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Blaine County  
School Land  
Amusements  
Cheyenne-Arapaho Indians

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

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Field Worker's name Ethel E. PalmerThis report made on (date) June 7, 19371. Name Mrs. Lillian J. Gregory2. Post Office Address Putnam, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) \_\_\_\_\_

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month August Day 15 Year 18805. Place of birth Jefferson County, Nebraska.6. Name of Father Spencer Madison Parkhurst Place of birth New York

Other information about father \_\_\_\_\_

7. Name of Mother Rachel J. Place of birth Iowa

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 4.

I came to Oklahoma with my parents, in 1895. I was fifteen years old. We came from Nebraska and moved here in a covered wagon, bringing with us four milch cows. We settled in Blaine County, just where Canton is now. There wasn't any Canton there then. We did not file on land but leased school land.

Our first home was the nicest in that country. My father hewed blocks and logs out of trees, then he went to the Gyp Hills near Homestead, Oklahoma, and got gyp rocks. These he crushed and burned, making a dry powder that looked like lime, and with this he plastered the cracks of the log house. This made a nice white house and was considered very beautiful at that time.

I can't tell the name of the place where father went to buy our supplies but it took him two days to go and he went about twice a year. There were just trails to travel and it was very easy to get lost in that country.

When we first came to that country, there was nothing for amusement but to go to dances. Sometimes we would dance on dirt floors and a few times they would stretch wagon sheets across the floor or ground. We would dance to the music from a fiddle or banjo.

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There were lots of Indians there and they were forever getting on the warpath. The way we could always tell when they were going to go on the warpath, they would all go to dancing. We were gone one day and when we got home, there was a note under our porch, warning us all to go to Fountain, a school house, as the Indians were on the warpath. We all gathered there from miles around. This we did so as to be together if they started in; we would stand a chance of taking our part. Those Indians were very dangerous.

There were two outlaws in that country by the name of Yeager and Black. People were very much afraid of them. They would just go into a home and order a meal. I sure stepped when they came to my house. They went to a widow's house once, and they were captured there. One was killed and the other wounded so that he was caught.

There were no roads in that country but there was a trail on the divide. The people took a plow and plowed around this divide and in that way we could follow the right trail. There were no bridges.

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I have heard my mother say that the Indians used to bury their dead ones in a tree. I never saw them but mother has. There used to be an Indian cemetery down by Canton and when they buried a child they would put all of his toys and dolls in the grave with him.

I have a railroad watch, brought here from Nebraska, which is over fifty years old.

When I was a girl the young men came to see me. We were never allowed to go anywhere by ourselves and were not even allowed to sit alone in a room. The night before I was to be married the next day, my parents let us sit in a room alone, but this was the only time. They were very strict on us in those days.