

ZIEGLGRUBER, PHOEBE. INTERVIEW 8795

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

ZIEGELGRUBER, PHOEBE

INTERVIEW

8795

Field Worker's name Mildred B. McFarland

This report made on (date) September 18 1938

1. Name Mrs. Phoebe Ziegelgruber,

2. Post Office Address Seward, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) R. R. 1, 9 miles N.E. Edmond

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month August Day 16 Year 1878

5. Place of birth Independence, Virginia

6. Name of Father Hayward Cox Place of birth Virginia

Other information about father Born 1820

7. Name of Mother Frances Jennings Cox Place of birth Virginia

Other information about mother Born 1840

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 \_\_\_\_\_

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Mildred B. McFarland,  
Interviewer,  
September 18, 1937.

An Interview with Mrs. Phoebe Ziegelgruber,  
R.R. I, Seward, Oklahoma.

I lived with my husband on a farm in Nebraska at the time of the Run in the Cherokee Strip in 1893. He decided to make the Run. He came in from the north, but wasn't successful. He went back to Nebraska and stayed until the fall of 1897; then came to Edmond, leaving me to care for the farm. He bought one hundred sixty acres of land, formerly homesteaded by John P. Maxwell. It is located four miles west and five miles north of Edmond. There was a little shack on the place. I came in 1898 on the train.

I helped him cut enough trees to take to the sawmill to have lumber cut to build a barn big enough to shelter six horses and one cow. It also had a small hayloft. A year later we built a larger house of native lumber. We still live in it, but have added several rooms.

~~We had a nice grain crop that year. We sold our~~  
grain in Edmond until a railroad was laid through Navina, several years later. It was the M. K. & T., but was taken

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up later, as it wasn't used much. We lived almost entirely on turnip-kraut and corn bread until we harvested our first crop.

The Congregational Church was the only church close enough for us to attend. Prairie Bell School was located one mile east of the church. It still stands and is still in use. We held literaries and spelling bees there about twice a month. The neighbors would gather at different farms during harvest season and have husking bees. The ladies would prepare large dinners and everyone would have a jolly time, besides helping his neighbor husk his corn.

We received our mail over the Star Mail route.

My mother always did her own spinning and weaving. She still weaves her winter wool blankets. The cloth for our dresses was always hand-woven. It was called linsey. She taught us to knit our own stockings. The styles were quite different then from now. It required fourteen yards of ~~linsey~~ linsey to make a dress. They were very long and full, with leg of mutton sleeves and wasp waists.

I remember quite well when Carrie Nation was in Edmond. I was very disappointed that I did not get to see her.

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Our means of conveyance was a large farm wagon and team.

The old Chisholm Trail or Wichita Short Cut, as it was formerly called, goes by our place. Many traders went over it and they always stopped at our house to water their horses and rest. That is how we got most of the news of the country.

Quite a few of our neighbors used oxen for transportation and farm work.

We had an old muzzle-loading shotgun, but seldom used it. There were deer, prairie chicken, quail and quite a few squirrel on our place.

We had several large camp meetings close to us and people for miles around would attend. They would camp for several days.

We had quite a struggle for several years, but kept at it until now we are quite comfortable and contented. We feel we have earned the right to enjoy life at its closing.