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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

What We Have: The Eastern Cherokee Applications of the U.S. Court of Claims, 1906-09 (M1104) contain sworn evidences of identity. The application required each claimant to state fully his or her English and Indian names, residence, age, place of birth, name of husband or wife, name of tribe, and names of children. It further required the English and Indian names of the claimant's parents and grandparents, place of their birth, place of their residence in 1851 if they were living at the time, dates of their death, and a statement as to whether any of them had ever before been enrolled as Indians for annuities or other benefits and, if so, with what tribe. Each claimant was also to furnish the names of all brothers and sisters, with their ages and residences, and the names and residences of all uncles and aunts. Applications were required to be made under oath and to be supported by affidavits of two witnesses who were well acquainted with the applicant. With each application is a card showing final action taken and the reasons therefore. Filed with many of the applications are inquiries concerning the status of the cases, requests for further evidence, protests about unfavorable actions, form letters that had been sent by the special commissioner to the applicants as notices of rejection of their applications and returned by the Post Office Department as unclaimed, affidavits and statements of witnesses, powers of attorney, and last wills and testaments. The applications are arranged by the number assigned at the time the application was received. There are some gaps in the application numbers; these are explained on insert sheets at the appropriate places on the film. The indexes are arranged alphabetically by name (either English or Indian) of claimant. A digital image copy of the Index to Eastern Cherokee Applications is available on the NARA web site, www.archives.gov along with electronic versions of this and other forms. To assist you in your research, relevant reference books, catalogs and pamphlets are available for purchase online at estore.archives.gov.

What We Can Search: Limitations of staff time prevent the National Archives from making comprehensive searches of Eastern Cherokee applications or indexes. We can search indexes if you can supply the following information: (1) full name, English or Indian, of the applicant and (2) Eastern Cherokee application claim number.

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