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Johnson H. Hampton,  
Field Worker,  
May 11, 1937.

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Interview with Mrs. Lucy Bacon,  
Antlers, Oklahoma  
Born 1865. Jackfork, County,

I was born near what is now Farris, Oklahoma, an inland town. It was in Jackfork County at the time I was born, I don't know what year I was born for there is no record but some told me I was born some time in the year 1865.

My father's name was John Wilson and my mother's name was Lucinda Wilson. They both lived near what is now Farris, and died there.

All that country was nothing but woods, it was heavy woodland country, and there were very few Indians living there, I am now living near Antlers, Oklahoma.

They tell me that my grandfather was a white man. I don't know anything about him. My grandmother was a full-blood Indian. After my grandparents died, my father lived where they lived until they both died.

Mother used to go down on the creek and dig some roots that she called Lukchok Ihi, mud potatoes. I don't know what you would call them in English. She would cook them just like Irish Potatoes, and when they got done they sure were good. They were just fine eating, but I don't know in what kind of a place she got them. We raised a little corn for bread.

We had some white corn that was called by the Indians corn. It was a white corn and they would plant this corn some time in June. It would make a pretty good yield and it was good to make corn meal out of. Then they had another corn that was called flint corn. It was a hard corn, solid and hard as a flint. It, too, was a good meal corn. By putting the mortar and beating, it became just like ground meal only it was better than the ground meal that we have now. I used to help mother beat the corn when I got big enough to work. She would make Tomfuller, and shuck bread and several kinds of bread that she made out of corn. There were no gristmills in the country so that was the only way we got our meal to eat. We had some flour; we raised some wheat and we used to make bread out of that. It would just be black but it was good. We beat the wheat just like we did the corn, but it sure was hard to beat, more so than the corn.

We had some hogs, cattle and not many chickens and we had some ponies. We did not kill our hogs except just a few, just enough for our lard, for there were lots of wild game such as deer, turkeys and plenty of fish on the creeks, so it was no use in killing very many hogs for our meat.

The hogs were sold according to age. If the hog was one year old it sold for one dollar; if it was five years old it

brought five dollars; and ponies were sold at about five dollars each, while cattle were about the same price. There was no market for any stock at that time. A good many Indians made rails to sell for a little corn, hogs and other things to eat.

My father had a farm of about 12 acres and the Indians would come and work for him for a hog or corn and other things they wanted. He would go to Boggy Depot and bring some cloth, flour and sugar and some coffee, he would divide with the neighbors, and would hire some work done with some of it.

Boggy Depot was our trading point but when the railroad came through and Atoka was established, then our trading point was Atoka, and it took about two days to make the trip.

We had no shoes to wear at that time. There was a man who used to tan deer hides and make moccasins for us. We had to pay him for it but I don't know what father paid for them. And we didn't have many clothes to wear. We sure had to be saving with our dresses for it was hard to get them. Most of us Indian women used to go barefooted in order to save our shoes if we had any. If we went to church, we

would put the shoes under our arms until we go in sight of the church when we would put them on. After the church was over, we would get out away from the church and pull them off, and put them under our arms. When we got home, we would hang them up on the wall until we got ready to go again.

We raised a few sheep and of course we had wool to make our stockings out of. Mother would spin the wool into threads and then she would weave them into socks and some stockings and mittens. They were heavy so it kept us warm during the winter. She used to sell the socks and the mittens but I don't know how much she got for them.

I don't know anything about the war for I don't think that any of my people were in the war and of course we were not bothered with any soldiers.

I went to school at Coal Springs for a while and then I was sent to Spencer, I stayed there for a while then I was sent to Wheelock Academy for four years, I learned fight smart but I have fergoston most of it. I can speak a little English but not much. I can write a little and can sign my name - that is about all I can do now; of course I am too old now to learn much of anything.

I never did see an Indian Ball game, I have heard of them but I never did go see the game, and then I used to hear that they had a game what they called naki hohmi, hiding a bullet. I don't know how that was played but I used to hear that they would stay out in the woods and play that game for two or three days at a time, and they gambled on it. Some would lose their ponies and some hogs and anything they would bet, they would lose. They bet also on the ball games just as they did on this hiding a bullet. At that time the Indians did not know anything about playing poker or any game that is played now.

I am an Indian Choctaw and I have lived among my tribe always, and I am going to live with them until I die.