

WARES, R. T.

INTERVIEW

#4576

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

Field Worker's name Pearl E. Parker
This report made on (date) June 21, 1937

1. Name Mr. R. T. Wares
2. Post Office Address Cherokee, Oklahoma
3. Residence address (or location) 310 OHIO Ave.
4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month December Day 24 Year 1956
5. Place of birth Missouri

6. Name of Father Robert Wares Place of birth Virginia
Other information about father _____
7. Name of Mother Elizabeth Dougherty Place of birth Kentucky
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 2.

An Interview with Mr. R. T. Wares, Cherokee
By - Pearl E. Parker, Field Worker.

June 21, 1937.

OPENING OF THE CHEROKEE STRIP AND LATER OPENING.

I was born in the state of Missouri.

On September 16th, 1892, my parents were living in Manchester, Kansas, west of Cameron, Kansas, and on September 16, 1893, we started out for Oklahoma, driving two horses to a wagon. When we arrived here we came to a place called Pile Creek, north and east of Cherokee, where I met a man, I just can't recall his name, and he asked me where I was going. I told him I wanted to settle where there was timber and plenty of water, so he told me to go a little further. I did and settled sixteen miles north and east of Cherokee close to where the Fish Hatchery is now.

I started at once to build a place to live. My home was a dugout and hard to dig. I thought I was never going to get it made, the ground was so hard. After I got it as deep as I wanted it, I covered it with brush and hay and dirt. The soil was rather like clay, so that made as good a plaster as anyone would want.

I am getting a little ahead of my story. Before I

settled, a man wanted this same place, but I finally talked him out of it.

I nailed my stake in a tree before I filed my claim. This same man talked to me several times afterwards, so he told me one day that if I would give him a chew of tobacco that he and I would call it square and be friends.

I raised corn, tomatoes, cabbage and onions.

I moved to Cherokee after several years.

I am eighty-one years old.
