

WALKER, MARTHA GUESS

INTERVIEW

#12212

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

Field Worker's name Joe Southern

This report made on (date) November 22, 1937

1. Name Martha Guess, now Walker

2. Post Office Address Atoka, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) Route 3.

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

5. Place of birth _____

Choctaw Freedman, 69 years of age.

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 3.

Interview with Martha Guess Walker
Route 3, Atoka, Oklahoma

Investigator - Joe Southern
Indian-Pioneer History, S-149
November 22, 1937

Caroline Hall, now wife of Ed Butler, is a Choctaw woman and has been blind from birth. She is 69 years of age and lives two miles northwest of Tushka.

In 1883, Miss Caroline married William Hall, a Choctaw man, and settled seven miles north of Atoka, Indian Territory, in what is now Section 13, T 1 S, R 11 E, on a high mound with a spring of water running at the foot on north side into a deep lake that covered one-fourth acre of land. They built a two room log house on this mound with chimney at each end; they cleared and fenced ten acres with native timber and built pens for livestock.

Mrs. Hall did her own housework. Although blind from birth she made her own clothing and bed coverings, milked and took care of her cows and raised her chickens and turkeys. She raised one dog that was her body guard; also a horse that she used to ride. She had small bells and she belled the leader of her hogs, the

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leader of her ponies, the leader of her cattle and calves and also her turkeys. She depended on her dog and pony to protect her while riding the woods or range, alone. They would let her know when she was on dangerous ground. The dog would always go in the lead of the pony she was riding and would bark when near a steep embankment or bluff and by barking and leading the way around these dangerous places with her dog and pony she could ride out and drive in and corral her livestock. She could go visit with her neighbors on foot with her dog without the least fear of getting lost or danger of falling in water while crossing streams. To see her out around her home one would not detect that she was totally blind.

There were no children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hall.

William Hall is now deceased.