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BURGESS, W. N.

INTERVIEW

8643

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INTERVIEW.

8643

Form A-(S-149)

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

Field Worker's name Jennie Selfridge

This report made on (date) September 23, 1937

1. Name W. N. Burgess

2. Post Office Address Manassville, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) One -half mile east.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month June Day 18 Year 1869

5. Place of birth Aberdeen, Mississippi.

6. Name of Father \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Other information about father \_\_\_\_\_

7. Name of Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Other information about mother \_\_\_\_\_

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 3.

BURGESS, W. N. INTERVIEW.

#8643

Interview with W. N. Burgess  
Mannsville , Oklahoma

Interviewer -- Jennie Selfridge  
Indian-Pioneer History, S-149  
September 23, 1937

W. N. Burgess settled at Healdton, Indian Territory in 1891, and began work for J. W. Orme in the grocery business. He also taught school at Healdton. He had taken a teacher' course at Popular Springs, Mississippi, and teachers were hard to find in the territory. His salary was \$50.00 per month, three months out of the year. These sessions were usually in the Spring. Mr. Burgess' first school was at Bowman School House west of Healdton. He later taught at Elliott School north of town. The usual attendance was from fifteen to thirty-five pupils.

In 1898, Burgess moved to Mannsville, Indian Territory. The town was incorporated in April of that year.

Burgess was appointed United States Deputy Marshal and served under Captain John Hamar, Ben Colbert and

J. A. Porter. He also served as the first city marshal of Mannsville.

When the Federal Court was established at Marietta he moved there and served as United States Deputy until 1911. He then returned to Mannsville and served as deputy sheriff and city marshal from 1913-1929.

The first store in Mannsville stood just south of the Burgess home and was operated by B. F. Mann, who also operated the post office. Bill Payton had put in a sawmill prior to their time on the creek just below town.

Mannsville was at one time a very good inland town. It had three churches, several stores, a good doctor, a sawmill and gin, and a good subscription school.

The tuition for the school was from \$1.25 to \$2.50 per month depending on the number of pupils.

In 1902, the railroad came through and the town was moved one-half mile west to the present location.