

HUGHES, G. A. (DR.) D.D.S.

INTERVIEW #8874

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Form A-(S-149)

BIOGRAPHY FORM  
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

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Field Worker's name Ruth E. MoonThis report made on (date) October 18 1937

1. Name Dr. G. A. Hughes, D. D. S.
2. Post Office Address Guthrie, Oklahoma
3. Residence address (or location) 421 A. Logan Avenue
4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month October Day 8 Year 1866
5. Place of birth Alabama

6. Name of Father R. S. Hughes Place of birth N. Carolina  
Other information about father \_\_\_\_\_

7. Name of Mother Elizabeth Josey Place of birth North Carolina  
Other information about mother \_\_\_\_\_

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 \_\_\_\_\_.

Ruth E. Moon  
Investigator  
October 18, 1937

Interview with Dr. G. A. Hughes  
Guthrie, Oklahoma.

Formerly the leading dentist of the town, Dr. Hughes retired from his practice a few years ago to be President of the Employee's Building and Loan Association of Guthrie.

He was practicing in Silver City, New Mexico, at the time the Strip opened. He had to attend the State Convention at Albuquerque just at that time so was two days late in reaching Perry.

He became ill on the train somewhere between Newton and the state line, and was in need of a doctor. When the train reached Perry, where he had expected to locate his office, he looked out over the new town of tents and dust and decided it was no place for a sick man to stop. The conductor advised him to come on down to Guthrie and he followed that advice. For three weeks he was confined to his bed in the old Royal Hotel.

Doctor bills and hotel bills left him so "broke" that he decided to begin practicing in Guthrie instead of at Perry, so wrote to Silver City, New Mexico, ordering his instruments and supplies to be shipped to Guthrie. The train on which

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they were shipped was wrecked near Las Cruces and so there was a delay of a month before his instruments and supplies arrived in Guthrie.

He rented an office over the old Capitol National Bank Building with the rent beginning the first of the month, paying one month's rent in advance. When he received a telegram on the 28th that the instruments would arrive the following day, he asked for the key in order to clean up the room and install his things. The answer was that if he wanted to occupy the office an extra day he would have to pay for it.

There were eight or ten dentists already in Guthrie, but only one held a diploma. Most of them had been here before there was a dental law in the Territory and when anybody could practice who had the nerve. Two of these dentists were really fine practitioners and the undesirables were soon weeded out as there was only a certain amount of dental work to be done.

Dr. Hughes has served two terms as President of the Board of Dental Examiners and was twice elected president of the Territorial Dental Association. He retired from active work/lacking only eight days of having practiced dentistry for forty years.

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He was married here in Guthrie in 1895, and has two daughters and three grandchildren.