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Dawes Fife,
Research Field Worker,
April 9, 1937.

Interview with Mrs. Sarah Fife
Creek Indian Woman
814 S. Bixby St., Sapulpa, Okla.

Mrs. Sarah Fife was born in the month of August in the year 1861, 1 3/4 miles southeast of Sapulpa in a log cabin built by her father, Sapulpa, for whom the town of Sapulpa was named.

Her mother was Nakitty and her father Sapulpa.

She is a member of the Cussetah Clan.

She is one of eight children and one other is living. A brother, William Sapulpa, is living near Okmulgee.

In the place she was born, there were three log cabins, one being used for a place to cook and eat and the other two were used as sleeping quarters. She said in those days the Indians had their sleeping quarters separate from their cooking rooms; therefore, having two or three cabins instead of one as we have now.

The Indians made their own homes, out of logs and also made their own shingles. The shingles were made from large logs, using an axe to slice the wood in

shingle form. The shingles were very crude but served the purpose.

Their floors were made by using straight logs and splitting them to a desired thickness. These made a rough floor.

The three girls of this family did not go to school - only the five boys. William went to Wealaka Mission and Jim went to a school in the Choctaw Nation. She does not know which school. Neither does she know where the other boys went to school.

All the children had to work, herding cattle and also taming wild stray cows for milking. The land was open range, no fences being there then.

The stock they raised was cattle, horses and hogs.

They raised sweet potatoes. One kind being the small Indian potatoes the others, large white and red potatoes of common variety.

They also raised white corn and wheat. They would take two and three loads of wheat to Muskogee to the mill to be made into flour. They ground the corn themselves, using it for cornbread, abuska sofka and blue

dumplings (chutta-haya).

The Osage Indians came down to her father's home to trade. They camped different places, sometimes near the Fife home. The Osages traded Indian sweet potatoes, white corn and hog meat; getting in return sugar, salt, buffalo lard and dried buffalo meat.

Later when the government gave the Osages calico cloth they would trade this with their other wares.

She thought her father came from Alabama. It was customary then to tell only the boys stories and legends and not the girls.

Mrs. Fife stated that there were no mice or rats here until after the white people settled here.

Her father is buried a short distance northwest of their homesite.