

McCOMBS, WILLIAM, JR.

INTERVIEW. . .

#6160

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BIOGRAPHY FORM
 WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
 Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name Margaret McGuire

This report made on (date) June 10, 1937

1. Name William McCombs

2. Post Office Address Eufaula, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) Nine miles west of Eufaula.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month July Day 22 Year 1844

5. Place of birth Six miles east of Fort Gibson, Oklahoma.

6. Name of Father Samuel McCombs Place of birth Tennessee

Other information about father Came to Oklahoma in 1830.

7. Name of Mother Sussie McCombs Place of birth Tennessee

Other information about mother Came to Oklahoma in 1830.

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached _____.

Margaret McGuire,
Field Worker,
June 10, 1937.

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Interview with William McCombs, Jr.
Eufaula, Oklahoma.

Mr. William McCombs was born in Oklahoma, six miles east of Fort Gibson, on July 22, 1844. His father and mother were Samuel and Sussie McCombs, natives of Tennessee, and both were Scotch-Irish. They came to the Territory in the year of 1830. He lived with his parents on a farm. When young he went to war and served four years. He was a Confederate soldier. After the war was over he located on a farm nine miles west Eufaula, where he lived the greater part of his life.

He was married to Sally Jacob and reared quite a large family. He was reared a Methodist, but later became converted through a Baptist Missionary's influence and became a minister and Missionary among the Creek Indians.

Soon after the Civil War he was elected to Creek Council and for four years was public instructor, then for some years sat on Supreme Bench for Tribal Indians. For three years he was Superintendent of Eufaula High School. He was a member of the Tuskegee Baptist Church, which is located eight miles west of Eufaula, where he did most of his ministry and missionary work.

He was also an interpreter for the white people.

He loved sports and games and was a great hunter and never was too busy to find time to go deer hunting once in a while. In the early days in the Territory, he lived on wild game, sofky, blue dumplings, wild fruits. They made their medicine from wild herbs. He liked Indian ball games. He was a very kind and friendly man.

Mr. McCombs did not have a chance to go to school very much. He studied at home and was a self-educated man; he travelled a lot and associated with educated people. He could talk with any one on almost any subject, both in Creek and English. Mr. McCombs first wife died November 23, 1901, and on October 5, 1902, he married Sarah Phillips, a full-blood Creek. He kept up his church work for many years, as he began to grow older he visited with his friends and children. He lived to^{be} active and well until the last few years of his life. He was called Uncle Billie by all who knew him and had a host of friends among the Indians and whites. He passed away a few years ago at the home of his son, in Eufaula.