

MOORE, L. W.

INTERVIEW

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INTERVIEWER HERBERT ROGERS
Indian-Pioneer History S-149
July 21, 1937.

INTERVIEW WITH L. W. MOORE
Alva, Oklahoma.
Born October 20, 1858.
Fort Scott, Kansas.

Father's name, Dr. W.H. Moore
Born, Indiana
Mother's name, Malauda Moore
Born, Indiana.

Mr. L. W. Moore was born in Fort Scott, Kansas,
on October 20, 1858.

In the opening of the Strip, Mr. Moore rode horse-
back from Hardtner, Kansas. He passed under the bridge
while on his way at the same time the train went over
the bridge. This train was loaded with people who
wanted to stake a claim.

Mr. Moore picked out the ground he wanted and was
on it when a man came up to him and asked him what he
was doing on his land, telling him he had been to town
and put his claim in. Mr. Moore lost the land that he
wanted. After he gave up this piece of land he came
back to town and stayed all night and early next morning
he went five miles southeast of town and settled on his
claim. He still owns this place. He has also bought the
next quarter adjoining it.

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Mr. Moore moved off this farm March 16, 1904.

When he moved on this farm he did not have money enough to build a house out of lumber. He just had a tent that was 14' by 16'. Mr. Moore put two-by-fours over the top of this tent. He couldn't even afford to shingle it. The school board made an agreement that if he would let them use half of the tent for school that they would shingle it for him. This he did and school was held there for one or two years. Mrs. Moore covered the floor with gunny sacks, with hay and straw under them so as to make the walking easier and more comfortable on their feet.

In this school there were only ten or twelve children. They had their school in the tent until the school board could get together and raise money for their new school house.

Mr. and Mrs. Moore lived on this farm for fourteen years and six months before moving to town. When they moved to town Mr. Moore was elected Registrar of Deeds in the year 1904. He served in this office until 1907.

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Then in 1912 he was appointed postmaster , in which office he served for almost five years. After this he was elected secretary of the Alva Chamber of Commerce and served for sixteen years.

Mr. Moore was living in Kansas at the time of the killing of Colonel Wood, the man for whom Woods County was named. James Brannan was the man who killed Wood. Mr. Moore knew both of them well.

Mr. and Mrs. Moore raised a family of three boys. The oldest boy died in 1927. The other two are living and are holding good jobs.