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INDEX CARDS

Tribe-Creek  
Early Day Schools  
Devil's Shoestring  
Green Corn Dances  
Cussetah Town  
Creek Churches  
Creek Foods

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

Field Worker's name Jerome M. Emmons

This report made on (date) July 20 1937

1. Name Alex Alexander
2. Post Office Address G. D., Okmulgee, Oklahoma
3. Residence address (or location) One mile south and one-half east of Airport on Morris highway.
4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month April Day 15 Year 1895
5. Place of birth One-half mile east Country Club, Okmulgee

6. Name of Father Arty Alexander Place of birth Unknown  
Other information about father buried one mile south of Airport
7. Name of Mother Nancy Alexander Place of birth same as mine  
Other information about mother buried one mile south of Airport

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 \_\_\_\_\_.

ALEXANDER, ALEX. INTERVIEW.

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Jerome M. Emmons, Interviewer  
Indian-Pioneer History  
July 20, 1937

Mr. Alexander lives one mile south  
and one-half mile east of the Burke  
Airport, Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

I am a full-blood member of the Cussetah  
Town in the Creek tribe.

#### Schooling

I attended the Okmulgee High School and  
classes held at the Creek Orphanage northeast of  
the city; the Euchee Boarding School from about  
1904 to 1910; the St. Joseph College, Muskogee,  
in 1912-13; spent four years at the Dwight Mission,  
Marble City, north of Sallisaw.

#### Farming

My parents had about sixty acres in culti-  
vation. This land was mostly in corn, cotton and a  
few vegetables for home use. I started farming my  
allotment when I quit going to school, but I lived  
at Cussetah until 1924. I have lived here ever since.

When I was a boy, I saw lots of ducks, prairie  
chickens, turkeys, squirrels, and some deer. I  
never did much hunting though.

The last fish killing I attended, was east

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of Checotah in 1933. We used Devil's Shoestring.

## Horses

My father only had two Indian ponies.

## Green Corn Dances

I used to attend the stomp dances at Cussetah and took part in them until about five years ago. I believe they quit having them in 1933.

Our medicine man is dead now and there aren't many Creeks around Okmulgee anymore who like to take part in the dances.

## Trails

There was one road from Okmulgee to Muskogee which ran past the F. S. Ranch. There used to be a wagon road from Checotah to the Creek Orphan's Home. This road ran through my allotment.

## Ranches

Two ranches still in existence are Bluford Miller's ranch, north of Bald Hill, and Willie Moore's Half Moon Ranch, three miles south of Morris.

## Weapons

The only weapons, typical of the Creeks, in use when I was a boy were bows and arrows, used in

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killing fish. A few, of course, still used them for hunting, but rifles had largely taken their place for this purpose.

#### Churches

There are churches at Cussetah, Newtown, Tallahassee, Onaba and Little Cussetah. Most of these places have new churches, but these have been the site of churches since early Territorial days.

March Monday, Miller Tarpalechee, Sam Checote, Sam Haynes and Tom Field are Creek Indian preachers. All, I think, are Methodists.

#### Clothing

As a boy, I wore moccasins and a shirt. I have seen Creek Indians wearing coonhide caps and blankets over other clothing in winter.

#### Missions

I knew of the Wealaka Boarding School, Nuyeka Mission, Eufaula High School and the Creek Orphan Home. W. B. Flake was the last superintendent of the last named. It was discontinued in 1909.

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### Court House

I saw the court house over on Salt Fork, before it finally rotted away.

### Burial Grounds

There used to be a burial ground a short distance east of the Okmulgee Country Club. I don't believe there are any evidences of its existence left today.

There is a private burial ground, where my father and mother are buried, one mile south of the airport on the Morris Highway. There are about ten graves there.

### Lighthorsemen

Holly Licco is the only Lighthorseman of the Cussetah Town that I can name just now.

James Scott, now dead, was the last Town King.

### Food

I still make puskee sofka, blood pudding (made by adding rice and seasonings to beef or pork blood at the time of butchering and boiling it), and blue dumpling. I don't have a pestle and mortar now

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as this preparation from corn can be made better and faster by putting the grain through a food chopper.

My mother used to dry corn, apples, peaches, pumpkins and beef. I will probably dry some corn and pumpkins this fall. The beef to be dried is cut in large thin slices, and placed in the sun. When the beef was to be used, it was boiled and beaten with a maul until palatable.