

METHVIN, J. J. (MRS.) INTERVIEW 10155

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

**METHVIN, J. J. (MRS)**

**INTERVIEW.**

**10155.**

Field Worker's name Lillian Cassaway.

This report made on (date) March 3, 1938. 1938

1. Name Mrs. J. J. Mathvin.

2. Post Office Address Anadarko, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) 709 West Alabama.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month May Day, 9 Year 1869.

5. Place of birth Paris, Illinois.

6. Name of Father William Swanson. Place of birth Kentucky.

Other information about father \_\_\_\_\_

7. Name of Mother Susan Nye. Place of birth Kentucky.

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 this form. Number of sheets attached \_\_\_\_\_.

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Lillian Cassaway,  
Investigator,  
March 3, 1938.

Interview With Mrs. J. J. Methvin,  
Anadarko, Oklahoma.

#### EARLY TRANSPORTATION.

In the spring of 1892 when I went to the Fort Sill Indian school the railroad only came as far as Chickasha. We had a stage line from Chickasha to Fort Sill by way of Anadarko. There was only one stage a day each way. The two stages passed each other about twenty miles south of Anadarko during the night sometime. Teams were changed at Anadarko. The teams used from Fort Sill to Anadarko to Chickasha and Anadarko and back were Government teams, and those driven from Anadarko to Chickasha were privately owned. The stage stand was at the west end of the Indian Agency near where Col Fred's trader store stood. A Mr. Todd was in charge of the stand, and a Mr. Catlett was the driver.

Chickasha was only a station then, with one hotel and two lumber yards and one drugstore. The hotel was about

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the dirtiest place I ever saw. I stopped at this hotel to clean up one day as I went home on my summer vacation, and it was so dirty that I felt just as dirty when I got through as I did before.

When I came back to the school in the fall of 1892 the railroad had been extended to Rush Springs and we went from there to Fort Sill by stage.

Catlett, the driver from Fort Sill to Anadarko and Chickasha, acted as sort of messenger. He did many of the errands for different ones. One day Jim Myers gave him a five hundred dollar check to have cashed at the bank in Chickasha. When he reached Anadarko he didn't have the money and he gave this story:-

On the way back from Chickasha he had stopped at the mail box near Verden to get what mail was to come this way. When he got some miles this side he discovered the envelope that contained the money was missing. He turned around and went back, thinking that he might have dropped it on the ground near the mail box. He said that when he got near the box again he saw a man riding away from the

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box who had gone some distance, and he must have found the money. No one ever knew just where the money went.

On short distance drives such as the one from Fort Reno to El Reno, six pretty prancing horses were used to pull the stage. In earlier days, they drove the stage coach with the driver sitting on top, and for a short time after I came to the school, but it wasn't long until they changed to hacks, which they used until the railroads were built on to Anadarko and Fort Sill in 1898 and 1900.