

MOORE, DELIA

INTERVIEW

#8968

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Form A-(S-149)

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

Field Worker's name Maurice R. AndersonThis report made on (date) October 18, 1937

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1. Name Mrs. Delia Moore
 2. Post Office Address Pauls Valley, Oklahoma
 3. Residence address (or location) _____
 4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month September Day 10 Year 1879
 5. Place of birth Arkansas
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6. Name of Father Dr. F.L. Stewart Place of Birth Arkansas
Other information about father Deceased
 7. Name of Mother Rebecca Owens Place of birth Missouri
Other information about mother Deceased
-

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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Maurice R. Anderson, Interviewer
October 18, 1937

Interview with Mrs. Delia Moore,
Pauls Valley, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Delia Moore was born in 1879, in Arkansas.

Her father, Dr. J. L. Stewart, deceased, was born in Arkansas. Mrs. Moore's mother, Rebecca Owens, deceased, was born in Missouri.

I came to the Indian Territory with my husband, John M. Moore. We settled at Pauls Valley in the Chickasaw Nation in 1900, and at that time it was a very small place. There was one bank owned by Sam Garvin, and the stores and restaurants, what few there were, faced the railroad. Mr. Moore put in a restaurant right after we came to Pauls Valley. Dr. J. R. Calloway and Dr. Branham were the leading doctors when I came. Jim Hightower was a large cattle owner.

There was quite a lot of cotton raised at that time, but the main crop was corn. Alfalfa was just being started; there were two or three small patches of alfalfa.

Pauls Valley was called a Saturday town; through the week there wouldn't be many people in town but on Saturday the streets would be crowded with people. We had board side-

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walks and no pavement at all. When it would rain, Rush Creek would get up and overflow the town, and mud would be knee deep in the streets. The first year we lived here the Creek overflowed several times and Mr. Moore was dissatisfied and wanted to go back to Arkansas but his business was good and we were making a good living, and owned our home, so he decided to stay. Year by year the town grew, people began building and a new church house was built. Pauls Valley, at the time I came, had a free school; the town was building up fast by 1908. And that year we had the biggest flood I have ever seen. The Washita River got out of its banks and water was all over town. People rode around town in boats. In 1911, we had our worst drouth. Along in June everything looked beautiful. There were large fields of corn; from two to three hundred acres in a field, and just in the silk and tassel, and the hot winds set in. In thirty or forty days the corn was wilted to the ground.

Mr. Moore stayed in the restaurant business seventeen years. I have lived in Pauls Valley since we settled here.