

VAUGHN, GEORGE HENRY

INTERVIEW

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

Field Worker's name Alson J. Chase.

This report made on (date) September 15 1937

1. Name George Henry Vaughn

2. Post Office Address Woodward, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) 1010 Oklahoma Avenue

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month January Day 8 Year 1864

5. Place of birth Sangamon County, Illinois

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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Alson J. Chase.  
September 15, 1937.  
Interviewer.

Interview with George Henry Vaughn  
Woodward, Oklahoma.  
Born January 8, 1864.

I was born in Illinois, but later moved to Missouri. Hearing that the government was giving land for a home free in Oklahoma, I decided to come. So in the fall of 1893, just after the opening of the Cherokee Strip, I loaded my wife and three children in a covered wagon, and with one team of horses headed for Oklahoma.

I located and filed on a farm fifteen miles southwest of Woodward.

We had no furniture, just a camping outfit. Our

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first house was a dugout 8x12 feet, covered with brush and dirt. I dug a well eighty-five feet deep, and drew the dirt out with a windlass.

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I would go over to Enid, and make the harvest at \$1.25 per day, then go with the thrashing machine and get wheat for \$1.50 per day and board.

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Later, I just farmed my own farm, raised cows, chickens and pigs, milked cows and sold butter. I raised kaffir corn, Indian corn and some broom corn. The first two cows I bought cost \$100.00.

I quit farming in 1933, and sold my cows then for \$7.65 per head.

VAUGHT, J. H. INTERVIEW.

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Lawrence A. Williams, Field Worker  
Indian-Pioneer History  
July 21, 1937

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Interview with J. H. Vaught,  
Whitesboro, Oklahoma.

I was born November 24, 1873, in Fannin County,  
Texas. I am of Irish descent.

My wife, Mirandy Johnson Vaught, was born near  
Birmingham, Alabama, the daughter of Columbus Johnson.

My father was Jim Vaught, born in Texas, and my  
mother, Rice Vaught, was born in Texas.

I came to Stringtown, Indian Territory, in  
1881, a few years after the "Katy" railroad was  
built. I have lived in this country ever since.  
I do not remember who was governor then.

I worked on the the Frisco railroad in 1885,  
driving a yoke of oxen for 50 cents per day. We  
worked oxen then instead of horses like we do now.  
Lumber and railroading were about the only kinds  
of work there was to do then, except farming.

I have hauled lumber over the Arkansas-Stringtown  
road. I bought my supplies at the Sam Bohanan  
trading post, which was located two and one-half  
miles due west of what is now Whitesboro, Oklahoma,  
on Bohanan Creek.

We took our cattle to the Arkansas River  
bottoms to winter them. The grass there was waist