

WINNER, FRED L.

INTERVIEW

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LEGEND & STORY FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

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Field worker's name Don Moon Jr.

This report made on (date) April 29 1958

1. This legend was secured from (name) Fred L. Wenner-City Treasurer

Address City Hall, Guthrie, Oklahoma

This person is (male or female) ~~female~~ White, ~~XXXXX~~, ~~XXXXX~~

If Indian, give tribe _____

2. Origin and history of legend or story _____

3. Write out the legend or story as completely as possible. Use blank sheets and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 5

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Don Moon, Jr.,
Investigator,
April 29, 1938.

An interview with Fred L. Wenner,
City Hall, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

Notes on Early Guthrie

Fred Wenner is present City Treasurer of Guthrie.

He was Governor Barnes' private secretary, and a newspaper man.

Guthrie, for the recent annual celebration of the Run, marked with signs, in the shape of Oklahoma, the location in the early days of the following interesting places of business:

Northeast corner of Noble Avenue and Second Street - Old Federal Jail, the "home" of outlaws and desperadoes. The original building has been reconstructed into a modern church by the Nazarine denomination.

109 West Harrison - The First City Election was held here, on April, 23, 24 and 25. 20,000 votes were cast, finally ending in a compromise choice by a committee.

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Southeast corner of Broad Street and Cleveland Avenue. The First Election of City Officers of East Guthrie held here - April 25.

Northwest corner Harrison Avenue and Second Street. Reeves Brothers Gambling House. They began business April 22, 1889. Ran day and night for eighteen years. These lots are vacant now.

306 West Oklahoma. The Commercial Bank- The first bank in Oklahoma Territory. Opened here on April 23, 1889 in a tent. On September 10, it was moved into the building at 224 West Oklahoma, The First Brick Building in the Territory. The building is still in use, but is not a bank now.

Northwest corner of Oklahoma Avenue at Second-Guthrie City Hall- Where the Oklahoma Constitution was written.

Northwest corner of Harrison at Division. All the Territorial Offices in 1892 -1902 were on the second floor of this building, with "Same old Moses Saloon" on the first floor.

Northeast corner of Harrison at Second Blue Bell-Saloon- Where Tom Mix was once a janitor. Same building still there.

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219 West Harrison- Knowlton's Barber Shop- Where the future Danderine Millionaire mixed the first batch of hair grower in a syrup bucket.

122 South Division- The Oklahoma Rough Riders enlisted here in 1898.

114 South Division- The First Methodist Church services were held here in a tent, Sunday April 28, 1889.

116 North Broad- Open air services were held here by the Presbyterians, Sunday, April 28.

109 South Second- The Bonfils Building- Where the Denver Newspaper Millionaire got his start.

116 South Second Street- The site of the First Post Office, opened in a tent, April 26, -with Dennis T. Flynn, postmaster.

114 North First Street- The site of the First City Hall, Jail, and Water Tower.

Southeast corner of Harrison and Broad- The Logan Company Courthouse was used as the First State Capitol Building.

307 East Harrison- A building erected here in 1892 for the Oklahoma, University, was used ten years as a Courthouse.

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117 West Oklahoma Avenue- The site of "The Creamerie"- The first restaurant in Guthrie with a tablecloth.

123 West Oklahoma- Heilman's Harness Shop and Saddlery- Where settlers, cowboys and some "bad men" outfitted-(Heilman's is still running, managed by a son, but at a different location.)

121 East Oklahoma Avenue- The First Free Public school in the Territory opened here, October 12, 1889.

Northeast corner of Federal Building. Lillies' Drug Store- Opened here in a tent on April 22. Still in business across the street from the first location.

Northeast corner of Harrison and Second- Capital Hotel (later called the Palace). It was the political headquarters in 1889 and 1890.

120 East Harrison Avenue- The Brooks Opera House- Where Lon Chaney worked for \$3.00 a week. The building is still standing, but not in use at present time.

Southwest corner of Harrison and Division- The Herriot Building- Where Federal Courts and United States Marshals held forth. This building still in use.

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113 North Division- The Kimball Grocery- Where William Wrigley started making Chewing Gum and Millions.

111 South First Street- Andy Hinkle's Restaurant- "All you can eat for a dime."

107 South First Street- "Doc" Slocum, Doctor, Dentist Boss Drummer. Pulled teeth for "two bits each". Drilled a hole through them for a watch charm, for fifty cents extra.

111 South Second Street- "Frink & Hisself"- Real Louisiana Cooking.

The signs were just placed for the recent celebration, but are to be preserved and placed at each succeeding celebration.