

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

(December 4, 1968. Today I'm visiting with Ben Wood, a 76 year old Cherokee, and his wife, Maude Wood, a 70 year old Cherokee, of Zena Community, Delaware County, Oklahoma. Both of these people have spent all of their lives in this area. And tells some of the history of this northern part of the old Cherokee Nation.)

SCHOOL HOUSES - CHURCH HOUSES - COURTHOUSE

(Tell me about that church house.)

Maude: Well, they met in a school house. I don't know how many years they met in the school house. They built the other house in '28.

(In '28.)

Maude: Best I can remember. I believe it was built in '28. But I could tell you who could tell you all about that church. And that would be Miss Kelly down there at Church Hill.

(Yes. All right.)

Maude: She's a member of that church. And her husband would know about it too. He constructed the building, I guess.

(One thing I was particular interested in, and you'd told me a little bit when I stopped by before. That was the old Indian Court House. Somewhere in--)

Maude: That was way out between (not clear) and prairie somewhere. I don't know where that was. But there was a court house between Zena and the highway (not clear).

(Was there a spring there at that time?)

Maude: I guess Ben can tell you that. I don't know. That was before my time. But I've often heard his mother talk about them having court up there. What an awful time they'd be having.