

KINWICK, JESSIE MAUD STICKEL.

INTERVIEW. #8751

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

KINNICK, JESSIE MAUD STICKEL. INTERVIEW. #8751.

Field Worker's name Ida A. Merwin,

This report made on (date) October 1 1937

1. Name Jessie Maud (Stickel) Kinnick,

2. Post Office Address Route 2, Perry, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) One mile west of Perry.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month July Day 24 Year 1876

5. Place of birth Adams County, Iowa.

6. Name of Father Emanuel Stickel Place of birth Pennsylvania

Other information about father Early day settler, came in December, 1894.

7. Name of Mother Jane Lewis Stickel Place of birth Pennsylvania.

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 Four.

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Ida A. Merwin,
Interviewer.
October 1, 1937.

Interview with Jessie Maud Stickel Kinnick,
Route #2, Perry, Oklahoma.

I, Jessie Maud (Stickel) Kinnick, daughter of Emmanuel and Jane (Lewis) Stickel, was born in Adams County, Iowa, July 24, 1876.

In the Fall of 1894, I came with my parents and two brothers from Iowa to Oklahoma. We traveled in covered wagons and brought with us three wagons and a two seated surrey.

We arrived in Perry on December 26, 1894, and stayed there for the Winter. We made the trip without any difficulties but were quite low on provisions when we arrived at Perry.

While in camp on the Red Rock Creek near the Otoe Agency on December 24th we were in need of some food and Father saw some other people camped nearby and went to their camp to see if he could buy something from them; they had some chickens and sold him one for

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a quarter so we had fried chicken for our breakfast Christmas Day, later we learned that the chickens had been stolen.

In the Spring of 1895, Father bought a relinquished claim for \$400.00; this claim was about eight miles southeast of Perry.

There was a dugout on this land located near a spring; we lived in this dugout about two months while we were building a house. This house was a two story, four roomed, frame house and the lumber was bought in Perry.

There was no school in this community and Father gave an acre of land for a school site and a small shack was built on it. School was held here during the next Winter but the next year a school building was built by donations of money.

The land Father had given was almost in the center of the district but the roads were so rough that it

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would have been difficult to have made good roads to this place. So it was thought best to move the location of the school, which was done, and the school was built about a mile to the east and about the same place where the Oak Grove School is located now.

There was a country store and a blacksmith shop near our place called Richberg; this store and blacksmith shop was operated by a Mr. Brewer who was also postmaster. In October, 1895, I was appointed postmistress by William L. Wilson, Postmaster General under President McKinley. I moved the office from the store to our home and in 1896 I was married.

Will Tobin was then appointed postmaster and moved the office to his home.

The mail was brought here by the mail coach of the Star Route between Stillwater and Perry. At first mail was only delivered twice a week but during my term it came daily and this service continued until the Rural Free Delivery began.

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The store and blacksmith shop at Richberg have been discontinued for some time.

After I was married, in 1896, we lived on the school lease that Mr. Kinnick had leased until we went to Colorado. Our first home on the lease was made from a small building that was bought in Perry and moved there.

Our furniture was bought in Perry and we still have some pieces of it.

We also have a Board of Trade souvenir of the city of Perry that was printed by The Perry Daily Times in 1894.