

INDEX CARDS

Arapaho
Weatherford
Indian Scares
Collections

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

Field Worker's name Maude M. Fink

This report made on (date) May 11, 1937

1. Name Mrs. W. H. Coleman

2. Post Office Address Clinton, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) Hotel South 6th.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month May Day 17 Year 1857

5. Place of birth Peoria, Illinois

6. Name of Father P. P. Johnson Place of birth Vermont

Other information about father Farmer and trader

7. Name of Mother Caroline Dickson Johnson Place of birth Honey Oye Falls
New York.

Other information about mother School teacher

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 _____.

Interview with Mrs. W. H. Coleman
Hotel South 6th
Clinton, Oklahoma

March 1893 Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Coleman settled in Arapaho, Oklahoma. They built a hotel in Arapaho and sold it, came to Clinton in 1917, built another hotel and have been here ever since.

The mail was brought from ElReno to Arapaho in Stage Coaches.

There was only one church then at Arapaho, the Methodist church. Mr. Davis was the pastor.

It took a day and a half to make the trip from ElReno to Arapaho. They just passed two houses on the way.

Mr. Coleman hauled his lumber from Minco, Oklahoma, to build his house. It took him five days to make the trip. There was just one house at Weatherford and people by the name of Weatherford lived there. The town was named after these people.

Mr. and Mrs. Coleman just had cheap furniture. Some dry goods boxes and some made out of planks. The dishes were cheap no good dishes. The windows in the

house were like the windows today, but they had no shades.

Mrs. Coleman was born in Peoria, Illinois. Mr. Coleman came to Oklahoma alone from Montgomery, Alabama.

They were married at Red Oak, Iowa, February 20, 1881.

Mr. Coleman came on the train from Iowa to ElReno, then came with the mail carrier to Arapaho. Mr. Coleman's folks lived in Plymouth, Indiana.

Mr. Kavnis built a store at Arapaho and Mr. Coleman managed it. There were just nine houses in Arapaho, when Mr. Coleman had this store.

They had an Indian Scare April Fool's Day. A cattleman killed an Indian. They went to ElReno after the soldiers, but everything was settled when they got back.

Prairie chickens, quails, ducks, wild turkey and geese were plentiful.

Mrs. Coleman has a pair of moccasins, an Indian slate and a long string of beads, but she wants to keep them.

Everyone was happy in that early day - they were all on equal terms.

They had a school at Arapaho when they came. Miss Gallion was the teacher. They studied reading and spelling. The school was in the Methodist Church, bench seats, used slate instead of paper and pencil.