

ADAMS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

....QUESTIONNAIRE FOR INTERVIEWING LOCAL PIONEERS....

NAME:

FATHER:

MOTHER:

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH:

MARRIAGE: *And children:*

1. Date of arrival in Adams County:

2. Parents' occupation and/or reason for coming West:

3. Place of first residence, second, third:

4. Nearest neighbors at time of first settling:

5. Did they arrive same time, earlier, later:

6. By what means of travel did you arrive, and where landed?

(For space for answering following questions, see back pages.)

7. Describe water supply during first years here, where located, how obtained, how often gotten, how far to get it, etc.

8. If subject is a farmer, describe first crops and harvests: how much planted, what equipment used, how many men, animals, how long it took for the planting, reaping, etc.; Note any "firsts" in crop or machinery:

9. If subject was a farmer, did he take up homestead with the intent of making the investment, or of actually farming it?

10. Location of homestead, or home, or business establishment:  
How did town look then, landmarks, etc.:

11. If subject is a townsperson, describe business or occupation, location of, whether it still exists, any "firsts" in type of business or supplies offered or equipment used, and reason for discontinuance of:



12. Do you recall any fire or disaster either to your farm area or in the business area: Date, people involved, description of nature of it, details:
  13. Ask about any changes in occupation mentioned by subject--did this indicate general poor times or personal preference:
  14. Describe any encounters with Indians in Adams County, or any memory of things told about them:
  15. Who owned the first car you remember seeing, and when:
  16. What were the names of the schoolhouses near your community or farming area? What were the names of the post offices? When discontinued?
  17. Describe the types of entertainment enjoyed during the early settling, both the usual and unusual or "escapade" types:
  18. Do you recall any unusual or memorable event occurring as a result of traveling to or from anywhere, breakdowns, getting lost, etc.
  19. Did you ever see or experience at close hand any crimes in your locality?
  20. What do you recall of either of the Hutchinson brothers, George Lucas, Phillip Ritz, Uncle Jim Kennedy, or any other of the more widely known early-day pioneers? Preacher John Phillips, Poker John Phillips.
  21. Describe an early rodeo, if you have known them, recalling any names of local participants:
  22. Did you take part in any of the early irrigation meetings? How early can you recall it being a topic of concern among farmers in your immediate vicinity?
  23. Recall any details you can about the flu epidemic of 1918 and 1919--how it affected your town, or your family:
  24. Please recall any other specific instances, humorous, tragic, or otherwise, which would help us compile a more detailed history of the Adams county area:
- A--List several of the most interesting historic PHOTOGRAPHS owned by the person interviewed; in each instance describe the picture briefly, tell WHEN and WHERE it was taken, identify the PERSONS appearing in it, and ask whether the society would be given permission to COPY it.
- B--List whatever WRITTEN RECORDS the person interviewed owns which pertain to the history of the Adams County area: Books, magazines articles, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, handbills, diaries, letters, etc. In each instance ascertain whether the piece might be copied or borrowed for display.
- C--List a few of the most interesting RELICS, artifacts or other physical ARTICLES USED OR WORN in pioneer days. In each instance describe article briefly, outline its history, DATE IT, and ascertain whether the article may be borrowed for display.