

**FUSS, ADALINE**

**INTERVIEW**

**5665-A**

**481**

Goldie Turner  
Field Worker  
April 10, 1937

Interview with Miss Adaline Fuss  
Pawnee, Oklahoma.

Miss Adaline Fuss says about her father, Mr. G. L. Fuss; he was born December 25, 1859, in Williamsport, Maryland, and when a young man came to Kansas; then to Oklahoma in 1893.

My father owned a store in Kansas. At the opening of the Strip he came to Stillwater and made the Run from there, on a donkey, and he located about twenty miles northeast of Stillwater. After securing a homestead he went back to Stillwater and brought on his family. Our first home was a dugout which was built close to the creek. We lived in this a few months, then my father built a log house with a fireplace. In addition my father built a stone stove quite a little distance from the house and on the creek bank. It had an oven in it and here my mother heated creek water for washing and did all the family baking. The first time she went to the stone stove to use it, my mother looked across the creek and saw an Indian camp only a short distance away. She had never seen any Indians before and was badly frightened; she went to find my father and tell him about it. He told her they would do us no harm and she was persuaded to go back and use her stone stove. Soon the Indians came over for a visit and

we made friends among them.

When we first came to the claim my father would have to ride to Stillwater for all our supplies and to have our corn ground into meal. He would often bring us children a big sack of cookies or raisins which he would get for a nickel and which took the place of candy.

About the only farm implement he had was a one horse plow. Of course the seeds were all planted by hand. For a long time my father had only one horse and as he would plow, one of us children would follow behind dropping the corn in hills and covering it with our foot.

After Pawnee was established my father chopped wood and hauled it there. He would get 75¢ and \$1.00 a load for it. We lived about fourteen miles from Pawnee.

The first school in that neighborhood was a subscription school which was held in our log cabin or in the yard in front of the house for the school was held only in the summer. The teacher owned the only books used. She would sit and read while the children sat around her and listened trying to remember what was read.

The first school house was a log cabin built by donation. The first teacher there was paid by subscription too. The school house

was used for all community gatherings. Sunday School was organized and held there nearly every Sunday.