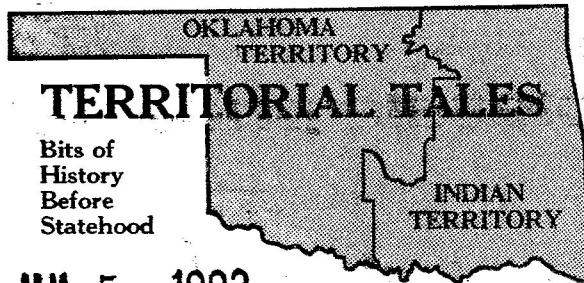


Chickasaws' Roots In Southeast U.S.

The Chickasaws, cousin tribe of the Choctaws, claimed their original home in Kentucky, western Tennessee and northern Mississippi. Their land in Kentucky and Tennessee was surrendered in a treaty with the United States in 1818.

One of the signers of this treaty was a well known warrior, Tishomingo, described as a "noble-spirited chief, distinguished for his



high sense of honor and virtue."

In 1832, Tishomingo signed the Treaty of Pontotoc when the Chickasaws found

themselves oppressed and sold all of their lands east of the Mississippi River.

In this treaty, the tribe granted an annual payment to "their old beloved Tishomingo" as a token of their kind feelings toward him for his long and valuable

services.

The Chickasaws had not traded with the government for a home in the west as other tribes had done. So, being without a country, they secured a home among the Choctaws in Indian Territory in 1837. Abiding by the Treaty of Pontotoc, the aged Tishomingo soon afterward began his westward journey.

The Chickasaw capital in their new home was named for him and Pontotoc County was named for the Chickasaws' old home in Mississippi.