

RAGON, FLORA GILPIN. SECOND INTERVIEW #4766

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BIOGRAPHIC WORKS
WORKS PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer Hist. Project for Oklahoma

RAGON, FLORE GILPIN. SECOND INTERVIEW 4766

Field Worker's name Amelia J. Harris,

This report made on (date) July 12, 1937

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

1. Name Mrs. Flora Gilpin Ragon,
2. Post office address 607 N. W. 7th Street,
3. Residence address (or location) Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
4. DATE OF BIRTH: March 9 Year 1875
5. Place of birth Texas

6. Name of ^{husband} ~~father~~ Chas. F. Gilpin Place of birth Texas
 Other information about ^{husband's} ~~father's~~ Chas. F. Gilpin, born Maryland
^{husband's}

7. Name of mother Mary Cleve Gilpin Place of birth Vermont
 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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Amelia R. Harris,
Interviewer,
July 12, 1937.

An Interview with
Mrs. Flora Gilpin Wagon,
607 N. E. 7th Street,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

My husband, Charles D. Gilpin, came to Oklahoma Territory from Gainesville, Texas, on the first Santa Fe passenger train to enter Oklahoma from the South, April 21, 1889. Every car was packed with homeseekers. Mr. Gilpin was fortunate in securing a lot in Oklahoma City at the corner of Broadway and Reno Streets. He erected a corrugated iron building on this lot and entered into partnership with A. L. Frick in the hardware business.

In 1895 they sold the lot and building and moved their stock to the corner of Broadway and Grand, in the Bachelor Building. They were in business here for twelve years during which time I met Mr. Gilpin and we were married.

Four young married couples formed a co-operative plan of housekeeping. These couples were Mr. and Mrs. Lee Van Wincke, (he was mayor of the City then), Mr. and

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Mrs. Preston Addington, (a cattlemen with a big ranch at Addington), Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Hagon, a Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Gilpin. The first floor of our co-operative house comprised a large living room, a dining room and a kitchen. All four couples shared in the expense of furnishing these rooms. Upstairs each family had a bedroom and small sitting room. One of the ladies were hostess for one week at a time. The hostess did all the planning of meals, (we had a cook.) We had what we called the pot. Each couple put in \$2.00 just for food. The cook, lights, wood, and rent were paid by the month. We agreed when we first started that we would all be on time for meals, and we were. We could be as private as we wanted to be, we could all meet in our big living room and play cards, dance or amuse ourselves in different ways. We lived here for two years.

The death of Mrs. H. E. Hagon wife of my husband, Mrs. H. E. Hagon, caused the group to disband. I have never heard of this cooperative plan for four families before or since.

The building we lived in was on the corner of Second and Broadway, built by J. C. Scott and called the Angelo Building.

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In 1917 r. . B. Ragon, the man whose wife died,
and I, whose husband died, were married.