

COOK, THOMAS.

INTERVIEW.

9709

251

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

COOK, THOMAS

INTERVIEW

9709

Field Worker's name Jimmie Birdwell,

This report made on (date) January 13, 1938

1. Name Thomas Cook,

2. Post Office Address Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) 900 East 29th Street,

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month May Day 8 Year 1865

5. Place of birth Indiana.

6. Name of Father Joe Cook, Place of birth --

Other information about father _____

7. Name of Mother Katy Dunn Place of birth --

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 1.

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Jimmie Birdwell,
Investigator,
January 13, 1938.

Interview with Thomas Cook,
900 East 29th Street,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

I went to Okmulgee in 1897. I had a good team and a little money, so I rented some land and bought a few hogs, some milk cows, we also had a nice bunch of chickens and were getting along fine until I decided I would start raising cotton. It took both my wife and me and our small children to work the cotton. The children would go to a summer school three months of the year after the cotton crop was paid by.

I got to where I would have to go into Okmulgee in the Spring of the year and mortgage everything I had for \$150.00 and this had to run me until cotton opened in the Fall. If I made a good crop cotton was not worth anything and if I made a poor crop it was high. We only got new clothes once a year and that was in the Fall and they had to do until the next Fall.