

Notice of Copyright

Published and unpublished materials may be protected by Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S. Code). Any copies of published and unpublished materials provided by the Western History Collections are for research, scholarship, and study purposes only.

Use of certain published materials and manuscripts is restricted by law, by reason of their origin, or by donor agreement. For the protection of its holdings, the Western History Collections also reserves the right to restrict the use of unprocessed materials, or books and documents of exceptional value and fragility. Use of any material is subject to the approval of the Curator.

Citing Resources from the Western History Collections

For citations in published or unpublished papers, this repository should be listed as the Western History Collections, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma.

An example of a proper citation:

Oklahoma Federation of Labor Collection, M452, Box 5, Folder 2. Western History Collections, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma.

BEIDLEMAN, GEORGE INTERVIEW

#6095

452

BEIDLEMAN, GEORGE.

INTERVIEW.

6096

Jerome M. Emmons;
Interviewer.
May 31, 1937.

Interview with George Beidleman.

Mr. Beidleman moved to Okmulgee about a month before the first train came in from Tulsa. This was July 5th, 1900. Mr. Beidleman now resides at 522 North Morton street in Okmulgee.

There were nothing but sheds and log huts west of the Severs store when I moved here. Parkinson-Trent's store was at the location now occupied by the Central Drug Company on the southwest corner of the square. There was a good well in front of this store. In 1902 the post office was in the middle of the block south of the Council House. Main street ran from about Seminole to Muskogee streets, as they are now called. To get to the depot we had to jog from Muskogee street over to 7th street, a block south and there crossed Okmulgee creek and would then go back north.

When I came down from Tulsa, I had to cross the Arkansas River by ferry. I drove down with wagon and

BEIDLEMAN, GEORGE.

INTERVIEW.

6095

- 2 -

team. There was a village close to what is now Mounds. The land was all unfenced and I saw no more signs of habitation, except a cabin back in the woods near Beggs, until I reached Okmulgee. This was only a small Indian village. There were no residences and few stores. The only hotel was named "The Capital," and conducted by a man who was part negro, named Silas Smith. Fenton Sanger had a home place somewhere east of where the Parkinson Hotel is now. Most of the material for the buildings here, except those of native stone, were brought in by teams from Muskogee, which was the nearest point on the railroad.

Charles Douglas, N. D. Boyd, Bob Griffin, Ed Grisson, C. C. Belcher, and Charles Clinton were some of the white men I remember who were here at the time. The Creek Orphan Asylum and the Nuyaka Mission were open and were used, I think, until near the time of statehood.