

Delaware Nation of Oklahoma

(Oklahoma Social Studies Standards, OSDE)

Tribe: Delaware Nation, (deləweə(r)) Oklahoma

Tribal website(s): <http://www.delawarenation.com/>

1. Migration/movement/forced removal

Oklahoma History C3 Standard 2.3 *“Integrate visual and textual evidence to explain the reasons for and trace the migrations of Native American peoples including the Five Tribes into present-day Oklahoma, the Indian Removal Act of 1830, and tribal resistance to the forced relocations.”*

Oklahoma History C3 Standard 2.7 *“Compare and contrast multiple points of view to evaluate the impact of the Dawes Act which resulted in the loss of tribal communal lands and the redistribution of lands by various means including land runs as typified by the Unassigned Lands and the Cherokee Outlet, lotteries, and tribal allotments.”*

- Original Homeland - Northeast United States;
- Migration- New Jersey, New York, Delaware, and Pennsylvania > Indiana, Ohio, Missouri > Map page 2 & 3, “*Oklahoma Indian Country Guide*”
- Forced removal- Kansas , Arkansas > Spanish Texas > Southwestern Oklahoma.
 - Reservation 1874-1875
 - Treaties (First treaty between U.S. and an Indian Nation; additional treaties)
- Location In Oklahoma - Southwest Oklahoma; 2 miles North of Anadarko, OK

Condensed Timeline

1778- The Delaware signed the first Indian treaty with the new United States

1793- Main body of the Delaware Tribe resides along the White River (present Indiana), another group crosses the Mississippi River into Spanish Missouri, receiving a land grant, near present Cape Girardeau, Missouri

1818- White River Delaware were removed to SW Missouri; the Cape Girardeau Delaware had already immigrated to N Arkansas

1820- Cape Girardeau Delaware became known as Absentee Delaware and entered

Spanish Texas and received a land grant from Spanish authorities.

1829- Texas troops remove the twelve tribes from East lands, saying that the treaty of 1836 had never been ratified by the Texas Senate and was void. Cherokee War of East Texas ensued and most of the tribes were driven across the Red River. Some escape and settled near Eagle Pass in Mexico.

1836- Texas land grant encompassed a fifty square-mile area in East Texas when Sam Houston signed a treaty with the East Texas Cherokee's and affiliated tribes.

1838- 250 Delaware families reside in Nacogdoches Department of the Republic of Texas

1839- Brazos Reserve set aside for tribes who had resided in East Texas

1854-59- Brazos Reserve was short-lived. Texas settlers demand Indians be removed to Indian Territory, depredations being committed on the settlements.

1859- Tribes lost the Brazos Reserve lands, forced to flee for their lives across the Red River in August.

1859- Wichita Agency was established near present Ft. Cobb, included Absentee Delaware's.

1862- Civil War causes the Delaware's and other tribes to lose their lands.

Brief History of the Delaware Nation

The Delaware people have a long and ancient history. They are the descendents of the Lenape people originally located in New Jersey, New York, Delaware, and Pennsylvania. They refer to themselves as the Lenni-Lenape. Their language belongs to the Eastern branch of Algonquian languages and is closely related to east coast languages such as Powhatan, Mohican, and Massachusetts.

Traditional history of the Lenape people was recorded on notch sticks called the Walum-Olum. It dictates that by the time of European contact they were in the Eastern United States. A probably explanation to why other tribes called them the "Grandfathers."

The Largest Groups of Delaware Indians

The Delaware Tribe of Indians are located in Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

The Delaware Nation (Anadarko, Oklahoma); The Delaware Tribe is separate from the Delaware Nation.

Most members of the Munsee branch of the Lenape live on three Indian reserves in Western Ontario, Canada, the largest being that at Moraviantown, Ontario where the Turtle clan settled in 1792.

The Oklahoma branches were established in 1867, with the purchase of land by the Delaware from the Cherokee nation; two payments totaling \$438,000 were made. A court dispute then followed over whether the sale included rights for the Delaware within the Cherokee nation. In 1898, the Curtis Act dissolved tribal governments and ordered the allotment of tribal lands to individual members of tribes. The Lenape fought the act in the courts but lost. The courts ruled that in 1867 they had only purchased rights to the land for their lifetimes. The lands were allotted in 160 acre lots in 1907, with any land left over sold to Caucasians.

On July 5, 1958, the group adopted "the Delaware Tribe of Western Oklahoma" as their official title. In 1979, the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs revoked the tribal status of the Delaware living among Cherokee in Oklahoma, and included the Delaware as Cherokee. This decision was finally overturned in 1996. The Cherokee Nation then filed suit to overturn the recognition of the Delaware as a tribe.

In November 1999, the "Western Delaware" became the "Delaware Nation".

