

FARLEY, JOHN

INTERVIEW

#9438

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

Field Worker's name Jasper H. Mead

This report made on (date) December 16, 1937

1. Name Mr. John Farley

2. Post Office Address Chickasha, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) 208 Penn Avenue

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month June Day 2 Year 1883

5. Place of birth State of Georgia

6. Name of Father J. B. Farley Place of birth Georgia

Other information about father Age 80. Still living

7. Name of Mother Martha Raley Place of birth Georgia

Other information about mother Died at the age of 65.

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.

Interview with John Farley  
202 Penn Avenue  
Chickasha, Oklahoma

Investigator - Jasper H. Mead  
December 16, 1937

My name is John Farley. I was born June 2, 1883, in the state of Georgia.

I came to the Indian Territory in 1898, when I was fifteen years old and the first place I landed was at Wayne.

Wayne was a very small place with just two stores and a blacksmith shop; there was also a small log school-house there which was about 14 x 25 feet; this school-house had one door and two open windows and there was a fire-place in one end of it made out of rock slabs. These rock slabs were put together with clay and the seats were made out of slab lumber and the shingles on the roof were hand-made.

What little farming there was around Wayne was done in small patches planted in wheat and the rest of the land was prairie covered with good grass and with lots of cattle on it.

There were a few dug wells around Wayne when I

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2

first landed there, but most of the water that was used was hauled from ponds and creeks.

There were a few Chickasaw and Choctaw Indians around Wayne, but they never did give any trouble. I have seen them dressed in their native garb and I have seen a few Indian bucks who could outrun a horse for a quarter of a mile.

The kind of "laws" which we had in those days were United States Marshals. They generally went two and three in a bunch, for they were looking for real desperados, and they knew that when they ran across these desperados that they would have to "shoot it out."

I have lived in and around Chickasha, for thirty-four years; I have been a farmer part of my life but am now the Street Commissioner of the city of Chickasha.