

ISAACS, WILSON

INTERVIEW

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ISAACS, WILSON

BIOGRAPHY FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name Thad Smith, Jr.

This report made on (date) 10-15 1937

1. Name Wilson Isaacs (full-blood Choctaw)

2. Post Office Address Amber

3. Residence address (or location) 1 1/2 mi. Northwest of Amber

General Delivery

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month _____ Day _____ Year 1866

5. Place of birth Mississippi

6. Name of Father Isom Isaacs Place of birth Mississippi

Other information about father buried in Mississippi

7. Name of Mother _____ Place of birth Mississippi

Other information about mother buried in Mississippi

Mother died when I was born.

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 8

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Thad Smith, Jr.,
Investigator
October 15, 1937.

An Interview with Mr. Wilson Isaacs,
Amber, Oklahoma.

I came to the Indian Territory, from Mississippi in 1902.

I brought my wife and two children, one a girl, the other a boy.

I looked over nearly all of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nation trying to find the best land upon which to allot my wife, my children and myself. The land near Amber was all in grass but I could tell it was good land, and would probably be a good farming country someday, so I allotted my two children one and one-half mile north of Amber. After having looked most of the country over I decided I would rather live in the eastern part of the Territory near Limestone Gap so I allotted my wife and myself there.

There were lots of wild game near Limestone Gap.

I killed deer every winter for several years and there were lots of wild turkeys. I raised tame turkeys and fed

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them and lots of times the wild turkeys would come in with the tame ones.

I had farmed lots of land while in Mississippi and continued to farm after coming here. I had a little over a hundred acres of land broke out on our places near Limestone Gap and one year I raised one hundred bales of cotton, with the aid of one hired man. I had the cotton ginned at Kiowa and sold it for ten cents per pound.

There were lots of Indians living near Limestone Gap. Most of them lived in log houses, but a few of them lived in dugouts.

Not many of the Indian men farmed. They usually had a small corn patch that was attended to by the women. The men hunted and fished nearly all the time. Some of the men had lots of cattle and horses and the grass was good.

A good many Indian girls married white men, and most of them were stockmen rather than farmers.

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I attended a good many pe-sho-fa dances, and think there isn't anything better to eat. The dances would usually last two or three days or rather nights, as we did all of our dancing at night.

I never attended school a day in my life, but I at least did learn how to work and farm. I made more money in Mississippi before coming here than I did here.