

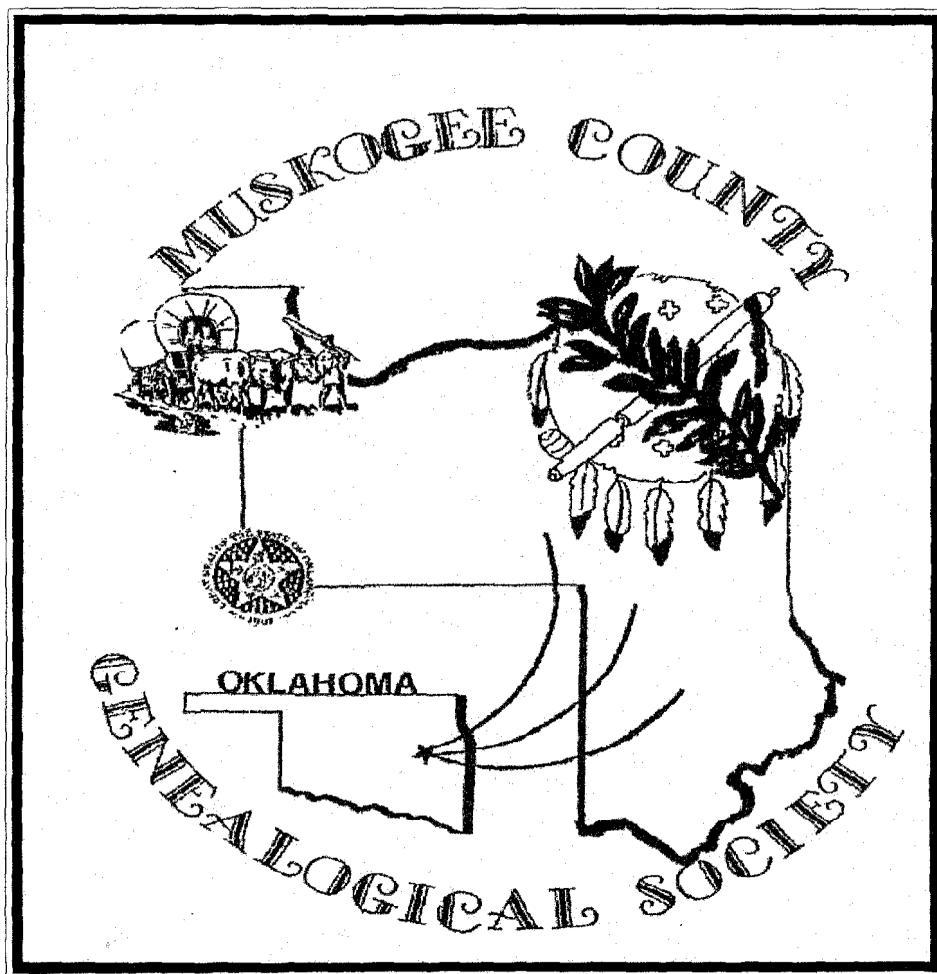
Volume 21, Issue 4

October - December
2004

Muskogee County Genealogical Society

Quarterly Publication

October - December 2004



Muskogee County Genealogical Society General Information

To defray the cost of postage for mailing your issue of the quarterly we are asking that you please pick up your issues at the monthly meetings in March, June, September, and December.

Purpose:

The MCGS was formed in 1983 for the purpose of promoting the general study of genealogy through workshops, seminars, and monthly programs; and to discover and preserve any material that may establish or illustrate the history of Indian Territory and Muskogee County and its families.

Meetings and Membership:

MCGS meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month (except July and August) at 7:00 PM at the Muskogee Public Library, 801 West Okmulgee, Muskogee, Oklahoma. The Board of Directors meetings are held prior to each monthly meeting beginning at 5:45 PM at the library. All members are invited to attend the Board meetings.

Membership in the MCGS is open to anyone promoting the purpose of the Society. Membership subscriptions are \$10.00 for individuals and families living in the same household per calendar year, without a quarterly subscription. To have the Quarterly added to your subscription is an extra \$10.00 per calendar year. Members joining after January Membership month will receive all previous quarterlies for that year.

Publication and Query Information:

The MCGS Quarterly is published four times a year: March, June, September, and December. Back issues of the Quarterlies are available for \$5.00 each, plus \$1.50 for shipping and handling.

The Society also publishes books of genealogical interest, focused on Muskogee County and Muskogee Indian Territory. A complete listing and price list is available on page of this quarterly.

MCGS will assist with search questions from members and non-members at no charge, but a donation is appreciated. Please send your requests with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to"

Muskogee County Genealogical Society

c/o Muskogee Public Library

801 West Okmulgee

Muskogee, OK 74401

Or you may email them to: mucogeso@yahoo.com

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NOTE: In this edition there are pencils hid the pictures. See if you can find them.

MCGS NEWS

Here's What's Happening!!!
We hope you will join us!

Meetings

All of the following will be at the Muskogee Public Library.

November 18, 2004

6:00 p.m. "How - To" Session



7:00 p.m. Author R.D. Morgan will present "Publishing Step by Step, From Notes to Binding"

December 9, 2004

6:30 p.m. Our Traditional Christmas Party



FUN!



Society Research Night

Join fellow Society members for Society Research Night on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. (or whenever you want to get there). Come do some research of your own, help others with theirs or help us find new material for the Quarterly. Snacks, friendship and fun included.

NEW BOOKS

Helen Lemley has just completed two books that she gifted to the Society to publish. We have added them to our list of publications for sale. They are: "The Pioneer Newspaper Circa 1898-1905" and "Oklahoma Biographical Index".



Query

Douglas Perryman was born about 1842 in Indian Territory. He is on the Dunn Rolls #281 in 1869 in Arkansas (colored)

He is on the 1895 Creek Census Pay Roll # 279.

He is on the Daws Final Creek Nation Freedman Roll # 1036 #3966 dated 23 Jun 1899.

It lists his father as Hector Perryman and his mother, Tamer Story who was dead before the war. That he and his father were the slaves of Moses Perryman, a Creek Indian.

He was the father of at least 10 children: 7 daughters, Rhonda, who married Jesse Davis, Jamie, Lou, Bell, Josie, Dora May and Jenetta, and 3 sons, Steven Douglas, Hector and Lewis. He was married to Julia Colbert about 1872.

His family is on the 1900 Muskogee town, US Census. In 1910 he is in Ogle township, Muskogee County, Oklahoma. He was know to be a cook in the jail.

On 6th December 1911 he is the plaintiff in a case over his rights to his allotment land. He won this case and last entry was July 31, 1912.

Would like to have more information on Douglas Perryman or members of his family.

Judi Sayre Berry



Kell Ranch, Fort Gibson 1914
Left to Right
1. Margaret Elizabeth Hickey West
(Mrs. John Calhoun West)
2. Louisa Ralston Kell Hickey
3. Nannie Rhoda Steff McDaniel

Left to right
1.
2.
3. girl
4. Infant
5.
6





Left
Right
Behind car



Left to right
1.
2. Margaret Elizabeth Hickey West
3.
4. Elsie Maud Neal Gilmore
5. Cyrus McDaniel Gilmore



Taken 1916

Left toright

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
4. Mary Maxine Gilmore (Bayley)
5. Elsie Maud Neal Gilmore

These photos are from Bill Bayley



INDIAN PIONEER PAPERS**Interview with Mrs. Pearl Call****Bixby, Oklahoma****L. W. Wilson, Investigator****Indian Pioneer History-S-149 # 12445**

I was born June 16, 1877, in Arkansas, but moved in 1884, along with my parents, to the Creek Nation of the Indian Territory, when I was seven years old.

My parents, Tom and Dollie De Priest, were originally from Mississippi and had moved to Arkansas in the late eighteen and thirties. They were of French and Creek Indian descent.

Removal to Indian Territory

Being only seven years old at the time we came to Indian Territory, I can recall nothing of the trip except seeing little cars pulled around the streets of Fort Smith, Arkansas, by mules. (Mule street cars.) On the mules were tied bells which attracted by attention. It was the first time I had ever been in a city which operated street cars.

We traveled in a wagon, drawn by horses and on the wagon was all our household effects. At Fort Smith, Arkansas, the Arkansas River was crossed by ferry to the west bank, which placed us in the Indian Territory. Travel was continued westward on the old Military Road, the road used by the soldiers between Fort Smith, Arkansas and Fort Gibson. Travel was slow and it took many days to reach Fort Gibson. At night we would camp along some creek or spring. All along the way was lots of wild game, fowls and fish.

We reached Fort Gibson, replenished our food supply and continued on to the Creek Nation, for we were Creeks and wanted to live under the Creek Tribal Laws and with relatives and friends.

We crossed the Arkansas River west of Fort Gibson on a ferry and took the Texas Road running southwest toward Texas. Muskogee was to the right of us as we journeyed over the hills south. All Creeks and streams were forded except the rivers crossed by ferry boats. The North Canadian River was crossed by bridge: a toll bridge run by a half-blood Creek woman. This was the only toll bridge crossed on our trip and cost us one coon skin and 25 cents to cross.

At last we reached Fishertown named after two brothers named Fisher. Fishertown was a day's drive with a team east of the present town of Eufaula, a town on the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad, and the largest town, at that time, between Kansas and Texas along the railroad route in the territory.

Fishertown, Indian Territory

Fishertown was quite a lively little village. It was one of much activity before Father died, in 1889, because many emigrants stopped there overnight enroute to the Opening of the Oklahoma lands that year. The town consisted of two stores, a blacksmith shop, post office and a little church. I cannot recall who ran the places of business, but as I recall it, the blacksmith shop did the most business as the emigrants would have their horses shod and wagons repaired. Fasher-town has passed away.



Life at Fishertown.

My father built a log house, with a fireplace on which we did our cooking when we did not cook on an open fire in the yard. Father cleared up some ground and planted corn and sweet potatoes and acquired some cattle. He talked Creek as well as Mother and we children.

One could farm all the land he wanted, as long as he did not interfere with any neighbor.

Our food consisted of corn bread, homing and all kinds of wild game, birds and fish. Wild fruits, berries, and nuts were plentiful in season. I really believe we Indians would have all starved to death if game had not been plentiful.

We parched corn and ground it in the mortar for our coffee, made our own soap from grease and ashes, wore hats and caps made out of animal furs. What little clothing we used was bought at the store. We went barefoot most all the time. In extremely cold weather we sometimes had shoes and sometimes only moccasins made of skins.

It was a hard time for all of us. Just as Father and Mother began to get, as you would say, on their feet, Father died and left Mother to bear the burden. Mother realized we children must go to school so I went with her one time to Eufaula and she talked to Mr. Sam Grayson, a merchant, about the Eufaula Creek Boarding School. Education was the principal talk among the Creeks and they built lots of schools. The only education I received was through Missionaries and that is limited.

I was the oldest child and it fell my lot to farm, be a mother to the rest, be a cowgirl and do most everything to be done around the place.

I was married when I was nineteen years old, and soon moved to that part of the Creek Nation near the present town of Leonard, known at the time at the Wealaka Mission settlement and I have lived in this neighborhood ever since.

Schools and Missions

The Creek Orphan Asylum was at the Creek National Capital, Okmulgee. It was originally a frame building but it burned and was replaced with brick and stone. It was still standing some few years ago.

The Eufaula Boarding School was at the present town of Eufaula.

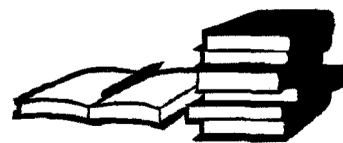
The Mekusukey Mission, constructed of brick and stone was built twenty miles northwest of Wewoka of brick and stone.

The Tullahassee Mission was about ten miles northwest of the present town of Muskogee, near the present town of Tullahassee.

I remember that Sam Callahan was the superintendent of the Wealaka Mission and Billie Brown was the superintendent at Sapulpa.

The Negroes had two schools: I recall one about seven miles west of Muskogee and the other near the Old Creek Agency or rather at the present site of the United States Veterans' hospital west of Muskogee. This school at Agency Hill was a Negro Orphan Asylum.

