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Field Worker: Hazel H. Haralson

BIOGRAPHY OF Mr. Sebron G. Hewry (White)  
One mile North and one East of  
Norman, Oklahoma.

BORN November 4, 1858  
Benton County, Arkansas

PARENTS Father, George Hewry, Georgia  
Moved from Georgia to Arkansas  
Died 1864  
Mother, Rinda Graham, Georgia  
Moved from Georgia to Arkansas  
Died 1864

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Story as told by Sebron G. Hewry.

When my parents died I went to the home of my Uncle  
Sebron Graham to live. My sister Belle and brother William accompanied  
me there, but my two elder brothers made their way else where. I  
stayed there near Rogers, Arkansas for twenty six years then started  
out to see some of the rest of this country. I married in December  
25, 1882 and moved in 1884 to Alex, Oklahoma (Grady County). Lived on  
the "Red" Alexander place there two years. In 1886 I moved to Purcell  
(McClain County) and stayed there until 1889.

Instead of doing regular farming, as I had previously  
been doing I did gardening.

I left Purcell April 22, 1889, accompanied by my brother  
George and William, crossed the Canadian near the present bridge site,  
by swimming our horses, as the river was on a bank to bank rise. We  
all made the run horseback.

We were prepared with stakes with white flags on which  
which were our names, I located on the northwest quarter Section 28

Township 9, Range 2 west. My brothers George located on southwest quarter, Section 30, Township 9, 2 west range and William on North west quarter, Section 24, Township 9, north 2 west.

All there was to the town of Norman was the Box car depot and Santa Fe section house. The depot sat across the tracks east of the present section house.

The next day April 23, 1889, the lumber was waiting on the track, a lumber yard was doing business, they surveyed the Norman townsite and buildings started up.

The first building to be erected was a hotel and Cafe, which was built on the South side of the present 200 block East main street. With in the next two weeks a number of small business houses were erected on both the north and south side of this block. These building were box and the hotel was two storied.

My friend Ed Ingle a newspaper man settled just north of my location. He came in on the train and I met him and we rode around this quarter and found it had no name or stakes on it, so he put his down. He established the first newspaper in Cleveland County in the fall of 1889.

Another friend, Dr. Burch, bought the right to the quarter west of mine. I loaned him the money to make the trade.

I built a frame house on my quarter section, the first frame house in Cleveland county. Started it on the 24th of April, 1889.

I later found my claim had been contested by a G. A. R. man and I had it in court for seven years, with two decisions against me before I finally won it at a cost of \$2000.00.