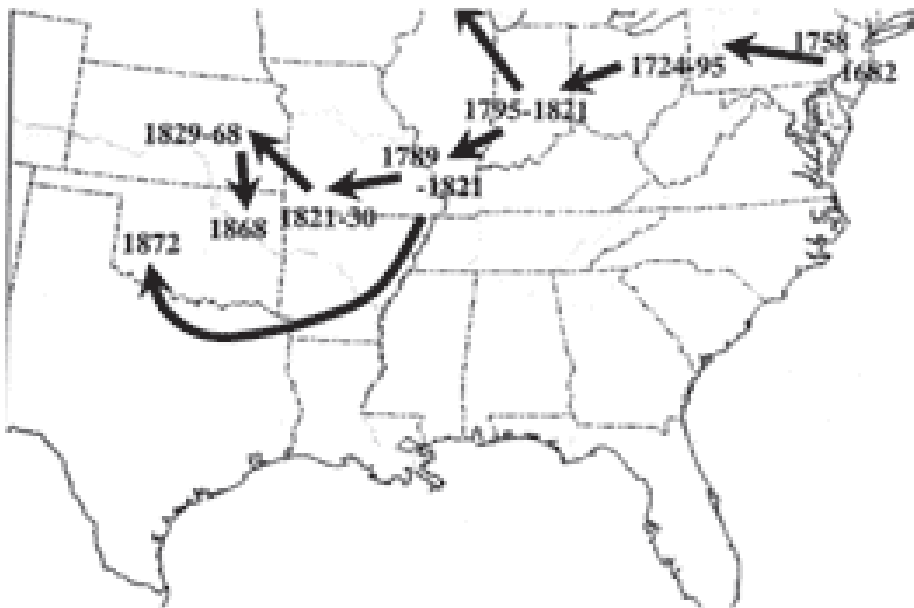
Sources:

- Delaware Tribal Nation website:
<http://www.delawarenation.com/DelawareNationsHistory>
- Oklahoma Historical Society's Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture
- Student handbook "*Oklahoma Indian Country*" booklet page 32
- Oklahoma Historical Society source to consider for Indian Removal information:
<http://digital.library.okstate.edu/encyclopedia/entries/i/in015.html>
- The Library of Congress documents:
<http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/Indian.html>
- Oklahoma Indian Country Guide, Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department p11, see tribe information
http://s3.amazonaws.com/content.newsok.com/newsok/images/NIE/nie_docs/Indian%20Country%20Tab,%2036%20page.pdf

