

T-268

Informant: John Armstrong
 Interviewed by: J. W. Tyner
 Interview Date: May 31, 1968
 Transcribed by: Linda Butler

BRIEF INTRODUCTION OF INFORMANT

(May 31, 1968. I'm visiting with John Armstrong, an 81 year old Cherokee of Pryor, Oklahoma. He relates several things of historical interest occurring in the Indian Nation. Of particular interest concerning moving the Shawnees and Delawares into the Cherokee Nation. He also tells of the Wolfe Indian Mission, early commerce in trading, Indian burials, old Indian communities, and so forth. He begins this interview of telling of Sam Bread, early Shawnee Indian leader.)

CHEROKEES ARE ORDERED TO ACCEPT THE SHAWNEES AND DELAWARES

(He was originally from the Shawnee Hills wasn't he?)

Yeah, he was from Kansas City. He come from Kansas City with the Shawnees when there was--might as well say they was drove here. They was told to come down here. They went down to the Cherokee Council and made a deal with the council, that the Shawnees could come in here and allot land with us, just before the allotment. I say just before the allotment. It was twenty years, something like that before the allotment. Some of them had come down here before hand--had come down here like Jake Longhand and Rosa Harvey and Alvin Pascal, people like that had come down here long before the Shawnees was given this idea to come down here, and allot land with the--that is share and learn to like it here in this Nation.

(That was government orders was it for the Cherokees to share the--)

Yeah, they went down to Cherokee Council. What they told them they had traded out all their holdings that they had in Kansas City, Kansas. That's when Kansas City, Kansas, was building a city you know, and they had sold out all their holdings. But they got nothing for it. Just like the Cherokees did when they sold that strip of land out yonder.

(About how many were there of the Shawnees and Delawares that were moved out?)