

**Hundley, Ed Alonzo**  
**1/11/1957 Deposition, Geneva County, AL**  
**Muscogee Nation of Florida Technical Assistance Response 2012,**  
**Appendix C**

State of Alabama  
County of Henry

Before the undersigned authority duly authorized to administer oaths and acknowledgments, personally appeared Elizabeth English Ward who says under oath that she is a daughter of Louise Ward and J. A. English and is 98 years old that she is a grand daughter of Jame B. Ward and Elizabeth English Ward, and that she knows of her own personal knowledge that Elizabeth English Ward, her grand mother was a Creek Indian, that she was known by all who knew her, as a Creek Indian.

Signed and delivered in the presence of:

W. L. Hartney                      Elizabeth English Ward  
Elizabeth English Ward                      11/15/56

Witnessed:

The above statement sworn and subscribed to before me this the 15 of December 1956



W. L. Hartney  
Notary Public  
Commission Expires  
Jan. 1, 1957

STATE OF ALABAMA  
COUNTY OF HENRY

I, W. L. Hartney, Clerk of the County of Henry, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as presented to me for record.

Dated this 15 day of DEC, A. D. 1956

W. L. Hartney  
Clerk of the County

NOTARY PUBLIC

"DEPOSITION OF ED ALONZO HUNDLEY"

Q. State your name please.  
A. Ed Alonzo Hundley.

Q. Where were you born?  
A. Coffee County, Alabama.

Q. When were you born?  
A. May 19, 1864.

Q. Have you ever lived in any State other than Alabama?  
A. No. Have lived in Coffee and Geneva Counties all my life.

Q. What has been your principal occupation during your adult life?  
A. Farming.

Q. How long have you resided at your present location?  
A. 50 years.

Q. What is the distance from your place to Slocomb, Alabama?  
A. About 4 miles.

Q. Do you go to town frequently?  
A. Yes; I walk most of the time.

Q. What is the area of your farm?  
A. Approximately 320 acres.

Q. Does it yield enough money to provide for you comfortably?  
A. Yes indeed, I have no financial worries.

Q. Did you ever have occasion to know Elizabeth English Ward?  
A. Yes.

Q. Where did you first see her?  
A. At the home of her son.

Q. What was his name?  
A. Munroe Ward.

Q. Where was he living at the time?  
A. About three miles from where I am presently located.

Q. What was the occasion?

A. I was with my father who was prospecting for a farm location.

Q. Was there any particular reason why you visited the home of Munroe Ward?

A. No. We inquired at all farm houses in search of a suitable place to buy or homestead.

Q. Do you remember what year this was?

A. If I remember correctly it was 1871.

Q. Was Elizabeth English Ward, living with her son, Munroe Ward?

A. Yes. Her husband James Ward had died some years previous.

Q. Was there anything in particular that attracted you to Elizabeth English Ward?

A. Yes.

Q. Will you state them briefly?

A. First; she was the homeliest or most unattractive woman I had ever seen. Second; she used the most peculiar language I had ever listened to, and, third; I was fascinated by the dark copper color of her skin and coal black straight hair.

Q. Did she have any hobbies?

A. Yes.

Q. What were they?

A. She was excessively devoted to fishing and archery.

Q. Did you ever go fishing with her?

A. Yes, numberless times. She enjoyed catching the fish more than she enjoyed either baiting the hook or removing the fish from the hook. That was my job.

Q. During these fishing excursions, did she ever reminiscence or give an account of remembered events pertaining to her childhood days?

A. Yes, she often talked about her early life, which she termed her developing years.

Q. Did she ever say who her parents were?

A. She said she didn't remember their names.

Q. Did she say by whom she was reared?

A. Yes.

Q. By whom?

A. James English.

- Q. Did she ever say what circumstance placed her in the path of James English?
- A. Yes, she seemed most happy when relating her good fortune of being left near the road being traveled by James English.
- Q. You state that you were left near a road. By whom were you left?
- A. My parents.
- Q. Did she say where she was abandoned?
- A. She said, close to the West Bank of the Ocmulgee River in Georgia.
- Q. Did she say why she was left alone?
- A. Yes. Her foster father James English told her that it was in the spring season of the year, when hundreds of Creeks from all sections of the Creek Nation would descend upon the Ocmulgee River as far south as the Altamaha River to catch shad fish that was swimming up stream in search of a suitable place to spawn.
- Q. Did Elizabeth English Ward ever say why she was left alone near the Ocmulgee River?
- A. Yes. She said her parents told her that on account of the current being so swift it was too hazardous to permit her to accompany them.
- Q. Did Elizabeth English Ward ever say in your presence the time of day she was picked up by James English?
- A. Yes, just before dark in the afternoon.
- Q. Did she ever say what business James English was engaged in that placed him in the Creek Nation on the particular day he picked her up?
- A. Yes. He said he was a land owner, farmer and a trader.
- Q. Did she say how old she was at the time?
- A. She said she was born about 1800. And that she must have been 4 or 5 years old at the time.
- Q. Did she, at any time, in your presence ever say where she was born?
- A. Yes. She said her foster father told her that after a thorough search for her parents, while talking with various Creek Indians that I was born in what was then known as Houston County, Georgia, between the Flint and Ocmulgee Rivers.
- Q. Did Elizabeth English Ward ever say to you what her foster father told her about the race of people from which she originated?
- A. Yes. He said he talked to many Creeks during the period I was developing into womanhood who knew my parents. They told him, so he said, that my parents were young people of the Lower Creeks who were not interested in rearing a family.

- Q. Did she say whether her foster father ever located her parents?
- A. Yes. He said he could find no one who could or would give him any information beyond seeing them get in their canoe and go forth in search of shad.
- Q. Do you remember when Elizabeth English Ward died?
- A. Yes. It was near Christmas time 1883.
- Q. Do you remember where she died?
- A. Yes. In the home of her daughter Mrs. Mary Ward Davis.
- Q. Where did her daughter live?
- A. Geneva County, Alabama. About 4 miles from where I have lived for the immediate past 50 years.
- Q. Did you attend her funeral?
- A. Yes. Because of my intimate association, I became exceedingly fond of her.
- Q. How old were you when she died?
- A. Almost 20 years old.
- Q. Were you related by blood or marriage to either James Ward or his wife Elizabeth English Ward?
- A. No. I am not related to any Ward insofar as I know.
- Q. Was everyone who knew Elizabeth English Ward in general agreement that she was a Creek Indian?
- A. Yes. Everyone.

STATE OF ALABAMA

GENEVA COUNTY

Before me the undersigned, duly authorized to administer oaths and take acknowledgements, personally appeared Ed Alonzo Hundley, known to me to be the person he represents himself to be, who being by me first duly sworn, deposes and says, that he is 93 years old and a native of Coffee County, Alabama, and,

That he is of sound mind and memory but conscious of the uncertainties of life; and,

That he further avers that the contents of the deposition herewith attached is true and correct to the best of his recollection, knowledge and belief.

Ed Alonzo Hundley

ATTEST:

R.S. Yarb

m B Bottoms

John D. Lewis

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 11 day of January, A.D. 1957.

R.S. Yarb  
Judge of Probate  
Geneva County