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Joe Southern
Field Worker
April 20, 1937.

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Interview with J. R. Johnson
Atoka, Oklahoma.
Age 78 years.

J. R. Johnson, white man, was born in Mississippi, June 15, 1859. and moved to old Boggy Depot, I. T., in 1867. He moved in 1868 to what is now new Boggy Depot, Oklahoma.

When a young man he hauled freight from Atoka, I. T., to new Boggy Depot for Capt. Hester, using mule teams. Old Boggy Depot¹ moved to its present location on account of high water and sickness.

Joe Morris built the first toll bridge across Clear Boggy River on road leading from Atoka to new Boggy Depot. This was a wooden structure. It remained there till 1900, then a steel bridge was put in its place. The present location is NE NE SW SW of Sec 8, T 3 S R 10 E., Atoka County, Oklahoma.

Ed Ball was the first postmaster at new Boggy Depot and Dr. Lumas was the first medical doctor. He was a white man. "I remember", says Mr. Johnson, "three U. S. Marshals, Bill Colbert, Charles Faudree and Charles Kilgore". Indian Lighthorsemen or policemen's names were Turner Turnbull and Dave Hodge, who served from 1890

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to 1898. A Governor Wright, an Indian, in 1868 to '70 preached under a brush arbor, at Walter Thomson prairie, about 4 miles southeast of Atoka, I. T..

The horse thieves and out-laws' hide out was in a cave on Cat Creek, east of Stringtown, I. T., about 10 miles, inside of a high rocky mountain on the north side of the creek. The present location is near center of Sec. 29 T 1 N Range 13 E. Baskets of natural cane and hickory bark were made by the Indians.

Cattle, hogs and ponies were plentiful, running loose on the range.

Bill Dunn, Cy DeLany, and Jonas Cook were the first large ranchmen. They were located four miles west of Atoka, I. T., but their ranches have been abandoned.