

FOLKLORE SUBJECTSName of interviewer Martin - BarkerSubject Ex-Slave

Story.

My master was an Indian. Lewis Butler of Oklahoma. I was born and raised in Muskogee, Okla.

All of marse Butler's people were Creek Indians. They owned a large plantation and raised vegetables. They lived in tepees, had floors and were set on a lot and a wall boarded up around them. This was done so that they could hide the slaves they had stolen.

I was twelve or thirteen years old, when the Indians had a small war. They wouldnt allow us to fight. If we did, we were punished. They had a place and made us work. I went to school two months also a little at night.

Cant read nor write. I am all alone now here in America.

I have a daughter in Ethiopia, teaching school, also two sisters.

I served in several wars and I have been to Ethiopia.

We left Monroe, La., took water, then went back by gunboat to Galveston. The Government took us over and brought us back. After the Civil war was over the Indians let the slaves go.

Tom Windham