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INDEX CARDS:

Negro-Freedman  
Colbert Station  
Boggy Depot  
Stonewall  
Ferries  
Mill Creek  
Pioneer Physicians

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

Field Worker's name Salfridge, Jennie

This report made on (date) August 26, 1937

1. Name Ed Abram

2. Post Office Address Milo, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) South and west of Milo.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month September Day 2 Year 1878

5. Place of birth Milo, Oklahoma about one mile from present residence.

Name of Father Phillip Abram Place of birth Mississippi

Other information about father Colbert slave.

7. Name of Mother Rebecca Abram Place of birth Mississippi

Other information about mother Reynold's slave.

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

Selfridge, Jennie  
Interviewer.  
August 26, 1937.

Interview with Ed Abram.  
Milo, Oklahoma  
Born Sept. 2, 1870  
Father-Phillip Abram  
Mother-Rebecca Abram

My father was a slave of the Colbert family in Mississippi and my mother was owned by the Reynolds family. This was the same family of Colberts that settled at Colbert's Station.

My family first came to Boggy Depot, and then came on out to the colored settlement near the present town of Milo. They must have settled at this location immediately after the Civil War, because they had been there two or three years when I was born, September 2nd, 1870.

Mr. Wood Smith put in the first store in this part of the country. His store was located east of the present town of Woodford down the side of the mountain. He came to this section of the country from Stonewall, and I know his first store was established before Mr. Bywaters opened his store.

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We hauled our cotton to Gainaville, Texas, every fall in ox wagons, and would bring back enough staple supplies to do us until the next fall. We carried our corn to mill on horseback. Our closest mill was at Mill Creek. We would go down the side of the mountains to Henderson's ferry on the Washita. This ferry was at the location of old Dresden, here we would cross the river and go on over to Mill Creek. Mr. Jim Orme operated the store and mill at Mill Creek. He later established the first store in Healdtan. After Mr. Bywaters established his store, Mr. Wood Smith opened another store near the present town of Woodford.

We would go to mill about every three months. We raised almost every thing we ate at home. Father would cultivate one piece of land, then clear out some new land. Our first school was at the old log church house at the settlement. There was another school on Wild Horse Creek, taught by a white woman. My brothers and sisters attended school here.

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Mr. J. P. Lockman, a white man taught at the settlement school. This school was southwest of Milo and all of the smaller schools would come together and we would have school. It was something like some of the consolidated schools which we have today.

Our doctor was Dr. J. O. Gilliam, a white man who lived on the Washita River near Baum. He looked after all of the colored folks around the Milo settlement when they were sick. The next doctor was Dr. W. S. Miller of Woodford. He waited on the colored folks, too.

All of the old people are buried in the old cemetery which was started before I was born. This cemetery is at the old settlement. After the allotment the government set aside a new cemetery, because some white folks allotted the old one.

We traveled in the settlement on horseback, and all of the colored people have been good farmers; besides the Abrams, there was the Stevensons, Cohees, Roberts, Cobbs, and Franklins.

We never sold our corn. We kept it for bread and feed. Father cultivated several hundred acres of land and had lots of cattle and hogs.