

SMITH, LISSIE

INTERVIEW

#4902 237

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Form A--(S-149)

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238

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

Worker's name Ida B. Lankford

Report made on (date) July 19, 1937

Office Address Mrs. Lissie Smith

Office Address Cordell, Oklahoma.

Residence address (or location) 106 1/2 College Street.

DATE OF BIRTH: Month October Day 28 Year 1860

Place of birth Bellefont, Arkansas

Name of Father Ben De Shazo Place of birth Nashville, Tennessee

Other information about father _____

Name of Mother Nancy Frazier Place of birth Arkansas

Other information about mother Home Maker

For complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story, refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Write on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 1.

An Interview with Mrs. Lissie Smith, Cordell, Oklahoma
By - Ida B. Lankford, Field Worker.

July 19, 1937.

We arrived in Washita on August 1st, 1891.

We came in covered wagons and located in a little town which was the county seat and was named Cloud Chief.

We had a little one room house built of cotton wood.

We had no roads, just traveled across the prairies and forded the creeks and rivers and oh! how scared we were that we would get drowned.

The men freighted from El Reno and Duncan and from other places and oh! but we were scared of the Indians!

But when we came to know them they were our real friends.

We had to buy all our water and we gave twenty-five cents a barrel for water and it was so hard that we had a time to wash in it.

We had green cotton wood to burn for our fuel.

No women had good clothes in those days; if we got two dresses a year we were proud, and we really did not have much to eat.

There was a herd law and if our stock happened to get out we had to pay to get them back - and some white man would run our stock onto his place and we would have to pay according to the herd law.