

INFORMANT: 'MRS. LUCINDA VANN TIBBS
CHEROKEE-CREEK

INTERVIEWED BY: J.W.TYNER

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TRANSCRIBED BY: NONA M. KERR

(April 26, 1968. We are visiting at the home of Lucinda Vann Tibbs, 80 year old Cherokee-Creek Indian of Vann's Lake Community, Waggoner County, Oklahoma. Mrs. Tibbs has lived in this community all of her life. She tells of many experiences and early day events in this one-time all Indian community.)

VANN'S LAKE COMMUNITY NAMED FOR HER GRANDFATHER, WILEY VANN

(She begins this interview by telling of the naming of Vann's Lake community after her grandfather.)

His father owned Vann's Lake. He had this big ranch, you know. Him and his - he had one son as I remember. I was to the boy's funeral when he died. And he had one girl, Mandy, and let's see...

(When was that Tallahassee Mission established?)

Oh, it was established before and right after the Civil War. But my father came to this country - I had an uncle come to this country before the Civil War.

(Was Vann's Lake named after your -)

Named after my grandfather.

(What was his name?)

His name was Wiley Vann. Wiley Vann was his name. He was a full-blood Indian. No, he was full-blood Cherokee and my - he's buried over here. But my grandmother, she's buried at Tahlequah.

(Now was this originally a school up here? Vann's Lake School?)

Yes. That was established in 1904.

(And it was established for the Indian children then?)

Yes. Well, it was what we say - they pooled their money and built it. Built the school. It was a small school building.

(It's always been called Vann's Lake?)