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BYNUM, O. L.

INTERVIEW

9687.

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

BYNUM, O. L.

INTERVIEW.

9687.

Field Worker's name John F. Daugherty.

This report made on (date) January 15, 1938. 1938

1. Name O. L. Bynum.

2. Post Office Address Hickory, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) _____

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month April Day 11 Year 1877.

5. Place of birth Grayson County, Texas.

6. Name of Father Eli Bynum. Place of birth Kentucky.

Other information about father Doctor and cattle man.

7. Name of Mother Frances Brooks. Place of birth Kentucky.

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 _____.

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John Daugherty,
Investigator,
Jan. 15, 1938.

Interview With O. L. Bynum,
Hickory, Oklahoma.

My parents were Eli Bynum and Frances Brooks Bynum, born in Kentucky. Father was a doctor. There were twelve children on our family. I was born in Grayson County, Texas, on April 11, 1877.

I moved with my parents to the Indian Territory in 1885. We came in covered wagons and settled two miles this side of Red River near Lebanon in the Chickasaw Nation. Father had collected about a hundred head of cattle on debts owed for doctor bills and he came to the Territory to obtain grass for them. This was the finest country in the world at that time. Grass was plentiful, game was abundant and the streams were well stocked with fish. Father didn't practice after coming here, but dealt in cattle.

One night we were sleeping when we were suddenly awakened by an animal standing in the doorway. Father shot it, and found it to be a wildcat. We were certainly

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thankful that we had awakened in time for Father to shoot it before it attacked any of the family.

There were no roads. When one wished to go to a certain town or place, he rode across the woods and prairies. One day Mother started me to Lebanon after some lemons. I rode all day, didn't find the town and returned home in the evening without the lemons.

Father hauled his cotton to Gainesville. This was a two day trip, and he camped one night each time he made the trip. Later he operated a steam gin on a creek east of Ardmore. It was fired with cottonseed and wood. There was no sale for cottonseed. Very few people fed that to their cattle and cottonseed oil mills were unknown.

I moved to Hickory in Murray County in 1908 and have lived here since. I went into the mercantile business and have continued in that. I was married to Eva Dupree in 1911.