

SALISBURY, WINIFRED MORTON.

INTERVIEW

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BIOGRAPHY FORM

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name Mildred B. McFarland

This report made on (date) December 21, 1937

1. Name Winifred Laura (Morton) Salisbury

2. Post Office Address Edmond, Okla.

3. Residence address (or location) Rural Route 3

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month July Day 20 Year 1867

5. Place of birth Gratiot, Wisconsin

6. Name of Father J. H. Morton Place of birth Cass, County Michigan

7. Name of Mother Hattie (Campbell) Morton Place of birth Illinois

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 3

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Investigator,  
Mildred B. McFarland,  
December 21, 1937

Interview with Winifred Morton Salisbury  
Rural Route 3,  
Edmond, Oklahoma

I was just past twenty-one when I came to Oklahoma. My father who had been a soldier in Illinois, formed a colony of one hundred men, all former soldiers, and they chartered two cars in which to bring their possessions. We arrived in Guthrie on the morning of April 22, 1889. We each brought an axe, spade, canteen of water and a gunny-sack filled with food. Father had just 17 cents in his pocket after arriving here. Father and I placed our flags on adjoining claims. We borrowed enough money to file on them and to hire a wagon and team to drive to Kingfisher. On our way back we had a very trying time. We were caught in a terrible thunder storm. Night was coming on and we were soaking wet. We went on and on, the horses finally stopping and we found that we were lost and that the horses had stopped on the brink of a deep gulch. We climbed down, and, hunting around in the dark, we found an overhanging ledge. We crawled under this and huddled together for warmth until daylight.

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Our place was located on Deer Creek, five miles west and three miles north of Edmond. The land was all in heavy timber. We started chopping down trees to take to a primitive sawmill. We built a small two-roomed box house on both places.

Mother had stayed in Michigan until we could send for her. She came to us on May 11, 1889. She brought a cook stove and a pair of bed springs with her. We made all the rest of our furniture. We made a frame of logs for the bed, and made the chairs, table and cupboard of boxes and split logs. We had no glass for windows, so Father oiled some cloth and stretched it over the openings until we could afford to buy some glass.

We started to prepare the soil for planting in the latter part of May. The work was slow, as we had no plow or horses. We used our spade and that first year raised a small garden and enough beans to dry for all the winter. We had very little food the first year. I would go to the woods with Father, and cut wood all day to sell for food.

The second year a small school-house was built close by called "Rosebud School." Later, church was held there.

WILLIAM WALTERS

1900

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The first ...  
... seven and one-half ... and we went  
to ...

We had a lot of ...  
... ing back I believe these were the happiest years of my life.  
I still live on the old homestead, and I am happy to say,  
there has never been a mortgage on it.