

INDEX CARDS:

Chickasaw Nation
Tribe-Chickasaw
Chickasaw Emigration
Bloomfield Academy

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

Field Worker's name Lula Austin

This report made on (date) July 15 1937

Name Mrs. Emma Hodge

Post Office Address Durant, Oklahoma.

Residence address (or location) 723 North 11

DATE OF BIRTH: Month _____ Day _____ Year 1878

Place of birth Near Brown, called "Robber's Roost"

Name of Father Nicholis Keifer Place of birth Germany

Other information about father _____

Name of Mother Elveria Keifer Place of birth Mississippi

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 MRS. EMMA HODGE
Durant, Oklahoma
Lula Austin, Field Worker

My mother, Elveria Keifer, when about eighteen years old, came to this Indian country with a colony under Levi Kemp from Mississippi. She said they were driven like cattle coming over and treated very badly. They were two months on the way and many died. She often told me of a roaring that they could hear under the earth all the way over. They landed at Ft. Washita.

The blanket Indians were very bad when they first arrived. After they fixed their camp they dug little holes just big enough for their body and would hide in them when they heard the Indians coming. One day my mother was riding along on a small pony and a wild Indian shot an arrow into her pony. He fell with her and she slipped into the bushes and remained there hiding from them until dark.

My mother's mother died when she was small and a Mrs. Horn took she and her sister to raise. She was so mean to them that her sister ran away and they never heard from her. Mrs. Horn would whip them with thorn bushes.

Mother only went to school one year, that was at Bloomfield. She was nearly one hundred years old when she died two

-2-

years ago. At her request we placed her bible, and purse in which she had placed many little keepsakes; also a dress that she liked, in the casket with her.

5