

STANLAND, OWEN

INTERVIEW

#4500

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LEGEND & STORY FORM  
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

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Field worker's name Ethel B. Tackitt

This report made on (date) June 12 1937

Lone Wolf, Kiowa County, Oklahoma

1. This legend was secured from (name) Mr. Owen Stanland

address Lone Wolf, Oklahoma

This person is (male or female) White, Negro, Indian,

If Indian, give tribe Male - white

2. Origin and history of legend or story Legend of mining activity

in Wichita Range of Mountains, in vicinity of Lugert, Oklahoma.

Undeciphered marks on Granite Boulders.

Mr. Stanland describes and locates shafts.

3. Write out the legend or story as completely as possible. Use blank sheets and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 4

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Ethel B. Tackitt,  
Field Worker,  
June 12, 1937.

An Interview with Mr. Owen Stanland,  
Lone Wolf, Oklahoma.

Mr. Owen Stanland's grandfather homesteaded a farm in the vicinity of Lugert at the opening of the Kiowa Country in 1901.

This homestead was in the heart of the Wichita Range of mountains and in the locality which has been noted from the earliest knowledge of the white man for mining activity by Mexicans who were reported to have located a gold mine or mines in the Wichita Range and to have lived in great numbers in this region.

The story has been handed down by both the Mexican and the Indian races and both state that the treasure was buried somewhere in these mountains.

The mine and treasure have been objects of search from that time and will continue to be until found.

As a boy and young man Mr. Stanland with his chums spent all of his leisure time in exploring this region and he will be glad to go with an expert and point out

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the location of these shafts, many of which have been so defaced by time that they could not be found by a stranger, and he will also point out the uneciphered marks which he describes.

The mining shafts were located at the following points and known by the following names:

The Buck-eye shaft was located on the west side of the North Fork of Red River near the Greer County end of the present dam of Lake Altus. At this early time it was several feet deep. It had been blasted out by hand.

Directly across the river, on the Kiowa side, was another excavation which was much deeper and was called the Black-Diamond Mine. The name came from the black color of the granite. Many of the indications about this mine were destroyed when the dam was built. The water has risen above some parts of the place.

On this same little granite mountain to the south and slightly east, is another shaft called the Keystone Mine.

It is near the top of this little mountain.

Continuing to the south across the canyon and the

A.T.&S.F. Railroad track, well upon the side of Eagle Mountain, is another shaft which was much larger and was claimed by different people and some excavation was made in it after the settlement of the Kiowa country.

Mount King is the largest mountain in this vicinity and at the south side of it, just east of the railroad and highway bridges, are to be found the undeciphered marks all cut in large Granite boulders. The first is a heavy straight line (---). Angling toward the top is a cross (+), and well up toward the top is a heart (♥).

All these marks appear to have been cut in the granite for the purpose of marking something.

All of these mining shafts, with the exception of the Buck-eye Mining Shaft which is across the North Fork of Red River on the Greer County side, are to be found in the following locations.

The northwest quarter of the west half of Sections 27 and 28, Township 5 North, Range 20 West.

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Undeciphered marks are to be found on the southwest quarter of the west half, section 34, Township 5 North, Range 20 West.

On the east side of Highway 14 at the Kiowa end of the new bridge crossing the North Fork of Red River two miles south of Lake Altus.