

~~STIMAN~~, C. W.

INTERVIEW

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

Field Worker's name Ida B. Lankford

This report made on (date) August _____ 193 7

1. Name G. W. Stiman

2. Post Office Address Cordell, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) Bx. 211

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month April Day 10 Year 1854

5. Place of birth Maryland

6. Name of Father C.L. Stiman Place of birth Tennessee

Other information about father Preacher

7. Name of Mother Mary Creighton Place of birth Maryland

Other information about mother Housekeeper

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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I have been a citizen of Cordell for thirty-eight years. I was born in Maryland, April 10th., 1854, moved to Texas, then from Wilberger County, Texas, in 1898, we started toward the Indian Territory reaching our destination, Cloud Chief. Then it was only a cattle country.

In coming from Texas to Cloud Chief we crossed Red River near Doan, northwest of Vernon, then we went through Greer County, now known as Jackson County, to the town of Navajo, crossed North Fork into Kiowa County, taking a northerly course toward where Cordell now stands but only landing at Cloud Chief.

We thought it was a beautiful country even though it was prairie. We later moved to Cordell, building a hardware store, twenty-five feet by forty; we lived in the back of the store. One evening late the preacher and his wife came and told us that they were going to stay over night; we only had one bed and did not know what to do but we had some hay in the store, I broke some bundles of hay and my wife and I slept on it and gave the bed to the preacher and his wife.

Some of the business firms in Cordell at the time we were in business were Bill's General Merchandise store; Bayer's Grocery Store; H. D. Young's General Merchandise

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Store. Young's store was on the corner of Church Street. Dave Smith's Grocery Store was east of where the Antrim Lumber Company's office is now. In Cordell at that time, there were also two livery stables, nine saloons, and a post office.

There was lots of drinking; I remember a man got drunk and tried to ride his horse into Dave Smith's store.

The Indians were nice and they were our friends and always will be. We had four Indians from Arapaho in court; they came into our store wanting my wife to cook their meals. They furnished everything and what was left they gave to us.

We used the water from creeks and it was really hard; we could hardly cook anything in it.

There was a little one-room building called the "Union Church," where all denominations would meet and have all day meetings.