

COLBERT, CHARLES

INTERVIEW

#7810

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

7810

COLBERT, CHARLES. INTERVIEW.

Field worker's name Joe Southern

This report made on (date) October 14 1937

1. This legend was secured from (name) Charles Colbert

Address Atoka, Oklahoma.

This person is (male or female) White, Negro, Indian,

If Indian, give tribe Choctaw Freedman

2. Origin and history of legend or story Born in what is now Atoka County, April 25, 1880. Hunting grounds and location of same.

3. Write out the legend or story as completely as possible. Use blank sheets and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 2

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An Interview with Mr. Charles Colbert, Atoka, Oklahoma.

By - Joe Southern - Investigator.

October 14, 1937.

On location of hunting grounds in Atoka County from 1868 to 1910 when I was a boy I have heard my father, William Colbert, now deceased, say that he was the official guide and hunter for hunting parties from other states. Hunting grounds in Indian Territory in Section 24, Township 2 South, and Range 13 East, on Potapo Creek at what is known as the Boiler Hole Camp Ground got its name from a saw mill boiler that was abandoned and left there by Sam B. Scratch, a saw mill man. This camp ground was easy to get to with wagons.

South and west of the camp ground were prairie glades; east and north was rough with heavy timber mountain range and rough, rocky canyons leading into McGee and Potapo Creeks, making it an ideal place for game to hide during the day time.

In Section 36, Township 2 South, and Range 13 East was another camp ground known as the "Hole in the Wall."

In Section 6, Township 3 South and Range 14 East, what is known as the "Horse Shoe Bend" at the mouth of Clear Creek on McGee Creek is another noted campground. In Section 8, Township 2 South and Range 13 East, is a camp-ground known as the Salt Springs Deer Lick.

In Section 33, Township 1 South, and Range 14 East, at the mouth of Bear Creek on McGee is Cane Break Camp which got its name from the wild cane growing there.

From 1895 up to 1910 Charles Colbert says he hunted with his father on most of these hunting trips and that wild game was plentiful, such as bear, deer, squirrel, turkey, duck, geese, quail; fur bearing animals, such as wolf, bob cats, beaver, skunk, fox, mink, opossum and coon. Fish was plentiful in these mountain streams and was easy to catch.

These camp grounds were the most noted on account of being located in the mountains where there were no settlements and where food and range for game was plentiful.