

MEYERS, GEORGE M.

INTERVIEW

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

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MEYERS, GEORGE M. - INTERVIEW.

8798

Field Worker's name Mildred B. McFarland

This report made on (date) October 4, 1937

1. Name George M. Meyers

2. Post Office Address Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) R. R. #1.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month March Day 23 Year 1867

5. Place of birth Wayne County, Illinois

6. Name of Father Peter Meyers Place of birth Pennsylvania

Other information about father Born January 19, 1834.

7. Name of Mother Martha Jane Meyers Place of birth Ohio

Other information about mother Born 1834.

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 Five.

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McFarland, Mildred B.-Interviewer.

Indian Pioneer History - S-149.

October 4, 1937.

Interview with George M. Meyers

R. R. #1. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

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I lived on a farm in Kansas from 1871 until 1889 with my parents. I was old enough to have a farm of my own, but did not have enough money to buy one. I heard of the opportunity in Oklahoma Territory, and started out on horseback. All the claims seemed to be taken when I arrived. I finally bought a man out for ten dollars and filed claim to it on May 10, 1889. I am still living on it. It is located twelve miles southeast of Edmond.

I lived in a covered wagon until I could cut enough trees to build a log house. It took almost four years, but I had a nice three-room house when completed.

I made most of my furniture. I had dry-goods boxes for dish cupboards and supplies. I made my chairs of planks with slanting backs.

The house is still in good shape and for the last twenty-seven years has been occupied by my tenant.

I planted sod corn the first year and made enough to buy about ten head of Durham cattle. The men of the neighbor-

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hood would come to me for barber work, and what small change I could make that way kept me in groceries. I killed a few deer, wild turkeys and prairie chickens to help out. There were plenty of fish in the streams. Until my corn came up and was harvested, I hauled feed from Pauls Valley.

I was in Fort Sill when the United States Troops brought Geronimo in. I talked to him several times.

One day, while chasing a wild horse northeast of El Reno, on the old Chisholm Trail, my horse threw me over a rock fall and I lay there for one day before I was able to get up. I crawled into a depression in the bank and lay down. Presently a wagon-train came along. It was lead by Pat Hennessey who was freighting in supplies. Just before he came close to me, a band of Indians attacked him. He was killed and his supplies and horses taken. His wagons were burned. They did not see me.

Along with our hard times, we had quite a few good times. We had dances and parties, spelling bees and singing schools. The women would cook up a large dinner and the men would gather everyone for miles around in wagons and we would all have a good time. Part of the time these were held in the school house and part of the time in the homes.

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I went to Kansas in 1892 and married. We have improved our place quite a lot and my wife and I are living our last days in comfort.