

DEMPSEY, JESSIE BIOGRAPHY FORM
OKLAHOMA PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

91037

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INTERVIEW

Field Worker's name Thad Smith, Jr.

This report made on (date) 10-30- 1937

1. Name Jessie Dempsey

2. Post Office Address Verden, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) General Delivery

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month January Day 17 Year 1896

5. Place of birth Kiowa Reservation

6. Name of Father James N. Jones Place of birth Illinois

Other information about father Born in 1842, Buried at Verden

7. Name of Mother Nellie Tanadelbo Place of birth Indian Territory

Other information about mother Buried at Verden.

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 .

Thad Smith, Jr.
Interviewer
October 30, 1937

Interview with
Jessie Dempsey
Verden, Oklahoma.

I was born January 17, 1896, seven miles northwest of Chickasha on the south side of the Washita River on the Kiowa Reservation.

My father, James N. Jones, was born in Illinois, in 1842. He came to Fort Sill in 1866, and was soon appointed agent for distribution of beef to the Indians by the Government, which position he held for two years.

Next he was given charge of the Government wagon train engaged in conveying supplies from Texas to the posts in the Indian Territory.

He was next appointed chief of the Indian police, and was stationed at Fort Arbuckle. He held this position five years.

He was next employed by the Government as scout for General McKinney's command in the Indian Territory, during the Indian outbreak from 1873 to 1877 and was

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detailed to scout the frontier and carry important dispatches for the Army.

After the Indians were subdued and returned to the reservation, he was again appointed distributing agent for the Government and held that position until 1886, when he married Nellie Tanadelbo, a Kiowa maiden.

He farmed three hundred and fifty acres of land and had a twenty-five thousand acre pasture in 1895.