

DEAN, MISSOURI PENOLA.

INTERVIEW 9507

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

DEAN, MISSOURI PENOLA

INTERVIEW.

9507

Field Worker's name Baby Wolfenbarger

This report made on (date) December 22 1937

1. Name Missouri Penola Dean

2. Post Office Address Sentinel, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) \_\_\_\_\_

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month August Day 15 Year 1871

5. Place of birth Georgia

6. Name of Father John Leverett Place of birth Georgia

Other information about father \_\_\_\_\_

7. Name of Mother Susan McKibin Place of birth Georgia

Other information about mother \_\_\_\_\_

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 \_\_\_\_\_.

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Ruby Wolfenbarger  
Investigator  
December 22, 1937

Interview with Mrs. Missouri Penola Dean  
Sentinel, Oklahoma

I came to the Territory in 1894 from Texas.

We had been in Texas for several years but did not like down there.

We started up here in July; the weather was very hot; it had rained and the roads were very rough and bad and sometimes we would have to get out and hunt for the road.

When we crossed the Red River it was "up"; my father drove the team into the river. The horses bogged down and the water came up into the wagon bed and nearly drowned us. We had to go and hunt the ferry boat and cross on it and this cost us \$1.00. We stopped at Thackerville near the river and picked cotton and bought up a good supply of groceries and went on to Marietta. We rented eighty acres of good land and bought out a crop from a man near there.

Our home was a double log house with fire place in one end; our chimney was made out of rock and daub-

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ed with mud and grass. We had half windows and I never saw a screen door for several years after we came to the Territory. I brought my broom from Texas and after it was gone I used brooms made from weeds. I had two brooms one, that I swept the yard with and one that I used in the house. Most of my dishes were tin.

We had lots of good wood to burn; we got our wood near the house and did not have to haul it very far. We got water from the spring.

There was lots of wild fruit. We had a rail fence around part of our place which was covered with wild grape vines. I made jelly and jam out of these wild grapes and I gathered wild plums and made butter for our winter needs.

Our best clothes in the early days were made of 3 cent outing cloth and calico. We exchanged butter for this cloth. We wore coarse gray stockings and buttoned shoes. We wore our hair done up on top of our heads. The younger girls took black stockings and stuffed them with cotton and pinned them around

their heads and then rolled their hair up on these stockings. Every girl wore two or three combs in her hair.

My children went to school in a log house. They had logs split in two for seats. For desks they used tables; had one table for the boys and one for the girls. My children had to walk about three miles. They just went to school after the crops were gathered.

For entertainments we had parties, picnics and dances. We had church in the school house and in brush arbors. We most always had a basket lunch after church.