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Martha Jane Hair, Informant  
4117 Rob Street, Muskogee, Okla.  
March 30, 1937  
H. L. Ramage, Research Worker

Mrs. Martha Jane Hair, born in Tate County, Texas, November 19, 1863.

Husband: Dorsey Nathan Hair, born Yell County, Arkansas in 1853, died in Poke County seven miles north of Dallas, Arkansas. Don't remember date of death.

Mother: My Mother's maiden name was Melvine Thomas, born in Tennessee, the year of 1836. Died in the Cherokee Nation, about one mile from Zebb, on the Rider Mountain, about half way between Tahlequah and Fort Gibson.

I don't remember how long I went to school, went to different schools, but only attended each school two or three months, altogether I went to school about four years. We left Texas when I was about five years of age, moved to Nevada County, Arkansas. Don't remember anything about the trip, do remember that we made the trip by wagon drawn by a team of mules.

Lived in Nevada County about three years, moving from there to Yell County. The trip was made by wagon. We had two wagons drawn by mules. Father had an ox team to the third wagon. It took us about ten days to make this trip.

Father had about three thousand dollars in gold. He was taking this money through in a trunk that was hauled in the ox wagon and when we made camp at night, he would take the money out and bury it. One evening we camped on a strip, it was about twenty miles to the nearest house. While Father was handing the money to Mother, three men rode up to camp. When we saw them coming Mother took the money in our tent and hid it under the dry leaves. The men looked through the wagons, they came to the tent and told my mother that if she didn't turn the money over to them they were going to kill the old

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man. Mother told them that she had no money and was about out of food. They then knocked my father down and left.

I married Mr. Hair in Yell County, Arkansas in 1882. After my marriage, my husband and I moved to Scott County, Arkansas. We stayed there until 1884. We then moved to Bell County, Texas. The trip was made with an ox team and wagon, we were about three months on the road. We stayed there about one year, then decided to move to the Indian Territory. We came to Muskogee by train. When we arrived here we hired a man to haul our stuff from Muskogee to Sequoyah district about eighteen miles west of Ft. Smith, and two or three miles from where Muldrow is now located. We rented a farm from Bill Halt, (a fullblood Cherokee) which consisted of about fifteen acres. We stayed on this place one year. It was impossible to get a big farm as the people had just began to clear the timber and brush so the ground could be cultivated. It was awful good land. We moved from there to a twenty-five acre farm owned by Duncan Fence (fullblood Cherokee). We lived in Sequoyah district about eight years, moved back to Poke County, Arkansas, stayed there about one year, then moved to the Cherokee Nation. Located about fifteen miles east of Ft. Gibson. We lived in a small one-room log cabin with no windows in the cabin and only one door. ~~The fireplace was~~ built of sticks, daubing was put on the inside of the chimney. At times the daubing would fall off in places and the sticks would catch fire. It never did cause serious damage when it caught fire. In 1895 we moved to Chickasaw nation about ten miles from Pauls Valley, stayed there about 8 months. Then moved back to Arkansas, stayed there until my husband's death. Have stayed with my children in Muskogee since that time.