

MARTIN, OSCAR

INTERVIEW.

#6464

- 1

Dawes File, Field Worker
Indian-Pioneer History
June 30, 1937

—
—
2

Interview with Mr. Oscar Martin,
pioneer, age 59, living at 721 North
Ridgeway Street, Sapulpa, Oklahoma

Oscar Martin was born June 20, 1878 in Bellanapp,
Illinois, Johnston County. He went to Winifield, Kansas,
in 1880 with his parents from Illinois.

His father, J. F. Martin, made the run of 1889,
going by train to Guthrie. He filed on a town lot
in Guthrie, where his family lived until the Cherokee
Strip run, September 16, 1893.

James F. Martin made the run on a spotted horse
from Orlando, Oklahoma Territory, to Perry, where he
filed a claim on 160 acres of land west of Perry.
The Martin family left the homestead because they were
unable to improve it.

Oscar Martin came with his parents to Kelleyville,
Oklahoma, on October 11, 1893, in a covered wagon from
Guthrie after seven days of hard riding, as the road
was more like a trail than a road.

His parents leased the land of Sacquanie Long,
Euchee Indian, which was located one mile southwest
of Kelleyville. On this land his father built a two-
room log cabin. They farmed there seven years.

They had to take their corn to a grist mill in

2

Tulsa. In 1895, they had to ford the Arkansas River, near the site of the present Eleventh Street bridge.

Mr. Martin said the Indians raised an acre or two of Squaw-corn, Indian Sweet Potatoes and black-eyed peas. The Indians made most of their living by hunting and selling the meat to the H. C. Hall store in Sapulpa.

A short time before the Martin family moved to Kelleyville, two outlaws by the names of Gordon and Henry Manson and another outlaw were hiding at Bill Province's farm. The outlaws were surrounded by Indian Light Horsemen, Captain Jess Allen, Phillip Robertson and two other Indian officers, in the early morning and during the battle two outlaws, L. Gordon and Henry Manson, were killed, and the third outlaw was captured and taken to Fort Smith Federal Court.

The outlaws had robbed a bank in Chandler, Oklahoma Territory.

Oscar Martin and his parents moved to Apache in 1901, where his father took part in the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Indian lottery at Lawton, but lost out in trying to file on farm land. They moved to Sapulpa in 1902. Oscar Martin was a trader in hides and furs, shipping his hides and furs to F. C. Taylor & Company in St. Louis, Missouri.