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Form A-(S-149)

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

Field Worker's name Zaidee B. Bland

This report made on (date) June 14, 1937

1. Name Mrs. Mandy Watson
2. Post Office Address Blair, Oklahoma
3. Residence address (or location) East part of Blair
4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month February Day 23 Year 1856
5. Place of birth Southeast Texas

6. Name of Father Mathew Sweazea Place of birth Missouri

Other information about father

7. Name of Mother Lucinda McFadden Place of birth Missouri

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

Zaidee B. Bland,
Research Field Worker,
June 14, 1937.

The Experience of a Pioneer of Oklahoma
Mandy Watson
Blair, Oklahoma.

My husband had done considerable traveling over the north and west of Texas. In 1889 we decided to move to Knox County, Texas, so we sold, gave away some things and packed into two covered wagons all our belongings that were left. Together with the loose stock we got started on the long journey. It was in November of the year, and a very dry time indeed. We really suffered for water, and the stock had to drink from pools along the way. We carried water to drink in a keg on the side of one of the wagons. I had never been used to hard water or gyp water, as it has since been named, and one of my boys and I became very nauseated over the evil tasting water. After having been on the road more than two weeks there came a hot dusty day when we had no water in the jug for even the little people of our family, and stock and humans suffered together. We arrived at Wichita Falls, and everyone drank his fill. We then prepared to make camp for a few days and rest up. Nearly everyone we met up with was coming into what is now Oklahoma, but then it was Greer County, Texas. I asked my husband how he liked that part