

1892, almost to 1900, there are good records of who were principal chiefs and then that period from 1900 up through statehood etc. The records are - maybe they're not old enough yet, you know some history gets better as it gets older. Some things are deleted and others are probably filled in -

But the first Governor, Basil LeFlore, I believe it was the other one,

Interviewer: (That's his old house that they moved onto the old Goodland school ground there in Goodland, isn't it?)

No, that's not Basil. It was the other one. See, there was two of 'em. That house really belongs to me. The other one was Greenwood. Here's the story as it was told to me. Greenwood LeFlore was the principal chief of the Choctaws in Mississippi. The president of the United States issued an order that the Indians be moved from their habitat in Mississippi to Indian Territory. They opposed it. The majority of the Indians opposed it. They didn't want it. Greenwood LeFlore would not consent to it, and did not come with them. But his brother Basil LeFlore did come with 'em. And that's part of his home out there at Goodland. It was located about a mile the other side of Goodland at that time it was inhabited. And - oh, fifteen or twenty years ago, there's a man who bought the land that it was located on. And I bought the building and moved half of it on the campus at Goodland. They're permitting it just to fall to pieces now, they're not taking care of it. That's the sad part about it. Anyway, there's so many angles to the story in connection with way back yonder. The Presbyterian missionaries came along with the Indians; and there was a group of Methodists that, my recollection is, they didn't come with them, but they either came just ahead of them or just to the rear. And they made a settlement out here near what we called Spencerville, which is 18 miles northeast of Hugo. They built a girl's school there. It was in process and in activity when I got here. But it finally dwindled.