

DILBECK, FRED

INTERVIEW

1300

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BIOGRAPHY FORM
WORKS PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION
~~Indian Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma~~

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Field Worker's name John F. Dougherty

This report made on (date) April 27, 1937.

1. Name Fred Dilbeck

2. Post Office Address Sulphur, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) Route 2

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month April Day 8 Year 1881

5. Place of birth Arkansas

6. Name of Father James Dilbeck Place of birth Georgia

Other information about father Stockman

7. Name of Mother Harriet W. Dilbeck Place of birth Georgia

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 _____

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John F. Daugherty,
Field Worker,
April 27, 1937.

An Interview with Mr. Fred Dilbeck,
Sulphur, Oklahoma.

My father was James Dilbeck. He was born in Georgia, November 21, 1853. He was a stockman and horse dealer. My mother was Harriet Wilson Dilbeck. She was born in Georgia, December 25, 1857. She is still living with me.

I was born April 8, 1881, in Arkansas. In the fall of 1894 Father decided to move to the Indian Territory to obtain better grass for his cattle. It took us twenty days to make the trip in a covered wagon.

We settled in the Choctaw Nation near Star in Le Flore County. We lived in a log house with a dirt floor and cat chimney. There was plenty of game and fish. We used spring water. We lived here for three years and moved near Dolberg, near the present site of Roff in Pontotoc county. We crossed a toll bridge which the full blood Indians operated on San Bois Creek east of Stigler, near Kanima, as we moved here. We paid \$1.00 ferriage for our wagon and team, and 10 cents for each head of our cattle. We were on the road two months.

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We paid the Choctaw Government \$5.00 per year for the use of the land. This fee permitted us to cut the grass for hay, graze cattle on it and raise crops. All that we raised at that time was corn and cotton. We had many friends among the Full Bloods, and they never tried to harm us nor our stock in anyway. They were all peaceable.

I have attended many of their stomp dances. These were danced in a circle around a fire. A man would dance in front of his partner. The only music they had was tom-toms or tambourines and they yelled constantly while dancing.

My father is buried at old Dolberg which is no longer in existence.