

REED, J. S.

INTERVIEW

#4459

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

REED, J. C.

INTERVIEW

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Field Worker's name Robert L. Postman.

Report made on (date) June 18, 1937. 1937

Name J. C. Reed.

Post Office Address Washington, Oklahoma.

Residence address (or location) Washington, Oklahoma.

DATE OF BIRTH: Month April Day 7 Year 1899.

Place of birth Richland Parish, Louisiana.

Name of Father J. C. Reed Place of birth Ireland.

Other information about father None.

Name of Mother Ann Barker Reed. Place of birth No information.

Other information about mother None.

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and history 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 5.

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Robert H. Boatman,
Interviewer.

June 18, 1937.

An interview with J. S. Reed.
Washington, Oklahoma.

In 1890 I decided to come to the Indian Territory so
I left Texas by the old N. W. & P. The P. & O. and the
old Santa Fe were the only railroads into Indian Territory
at that time. I came to Atoka; my brother, Jeff Reed,
was with me. Atoka and many other towns I re-
member at that time. After a few days at Atoka Jeff and
I started out to look over the country over.

There were no roads at that time and people did not
know what a road was.

We left Atoka at night, and went clear down to
out of the valley, and then back up.

Stonewall is located on the north side of Loggy Creek
and it was there that Governor Reed lived. He was Governor

of the Oklahoma Territory.

There was one store there and the Governor lived there and
I met him. Governor Reed was a fine man and he was the
first Governor of the Oklahoma Territory.

When the time came for the vote in 1890
Governor Reed sent for William H. Murray to be Governor of the
territory and he was elected. Those men were generally

come after this skull or they in groups. They would
 come on horseback, on little wooden ponies, and if there
 were any... if they in groups, they would be riding
 and if they were together, such a file and never a
 double file... they would be in... and just
 in the... they would be... to...

... they would stay...
 ... they would leave the...
 ... they would come... they would...
 ... person... they would...
 ... they would...

... these... four
 or five families... very close together and their
 history...
 ...

... they
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heavy and if it was a big deer "he" the woman, for they always called the women "he" - would take a pony and bring the deer home. One time I hired out to a fellow to go out for some Indian squaws were picking cotton, too. Some of the Indian squaws had squaws to go to the field and they had their own little houses made to burn with rawhide strings and fastened to the poles and they had a door on one side and these houses were fastened on these poles. These squaws generally stayed a week at a time before going home and when they would spread out on the ground and they would lie down on the outer edge of their blankets and start rolling and when they stopped rolling the only thing next to that leg and there they would be all night.

In the meantime, he had a little money and started out to go to the store where he was to where Ada now is; there were only two stores then in Ada then. He decided to build a store there so Jeff, his brother, bought ten of those saws and made it out from Greenwood and built the first store that was ever built in Ada. Mrs

store was sixteen foot square. I hauled the goods from Wynnewood and Radio Valley. Jeff, my brother, became a friend of Governor ~~_____~~ and the Governor would give Jeff the money to pay off the Indians up in that part of the country and when it was paid the Indians would pay everything that was in that store.

We just could not keep stuff there. The Indians were honest and would sell the stuff on credit and when pay day would come they would pay what they owed right up and they didn't owe no more. They owed. These Indians seemed to be very honest people.

I have seen the stand for two hours in the same position without moving; just looking in some certain direction.

There was only a trail from ~~_____~~ to Fort Hill.

This trail went by way of Stonewall, Wynnewood, Parcel, and ~~_____~~. It was not long and people began to come in and settle up this country. They came mostly in wagons driven by horse teams. Some bought lumber to build houses. Some people cut logs and built log houses for there was lots of timber there and some lived in tents in the ground. There was grass all over the woods as high as a cow's back.

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Most of the people began to clear and break land for crops and some began to build small towns.

Ada was among the first to start and then the Frisco Railroad came and a little later the branch line of the N. W. & P. from Atoka to Oklahoma City was built and then a few years later the Oklahoma City Railroad was built from Muskogee to Ada and then later on to Arcell and J. C. Ashka and Ada just almost grew up overnight and today has a population of several thousand with good roads and good tracks.