

office, Frisco Railroad depot. This at one time was a good timber country, and many carloads of ties and lumber were shipped from Addielee. A sawmill operated there for many years. When the railroad was taken out the town quickly died. He says the railroad was taken out because the whitemen mismanaged the cutting of timber. No reseeding or planting for the future was done and even today the once plentiful pine and hardwoods have not returned.

About three miles over the mountain southwest of his home is the site of the old Whitmire Schoolhouse. Early in the Indian Territory days this was a meeting place for many purposes other than book learning. The spacious grounds were ideal for community picnics; the large building provided a place for preaching services, revivals, and funerals. For convenience or sentiment the schoolhouse also was used on occasion as a court of law. The place is remembered by the old timers as one where disagreements were settled without benefit of the law book, and several opponents were permanently dispatched on those grounds. Located at the mouth of England Hollow the new Whitmire Church stands on historic and memorable grounds.

A mile or so to the north is the old Strawberry Springs. Here also was the location of the Goingsnake District Courthouse in appropriately named Courthouse Hollow. In days of Indian Territory government justice to the guilty and the innocent was handed down. Sometimes not all went well and peacefully. Stories are related of times when factions did not take lightly to the decisions and procedures, and figured among the participants usually would be Proctors, Wrights, Whitmires, and Becks, with a sprinkling of Kestersons and Hildebrands. Zeke Proctor, a colorful full blood Cherokee who wore long braided hair, a mustache and goatee, and was seldom seen without his coat and vest and large gold watchchain hanging from his vest pockets.