

INDEX CARDS:

Creek Nation
Eufaula "
Snake Indians

LEGEND & STORY FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field worker's name Margaret McGuire

This report made on (date) June 24, 1937

1. This legend was secured from (name) Mrs. Edna Carter Fears

Address Eufaula, Oklahoma.

This person is (male or female) White, Negro, Indian,

If Indian, give tribe _____

2. Origin and history of legend or story In Territory days during the Snake Uprising and time of John Tiger running smuck.

3. Write out the legend or story as completely as possible. Use blank sheets and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached _____

Margaret McGuire,
Research Field Worker,
June 24, 1937.

Interview with Mrs. Edna Carter Fears
Eufaula, Oklahoma

My brother-in-law, W. F. Crabtree, came to the Territory in the year 1872, and located at Eufaula, McIntosh County, where he went into the mercantile business. There being no railroad, they hauled goods from his store to Holdenville, Newoka and all other small places, with horse and wagon. The Katy Railroad was later built through the county and through Eufaula.

My husband, W. T. Fears, and I moved to the Territory from Van Buren, Arkansas, several years later. However, we were here during the Snake Uprising. One day I had wired my people that I would be over to Van Buren, and we had started on the trip. We were stopped by people and asked if we were not afraid to be out, and told us that the Snakes were on the warpath. We had not heard about the trouble. We were traveling with horse and buggy and it was rather frightening because we did not know just what might happen to us, but we got back home safe and sound.

One Christmas, John Tiger shot up the town. I was down town and saw him do the shooting. He was caught

and as there was no jail here, they took him to Muskogee.

Mr. Fears, being an attorney, represented him at his trial.

We did not have a courthouse here then, so they held trial in one of the upstairs buildings down town.

My brother-in-law was also a cattle man. He raised and bought and sold cattle.

Mr. Fears practiced law for years here, and was elected County Judge of this County. He died in 1920. We have not had much trouble here, only when we had the county seat fight between Eufaula and Checotah.