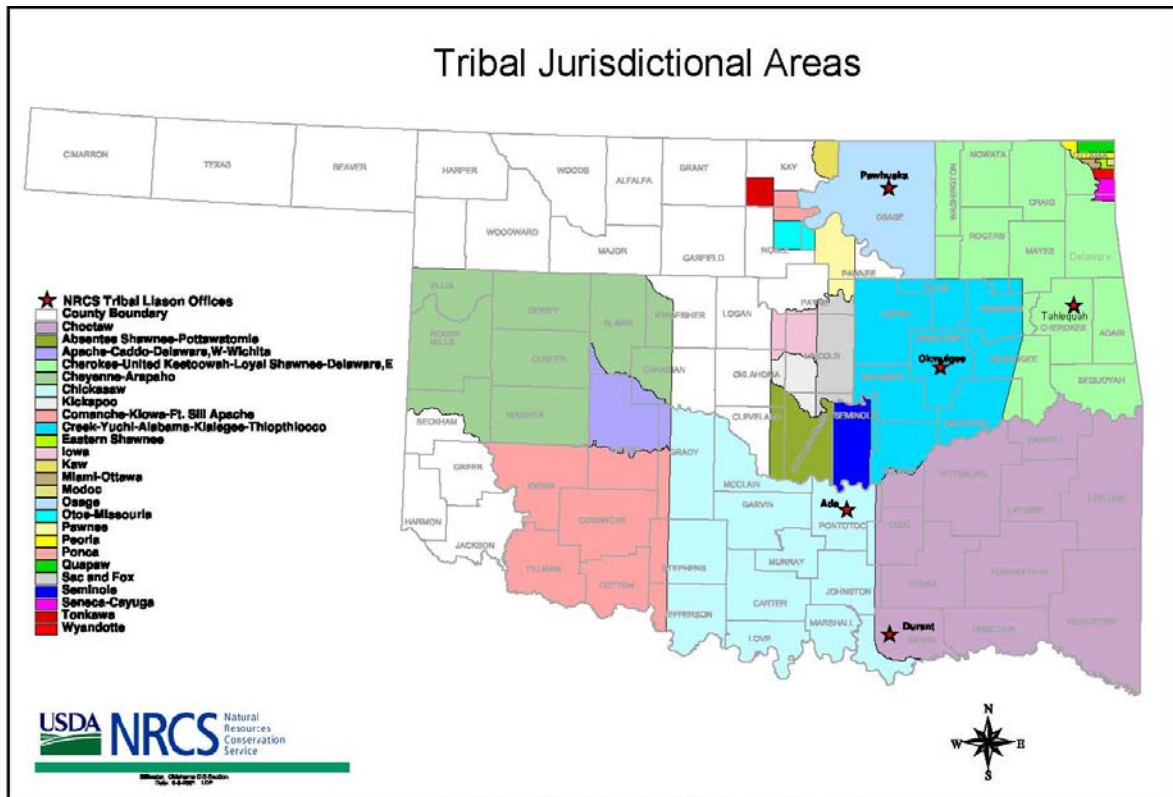
2. Maps

Oklahoma History C3 Standard 2.3 “Integrate visual and textual evidence to explain the reasons for and trace the migrations of Native American peoples including the Five Tribes into present-day Oklahoma, the Indian Removal Act of 1830, and tribal resistance to the forced relocations.”

- Location prior to 1830 and removal:



- see Map; <http://delawaretown.missouristate.edu/removal.html>
- Present location in Oklahoma:



3. Population Past/Present

- Total tribal enrollment – 1,422
- Tribal enrollment in Oklahoma – 839
- Membership criteria - Members must have a minimum **blood quantum** of 1/8 to join the tribe.

Source: *Oklahoma Indian Country Guide*

4. Government; Chiefs vs Chairman; Elected or Paternal

US Government C3 Standard 3.4 “Summarize and explain the relationships and the responsibilities between national and state governments including tribal and local governments.”

Oklahoma History C3 Standard “The student will analyze the formation and development of constitutional government in Oklahoma. 1) Compare and contrast the development of governments among the Native American tribes, the movement for the state of Sequoyah . . . 2) Describe and summarize attempts to create a state constitution joining Indian and Oklahoma Territories including the impact of the Progressive and Labor Movements resulting in statehood on November 16, 1907.”

- The Delaware Nation adopted a tribal resolution in 1958. The constitution was approved in 1973.
- Tribal Government leadership: It has an executive committee with a president, and five other elected members.

5. Language Group

Oklahoma History C3 Standard 4.1 *“Compare and contrast the successes and failures of the United States policy of assimilation of the Native Americans in Oklahoma including the passage of the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924 and the effects of the Indian Boarding Schools (1880s-1940s) upon Native Americans’ identity, culture, traditions, and tribal government and sovereignty.”*

Language family: Eastern Algonquian

Sources:

- Delaware/Lenape talking dictionary; audio sentences, stories, and lessons; vocabulary; spelling system, word list, picture dictionaries (animal; body parts; color words), pronunciation and spelling guide: <http://www.talk-lenape.org/>

6. Cultural Identifiers – i.e. Mound Builders; Plains

Oklahoma History C3 Standard 4.1 *“Compare and contrast the successes and failures of the United States policy of assimilation of the Native Americans in Oklahoma including the passage of the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924 and the effects of the Indian Boarding Schools (1880s-2013) upon Native Americans’ identity, culture, traditions, and tribal government and sovereignty.” Oklahoma schools only.*

Oklahoma Historical Society source to consider for Boarding Schools:
<http://digital.library.okstate.edu/encyclopedia/entries/a/am012.html>

7. Fine arts

Oklahoma History C3 Standard 4.1 *“Compare and contrast the successes and failures of the United States policy of assimilation of the Native Americans in Oklahoma including the passage of the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924 and the effects of the Indian Boarding Schools (1880s-1940s) upon Native Americans’ identity, culture, traditions, and tribal government and sovereignty.”*

- Music
- Art

8. Significant events (ie. Massacres, Battles, Supreme Court cases...)

Oklahoma History C3 Standard 2.4C “Summarize the impact of the Civil War and Reconstruction Treaties on Native American peoples, territories, and tribal sovereignty including the a) Required enrollment of the Freedmen, b) Second Indian Removal and the role of the Buffalo Soldiers, c) Significance of the Massacre at the Washita, d) Reasons for the reservation system, and e) Establishment of the western military posts of Fort Sill, Fort Supply, and Fort Reno.”

- Signed first treaty with the United States (September 17, 1778); <http://digital.library.okstate.edu/kappler/Vol2/treaties/del0003.htm>

9. Current Information on tribe

10. Other information (ie. Elder testimonials; Guest speakers; Literature; Famous Tribal members...)

- Delaware History, Clans ...
 - Delawarenation.com/news/newsandevents/tabid/98/default.aspx
- Famous tribal member- Black Beaver (1806—1880), Delaware leader, scout, and rancher
- University of Oklahoma Western History Collection: Doris Duke Collection; Indian Pioneer Papers; Native American Manuscripts; <http://digital.libraries.ou.edu/homehistory.php>

Sources:

Oklahoma Indian Country Guide, Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department
 Oklahoma Historical Society
 The Library of Congress