

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

(February 4, 1970. Today I am visiting with Andy Thompson, a 79 year old Cherokee of Pryor, Oklahoma. Mr. Thompson talks about his native country of souther Delaware county and the towns of Row and Colcord.)

ZEKE PROCTOR WAS AN OUTLAW

My dad knew old Zeke Proctor.

(Well, Old Zeke Proctor. Well, he was a fella that was unusual, wasn't he? Now, what is his grandson's name or great-grandson's?)

Sam, Sam Proctor, he's a nice clean cut young fellow, fine as you ever saw.

(I'll talk with him one of these days.)

He works for, down here at this, I believe it's a paper mill. Ben Wall, I believe that's who he works for.

(Now, that Zeke Proctor, I never did learn just where he claimed home.)

Well, he was originally from Tahlequah. They tell me, now this, I believe my dad told me this, that he was a very nice young fella, but that he was pretty bad to drink. And he got drunk and he shot a fella. And he, you know how it was out there, he just took to the hills.

Well, one of those United States marshals went out there to try and get him, and, by gosh, he shot one of them. Later, he just got to be an outlaw, and they just kept on his trail. And every time they'd catch up, he'd kill somebody. They claim he killed 23 men.

(Well, my goodness! Well, did he die a natural death or was he killed or---)

I don't know.