

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

CREED, H. H. (Mrs.) INTERVIEW.

9725

Field Worker's name Ruth Kerbo

This report made on (date) September 22, 1937

1. Name Mrs. H. H. Creed

2. Post Office Address Mangum,

3. Residence address (or location) 309 South Pennsylvania Avenue

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month September Day 4, Year 1891

5. Place of birth Greer County

6. Name of Father _____ Place of birth _____

Other information about father _____

7. Name of Mother _____ Place of birth _____

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 _____

Investigator, Puth Kerbo,
September 22, 1937.

Interview with Mrs. H. H. Creed,
Mangum.

Mrs. H. H. Creed of Mangum, who has been a resident of Greer County since 1891, recalls that her father operated one of the earliest freight wagons from Navajo to Vernon, Texas. Although Navajo is no longer on the map, it was formerly an important post in the old Empire of Greer. Located fifteen miles east of Altus, Navajo was a boom town in the '80's and settlers from a large area north of the Red River went there to trade. Four fine horses comprised the freight wagon team, and barrels of flour, molasses and bales of calico were the staples carried. Parents of Mrs. Creed, Mr. and Mrs. Weaver, were originally from Lamar County, Texas, but emigrated to the new country in the '80's.

Mrs. Creed attended school at Altus. Horseback riding was a favorite diversion of Mrs. Creed in the early days, as it was with most young people of the country. In the

'90's a new diversion made its appearance. It was called the "box supper," and its popularity threatened to supplant that of the Friday afternoon "literary." When a young man would out-bid all rivals for the box of food prepared by his sweetheart his engagement to the young woman was generally taken for granted by members of the gathering.

Mrs. Creed's parents farmed a half section of land and grew sweet potatoes which were famous in the neighborhood for their size and quality. The Kiowa and Comanche Indians passing through the section would visit the Creed's home especially to trade native blankets for the food. Children especially dreaded visits of the Indians since a few parents would tell them that the Indians would get them if they didn't watch out. Of course, this threat was used to govern the behavior of the children and not as a serious caution.

George Blalock operated a general merchandise store in old Navajo, which was trading headquarters for pioneer settlers for miles around. Women rode on horseback to the store to do their shopping.

CREED, W. H. MRS. -INTERVIEW.

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When Greer County became a part of Oklahoma, the settlement of Navajo declined and gradually most of the residents deserted the community for other regions. Mrs. Creed and her mother still own the farm which her father homesteaded in 1891.