

W.A. Smith Confesses to Killing Wallace

The Choctaw Herald August 24, 1911 - transcribed by Ron Henson

It was reported Saturday that W.A. Smith, one of the men under arrest for killing of the young barber Wallace, at Fort Towson last week, had confessed to the officers of the county, after several hours in the sweat box. From his story it would seem that there was nothing said about killing anybody nor had there been any trouble with either Wallace or Constable Carter. Smith and Hess, the other man under arrest, were out looking for some whiskey, according to Smith, and had passed the officer and Wallace two or three times, when they were finally seen and Hess drew a pistol from his shirt and fired the fatal shot. Smith and Hess then went to a Negro pool hall where they talked with some Negroes for a while and there learned that Wallace had been killed, when Hess remarked that he had killed the wrong man and his best friend. After this they separated and went home. It is also reported there is a woman in the case, but this will likely be brought out in the trial.

At the examining trial Monday Smith was released on a \$2,000 bail and Hess was refused bail and returned to the county jail here. Three Negroes who had been arrested as accessories, were released by Justice Iglehart at Fort Towson.