

overland about 60 miles south and a little bit west of Kansas City on Sugar Creek on the Marais de Cygnes River in Kansas in what was later known as Miami County, Kansas, and Linn County, Kansas. The Miamis had quite an acreage in those two counties. The Miamis lived there for some twenty-four years, if I can recall correctly. The white man then discovered the rich lands of the Miamis in Kansas and just prior to the Civil War, the white men started moving in on the reservation, the Great Reserve, building permanent installations, homes, houses, barns, setting out orchards, and the Miami business committee was in constant communication with the Commissioner's office trying to work out some way to get the white settlers off of the Great Reserve. They were cutting the timber, taking the best farm land and in, I believe, '54, the United States sent the Army down to remove these settlers in the dead of the winter. It was a severe winter, and I have a document out home where the old chief says, "We are human. It is not our wish or our desire to put these people out of their homes in the dead of winter without shelter or any place to go to, and they asked that the Army hold off until spring when it had warmed up. And they never did get the Army back to take the settlers out. I guess probably the Indian was too kind hearted. Eventually, then, they did make a deal to send the Miamis to Indian Territory, what is not Oklahoma. There were--the government came up with a deal whereby the Miamis could take a cash settlement and become citizen Miamis. They relinquished all rights and all claims to any future claims that the Miamis might or judgment that the Miamis might win. And there was 37, I believe, Miamis. Thirty-two Miamis took a cash settlement and became citizens Miamis. Sixty-seven Miamis came from Kansas to Indian Territory. They settled,