

TAAFFE, FRANCIS D. INTERVIEW.

6732

BIOGRAPHY FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for OklahomaField Worker's name Hazel B. GreeneThis report made on (date) July 16 19371. Name Francis D. Taaffe2. Post Office Address Idabel, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) _____

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

5. Place of birth _____

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 2.

Francis DeSalle's Taaffe of Idabel, Oklahoma is one-eighth Choctaw Indian. He was born May 6, 1927.

His father was George Taaffe an Irishman and his mother was Irene Harris a one-fourth Choctaw Indian.

On May 1, 1927 he returned to Idabel from work in Texas and was soon appointed to the office of City Engineer of the city of Idabel, and superintendent of utilities, and he has lived in this city ever since.

He gives us the story of the old jail that was brought down from A'ikchi, and is now being used as one unit of the city jail of Idabel. This old jail was used for the incarceration of prisoners at the A'ikchi court ground when the tribal courts were held there by the Choctaw people.

Hazel B. Greene,

Interviewer.

July 10, 1937

Interview with Francis D. Taaffe

The old jail that we are now using for a city jail unit was the one that was used at Alikehi court ground for many years. It is built of steel panels, thirty-six inches by nine feet double end riveted together, making a cell fourteen feet by fourteen feet, and of course, nine feet high. There ^{was} one door and two crisis-proof iron-studded windows. It was moved from Alikehi in 1907 or 1908, and was used in connection with the County unit until the construction of the Court House. They have one of new designs for the Court House for the County prisoners, and this one was placed in the City Hall and used for a city jail. They took it apart to haul it to Idabel. The one at Eokchito, which was hauled from old Meyhuc, was a companion to it, and both were built at the respective court grounds at about the same time. History tells about when that was.