

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

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JONES, PERRY W.

INTERVIEW

4537

Field Worker's name John F. Daugherty

This report made on (date) June 22, 1937

1. Name Perry W. Jones

2. Post Office Address Sulphur, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) Rt. 2

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month January Day 9 Year 1867

5. Place of birth Tyler, Texas

6. Name of Father Rodham Jones Place of birth Georgia

Other information about father Made shoes for soldiers during Civil War

7. Name of Mother Lorraine Buckholt 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 3.

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John F. Daugherty,
Field Worker,
June 22, 1937.

An Interview with Mr. Perry W. Jones,
Sulphur, Oklahoma.

My father was Rodham Jones, born in Georgia, July 25, 1825. He made shoes for the soldiers in Texas during the Civil war; my mother was Loraine Buckholt, born June 27, 1842 in Georgia. There were twelve children in our family.

I was born in Tyler, Texas, January 9, 1867, and moved with my parents from Texas to Boggy Depot in the Choctaw Nation, north of Durant in 1872. Father built a box house, hauling the lumber from Stringtown. He covered this house with three foot boards and built a rock chimney. Mother cooked on the fireplace with a skillet and lid.

We had sheep which mother sheared each spring for wool from which our socks were knitted. We couldn't buy socks at that time. I have knitted many a pair. It was my job to pull burrs out of the wool so that it could be washed, carded and spun into yarn.

We lived on the freight road from Denison, Texas and

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Fort Smith, Arkansas to Fort Sill. Most of the freighting for the Western part of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations was done from Denison.

I went to school at Boggy Depot in a small log house with shutters for windows. We had split log seats with no backs, and had to hold our books on our knees. Our mail came on a stage from Atoka every other day.

I was married to Martha E. Hinchey in 1889. We got into a covered wagon and came to Sulphur where we established our home.

There was only one ticket log house in Sulphur at that time and that was the ranch house of Colonel Froman, in what is now Platt National Park. We built a log cabin near a sulphur spring. We had a box for a table, a number seven cook stove, and hewed log benches for chairs. Our bed was made of poles fastened to the corner of the house on which we put a straw bed which we made of prairie hay, covered with a feather bed. My wife made our clothes by hand. We had no sewing machine and we had no near neighbors who had one. We used black wooden handled knives and forks and tin spoons.

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Our food consisted of wild game and corn bread. We had only seventy-five pounds of flour during our first two years of married life.

I farmed and raised cotton, corn, some oats and a little wheat to grind for flour. I flailed the oats and wheat over a pole to thresh them. We bought our shoes, but I half soled them with wooden pegs when the soles wore out.

We have seven children, and have lived near Sulphur continuously since 1889.