

STOVER, FRANCIS A.

INTERVIEW

#9491

530

BIOGRAPHY FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma 531

Field Worker's name Jasper H. Mead

This report made on (date) December 24, 1937

1. Name Francis A. Stover

2. Post Office Address Chickasha, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) 814 Frisco Avenue

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month May Day, 15 Year 1887

5. Place of birth State of Arkansas

6. Name of Father E. S. Stover Place of birth Georgia

Other information about father Died at the age of 63.

7. Name of Mother Elizabeth Bowen Place of birth Germany

Other information about mother Died at the age of 58.

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 Francis A. Stover
814 Frisco Avenue
Chickasha, Oklahoma

Investigator - Jasper H. Mead
December 24, 1937

My name is Francis A. Stover; I was born
May 15, 1887, in the state of Arkansas.

I came to the territory with my parents when
I was two years old and the first place we landed
was at Ardmore, when I got old enough to remember,
Ardmore was a small place with dirt streets and
plank sidewalks about three feet wide.

The main water supply came from dug wells,
which were cased up on the inside with native
stone. Most of these wells had two wooden buckets;
one was kept at the bottom of the well, full, ready
to draw up at any time, and some of the wells around
ranch houses had the old ground dippers hanging on
the side of the well to drink out of.

There were quite a few Choctaw and Chickasaw
Indians around Ardmore. We lived in an Indian
settlement for a long time but the Indians never did

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bother us; they were just like anyone else.

The country around Ardmore is hilly and rough and at that time it was open range covered with tall grass and on it were thousands of head of cattle.

The United States Marshal around Ardmore was named Sam Standards, he was a cousin of mine and whenever he arrested anyone he had to take the prisoner to Paris, Texas or to Fort Smith, Arkansas before they could have a trial.

The Santa Fe was the only railroad running through Ardmore at that time and it ran from

Kansas City, Missouri to Fort Worth, Texas.

I have lived in Chickasha, for about eighteen or twenty years and am a mechanical worker by trade.