

CORBELL, JACK B.

INTERVIEW

#12206

399

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

CORBELL, JACK B.

INTERVIEW.

12206.

Field Worker's name Charles H. Holt.

This report made on (date) November 19, 1937. 193

1. Name Jack B. Corbell.

2. Post Office Address Hominy, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) _____

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month _____ Day _____ Year 1874.

5. Place of birth Arkansas.

6. Name of Father Henry H. Corbell. Place of birth Alabama.

Other information about father Served four years in Civil War.

7. Name of Mother _____ Place of birth _____

Other information about mother _____

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life story of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subject and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly this form. Number of sheets attached 3.

CORBELL, JACK B.

INTERVIEW.

12206.

Charles H. Holt,
Investigator,
Nov. 19, 1937.

An Interview With Jack B. Corbell,
Hominy, Oklahoma.

Jack B. Corbell was born in 1874, in Arkansas, on a farm and his parents moved to the Indian Territory, settling near Briartown, in Muskogee County, on a farm.

The trip from Arkansas was made in two covered wagons, one drawn by a team of horses, and the other by a yoke of oxen. The trip was made in twelve days. On the way they camped one night and a man who was running a whiskey still near where they camped, after getting acquainted with them, asked the Corbell boys to help him at his still that night, which they did, and he gave them a jug of whiskey for helping him.

In farming near Briartown they raised corn and cotton as the principal crops, but at all times tried to raise enough vegetables and meats to furnish the family with food.

Farm implements used were double shovels and small turning plows.

The marketing points were Checotah and Webbers Falls.

The second year after the Corbell family arrived in the Territory there was a bad cyclone which blew away most

CORBELL, JACK B.

INTERVIEW.

12206.

-2-

of the houses in the community. It only blew the front porch off of the Corbell home, but blew all of the shade trees down in the front yard and the barn and barn lot fence were blown down, too, and they had nine calves in the barn but it did not hurt any of them. The cyclone blew the barn out of the lot but the calves were all in a bunch where the barn had stood when the cyclone was over.

At first, the children had to go six miles to school at Briartown, but later a school was built in the community in which the family lived. There were eleven children in the Corbell family and the father was a school teacher so naturally he saw to it that the children attended school. He taught the school at Briartown until the school was built in their community, then he taught it.

Jack was married shortly after coming to the Indian Territory and served in his community on the school board for a number of years.

Belle Starr, the woman outlaw of those days, was known generally in those parts or in the northeastern part of the territory. She married a man by the name of Reed and it was believed by many people that one of her sons killed her to collect the reward.

CORBELL, JACK B.

INTERVIEW.

12206. ⁴⁰³

-3-

Jack Corbell lived in Muskogee County until 1925, when he moved to Hominy where he now resides.