

INDEX CARDS:

Hickory Ground Town
Handiwork
Churches

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

Field Worker's name Grace Kelley

This report made on (date) July 20, 1937. 193

Name Susie Washington.

Post Office Address Henryetta, Oklahoma.

Residence address (or location) Near Hickory Ground Town

DATE OF BIRTH: Month _____ Day _____ Year 1908

Place of birth Salina, Oklahoma.

Name of Father Andrew Bark Place of birth Cherokee Nation

Other information about father _____

Name of Mother Nanie Bark Place of birth Cherokee Nation

Other information about mother _____

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and history 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.

Grace Kelley, Interviewer
J. S. Clarke, Supervisor.
Indian Pioneer History S-149
July 20, 1937.

Interview with,
Susie Washington
Route # 2
Henryetta, Okla.

HICKORY GROUND TOWN.

They have a pole with a cow's head on top at Hickory Ground which means both the men and women play ball there. When the pole has no cow's head on it the women can't play. Their game is different from the men's game which has two posts for goals. When they have two posts it is for a matched game which is somewhat like football.

The women play with their hands while the men use ball-sticks, but I don't know very much about the game.

At this ground there were eight brush covered arbors, each had a cupboard and four poles were driven in the ground for cornerposts. Three or four boards were fastened to them for shelves. There was a pile of wood, uncut, which I suppose the ball players or men who had taken medicine had carried up as it is very close to Wolf Creek. There was also a table at each arbor. The country is covered with oak trees and the Indian homes are connected with little paths on which you could get lost; yet there are roads connecting them. You can't see

either house from the other, but they are within hearing distance.

CHEROKEE BASKET WORK.

I am a Cherokee but I don't know much about the old ways. I gather buck brush, a little bush about two feet high which has clusters of red berries in the fall and winter. The limbs are long, thin and pliable. Then I take the bark off and dye them the color I want just like dyeing clothes. I make different shapes out of the limbs, some for eggs, some for sewing, others for flower containers. The small ones sell for a quarter. I'm making one now that I hope to finish today. Sometimes I follow designs and other times I just follow my guesswork.

CHEROKEE BEADWORK.

I also make beadwork, belts or anything like that. The belts which are of beadwork and must be fastened to a leather belt sell for two dollars and fifty cents each.

HICKORY GROUND CHURCH.

To go to the Hickory Ground Church Number ^{Two} 7 from Henryetta, go six miles south on the old lake road to where the store is, then go east two miles, turn south two miles and east a quarter mile. It is on Dug Sharp's place, unless I am mistaken. Peter

WASHINGTON, SUSIE.

INTERVIEW.

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3

McNac started it, but he is dead now. The old Number One Church is on Wisey Harjo's place and both are Baptist.

Holla Haynes can tell you all about them both as he lives a mile from the colored school.