



HORTON, GUY P. (MRS.) INTERVIEW.

Form A-(S-149) 8072

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

Field Worker's name Virgil Coursey

This report made on (date) July 27, 1937

1. Name Mrs. Guy P. Horton

2. Post Office Address Altus, Oklahoma

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

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month September Day 15 Year 1882

5. Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

6. Name of Father ---Kimbell Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

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

7. Name of Mother Martha J. Dawson Place of birth Texas

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 \_\_\_\_\_.

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Virgil Coursey, Field Worker,  
July 27, 1937.

Interview with Mrs. Guy P. Horton,  
Altus, Oklahoma.

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Prior to the Civil War my grandfather Kimbell was a slave owner and a man of means. The freeing of the slaves left him destitute and he left Tennessee without means.

My mother's people were also Southern people who at one time had considerable property. She was Martha J. Dawson. She and my father were married in Texas.

In 1888 my parents moved from Groesbeck, Texas, to Oklahoma. Father and the older boys came ahead and built a dugout and improved the place. There were six of us children.

We settled at Navajoe, one of the oldest pioneer towns and an Indian trading post which nestled at the foot of the Navajoe Mountains. The country was sparsely settled with very few roads. The old Star Mail Route ran from Vernon to Mangum. It was a stage route and the horses were changed at certain intervals. At Mangum the route branched in different directions, making it one of the largest Star routes in the United States. We received our mail at Navajo,

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This Star Route ran through Frazier, another of the old frontier towns no longer in existence. Frazier was a fair little town, having a drug store, a hotel, a saloon and a number of grocery and dry goods stores. In June, 1891, a flood came and water rose in many of the stores up to the counters, and from then on there was a strong agitation to move the town to higher ground, and about a year later most of the stores had been moved to the present site of Altus. Frazier was after referred to as Old Buttermilk station, a name given it by cowboys to whom Grandma McClearen gave buttermilk. Mr. McClearen ran the hotel there.

Along the section line west of the present town of Ozark ran the old Chisholm Trail. The trail entered Oklahoma at Doans Crossing and thence went diagonally through the country, crossing the North Fork of Red River and leading into Kansas. In the early days thousands of head of cattle were driven out of Texas over this trail to the railroads in Kansas.

The country around Ozark was originally known as Plew Valley, taking its name from the Plew family; some of the earliest settlers in the country. I attended school at Plew Valley.

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Following are the names of a few other families who came here in the late '80's. The Love family came here from Mississippi. Reverend J. D. Terry came in about 1888 from Louisiana. There was a young Methodist minister, Reverend Sam Hardy, who moved in here and stayed a number of years.

My father was appointed Deputy United States Marshal and served in that capacity for a number of years. He was appointed by a Mr. Love in Texas and his district included the town of Nevajoe.

The main social events among the younger people were candy pullings and dances. I never attended the dances. They were usually conducted in an orderly manner, but occasionally there was some drinking.

There was usually preaching on Sunday morning by some minister; the different denominations taking time about.

On Sunday nights the young people usually had singings. I am afraid these singings were held more as excuses for the young people to get together than to enter into the spirit of singing.

I was married in 1909. My mother is still living, but Father died January 3, 1936.