

known that many pioneers settled on the area Indian land before it was ceded by the tribes to the U. S. government and made available for sale. Therefore, it is quite possible (and perhaps even likely) that the Looneys, as most other settlers, had already cleared and started farming the land west of the old Indian boundary. The early history of the Looney family government land purchases in Madison County is summarized below:

**ABSALOM:** \* SW/4, S12-T4-R1W 9-18-1809 {75}  
\* S/2 of NW/4, S14-T5-R2W 2-4-1818 {1473}  
("Estate of") \* NE/4, S14-T5-R2W 7-1-1831 {1287}

**JOHN W.:** \* W/2 of NE/4, S35-T4-R2W 2-4-1818 {781}  
\* W/2 of NW/4, S12-T5-R2W 2-4-1818 {3028}  
\* NE/4, S27-T4-R2W 6-1-1831 {632}  
\* SW/4, S12-T5-R2W 7-2-1831 {1378}  
\* NE/4 of SE/4, S14-T5-R2W 11-29-1833 {6753}  
\* W/2 of NW/4, S13-T5-R2W 11-29-1833 {6754}  
\* E/2 of NW/4, S13-T5-R2W 3-6-1837 {11346}

[ The numbers in { } above are the Certificate or Warrant Numbers. ]

Before 1898, there was only one purchase of lands by a Looney via private land transactions recorded in deeds in Madison County, and that was from John W. to Absalom Looney. The index of land purchases recorded on deeds in Madison County for the Looney family is shown below.