Bacone Mission, now Bacone College, was about two miles northeast of Muskogee near the Bird Harris place. Bird Harris was a Cherokee Indian.



My baby boy attended the Nuyaka Boarding School. My baby girl went to the Eufaula Boarding School, one of my boys attended the Sapulpa Boarding School and my oldest girl is a graduate from Bacone College.

Ranches

Many hardships were endured in my young married life. My husband was a cow puncher and I was left for days at a time by myself with my children, when he was riding the range and at round-up time. He, at one time, worked on the "Spike S" ranch with the Cook boys before they turned out to be outlaws and I personally knew them well.

The "Spike S" handled five or six thousand head of cattle yearly. Its owner was a white man name Fort Sango. Sango was killed by his brother.

The Miller Ranch was in the Concharty Mountains south and east of the present town of Leonard. This ranch, which was owned by Blufrod Miller, handled about one thousand head of cattle yearly and their brand was the I.X.

At the present town of Stone Bluff, was the Lewis Bruner ranch, a small ranch handling a thousand head each year. Their brand was "B". It is said this ranch was operated before the Civil War by a man named Dave Anderson.

On Bird Creek north of the present town of Tulsa, the Halsell Brothers operated a ranch, handling some ten or twelve thousand head of cattle yearly and two or three hundred horses. Mr. Ed Halsell had charge of things at this ranch.

Near the present town of Inola, was the Blue Star ranch that handled several thousand head yearly.

The Jeff Davis ranch, located near Bixby, was only a small ranch and handled less than a thousand head. Their brand was J. D.

I remember other ranches but can't tell much about them. My husband and I, at one time, worked on most of the ranches I have told you about.

Ferries

The Leecher ferry crossed the Arkansas River north of the present town of Muskogee.

The Nevina ferry crossed the Arkansas River at the mouth of Grand River.

The Mingo ferry crossed the Arkansas River north of Stone Bluff.

The Sookgy ferry crossed the Arkansas River south of Coweta.

Ghost Towns

Fishertown, were I lived, is no more

Sawokla was about a mile and one-half south of Haskell. It passed out of existence when the Midland Valley was built and the town of Haskell sprang up.

North Fork Town was on the Texas Road near the North Canadian River and has passed away.

Lee was a trading Post between Muskogee and Okmulgee and it is not more.

Stage Lines

I never traveled by stage, always using my own horse or a wagon, but, of course, I followed the roads they used unless I knew some cut-off. The stage used to bring the mail to Wealaka (Leonard) three times a week, from Muskogee. This stage line used to

run west out of Muskogee for about seven miles and then in a southwesterly direction across Cow Creek to Lee Post. At Lee was a tavern, store, court house and stage stand and post office, all operated by a man and his wife name Barnett.

The stage line branched at Lee, one branch leading to Okmulgee, the other to Wealaka. The one to Wealaka ran northwest through the Concharly Mountains to Sam Brown's Store. The mail man left a number of letters in a box at the store and as people came in they looked through the mail and took out what belonged to them, as there was no postmaster. At the Brown Store horses were sometimes changed and the driver ate his meals and continued on to Wealaka Mission. The line continued from Wealaka, crossing the Arkansas River to the Perryman settlement near the present town of Coweta.

The other branch ran due west from Lee Post to Reddy's blacksmith shop owned and operated by the Creek Government. After leaving the blacksmith shop the road continued west, crossed Six Mile Creek and Still going west came to Okmulgee. This line went on to the Sac and Fox country but I can't tell how it ran out of Okmulgee.

Marriages

I was married according to the law. A license was secured from Judge Parker at Fort Smith, Arkansas, and out marriage was performed here by a preacher.

Permits to Non-Citizens

People who could not show citizenship with the Creek Tribe but were employed by the Creeks, the one employing them had to pay so much a month permit for these white men and Negroes to work for them. The price per month was first \$2.00, then \$1.11 and finally nothing.

Creek Chiefs

The names of Creek Chiefs that I knew and heard so much of were, Sam Cheote, Joe and Legas Perryman, Pleasant Porter and Moty Tiger.

Burial Grounds

There were no designated burial grounds. People just buried their dead on their own place and called it a family grave yard. I have relatives buried near old Fishertown, Wealaka, Eufaula and Okmulgee.

The Indians buried about as they do at present as far back as I can remember.

Division of Creek Nation

The Creek Nation was divided into three districts or towns as the Creeks called them. Muskogee was called Arkansas Town, or district number one, Coweta was district number two and Okmulgee was number three.

The Nation had a Principal Chief, House of Kings and a House of Warriors.

Each district had a judge, prosecuting attorney and Lighthorsemen or mounted police.

The Creek officials only dealt with the Creeks, others were citizens of the United States and they were handled by the Federal United States Court and by United States Marshals.

All officers of the Nation and each district were elected by the citizens of the tribe, only the men being allowed to vote.

Sometimes they would go to vote and tell the clerk their choice for different offices and the clerk would keep record of each vote cast.

Markham & Johnson

Solicits your attention to their large list of low priced property in the City of Muskogee. We will mention only a few of our many bargains.

Residence Lots

Four lots 50x140 on N st., near Broadway; each	\$ 100.00
Lots 50x140 on M st., near Callahan; each	175.00
Lot 40x115 on Callahan, near L st. This lot has a good well on it	250.00
Lot 70x115, corner Callahan and N st.	285.00
Lot 50x112 on Main near South Broadway	300.00
5 lots 50x160 on Indianapolis ave., between Sixth and Seventh; easy payments; each	350.00
Lots on Division Boulevard and Howard st., 50x180; great bargain at	300.00
Lot 100x205 on Division Boulevard, near Gerard st.	700.00
587 feet, east facing on Division Boulevard and Gerard st., per front foot	7.00
Lot 133x155, corner of Division Boulevard and Pon du Lac st., per foot	8.00
Lot 65x155, east facing on Division Boulevard near Market st.	800.00
Lot 106 feet on Division Boulevard, corner of Emporia st.	1,200.00
Lot 100x220 on Joplin, near Third st.	400.00
Lot 100x200 on Main st., near Howard	1,000.00
Lot 25x150 on Third st., near Pon du Lac	250.00
Lot 145x140 on Court st., near Eleventh; per foot	11.00
Lots 120x144 on Kendall Boulevard and Division; per front foot	12.00
200 feet on Fourteenth and Court sts.; per foot	800.00
Corner lot, 100x200, Tenth and Court st.	1,500.00
Block 195 on Broadway, between Fourteenth and Fifteenth sts. Eighteen residence lots can be made of this beautiful block; price	5,000.00
Choice lots 50x140, on Fourteenth and Boston ave.; price per front foot	20.00

Residences

Three 2-room houses on a lot 150x150, Third and Pon du Lac st. Houses rent for \$10.00 per month; price	800.00
3-room house on lot 55x115, on 821, Dayton ave.	550.00
2-room house on lot 50x140, on Sixth and Indianapolis ave.	500.00
Good 4-room house, well, lot 50x112 at 913, South Main st. House rents for \$12.50 per month	850.00
2-room house, lot 50x178, on Division Boulevard, opposite North Terrace; price	500.00
4-room house, lot 82x165, on North Division Boulevard, rents for \$12.00 per month	900.00
New 6-room house, barn, well; lot 50x140, on N st., near Callahan	1,600.00
New 6-room house, 85 feet, east facing, lot on Eleventh st. and Prospect Place	1,800.00
New 6-room house, good barn, cellar and well, east facing lot with 100 foot frontage	2,200.00
7-room house, barn, cistern, well and shade trees, lot 101x150 feet on corner Third and South side Boulevard	3,000.00
10-room hotel on North Cherokee st.; is now rented for \$60.00 per month	4,000.00

Business Property

The Hoffman house, hotel and 6-room residence; lot 60x80 feet, on South Main st., near Okmulgee ave.	6,200.00
Lot 50x120 on South Third, near Okmulgee; per foot	50.00
Lot 70x104, corner Fourth and Denison; per foot	40.00
Lots on Okmulgee near Third st.; per foot	150.00
Lots on Okmulgee near Fourth st.; per foot	100.00
Lot on Court st., facing on Main and Second are 50x142 feet	10,000
207 feet fronting on Baltimore st., corner Cherokee st.; per foot	30.00
Lot 25x120 on Cherokee st., near Broadway. This property is partly improved and brings a rental of \$18.00 per month; price	2,200.00

We have a great many other bargains that may suit you better. Call at our office or write to

Markham & Johnson

110 I-2 Second Street. Muskogee, I. T.

Muskogee Democrat.

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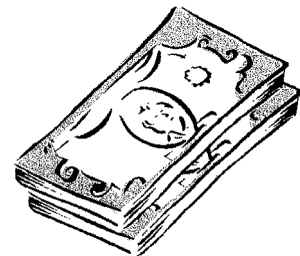
Why is the South Called "The Land of Dixie"

Believe it or not, it had nothing to do with Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, the 18th century surveyors whose Mason/Dixon line separated the North from the South. Nor did it come from Mr. Dixie, a kindly slave owner.

Early in the 19th century, a New Orleans bank issued 10 dollar bills that bore the word dix, the French word for 10, on their face. The bills became known as "dixies," and possessing them was a symbol of prosperity. Therefore, they became synonymous with the South.

What's surprising, though, is where the theme song of the Confederacy came from. Dixie was actually composed by a black Northerner, Daniel D. Emmett. It was first performed in a Broadway show in 1860.

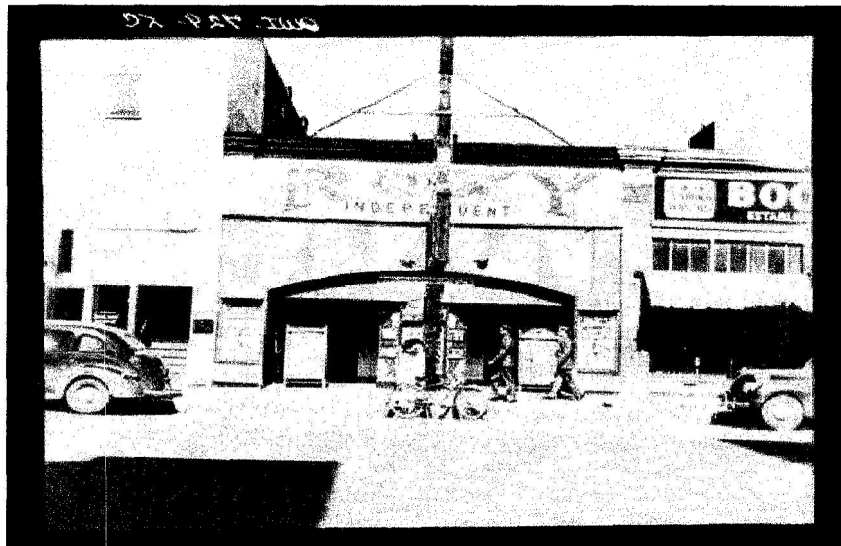
From *Why Do Cowboys Wear High Heels?* By Jeff Rovin



Christmas Eve, 1939

Ann Arfstrom Gardner

My parents with my little sister and I had gone to Muskogee for Christmas. My grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins all lived in Muskogee where my parents had grown up and Christmas there was wonderful. My small family was living in Cushing, Oklahoma, at that time. My sister was only a year old and I was allowed to go down town with my daddy. As Daddy and I were walking down Okmulgee Street in front of the Roxy Theater, Daddy met an old friend. The old friend was Moscow Evens who had worked at my great-grandfather's Lumbar Tire Store on Broadway Street. Moscow was an African-American and very kind to me, a small child of five years. And he had a very distinctive voice that impressed me even then.



Many years later after I was grown and had children of my own I was again in Muskogee. My parents had retired and returned to Muskogee. In 1966 I had taken a job with the Muskogee City-County Health Department as a Public Health Nurse. When Home Health Care was first becoming established it began at the Health Dept. in Muskogee. My first assignment was to make a house call to a man who had surgery and needed a dressing change. I dutifully went to his home where I was ushered in to my patient and I introduced myself; then he opened his mouth and spoke and I was instantly brought back to 1939. It was Moscow Evens. When I told him who I was he was as thrilled as I was. The next day I drove my father to see Moscow and the two had many happy hours reliving a time and place they both remembered and love.

