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INDEX CARDS

Cherokee Nation
Home-Dugout
Old Oklahoma-1890
Fords
101 Ranch
Perry

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

Field Worker's name John C. Kerr

This report made on (date) July 15, 1937

1. Name A. H. Barnes

2. Post Office Address Parry, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) 1 mile SE of Parry

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month Oct. 24 Day _____ Year 1882

5. Place of birth Cherokee Nation in what is now Craig County

6. Name of Father H. S. Barnes Place of birth _____

Other information about father _____

7. Name of Mother Sarah E. Nelson Place of birth _____

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 3.

John C. Kerr,
Interviewer,
July 15, 1937.

An Interview with Mr. A. H. Barnes,
Perry, Oklahoma.

Mr. A. H. Barnes was born in the Cherokee Nation, near Bluejacket in what is now Craig County on October 24th, 1882, in a dugout built in the mouth of an abandoned coal-bank or slope.

He came to old Oklahoma in January, 1890, and drove across the country with his father in a covered wagon. They had five cows and one extra pony. They came down through the Ponca Indian Reservation, forded all streams and camped at the Ponca Agency where Preacher Woods charged them five cents per pail for water. An old Indian was going to take their extra pony and the elder Barnes got out his forty-five revolver and bluffed the Indian.

The ford on Salt River was bad. It was near the one hundred one ranch. Some cowboys helped them across this River. They came down to a place seven and a half miles west and two miles south of Stillwater where they located on a farm.

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They built a log-pen four logs high, out of natural oak logs and stretched a tent over this and lived this way for several months, later building it up with logs. They covered it with clapboards made out of oak blocks, split out by hand. They broke up some sod and taking an axe, chopped a place in the sod and dropped in two or three kernels of corn to raise a crop. There was a drought and the corn did not make over seven bushels to the acre. There was rain about the latter part of August and they sowed a lot of turnips. They had three hogs and butchered them and lived on this meat and turnips all winter.

Mr. Barnes' grand-parents cut posts and hauled them to Ferry and sold them for two and a half cents each to get flour. They cut thousands of posts. There were lots of deer, turkey and quail in the country then but fishing was no good.

They always celebrated Christmas and July 4th.

They visited neighbors for pe time.

Friends were friends in the e days. They traded

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work and helped one another in every way possible.

Mr. Barnes and his brother still own this farm. It is located in what is being now converted into a Government Reserve, southwest of Stillwater.