

KIDD, G. W.

INTERVIEW

#7911

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

KIDD, C. W. INTERVIEW.

Field Worker's name Charles H. Holt

This report made on (date) October 18, 1937.

1. Name C. W. Kidd

2. Post Office Address Hominy, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) Hominy Candy Kitchen

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month _____ Day _____ Year 1888

5. Place of birth Arkansas

6. Name of Father Wm L. Kidd Place of birth Tennessee

Other information about father _____

7. Name of Mother Emma Stepp Place of birth Tennessee

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 4.

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An Interview with C. W. Kidd, Hominy, Oklahoma.
by - Charles H. Holt - Investigator.
October 18, 1937.

The following story is given by C. W. Kidd concerning his father's life.

His father's name was William L. Kidd; he was born in Tennessee, June 20, 1854, and shortly after the Civil War moved to Arkansas, and in 1889 left his family in Arkansas and came to the Territory and made the Run. He found nothing after going as far south as the north banks of the Cimarron River where Oklahoma City is now located.

At that point there was a forty acre tract that Mr. Kidd could have staked but he wanted a larger tract and did not take it, even after the people who had already staked claims there tried to persuade him to take the forty acres. He refused to stake it and went back to his home in Arkansas and loaded his family and what belongings he possessed into a covered wagon, drawn by a team of oxen and headed for the Indian Territory. This was in

1889.

Mr. W. L. Kidd had a young team of mules which he had not broken well enough to draw the wagon with the family in it, so the only solution was to use the ox team to draw the wagon; they also brought a few cattle along.

Mr. Kidd's home in Arkansas was near Atkins and they made the trip to Mulberry River without any trouble, but the river was quite high and they had much trouble in getting the wagon across, but they could not force the cattle across Mulberry River and they had to camp there several days before getting the cattle across. While there someone had to guard the cattle night and day to keep them from straying or being stolen but they eventually crossed successfully.

They were soon in the Territory and their next trouble was near Fort Gibson when the ox team ran into a creek, turning the wagon and its contents over into the water.

No one was hurt, but it damaged the wagon to some extent and by the time the wagon was repaired they had

lost another day or two.

Continuing on west Mr. Kidd settled or homesteaded two and a half miles north of Stroud.

The homestead to which he took a legal title could not be gotten so he traded or bought a farm near this original homestead and lived on it continually until his death in 1905.

Two of his sons now own the farm.. On Mr. Kidd's arrival near Stroud he went to farming and was very successful. The trading point was the Sac and Fox Agency, five miles south of Stroud on Big Deep Fork.

Conklin and Charles Kidd operated a store at the Sac and Fox Agency. J. B. Charles also had a bank at the Agency and at present he conducts a bank at Stroud. There was a large Indian school at the Agency at that time. Martin House was the Government blacksmith at the Agency.

Mr. Kidd made many friends among the Sac and Fox Indians and would often visit their camp twelve miles

north of Stroud. At the camp the Sac and Fox Indians would have their old time games and customs and would shoot with their bows and arrows.

At first Guthrie was the best market for Mr. Kidd's farm products and Webbers Falls was the nearest grist mill. Since Webbers Falls was quite a distance from Stroud they would take large quantities of corn and wheat at a time and have them ground at Webbers Falls.

William (Bill) Freshower was Deputy United States Marshal.

Two old timers were Mr. Henning and Mr. Wheeler.