

HICKERSON, R. S.

INTERVIEW

#4155

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HICKERSON, R.S. INTERVIEW.

Form A-(S-149)

BIOGRAPHY FORM

4155.41

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name Mrs. Ruth Lee Gamblin

Report made on (date) May 20, 1937 1937

Name R. S. Hickerson

Post Office Address Frederick, Oklahoma.

Residence address (or location) Sixteen miles southwest of Frederick, Oklahoma.

DATE OF BIRTH: Month X Day X Year X

Place of birth X

Name of Father X Place of birth X

Other information about father _____

Name of Mother X Place of birth X

Other information about mother _____

es or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and
ry of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects
questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to
s form. Number of sheets attached 2.

Ruth Gamblin,
Interviewer.

An Interview With R. S. Hickerson,
Sixteen miles southwest of
Frederick, Oklahoma.

FIRST SETTLER IN RED RIVER TOWNSHIP.

I was the first settler to locate in Red River township. I came to Oklahoma together with my family from Monroe County, Missouri, September 28, 1901. We made the trip in covered wagons.

Ed Allen and myself were old cowhands for Tom Waggoner. There were several other men from this part of the state who worked for Waggoner at that time but I cannot think of their names.

I secured a lucky number in the Federal land drawing and filed on SE $\frac{1}{4}$ -1148-17 which has since been my home. Our household goods, team, and other personal property were shipped by freight to Fort Sill, and unloaded at the Rock Island depot. My wife and I, together with our two daughters and three sons, came in a covered wagon from Fort Sill to our claim where we set up a tent.

Later, lumber was hauled from Harrold, Texas, for a box house. Red River was crossed at what was known as the Fenley Ford, which was very difficult and dangerous at that time.

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In those days I was leader in all public enterprises and served on a committee with W. A. Siggins and Bill Utterback in securing signers for a petition for a rural mail route, which was the first one in this part of the country. The first carrier was T. T. Weitz. He began his duties August 1, 1904. I sent the first letter over the route.

We had some very funny experiences in those days, but I really wouldn't care to live them over because we had so many hardships to bear. Groceries were just about the same in those days as they are now, and we raised most everything in the way of vegetables.