

HUMMINGBIRD, GUS.

NEW HOPE MISSION.

13510

286.

HUMMINGBIRD, GUS.

NEW HOPE MISSION.

13510.

Gus Hummingbird,
Interviewer,
March 30, 1938.

NEW HOPE MISSION.

This mission was established in 1839 by a missionary named Duncan O' Bryant, a Baptist missionary, who was stationed at Hickory Log Mission in Georgia. He brought to this country several families from that vicinity.

Several old histories gives the location two miles from the Arkansas Territory line but from the only information that I was able to get about this old mission, it was located about three and a half miles from the line.

According to Alexander (Doc) Wright, the grandson of Eli Wright, who came here as an immigrant as told to him by his father, Jesse Wright, the mission was located

near the forks of the Barren Fork. They erected small log buildings at this place. After the death of Mr.

O' Bryant the mission was abandoned. At that time Eli Wright, a famous white man of that time, who had married a Cherokee woman and a church worker, and several other settlers erected some frame buildings at the same site.

They at this time changed the name of New Hope and called

HUMMINGBIRD, GUS.

NEW HOPE MISSION.

13510.

-2-

this place Wright's Chapel, in honor of Eli Wright, who was a donor of lumber and cash to establish this church.

Wright at this time operated a sawmill at the forks of Barren Fork Creek. He also had a grist water mill in connection with his sawmill.

Great fevivals were held at this new church. Wright was a white man and kin folks to O' Bryant. The missionary is buried near Piney school. This part of the coun-try was mostly settled by old settlers and at one time the capital of the Cherokee Nation was at Piney.

At the coming of the immigrants there was established at Piney a commissary. The capital for the Old Settler Cherokee Nation at first was at Ta-Ka-To-Ka which was on

Fourteen Mile Creek in Cherokee County. This was then moved to Peavine for several months, then to Piney. From Piney it was then moved to Too-Lon-Tee-Sk, which was

later Illinois District. John Jolly was the chief of the nation at the time this was moved to the latter place.

The New Hope Mission then was located in what is now Adair County in the SE-SE Ne, Section 31, Township 17, Range 26.