

**NATIVE AMERICAN (INDIAN) RESEARCH  
AT WALLACE STATE COLLEGE  
HANCEVILLE, ALABAMA**

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If you are trying to claim Federal aid to Indian students first check with the financial aid office of the college where you plan to attend and see what, if any, aid you MIGHT POSSIBLY qualify for as a Native American. Very little money is given to Indians or Indian tribes for education, or anything else. If that answer does not scare you off, then you must next qualify as a recognized member of a FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED Indian nation, such as the Eastern Cherokees or the Poarch Creeks. (No new families have been admitted to the Federally recognized Eastern or Western Cherokee nations in almost a century.) If, at the least, your grandparent was not recognized as such, and held an Indian number, your efforts at being recognized as an Indian will certainly be wasted. Requirements for recognition by all tribes are very strict. To learn what a tribe requires, write Bureau of Indian Affairs, Federal Court Building, Muskogee, OK 74401.

Remember also "Bob Davis's Rule of Red, White, and Black": Even if you do have Indian ancestors you probably will not be able to document it and that many white and black ancestors are mistakenly remembered in family traditions as having been Indians. Many family stories remember female ancestors as Cherokees, when in fact the Indian ancestors were much further back in their ancestry and where from coastal tribes of North Carolina and Virginia. Federal census records did not officially list Indians as a separate race until 1870 and many census records list persons of Indian ancestry as white or black, or omit them from the census altogether.

The subscription website Fold3 has indexed and digitized a number of Native American sources. These include Dawes application packets (National Archives microfilm M1301) and the Dawes enrollment cards (National Archives microfilm M1186) for the Five Civilized Tribes in Oklahoma: The Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek, and Seminole tribes. Other records on that site include Eastern Cherokee Applications (National Archives microfilm M208); the Guion Miller roll for the Cherokees (National Archives microfilm M1104); Cherokee Indian Agency (Tennessee) Records (National Archives microfilm M208); Indian census rolls, 1885-1940 (National Archives microfilm M595); and ratified Indian treaties.

We have a large collection of Indian research sources in book and microfilm form, and three CD-ROM computer disks of miscellaneous Indian records (including Automated Archives CD113 that includes a list of the Cherokees removed to the West in 1838 who later filed claims for property losses with the Federal government). The United States and Canada International Genealogical Index (IGI) includes Indians on its CD-ROM disks, in our collection. *These materials are best used after you have thoroughly researched your*

***family through standard genealogical sources such as census records and death certificates.*** Our basic guides to Native American research include:

*American Indians: A Select Catalog of National Archives Microfilm Publications* (1981), call number E 77 .U54 M52 1981.

*Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives* (1985), call number Z 5313 .U5 U54 1983, pp. 159-70

Hill, Edward B. Hill, *Guide to Records in the National Archives of the United States Relating to American Indians* (1981), call number E 77 .U54 R43 1981.

McClure, Tony Mack. *Cherokee Proud: A Guide for Tracing and Honoring Your Cherokee Ancestors* (1996), call number E 99 .C5 M32 1996.

Moore, Thomas G. *Exploring Your Cherokee ancestry: a Basic Genealogical Research Guide* (1990), call number Arc E 99 .C5 1990

Smith, Jessie Carney. *Ethic Genealogy* (1983), call number CS 49 .E83 1983, pp. 209-38.

We also have several books on Indian relics and place names, found on the shelf at or near E 77 though E 99.

We have many rolls of various tribes in book or microfilm form, including the 1848, 1851, and 1854 rolls for the Cherokees. The microfilm is found in drawer ten. The indexes to most of the Cherokee rolls appear in book form as Bob Blankenship, *Cherokee Roots* (1978). Many of the different rolls (censuses) of the Indians have been published or placed on the Internet.

We also have the indexed 1832 Parsons and Abbott roll of the Creeks on microfilm. The Anniston Public Library has a larger collection of Creek Indian records on microfilm. See their Indian bibliography in our "Indians" vertical file. For information on Creek Indian research see the last part of Billie Ford Snider, *Full Name Indexes Eastern Creek Indians* (1993), pp. 214-25, a copy of which is in our book collection.

The Snider work also includes indexes to registrations of modern Alabama Creeks; for the Poarch Creeks, Alabama's only federally recognized tribe. The index refers to the Register Friendly Creek Indians of Alabama and Northwest Florida that is on LDS microfilm 2210443, items 1-3, that can be borrowed from the Genealogical Society of Utah by Wallace State. Jerry Wright Jordan, *Cherokee by Blood*, volume seven, pp. 232-234, lists Creek family claims that were mistakenly filed with federal attorney Guion Miller. Those and the other Miller (Cherokee) claims are on microfilm at Wallace State.

