

OKLAHOMA!

Land of

Opportunity



Chapter 10:
Rebuilding Indian Territory
STUDY PRESENTATION





Section 1: The Five Nations Start Over
Section 2: Rebuilding the Economy
Section 3: Law and Disorder

Section 1: The Five Nations Start Over

➤ Essential Question:

- What steps did the Five Nations take to rebuild after the Civil War?



Section 1: The Five Nations Start Over

➤ What terms do I need to know?

- tenant farmer
- lighthorseman
- seminary
- segregation



Seminole

- Among the Seminole, some were loyal to the Union (John Chupco, Town Chief Billy Bowlegs, Opothleyahola) and some were loyal to the South (John Jumper).
- The tribe elected Jumper as chief after the Civil War.
- The Seminole national council formed in 1866, and Wewoka was capital.
- Population: 2,105
- Ramsey Mission School was started as a school for girls. It opened in 1880 near Sasakwa.



Chickasaw

- The Chickasaw began to quickly rebuild schools and provide care of orphans (Chickasaw Orphan School).
- Boarding schools reopened in 1876.
- Classes were taught in English. Other subjects were reading, spelling, arithmetic, grammar, geography, and history.
- “We must educate, or we must perish.”



Choctaw

- Tribal schools and churches soon reopened.
- The Choctaw owned all land “in common” but could personally own homes, fences, barns, etc.
- Some whites came in as tenant farmers and worked the farm but did not own the land; they shared profits with the owners.
- The Choctaw expected railroads and mining to change the way of life in their region.



Creek

- The Upper and Lower Creeks were further divided by the war.
- 1867: A new constitution and chief (Samuel Checote) were chosen.
- Sands Rebellion of 1871: Upper Creek Harjo and 300 men took over the capital at Okmulgee.
- Lighthorsemen and federal agents put down the group.
- 1896: 70 neighborhood schools opened, 6 boarding schools, and an orphanage.



Cherokee

- William Ross became chief of the Cherokee after the death of his uncle John Ross (1866).
- The tribe was under pressure to open lands to settlement.
- Lands were owned in common, but improvements were privately owned.
- There were three classes of people: full bloods with small farms; mixed bloods had more money; whites with permits to work in the Nation.
- An excellent school system was created with seminaries, orphanages, 100 primary schools, and a high school for blacks.
- Tahlequah (capital) was the center of culture and education.
- Cattlemen leased land for grazing.



Freedmen

- Freedmen were treated as equals by Creek and Seminole but view was mixed among Cherokee, Chickasaw, and Choctaw.
- Segregation in Indian Territory divided blacks from others in schools and sometimes entire towns.
- Several all-black towns grew such as North Fork Town, Canadian Colored, and Arkansas Colored.



Government Schools

- Government schools were started to help Indians assimilate.
- Riverside Indian School was started in 1871 with 8 students; renamed Wichita-Caddo School in 1872 with 40 students.
- Chilocco Indian School was a boarding school started for Plains Indians children. It grew to 1,200 students in the 1950s and served to help preserve tribal identities.
- Quakers, Methodists, Baptists, Catholics were among the denominations who worked to convert Indians to their faith.



Section 2: Rebuilding the Economy

➤ Essential Question:

- What factors helped to improve the economy of the Territory?



Section 2: Rebuilding the Economy

- What terms do I need to know?
 - railhead
 - drover
 - quarantine
 - royalty
 - strike



Cattle Drives

- To get cattle to market, Texans drove cattle through Indian Territory to railheads in Kansas City and St. Louis.
- Cattle in Texas might sell for \$2 in Texas but up to \$40 elsewhere.
- The open grasslands of Indian Territory were used to feed cattle along the way.
- Rights-of-way and leases were worked out with tribes.



Cattle Drives: Crossing the Territory

- A cattle drive had herds of 2,500-3,000 cattle, could move 10-15 miles/day, and lasted 1-3 months.
- Drives needed 6-10 cowboys, about 6-8 horses/cowboy, a chuck wagon (food) and cook.
- The chuck wagon had coffee, dried beans, meat, flour, cornmeal, salt, water and some repair tools.



Cattle Drives: Cattle Trails

- Trails led to places along rivers where animals could safely cross.
- East Shawnee was the first cattle trail but forests and marshes made it difficult to keep cattle together.
- The West Shawnee trail headed more directly to Abilene, KS: “Cow Capital of the World”
- The Chisholm Trail became one of the most used from 1867, because it had the most direct route from Texas to Abilene.
- The Great Western Cattle Trail was further west and went to Dodge City, Kansas.
- The 1886 blizzard, more settlers and railroads, and increased use of barbed wire fence contributed to decline of cattle drives.



