

T-550

Informant: Eli Stover, Creek

Interviewed by: Lucinda Tiger

Interview date: January 3, 1979

Transcribed by: Monette Coombes

Translated by: Lucinda Tiger

(The largest portion of this tape is in Creek language and has been translated by Lucinda Tiger. The first part is in English and Mrs. Tiger starts translating when Mr. Stover starts speaking in Creek.)

CHILDHOOD OF INFORMANT - INCIDENTS

(This is Eli Stover and he lives in Eufaula, Oklahoma. How old are you Eli?)

78.

(When was you born?)

November 3, 1892.

(Where were you born?)

Payne. North of Payne, about a mile and a half.

(We want to hear your life history when you was a small boy and how you grew up, with your mother and daddy, where you lived and what you all done.)

Um-huh.

(I'll just let you go ahead and tell us.)

I was born in a house and it was November 3, and a big snow on the ground--they say when I was born. About nine o'clock in the morning and they wanted to call me Ice, but they call me Eli. And I don't know when we moved from there, but I was too small to remember just when we moved from there. But we used to live south of Payne about eight miles. And we didn't have no well, we had to go about three quarters of a mile to get water down on the creek. There was a big spring down there and me and my sister go 'bout four o'clock. My mother day, "You'll better get water before dark." We go down there and we have to go a little trail. When we going down to spring, we see some deer standing on the trail and then lot of wild turkeys be on the trail too and they flew off and we went and get the water and bring it home (Creek words). And we moved from there I see where the--I see the kind, the plot of land, a 160 acres. I see 'em surveying and with a space every 40 acres. I seen that and I don't know what the age was. And we moved from there to Vivian. And then before we moved to Vivian though, we lived down on the North Canadian River. We lived right on