

T-427-2 (Second of Two Interviews)

WILLIS McNAUGHTON, PEORIA

INTERVIEWED BY: PEGGY DYCUS

INTERVIEW DATE: MAY 17, 1969

TRANSCRIBED BY: PEGGY DYCUS

GENERAL SUBJECT: EARLY HISTORY MATERIALS

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

EARLY FAMILY LIFE AND SCHOOL  
FATHER LEASED PASTURE LAND TO CATTLEMEN  
FATHER HAD FIRST POST OFFICE  
PEORIA TRIBE IN EARLY DAYS  
BECOMES CHIEF OF TRIBE  
DIDN'T APPRECIATE JOHN COLLIER - A GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONER  
HE IS PROUD OF THE PROGRESS WHICH HAS BEEN MADE IN THE AREA  
NAMES EARLY DAY BUSINESSMEN  
LOCATION OF VARIOUS EARLY DAY CHURCHES  
OTHER BUSINESSMEN  
HARVEY, COLEMAN, AND ROBINSON STARTED THE EARLY DAY MINES  
PLENTY OF GOOD WATER INVITES INDUSTRY  
SEASON CHANGES AND WEATHER  
CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS  
CEREMONIALS AND DANCES  
INDIANS PREFER THE WOODS - NOT PRAIRIE FOR HOME

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Willis McNaughton was born October 23, 1882 in Indian Territory. He attended many different schools; Old Peoria, Vinita, Wister Academy, and graduated from Miami High School and a Business School in Baxter Springs, Kansas. He was chief of the Peoria Tribe for about three years. His father was the first man to discover lead and zinc in the Miami area and started the first mining company. He has two brothers, one a physician and the other an attorney, but Mr. McNaughton preferred to live on the farm. He is still very active and has a very good memory of past events and history of the Peorias and the towns of that area. He lives near Miami, Oklahoma.

Note: The other interview on this tape is: Guy Froman, Peoria