

LOUGH, LUCINDA

INTERVIEW

8656

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

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Field Worker's name Augusta H. Custer.

This report made on (date) September 14. 1937

1. Name Mrs. Lucinda Lough

2. Post Office Address Geary

3. Residence address (or location) Route 1, seven miles southwest.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month November Day 10 Year 1861

5. Place of birth Indiana

6. Name of Father Martin Grose Place of birth Pennsylvania

Other information about father A soldier in the Revolutionary War.

7. Name of Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Other information about mother Died when Lucinda was an infant.

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 5.

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Augusta H. Custer,  
September 14, 1937.  
Interviewer.

Interview with Mr. Lucinda Lough,  
Geary, Oklahoma  
~~Born~~ November 10, 1861  
Father-Martin Grose

I came to Oklahoma with my husband in a covered wagon drawn by horses in 1893. We went first to Watonga where Mr. Lough worked as a carpenter. He was a practising physician when we lived in Kansas. But there seemed to be a demand for carpenters as there were many houses to be built and Mr. Lough helped to build the depot in Watonga. We lived in a tent in Watonga and one day I thought that I was alone with my small children, who were asleep, but at that time an Indian was just at my door before I knew there was anyone around. He said, "Ugh"! I was too-frightened to scream and he asked, "Man?" I was afraid to tell him that I was alone though he perhaps knew it as well as I did. So he went off muttering something to himself. When we left Watonga we went on a place northwest of Geary, seven miles west and one half mile north.

One of our nearest neighbors was Mr. McQueen a preacher. He planted a large orchard and today most of

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the trees are dead but the place has been noted for the fruit raised there. We often went over to the McQueens; they slept in a covered wagon and did their cooking in a dugout which did not have a roof over it. This dugout was a protection from the wind but when it rained the water stood in the low spot. The neighbors all fixed some place to have a shelter but McQueen cooked in this uncovered dugout many months.

We reared five boys and they are all living. George who has never married is a comfort to me. Mr. Lough was the first Justice of the Peace in this part of the county. He had many of the small misdemeanors come up before him in court. Mr. Lough was also a doctor, his practice extended as far north as Watonga and east to El Reno. He "caught" many of the babies born in the early days. Dr. Lough doctored without a license. He could not charge a regular fee but took whatever people gave him. Often this was not much. The Indians often came for medicine for their eyes. He sent away for his medicine. Many of the people who used to have Doctor Lough have either moved or gone to their reward.

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Mr. Lough used to cut posts and haul them to Okarcho and sell them for 10 cents each. These were good cedar posts and it would take two days to go and get back home. But when he did come home we would have a few new clothes and some flour and coffee.

One stormy night some men came for the Doctor as a woman was sick; he did not want to go but the men got his horse, put the saddle on it and commanded him to go. When he got started one rode along on each side of him and whipped his horse and made him travel faster than he wanted to. The baby died but the woman lived.

It seemed that when anyone in the neighborhood butchered a beef the Indians could smell the blood for the whites would hardly get the beef skinned before some of the Indians would be there. Of course, they wanted some of the meat and were glad to carry off the head and all or any of the meat that anyone was willing to give them. The Indians love beef but do not care so much for pork.

There were plenty of wild turkeys and deer. One time my husband shot a wild turkey out of the top of a large

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tree, that was the only one that I saw him kill. We were out getting some wood and making posts. Mr. McQueen was preaching one time after he had conducted Sunday school, and he had on a pair of over-alls, one leg had gotten torn off and anyway it made an impression on me to see the preacher standing up before his congregation with one leg of his pants four inches shorter than the other. No one had fine clothes in those days and Mr. McQueen was a sincere preacher and a good honest man.

We built a frame house and many times the neighbors would come and Mr. McQueen would preach for us. He is living in California today.

We were here several years before we owned a milch cow and condensed milk was not to be had in those days. Mr. Lough bought a binder and out wheat where Geary is today; that was then on the Huff place.

One of the trials that was held before Mr. Lough when he was Justice of the Peace was that of a man who had been hired by another fellow to put poison in prairie

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dog holes in order to kill the prairie dogs and then  
the first man could not collect his money for the  
work. I now live in a one room dugout with my son  
who is working on W.P.A. and some of my children  
and grandchildren live near.