



BIOGRAPHY FOR  
ORIS PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION  
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

JERMAINE, P. L.

INTERVIEW

9403

Field Worker's name Jasper H. MeadThis report made on (date) December 10, 1937

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1. Name P. L. Jermaine,
  2. Post Office Address Chickasha, Oklahoma
  3. Residence address (or location) 725 N. 11th St.,
  4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month April Day 16 Year 1877
  5. Place of birth State of Missouri

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6. Name of Father P. O. Jermaine Place of birth Indiana

Other information about father died at the age of 75

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7. Name of Mother Ruthie S. Dempsey Place of birth Indiana

Other information about mother died at the age of 65

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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 4.

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Jasper H. Mead,  
Investigator,  
December 10, 1937.

An Interview with Mr. P. A. Jermaine,  
Chickasha, Oklahoma.

I was born April 16, 1877, in the state of Missouri, sixty years ago.

The first place I landed in this country was at Marlow, it was then called Marlow Grove; people tied their horses to blackjack trees out in the middle of the street. It was in 1892 when I first landed at Marlow Grove.

Marlow Grove was a very small place with two or three stores and a blacksmith shop; there were two stores on one side of the street and a store and blacksmith shop on the other side, and there were some five or six dwelling houses and a very small church house which was also used for a school house. The first preacher I heard preach in the territory was a Baptist preacher named H. P. Haley.

The main water supply came from dug wells, springs and creeks and most of the water that was used around there came out of a creek named Wildhorse Creek.

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There wasn't any farming around Marlow; all the land was in big ranches. Tom Wade and Suggs owned the biggest ranches and these ranches were covered with tall grass and thousands of cattle; the cowboys on these ranches got \$30.00 per month and everything furnished.

The kind of "l.a.s" we had in those days were United States Marshals; Tom Lilly was the United States Marshal and Edd Thurlow was the first town Marshal I ever knew anything about and he lived at Duncan about ten miles south of Marlow.

A few years later a man named Dave Putty killed Edd Thurlow.

All of the Indians I ever knew anything about were located in and around Fort Sill; sometimes ten or fifteen in a bunch, with a United States man with them, would come around Marlow looking for horses that they claimed someone had stolen.

There was plenty of wild game around Marlow such as deer and prairie chickens. I never did see any

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buffalo around there; they were more in the western part of the state and in Texas.

The Rock Island Railroad was built through Marlow in 1891, a year before I landed there.

In 1891 Marlow was what you would call a tent town. I lived in Verden in 1899 and at that time it was called Cottonwood Grove; In fact, I was the first man who ever lived in Verden; there were plenty of deer, turkey, antelope and prairie chickens around Cottonwood or Verden as it is now called. I have seen as many as fifteen and twenty deer in one bunch and I have seen deer bed down with the cattle.

Antelope were not so plentiful but I have seen several of them. I have lived in and around Chickasha for about thirty-five years. I am a butcher by trade, and I learned my trade working on ranches butchering steers for the hired hands.