

MORRIS, T. (Mrs.)

INTERVIEW

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87

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FIELD WORKER OPHELIA D. VESTAL
Indian-Pioneer History 8-149
October 21, 1937.

INTERVIEW WITH MRS. T.-MORRIS
401 Park, Lawton, Oklahoma
Born-November 8, 1867
Kentucky.

Before August 1901,, a trip was made by my husband bringing over one hundred head of cattle from Olney, Texas. My husband came back for me. We drove through in a covered wagon.

When we crossed Red River we had to drive in the bed of the river as there were no bridges. Luckily the river was very low, so we had no trouble in crossing.

As our daughter stayed in Fort Worth, attending school there, I felt very lonesome in this new country. Onward we drove to our new location where our cattle were. Soon my husband pointed saying, "There is your new home." All I could see was a big tree and a tent beside it. I really felt discouraged; then I thought, that wasn't any spirit to start with in a new home.

We farmed a little, raised gardens and had an orchard. These vegetables and fruits I would divide

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2

with my neighbors. I also gave my neighbors milk and butter, and was glad I had a good supply so I could divide.

I was afraid to stay alone. One day I had two Indian women callers. I tried to entertain my callers so I got my pictures out of my trunk for them to see. They would smile, grunt and point. Soon they wondered how we cooked and looked at our food. They would like to taste our food.

One day an Indian man came riding up in the yard. Wanted beef, wanted beef, wanted to see my side saddle, that I had brought from Texas with me. I was so frightened I ran to a neighbor's house almost a mile away.

I learned very early that the wind blew very hard here, blowing my tents almost away one morning before breakfast, then I decided if I stayed here I needed a house that would stand up to this strong wind. The two tents served as our en-

3

tire house. One was a kitchen and dining room, the other tent served as our bed and living room.

We bought lumber from Lawton and built our home which was located on Blue Beaver Creek about fifteen mile from Lawton.