

POWERS, J. A. (MRS.) INTERVIEW 4132

401

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

402

POWERS, J. A. (MRS.)

INTERVIEW.

4132.

Field Worker's name Eunice M. Mayer

This report made on (date) May 20, 1937 1937

1. Name Mrs. J. A. Powers.

2. Post Office Address Mangum, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) 505 N. Penn Ave.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month November Day 26 Year 1857.

5. Place of birth Littletown, Alabama.

6. Name of Father William McLang Place of birth Hamilton, Alabama

Other information about father Civil War Veteran.

7. Name of Mother Elizabeth Hargrove 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 2.

POWERS, J. A. (MRS.)

INTERVIEW.

4132.

Eunice M. Mayer,
Field Workers.
May 20, 1937.

Interview with Mrs. J. A. Powers.
Mangum, Oklahoma.
Born November 26, 1938.
Father-William McLang
Mother-Elizabeth Hargrove

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Powers came to old Greer County April 14, 1889. They were more fortunate than a lot of the earlier pioneers, as they had a little money and the country was inhabited by as many as three hundred people.

Mr. Power gave Nester \$300.00 for their plot with a small two-room house on it and the house still stands today with additional rooms having been built on to it. The lumber for the house was freighted here from Vernon, Texas.

Mr. Power was an attorney and is a well known town builder of this country. Mr. Power gave forty acres of his property to help finance a Rock-Island Railroad through this county.

The first train passed through Mangum in August, 1900. Mrs. Powers had been ill with typhoid fever for several weeks, but they were all so thrilled over the prospects of a railroad through here that the nurses moved her over near the window so she could see the first train pass through.

POWERS, J. A. (MRS.)

INTERVIEW.

4132.

- 2 -

In the earlier days there was very little excitement for the young people. What is known now as Harmon Field or City Park used to be a part of Mr. Powers' claim. He set out the trees there, made a lake for the young people to go boating in and fixed other things for their enjoyment all of which took a considerable amount of money and time. The Powers boys and girls always had a group of friends visiting them.

When Mrs. Power was packing to move to Greer County she had a glass lamp which she treasured very highly so she packed it very securely in cotton-seed. The second year they were here they planted the cotton seed. People thought it was too cold here to raise cotton but the cotton they raised on the sod the first year grew as high as a piano and had fine cotton bolls. It wasn't long after they had seen this until they were convinced that this was a cotton country.