

MORGAN, T. J.

INTERVIEWOGRAPHY FORM

8932

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name Jasper H. Mead

This report made on (date) October 18 1937

1. Name T. J. Morgan

2. Post Office Address Chickasha, Oklahoma, Grady County

3. Residence address (or location) 215 North 22th St.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month June Day 3 Year 1865

5. Place of birth State of Kentucky

6. Name of Father A. C. Morgan Place of birth Arkansas

Other information about father Died at the age of 84

7. Name of Mother Gemina Seribner Place of birth Missouri

Other information about mother Died young at the age of 35

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 3.

MORGAN, T. J.

INTERVIEW

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Jasper H. Mead,
Interviewer,
October 18, 1937.

An Interview with Mr. T. J. Morgan,
215 North 12th. St. Chickasha, Okla.

My name is T. J. Morgan I was born June 3, 1865, in the State of Kentucky, seventy-two years ago. I came to the Indian Territory November 17, 1889. The first place I landed was at Hennessey.

The place Hennessey was named after a man who hauled freight from Caldwell, Kansas, to Fort Sill, with six head of oxen. The old man was killed by the Indians and was buried three or four feet from the old Chisholm trail, a trail that he had traveled many times. When I first landed at Hennessey there wasn't any farming at all, because the country was just being opened up; all the land was in Ranch land covered with high grass, and later was covered with cattle. Most of the work around there consisted of Ranch work. A good cowman got about \$50.00 per month board and room.

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The main water supply came from springs and creeks. There were very few wells and they were dug wells extra deep.

The Rock Island Railroad ran as far south as Okarcho, but later it went on south to Fort Worth, Texas.

There were plenty of deer, wild turkey and prairie chickens. I never did see any buffalo, but they said that there were plenty of them in the extreme western part of the state. When I came to Hennessey there wasn't any schoolhouse or church house. The few buildings there were frame buildings, and they were very small.

The kind of "laws" we had were United States Marshals; the only one I knew was a man by the name of Ed Short. One time he had an outlaw under arrest by the name of Brint. Mr. Ed Short had to take this outlaw, Brint, north where there was a jail strong enough to hold him, so while they were on the passenger train Brint got Short's pistol, and when they

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stepped off the train on the Waukomis depot platform, Brint shot Ed Short, the United States Marshal; but Short managed to shoot Brint with a shotgun and they both died on the depot platform.

I have lived in Chickasha for the last twenty years. When I was able to do hard work I followed farming for a livelihood, but I am seventy-two years old now and receive a small portion of the old age pension.