

SPRING, DOHA (Elrod)

INTERVIEW

7035

251

SPRING, DORA ELROD. INTERVIEW.

BIOGRAPHY FORM

Form A-(S-149)

8252

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

7035

Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name Hazel B. Greene

This report made on (date) August 2, 1937

1. Name Dora Elrod Spring

Post Office Address 3 miles Southeast of Hugo, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) \_\_\_\_\_

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year 1885 (1885)

5. Place of birth Alabama

6. Name of Father Albert Elrod Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Other information about father Disappeared

7. Name of Mother Charlotte Copeland Elrod Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Other information about mother Buried in Spring Family Cemetery about three blocks south of Hugo, Oklahoma.

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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INTERVIEW WITH DORA ELROD SPRING  
Hugo, Oklahoma  
Hazel B. Greene, Interviewer  
August 2, 1937.

Dora Elrod Spring is the widow of John Spring, who died May 13, 1937. He was the son of William and Jane Spring. His age was about seventy-seven and he was buried at the Spring family cemetery. He was a brother to Susan Spring Sanquin and Patsy Kendrick. He had eleven other brothers and sisters.

I am all white; was born in Alabama and was reared all over the southwest. I was about six when my father, Albert Elrod, and mother, who was Charlotte Copeland Elrod, decided to move to Arkansas. When we got there, Pa was dissatisfied, so we loaded everything we had in an ox wagon and pulled out, just traveling in Arkansas and Indian Territory. Sometimes he'd stop and make a crop. Then take a notion to go, and sell out for nearly nothing. We were just campers. He'd stop at sawmills and log awhile. He finally got a big team called Doc and Bill. They were a good log team.

Ma got tired of camping and dragging around and the children getting no schooling, so she refused to go further. She said she wanted to settle down. Well, that made

Pa mad so he just went off and never even wrote to us.

We heard he was dead.

I was staying in the home of old George Dillard, close to Belzoni, in the Indian Territory, close to that old court ground, and my sister was a servant in another family. I was just a servant, so once when they had so much company there at the Sulphur Springs Court Ground, and just couldn't wait on them all, I went to live with Dr. and Mrs. W. D. Kendrick, over on their ranch in the forks of Frazier Creek, five miles north of Spencerville.

When they moved back to Goodland, in 1903, I believe, I went with them and lived with them until I married Mrs. Kendrick's brother, John Sprang, in 1904.

He had a house full of children and he was about one fourth Choctaw. I came right to this old place to live. He built it after the home that he built for his first wife

had burned. Her name was Nancy McCoy and she died many years ago, about 1903. He and I had two girls and two boys, all grown now. I am fifty-two years old.

When Ma got my sister and I and the two boys in homes, she went to Alabama, saying that she knew we could take care of ourselves; but the boys didn't. They were living with

an old man who was supposed to have stolen hogs and those boys were notified that they were to be witnesses, so they disappeared. We never heard of them again.

Ma came back and lived with me till she died a few years ago. She is buried in the Springs Family Cemetery.