

COE, DORA

INTERVIEW

#8047

482

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

Field Worker's name Ida B. Lankford
This report made on (date) July 26, 7
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1. Name Mrs. Dora Coe
2. Post Office Address Cordell, Oklahoma
3. Residence address (or location) Rural Route #1.
4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month March Day 23 Year 1874
5. Place of birth _____

6. Name of Father James Crabtree Place of birth Tennessee
Other information about father Lawyer
7. Name of Mother Rebecca York Place of birth Tennessee
Other information about mother School Teacher

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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Interview with Dora Coe
Cordell, Oklahoma

Field Worker - Ida B. Lankford
Indian-Pioneer History, S-149
July 26, 1937

I left my home in Tennessee, March 6, 1897, and arrived in Cordell March 11, 1897. I traveled by boat and railroad to Minco and from there by mail hack to Cordell.

The county seat was at Cloud Chief at that time. It was one year later that it was moved to Cordell.

The country was only five years old but I escaped the most of the hard times that I hear others talk of. We did not have any church houses or school houses to speak of. I have gone to church in a half dugout and brush arbors and old unused buildings of all kinds.

I can't say I had it so hard. The water was quite a proposition. It was hard water and some times it was hard to get. We did not have ice plants then. I have gone one and one-half miles for a barrel of water

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and before we would get home it would almost burn your throat.

I never will forget one time when they were putting up prairie hay at our house and when twelve o'clock came what little water we had had given out and the nearest well was one and one-half miles away. I went along to help get the water so I could get a fresh drink of "gyp" water.

We did not have any way of traveling except in wagons and some had old run down buggies.

I saw the first railroad built into Cordell. Until then we had been hauling what people used from El Reno. The first lumber used to build our barn was hauled from El Reno. It took one week to make the trip.

If you ran out of groceries and the store ran out, too, you had to wait until it was freighted from El Reno, which was the nearest railroad.