

Plumbing shop- 2- Black Smith shops.

Land Office

Between 1902 and 1907 the Missouri, Oklahoma & Gulf Rail-road was built through the Town, and Oklahoma X Statehood was declared.

The population at this time was between 1600 and 2000. Wapanucka was the largest Farm Produce & Cotton Market in Johnston County, Oklahoma. Located on the Rock Island R.R. 56 miles of Ardmore & 75 miles west of McAlester, and Midway between Muskogee Oklahoma and Denison, Texas on the M.O. & G.R.R.

Wapanucka, had one of the finest Public Schools in the New State. Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist Churches all of which gave it a healthy moral influence.

** Corruption*
In spite of this, Gambling, bootlegging and other unlawful things crept in, and a United States Officer was stationed here to keep law and order.

Wapanucka was surrounded by a magnificent farming belt, which produced without fail, large crops of cotton, corn, hay and small grains. Land was divided in many varieties of soil, making it adaptable to growing apples, pears, peaches and other fruits to perfection. There were many small orchards and a lot of fine fruit.

Wapanucka was at its Peak. During the cotton season the streets were full of wagons loaded with cotton, either before ginning or after being ginned. Several out of town Cotton Buyers were on the streets during cotton season. Bales of cotton were hauled to Caddo for shipment.

During this busy season a Bank Robbery was attempted at the Peoples National Bank, located at that time where our Post Office is now located..

The robbers blew the safe door off which broke the Plate Glass in front of building and blew the front door off, before they could get the inner safe door off, all the town was awake and men from every direction was closing in on them, the three robbers ran to the Rock Island R.R. where they had a hand-car waiting for them, and escaped for the time, but a short time later all three were caught and served their time in the ~~Bank~~ Penitentiary.

During the attempted robbery one of our elderly citizen's was shot in the foot, *Gibson* and was crippled the rest of his life.

Some time later, some one dinamited the Negro hotel, no one was hurt seriously, but the building was a total loss.

Wapanucka continued to prosper for several years, even after the First World War, for a short period, ¹⁹¹⁹ then the Boll Weevil - then the Depression. People moved away, some business failed- banks closed one by one, and things in general seemed to go from bad to worse, so many crop failures. Then World War Two- which seemed to spell doom for Wapanucka with so many young people gone, some to war, others to hunt jobs in war plants etc. The older people not able to carry on farming alone, the whole community suffered the consequences.

During all these years there has been many, many fine people living in Wapanucka from time to time. . A goodly number have died, others have gone to other locations and many have prospered and all seemed proud that once Wapanucka was their home town.