

LEACH, LENDAL T.

INTERVIEW

#4193

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

Field Worker's name Harry M. Dreyer

This report made on (date) May 27, 1937

1. Name Mrs. Lendal T. Leach

2. Post Office Address Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) 1505 N. W. 17th

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year 1876

5. Place of birth Polland, Ohio

6. Name of Father W. R. Brownlee Place of birth Scotland

Other information about father U. S. Register of Land Office

7. Name of Mother Mary Elizabeth Cook Place of birth England

Other information about mother At Kingfisher.

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 \_\_\_\_\_.

Harry M. Dreyer  
Interviewer  
May 27, 1937.

Interview with Mrs. Lendal T. Leach  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Lendal Leach was born near Youngstown, Ohio. My father W. R. Brownlee, went to school with President McKinley. He was appointed Register of the land office at Kingfisher by Mr. McKinley and my brother was appointed Register of land office at Larned, Kansas, by Cleveland.

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There were thousands of people at Kingfisher before the Cheyenne and Arapaho Opening and there was a strip five miles wide which was not opened for settlement, so in the run all the people left a strip on the edge of this line thinking it was not for opening and my father and Judge Thomas, both received a claim on the edge of the five mile limit from Kingfisher.

My father with Judge Hayes, Judge Thomas, Judge Day and Sam Harris was appointed on the Code Commission. They met at the Jones Hotel at Guthrie, and stayed there until they had completed their work on the Code.

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Most of the work was done by my father W. R. Brownlee, Judge Thomas and Judge Hayes. So after Father passed away and Judge Thomas was killed at McAlester penitentiary by a convict, Judge Harris and Judge Day had a bill put through the Legislature calling the Code the Harris and Day Code, when in fact neither Day or Harris contributed anything to the Code.

My father and three brothers made the run into the Cherokee Strip Opening. My brother took a farm near Enid, I do not remember whether he bought it from another man or staked a claim. Father took city property.

We used to attend the beef issues to Indians and go to their dances at Anadarko. The Indians would do a shuffle dance and would dance for days at a time.

Many Indians are of the Catholic faith, which was forced upon them. Many were severely treated but they have never given up their pagan gods. An Indian would lay the picture of his patron saint in front of him. In his home and in every corner of his room he

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would have statues of various pagan gods which he also worshipped.