

LIENEMAN, PETER T.

FIFTH INTERVIEW. 10813.

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Linnaeus B. Ranck,
Investigator,
March 2, 1938.

Interview With P. T. Lieneman,
May, Oklahoma.

This cemetery was started in the early '80's and was abandoned in the early '90's when Fort Supply was abandoned. According to my best recollection it is located in Woodward County, Section 23, Township 24, Range 22, in what used to be a part of the military reservation. J. O. Sellers now owns the land.

I remember well how the Indians at Fort Supply used to use this burial ground, it was the last one they had established and at least twelve deceased Indians were buried in this graveyard, probably twenty. My father was employed at Fort Supply by the Government from 1880 until the post was abandoned and used to make boxes for the deceased Indians to be buried in. It suited the Indians just as well or better to bury their dead without any semblance of a coffin, but through the influence of intermarried white men and the military officers at Fort Supply they adopted the use of a rough box coffin made by my father.

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No graves were marked. The only way to have located the graves in after years would have been by the bones of the horses the Indians had killed at the head of the grave. I have tramped around in the sandhills southeast of the old fort site about where the burial ground was but the landscape has changed so much during the many, many intervening years that it was impossible for me to locate the exact place where the burial ground was. The old trail from Fort Supply to Woodward followed a southeastward course out of the fort, crossed Wolf Creek and wound away through the sandhills southeastward to Woodward and the burial ground under discussion was ^a half mile south of the old road, about two miles out of the fort, and situated on a low level plot of ground just south of a large sandhill.