

COWAN, I. E. (MRS.) . INTERVIEW.

#4400

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Greer County  
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Living Conditions

BIOGRAPHY FORM  
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Field Worker's name Eunice M. Mayer

This report made on (date) June 10, 1937

1. Name Mrs. I. E. Cowan

2. Post Office Address Mangum, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) 605 Michigan

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month August Day 3 Year 1866

5. Place of birth Nueces, Texas

6. Name of Father Lewis Preston Place of birth Philadelphia

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

7. Name of Mother Mary McGinnis Place of birth Ireland

Other information about mother \_\_\_\_\_

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 3.

One of the most vivid recollections of Mrs. I. E. Cowan of Mangum, is the time when a large herd of cattle, consisting of 2,400 animals, nearly stampeded in the yard of her ranch home, south of Mangum. Several of the cattle discovered a sack of salt just outside the tent door, and others of the herd being driven down a nearby trail, joined them. The animals bellowed and stamped in an effort to reach the salt. The men were working in a nearby field. Mrs. Cowan remembers she grabbed the broom first thing, thinking it might be of some assistance. Bettsey, their bull-dog, undertook to drive the cattle away, but they paid no attention to her. Fortunately the men of the family arrived from the field, as well as the cowmen of the outfit in time to prevent a stampede. Mrs. Cowan recalls being so frightened she was a year getting over the scare.

The Cowan family came to Greer County the summer of 1892 and were obliged to live in a tent for several weeks, while waiting for the construction of a dwelling. Pioneer women understood the use of firearms and many took pride in their marksmanship, Mrs. Cowan recalls.

Most women rode horseback, and Mrs. Cowan especially remembers horseback excursions to the old Z V ranch owned by Ledbetter and Tullis.

Dances and picnics were also the amusement of early settlers. Sometimes the settlers would drive as far as forty miles to a dance.