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

ADAMS, LEE.

INTERVIEW.

10457.

Field Worker's name Baby Wolfenbarger

This report made on (date) April 18, 1938

1. Name Lee Adams

2. Post Office Address Sentinel

3. Residence address (or location) Sentinel, Oklahoma.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month February Day 3 Year 1873.

5. Place of birth Georgia

6. Name of Father L. M. Adams Place of birth Georgia

Other information about father Farmer

7. Name of Mother Nancy Cambell Place of birth Georgia

Other information about mother Housewife.

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.

ADAMS, LEE,

INTERVIEW.

10457.

Ruby Wolfenbarger,  
Investigator.  
April 12, 1938.

Interview with Lee Adams.  
Sentinel, Oklahoma.  
Born February 3, 1873  
Father-F. M. Adams  
Mother-Nancy Gambell

I came to the Oklahoma Territory from Texas about 1902. I thought that I could do better up here; this was a new country and there was a better outlook for the future. I came on the train to Chickasha and got a job there working for the Chickasha oil mill. All cotton seed from the western part of the state was shipped there. Around that part of the country was very desolate looking. People were moving in on their claims. The Kiowa-Comanche Country had just been opened. There was not very much money in circulation; the settlers had very little money after they took up their homesteads. Some of them had to borrow their neighbors' teams and had to depend on them for milk to feed their families until they could make a crop. The pioneers worked out for fifty cents per day when they could get work to do.

I went out to look at a claim near the city of Cement when I first came out here. The man offered it to me for

ADAMS, DFE.

INTERVIEW.

10457.

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fifty dollars. He had a small half dugout for his home. The soil was very poor, we had lots of sandstorms around there in those days and the sand and wind would ruin a good crop in just a few hours. However, we had better crop and more rainfall then than we do today. I did not take the claim.

I worked for the oil company for about two years, then the Chickasha people put me out building cotton gins in the western part of Oklahoma. In those days you could build a gin for about \$4,000. All machinery was shipped out from Dallas, Texas. At that time the machinery didn't have to be extra strong as all cotton was picked. Today they can gin most any kind of cotton. In those days we could gin about thirty bales of cotton in ten hours. Today we can turn out about forty or fifty bales in the same number of hours. It takes from \$30,000 to \$35,000 to build a modern gin today.

I helped build the first gin in Sentinel in 1908, also at Hobart, Cordell, Lone Wolf and Altus. I have worked for the Chickasha Company for over twenty-six years.

I moved to Sentinel to make my home in 1908.