

MAGUIRE, JOHNNY INTERVIEW.

4073

115

• 8 -

Form A-(S-149)

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

Field Worker's name THAD S. TOTH, JR.This report made on (date) May 18 19371. Name Mr. Johnny Maguire2. Post Office Address Chickasha, Okla.3. Residence address (or location) 422 Ideho Avenue4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month August Day 14 Year 18565. Place of birth Texas6. Name of Father R. R. Maguire Place of birth IowaOther information about father Buried in Okla.7. Name of Mother Rachael Trump Place of birth OhioOther information about mother Buried in Missouri.

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.

I forded Red river in the summer of 1886, and came into the Indian Territory. On my way north I saw all kinds of wild turkey, deer quail and a few mountain lions.

I stopped overnight at the Swinging ring ranch in the Chickasaw Nation, where Chickasha is now. Next day I went over to W. G. Williams half Moon ranch in the Caddo Country, where I got a job as overseer over his farm.

The corn made forty-five and fifty bushels to the acre, but Mr. Williams never sold any while I worked for him. He furnished my wife and me a house to live in and boarded us and gave me forty dollars a month.

We baled lots of hay as Mr. Williams fed about a hundred head of saddle horses all the time. Grass was as high as my head.

We got our supplies from Kansas or Texas. I made three trips to Kansas, after supplies, and always got enough to last the ranch six months.

Our nearest postoffice was Fred, about twenty miles southeast of the ranch. The mail was brought to Fred in a stage.

Four horses were driven to the stage, and teams were changed at stage stands about twenty miles apart.

James M. Davis, Pat Pruner, Julius Doss, and Jimmie Jones were some of the most prominent men in the territory when I came.

Mrs. W. G. Williams was one half Caddo. She dried lots of beef and it sure was good.

Hiram Williams taught school at the ranches during the week, and preached on Sunday.

The frontier people were very kind and friendly, and always glad to see "Company" coming.

I had many Indian friends, and found them to be very honorable. They would ride many miles to get to do a small favor for a friend.

There was a ford on the Washita river near the half moon ranch, and one four miles northwest of where Chickasha now is. This was called the Moppin Crossing, but most cowboys forded the river anytime and any place they came to it.

In 1889 I went to the opening of old Oklahoma, and saw the race, but I had decided when I got there that I wouldn't make the run as I didn't think I

would like to live in that country.

In 1893 I quit working for Mr. Williams and moved to Chickasha. as the Rock Island had just built in the year before and there was quiet a bit of work in and near Chickasha.

I was a pretty good carpenter and I built several rent houses in town.

In 1901 when the Cadso, Kiowa and Comanche Country was opened, + still hadn't made up my mind that I would stay and make my home in Oklahoma, and I didn't even register for the drawing, yet I have been here for fifty-one years.