

HENDRIX, BELL.

A COMANCHE LEGEND.

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A COMANCHE LEGEND,  
LEGEND & STORY FORM

10329

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

173

Field worker's name Lillian Cassaway

This report made on (date) March 26 1938

1. This legend was Bell Hendrix  
secured from (name) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 409 West Broadway, Anadarko, Oklahoma.

This person is (~~male~~ or female) White, ~~Mexican~~, ~~Indian~~

If Indian, give tribe \_\_\_\_\_

2. Origin and history of legend or story \_\_\_\_\_

3. Write out the legend or story as completely as possible. Use blank sheets and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 2

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Lillian Cassaway  
Investigator  
March 26, 1938

Interview with Bell Hendrix,  
Anadarko, Oklahoma.

#### A Comanche Legend of Medicine Bluff.

Medicine Bluff is in the Wichita Mountains near Lawton, Oklahoma.

Many years ago a noted medicine man of the Comanche tribe, in company with some of his personal friends rode up the slope of a hill and a frightful precipice of two hundred and fifty feet appeared before them, stopping them in their course. But the medicine man was not to be stopped, neither turned aside.

Uttering some words of the Indian magic, he rode his horse over the precipice; but to the astonishment of his friends he was gently borne across the chasm to the opposite bank of the stream, where finding himself alone, he turned his horse to look for his friends whom he beheld at the top of the bluff, afraid to follow and too proud to go around.

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To relieve them from their unpleasant position, the medicine man rode back to the bottom, crossed the creek and rode directly up to the perpendicular wall of rock,

which rent at his approach, dividing the bluff into two parts forming a chasm through the cliff several feet in width, through and up which he rode, rejoining his companions at the top. His companions then followed him down through the pass which is an inclined passage, twelve or fifteen feet wide, extending through the cliff to the top.