

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

Field Worker's name Jasper H. Mead

This report made on (date) July 27, 1937

Name Mrs. Lucie DeWitt

Post Office Address Chickasha, Oklahoma

Residence address (or location) 427 Colorado Avenue

DATE OF BIRTH: Month February Day 24 Year 1879

Place of birth State of Texas

Name of Father James F. Clemints Place of birth Mississippi

Other information about father Died at the age of forty-six

Name of Mother Mary A. Holand Place of birth Arkansas

Other information about mother Died at the age of fifty-seven

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 4.

Interview with Mrs. Lucie DeWitt
Chickasha, Oklahoma

Field Worker - Jasper H. Mead
Indian-Pioneer History, S-149
July 27, 1937

I was born in Texas, February 24, 1879, fifty-eight years ago.

I came to Oklahoma when I was sixteen years of age, in 1895. The first place we landed was at old Duncan, about one mile from where new Duncan is now. There was only a blacksmith shop and a grocery store there then.

Soon after we arrived in Duncan my husband got a job on the Joe Rim and Bud Farris Ranch, seventeen miles northeast of Duncan. He was some kind of a foreman, all he did was to see that the other boys did the work. He got our house furnished and \$50.00 per month.

There was little farming around there. What little crops were raised were corn, oats and feed stuff. Each rancher tried to raise enough grain to feed his saddle horses.

The old Chisholm Trail ran one mile north of our house. I have seen herds of cattle come by that took

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two-thirds of a day to pass; they were going to some northern market, probably Kansas City or Dodge City, Kansas.

The nearest railroad was at Ringgold, Texas, the Rock Island.

There were lots of cattle shipped that far on the railroad and then driven from there across Oklahoma into Kansas.

One evening late the boys on the ranch butchered a calf and Albert Rim, the boss' boy was going to take a piece of it to some of the neighbors. The wolves ran him up a tree, got his meat and he had to stay there all night.

The wolves, wild cats and bob cats were extra bad around there, the "varmint" would get lots of the new born calves.

There was a small log school-house five miles from where we lived but there were very few who attended because not many people lived around there.

The water supply came from dug wells cased up with native rock. People who owned a place with a good well on it were considered to have a real place.

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There were a few Choctaw Indians around Duncan. Sometimes they would congregate and dance and sing for three days and nights. After the meetings were over you could see the Indians start leaving two or three in a bunch, going every direction. If the younger generation of today had to live like some of the old timers did in the pioneer days I am afraid they couldn't make it.