

HILL, J. K.

INTERVIEW

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HILL, J. K.

**INTERVIEW.**  
BIOGRAPHY FORM

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name Charles H. Holt

This report made on (date) April 13, 1938

1. Name J. K. Hill

2. Post Office Address Owasso, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) Owasso - R. F. D.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month - Day - Year 1864

5. Place of birth Alabama

6. Name of Father Wm. Hill; served in Civil War. Place of birth Alabama

7. Name of Mother Anna King Place of birth Alabama

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 3.

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Investigator,  
Charles H. Holt,  
April 13, 1938

Interview with J. K. Hill  
Owasso, Oklahoma

J. K. Hill was born in Alabama, in 1864. The family, several years before his birth, had moved to Texas and his father had gone into the cattle business. Hearing so much of the possibilities for cattle raising and grazing J. K. Hill came to the Territory in 1889 and set up as a rancher in Chelsea. He had left Texas without any idea of staying in the Territory unless cattle possibilities were very good and unless he liked the country. After looking the northeastern part of the Territory over it was really much above his expectations so after staying at Chelsea about two and a half years he returned to his old home in Texas and made disposition of all his property and personal holdings, then loaded up a wagon and a buggy with approximately a thirty day food supply and camping equipment.

He then headed for the great cattle country in the Territory going north to Tulsa and in doing so he had to cross the Arkansas River which was "up" a little. He hired a man to help build a small raft then loaded all

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his equipment but his horse and buggy on the raft and then they forded the Arkansas with the horse, buggy, wagon and team. He then headed on farther north and located in Catoosa.

He operated the North 7 D and the South 7 D ranches which ran down as far as Tulsa and included the land where Broken Arrow now stands and the land where the university of Tulsa is now situated.

J. K. Hill has since then, until the present time, operated ranches in various parts of the state and was with Nichols and still is at the present time. The Nichols Ranch is located between Collinsville and Owasso.

There was no school-house at Catoosa but there was a small church-house which was used for a school-house. This school was for Indians, and the teachers were paid by the Government. The school was only for Indian children but white children could attend by each paying a fee of \$1.00 per month. The benches were half logs, nailed, and with no backs and the school children had to lay their books at one side or else had to hold them.

H. K. Hill was a Representative from his district to the Convention for the writing of the Constitution of

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the State of Oklahoma. He is not as active in the cattle business as he once was but he still ranches in a small way.