

EMBRY, JOSH

INTERVIEW

#12204

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W. T. Holland,
Investigator,
Nov. 18, 1937.

An Interview With Josh Embry,
232 West 9th Street, Tulsa, Okla.

My father , E. T. Embry, and my mother, Polly Anna (Savage) Embry, were natives of Tennessee. My father was born in 1823 and my mother about 1828. I don't recall just when my parents were married, but prior to the Civil War, through which my father fought - he fought in the Confederate Army. I don't remember anything much about the war, being born in 1861, November 20th.

My parents, who lived in Clay County, Tennessee, after four years of toil and hardships of the War, hearing of the freelands in the west, especially Texas, decided to come out to Texas. So, in 1869, they loaded up the family and all our belongings in three wagons and set out on our western trip.

I lived with my parents in Texas until July 26, 1889, when I was married to Mollie Chambers. (We were seven weeks getting to Texas, our destination). My wife's father, Josh Chambers, at that time had a lease in the territory four miles south of Caddo, on Big Blue Creek. Mr. Chambers

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operated extensively in cattle, even in Texas but found from trips over into Indian Territory that the range was much better, and leases cost less than in Texas.

So in December, 1889, my wife and I came over into Oklahoma and have been here since.

I assisted Mr. Chambers and later I leased land from Jule Hampton, a Choctaw Indian, and farmed. Cotton was my main crop and in all, I raised sixty crops of cotton, not all in the Territory, however.

Cotton brought a fair price then; the land was fresh and made a good yield, so life went along serenely.

I had no trouble with the Indians. I found if you practiced the Golden Rule with them they readily responded to it, and became good friends and neighbors.

I am now retired and live in Tulsa. -