

TOLIN, ALVA

INTERVIEW

#8012

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Form A-(S-149)

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

Worker's name Augusta H. Guster

This report made on (date) July 13 1937

Name Alva Tolle

Post Office Address Geary, Route 1, now Carlton, Oklahoma

Residence address (or location) Northwest of Geary

DATE OF BIRTH: Month April Day 24 Year 1875

Place of birth Jackson County, Missouri

Name of Father Milton Tolle Place of birth Adams Co., Ohio

Other information about father Dead for many years

7. Name of Mother Adeline Tolle Place of birth Adams Co., Ohio

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

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Whirlwind Mission and Cemetery.

Interview with Alva Tolle,
Geary, Oklahoma.

I am not positive about the time this Mission was built but it was around 1898 or 1899. It was built by the Government under the auspices of the Episcopal Church. It was for Indians of school age, but the religious influence was expected to reach the adults as well as the children.

This school or Mission was under Reverend Sanford, who was assisted by Reverend and Mrs. Beach and Miss Bedell.

As I remember, it was supported by the Government. After the school was started at Concho this school was abandoned.

The building was sold in 1933 or 1934. I do not think that there was any gardening or means of support to the school except from the Government.

No children attended except Indians. Regular church services were held in connection with the

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church work. Extra activities, such as Christmas tree and Easter services, were held and the whole community was welcome to attend.

The buildings were well equipped and furnished beautifully. Some Indians lived on the grounds and others camped nearby. The tribes who had the benefit of this school were the Cheyennes and Arapahoes.

At times the Indian children were taken to the Hopewell School, on the south side of the river, to mingle and get better acquainted with the white children.