

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

Field Worker's name Mildred B. McFarland

This report made on (date) September 14, 1937

1. Name Mrs. W. J. Huffman

2. Post Office Address Edmond, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) 316 E. Edwards St.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month March Day 29 Year 1871

5. Place of birth Versailles, Missouri.

6. Name of Father Dr. J. N. Cons Place of birth Pennsylvania

Other information about father Born in 1840

7. Name of Mother Salina Argenbright Comp Place of birth Stanton, Va.

Other information about mother Born in 1846

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 _____.

HUFFMAN, MRS. W. J.

INTERVIEW

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Interview with Mrs. W. J. Huffman
Edmond, Oklahoma

My father came to Edmond in the fall of 1891. He bought a few lots and built a home here.

He was a physician and had his office in one of the front rooms.

I had been married about a year and was living in Missouri. He kept insisting that my husband and I move to Edmond too. He thought there was a greater opportunity here for us. We moved in 1892. We bought a home just one block from father's place.

Sometime later Mr. Huffman became a stockholder in the Citizen's National Bank. He helped to build the original building, which still stands, with quite a few improvements.

He also was a teamster. He loved his horses and was always working with them.

When the Cherokee Strip was opened he made the run. He was not successful in obtaining a homestead, but he took town

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lots in Perry. However, he sold them at a bargain and came back to Edmond.

The State Normal School building was finished that year and Mr. Huffman and I decided to open a rooming and boarding house for students. We boarded them for eighteen years. I still live in the same house we originally bought and still room the students.

We always had a nice time in the early days. We attended church, socials, quilting bees and literaries.

One day we were having a strawberry festival and a terrible storm came up, just as every one was starting home. The wind was terrible. It ended in a cyclone. We all ran for a half mile to a storm cave. The storm destroyed several homes and killed many cattle. An old lady and gentleman, Mr. and Mrs. Donald, couldn't quite make the cave. They were seriously injured and died several days later.

My father Dr. Comp, was Representative for the Eighth District from Edmond. When the old court house was built in Oklahoma City he was appointed County Commissioner.

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When we moved to Edmond forty-five years ago, there were very few houses here. For miles around all we could see to the north of us were cotton fields and a large peach orchard was all we could see to the south.

When Carrie Nation came to Edmond, she held a great meeting in the Methodist Church. She was organizing the W.C. T. U. I always told people that she was the cause of my not being a member of the W.C. T. U. Of course Carrie Nation was trying to elect a temperance man to office. She made the statement that she did not want a Democrat or Republican to belong. I was a strong Republican and therefore I felt I was disqualified. I walked out of the meeting very indignant.

I always drove a carriage, drawn by one of the finest horses in Edmond. I always felt proud of him for my husband kept him well groomed. We did not have to endure the many hardships most of the pioneers did for my father was well to do and saw to it that I did not suffer until we got a start.