Oklahoma Cattle Trails



Railroads

- After the Civil War, the Wells Fargo Company restored stages on the old Butterfield Overland Mail route.
- The restored route was short-lived.
- Railroads headed toward Indian Territory.

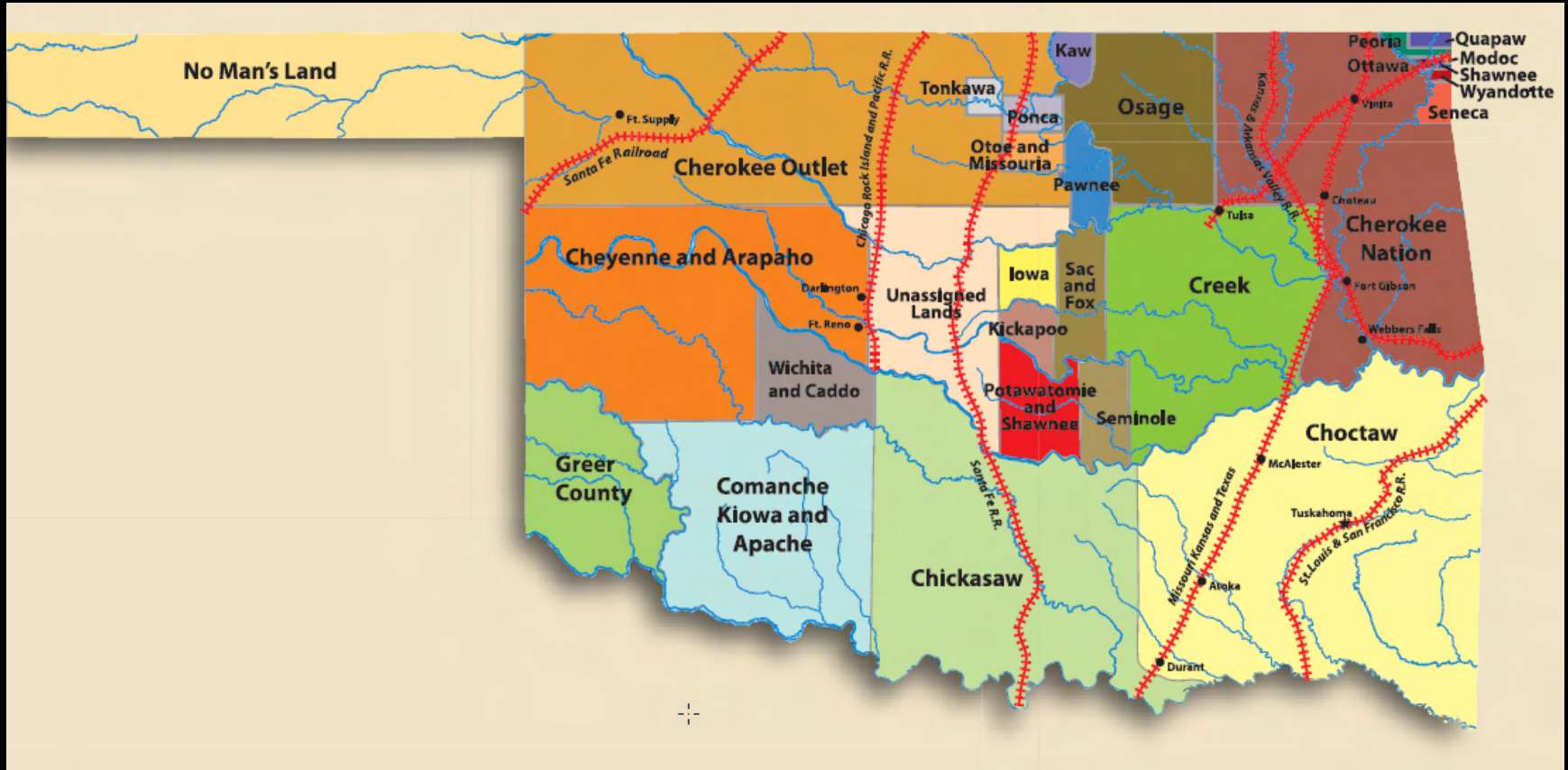


Railroads: The Transcontinental Railroad

- After Civil War, stage coach routes restored, but did not last long due to railroads
- May 10, 1869: Promontory Summit, Utah, rails from east met rails from the west to complete a transcontinental railroad (San Francisco to New York).
- Work on the project had dangers from Indians, disease, and hazardous working conditions.
- Chinese immigrants worked on the west line; Mormon and Irish workers on the east.



