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BOYD, W. B.

INTERVIEW

#8263

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BOYD, W. B.

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INTERVIEW

Form A-(8-149)¹²⁹
8263

BIOGRAPHY FORM

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name Jasper H. Mead

This report made on (date) August 19 1937

1. Name W. B. Boyd

2. Post Office Address Chickasha, Okla.

3. Residence address (or location) 1218 South 4th St.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month April Day 4 Year 1840

5. Place of Birth Born in the state of Texas

6. Name of Father W. L. Boyd Place of birth Mississippi

Other information about father Died at the age of 75

7. Name of Mother Pollie Wilkinson Place of birth Mississippi

Other information about mother Died at the age of 110

Notes or complete narrative on the back of the form, with the life and story of the person interviewed, refer to family or suggested subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached Four.

Jasper H. Mead
Interviewer
August 19, 1937

Interview with
W. B. Boyd
Crickasha, Okla.

I was born in the state of Texas on April 4, 1840.

I came to Oklahoma sixty-seven years ago and the first place I landed was at Johnsonville a place one mile north of what is now Byers.

People did not know what a school was around Johnsonville sixty-seven years ago. There was very little farming around there, most of the country was ranch land covered with sage grass. Some of this sage grass was as tall as a man's head.

In later years a man named D. Byers, a big rancher donated the land to build a town on and it was named after him, then Johnsonville moved down to Byers.

The ranch work paid \$25.00 per month with every thing furnished even clothes and horses. The land was a little hilly with big prairie spots.

The water supply came from dug wells and springs. There were lots of deer, a few antelope and worlds of

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wild turkeys and prairie chickens.

There were no railroads and the houses were just little common pine plank box houses. The closest stream of any size was the Washita River.

I was thirty years old the first time I saw a train and I was in eastern Texas at the time.

We had no law officers in and around Johnsonville and Byers, but once in a while, a United States Marshal would come through looking for some outlaw.

Everybody in those days wore pistols. I have gone to church many a time with my pistol buckled on me and the pistols were not up underneath men's coats either; they were out where they could be seen and easily taken out.

But considering the rest of the country, Johnsonville was a nice, quiet place to live.