

JOHNSON, L. (MRS.) INTERVIEW

#10227

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LEGEND & STORY FORM  
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

JOHNSON, L. (MRS.)

INTERVIEW.

10227.

Field worker's name Ophelia D. Vestal

This report made on (date) March 17, 1938

1. This legend was secured from (name) Mrs. L. Johnson

Address Lawton, Oklahoma.

This person is (male or female) White, Negro, Indian,

If Indian, give tribe

2. Origin and history of legend or story A gold mine and the expectations of the Indians.

3. Write out the legend or story as completely as possible. Use blank sheets and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 1.

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Ophelia D. Vestal,  
Investigator.

March 17, 1938.

Interview with Mrs. L. Johnson  
Lawton, Oklahoma  
Born July 9, 1859.

Many many years ago, there lived a band of Comanches in the mountains here. Some miners had worked in the mountains, finding a gold mine. These people could not divide each part equally where all would be satisfied so the mine was closed until an agreement could be made.

These people left, agreeing to return a certain time with new plans about settling the dispute. Something happened and the white people were all driven out of this settlement by some Indians. One Indian man had been told by one of the white miners about this gold mine.

Years later a group of several white families returned to the settlement with their camping outfit in covered wagons. Three Indian boys came by the camp grounds. They were taken by the white men and put in a pool of water, trying to make them tell of the mine, the white men thinking all Indians would know of this mine. But the three boys knew nothing of it.

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This proves that if an Indian tells a person he will not tell what has been told to him, he will not. They try to make their word good. The same is expected by the Indians. If any Indian likes a person and tells him a secret it must never be told; if it is, the person never learns anything more by the Indian.