

MARTIN, NORA

INTERVIEW

#9485

503

BIOGRAPHY WORKS
WORKS PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name Jasper H. Mead.

This report made on (date) December 21, 1937.

1. Name Mrs. Nora Martin

2. Post Office Address Chickasha, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) 1228 N. 11th St.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month February Day 2 Year 1875

5. Place of birth State of Arkansas.

6. Name of Father Morris Clawson Place of birth Tennessee

Other information about father died young at 32.

7. Name of Mother Mary Little Place of birth Georgia

Other information about mother Age 89 still living.

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 3.

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Jasper H. Mead,
Investigator.
December 21, 1937.

Interview with Mrs. Nora Martin.
Chickasha, Oklahoma.
Born February 2, 1875.
Father-Morris Clawson.
Mother-Mary Little

My name is Mrs. Nora Martin, I was born in the state of Arkansas, February 2, 1875 sixty-two years ago. I came to the Indian Territory when I was twenty-five years of age, thirty-seven years ago and the first place I landed was at Kingston. This place was very small thirty-seven years ago; it only had four or five stores, a blacksmith shop, a school house, a few scattering dwelling houses and a depot.

They had dirt streets and a plank sidewalk; this sidewalk was about three feet wide except where it passed in front of one of the stores; this sidewalk ran all the way down to the depot and in some places it was on legs that stood three feet high. The depot was a small, one room frame building..

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The school house was also a one room frame building about 20x35. It had three windows two on one side and one on the other; there were two doors in it; one was in the end and the other one was on the side where the one window was, in the opposite end was a fire-place built out of stone; we generally had a six months term of school and once in a while a preacher would pass through and we would have church in this building. I was back in Kingston four or five years ago and it had not grown a bit.

The main water supply came from dug wells and you had to go a hundred and ninety feet to strike water and then it was so hard and tasted so bad you could hardly use it.

There was what they called open range and there were big ranches and lots of cattle around Kingston; there was one place there which they called the big pasture; you could start across it in a wagon and the cattle would make you think they were going to tear your wagon up.

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The kind of officers we had in those days were United States Marshals, and they were after real out-laws from other states; they did not arrest people for every little thing like they do these days but if they did arrest you for something you were taken to Fort Smith, Arkansas or to Paris, Texas to be tried.

I have lived in Chickasha for twenty years.