

STANLEY, L. A.

INTERVIEW

#8982

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BIOGRAPHY FORM  
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

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Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name Robert H. Boatman

This report made on (date) October 22, 1937

1. Name L. A. Stanley

2. Post Office Address Blanchard, Oklahoma, Route # 4.

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

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month September Day 14 Year 1861

5. Place of birth Georgia

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

Other information about father \_\_\_\_\_

7. Name of Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

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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Robert H. Boatman  
Investigator  
10-20-1937

An interview with L. A. Stanley  
7 miles Southwest of Blanchard.

I was born in Georgia, September 14th, 1861. I left Georgia and came to Tennessee with my parents at the age of three years and here continued to live till at the age of twenty-nine I moved from Tennessee to the Indian Territory in 1890.

On arrival I settled on the Washita River north of Mannsville in the Chickasaw Nation at what was known as the Old Norton Ford of Washita River. The ford was located eighteen miles from the place where Ardmore is now located. At this time ferry boats carrying freight from points so located, traveled up and down the Washita River.

The Norton Ford was used as a place to cross the river and as a landing place for the ferry boats. This was the place where the merchandise shipped from other places was unloaded to be used in Ardmore and Mannsville and where in time of high water the people used ferry boats to cross the river.

Mannsville was a small inland town consisting of one store and a blacksmith shop. When the Choctaw Railroad

was built through the Chickasaw nation it passed Annsville by three quarters of a mile north of the old location

was abandoned and moved three quarters of a mile north to the railroad. The town still exists and is of the average size of a country town. Ardmore was a trading post for the people in the near-by communities: it consisted of three stores and was known as the worst sand hill in the Chickasaw Nation.

When the pioneers came to the Territory in 1890 they were forced to pay a fee of \$5.00 per year in order to secure a permit. This permit gave the access to the range and to the water and made them citizens of the Territory. Sam Tiobee, a pure blood Chickasaw, was collector of permits for the Chickasaw Nation.

All farming tools and horseshoes were handmade at the blacksmith shop. Plows and tools, consisted of Georgia stocks and double shovels, entirely made of wood. The plows consisted of twisting shovels and bull tongues. Most farming was done with ox teams, also all hauling.

Horse collars were handmade. The collars were made of plaited corn shucks. The collars were made in

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one single circle and were put on over the horse's head onto his neck.

The country was full of wild game, such as wild turkey and deer. As the country developed, towns sprang up and agriculture was developed. I live on my farm seven miles southwest of Blanchard.