

SMITH, SAM

INTERVIEW.

6262

322

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

6267
 323

Field Worker's name Jas. S. Buchanan

This report made on (date) June 17th, 1937

Name Sam Smith (Cherokee)

Post Office Address Gore, Oklahoma.

Residence address (or location) Route 1.

DATE OF BIRTH: Month January Day 11 Year 1876

Place of birth Illinois District, Cherokee Nation,

Near where the town of Gore now stands.

Name of Father Redbird Smith Place of birth Arkansas

Other information about father Fullblood Cherokee.

Name of Mother Lucy Fields Smith Place of birth Cherokee Nation

Other information about mother Fullblood Cherokee

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 _____

SAM SMITH, (Cherokee)
Route 1, Gore Oklahoma.

June 17, 1937.

Jas. S. Bushanan.

I (Sam Smith) was born January 11, 1876, in the Illinois District near where the town of Gore now stands.

My father was Redbird Smith, a fullblood Cherokee.

My mother was Lucy (Fields) Smith, a fullblood Cherokee.

I was educated in the Cherokee public schools in the vicinity of Gore.

The family of Redbird Smith consisted of ten children, eight boys and two girls who are all living at the time of this writing as follows;

Ella Nora McClain.

John Redbird Smith.

Sam Smith.

Susie Starr.

Richard Smith.

Thomas Smith.

George Smith.

Mose Smith.

Keah Smith.

Stoke Smith.

(2)

SAM SMITH

I was reared in the immediate vicinity of my birth place and there was no event in my early life worthy of mention.

In 1905 I was married to Sarah McCoy, a fullblood Cherokee, daughter of Alex and Nannie McCoy of near Vian, Illinois district. Five children were born to that union, one now living, a daughter, Peachie Hendrix. My wife died in 1915.

In 1918 I was married to my second wife, Mary Bark, a fullblood Cherokee, daughter of Charles and Lydia Bark of near Vian. Six children were born to this union, all living as follows;

Waunita, born November 8, 1919

Ralph, born May 30, 1921

Lahoma, born August 25, 1923

Sequoiah, born October 18, 1925

Edith, born April 13, 1928

Fields, born November 14, 1933.

(3)

SAM SMITH

All my active life I have been a farmer. I have never been active in politics, but have always followed the traditions of my father and interested myself and have been active in the tribal affairs of the Cherokees.

KEE-TOO-WAH.

Beginning in 1899, and since that time I have held every office in the original Kee-Too-Wah society, including that of District secretary, District captain, Firekeeper, District chief medicine man, member of the council of seven and at the present Chief of the Society.

My brother, John Redbird Smith, assistant chief and myself as chief of the Kee-Too-Wah Society are submitting for the first time a copy of the constitution and bylaws of the society for historical purposes and with the understanding that it is to be used for that purpose only. This copy was translated from Cherokee in the original book of Kee-Too-Wah, written in 1858, amended and adopted in 1859. This was the first written constitution. Previous to that time all the laws and works were handed down through the councils orally for ages past.

INDEX CARDS

Buffalo Hunting--Sac and Fox
Sac and Fox Indians
Family Life--Sac and Fox
Witchcraft--Sac and Fox
Medicine Lodge--Sac and Fox