

McINTOSH, LEAH

INTERVIEW

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Interview with Leah McIntosh
Eufaula, Oklahoma

Investigator, Margaret McGuire
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Mr. McIntosh was born about the close of the Civil War when his parents were on their way back to the Creek Nation from the Choctaw Nation, where they had gone when the Civil War broke out. He has always lived in the Indian Territory.

When a young man, Mr. McIntosh was very wild and would go out and shoot up the town.

He went to school when he was a young man and then went to LeGrange College.

When I was a girl I wanted to be a missionary but I met Mr. McIntosh and we were married. He was not a Christian then and would not go to church with me. I did not go very often until my children were all about grown. I have reared five children and several orphans.

Mr. McIntosh then became a Christian and was a missionary for the Creek Association for a number of years.

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He also practiced law and was at one time a judge in the Creek Nation at the old Creek Courthouse, in 1892.

He was the last judge before statehood. Several men were executed at the old Creek Courthouse. I think the last execution was in 1892.

The Indian laws were very strict and the Indians thought it a great dishonor to fail to return for punishment. If found stealing they were whipped and were whipped for the second offense and for the third offense they were shot to death.

This old Creek Courthouse was west of Eufaula and a little north of Vivian.

There is nothing left of the old building; it was destroyed years ago.

Mr. McIntosh was interpreter for the Creek Council as long as they met and he was pastor of the Indian Baptist Church at Anadarko for years.

Mr. McIntosh was a peace-loving man and if any of his people as church members got angry or had disputes with one another he would always try to

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make peace among them and settle their disputes.

His father and mother were born in the Indian Territory and lived here all their lives.

Mr. Bunnie McIntosh was a leader among the Creeks and a friendly good hearted man who did much for the people of the Indian Territory.

He passed away in 1930 and was buried at Tuskegee Cemetery, west of Eufaula.