

KIMMER, W. P.

INTERVIEW

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

Field Worker's name Louise S. Barnes

This report made on (date) March 18, 1938

1. Name W. P. Kimerer

2. Post Office Address Dover, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) \_\_\_\_\_

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year 1866

5. Place of birth Illinois

6. Name of Father \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Other information about father \_\_\_\_\_

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

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 2

Louise S. Barnes,  
Investigator  
March 18, 1938

Interview with W. P. Kimerer  
Dover, Oklahoma.

I was born in 1866 in Illinois and moved from there to Kansas in 1879. I came to Oklahoma Territory in 1889 with my father and we made the Run together in a covered wagon. When we got to the Strip and came to Salt Fork Creek it was up and we had to camp there overnight so we could get across. We then drove on to Buffalo Springs, two miles from the Old Oklahoma line and made the Run and homesteaded west of the Red Fork Ranch, about two o'clock. We camped on Turkey Creek that night and it was on this night that we met Ham Merideth and invited him to have supper with us.

While we were discussing things in general, Mr. Merideth mentioned John D. Champlin who took charge of the Indian Trading Post and Father asked where Champlin had been raised. Merideth told Father he knew that Champlin had fought in the war and Father said, "We were buddies and I am going to see if he recognizes me." When we went into the trading post Champlin knew my father first, and that was the first time

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they had seen one another since they had been in war together.

Chaplin then told father that Ham Merideth was a Sooner and if he wanted to stake the land where Ham was he could easily get it because everyone knew Ham was a Sooner. Dad filed on a claim west of Dover townsite and lived there until 1906.

I made the Run in the Cheyenne and Arapaho Opening but I filed no claim as the place was to be contested and I lost it.

I came to Dover in 1901 and went into business in a loan office and was in the State Senate and Legislature eight years. I have always taken a part in politics and in all the activities of the town.