

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