

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

(April 16, 1969 today I'm visiting with Ben Henry, an eighty-one year old Cherokee of Washington Community, Rogers County, Oklahoma. Mr. Henry has lived in this country all of his life. He speaks of many things of his early days.)

About--come in '94 or 95.

(Well about 1895)

RIGID SCHOOL DISCIPLINE

Along about then. I was in school. I was just a kid.

(Yeah.)

I'm eighty-one now.

(He was a rough school teacher?)

(laughter)

He wasn't so bad, but he turned out--used to have a recess in the afternoon--

(Yes sir.)

And he turned out the last recess--he whipped about twenty-five.

(Laughter.)

Another man taught there too--man by the name of Whitman. Don't know if you remember that. He was an one-armed man.

(No.)

His name was Whitman. I don't remember what his first name was. But his last name was Whitman.

LOG BUILDINGS IN EARLY DAYS

(Has that community always been called Washington Community or--?)

Since I knew it.

(Well. Was it named after that old church up there? How did it get it's name?)

Well, I just don't know how it got it's name, but it's been Washington