

SAVAGE, M. F.

INTERVIEW

10225

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

SAVAGE, M. F.

INTERVIEW

10225.

Field Worker's name Raymond C. Jantz

This report made on (date) March 18, 1938

1. Name M. F. Savage

2. Post Office Address Gracemont, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) 3/4 mile north

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month February Day 12 Year 1879

5. Place of birth Near Mineral Wells, Texas.

6. Name of Father F. M. Savage Place of birth _____

Other information about father Texas

7. Name of Mother Martha Wood Place of birth Texas

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.

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Raymond C. Jantz,
Investigator.
March 18, 1938.

Interview with M. F. Savage.
Gracemont, Oklahoma.
Born February 12, 1879
Father- M. F. Savage.
Mother Martha Woods

We came into the Indian Territory about 1889. I was close to Mineral Wells, Texas, where I was raised. We settled on the little Rhine River in the Chickasaw Nation. We lived in this country about eight years. My father farmed and I worked on the neighboring cattle ranches. Ranch work was all the work that a boy could find at this time.

There were plenty of outlaws and horse and cattle thieves at this time. There wasn't any law then except the sixshooter, and the outlaw had as much chance as the law. There were a few United States Deputy Marshals but they had too much territory to cover to bring the law very fast.

In 1897 we moved north of Gracemont on a Wichita Chief's allotment and have lived here since that time. In those early days the Indians would go from the plains in the fall to the bottom lands for wood and shelter. They would get a big chunk of wood and set it afire in the middle of their tepee.

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They would then gather close around the fire to keep warm.

The tepee had a hole in the top to let the smoke through.

The cattle men would pay the Indians money to let them graze cattle on the grass. This was called grass money.

There has been cattle rustling and thieving since the cattle industry began. There is cattle rustling now a-days but they haul them in trucks instead of driving them by horse.

There has been several wanted men at my house since I settled there. They are a pretty good lot until they are cornered, when they are wolves.