

INTER CARS

Schools--Cherokee Nation
Cemeteries--Cherokee
Goose Neck Bend Community
Removal--Cherokee
Civil War-refugees--Southern
Language--Cherokee
Ferries--Arkansas River
Allotment--Cherokee

FELIX REECE

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A biographical sketch
From a personal interview with the Subject
Route 5, Muskogee, Oklahoma.

L. W. Wilson, Field Worker
Indian-Pioneer History S-149
January 4, 1937.

I am a fullblood Cherokee Indian. My education is limited and the only English that I know is through contact more than from attending school. I only went to school part of one year.

My father's name was Charles Reece and died at the age of eighty years. He is buried in the old Indian cemetery at Goose Neck Bend, about nine miles east of the present town of Muskogee, Oklahoma. No markers mark any of the graves of the ones buried long ago. I have heard him say that he came from Georgia, likewise my mother was from Georgia.

My mother, Mrs. Charles Reece, was sixty-seven years old when she died and was buried alongside my father.

I would infer that my parents were old settlers. They first came to Arkansas and then moved to the Indian Territory.

During the Civil War they fled toward Red River. I do not remember what they told me as to the exact point. If any of my people fought in the Civil War I do not have knowledge of same.

My grandfather, Bill Reece, is buried at the same place as father and mother.

I do not know of my grandmother's nor do I know where they are buried.

My ancestors as well as myself in the early days did considerable fishing, hunting and trapping and little farming.

I remember Smith's Ferry which crossed the Arkansas River in the Goose Neck Bend territory and it was owned by Junior Smith.

I talk and write the Cherokee language fluently and of course I now can talk and understand the English language. I worked sixty days for the Dawes Commission

enrolling the fullbloods of the Cherokee tribe.

I would be glad to do with you any time that I am not working to talk and
interpret any fullblood story that you might contact if you so desire.