

SCHMIDT, A. B. P.

INTERVIEW

#481615

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

Field Worker's name Ida B. Lankford

This report made on (date) July 15 1937

1. Name A. B. P. Schmidt
2. Post Office Address Cordell, Oklahoma
3. Residence address (or location) Route 4
4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month August Day 2 Year 1866
5. Place of birth Russia

6. Name of Father P. A. Schmidt Place of birth Russia

Other information about father Farmer

7. Name of Mother Helen Balzer Place of birth Russia

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 _____.

INTERVIEW WITH A. B. P. SCHMIDT
Cordell, Oklahoma
Ida B. Lankford, Interviewer.

I came from Elbing, Kansas, and bought my place for five hundred dollars. There was a little dugout on the place in which we lived. I have been on the place thirty-nine years and now I have a house at the same place with ten rooms.

We had to freight from Geary. We would be gone for weeks at a time and the women and children would stay at home and take care of the stock and crops, and other things.

Of all things we were afraid of the Indians. Old Indian Crow drove in my place and he had kicked a drunken Indian out of the wagon. I got this Indian back into the wagon and tied him fast and tight so they could take him on.

I had to haul wood and buy it from the Indians and I would kill lots of prairie chickens and ducks and quail and prairie dogs while I was getting my wood and of all the rattlesnakes that I killed! One rattlesnake had twenty-eight rattles.

We had hard times but after all we had good times.

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We had a little church but the first winter we had no school. Later we had a school in a dugout.

Many times I have walked twenty-five miles to get work for funds to use in feeding my family. The first year we were in Washita we had twin boys born to us and the ticks almost ate them up.