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BERRY, WILLIAM C.

INTERVIEW

4142

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BIOGRAPHIC FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer Hist. ~~Project for Oklahoma~~

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BERRY, WILLIAM C.

INTERVIEW.

#4142.

Field Worker's name Alson J. Chase.

This report made on (date): May 12, 1937.

1. Name William C. Berry,

2. Post Office Address Woodward, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) 617 North 8th. Street.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: nth September Day 4th Year 1859.

5. Place of birth Dadeville, Missouri.

6. Name of Father Edward L. Berry Place of birth Kentucky

Other information about father Carpenter by trade.

7. Name of Mother Amanda O'Bryan Place of birth Missouri.

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 Two.

BERRY, WILLIAM C.

INTERVIEW.

#4142.

Alson J. Chase,
Field Worker.
May 12, 1937.

Interview with William C. Berry,
617 North 8th Street, Woodward, Oklahoma.

Wanting to find land suitable for a cattle ranch, William C. Berry decided to make the run in 1893, which he did, coming from Coldwater, Kansas. He made the race on horseback and staked a claim two and a half miles northwest of Woodward in Woodward County, on the North Canadian River in the Cherokee Strip.

Mr. Berry built a house in the side of a hill with a frame room on top of it. He "batched" there for about a year before he brought his family to Woodward County. He dug a well for his water which furnished plenty for his family and stock. The early day fuel was cow chips. He brought three horses, two cows, a little furniture and some farm machinery with him. He sold fat calves for 3¢ per pound and good cows would bring \$15.00 to \$20.00 per head. Butter sold for 10¢ per pound and eggs for 5¢ per dozen. Mr. Berry sold good prairie hay delivered at Woodward for \$2.50 per

BERRY, WILLIAM C.

INTERVIEW.

#4142.

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ton. He raised kaffir corn, milo maize and sweet potatoes for the market for which he usually got \$1.50 per bushel. He also raised cattle.

In 1896 when the Government sold their personal property at Fort Supply at auction, most of this property was sold to Woodward people and Mr. Berry got a job freighting this property to Woodward, which provided him with enough work for a living for some year and a half.

In 1895 the County Commissioners of Woodward County had a road surveyed from Woodward to the south, to the Dewey and Woodward County line; Mr. Berry plowed a furrow on each side of the road so that all the road and highway was between these two furrows.

Mr. Berry lived on this farm for twenty-five years and then moved to Woodward and still lives here.