

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

Today, I'm visiting with Kermit Beck, a 64 year old Cherokee of Flint Community, Delaware County, Oklahoma. Mr. Beck has lived here all of his life and tells some most interesting things about this part of the old Cherokee Nation.)

PROCTOR AND BECK FEUD

(not clear)--steamboat to Fort Gibson from there here in an ox cart. And then it was--as I said I don't know what year everything got over with. He later bought it. A man from Tennessee, Steve Hilderbrand and that's what he--well, there used to be a flat house on a creek that run through here, too. And he's the one that built houses and would go down there. And there was an old mill down in the low ground yonder about where that tall sycamore is.

(Yes sir.)

It washed away 1892. That's the one down there where Zeke Proctor killed granddad.

(Well.)

He said he'd go kill that one white man who (not clear) and my old aunt was there and he shot her anyway. That's what caused the Beck and Proctor fight.

(Yes sir.)

Mrs. Beck: Well, Kermit, your granddad Beck died--he was killed down below the mill before it washed away.

I know.

Mrs. Beck: Well, that's what--

No, no, I said the Hildebrands own this.

Mrs. Beck: He still owns it.

I said Hildebrand owned that since and I said that that's where he killed his aunt. Well, so as time goes on down I can't tell you what year, but he sold it, Hildebrand did. And my granddad got hold of it and so he had just platform right there beside it, some of 'em could use it by hand. And they had