Review of Three Rivers Museum Ghost Caravan Tour

By Hannah Hill age 11

The week before Saturday, October 23rd my mom told me that we were going to attend a historical tour of Muskogee and all week I was trying to find a friend to spend the night with because I didn't want to go to a boring history tour of Muskogee. But it turned out I couldn't find a friend to spend the night with and I had to go. I'm sure glad I did because mom didn't tell me it was a GHOST historical tour.

My dad drove in our car to lots of different places. Our first stop was the Thomas Foreman home. This home was built in 1898 by Judge John Thomas and remained in the family after his daughter Carolyn married Grant Foreman. John Thomas was killed in McAlester in a prison riot. The gardener and caretaker of the home till after the family passed away swore he could see Carolyn standing on in the window watching over him.

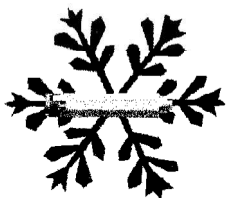
Other places we went was the site of the first cemetery in Muskogee and you can still see "Rest in Peace" etched in the concrete. Even though we didn't go in the Turvin Home the speaker said that real ghost investigators have been to the house to see if ghosts are there. At Bacon College the manager of the museum took us around the yard and told us legends of ghost stories. There was 3 girls that lived at the college not even on the tour with us that said they had seen ghosts in some buildings.

Another stop was the Fort Gibson stockade hospital. the speaker said that it was once called The Graveyard of the West because lots of soldiers died there and said to still roam the grounds. The hospital was real spooky.

We visited a few more cemeteries and the last stop was Frozen Rock Cemetery. Some of the people on the tour were wearing Halloween masks and was scaring others. We had a great time and a scary time while learning a lot about the history of Muskogee. I will go with my family again next year.

*Super job Hannah!!
you will have to write something
for the next quarterly.*





***Muskogee County Genealogical
Society***

***Cordially invites you to attend
OUR
Annual Christmas Party***



**When: 9 December 2004, 6:30 p.m.
Where: Muskogee Public Library**

Please come and join us for a night of fun and fellowship. Bring your favorite covered dish. We will have food, door prizes and fun! Special door prize for paying your 2005 dues at the party.

Also, Stacy has a special game with baby photos, please send her a copy of your cutest baby picture. The photo will be returned.

Hope to see you there!



Muskogee County Genealogical Society Publications

Cherokee Indian Rolls-Doubtful and Rejected - \$31.25

An alphabetical listing of Cherokee names classified as "Doubtful and Rejected" by the Dawes Commission. Transcribed by Betty Taylor Harris. 263 pages

Cemeteries of Muskogee County, Oklahoma, Volume 1 - \$18.75

Includes Agency, Bemo, Boynton, Brewer, Briartown, Brushy Mountain, Butler Creek, Council Hill, Doyle, Ft. Gibson/Anderson Bottoms, Frozen Rock, Grayson, Plainview, Rock Grove, Starnes, Starr, Taylor, Walker, 2 Unidentified. Compiled by Deone Duncan Penquite. 155 pages including index

Cemeteries of Muskogee County, Oklahoma, Volume 2 - \$31.25

Includes Harnage, Harris, Harris Family, Haskell, Jennings, Jobe Family, McClure, Middleton Chapel, Oktaha Community, Park, South Bethel, Summit, 1 Unidentified. Compiled by Deone Duncan Penquite. 291 pages including index

Index to Divorce Cases, Muskogee County, Oklahoma--1914-1920 - \$20

Compiled by Jimmie D. Benson and Loretta Dillon Benson. 103 pages including index

Index to Probates and Guardianships, Muskogee County Oklahoma--1907-1930 - \$22.50

Compiled by Deone Duncan Penquite. 160 pages including index

Index of Obituaries and Deaths Extracted from the Muskogee Daily Phoenix 1954-1992 - \$25 per volume

Compiled by Deone Duncan Penquite.

Volume I-Surnames A-D (11,073 names, 201 pages)

Volume II-Surnames E-K (11,086 names, 203 pages)

Volume III-Surnames L-R (11,648 names, 210 pages)

Volume IV-Surnames S-Z (9,908 names, 180 pages)

Marriage Records-Muskogee Indian Territory First U. S. Court, Northern District, Books A, B & B-1. July 1890-March 1893 - \$13.75

Compiled by Rae Lindsey & Mickey Hooper Hagan. 108 pages including index

U. S Deputy Marshals, Indian Territory & Oklahoma Territory-1893-1896 - \$12

Compiled by Walter Heck Penquite. 66 pages

Genealogical Data Extracted from the Muskogee Weekly Phoenix, Indian Territory, 1888-1902 - \$25

Compiled by Sheri Sharpnack Siebold. 198 pages

Genealogical Data Extracted from the Boynton Index-Newspaper Boynton, Muskogee County Oklahoma, April 8, 1921-November 26, 1926 - \$12.50

Compiled by Lillie Hodge Wiedel. 100 pages

Index of Deaths Extracted From Muskogee Daily Phoenix-January 16, 1930-May 4, 1935 - \$7.50

Compiled by Deone Duncan Penquite. 49 pages

Widow's Records 1919-1924 Court Records, -\$12.50

54 pages including index.

Index of Oklahoma Deaths in the Muskogee Daily Phoenix 1924-1930 - \$25

All obituaries published between 1924 and 1930 are included in this index. However, many of the citations are for deaths outside the immediate area where the newspaper was published. 124 pages. Softbound.

The Pioneer Newspaper, circa 1898-1905 - \$22.50

A blend of abstracts and extractions from an early Oklahoma newspaper. Indexed. 136 pages.

Muskogee County Genealogical Society, 801 West Okmulgee, Muskogee, OK 74401

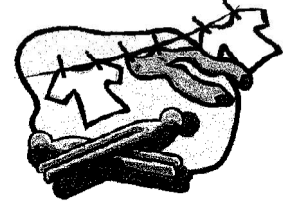
Please add \$3.00 each book for Shipping and Handling

Oklahoma residents please include sales tax.

*Don't forget that we have back issues of MCGS Quarterlies

WRINGER WASHING MACHINES

By Nancy Lasater



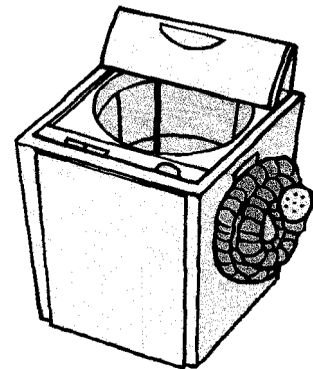
How many of us remember the Monday washdays? Mom would put on a pot of beans to cook all day while we were in the garage doing the wash. Some of us were really fortunate in that we had an upscale gadget called a wringer washing machine to make life easier.

This modern appliance even included a safety measure in case the wringers would stall or become over loaded. All Mom had to do was hit the red bar on the top of the wringer to loosen the gears, the rollers would stop and the obstruction could be cleared.

This certainly came in handy more than once. Being around eight years old at the time, I was short of stature, and had to stand on a stool to be able to feed the clothes through the wringer to the next rinse tub. There were always two rinses, the first one with bluing. More than once my fingers got just a little too close and were pulled through the rollers with the clothes.

Sure enough, when Mom saw the emergency, she reached for the handle, with one small glitch. In her panic she couldn't remember the large red bar on the top and flipped the lever that reversed the direction and ran my arm back out from whence direction it came.

Until I reached a height sufficient to reach the emergency release myself, or keep my fingers out, which ever came first, I probably had my arm wrung and unwrung at least three times. There have never been any ill effects from all this, but even back in the good ole day, while I was never lucky enough to get to wear a cast for the kids to sign at school, on more than one occasion I was the kid with the longest, flattest arm in the class.



NEW PUBLICATIONS

Oklahoma Biographical Index

By
Helen Lemley

An index of biographies of residents of Oklahoma from twenty five different sources covering a time period from 1889 – 1957. This is a great resource for those looking for material on specific Oklahomans.

274 pages, 15,308 names.
\$40 – book form
\$35 – CD

From:
Muskogee County Genealogical Society
801 W. Okmulgee
Muskogee, OK 74401



NEW PUBLICATIONS

The Pioneer Newspaper 1898-1905

by
Helen Lemley

This book is designed to show life in Oklahoma and Indian Territories as given in an African American newspaper.

Here you will find births, deaths, weddings, openings of businesses, humor and many other types of articles. There are many discussions, pro and con, about the inclusion of Oklahoma as a state and a strong discussion about the state's name. Also included is information about the early railroads and some about the trolley system in Muskogee.

\$25.50

from

Muskogee County Genealogical Society
801 W. Okmulgee
Muskogee, OK 74401



THE INDIAN PIONEER PROJECT

In 1936 The Oklahoma Historical Society and the University of Oklahoma, History Department joined in an effort to get a Works Progress Administration (WPA) writer's project grant. The interview program employed more than 100 writers throughout Oklahoma. The headquarters for the project was in Muskogee with Grant Foreman serving as director.

The Chronicles of Oklahoma, Volume 18, No. 2, June 1940, reports the following from the Annual Meeting, Oklahoma Historical Society, May 9 and 10, 1940:

"The Indian Pioneer project, completed in 1938, resulted in the preservation of priceless recollections of pioneers, many of whom have since passed on. The accumulation of such data from all parts of the state has been typed and bound in 120 volumes of more than 500 pages each, constituting an invaluable collection known as the "Foreman Papers," on account of the effort made by Dr. Grant Foreman in their accumulation, and indexing. The card indexing of these volumes is being carried forward to early completion"

The following is a transcript of the Foreword written by Grant Foreman.

Foreword

As Oklahoma is a young state much of her pioneer life is not far in the past and many of the people who lived through those days are still alive. Opportunity existed to secure their recollections for preservation as an incomparable source of Oklahoma history and plans were made to profit by the situation.

The papers in these volumes represent the fruition of these efforts achieved through the labors of Works Progress Administration Project S-149, sponsored jointly by the University of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Historical Society, with headquarters at Muskogee. It was conceived and carried on primarily with the view to collect from living witnesses vital facts and impressions of pioneer life in Oklahoma. To this end a force of field workers numbering from eighty to one hundred was maintained throughout the state. This force was made up of persons located in various counties whose duty it was to interview people having knowledge of pioneer life and experiences worth recording and preserving.

In the early part of the work, over a period of several months, 25,000 questionnaires were sent out over the state that resulted in the collection of many interesting papers from persons who cheerfully recorded their impressions of early Oklahoma life. When the questionnaires and papers prepared by the field workers were turned into the office they went through the hands of the editors; when put in proper form they were typed in duplicate, one copy for the University and one for the Oklahoma Historical Society.

The reader will find a great diversity in the quality and character of the papers for this material was not obtained and compiled by experts. The project was set up for the purpose of giving employment to persons on relief and all the employees in the field were taken from relief rolls, efforts were made to secure workers who had an intelligent conception of the work and a sense of historical values; who were qualified to interview subjects and record the results of the interviews. A gratifying number of such were found

Muskogee Democrat, Indian Territory, 1 November 1904

B. Robinson was here from Quinton yesterday.

Smith-Torrans Furniture Co. have and adv. In other columns of special interest to those intending to decorate their rooms with wall-paper. Note the big reduction for thirty days only.

Geo. H. English an attorney from Kansas City is here looking after oil leases.

Stoves set up and polished. Call at office of Crude Oil, Gas Burner Co., 1 door west Carolina Bldg. West Okmulgee avenue 198-tf

W. B. Wallace of Bunceton, Nev., and J. M. Hackley of Warrensburg, Mo. Have been here for a few days buying mules.

Go to 547 North Seventh street for accordion pleating. Mrs. Cora D. Howe. 152-tf

P. B. Bostic & Company yesterday sold to Dr. John Reynolds a 25 foot lot on South Third street for \$1500. He will at once commence to build a two story brick building, which he has already rented for a year.

Concrete sidewalks, porches and steps a specialty. Beds and estimates given . Tel. 547

Miss Minnie Dumas and Cora Moor returned from a week's visit at St. Louis yesterday.

