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Form A-(S-149)

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

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Field Worker's name Wylie Thornton

This report made on (date) June 22 1937

Name Thomas Gritts (Cherokee)

Post Office Address Tahlequah, Oklahoma Rt. 1

Residence address (or location) third house east of Greece Spgs.

DATE OF BIRTH: Month Unknown Day _____ Year 78 Agency Record

Place of birth one mile east of Siloam Springs, Arkansas

Name of Father Lole Gritts Place of birth In Georgia

Other information about father Killed as direct result of wound in the Civil War.

Name of Mother Quakie Gritts Place of birth _____

Other information about mother She died when I was seven or eight years old.

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and history 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 _____.

Wyly Thornton, Field Worker
Indian-Pioneer History

Life and experience of
Thomas Gritts, Cherokee Indian,
as told by himself in a personal
interview with Wyly Thornton.

Thomas Gritts was born in 1860, one mile east of Siloam Springs, Arkansas. His father, Lole Gritts, and mother, Quakie Gritts, were born in Georgia and came to this place, east of Siloam Springs and settled and lived there until their deaths.

My father joined the Army on the Union side at the start of the Civil War. I remember I was told that a man named Captain Fisher in the Union Army came by one morning and told my father he had to go and he got ready and went away. Mother said it was hard for him to leave on account of her and me and said he would not have hated it so badly if my older brother, "Harnett," could be allowed to remain at home to look after us, but Captain Fisher forced brother Harnett to go along also.

I never saw my brother and father but once after that day and that was about a year after they went away. One day a man came and told us brother Harnett was killed and was buried on the battle-field, away north somewhere; and later we were told my father was wounded seriously and died in a few days, and had been buried.