

JOHNSON, BURLEIGH.

INTERVIEW

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

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Field Worker's name Jasper H. Mead

This report made on (date) June 23 1937

1. Name Burleigh Johnson

2. Post Office Address Chickasha, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) 628 Kansas Avenue

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month July Day 18 Year 1883

5. Place of birth Woodville, Oklahoma

6. Name of Father Jeff C. Johnson Place of birth Virginia

Other information about father Age 86

7. Name of Mother Lydia Evans Place of birth Carolina

Other information about mother Age 66

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 \_\_\_\_\_.

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Jasper H. Mead  
Interviewer  
June 23, 1937.

Interview with Burleigh Johnson  
Chickasha, Oklahoma  
628 Kansas Avenue

I was born in Oklahoma fifty-four years ago, July 18, 1883, at a place called Woodville; then it was called Timber Hill. My father and a man named Joe Mann owned the Bar Six Ranch in that part of the country; they had thousands of head of cattle.

The Bar Six Ranch is the place where I was born, and at that time there was no settlement to speak of at all; the country looked like God had made it and then left it.

Water was scarce; there was just a well or two and only a few springs and these were the only watering places.

The old stage line came through my father's ranch; it ran from Denison, Texas, to Fort Sill.

The closest post office in that part of the country was at Denison. All the work around there was ranch work and as for farming there wasn't a plow in the country.

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My father went buffalo hunting in the western part of the state and brought back two buffalo robes. When you skin a cow you call the hide a cow hide but when you skin a buffalo you call it a robe. Those two buffalo robes stayed in our family for thirty-five years.

The crossing across Red River near my father's and Mr. Joe Mann's ranch was called Carpenter's Bluff. I have seen herds of cattle so large that it would take from three to five days to get them across the river, and sometimes they would lose quite a few of their cattle in bringing them across Red River.

My mother being one-quarter Choctaw would probably make me about one-eighth Choctaw.