

ROSS, SAMUEL P. (DR.)

INTERVIEW

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

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Field Worker's name Maurice R. Anderson

This report made on (date) March 21 1938

1. Name Dr. Samuel P. Ross

2. Post Office Address Ada, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) 831 East 17th

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month November Day 14 Year 1863

5. Place of birth Missouri

6. Name of Father S. H. Ross Place of birth Ohio

7. Name of Mother Mary Briggs Place of birth _____

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 _____.

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Maurice R. Anderson,
Investigator,
March 21, 1938.

Interview with Dr. Samuel P. Ross,
831 East 17th Street
Ada, Oklahoma.

I was born in Missouri in 1863, but my father and mother moved from that state to Texas when I was eight years old, where Father farmed and raised stock.

I attended school in Texas and in 1880 taught school one year. However, I did not like teaching so went to work in a drug store and worked there for six years. I opened my own drug store in Houston in 1887 and operated my store there until 1896 when due to financial circumstances I quit the drug business.

In 1897 I came to the Indian Territory to make a new start, settling at Atoka to practice medicine. I sure did get plenty of practice but not much pay for my services, although I was able to make a living and save some money. However, the life of a country doctor wasn't a bed of roses then. There were not very many doctors in the Indian Territory at that time and when called on we had to go, rain or shine. Many a stormy night I have been called out to see some one and would have to ride horseback eight or ten miles with only a cow trail to follow.

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There were no roads or bridges across the streams then to speak of and many a time I have had to ride my horse off into a creek that was nearly out of its banks and would be soaking wet when I would get to where I had been called and sometimes by the time I would get warm and my clothes dried the sick one would be all right. That was the kind of life we had to go through.

I only stayed one year at Atoka then went back to Texas to finish my schooling returning to the Indian Territory in 1902. This time I settled at Kiowa and practiced medicine there until 1911 at which time I moved to Ada, where I now reside.