

INTRODUCTION

(September the 23, 1968. I am visiting with Henry Van a 77 year old full blood Cherokee of Moody's Community, Cherokee County, Oklahoma. He recalls early day Moody settlement, it's people and community life. He gives some personal observations over the years of this Indian community.)

MOODY WAS A VERY ACTIVE COMMUNITY IN EARLY DAYS

(Now Moody was named after Moody Springs?)

Moody Springs, yeah.

(And that spring is -- How far is it from that community of Moody?)

Well, it's just about half a mile, towards the post office.

(Was there an old man by the name of Moody?)

Uh-huh, an old man by the name of Moody lived there. And I don't know just where he was but I know my uncle use to say he had a dog with him. Black dog, he was a fool about him. That dog and that was mean to bite. I remember my uncle talking about that. I believe it was just a man and woman and this dog, far back there. That graveyard still there, up on the hill, Moody Springs, up on the hill there, little ole hill right there.

(Now that was the original cemetery for this community?)

No, there was one graveyard there. Our graveyard was just down below there about half a mile. I guess you come right by it.

(Yes, I come past it.)

-- That's the other graveyard right there..

(Now, is it called Moody's graveyard?)

Yeah. There's more graveyards around here close to Moody than any place