

McBROOM, LIZZIE.

INTERVIEW

10247

78

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

#10247

McBROOM, LIZZIE.

INTERVIEW.

Field Worker's name Ruby Wolfenbarger

This report made on (date) March 16, 1938

1. Name Lizzie McBroom

2. Post Office Address Sentinel, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) Sentinel.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month February Day 6 Year 1871

5. Place of birth _____

6. Name of Father Frank Willard Place of birth Tennessee

Other information about father Farmer.

7. Name of Mother Mazie Summers Place of birth Tennessee

Other information about mother Housewife.

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 _____.

An Interview with Lizzie McBroom, Sentinel, Oklahoma
By - Ruby Wolfenbarger, Investigator.
March 16, 1938.

I was born in Tennessee in 1871. My father was a farmer. I married and lived on the farm in Tennessee for several years; we were just renters as my husband never owned any land. We didn't have much land and our crops were a failure for several years. We became discouraged and decided to sell out and come out here and get a free home. My parents and brothers didn't want me to come out here. They were afraid the Indians would kill us, also were afraid that we would be blown away in a cyclone. My children had the asthma and they were afraid this country would not agree with them.

We came out here in 1897. We came to Chickasha on the train. We bought a wagon and team, a small tent, cook stove, table and chairs and beds. We were on the road about three days. We enjoyed the trip out very much. We came on to Washita County and I filed on land five miles west of Sentinel. I went to Cloud Chief to file and as well as I remember, it cost about \$15.00. We lived in our tent until we could get our dugout ready. Everyone lived in half-dugouts at that time. I don't believe that there were more than six settlers when we came out here.

We started breaking the land and getting it ready for a crop just as soon as we could. We planted corn, cotton, maize and oats. Our cotton didn't amount to very much; the land wasn't very good.

This was very beautiful country in the early day. There were lots of flowers, the grass was high and rank, you could see large herds of cattle grazing out on the prairie. There was also many pretty birds. Wild game and fish were very plentiful when we came out here. Fruit was very scarce, but we found wild grapes and plums along the river and the creeks.

We saw many Indians passing through here in the early day. They came from the Kiowa and were going to the Cheyenne country which was several miles north of our place. Sometimes the Indians north of us would go on the warpath but it never amounted to anything.

The only thing that I didn't like about coming out here was the schools. We didn't have any schools out here for several years. People had too much work to do and we didn't have any money. We didn't go to church, we worked just as hard on Sunday as we did during the week. Sometimes we had the neighbors come in on Sunday night and we would have church and singing.

3

I went to town about every two or three years and bought clothing for my family. My husband always bought our groceries at El Reno and Granite. We lived on this farm until two years ago. My husband passed away, I couldn't take care of the land. I rented out the farm to my son and moved to Sentinel to make my home. I also have other farms around which I bought in the early days. They are all well improved farms.