

McMANUS, JOHN.

INTERVIEW

10389.

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

McMANUS, JOHN - INTERVIEW.

10389

Field Worker's name Maurice R. Anderson

This report made on (date) March 28, 1938

1. Name John McManus

2. Post Office Address Wynnewood, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) _____

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month December Day 6 Year 1875

5. Place of birth Texas

6. Name of Father J. C. McManus Place of birth Missouri

Other information about father _____

7. Name of Mother Mary Nolan Place of birth Missouri

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 2.

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Anderson, Maurice R.- Investigator.
Indian Pioneer History - S-149.
March 28, 1938.

Interview with John McManus
Wynnewood, Oklahoma.

I was born in 1875, in Texas, from which state I came to the Indian Territory in 1898, in a wagon. I settled at Wynnewood, in the Chickasaw Nation and rented a small farm from Noah Lael, who at that time was a large cattle owner.

Wynnewood and Pauls Valley at that time were the only two trading points in this part of the country. There were no roads over the country then to speak of and very few schools and churches.

Northeast of Wynnewood about five or six miles was a negro Mission school, that had been founded by a negro named Dixie Smith in 1895, according to men who lived here then. This Mission stood until about 1917 when it was wrecked by a storm, and never was built back.

There was a subscription school at Wynnewood for white children. People didn't raise as much cotton then, as they do now a-days. Corn was the main crop as there was a ready market for corn and it didn't take much work to raise a large crop of corn. The cattlemen would buy all the corn

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to feed out to their beef steers. There was a feeding pen across the river from where old Cherokee Town used to be. After the railroad came through this country, Old Cherokee Town was moved to Wynnewood, or at least a part of it was. One of the buildings was moved to Pauls Valley.

There were lots of wild game then. I went to the mountains south of old Fort Arbuckle and killed a deer every winter for several winters after settling here. The first year I lived in the Indian Territory, I had to pay a \$5.00 permit to live in this country; that was the only time I ever had to pay. I have lived in and around Wynnewood since 1898.