

“Paul Edward” Qwo-Li Driskill: maternal line report

Summary: Due to the abundance of research conducted on the direct lineal, maternal family of Professor Driskill and the quantity of ancestors documented and analyzed, the focus in this report and genealogy chart will have emphasis on the maternal grandmother’s family going back in time. The genealogy will begin with Driskill’s maternal grandmother, generation by generation, back to 5th great grandparents. The direct lineal maternal ancestry claims of Cherokee and Delaware ancestry through family lore or history were abundant, however, a family story doesn’t constitute or validate, in any shape or form, the right to claim tribal citizenship or descendancy. All claims must be indisputably authenticated through valid forms of documentation.

Conclusion: After careful consideration of all the documentation presented, our genealogy team finds the claims of Cherokee, Osage and Delaware ancestry through direct lineal descent unfounded and no evidence of direct ancestors having obtained citizenship nor acknowledgement of descendancy.

The final and indisputable decision lies with the sovereign tribal nations, which has a unique historical legal and political status in the United States. Each tribe has it’s own specific and unique vetting process of which the direct lineal ancestors of Paul Driskill did not meet and consequentially, applications from their family to join these tribes were promptly rejected/overturned repeatedly over time. The tribes have spoken and judged against the direct lineal ancestors of Paul Driskill, including the Harmon, Woolum, Anderson, Smith, Lucas/Euker/Luker and Exendine/Oxendine families, but also the indirect relatives via cousindry, including the Harmon, Puffer, McDonald, Duncan, Stewart, Brown families.

Definition of acknowledgement or negation of descendancy by tribal communities would be exclusively reserved for those of direct lineal descent.

Methodology: We use various methods of sourcing, such as, but not limited to, U.S. Federal, State, County records, written family histories but most importantly Tribal histories and documents, such as applications to tribal rolls, subsequent enrollment or rejection, allotment deeds, etc. We also supplement our research with historical information on the tribes. We take into consideration geographical location and vicinity of the direct ancestors to the tribe being that each tribe settled in very specific areas of the United States. We follow historical migration patterns, incorporate information on ceded historical lands by treaty and time and place of which they were forcibly removed over time. We also differentiate tribal settlements from lands that were considered hunting grounds which are often separate from each other.

The findings of rejection include the following:

1. Great grandmother: Bertha Ethel May Harmon/Woolum, made claim on the Guion Miller Roll, a payout roll of 1906, **Rejected** in addition to all her siblings on the same roll.
2. 2nd great grandfather: James Daniel Harmon or James D. Harmon also made on the Guion Miller Roll, a payout Roll of 1906, **Rejected** His spouse Nancy Ann Melvin Grimes, had a second husband Francis Marion or “Fanty” or FM Harmon who would later prove to also be a cousin, was **Rejected** on the 1896 Roll
3. John Henry Harmon **Rejected**, William A. Harmon **Rejected**, Arnold L. Harmon **Rejected** note all rejections for these 3 men/uncles pertain to the Guion Miller Roll of 1906
4. Case of Margaret A. Puffer ET AL vs. Cherokee Nation: Special Master report 49 pages, filing date September 8, 1896 United States Court in Indian Territory, northern District Muscogee, Oklahoma applicants for Cherokee citizenship presiding Judge and Executive Secretary John T. Adair and Cherokee Principle Chief S. H. Mayes: request repeatedly **Rejected/Denied**

COMMENTARY/RULING/JUDGEMENT Judge John Adair of Cherokee Nation:

“We have examined all the rolls and failed to find the name of James Buck Smith. Anyone making an application to citizenship must name an ancestor on the Rolls. We have examined carefully and find no such ancestor. Therefore the Commission unanimously agrees (lists numerous relatives and ancestors) are not Cherokee by blood and hereby **Rejected and declared Intruders** upon the public domain of the Cherokee Nation and not entitled to any rights or priviledges of this Nation”.

COMMENTARY/RULING/JUDGEMENT: Principal Chief Samuel Houston Mayes:

“Chief Samuel Houston Mayes of the Cherokee Nation comes now and demures said application on the grounds that the application does not state facts sufficient. Respondent not waving his aforesaid demurrer, but insists upon the same answer. The applicant is not, and has Not been, a citizen of the Cherokee Nation since the removal west to Indian Territory as presently located and defined. And that his name does not appear (James Buck Smith 5th great grandfather of Mr. Driskill) on any authenticated rolls of said Nation that neither he or any of His Ancestors now reside or ever resided in Indian territory as citizens thereof”.