

Meskwaki Proclamation Day Brochure: "Old Indian Town," July 13, 1857

Meskwaki Proclamation Day
A Historical Perspective
July 13, 1857

Old Indian Town

This was a temporary village or lodgment of the Musquakies in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 17 of what is now Indian Village township. The region is since known as Butlerville, because of its being the location of the several Butler Families from whom these Indians first bought land. The Musquakies had lodged here before the Butlers came in 185-. At the time the Butlers settled here the Musquakies had gone. In the spring of 1857 an Indian came on horseback and talked with Isaac Butler about the purchase of some land. He went away and came again, in all about three times. Finally, a bargain was made for 80 acres in township — of Sec. 30-83, 15. Isaac Butler and his sons Philip and David went to Toledo and made out the deed on July 13, 1857. The consideration paid was \$1,000 in cash. The money was taken to Iowa City by the Indians and paid to Gov. Jas. W. Grimes. It was brought back to the Butlers by Ebenezer Coffin, a farmer in Tama co. The money was in the form of gold and Mr. Coffin carried it in a rough sack in his lumber wagon. There were no ponies in the payment, as has been so often reported.

From David Butler,
August 18, 1905