

CRANE, LUTA.

INTERVIEW

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LEGEND & STORY FORM  
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

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Field worker's name Margaret McGuire,

This report made on (date) September 30, 1937

1. This legend was secured from (name) Mrs. Luta Crane,

Address Eufaula, Oklahoma.

This person is (male or female) White, Negro, Indian,

If Indian, give tribe Female, White

2. Origin and history of legend or story The life of a Missionary

and Minister. One who worked with the people when there were

only few people in Eufaula beside the Full blood Indians.

3. Write out the legend or story as completely as possible. Use blank sheets and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 2

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Margaret McGuire,  
Investigator,  
September 30, 1937.

An Interview with Mrs. Luta Crane,  
Eufaula, Oklahoma.

"Reverend H. T. Buckner."

I knew Dr. H. T. Buckner in Texas before either of us came to the Territory; his brother, H. C. Buckner was the founder of the Buckner Orphans' Home in Dallas, Texas, and a professor in the Baylor University at Austin, Texas. Dr. H. F. Buckner was pastor of the First Baptist Church in Austin at the same time and a few years later he was sent to the Territory as a missionary. The Baptist Board of Missions paid all of his expenses and he was the first Baptist missionary to come to the Territory around here. (In Eufaula.)

Mr. Crane and I came to the Territory later and the first Baptist church was built here after I came to Eufaula. Dr. Buckner was pastor of this church at one time and he asked that it be called the Buckner Memorial Church. It is called the "First Baptist Church" now. When Dr. Buckner

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was first sent here as a missionary the Baptist Board of Missions built a home for him and Mrs. Buckner and the lumber of which the home was built was shipped from Kentucky all ready cut and ready to be put up. Dr. Buckner was a native of Kentucky and his home was built about two miles east of Eufaula and was a nice country home, a two-story structure where they lived for years. This house still stands on the hill where it was first built. but belongs to a negro man "Young Moore."

Dr. and Mrs. Buckner had three sons and two daughters; one daughter married a Mr. Grayson and they had one son, Cecil. Mrs. Grayson died and Dr. H. F. Buckner died in 1882 so Mrs. Buckner had the care of this child. Later she married Mr. Grayson, her son-in-law but he died in a number of years. Mrs. Buckner died later and they are all buried on the ground near the place where the house stands. Cecil Grayson still lives in Eufaula.