See Prindie for wall paper. 178-tf

R. L. Owen left for St. Louis last evening.

Mr. McDonnell will be here Wednesday with the complete plans for the waterworks and sewer system extension for Muskogee.

Marriage Licenses

Shadrack McIntosh to Rachel Bolden.

Will Thomas, 25, to Miss Millweed, 27, Checotah

Positions Open

Never in the history of the Indian Territory was there such a demand for competent office help. We are here to prepare young men and young women. We teach in a practical way, bookkeeping, shorthand, typewriting, (touch or sight method) commercial law, commercial arithmetic, penmanship and the English branches. Individual instruction – Position guaranteed. School day and night.

Croom's Commercial College

Muskogee Phoenix, Thursday, December 30, 1904

Muskogee Phoenix, Thursday, December 30, 1904

Invitations have been issued for a watch party to begin at the Muskogee Town and Country Club Saturday evening December 31st for the club members. The ladies on the committee of entertainment are Mrs. Tams Rixby, Mrs. C. L. Jackson and Mr. I I Van Smith. Elaborate preparations are being made for an enjoyable time, and dancing will be a pleasant feature.

* * *

There will be a rehearsal of The Mikado at the rectory tonight at 7:30. The rehearsal is expected to be very interesting.

* * *

Mrs. Ira B. Kirkland has returned from Wagoner, where she spent Christmas with friends.

* * *

Mrs. W. R. Shackelford and Miss Myra Young will entertain Miss Mae Hudson of Tahlequah the latter part of the week.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Baker, who spent Christmas with Mrs. Baker's parents in Missouri, returned yesterday to their home in this city.

* * *

Miss Eula Callahan of Drury College, Springfield., Mo., is spending the holidays with her parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. O. Callahan, East Broadway.

* * *

Mrs. H. C. Thurman, South Fourth Street, is entertaining her mother, Mrs. Levy and her brothers, Messrs. Charles and Edward Levy of Columbia, MO

* * *

Miss Frances Haskell and Miss Harmon accompanied Mr. C. N. Haskell from Fayetteville yesterday and will be the guests of Mrs. N. F. Hancock this week

* * *

Misses Ethel and Edith Hubbard will go today to Boynton, where they will visit Mrs. R. S. Selzer, who entertaining a house party this week. A wild turkey unt is a part of the week's delightful program.

* * *

Misses Patti Grubbs, Mattie and Bettie Martin have returned from South McAlester, where they were guests at a house party given by Miss Doyle. Several social functions were given in their honor during their visit.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

The following marriage licenses were issued at the clerk's office yesterday to Don Starr, 21, Alice Gondy, 21, Fort Gibson, I. T.; W. Wilbur, 23, Wagoner, Stella Snead, 18, Muskogee; Wilson Scott, 22, Gurley, Texas, Cora Masters, 22, Fort Gibson; John R. Hall, 55, Nettie King, 26, Broken Arrow; Wesley Rutherford, 24, Bessie Cline, 18, Tulsa, I. T.; Freeman Butler, 34, Minnie Hardguse 19, Muskogee.

Walter Falwell left yesterday for Weleetka on official business.

The Town Of Haskell

Was born in 1904

By Jonita Mullins

The Midland Valley Railroad was organized in 1903 by a group of eastern investors who owned coal mines in Arkansas and Indian Territory. A Muskogee businessman named Charles N. Haskell was a railroad developer and promoter who persuaded the Midland Valley to build its line to Muskogee.

The Midland Valley reached Muskogee in the spring of 1904 and under Haskell's leadership decided to set up its headquarters in this Indian Territory town. The railroad had already begun work on a continuation of the line to follow the route of the Arkansas River to Tulsa and then into the rich grasslands of the Osage Nation and then on into Kansas.

As railroad graders worked to prepare the bed for the rail line, they reached the Choska Bottoms west of Muskogee in 1903. Here they found lush farmland watered by Concharty and Ash Creeks with the beautiful Concharty Mountains nearby rising up from the Arkansas River Valley. It was the ideal setting for a town.

The railroads were as much in the business of building towns as they were in building rail lines. Railroad investors wanted to build towns along their tracks to create a demand for their services. Investors created townsite companies to purchase land, survey town lots and then sell those lots for business and residential development.

All the land in the area was owned by Creeks — natives and freedmen — through the Dawes Commission allotments Congress had placed restrictions on the sale of allotted land, in an effort to keep tribal members from being taken advantage of by land speculators. It would require special permission from the Interior Secretary to enable the Creek landowners to sell their property to the railroad.

A local pioneer named T.J. Way saw the opportunity the railroad offered this area of Indian Territory. He sought permission from the government to purchase an 80-acre section of land from a full-blood Creek named Amos Rolland. It took several months to get government approval, but the purchase was finally completed.

Mr. Way then conveyed the tract of land to the Midland Valley Railroad's townsite company whose promoters were Charles Haskell, P.B. Hopkins, and Walter Eaton. Surveyors moved into the area and began to plat the new town. It was decided that 80 acres simply wasn't enough land so J.C. Scully helped obtain title to an adjoining track and it also was plated for town lots.

Town of Haskell Continued.

And so the town of Haskell came into existence, named for the promoter who had exerted his considerable influence in bringing the railroad to the area. Haskell was granted a post office on June 20, 1904. The little town of Sawokla promptly moved north to the new townsite and its last official postmark date was also June 20, 1904.

Before the town was anything more than surveyors' tents and railroad workers' shacks, an enterprising young Lebanese peddler stopped and asked the surveyors if he could set up a tent to sell his wares to the workers. Anton Beshara was granted permission, and his first sale in May 1904 was a glass of lemonade.

Beshara's tent store became the first business to operate in Haskell. Beginning with stock worth \$140, Anton operated his tent business until a tornado blew the tent and its contents away. Beshara had already begun to build a wooden structure for his store and it became the first permanent building in Haskell.

Like every other railroad town, Haskell began as a ten city. But it didn't take long for businesses and homes to be built on the lots that were selling from \$50 to \$300 each. J.C. Scully, who would later serve as one of Haskell's first mayors, acted as agent for the Midland Townsite Company in handling the sale of real estate in Haskell's first addition called the Highland Addition.

Scully also helped to establish Haskell's first bank in 1904. The Haskell National Bank was a simple, even crude, operation in its early tent days, but it quickly built a brick structure that same year. By 1911, it had changed its name to the First Bank of Haskell. At various times in its history, Haskell had four banks including the First National Bank and the International Bank, both organized in 1905, and the Arkansas Valley Bank, begun in 1921.

Mayor Scully became wealthy in his real estate deals and later added to his wealth by drilling for oil. He built a fine two-story home on West Main Street in his Highland Addition. Scully was also instrumental in having concrete sidewalks poured for the city — even before the streets were paved! And he helped develop the first municipal water system for the city of Haskell.

In Haskell's very early days, it had just four streets. They included Broadway and Choctaw as the north-south thoroughfares and Main and Commercial were the east-west streets. For a number of years these streets were unpaved and quite dusty in the summer.

Town of Haskell cont.

When these streets were finally paved, they were paved in brick and those brick streets still survive (in certain sections) nearly 100 years later. Haskell's brick streets give it a distinction not shared by many cities and its citizens take pride in this unique aspect of their town.

Other businessmen to arrive in Haskell in its first year of existence were C.E. Henson who ran a mercantile and Dr. M.T. Smith who moved his medical practice from Choska in 1904. He had his medical office on South Broadway and he had the distinction of being one of the first residents to own an automobile.

By 1905, Haskell's tents and worker shacks had given way to wood-frame cottage homes and solid brick business buildings along Broadway and Main. The Turvey Brothers, were building contractors who put up some of these buildings including the home of First National Bank, established in 1905. This bank was started by Cleat and Carr Peterson, with capital stock of \$25,000. The bank boasted of a "burglar-proof" time-lock safe.

Nat Lamerson came to Haskell in 1905 from Kansas and set up a hardware store here. He also served as postmaster during the Theodore Roosevelt administration. After his term at the post office, he went into the grocery business and continued in that profession for a number of years.

Haskell saw its first church organized in 1905. The Christian Church was brought into being on January 28, 1905 and by Easter Sunday of that year had finished a wood frame building for the little congregation and held its first service that day. The Presbyterians in Haskell shared this church building until they could build their own edifice. The Methodists and Baptists met in storefront buildings for the first several years of Haskell's existence.

Haskell's first attorney was J.W. Brady who had been in practice in Muskogee, but saw opportunity in the growing town of Haskell. He brought his family here in 1905 and built a home for them in 1910. Active in Republican politics, he was appointed postmaster by President William H. Taft and took it upon himself to build a brick structure on East Main Street to house the post office.

Brady was an eloquent speaker and was frequently called upon to talk at rallies about the important events taking shape in Haskell. He was credited with getting a \$10,000 bond passed for the public school and for helping get the bond money to build the first bridge over the Arkansas River in the Choska Bottoms.

Haskell cont.

The most talked about political matter in 1905 was the subject of statehood. A great debate was taking place in the Twin Territories of Oklahoma and Indian Territory about whether these territories should form one state or should each seek separate statehood.

President Theodore Roosevelt was in favor of single statehood and he traveled through the Twin Territories in the spring of 1905 giving speeches on the subject in an effort to persuade Indian Territory's citizens to approve single statehood.

Many members of the Five Civilized Tribes, however, wanted Indian Territory to become a state separate from Oklahoma. So in the summer of 1905, the principal chiefs of the Five Civilized Tribes called for a state convention to be held in Muskogee. The purpose of the meeting was to draft a constitution for a proposed new state — the state of Sequoyah.

Creek Chief Pleasant Porter was president of the convention that met in August of 1905. Many prominent men from the tribes were present at the meetings, held at the Hinton Theater in Muskogee, who would later be important in Oklahoma politics. Rising to greatest prominence at the convention was Haskell's own namesake, Charles N. Haskell. Chief Porter relied upon Haskell heavily in dealing with all the intricate matters required to begin a new state.

Among other things, the convention wrote a lengthy constitution for the proposed state and established the boundaries for 48 counties. The Sequoyah Constitution was voted upon and approved by the people of Indian Territory on November 7, 1905. This was the first territory-wide vote ever to be held, and it allowed non-Indians to vote, a rare occurrence among the Five Tribes.

The constitution was overwhelmingly approved and was sent to Congress for admission to the union as the State of Sequoyah. Congress, however, basically ignored the application for statehood by Indian Territory and instead passed the Enabling Act, requiring a single state be created from the Twin Territories. Haskell became a part of the great state of Oklahoma the following year on November 16, 1907.

Jonita Mullins has also written a book on Haskell, which is sold in the museum gift shop. It is called, "Haskell: A Centennial Celebration"

Jonita, thank you for this article.

Mrs. Claus at Dry Gulch

By Susie Buford

For an unforgettable experience, travel back in time to the 1800's town of Dry Gulch, U. S. A., wrapped in a splendor of Christmas lights and celebrate Christmas with the town folk who are dressed in period costume.

Arriving at the welcome center, you will be helped aboard a horse-drawn wagon by gallant cowboys dressed in western hats and long dusters.

On disembarking from the wagon in the Town Square, a town crier can be heard calling out information and locations of the various stores and shops to visit.

The elegant Palace Hotel displays a variety of gifts that especially appeals to the ladies. The General Store is only one of several places to do some unique Christmas shopping. Need to rest for a few minutes, visit the Cimmaron Theater where you will be treated to more entertainment.

Once aboard the Christmas Train, an authentic old-fashion steam locomotive, you'll travel through narrated scenes depicting the story of Jesus, climaxing with His resurrection from the tomb.

Mid way through the train ride, a stop is made at the North Pole for a fun time at Santa's Village. Whether shopping in Saint Nick Mercantile or having your child's picture made with Santa, the aroma from the Reindeer Café' will be an enticement to the hungry, and even the not so hungry.

The aroma of fresh baked cookies fill the air surrounding the North Pole Bakery. Warming your hands around a hot mug of

Mrs. Claus cont.

cocoa or coffee and munching on Mrs. Claus's special cookies is a mouth watering treat to not pass up.

