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March 4, 1937

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W. J. B. Bigby
Field Worker

MUDDY SPRINGS SCHOOL AND CHURCH

Muddy Springs is about one mile southeast of Stilwell, Adair County, Oklahoma. Shortly after the first Cherokees came to what is now Adair County, they built a school and a church at Muddy Springs. The school house was a small log house with a large open fire-place at each end to furnish the heat for the school. The furniture was simple.

School was kept here for a number of years until the house was destroyed by fire. After that the people decided that the center of the neighborhood was about the Adair Springs (Col. Walter Adair's home, the present site of New Hope Cemetery now) So, they built a school house there, also a log house. School was kept there for a number of years and then the school was changed back to Muddy Springs where it was kept until about 1873. There has been no more school at either place since.

The Church house at Muddy Springs was built about the same time the school house was and was burned at the same time. The same people who had used the church house at Muddy Springs as a place to worship now used the school house at Adair Springs as a church house. When the school was moved back to Muddy Springs, of course, the people went back there to worship. This church was not a denominational church but a place for all to worship.

Some of the people who attended school and church at these places were:

The Starrs, Damerons, Davises, Adairs, Agnews Holts and Walkers.