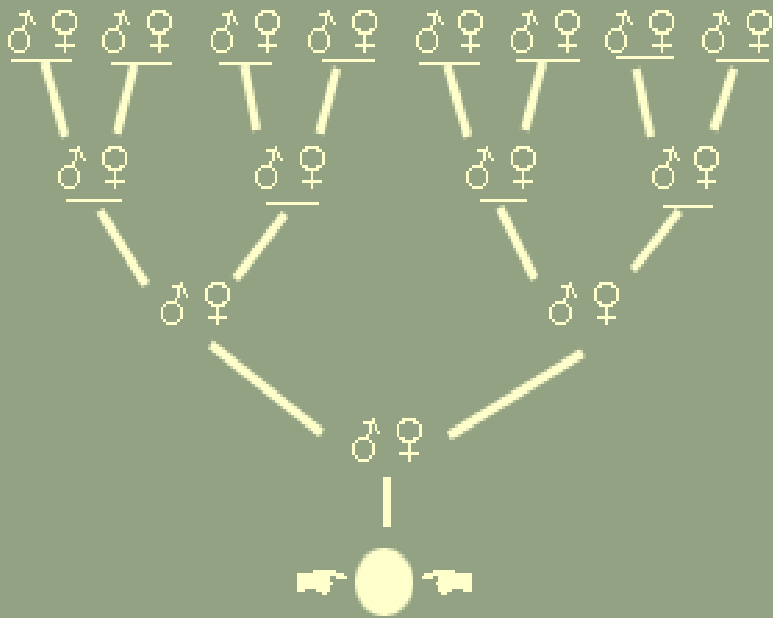


Finding your Cherokee Ancestors

“My Grandmother was a Cherokee
Princess!”

Where to begin?

Start with yourself
and work back



Information to collect:

- ✓ Names (including maiden names of females)
- ✓ Date and place of birth
- ✓ Date and place of marriage
- ✓ Date and place of death
- ✓ Names of siblings (i.e., brothers and sisters)
and
- ✓ Rolls and Roll Numbers

Sample Individual Information

Name: William Cox

Born: 7-June-1894 in Delaware Dist,
Cherokee Nation

Married: 15-October-1919 in Blount County,
Tennessee to Polly Morris

Died: 3-April-1973 in Nashville, Tennessee

Roll / Census Information: 1896 Census /
Delaware Dist - Roll #517

Birth Records

- Oklahoma birth records have been kept since 1925 and are available from:
 - Division of Vital Records
Oklahoma State Dept. of Health
100 NE 10th Ave
PO Box 53551
Oklahoma City, OK 73152-3551

NOTE: Before 1947, all birth records are filed under the father's name. After 1947, all birth records are filed under the child's name.

- Birth Affidavits for Minor Cherokees born (1902 to 1906) were included in the Dawes Applications, and are available from:
 - Oklahoma Historical Society
2401 N Laird
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4997
- Guion Miller Applications also include birthdates and proof of family relationships. These are available from:
 - John Vaughn Library / Ballanger Room
NSU (Northeastern State University)
Tahlequah, OK 74464

Death Records

Oklahoma Death Records have been kept since 1920.
(Contact Division of Vital Records
Oklahoma State Dept. of Health)

County probate records have been kept since 1907.

Some deaths were also recorded in the Dawes and
Guion Miller Applications.
(Contact John Vaughn Library-NSU)

Marriage Records

Marriage records are usually available from the county clerk in the county where the marriage occurred.

Some marriages of Cherokee citizens were also recorded in the Dawes and Guion Miller Applications.

Census Records

1851 Census of Cherokee's east of the Mississippi (Siler Roll)

- online at members.aol.com/lredtail/siler.html

1880 Cherokee Census

The census of 1880 was authorized by an act of the Cherokee National Council Senate Bill No. 33 on December 1, 1879.

- There is a transcription of the index for Schedule One and includes all nine districts. This index can be found on microfilm through the LDS organization on microfilm #989204. National Archives also has a microfilm index for this census. It is found on Roll # 7RA07
- There is an on-line transcription presently at accessgenealogy.com with data for only the following districts: Canadian, Cooweescoowee, Flint, Illinois and Saline. They are still presently transcribing Delaware, Goingsnake, Sequoyah, and Tahlequah Districts.

Oklahoma Federal Census Records are available for the years 1900-1930.

Dawes Rolls

The **Final Rolls of Citizens and Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes**, Cherokee Nation, are commonly known as the **Dawes Commission of Final Rolls**, or simply, **Dawes Rolls**. Simply put, the Dawes Rolls were a Census.

The Dawes Rolls were compiled between the years of 1899-1906. To qualify for Dawes enrollment, one of your *ancestors* had to have met all three of the requirements below:

1. Applied for enrollment between the years 1899 and 1906.
2. Appeared on previous Tribal rolls (1880 or 1896), and
3. Had a permanent residence within the Cherokee Nation (1880-1906).

Only enrolled members of the Cherokee Nation named on these final rolls and/or their blood-related descendants will be furnished CDIB cards and/or Cherokee Tribal Membership.

Indeed, there are many people who are of Cherokee descent, but who do not qualify for Tribal Membership because their ancestors did not enroll with the Dawes Commission (1899-1906).

Cherokee Rolls

- 1924 - Baker Roll - North Carolina and surrounding states
- 1908 - Churchill Roll - North Carolina and surrounding states
- 1906 - Miller Roll - anywhere in the US or its possessions
- 1900 - Dawes Roll - Oklahoma Territory and surrounding states
- 1883 - Hester Roll - North Carolina and surrounding states
- 1880 - Cherokee National Census - Oklahoma and surrounding areas
- 1869 - Swetland Roll - North Carolina and surrounding states
- 1852 - Chapman Roll - Tennessee, Georgia, North Carolina and surrounding states
- 1852 - Drennen Roll - Oklahoma and surrounding areas
- 1851 - Siler Roll - Tennessee, Georgia, North Carolina and surrounding states
- 1851 - Old Settlers Roll - Oklahoma and surrounding areas
- 1848 - Mullay Roll - North Carolina and surrounding states
- 1835 - Henderson Roll - Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina
- 1817 - Reservation Roll and the Emigration Roll - Tennessee, Georgia, North Carolina and surrounding areas

Most rolls can be accessed and searched for free at
accessgenealogy.com !

Indian-Pioneer Papers

digital.libraries.ou.edu/whc/pioneer



- Oral history collection spans from 1861 to 1936.
- Includes typescripts of interviews conducted during the 1930s by government workers with thousands of Oklahomans regarding the settlement of Oklahoma and Indian territories, as well as the condition and conduct of life there.
- Consisting of approximately 80,000 entries, the index to this collection may be accessed via personal name, place name, or subject.

