

John F Minshall

John F Minshall was born 10 March 1851 in Greenville, Floyd, Indiana.¹ He was the third of nine children of Elias Thorp Minshall and Emily Jane Lamb. The family moved to Rulo Township, Richardson, Nebraska Territory, by 1860.² On the 1870 census, John was helping on the family farm in Richardson, Nebraska.³ By 1880, he was a miner, living in Silver Reef, Washington, Utah Territory.⁴ He may have also mined in Park City and Frisco.⁵

John married Elizabeth Ann "Eliza" Journeycake in 1899 in the Indian Territory (now Oklahoma). Her grandfather was the chief of the Delaware Indians. John and Eliza had four children. Eliza had been allotted land near Centralia, Oklahoma, which she surrendered except for 80 acres for herself and her children.⁶ John bought a farm north of Vinita, Craig, Oklahoma, in 1892. He paid \$1,00 and immediately sowed a wheat crop, threshed nearly 1,000 bushels, and shipped it to Seneca.⁷ He erected a house in Walnut Grove the next year.⁸

In 1896, he was living with his wife (who was listed as 5/16 Delaware) and three children in Indian Territory. Eliza and their two children received an equalization share for Delaware Indians to offset the previous restitution payments.⁹ On the 1900 census, John was a farmer, living with his wife and four children in Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory.¹⁰ That year he applied for enrollment in the Five Civilized Tribes for himself, wife and four children. He testified that he was a white man, and his wife was a Delaware Indian. They were living in Cooweescoowee, Indian Territory.¹¹

John died after a long illness on 3 March 1901 in Craig, Oklahoma.¹² Eliza and the children continued living in Oklahoma. They were listed on the enrollment cards for Native Americans in 1902 and 1904.¹³ They received a complete payment as Delaware Indians on the per capita pay roll.¹⁴ In 1910, they were living in Vinita Ward 1, Craig, Oklahoma.¹⁵ Eliza moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma, by 1923, and lived there until at least 1938.¹⁶ She died in 1968 in Craig, Oklahoma, and was buried in the Fairview Cemetery.¹⁷

Research by Elaine Young, Silver Reef Foundation historian, 2016
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¹ United States Census, 1900.

² United States Census, 1860.

³ United States Census, 1870.

⁴ United States Census, 1880.

⁵ *Salt Lake Herald*, 19 June 1881, p. 4; 8 July 1881, p. 4.

⁶ Oklahoma and Indian Territory, Indian and Pioneer Historical Collection, 1937.

⁷ *Weekly Chieftain*, 21 July 1892, p. 3.

⁸ *Weekly Chieftain*, 19 October 1893, p. 3.

⁹ Oklahoma and Indian Territory, Indian Censuses and Rolls, 1851-1959.

¹⁰ United States Census, 1900.

¹¹ US Native American Applications for Enrollment in Five Civilized Tribes, 1898-1914.

¹² *Weekly Chieftain*, 7 March 1901, p. 1.

¹³ US Native American Enrollment Cards for the Five Civilized Tribes, 1898-1914; US Native American Citizens and Freedmen of Five Civilized Tribes, 1895-1914.

¹⁴ Oklahoma and Indian Territory, Indian Censuses and Rolls, 1851-1959.

¹⁵ United States Census, 1910.

¹⁶ US City Directories, 1822-1995; Oklahoma and Indian Territory, Indian and Pioneer Historical Collection, 1937.

¹⁷ *Findagrave.com*