

Notes taken from long sheets of typewritten information on Shawnee history, belonging to Webb Littlejim. Paper is lacking a signature or name of writer, but is dated April 4, 1900 and addressed to the Honorable O. H. Platt Washington, D. C.

Before 1825 the Shawnees had lived near Cape Girardeau, Missouri. They had a tract about twenty miles square which they had received from the Spanish government, through Baron De Garondelet. By 1825 the whites were encroaching on the Indians on every side, destroying their homes, fences, property, and sometimes killing them.

In a treaty of November 7, 1825, the Shawnees traded their Missouri land for a tract fifty miles square in the northeast corner of what is now Indian Territory. But the treaty provided that if the Shawnees didn't like this tract, they could take another tract on the Kansas River, west of Missouri. The delegation of Shawnees who went down to investigate the Indian Territory land didn't like it, and they decided to take the reservation in Kansas. They had 1,600,000 acres. Their tract was 25 miles wide by 125 miles long. It was located on the south side of the Kansas River. The eastern edge of the reservation was on the Missouri River, just 3 miles west of the Missouri line. This reservation included what are now Johnson, Douglas and Shawnee Counties.

In August 8, 1831, there was a treaty with the Parke band of Shawnees then residing in Ohio. By this treaty they ceded their Ohio lands and got 100,000 acres within the tract which was equal to fifty miles square and which had been granted to the Shawnees of Missouri in 1825. These Ohio Shawnees were removed to this tract on the Kansas River, but no location of 100,000 acres was made for them.

On May 11, 1844, this tract was conveyed to the Shawnee Tribe by patent.

By 1845 encroachment of Shawnee land by whites became more troublesome and ... Missouri Shawnees went to Texas. A small part of their people had been there for years. Here they cooperated with the whites in their wars. The Indians received a grant with other Indians of Texas on the Sabine River, twenty miles square. Later another tract known as a service (sic) of forty miles square on the Brazos River. For this latter the State of Texas issued a patent in 1853. During the stripe (strife?) which led to the Civil War, they became alarmed and upon the advice of Sam Houston went to Indian Territory, taking with them their large herds of cattle and horses. Here they remained until the outbreak of the Civil War. Then Jim Lane came and advised them to go to Kansas. He said to leave the herds and the government would repay them. Some Confederate Recruiting Officers forced some Shawnee young men to join the Confederate Army. The remainder of the Shawnees started north. The young men deserted and sneaked away at night while everyone was sleeping. They travelled north and later