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INDEX CARDS:

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

Field worker's name Joe Southern

This report made on (date) June 21, 1937

Atoka-Atoka-Co-Okla.

1. This legend was
 secured from (name) Lamar, Jackson.
 Address Atoka-Okla. Route 5,
 This person is (male or female) White, Negro, Indian,
 If Indian, give tribe Choctaw
2. Origin and history of legend or story Storm bath June 1891, and
Atoka-Natoy upon road-established in 1878, by Choctaw Tribe-lap -
of same - locations -Ford in and out of Atoka - Co.
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

INDIAN-PIONEER HISTORY PROJECT

GRANT FOREMAN

DIRECTOR

106A

211 Federal Bldg.

Muskogee, Okla.

JACKSON, ALA

INTERVIEW

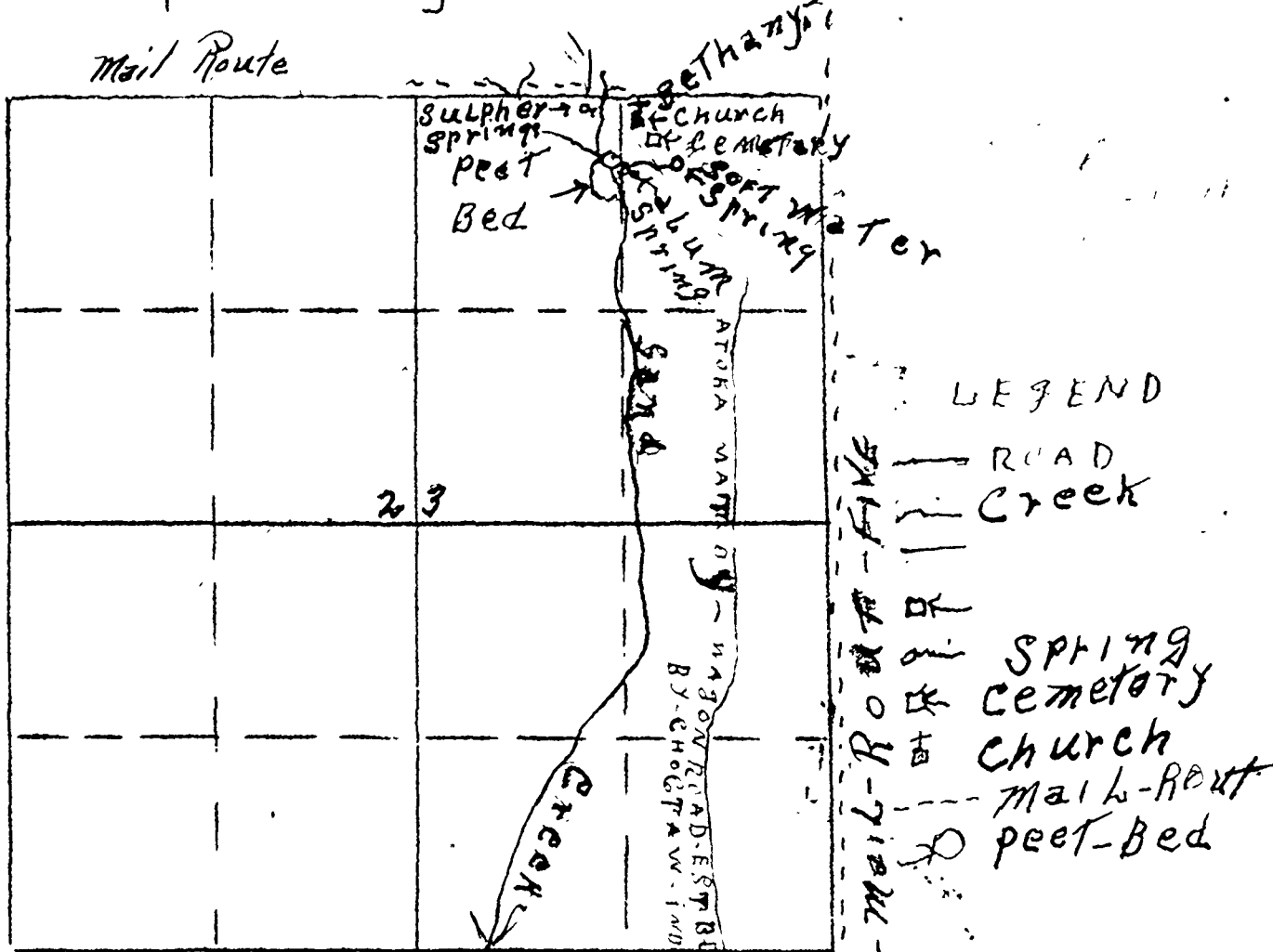
#6347

Interviewer: Geo Southern Date: June 19, 1937 County: Atoka

Informant: Lamar Jackson Address: _____

Items: Church, cemetery, three springs, peat bed, mail route, No. 5 road, storm path

