

HODGE, J. I. TL

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HODGE, MINNIE. INTERVIEW.

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Interview with Minnie Hodge
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Investigator, W. T. Holland
Indian-Pioneer History, S-149
October 28, 1937

Mrs. Hodge came into the territory with her father, Charles (Jack) Wimberley. They had lived at Elgin, Kansas, and moved south a few miles into the Osage County. This was in 1884. Mrs. Hodge was seven years old then, having been born near Van Buren, Arkansas, on May 18, 1877.

According to her best recollection, the last scalping party took place in 1884.

The Osage Indians were preparing for a war dance and although this was past the age of massacres and scalping in general, still the old chief wanted to make it as real as possible and to do this, the scalp of a white man was needed.

After some time of diligent search they located a white man who consented to let them have some of his scalp, that is for a price. This man was a farmer; he was plowing the day the Indians approached him. His name was Anderson. At first, Mr. Anderson refused

-2-

to consider such a thing but the Indians kept raising the price, which was to be paid in ponies, until they offered Anderson twenty ponies for a scalp. He consented and upon delivery of the twenty ponies, allowed the Indians to cut a strip of his scalp from across the top of his head from the top of one ear to the top of the other.

With this real scalp tied to the belt of the chief, the dance was a huge success. Anderson did not seem to suffer a great deal from the scalping.

Mrs. Hodge, who knew Anderson, says she understands that this was the last scalping the Indians ever did.