

HYBARGER, DAVE C.

INTERVIEW

9737

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#9737

BIOGRAPHY FORM

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name Jasper H. Mead

This report made on (date) January 21, 1938

- 1. Name Mr. Dave C. Hybarger
- 2. Post Office Address Chickasha, Oklahoma
- 3. Residence address (or location) Route 3.
- 4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month June Day 1, Year 1878
- 5. Place of birth State of Texas

- 6. Name of Father John Hybarger Place of birth Tennessee
Died at age of 40.
- 7. Name of Mother Manurba Rucker Place of birth Tennessee
Died at age of 50.

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 3.

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Interview with Dave C. Hybarger
Chickasha, Oklahoma

Jasper H. Mead - Investigator
Indian-Pioneer History, S-149
January 21, 1938

My name is Dave C. Hybarger. I was born June 1, 1878, in the state of Texas, sixty years ago.

I came to the Indian Territory with my parents when I was two years old and the first place we landed was at Johnsonville, two miles northwest of Stratford. Johnsonville was a very small place. It had one small grocery store and a blacksmith shop.

The country around Johnsonville was rather hilly and rough and there were several big ranches around there; the names of the owners of some of these ranches were Dee Byers, Williford and Jim Hybarger, my two older brothers, and Matt and Keller Wolf; all these men had big ranches and there were lots of cattle on them.

The grass on these ranches was so tall in many places that if you were standing straight up you could not see a cow ten feet away.

The first school I went to was at McGee, a mile and a half north of Stratford; the building was made out of

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logs, but the most of it was what you would call a brush arbor; we didn't have much school only in the Summer time.

My first teacher's name was Dr. John Walker of Shawnee; my next teacher's name was Mrs. Pence Nathe.

There was a cattle trail that came past Johnsonville that started at Denison, Texas, crossed the Territory and went into Kansas City. It was called the Whiskey Trail and I have seen 5,000 head of cattle in one herd driven up this trail.

The kind of officers we had in those days were United States Marshals; the names of some of them were John Swane, Heck Thomas and Bob Nester.

There were quite a few Indians around Johnsonville but they never did give any trouble; I am a Choctaw Indian myself by adoption.

Atoka was the closest town to Johnsonville that had a railroad. This railroad was the Santa Fe and it was built through Purcell in 1887 or 1888.

There was no such place as Shawnee when we folks landed at Johnsonville.

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The main water supply at that time came from springs. There were few people who even knew how to dig a well, so the ranchers around through that part of the country used the South Canadian River for stock water.

I never did see any buffalo around through there but there were lots of buffalo skeletons.

It was a common thing to see a wagon loaded with buffalo bones going to the market.

I have lived in and around Chickasha for twenty-one years. I am a farmer and stock raiser by trade. I have served two terms as County Commissioner and two terms in the Legislature.