

LYONS, JAKE

INTERVIEW#

8177

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

Field Worker's name Jimmie Birdwell

This report made on (date) August 10, 1937

1. Name Jake Lyons

2. Post Office Address Capitol Hill Station, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) 102 Southwest 23

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month May Day 10 Year 1861

5. Place of birth --

6. Name of Father Clan Lyons Place of birth Kentucky

Other information about father

7. Name of Mother Unknown Place of birth Kentucky

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 details on subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and refer firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 3.

Interview with Jake Lyons
Capitol Hill Station,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Interviewer - Jimmie Birdwell
Indian-Pioneer History, S-149
August 10, 1937

Jake Lyons came out of Missouri in 1894 with a train of six wagons. They hit Oklahoma about the place of the present town of Picher and went a little to the east, following Grand River hunting a good fording place. Lyons believes that he crossed Grand River about where Grove is now and after crossing the river the party camped on the bank of Grand River for several days and hunted; they were at the foot of the north edge of the Spavinaw Hills which were alive with game and the party stocked up with enough wild meat to last them the rest of the trip. They made a wide circle west around the hills on a line about even with the town of Big Cabin and then back east to a place close to Salina. They were not in a big hurry as they were hunting a good location for farming with plenty of water and timber for their houses. Lyons said the country was so pretty and so well stocked with game that he just kept going on hunting something better. The train kept wondering around until they had

to throw away a half wagon load of meat that had spoiled. They had killed the wild game around Grove, and they finally ended up in the Seminole Nation but they did not like this country and Lyons came to Oklahoma City with the others ^{who were} going on to Texas. Lyons built a shack across the river from Oklahoma City on what was later Capitol Hill, which was one of three houses on Capitol Hill. There was no way of crossing the river except by fording it and this was sometimes hard to do.