

HALL, WILLIAM (MRS.)

INTERVIEW

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BIOGRAPHY FORM
 WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
 Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma
HALL, WILLIAM (MRS.) INTERVIEW.

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Field Worker's name Florence Duke

This report made on (date) August 11, 1937

1. Name Mr. William Hall

2. Post Office Address Whitefield, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) _____

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

5. Place of birth _____

6. Name of Father _____ Place of birth _____

Other information about father _____

7. Name of Mother _____ Place of birth _____

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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Florence Duke,
Field Worker,
August 11, 1937.

An Interview with Mrs. William Hall,
Whitefield, Oklahoma.

Mr. William Hall, Sr., of English descent, was born in Yarksville, Tennessee, April 11, 1855, came to the Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory, and settled near Whitefield. When he first came to the Territory he was employed by Sam Turk in the first general merchandise store in Whitefield. After working here for several years, he taught the first school in Whitefield. After teaching school for several years he went in business for himself, putting in a drug store. He also was then appointed postmaster of Whitefield, serving for six years.

He was married to Louisa Suratt, Choctaw Indian, by Judge Garland under the Indian law. They lived in Whitefield until her death October 3, 1899. She is buried in the Whitefield Cemetery.

There were three children in this family, all of whom are living at the present time; Neva Hall Satterfield and

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Lucy Ann Hall of Whitefield, Oklahoma, and Cecil Cooper of Jal, New Mexico.

Mr. Hall was married to Mrs. Dazy C. Harrison, widow of Judge Mitchell Harrison, on December 23, 1900, by Reverend Damon, a Methodist Minister. Many guests attended the wedding which took place at the home of her parents, two and a half miles west of Whitefield. After the wedding a big supper was served in their honor. Mrs. Hall, Cherokee and English, was born December 21, 1872, near Hoyt in what is now Haskell County. She is still living at the home where she and Mr. Hall moved when they were married.

Mr. Hall, one of the oldest settlers before Statehood, was well known throughout the country as a great Sunday School teacher, church worker, and singer. He was a member of the Methodist church for a great many years. The building that he had his drug store in is now standing in Whitefield where his son conducts the business, having taken it over upon his father's death in 1936.

Mr. and Mrs. Hall have had five children, all of whom are living at this time. Leo B. Hall, Whitefield; Ted Hall,

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who is employed at the Government Reservation in Sells, Arizona; Virginia Hall Stapp, Crowder; William S. Hall, assistant to Judge Welsh of the State Supreme Court, Oklahoma City; and Florence Hall, teacher in the public schools of Oklahoma City.

Mrs. Hall was at one time the wife of Mitchell Harrison, Sr., Choctaw Indian, who was Judge of the Choctaws. They were married in the year of 1892 by A. L. Byon, Baptist preacher, at the home of her parents near Hoyt. At one time Judge Harrison served as school trustee of that district. They lived in and around Hoyt, also Whitefield, until the death of Mr. Harrison, November 14, 1898. They had one boy who is now living in Stigler, and has been county judge of Haskell County ~~going~~ on fifteen years.

Mrs. Hall showed me a Muskogee Times issued the 23th day of November, 1896. It is one of the first papers issued in Muskogee. It has quite a few interesting things about Muskogee, such as a picture of the Turner Hotel, etc. It shows several pictures of Kendall

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College, including the Kendall quartet in which Mrs. Hall's brother sang, who with Ben McCurtain, son of Governor McCurtain, Gabe Parker, who was at one time Superintendent for the Five Civilized Tribes, and Sam Matthews, who is well known in Muskogee, made up the quartet at that time. The paper also gave pictures of several prominent men of Muskogee such as the Honorable Joshua Ross, Judge William Springer, and the Honorable Leo E. Bennett. There were scenes of the first oil well near Muskogee and St. Mary's Hospital under the supervision of Doctors Fite, Blackmore and Thompson.

Mrs. Hall's brother, Milo E. Hendricks, who sang with the Kendall quartet in the year of 1896, joined Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders and went with him to Cuba, where he lost his life. Not hearing anything about her brother she had Silas Jones write to Mr. Roosevelt. She received a letter later, telling of his death in Cuba and that he was buried in Arlington Cemetery, Washington, D. C.