

INDEX CARDS

Outlaws--Chickasaw Nation
Law enforcement--vigilance committees
Permits--Chickasaw
Intruders--Chickasaw Nation
Thackerville
Farming--Chickasaw Nation

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

Field Worker's name Mr. Glen E. Card

This report made on (date) May 18, 1937

1. Name Mr. Thomas Jefferson Jordan

2. Post Office Address Hobart, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) _____

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month December Day 3 Year 1856

5. Place of birth Jackson, Walker County, Alabama

Male, White

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 _____.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. THOMAS JEFFERSON JORDAN

Hobart, Okla.

By

Glen F. Curd, Field Worker

Mr. Jordan was born Dec. 3, 1856, in the town of Jackson, Walker Co., Alabama, and came to the Chickasaw Nation, Thackerville, in 1893. He had a place in Mississippi, which he sold, coming to Thackerville to join his brother.

He was too late for the opening, so he rented a place. A house was already built and some improvements were going on when he came.

No law was in order, but the six shooter and the rope were the law. Horse thieves were quite common, as well as a secret organization they had, called Anti Horse Thief Association. This association worked in the dark a lot but at one time caught, convicted and hung 17 to one tree near the river, which was a warning to lots of the other would-be thieves.

Mr. Jordan said when he first came into the Territory, everybody had to get a permit before they were eligible to become a resident. He put off getting this permit but later the militia was called out to chase all the people out who had no permit.

He had 4 good mules to farm with and raised good cotton; he states he believes it made a bale to the acre. The farm was in a bend of the river, a sandy loam that would raise most anything.

-2-

The closest gin was across Red river to Gainesville, Texas, but in just a short time a gin and store was put up at Thackerville.

Mr. Jordan says he had had much **experience** with Indians. "I always treated them nice and they did me the same way," but, he adds, "if they got it in for you and you left any thing loose around the place, it would be gone- can't say whether Indians got it or not but it would vanish anyway."

He made the trip alone, never having but the one brother here. His father and mother both were left in Alabama.