Santa, as well as Mrs. Claus greet thousands of boys and girls each year not to mention the grownups that can't resist the jolly couple. Children may have their photo made with Santa and tell him their wish for Christmas. Some young boys and girls are much to shy to talk to Santa but, are drawn to the warmth and charm of Mrs. Claus. Even those who leave an item off their list for Santa can breath a sigh of relief when they hear Mrs. Claus assure them that she will relay their message to Santa. It is not unusual to see the little ones come back for a second or third hug from adorable Mrs. Claus. To a frequent question, "Do you make the cookies?" Mrs. Claus explains that because of her busy schedule, a special group of elves make the delicious cookies using her secret recipe. The hugs and happy personality, along with her friendly laughter and love for children make Mrs. Claus a favorite at Santa's Village.

New changes each year make the trip to this exquisite 1800's town decorated in Christmas grandeur an unforgettable experience for the whole family, whether it is your first or your 16th visit, it's a must on the 'things to do' during the holiday season.

Dry Gulch is located five miles north of Pryor, OK, and nine and one half miles east on Dry Gulch Road and is owned and operated by Church On The Move in Tulsa, OK.

For more information about Christmas Train, you can call 918-234-8100 or at www.christmastrain.com.

Note: Mrs. Claus is our beloved editor Diana Reaser.



THE STORY TELLERS

[Http://www.cambridgeshirehistory.com/localancestors/homepage.html](http://www.cambridgeshirehistory.com/localancestors/homepage.html)

*In each family there is one who seems called to find the ancestors.
To put flesh on their bones and make them live again, to tell the family
story and
To feel that somehow they know and approve.....doing genealogy is not a
cold gathering of facts, but, instead breathing life into all who have
gone before.
We are the story tellers of the tribe. All tribes have one.
We have been called.
Those who have gone before cry out to us: TELL OUR STORY!
So, we do.
In finding them, we somehow find ourselves. How many graves have I
stood before and cried? I have lost count.
How many times have I told the ancestors..you have a wonderful family,
you would be proud of us!
How many times have I approached a grave and felt somehow there was
love there for me?
I cannot say.
It goes beyond just recording facts, It goes to the who I am and why I do
the things I do.
It goes to seeing a cemetery about to be lost forever to weeds and
indifference and saying I can't let this happen.
The bones that lie here are of bones of my bones and the flesh of my flesh.
It goes to doing something about it. It goes to pride in what our
ancestors were able to accomplish.
How they contributed to what we are today, to respecting their hardships
and their losses, their never giving up, their resoluteness to provide a
future for their family.
It goes to deep pride that the fathers fought and some died to make and
keep a nation.. It goes to deep and immense understanding that it was
done for us.
It is with equal pride and love that our mothers struggled to give us
birth, without them we would not exist, and so we love each one, with
each one found.
That we might be born who we are. That we might remember them.
So we do.
with love and caring and scribing each fact of their existence, because
they were us and we are the sum of who they were.*

Isn't the Internet Amazing?

In the 1980's when my four kids were growing up and tried to teach their mother about the wonderful thing called a computer I remember thinking "I can't do this...and what good is it anyway?" Even though I thought I qualified as 'old' I discovered, after quite a lot of prodding from my husband and children, that I *could* learn how to use that computer and that it truly is a remarkable thing.

Having done genealogical research for many years I quickly discovered how useful the computer could be for my research, although when I first went online there were only two websites related to genealogy. I made lots of Internet friends with whom I've shared my own research but I wanted to do more to help others find the vital records they needed. The logical way for me to do this would be to put information online that would be useful to those looking for the birth, death, marriage and cemetery records of their ancestors. Once again I thought, "I can't do this. I don't have a clue how to go about putting up websites." Well, guess what? I can *still* learn! I'll always remember the day I made a comment to my oldest son about hypertext markup language that was giving me trouble. As a systems engineer for our local hospital I thought this son knew computers inside and out...well, he does, but he didn't know how to solve my problem! It made me a happy woman to hear: "Mom, you are WAY over my head!"

It has taken four years to put together my websites but the work has been worth it.

Now I have my very own computer that I don't have to share. Each day brings new email into my mailbox and there are always surprises. Some people ask for help with their research, others send me material to put on my websites. Still others occasionally complain about what isn't there that they need or thank me for what I do have online. Usually, I scan the subjects of the email as it downloads into my computer and pick and choose what I want to read first. It gets easy to pick out the good stuff from the bad. Early one morning near the end of June I opened my email program and watched as the name of my grandmother's brother appeared in a subject line. That one got first priority! I opened it up to read the following:

"I can't believe it! I was just goofing around and I did a Google search on my maternal grandfather, William Trevor Longwell. You can't imagine my excitement when I clicked on your site and almost immediately saw a picture of him in the Tower Hill Band!" The writer went on to explain how he was related to Trevor Longwell. I already knew how he was related because I'd immediately recognized who he was but he didn't recognize me by my married name. He continued: "I know quite a bit about my dad's side of the family (Wards) but very little about the Longwells. I learned quite a bit just going through your web page (which is very nicely done, by the way.) I guess you and I are related, though I haven't worked out exactly how yet (that stuff really confuses me). But I guess Ida Conrad is my great-grandmother, and Judith Lamb is my great-great grandmother - and I didn't even know this until an hour ago."¹

The writer, my second cousin Dusty, and I had not seen or heard from each other in 40 years and here he was sending me an email. It was amazing and very exciting. Of course I answered right

¹ Dustin Ward, email message to author, 25 June 2004. Used with permission.

away and explained to him who I was, then waited anxiously for an answer. It was a long wait, or so it seemed. Two days later I finally got an excited answer from him. We exchanged numerous emails, pictures and stories in the following days then arranged to meet one day when I had a business trip to make to a town near his home. It was a wonderful day of sharing and remembering that I won't ever forget. I also doubt that I'll forget the ride we took on his Harley to a nearby cemetery! Call me "biker grandma" if you want. Since then we've shared other good times and many, many more emails. It is wonderful to find this cousin that loves to explore early Oklahoma's history and the part our families played in it. (And he likes cemeteries too!) I can't believe we've found each other.

Isn't the Internet amazing?

Just last week, I found myself again scanning the subject lines as the email downloaded. Since one of my websites focuses on Oklahoma Cemeteries and comprises 17,000+ pages of cemetery recordings and photographs, I often get mail related to the counties I oversee. Usually, the subject line has a cemetery or a county name and this morning there was one that said: "Le Flore Cemetery". This time I was in for another surprise but of a different kind. The writer was a gentleman in France who had found my name while doing a "Google Search" (sound familiar?). While walking on the beach he had found an id tag, had done a search for the name and found a listing and gravestone photograph on our Oklahoma Cemeteries website. His question was: Could I help him find the family of the soldier so he could return the tag to them? Of course, obsessive compulsive person that I am, and ever the lover of a good mystery to solve, I jumped in with both feet and said: "YES!" Now, I am an experienced researcher but I'm experienced at looking for DEAD people and this guy wanted live ones! Well, I'm thinking, "I've done some successful probate research and a few cases for private investigators looking for living people, how hard can this be?" My youngest son, Skye has always loved history, particularly that of WWII and is pretty well read on the subject. Besides that I thought, "And he's been to France too!" (forgetting for a moment that we're looking for people in Oklahoma!) Anyway, I called him and excitedly related the story of the newly found id tag and the family we needed to find.

First, I made a trip to the cemetery website to look at the gravestone photo. Here's the link if you want to see it too: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~okcemete/lefllore/fairhill/woodallcr.htm>

The gravestone read:

Clarence R. Woodall
Oklahoma
PVT 507 PRCHT INF 82 ABN DIV
WWII
Nov. 18, 1923 - July 13, 1944 ²

² Clarence Woodall tombstone, Fairhill Cemetery, Le Flore County, Oklahoma (3 miles West of Cameron); photograph by Sue Hearon. Oklahoma Cemeteries Mailing List Homepage online <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~okcemete/lefllore/lefllore.htm>> 12 Oct. 2004.

Some "Google searches" took me to: <http://www.ww2-airborne.us/units/507/507.html> which includes a history of the 507 Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 82nd Airborne Division that first saw combat during the Normandy invasion 6 June 1944.³

"In the predawn hours of D-Day the sporadic jump patterns of the 507th and 508th PIRs left troopers spread out over a twenty mile area. Some who overshot the Drop Zone (DZ) dropped into the Merderet River and its adjoining marshes. Many troopers who jumped with heavy equipment were unable to swim free and drowned. Others roamed the countryside until they encountered other units and joined their effort."⁴ River? Marshes? He said he found the id tag on the beach.

Pvt. Clarence Woodall is buried next to Etta M. (12 June 1897 - 26 May 1973) and George H. (22 Mar. 1891 - 3 Dec. 1971) Woodall in Fairhill "Knothole" Cemetery⁵ located near the town of Cameron in Le Flore County Oklahoma. The gravestone data and photographs were submitted to the website by Sue Hearon, a resident of nearby Panama.

Heritage Quest Online has the 1920 Federal Census for Oklahoma so I went there to look for the family. I found George and Etter [sic] Woodall listed as living in Cameron, Le Flore County Oklahoma with two small children, Coy and Raymon.⁶ In the 1930 census they are still living in Cameron, Le Flore County and other children, June, Clarence and Thurmon have been added to the family.⁷

While I was doing census searches, Skye was busy himself looking up the history of the 82nd. We exchanged numerous phone calls and emails discussing the searches we were doing. I had done some searches of the SSDI (Social Security Death Index) and found Raymond Woodall had died July 1973.⁸ Searches for Thurmon Woodall didn't show anything.⁹

Skye called the Le Flore County Commissioners Office (I don't know why he chose them?) and they suggested he call the Poteau Library and have them check the phone directory for the Woodall name. Poteau is about 6 miles south of Cameron and is the county seat. Tom Swafford, a genealogy volunteer at the library read to me (over the phone yet!) a list of Woodalls, 10 of them, and their phone numbers. As I read through the names I noticed that they were all common ones like Mike, Robert etc. but the last one was Veston who lived at Bokoche. There was no Veston listed with the George Woodall family in either the 1920 or 1930 census but the great guy from the library had

³ The 82nd Airborne online <<http://www.ww2-airborne.us/units/507/507.html>> 12 Oct. 2004.

⁴ Ibid

⁵ George H. and Etta M. Woodall tombstone, Fairhill Cemetery, Le Flore County, Oklahoma (3 miles West of Cameron) photograph by Sue Hearon. Oklahoma Cemeteries Mailing List Homepage online <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~okcemete/leflore/leflore.htm>> 12 Oct. 2004.

⁶ George Woodall household, 1920 U. S. census, Le Flore County, Oklahoma, population schedule, town of Cameron, ED 100, SD 3, sheet 22 A, dwelling 313, family 317; National Archives micropublication T625, roll 1468. Heritage Quest Online, page 77.

⁷ George Woodall household, 1930 U. S. census, Le Flore County, Oklahoma, populations schedule, town of Cameron, ED 40-8, SD 12, sheet 2A (stamped 65), dwelling 24, family 24, National Archives micropublication T626, roll 1910; Heritage Quest Online page 65.

⁸ Ramond Woodall, no. (private), Social Security Death Index online at: <http://ssdi.rootsweb.com/>

⁹ Thurman Woodall, Social Security Death Index online at: <http://ssdi.rootsweb.com/>

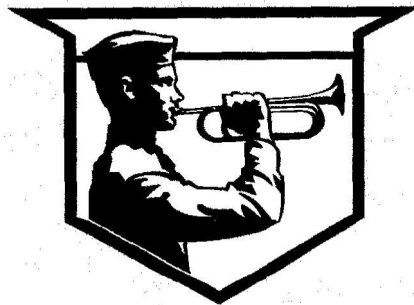
just emailed me the obituaries for George and Etta Woodall. Listed among the survivors was son "V. E. of Bokoche".¹⁰

Because I needed to run an errand, Skye said he'd start calling to see if he could find anyone that had a family member that died in World War II. When I returned home the phone was ringing. "MOM! I found him!" He was so excited. This was easier than I expected. In a few minutes, I was talking to Mr. Woodall on the phone. A very young man of only nine years old when his older brother died, he remembers it well. He said that the family had not known what happened to Pvt. Woodall, only that he was reported as missing in action shortly after D-day. The U.S. Army returned what they said were the remains to Oklahoma and the casket was buried in Fairhill Cemetery near the family home.

