

HAMBLETON, ALICE B. INTERVIEW #1324

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

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HAMBLETON, ALICE B. INTERVIEW 1924

Field Worker's name Thad Smith, Jr.

This report made on (date) April 21, 1937

1. Name Alice B. Hambleton

2. Post Office Address Chickasha

3. Residence address (or location) 316 Colorado Avenue

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month January Day 15 Year 1898

5. Place of birth Texas

6. Name of Father S.A. Hambleton Place of birth Missouri

Other information about father White man

7. Name of Mother Elizabeth Bradford Place of birth Tennessee

Other information about mother one-eighth Cherokee - Buried in Texas

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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Thad Smith,
Field Worker,
April 21, 1937.

An Interview with Alice Hambleton,
316 Colorado Avenue, Chickasha, Oklahoma.

I came to Oklahoma in the year 1902. My father leased a farm seven miles south of Temple, near Cache Creek.

I have seen a good many people come to Cache Creek from several miles off for wood driving a yoke of oxen hitched to a wagon. There was lots of timber on the creek but the people were only allowed to get the dead wood, it being mostly burr oak, elm and cottonwood.

Cache Creek had a second bank and sometimes after or during the rains the creek would get a mile and a half wide and in normal weather the creek was from twelve to twenty feet deep. There were lots of catfish in the creek.

Red River was about eight miles south of where we lived and there was a ford there that was called Charley Ford. I have seen the water so low in the river that I could step across the stream. Once I remember seeing a man start across the river with wagon and team and hit quick sand. He had to take out his team, and leave his wagon until later.

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My father drove across the Indian Territory on his way from Missouri to Texas in 1875. He camped on the north bank of the North Canadian River for about two weeks waiting for the river to go down so that he could ford it. My mother and sister were with him. They made the trip, driving a pair of mules hitched to a covered wagon. They crossed Red River at some ford north of Gainesville, Texas.

Where we first moved to Oklahoma to live in 1902 there were lots of wild cats and cougars, and there were quail everywhere.

The O H Triangle Ranch(the brand was made like this: (O-D)) was in the Chickasaw Nation, three miles west of where we lived. They ran about twenty thousand head of cattle on this ranch.

In 1904 a six day celebration was held at Temple. The business men in the county donated money to buy two hundred head of steers to be barbecued. It was estimated, then, that there were three thousand five hundred Indians there and two thousand white people.

Geronimo, a Mescalero Apache Indian, was there, and it was said that he had ninety-nine scalps.

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There were Indian dances, horse races, steer roping and bulldogging, something like a rodeo, only then it was not called that. The prizes for the winners of some of the features were groceries and pieces of furniture.

My mother and father and I often made trips to Burkburnett, Texas, in a wagon and we would cross the Red River eighteen miles west of where we lived, on the Suggs' Ranch, on a railroad bridge. It was just barely wide enough for two wagons to meet and pass one another.

The bridge was nearly a mile long, and there was a keeper at each end. The charge for crossing with a wagon was one dollar.

I was living near Temple in 1906 when Oklahoma became a state. Celebrations were held in several towns, but I did not happen to be able to attend.