

Files: 103.3 Sheep Ranch
308 Sheep Ranch

January 5, 1966

Tribal Operations

Public Law 85-671, as amended, Sheep Ranch Rancheria

Pursuant to the request of Mrs. Mabel Dixie, I met with her and Mr. Merle Butler at the rancheria on December 29, 1965. A detailed explanation of the provisions of the amended Act was given, as was the procedures which would have to be followed in coming under the Act. Mrs. Dixie indicated a desire to have the rancheria deeded to her.

She stated that she first moved there 30 years ago, and since then there has always been some member of her family residing there. (Mrs. Esther Stephens, wife of the Sheep Ranch Postmaster, stated that Mabel Dixie had lived continuously on the rancheria for approximately 8 years.) Merle Butler agrees with Mabel Dixie that she should be the person to receive ownership of the rancheria.

In talking with Mr. Butler, he stated he was born in Murphys, California, and resided in that vicinity all his life. He first moved to Sheep Ranch and lived there off and on for approximately 2 years. He has lived continuously on the rancheria between 2 and 3 years. He was not sure of the date.

During our discussion of the Act, it was pointed out that due to the size of the house it would not be feasible to include sanitation facilities as provided in Section 3 (c) of the Act, should a distribution plan be prepared. The item which concerned Mabel Dixie most was that the property would become taxable after distribution, but felt that she could pay them somehow.

Before I left, Mabel Dixie gave me a letter requesting our office to distribute the assets of the Sheep Ranch Rancheria in accordance with the Act. The public notice will name Mabel Dixie only and will be published in the Calaveras Prospect newspaper, San Andreas, California, on January 6, 13 and 20, 1966. According to Mrs. Stephens, this newspaper has the widest circulation in the County and contains all public notices.

(SGD) Jess T. Town

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Tribal Operations Officer