Sect.(s): 23 Twisp: 3-5 Range: 11-E County: Atoka

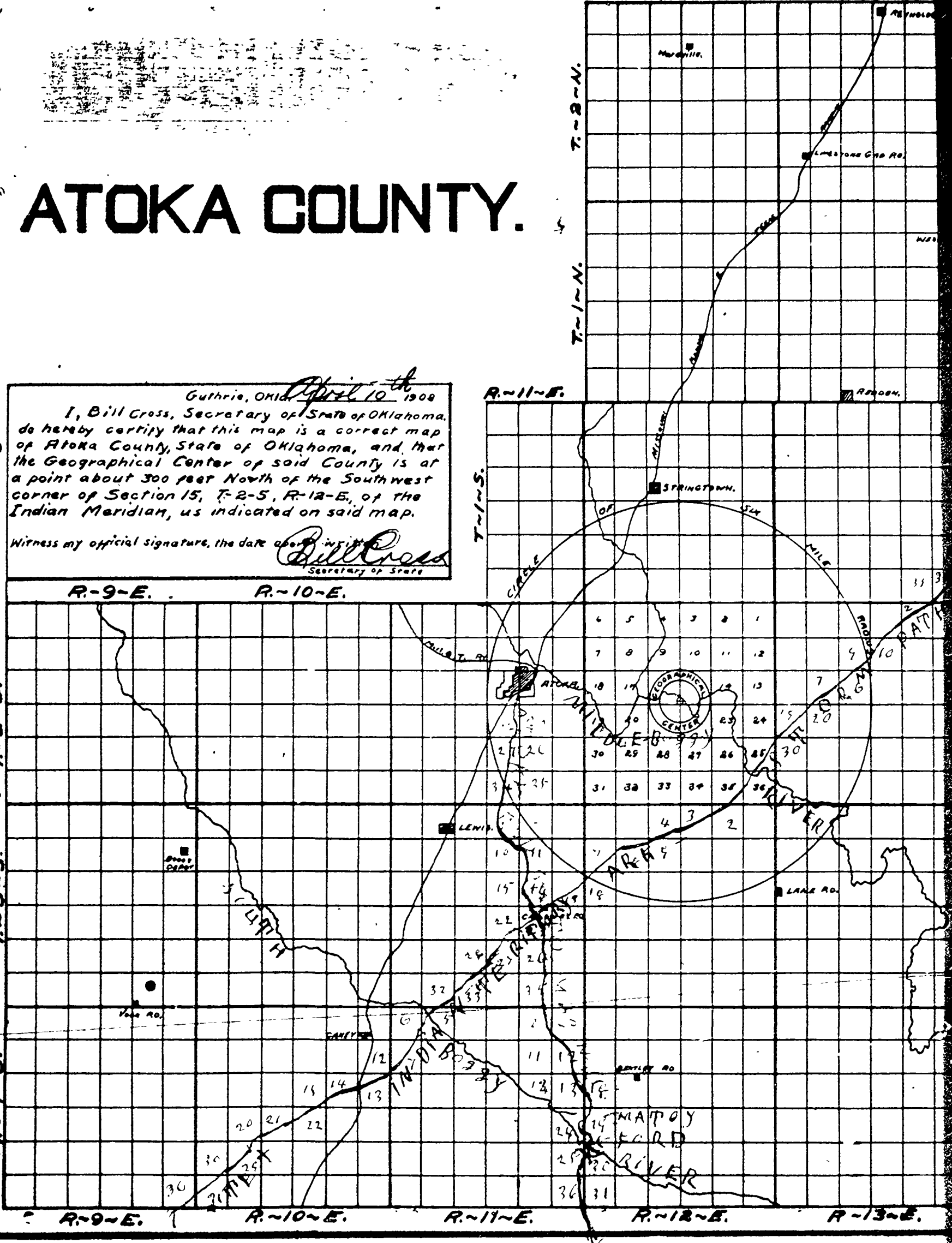


Notes in Detail: map sec. 23 storm Path road House Ch
Cemetery Creek 3 Springs, Peat Bed Mail Route

