

At the west edge of Johnson Prairie is the little community of Liberty. Sitting at the edge of the woodland, here is the old country store, old Liberty School, and the church house. Liberty had its beginning at least sixty years ago when there was much farming on Johnson Prairie. Like so many similar communities, Liberty no longer has a school, and the children now are taken by bus to Lowrey School, several miles to the east. The old school building is now used as a community building. In more recent years the Cherokees have built Johnson Prairie Indian Church, location at the east side of Liberty crossroads. This is one of the important meeting places of Indians the year 'round. The little country store has recently closed, unable to compete with modern demands and operations.

In Liberty Community lives Dave Johnson, an 86-year-old Cherokee. Dave is blind, but enjoys fair health and the visits of his many descendents who live in the surrounding area. It was Mose Johnson, Dave's father, who helped clear and settle the well-known Johnson Prairie. Not too far northeast is Lowrey Prairie, settled by Switchler Lowrey, a full-blood Cherokee who came to Indian Territory in the removal of 1839. Switchler Lowrey is buried on his beloved land in a little cemetery all but abandoned and forgotten. His monument reads "SWITCHLER LOWREY died May 30, 1905, age 115 years". Like the Lowreys, the Johnsons also have a little family burial ground a half mile east of Liberty, and it is here that Mose Johnson is at rest. Some twenty-five graves are in this family cemetery, but only eight have markers. Mrs. Million tells that she went to Liberty School long ago, and finished the eighth grade there. She also had attended Terecita School before that when her folks lived up on Spring Creek. After finishing the eighth grade she went to Chilocco Indian School for three years. She had come home during the summer vacation and got married, and was