

INDEX CARDS

Ferries--Canadian River
Cotton Gins--Choctaw Nation.

Mrs. Malinda Davis, Informant
of Briartown, Okla.
Carl R. Sherwood, Field Worker.

The first Ferry Boat that crossed the Canadian River between the inland town of White Field and Briartown, was built in 1880 by John Holt. John Holt was a progressive merchant and farmer, living on the south side of the Canadian River in the Choctaw Nation.

The first cotton gin in that vicinity was built and owned by Davis and Cole. The bales of cotton were loaded on wagons and drawn by oxen, which were ferried across the Canadian River and placed on the market in Fort Smith, Arkansas. Butter, eggs and other products were marketed in Muskogee, and also had their corn ground for bread. The farmers in that vicinity were very few and would each take their turn in making the trip to Muskogee, which was done once a week.