(Continue on Reverse)

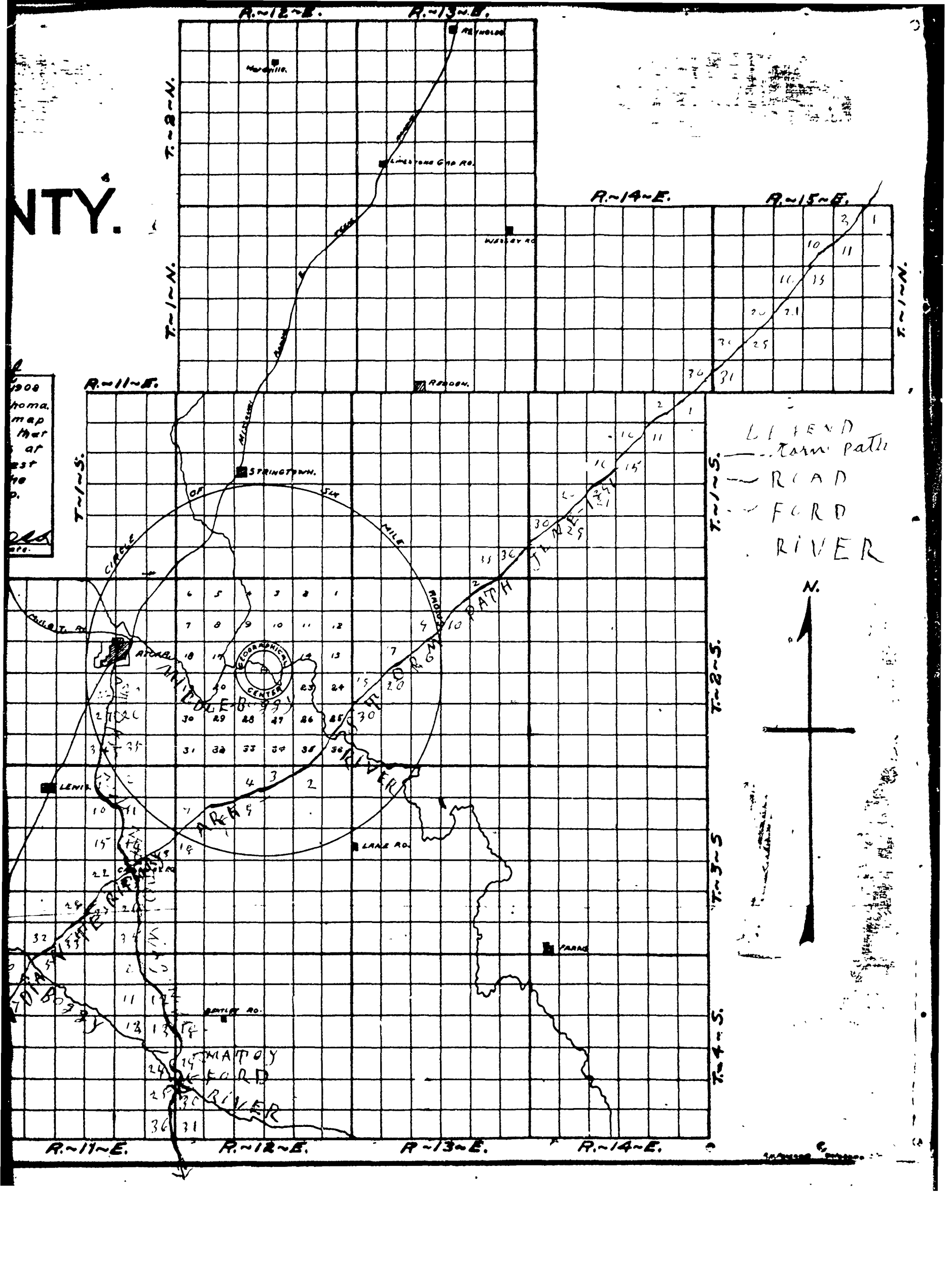
ATOKA COUNTY.

