

Sides A & B

T-549

Informant: Siah Polk, Creek

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LIFE AS A CHILD AND EARLY DAY LIVING CONDITIONS

(I am going to interview Siah Polk. I am in his home in Eufaula, Oklahoma. He was born near Eufaulachee Stomp Dance Ground, west of Eufaula, Okla. He is Creek Indian. He lives in these duplexes for Indians. His wife died at the Talihina Indian Hospital back in 1967. He was born August 4, 1899.)

When I was small, I use to go to school with kids but I wasn't in school. We lived at Onapa for while and I went to school there 1907. And we moved back and I went to school at Mountain View, near Eufaula. West of here. And then I went to school at Big Arbor for awhile. My guardian told me I might as well come back to Mountain View and go to school, so I came back. And later on he told me I could quit school, so I did.

(Was your mother dead then?)

Um-huh.

(How old was you when she died?)

I was about 11 years old. I knew her though.

(How about your father?)

He died in 1915. I remember I use to come stay with my father, and I stayed different places.

(What grade did you get to?)

Fourth grade. Me and my friend use to fool around just anywhere, working odd jobs.

(Back in your days was it easy to find jobs? Not like today?)

Yes, we use to get jobs easy, but now they say we're too old. (Laughter)

(Did your parents have farm?)