The next evening Mr. Woodall received a phone call from Mr. Gorin, the Frenchman that found the id tag. As I write this he is waiting to receive a photograph of the id tag and a letter from the Association Forced Landing. This is a group that searches for WWII crash sites and artifacts and connects American and British families to their fallen soldiers. They will honor Private Woodall with a ceremony in France and then his id tag will be returned to his family.

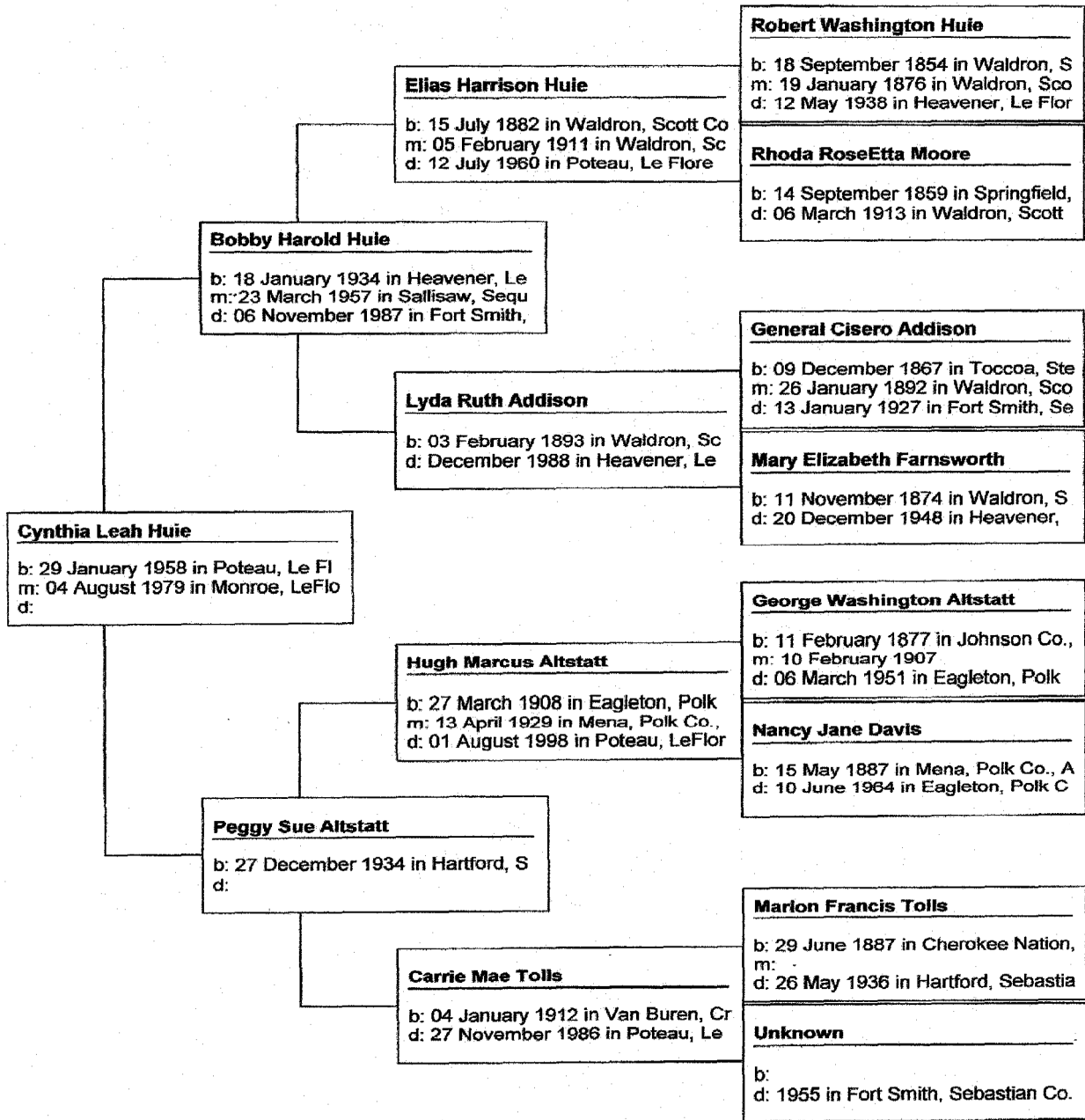
Isn't the Internet amazing?

Sue Brandes Tolbert 27 October 2004



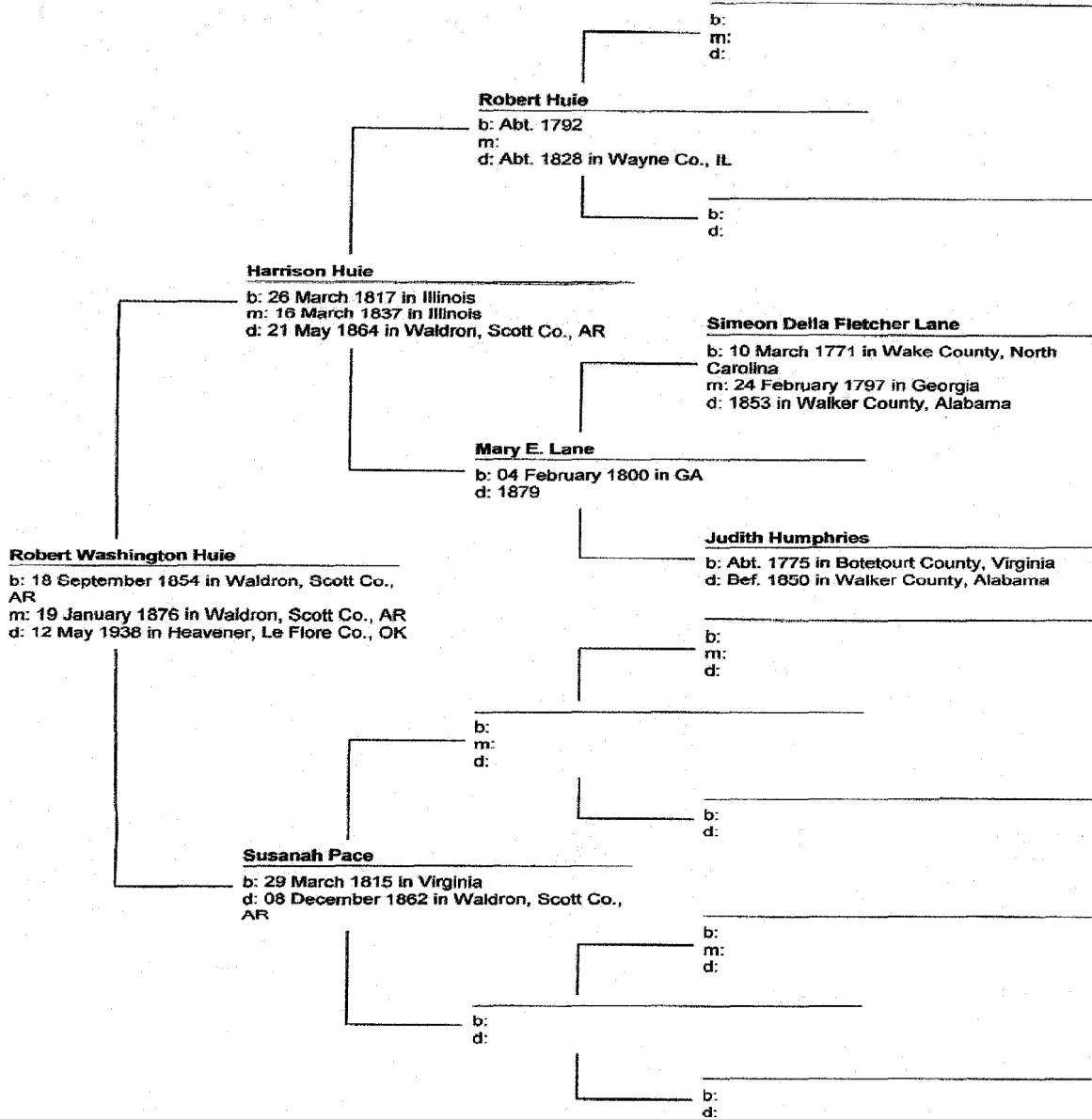
¹⁰ George Woodall obituary, *The Poteau News*, Poteau, Oklahoma, 9 Dec. 1971, page 7; Etta Woodall obituary, *The Poteau News*, Poteau, Oklahoma, 31 May 1973, page 6

Standard Pedigree Tree



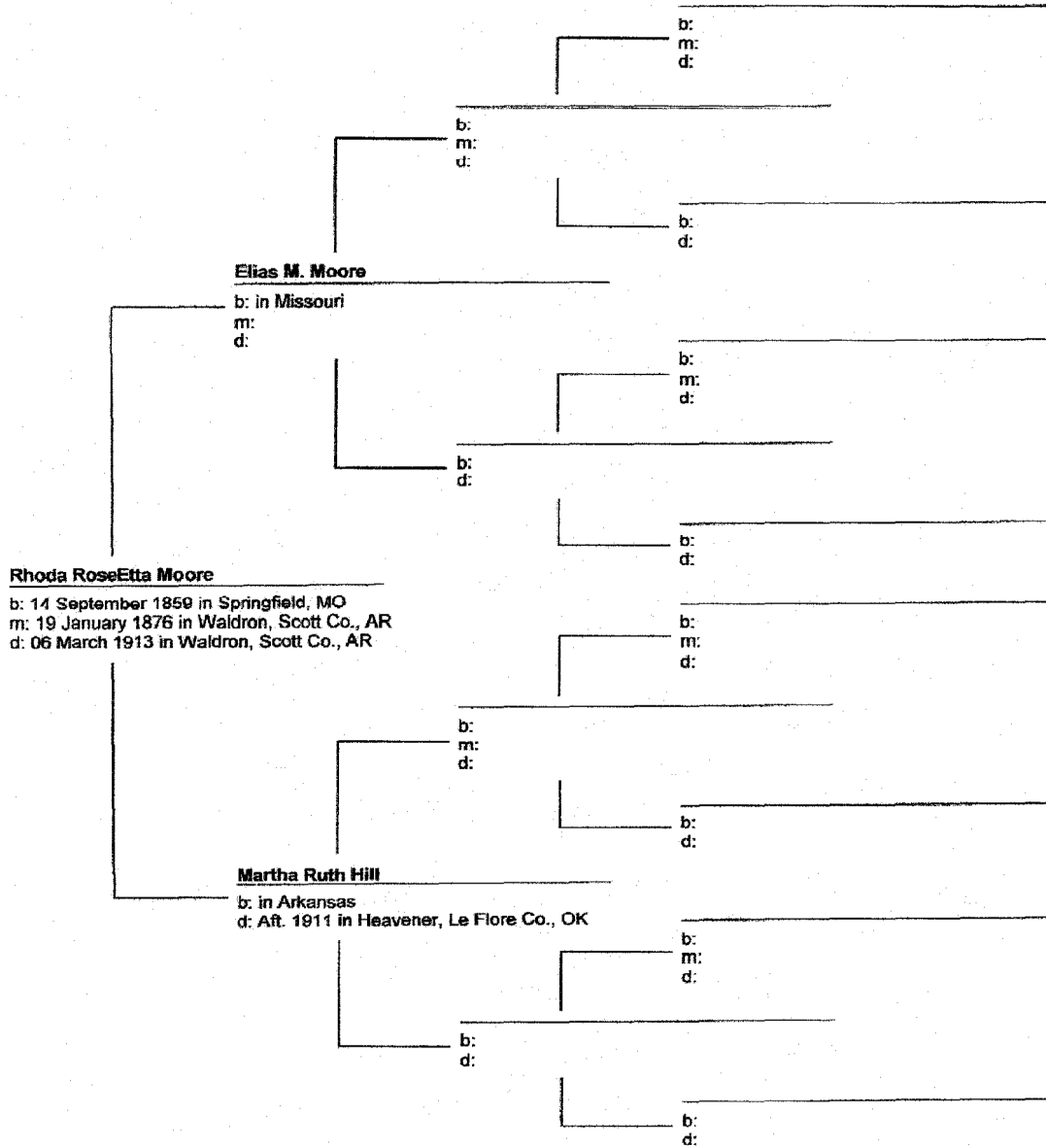
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Standard Pedigree Tree



