

MANUS, SALLIE.

FIRST INTERVIEW

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BIOGRAPHY FORM

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name Wylie ThorntonThis report made on (date) January 25, 1938

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1. Name Sallie Manus
 2. Post Office Address Tahlequah, Oklahoma, Route No. 3.
 3. Residence address (or location) 2 miles N. of Welling, Okla.
 4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month March Day x Year 1838
 5. Place of birth Goingsnake District in Cherokee Nation
Location would now be five miles west of Stilwell.
 6. Name of Father Peacheater Place of birth Georgia
Other information about father died near Welling
 7. Name of Mother Annie Smallwood Place of birth Georgia
Other information about mother _____
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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.

Sallie Manus lives with her daughter, -Lusie Hitchcock now Smith, about two miles from Welling, on a farm.

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Wylie Thornton,
Investigator,
January 25th, 1938.

An Interview with Sallie Manus,
Route # 3,
Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Sallie Manus is a Peacheater. She married Spake Manus, whose English name is Claborn Manus. Spake Manus is dead now and is buried in the Peavine Graveyard in Adair County, near Barron, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Manus' father, Mr. Peacheater, went blind while serving in the Civil War and his Captain sent him home. Sallie Manus remembers how they hid him in a shallow cave on the side of a mountain for fear of the Bushwhackers and the Confederate Army. The cave made for his hideout was a shallow cave covered with boards and then the boards covered with dirt and leaves and sticks until the surface appeared perfectly natural. His family lifted a board to give him his food.

Sallie Manus told her children that she had killed cattle for beef by herself by placing a rope around the horns of the victim and pulling the beef up to a tree so it could not move its head until she could hit it with

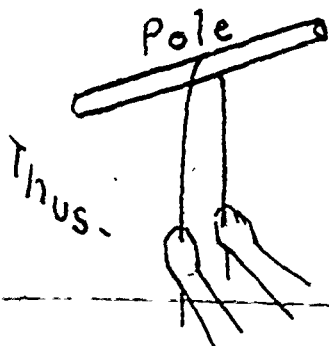
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a wooden mall she had made out of a hickory tree. After hitting it over the brain until it was dead, she skinned it and tanned the hide by covering it up with green wood ashes. After it had stayed covered with those ashes for a few days, about five days, she scraped the hair all off and the hide she cut in small strips and completed the tanning process by pulling these strips of hide back and forth over a smooth pole while holding to both ends, roughly illustrated. She scraped the hair off with a shovel.



She spread the hide on a smooth ground with the hairy side up, this side she covered with these ashes.

Mrs. Manus said she had to quit eating pork during the Civil War because all the hogs ran outside on the ranges, and the meat became unfit to eat because there were so many men killed and a great many of them buried in very shallow graves and these hogs rooted them up and ate them. Mrs. Manus said it was a common thing to see an old sow running around her yard fence with the smaller

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hogs running after her squealing to overtake her for a chance to help eat on a man's leg or some other part of the body, and many times some of the clothing would still be clinging to the leg or arm or whatever it happened to be.

The soldiers very often came by to rob Mrs. Manus of anything she had in the way of horse feed, food or clothing. One time one bunch came along and they took the last bit of corn she had for her meal or to feed her cow with and as they went to leave the leader or captain said, "Women I am going to give you a pony so you can make another corn crop this coming spring provided this pony don't starve to death before the grass comes up for it to eat." The next year Mrs. Manus made a good crop of corn.

The grass certainly did not come up a minute too early the next spring and an extra early spring was a blessing.

The soldiers were very mean to the women. They treated them without any respect whatsoever. Conditions following the War were absolutely indiscribable, no law, no respect, life worth nothing, property rights wiped away, no food or clothing.