For the Choctaw see Betty C. Whitshire, *Register of Choctaw Emigrants to the West 1831 and 1832* (1993) and Jacqueline Anderson Matte, *They Say the Wind is Red: The Alabama Choctaw Lost in Their Own Land* (2002). We have the records of the Choctaw Nation vs. the United States on microfilm and claims filed by Creek orphans of their removal in the late 1800s.

For whites with the Indians, we have on microfilm the indexed "Cherokee Indian Letters" and "Creek Indian letters" of the Georgia Archives. Also see Mary B. Warren, *Whites Among the Cherokees*; Sharron Ashton, *Indians and Intruders*; Dorothy Williams Potter, *Passports of Southeastern Pioneers* (containing an 1794 list of whites living among the Cherokees); and Emmett Starr's Cherokee genealogies. In our Georgia Indians vertical file, we have *A Guide to Native American (Indian) Sources at the Georgia Department of Archives and History*, includes a list of Indian families that remained in Georgia after 1838. We have many issues of *Southeastern Native American Exchange*.

In 1851, the United States government paid Cherokee families in three groups. Descendants of those Indians who went west before 1838 are in the Old Settler Roll. We have that on microfilm roll M685 roll 12 in drawer ten and we also have it in book form as David Keith Hampton, *Cherokee Old Settlers: the 1896 Old Settler Payroll and the 1851 Old Settler Payroll* (1993). The same roll of microfilm combines the Drennen roll of those who went to the west during the removal of 1838 and the Chapman roll of those families who remained east. We also have the Chapman roll in book form as Barbara Crumpton, *1851 Chapman Roll of the Eastern Cherokee* (n. d.).

On microfilm we have the genealogically rich indexes and claim papers of some 400,000 southerners claiming Cherokee ancestry in suing the Federal government over the trail of tears (the Guion Miller Claims), 1906-1910. In book form, we have an index to these claims and the incomplete abstracts by Jerry Wright Jordan known as *Cherokee By Blood*.

We also have on microfilm the Final Roll of the Five Civilized Tribes and indexes to the same in book form and microfilm. This record was prepared by the Dawes Commission and only concerns persons with Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek, and Seminole ancestors, or the descendants of slaves of those tribes, in Oklahoma around 1900. Most of the people living in the Indian Territory of Oklahoma, formerly part of the Arkansas territory, were white. The Oklahoma Historical Society has posted on its web site a free index to the Dawes or Final Roll of the Five Civilized Tribes:

<http://www.okhistory.org/research/dawes/index.php> .

We also have on microfilm indexes to letters that the Dawes Commission received. The subscription website Footnote.com has the applications by persons to be included in the Dawes land allocation program (National Archives microfilm M1301), fully indexed. For more information see our handout on using the Dawes material and Kent Carter, "Deciding Who Can Be Cherokee," *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* 69 (1991) (2): 174-205, a copy of which is in our "Indians" vertical file; and Kent Carter, *The Dawes Commission and the Allotment of the Five Civilized Tribes, 1893-1914* (1999). For copies of Dawes records or to

check for petitions filed by ancestors attempting citizenship in the Indian nations before 1900 write to National Archives Southwest Region, P. O. Box 6216, Fort Worth, TX 76115. We have in book form the index to genealogically valuable memorandums of the Dawes Commission and index to petitions for Indian citizenship in the Northern Circuit federal Court (of Oklahoma?). Our book collection contains a number of books of marriages and other records of the Oklahoma Cherokees.

**A request was made as to if we have microfilm of the censuses of the Cherokees of North Carolina for 1900-1920. Here is my reply:**

**We do not have the microfilm that you seek (National Archives microfilm M595, rolls 22 and 23) but it is on the subscription website Fold3 and we have access to that. It may be at the National Archives at Atlanta which is in Morrow, Georgia across the parking lot from the Georgia Archives. It has a website where you can check its holdings. Check the days and hours of NAAA before you make a trip.**

**We do have the 1924 Baker roll of the Cherokees in North Carolina which is also indexed with other rolls of the Eastern Cherokee in vol. 1 of Bob Blankenship's *Cherokee Roots*. We also have John Goins Welch, *North Carolina Eastern Cherokee Indian Census*, which includes 1898-1899, 1904, 1906, 1909-1912, and 1914.**

**National Archives microfilm M595 is also included in the subscription site Fold3.**

**Subject:** censuses of the Cherokees of North Carolina

<https://archive.org/details/indiancensusroll022unit>

<https://archive.org/details/indiancensusroll023unit>

<https://archive.org/details/indiancensusroll024unit>

<https://archive.org/details/indiancensusroll025unit>

<https://archive.org/details/indiancensusroll026unit>

The Internet Archive has all 5 reels of film that cover the Cherokees of North Carolina from 1898-1939.

They are free to view or download.

Doug Bell