

Nûñnë'hî

The *Nûñnë'hî* (Nunnehi) are said to be a race of immortal spirit people found in Cherokee legend and folklore (see [1]) known for their protection of the Cherokee people in times of trouble. They are said to have lived in areas of North Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee (see also [2]). They lived under the mountains and water, and would come out when their help was needed.

In the tale of "The Removed Townhouses ^[3]" the Nûñnë'hî warned a certain Cherokee tribe on the Valley River and Hiwassee that a time of war and hardship was coming, and invited them to come and live there with the Nûñnë'hî so as to escape the misfortune. The story says this occurred before the Cherokee left their homes in 1838. According to their legend, the tribe agreed and went to live with the immortal spirit people.

In the legend of "The Spirit Defenders Of Nîkwäsî ^[2]" an unknown tribe invaded the country from the southeast. The legend takes place in the "old town of Nîkwäsî" on the head of Little Tennessee" and when the unknown tribe began to attack, it is said the Nûñnë'hî "poured out by the hundreds" and defended the people, winning the battle.

According to their tales (known as "Wonder Stories") these immortal Nûñnë'hî appeared many times to help and assist the people in times of need.

References

Sacred Texts ^[1]

Notes

James Mooney's History, Myths, and Sacred Formulas of the Cherokees ^[4] ISBN 0-914875-19-1, ISBN 978-0-914875-19-2

Publisher: Bright Mountain Books (Historical Images) (June 1992)

References

[1] <http://www.sacred-texts.com/nam/cher/motc/motc078.htm>

[2] <http://www.sacred-texts.com/nam/cher/motc/motc080.htm>

[3] <http://www.sacred-texts.com/nam/cher/motc/motc079.htm>

[4] <http://www.amazon.com/dp/0914875191>

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