

CHANEY, EMORY

INTERVIEW #4216

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

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Field Worker's name Ruth KerboThis report made on (date) May 27th 19371. Name Mr. Emory Chaney2. Post Office Address Mangum, Oklahoma, R. # 33. Residence address (or location) Four miles west of Blair4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month September Day 8 Year 18855. Place of birth Tarrant County, Texas.6. Name of Father Pinkney Chaney Place of birth Missouri

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

7. Name of Mother Sarah McCall Place of birth Virginia.

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 Five.

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Interview with Emory Chaney,  
R.# 3, Mangum, Oklahoma.

I came to Greer County in 1889 from Fort Worth, Texas. We had some cattle and had heard about the fine grass in this country. My father brought two hundred head of cattle through and he brought his wagon and team. My brother, Judd Chaney, also came and brought a wagon and team.

I was four years old at that time and I came to this country on the train with my mother to Vernon. We came out from Vernon in a wagon and had to lay over at Doan's Crossing, southeast of Altus, on account of the high water in Red River.

We settled on a claim four miles east, five miles south, two miles east and two miles south of Mangum, or four miles west of the present site of Blair. The country was an open range, there were no settlements near and Martha was the nearest town, five miles south of Blair.

We depended on our cattle for a living for several years. Finally we began to break out a

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little patch of sod each year to plant in cane or something for the stock and later began to sow wheat. On a seasonable year this sod land made good feed and wheat. We had some dry years when we did not make scarcely anything. We did not plant much cotton until about 1900. Cotton made good unless it was a dry year.

We got our mail at Martha. The mail route from Vernon to Mangum came by our place on the east side. Sometimes the mail carrier would have a passenger or two in his hack. Buggies and wagons and riding on horseback were the only means of transportation.

Most of our supplies came from Vernon until Ernest Chaney came to the country and established a store and blacksmith shop on his place, a mile west and three quarters of a mile south of our place. The name of the store was Koreb.

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My father hauled lumber from Vernon and built a two-room house on his place when we first came to the country. This was one of the first houses in the country and is still standing. We have added more rooms to it and have had to put a new roof on it several times on account of hail storms and wind.

My father filed on a quarter section of land and bought a quarter section. My Uncle Judd did the same thing and their land was in a section block.

We dug some wells on our land which furnished plenty of water for the stock but was not very good for us to drink. Later, we made a cistern to have rain water to drink. We have had to haul drinking water in dry years.

Soon after we came to this country a school house was built one mile north, one mile east and two miles north of our place. It was called Corinth. This was a one room school at first but later another room was added. Mr. Edwards was the first teacher.

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We sat on log benches and had a three months school. One day the teacher saw someone coming down the road on a bicycle and turned the children out to see it go by. The front wheel of this bicycle was quite a bit larger than the rear wheel.

Later, after the country began to settle up another school house was built a mile south of our place. It was called the Center School. We finished our schooling there.

We went to the mountains over where Lugert now is and got our wood. Then after the railroad was built and coal was shipped to Mangum we burned coal.

There was a little store over near the mountains where we traded some. I remember my father bought me a pair of red boots there. It was called the Indian Trading Store.

My mother is still living. Father has been dead several years and is buried at the Martha Cemetery.

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Judd Chaney, who came with the family to this country, died several years ago when his horse ran away turning his buggy over and killing him.

I still live on our homestead and have a nice modern house with many conveniences.