

INDEX CARDS:

Cheyenne-Arapaho Country
Washita County
Saw Mill
Dugout
Freighter

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

4337

Field Worker's name Ida B. Lankford,This report made on (date) June 8, 1937Name J. S. Haws,Post Office Address Cordell, Oklahoma.Residence address (or location) 327 Grant Street,DATE OF BIRTH: Month August Day 10 Year 1867.Place of birth Dent. Co., Missouri.Name of Father William Haws. Place of birth Alabama.Other information about father Owned a saw mill.Name of Mother Rebecca Beesly Place of birth Kentucky.Other information about mother Cooked for saw mill hands and cared for home.

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. Write on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 2.

Interview with J. S. Haws.
327 Grant Street.
Cordell, Oklahoma.

I came with my wife and two children to Washita County, November 1, 1893. We had five yoke of cattle and two wagons, and I had \$5.00 in money when I got here.

My cattle were shod like horses, as I had come from a rocky country.

My father and I had a saw mill on the river and we saved the lumber to build the first courthouse and jail in Washita County. I bought the first thresher in this neighborhood. It was a horse-power thresher and later I had the first steam thresher. Later still, I worked six years on the police force.

The Indians and white men got into a fight over grass and the Indians killed two whites and set the prairie on fire, thinking they would burn the men, but they just burned the clothing on the dead men.

When we came, there were lots of prairie dogs, wild turkeys, and other wild game. The second day I was here I killed sixty wild chickens.

With my cattle I hauled logs out of the river bottoms to my saw mill.

-2-

I lived in a dugout and later moved out into a tent and the hardest winter I ever saw I lived through in the tent. I freighted from El Reno, Duncan, and Vernon, Texas, laying in my supplies for winter.