

HANEY, L. B.

INTERVIEW

#9415

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BIOGRAPHY FORM

9415

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name John F. Daugherty

This report made on (date) December 9, 1937

1. Name L. B. Haney

2. Post Office Address Daugherty, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) _____

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month February Day 4 Year 1874

5. Place of birth Boggy Depot, Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory.

6. Name of Father Hiram Haney Place of birth Illinois

Other information about father farmer

7. Name of Mother Sarah Gwynn Place of birth Illinois

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 _____

John F. Daugherty
Investigator
December 9, 1937

Interview with
L. B. Haney
Daugherty, Oklahoma.

My parents were Hiram P. Haney and Sarah Gwynn Haney, both born in Illinois. Father was a farmer. There were seven children in our family.

My parents moved to the Territory from Illinois in 1874 in an ox wagon. They settled at Boggy Depot and it was here that I was born, February 4, 1874. They traded at Boggy Depot and Stringtown. These merchants freighted their goods in ox wagons from Sherman and Denison.

My two oldest brothers worked for T. L. Wade, a big cattle man. They trailed cattle into the Comanche country.

There was a camp at Marlow where cattle men stayed when driving cattle over this trail. In the earlier days outlaws had dug some dug-outs about fifty feet in length, with an opening at the rear, through which they could escape, if trapped from the front. These dug-outs were used by the cowboys later. My oldest brother was

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the cook for this bunch of cowboys. On one trip they drove twelve thousand head of cattle from Texas into the Comanche country.

The chuck wagon had a grub box fastened to the rear and a board dropped down, with one leg to hold it up. This made a cook table.

They used cow chips for fuel. These were easier to get than wood, and there were plenty of them.

During the time that we lived at Boggy Depot there was only one white family besides us who lived in that neighborhood.

I can remember when old Oklahoma was being settled the houses were built of sod. They plowed the sod up in layers, cut into blocks like rocks and laid them one on the other, as if they were bricks, for the walls. Some poles were put across from one wall to the other and the roof was made of sod blocks. In the spring the grass would sprout and grow and the small houses were green. The windows were just wooden shutters, and the chimneys were made of sticks and dirt. The doors all

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swung on the outside and were never locked, except with latch strings. ~~People didn't steal from houses~~ in those days. Cattle and horses were stolen but seldom ones' personal belongings.

I was married to Allie Curry in Texas in 1895 and we settled on Red River south of Thackerville. We lived near the ferry on the road to Gainsville. Nearly everybody hauled their cotton to Gainsville, and the ginners paid the ferry fee of 25 cents per wagon to get trade from the Territory side.

When Mr. Overton was Governor of the Chickasaws he had his militia put people across Red River when they refused to pay the permit. The militia often passed our house driving people into Texas. As soon as the militia had departed the people whom they had driven out, turned around and drove back to the Territory and went back to their homes to live until the permit collector came again.

I remember the first buggies. They were not painted. They were the color of the hickory from which they

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were made. They were a great improvement over wagons and we thought we were almost flying through the air as we drove along in a buggy.

Then when the automobile appeared it was breath taking in its splendor. One boy in Daugherty saw the track of an automobile after it had passed through town, and decided it was a huge snake. He got a club and followed it for several miles. He wanted to kill a snake that made a track that large.

I have lived in Daugherty since 1902. We are the parents of eight children.