Early Railroads Across the Territory



Railroads: Tracks Across the Territory

- 1865: A southern branch of the Union Pacific, later known as Missouri-Kansas-Texas (MKT, Katy) came to the territory.
- 1866 treaties allowed for two rails running north-south and two east-west through Indian Territory.
- 1871: The Atlantic & Pacific Railway ran east-west, and later became known as the Frisco line.
- The Santa Fe line ran from Kansas to the Gulf coast.
- The Rock Island line followed Chisholm Trail.
- In the 1860s – 1880s miles of rail, bridges and roundhouses were added to the Territory.
- By 1905, the Territory had over 5,000 miles of track.



Coal Mining

- Coal was used as fuel for blacksmiths, trains, and heating homes and businesses.
- James J. McAlester led the Oklahoma Mining Company with royalties split with Choctaw nation.
- Miners provided increased business for tribes but also increased demand for land for settlement by whites.
- 1888: The Choctaw Coal and Railway Company built railroads to haul coal from mines to Crossroads (McAlester). Many communities grew from this business.
- European immigrants came to the Choctaw Nation to work.
- Osage Coal and Mining Company was the largest and owned by Katy railroad.
- Wages were often above average, but a strike in 1884 protested wage cuts.
- 1892 saw the worst mining accident. 100 men were killed and 100 injured in an explosion at Mine #11 Osage Coal and Mining.



Oil Springs

- Seeps, or oil springs were thought to have healing powers for arthritis, rheumatism, etc.
- Spas were established at New Spring Place (Cherokee) and Boyd Springs (Chickasaw).
- Early oil wells did not show much promise; the first well was near Grand Saline in 1859.
- The Chickasaw Oil Company was the first oil company in 1872.
- Oil was not important commercially until the invention of the automobile.



Section 3: Law and Disorder

➤ Essential Question:

- What steps were taken to bring law and order to the Territory?



Section 3: Law and Disorder

- What terms do I need to know?
 - jurisdiction



Introduction

- Texas cattlemen let livestock graze on the grasses of Kansas in the Indian Territory.
- Kansas ranchers drove herds across the border into Indian Territory.
- Tribes realized they could make profit from grazing.
- The Cherokee tried to collect lease money from grazing, but were often unsuccessful.
- Owners who paid for grazing rights wanted protection from fires, thieves, and wolves.



Maintaining Order

- Lighthouse Police from the Five Tribes enforced tribal laws.
- Punishments could be lashes to the back or death.
- Liquor was the source of many problems and was outlawed
- Bootleggers smuggled bottles of whisky in their high-top boots.
- Many whisky traders set up shop along the border of Indian Territory.



Outlaws

- Whites were not bound by Indian law, and U.S. law was not valid in the Territory which made the area attractive to criminals and fugitives.
- Robbers, whisky peddlers, cattle rustlers, and horse thieves hid in the rugged lands of Indian Territory.
- Infamous outlaws of the area included the Doolins, Daltons, Jennings brothers, Cook gang, and Turner gang.
- Sam and Belle Starr (Myra Belle Shirley) owned Younger Bend, a haven for outlaws like Jesse James and Cole Younger.



The “Hanging Judge”

- In 1871, a federal district court was established at Fort Smith, AK with jurisdiction to include Indian Territory; Isaac Parker was appointed as judge.
- To bring law and order, Parker hired Indian interpreters, organized an “army” of deputy marshals, and held court 6 days/week for up to 10 hours/day.
- Posses of deputies captured outlaws and brought them to court.
- No funds for a prison meant poor conditions for prisoners with all ages and types crammed together in unhealthy conditions.
- Newspapers reported (1885) on the conditions of “medieval barbarity” and congress gave funds for a new jail.
- Parker was known as the “hanging judge”; he tried over 12,000 cases with over 9,000 convictions. 79 men were hanged.



“The Calm Before the Storm”

- Railroads, mining, and cattle brought more whites to Indian Territory.
- “Crowding” in neighboring states and territories make the “undeveloped” lands of Indian Territory attractive to new settlers.
- Pressure increased to open the Indian lands to settlement.





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