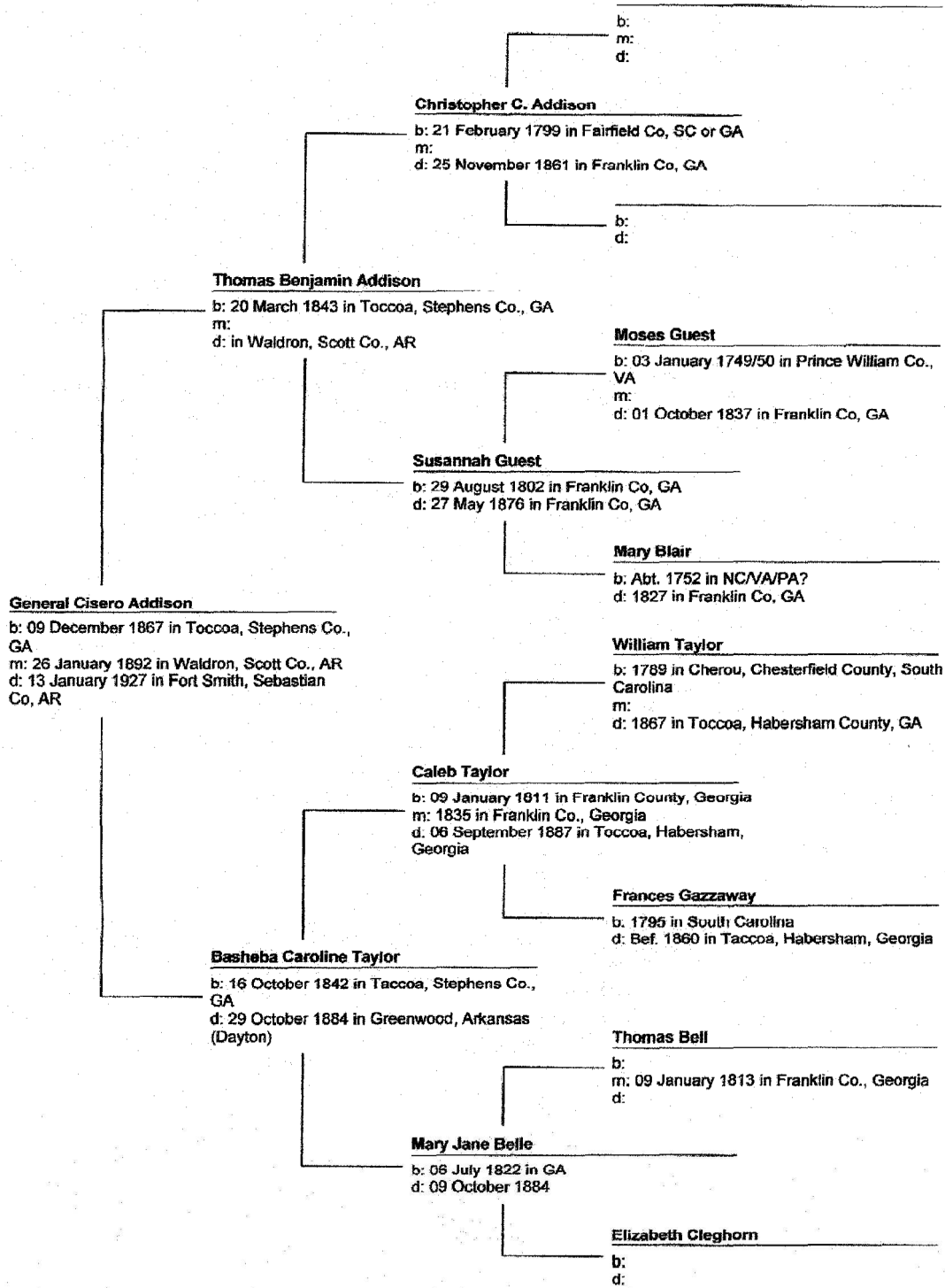
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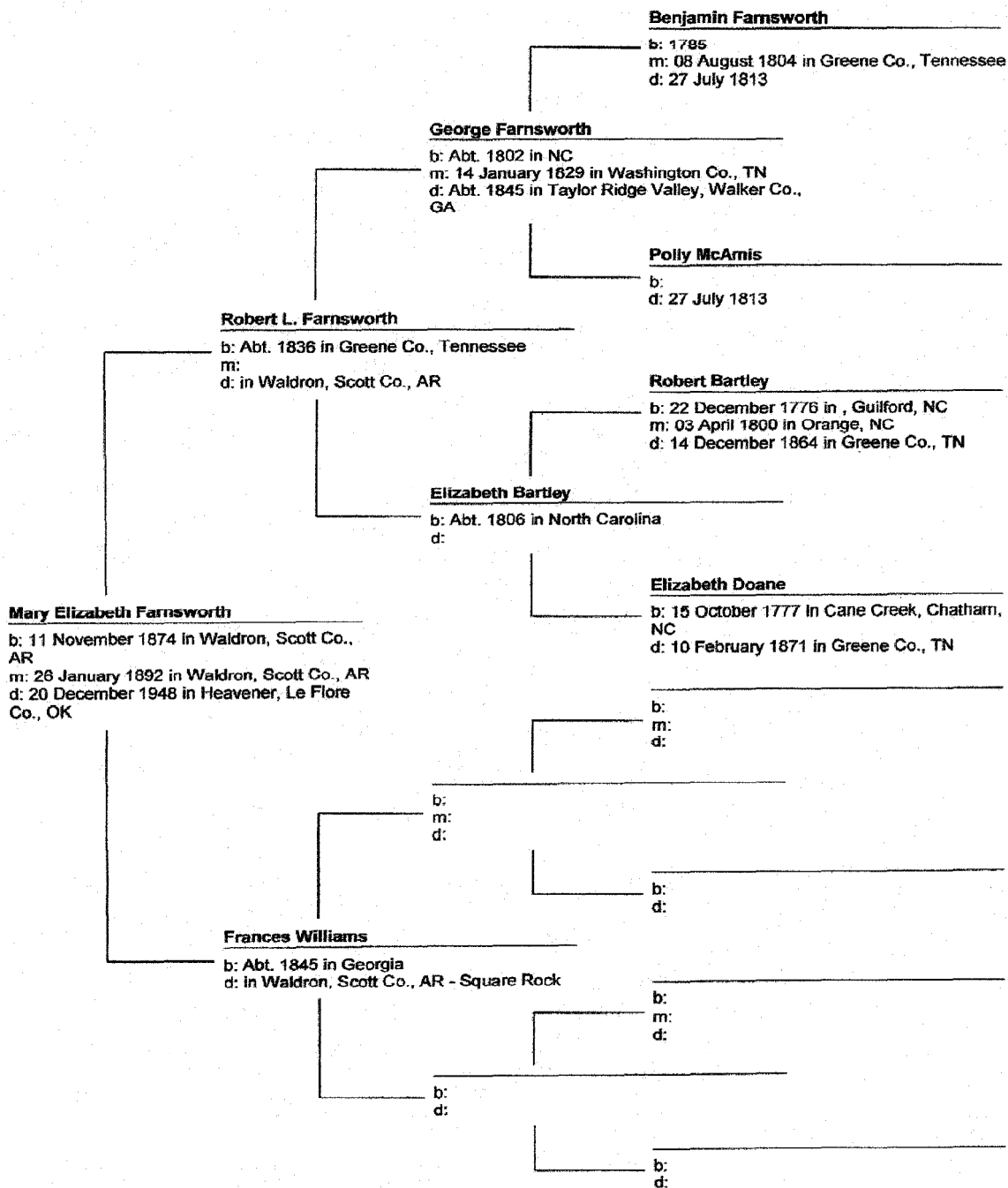
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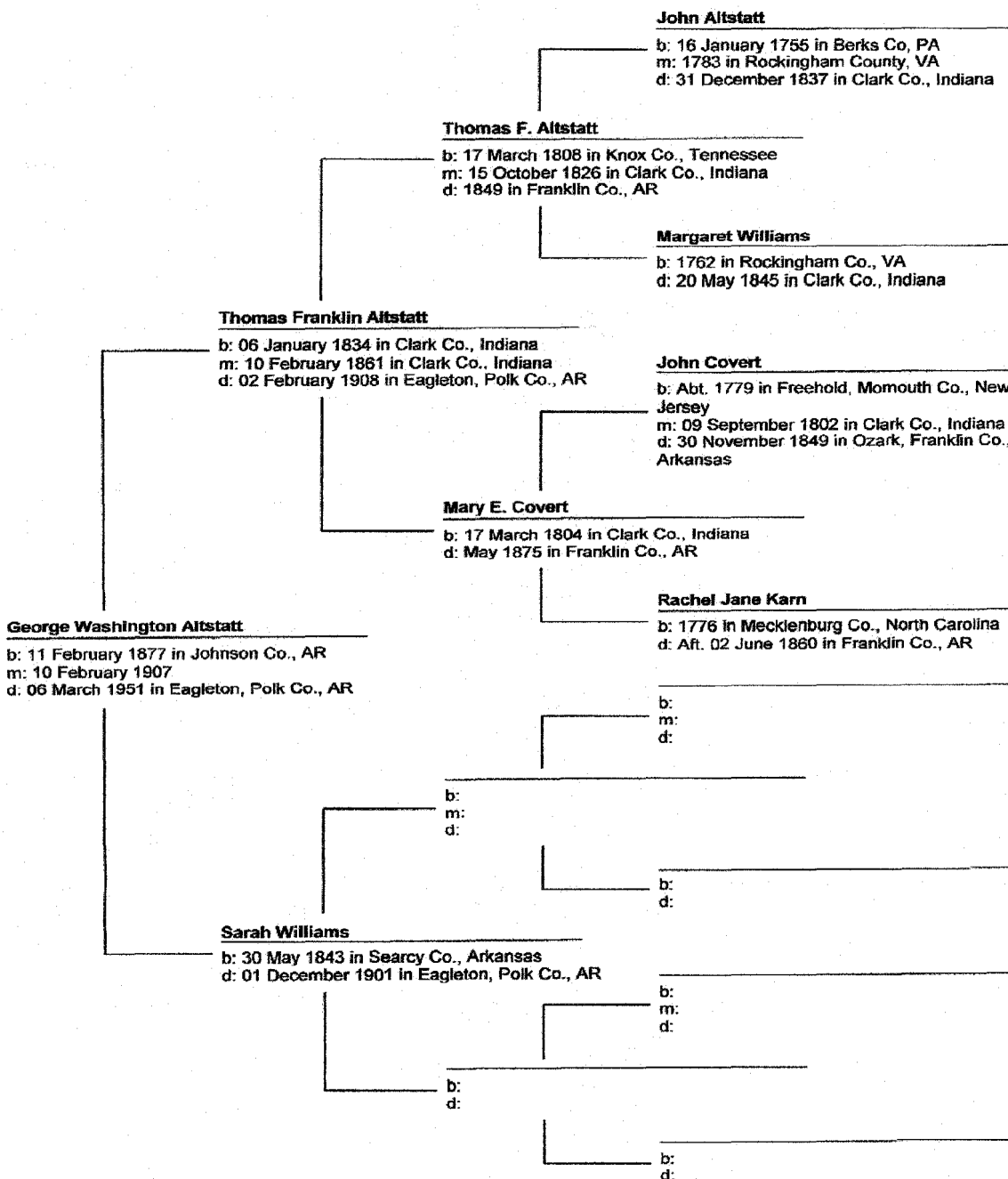
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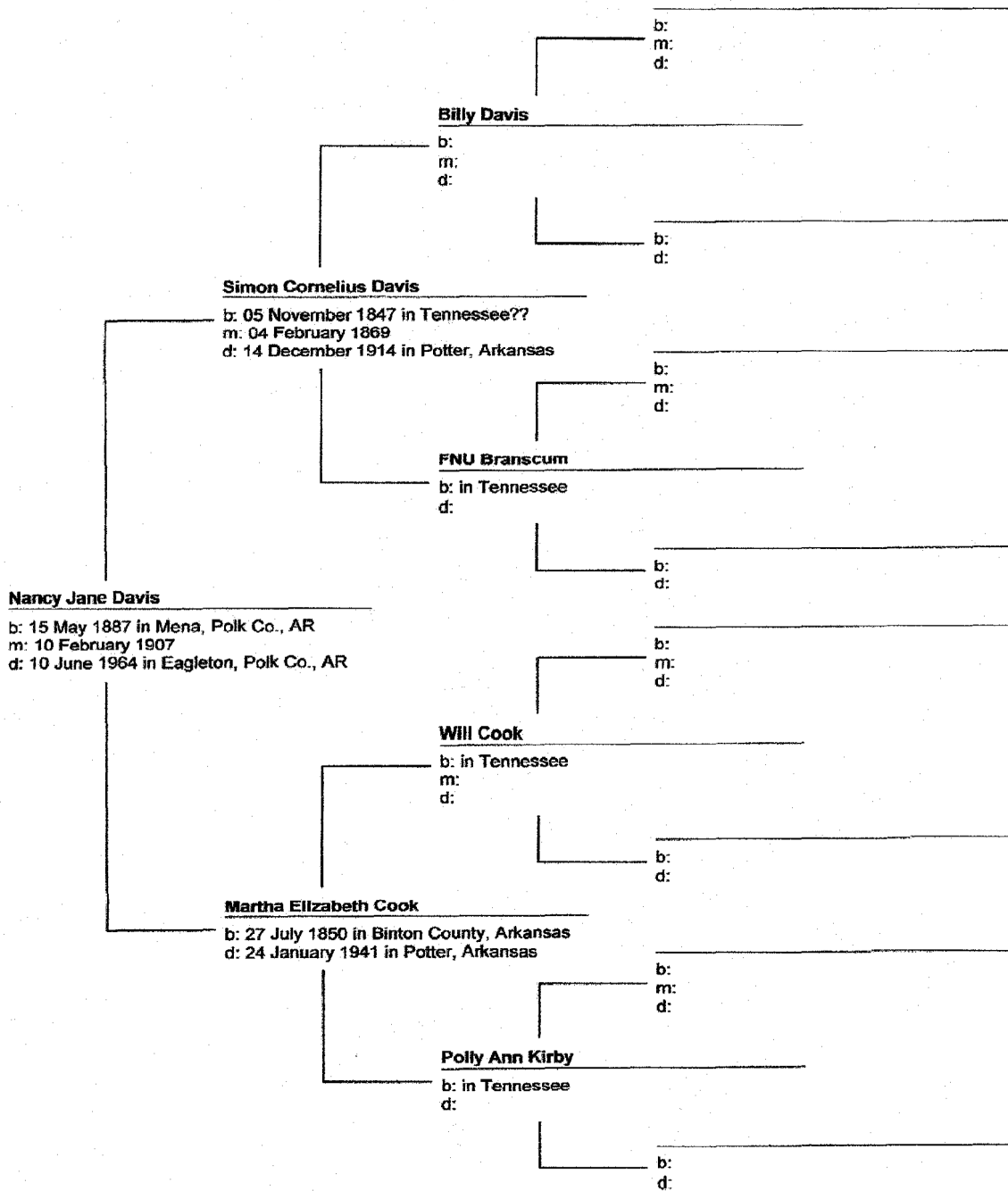
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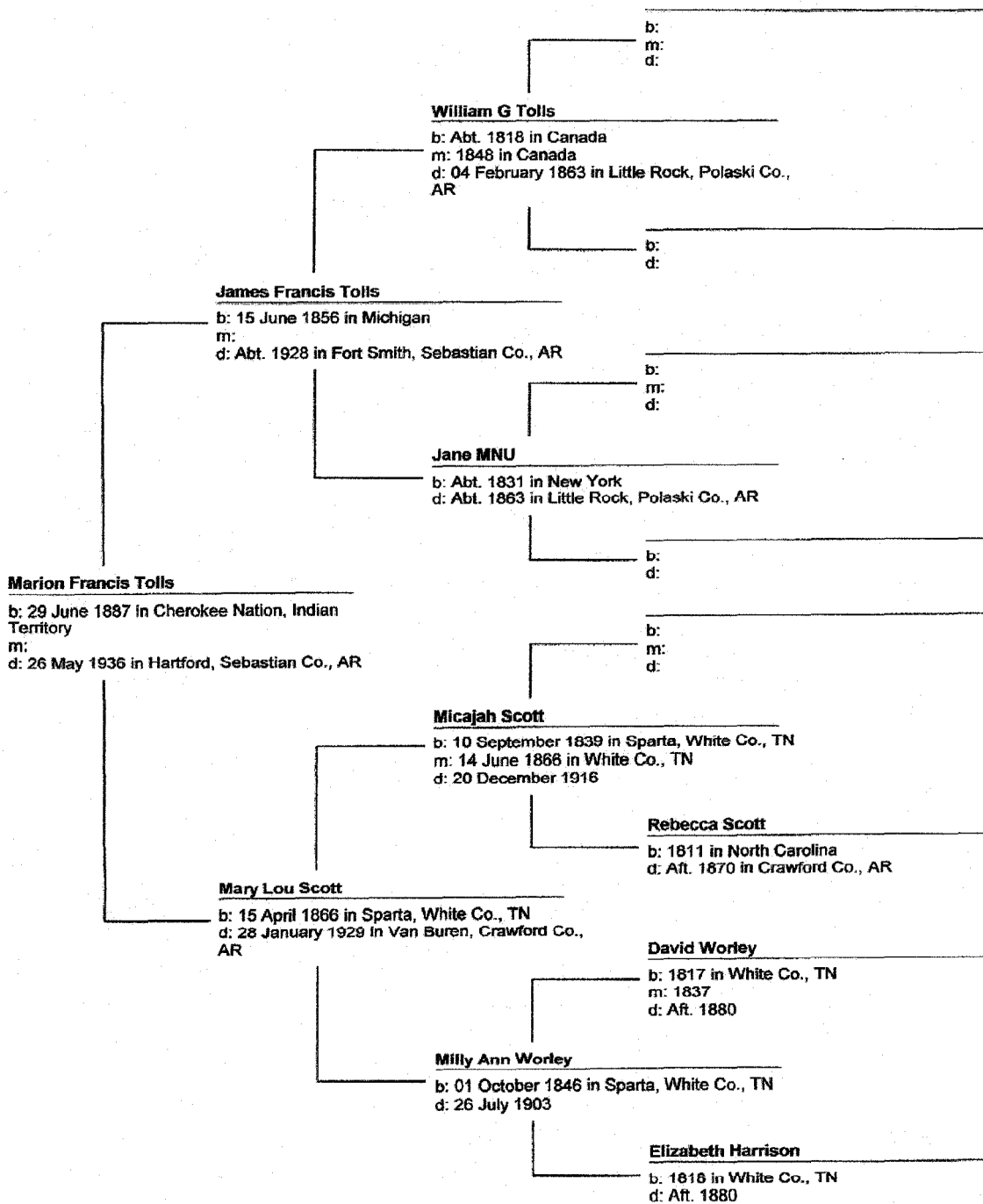
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Standard Pedigree Tree



