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INDEX CARDS

Red River Station  
Caddo Trail  
Stage Road-Sherman to Fort Sill

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

1358

Field Worker's name Warren D. Morse

This report made on (date) April 21 1937

1. Name J. E. Bounds

2. Post Office Address Ryan Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) \_\_\_\_\_

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year 1872

5. Place of birth Indiana

6. Name of Father H. Bounds Place of birth Ind.

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 \_\_\_\_\_.

Experiences of J.E. Bounds  
Ryan, Oklahoma:

456

We came from Indiana and settled at Red River station.

I got a job helping drive herds to the Kansas market. Then there wasn't anything in Oklahoma, not even a store on the trail.

One time there was a man who drove a herd of cattle up to the river. He had the cattle all in the river and for some reason they "suiled" on him, and he couldn't get them to go on across. Some Comanche Indians were camped on this side of the river and finally after gesturing and making signs, they made the Indians understand they wanted help in getting the cattle across the river. The Indians jumped on their little mustang ponies and yelling and screaming they soon had the herd across. They demanded one of the steers for pay.

Later stores began to be set up along the trail. Bill Reed put up a store east of Sugdon about 1866. There was another called Fred's store, at the cross roads. That is the trail from Sherman to Ft. Sill. They cross the Chisholm trail here.

The cattle trail was three hundred yards wide. One time the river was up and ten or twelve herds were lined up on both sides of the trail ready to cross. A man drove up with an ox wagon. He had been drinking and didn't realize how deep the water was. There were two

on this wagon. He took his whip and whipped the oxen into the river where both went clear under. Then the first came up he yelled, "There's old Red, give him the whip". It was funny to watch people cross. We had many hardships then but we enjoyed those days.

Eight or ten miles a day was a good average for a cattle drive. You see we grazed the cattle as we went along so they wouldn't lose weight. In rainy weather it was much slower for we had to pick places to cross the rivers and streams. Some times we had to break a new trail altogether.

The Chisholm trail was named after John Chisholm, a white man who ranched in Texas. This trail reached from away down below Houston, Texas, to Kansas. I see they have tried to give the name to a Jesse Chisholm, an Indian, who had laid out a freight trail through here to Kansas. They say he also tapped out loading pens.

I never saw a pen at any time I was ever over the trail. Besides what good would a loading pen do out here when there were no railroads here then.

Everything was open then, there were no fences.

That was before the Indians came from the east part of

the state to get their allotments. There was really  
no settlement until after the railroad came through.  
Then it was settled very slowly.