Guthrie, Okla. *April 10th* 1908
 I, Bill Cross, Secretary of State of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this map is a correct map of Atoka County, State of Oklahoma, and that the Geographical Center of said County is at a point about 300 feet North of the Southwest corner of Section 15, T-2-S, R-12-E, of the Indian Meridian, as indicated on said map.
 Witness my official signature, the date above written.
Bill Cross
 Secretary of State



NTY.

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LIFEND
 Farm path
 ROAD
 FORD
 RIVER



Indian-Pioneer History Project
Grant Foreman, Director,
Room #211, Federal Building.
Muskogee, Oklahoma.

An interview with Lamar Jackson, aged 50 years, a Choctaw Indian, whose address is Atoka, Oklahoma, Route #5; and Edmond Flint, aged 89 years, a negro, whose address is Atoka, General Delivery.

In reference to Atoka and ~~Matoy~~ wagon road, this road leaves Atoka in Section 15, Township 2-S, Range 11-E, runs South, crossing the Texas, Indian Territory, and Arkansas Storm path in Section 23, Township 3-S, Range 11-E, then South and East, crossing South Boggy River in Northwest corner of Section 30, Township 4-S, Range 12-E. It leaves Atoka County in the Southeast corner of Section 36, Township 4-S, Range 11-E.

The Texas, Indian Territory, and Arkansas Storm path, entered Atoka County in Section 36, Township 4 - S, Range 9-E, coursed Northeast crossing South Boggy in the NW. of Section 5, Township 4 - S, Range 11 - E, going Northeast and crossing of Middle Boggy in the NW Section 36, Township 2 - S, Range 12-E; then still Northeast leaving Atoka County at the Northeast corner of Section of Section 2, Township 1-N, Range 15 - E.

Atoka County map attached of Storm path and road map.

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An interview with Lamar Jackson, aged fifty years, Choctaw Indian, born April 15, 1887, in Mississippi and who moved to Indian Territory the year 1889, with his father and mother and their large family of children.

Father--Willis Jackson, Choctaw Indian, came to Indian Territory as a Missionary Baptist preacher. He established and built a home seven miles southeast of Atoka, Indian Territory, in Sec. 23, T. 3 S, R 11 E., He built a double room log house with hall between; cleared twenty acres and fenced same with rails; built barn and meat house from native timber logs; and planted one acre in orchard of apple, peach, plum, pear, and cherry trees and of berries, and grapes. His livestock consisted of cattle, hogs, ponies, chickens, turkeys and bees and the crops raised were corn, cotton, potatoes, beans, peas, peanuts. His market for all of this was Atoka.

He built a brush arbor and held religious services every Sunday, preaching to the Choctaws in their language, then interpreting in English.

In June 1891, there was a cyclone about 8:00 O'Clock in the evening swept across Atoka County, traveling north-east. Our home was the only house in its path. Father, seeing the storm approaching, called all the family in the

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west room of the house and all knelt in prayer. In a few minutes all the house was blown away except the floor and four rounds of logs of the west room where we were engaged in prayer.

That same week Choctaw Indians and others from 20 miles around gathered and furnished labor and finance to rebuild our home. They also built Choctaw Bethany Church, located very near our home.

This cyclone destroyed everything in its path from fifty to five hundred feet wide and taking its course northeast it destroyed nearly all the timber, killed livestock, fowls, and wild game; but not one human being was killed or crippled.

The Indians named this storm path the Texas, Indian Territory and Arkansas storm path because it formed near Gainesville, Texas, traveled northeast through Indian Territory just missing Ft. Smith, Arkansas and played out near Van Buren, Arkansas. This storm did lots of damage. It was easy to recognize where it traveled for twenty-five years.

This peat bed is located in Sec. 23, T. 3 S, Range 11 E, now Atoka County, Atoka, Oklahoma. It was used by the Indiansⁱⁿ an area of twenty miles for blacksmithing

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and welding of iron and steel 1873 to 1899.

Father died at the age of 66 in 1910. He would hold and give religious feast in August of each year from 1890 to 1910 at Bethany Church and from two hundred to five hundred people would attend these meetings and camp for a week.

The Atoka--Matoy wagon road was established in 1878 by the Choctaw Indians. It was abandoned from 1910 to 1920.