood Choctaw Indian, was born near Eagletown in 1861 and died in 1902. My father, John Gist Farr, a white man, was born in Union, South Carolina, and died in Hugo, January 31, 1934. Both my parents are

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buried in the cemetery at Antlers. I was born at a place five miles southeast of Antlers in 1893. Father stayed with me until he was eighty-six years old and he told us a lot about his family. His mother was a Gist of Union, South Carolina. Her family was a very prominent one. A Governor Gist of S. C. was an own (South Carolina) first cousin of my father. Father was reared on a big plantation near Union, South Carolina. He said they owned a hundred slaves. A reunion of the Gists is held each year at Union and Father attended these reunions as long as he was physically able until he went blind ten years before he died. He always believed that he would regain his sight but of course he never did. He said that he had noticed his eyesight failing for some time when one hot day he was riding in his fields. He was riding a very tall horse and he was a very tall man. He said that he had a terrible headache before his head bumped a bar across a gate. He forgot to stoop and it almost knocked him off of his horse. After that his eyesight went fast. He could get around all right in his own home, but after I built my home across the street and took him over there to live he

was very discontented until my house burned and he got to return to his own home and familiar surroundings. He died January 31, 1834.

Father said that when he came out to the Indian Territory as a young man he was interested in fine timber and there was a wealth of it here to be cut and marketed. He was working for some big timber firm. He entered the Indian Territory in the Eastern part of it and met and married my mother over there, March 28, 1878. Then he became a citizen because of having married under the Choctaw law. After that he became a United States Marshal in which capacity he served for many years. I remember when my father was United States Marshal he would take prisoners to Fort Smith in covered wagons. He would have deputies to guard them and they would camp along the road and as there were no bridges over the streams they would sometimes be a long time on the road and they suffered many hardships. My father was a lawyer and practiced in all the courts. He was postmaster at Antlers for two terms. He was once County Judge of Jack Fork County, Indian Territory. And at the same

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time his son, my brother, George, was County Clerk. At one time my brother George was an Indian mounted policeman. The mounted policemen wore blue uniforms with brass buttons.

My father and V. M. Locke, Sr., laid off the town-site of Antlers and named it so because so many deer came to that fine spring to drink. That spring is just south of the present depot and still runs and furnishes lots of families with water. They said that deer came in droves to drink there and there were so many fine antlered ones that they thought the name of Antlers appropriate. My father and "Dick" Locke selected the depot side near that spring. The depot used to be on the west side of the railroad, nearer the spring.

I can remember when there used to be just lots of game here of all kinds and the deer would come to that spring to drink in the night. My folks used to kill lots of game, too. I had so many fine mounted deer heads, a deer hide rug and a gun rack made of the feet of a deer. I had a gun with a bayonet on it which Colonel Phillip Pipkin used

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in the war of 1812, also several swords beside his pearl handled one. Phillip Pipkin was an ancestor of my husband, Paris Pipkin, who died in 1930.

I was born out on the farm about five miles from Antlers and moved to town when I was two years old and I was reared in Antlers. I attended public school and the Catholic convent, then I was sent to Tuskahoma Female Institute, later called the Academy.

My father, Major John Gist Farr, was a great factor in upbuilding the town of Antlers and was a familiar figure on its streets even after he went blind.