

RECEIVED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
MAY 15 1918

17701

McClure Illinois, Sept. 10-1837.

Grant Foreman-

Muskogee Oklahoma.

Dear Mr Foreman-

Thinking you would like to see
how the Cherokee marker here - looks - I am
enclosing a copy. It measures 33" high - in the
part where the inscription is - and 22" wide. The
circular top is decorated with a few lines sug-
gesting an eagle and a shield - very sketchily
done. The lettering is in Roman style - the
wording and spacing seems to me open to criticism -
but I copied it exactly.

This bronze marker is not far from the point
where the highway crosses Dutch Creek. And it is
but a few yards from the crossing to a few stones
mark the mill site where one James Morgan ground
corn for the Cherokee camp in 1833, or 1838.

It seems I got a wrong impression about the
ancestor of Mr. Nimmo - for instead of his being
a conductor he was with the Cherokees as a wagon

maker and mechanic, by the name of Daniel Keith. Mr Nimmo has few incidents to relate concerning that journey with the Indians, - but he did say the crossing of a swamp west of Jonesboro was made by means of a "pontoon bridge," and the doctor on the journey was always called the Little Doctor. so I guess he was well thought of. It seems the Miss- River was crossed by great rafts of logs fastened together. I have a letter of inquiry sent to the eldest grandson of Daniel Keith - one A H Keith of Pocahontas Arkansas. I was referred to him as the one most likely to know traditions handed down. - but have not yet heard from him.

Mrs Nimmo was mainly interested in her home - which grandfather James Morgan built almost a hundred years ago. It is quite likely the Indian camp - lasting as long as it did was quite a money maker for his grist mill. anyway soon after their departure the mill was changed to a saw mill and selected poplar logs sawed up for lumber to build

a house. And the house still stands there -
 42' x 20'. While new floors and of course
 new roof has been added - in general the house
 is as built. The original front door - made of
 the very wide plank boards - with a strip cover-
 ing the seam and with a row of window lights on
 both sides and across the top - just beyond the
 door frame - are unchanged as are most of the win-
 dows in the house. Of the two original mantels
 one remains and the old crane - the removed is
 shown. The frame of the house was mortised and
 instead of being nailed was fastened with wooden

The whole house is well preserved - but
 siding covers the exterior and wall paper on the
 inside makes it look quite modern. Its location
 is on a mound of perhaps 1/4 acre-area - which
 tradition claims was made by the Indians and when
 excavating for a road thru another mound it is
 said skeletons were found - presumably - Indian -
 and Cherokee. It seems probable that the origin

of this mound where the house stands has no very interesting story or it would have been handed down. But anyway the possession of the house by a grand-daughter of the builder - is as it should be.

Mrs Ruth E Matthews.

Director, The State of Illinois
1937