

McHENRY, ANNA

INTERVIEW

#7503

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McHENRY, ANNA.

INTERVIEW
BIOGRAPHY FORM

Form A-(S-149)

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name Mary D. Dorward

This report made on (date) September 13 1937

Anna McHenry

1. Name Broken arrow, Oklahoma

2. Post Office Address _____

3. Residence address (or location) _____

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month August Day 13 Year 1911

5. Place of birth Weir, Oklahoma

6. Name of Father Lewis McHenry Place of birth Weir, Oklahoma

Other information about father Son of Major Henry, half Creek.

7. Name of Mother Ida Kelly Henry Place of birth _____

Other information about mother Fullblood Creek

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 _____.

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Mary D. Dorward,
Interviewer.
September 15, 1937.

Interview with Anna McHenry
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma
Father-Lewis McHenry
Mother-Ida Kelly

Anna McHenry, three quarters Creek Indian was the daughter of the Rev. Lewis McHenry and Ida Kelly McHenry and granddaughter of Major McHenry, white man who had been captured by Creeks when a lad too small to remember the occurrence. He was reared to manhood by them, married a woman of the Creek Nation and came with the Creeks to Indian Territory from Georgia. He became a missionary and was the first to interpret the Bible to the Indians of Indian Territory. He knew several Indian languages as well as English.

Major McHenry lies buried in the cemetery at Wier beside his son, Lewis over whose grave a monument had been erected by the Masonic Lodge.

Major McHenry built the Indian Baptist Church on Cedar Creek near Coweta.

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The settlement and post office at Wier no longer exist . It was approximately six miles southeast of Broken Arrow. The cemetery in which Major McHenry is buried is about one-half mile east of the old Weir settlement.

Allotments

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis McHenry each received an allotment. Mr. McHenry's was at Wier; Wier school being built on his allotment. Mrs. McHenry's was about four and one half miles southeast of Broken Arrow.

Joseph Kelly, father of Ida Kelly McHenry, was shot to death by an outlaw over a seemingly trivial matter. Kelly had entered a store at Coweta for the purpose of purchasing a neckerchief. The outlaw came into the store soon after for the same purpose. Kelly being there first was served first and purchased a kerchief which chanced to be the only one of a certain color

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and which particularly appealed to the outlaw, also. Kelly took his kerchief and departed.

Later he with his family went on Friday night to the church at Coweta where, as was the common practice among the Indians, they camped until after the services on Sunday. (The church was the same church that was built by Major McHenry.) As the family was returning home on Sunday, Mr. McHenry riding in the front seat of the family hack, the outlaw stepped out from a clump of bushes and shot Kelly in the back, the shot passing completely through his body and killing him almost instantly. This happened about 1903.

Rev. Lewis McHenry established the Indian Methodist Church at Broken Arrow.