Notes:

Standard Pedigree Tree



Notes:

CHARTER MEMBERS KEEFETON FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH

March 19, 1952

Keefeton Freewill Baptist Church was organized in the Keefeton, Oklahoma school house at 8:00 p.m. The Reverend Thomas H. Dixon preached on the organization of the church. The Church Charter was opened for a period of thirty days. An offering of \$12.25 was received and the church began with fifty-eight (58) Charter Members.

Blankenship, Gordon	Blankenship, Loree	Blankenship, Ronnie
Beaver, Alvin	Beaver, Marie	Beaver, Martha
Carrol, Dink	Carrol, May	Claypool, David
Claypool, Loy	Davis, Bob	Davis, Mary
Dixon, Inez	Dixon, Sandy	Dugan, Della
Easley, Roxie	Easley, Sam	Fowler, Bill
Fredrick, Lydia	Fredrick, Pete	Harrison, Dellia
Harrison, Deloris	Harrison, Edward	Herriman, Garland
Herriman, John	Herriman, Rentha	Herriman, Rhonda
Herriman, Zelma	Hodge, B. L.	Hodge, Gladys
Hodge, Shirley	Holder, Mary	Hopkins, Ary
Hopkins, Ollie	Huskey, Burl	Huskey, Dorothy
Mackey, Ruth	McCauley, Charles A.	Morris, Flossie
Nail, Birdie	Nail, Frank	Neal, Lois
Neal, Orval	Nipps, Estella	Nipps, Georgie
Nipps, Roy, Jr.	Nipps, Roy, Sr.	Purdom, Keith
Rains, Billy Dee	Rains, Buck	Rains, Eliza
Rains, Joe	Rains, Margie	Roach, Martin

Weiher, Della Fay

Weiher, Lill

Weiher, Ray

Rev. Thomas Dixon, Checotah, OK elected as acting Pastor

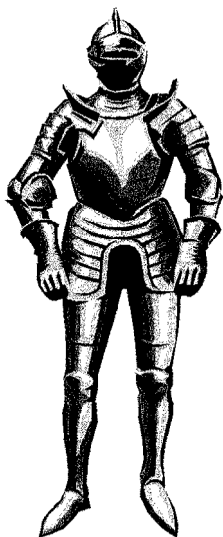
Rev. Ute Purdom Henryetta, OK

Deacon Farmer Checotah, OK

Eliza Rains elected Church Clerk and Secretary/Treasurer

Submitted by Stacy Blundell
Compiled by Aldena B. Powell

HOW DID THE BACHELOR DEGREE GET ITS NAME?



A Bachelor's degree is, more correctly, a baccalaureate degree - Latin for one who has earned a laurel berry. But bachelor is right too, even if it isn't synonymous with baccalaureate. Bachelor comes from the Latin word *baccalarius*, a farmland, which comes from *baculum*, a shepherd's staff.

In the Middle Ages, knights of the lowest rank, men who were skilled but too young to have banners of their own, were referred to as "knights bachelor." Students who had some learning but were not yet masters were thus referred to as bachelors of arts or science... Only much later did "bachelor" come to mean an unmarried man, one who was too busy with his career to marry.



FORT GIBSON CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Fort Gibson, Oklahoma

Transcribed by Geneva Taylor. Compiled by Aldena B. Powell

A meeting for the purpose of organizing the Fort Gibson Christian Church was held apparently in March 1973.

Members recorded in the minutes of monthly church meetings were taken from 22 April 1973 through 12 December 1993.

1973

Pastor David Brochus, Howard Byrd, Bill Cook, Louise Cook, Ralph Gorman, David G. Hill, Dale Hill, David Hill, Dennis Hill, Doris Hill, Betty Montgomery, Bill Wilson, Michael L. Wilson and M. L. Wilson.

At the 10 June 1973 the following members were elected Deacons: Dale Hill, Bill Wilson and Bill Cook. The following were elected Trustees: Mike Wilson, David Hill and Dennis Hill.

Business discussed at the 11 November 1973 meeting concerned a leased barracks building.

At the 09 December 1973 meeting it was announced that Howard Byrd would speak on 23 December and Ralph Gorman would speak on the evening of 30 December.

1974

Ed Bayless, Pastor David Brochus, Bill Cook, Dale Hill, David Hill, Dennis Hill, J. W. Huggins, Bill Wilson, Carol Wilson, M. L. Wilson and Mike Wilson.

The meeting of 20 January 1974 mentions Carol Wilson and a mortgage to J. W. Huggins.

12 May 1974 it was announced that Ed Bayless would speak at the dedication of the new building in July.

Election of officers for the following years were On 23 June 1974. Elected Deacons were: Dale Hill, Bill Wilson and Bill Cook. Dennis Hill was elected as Trustee. M. L. Wilson was elected secretary/treasurer.

1975

John Ausmus, David Brockus, Donna Brockus, Bill Cook, Dale Hill, David Hill, Dennis Hill, Wes James, Bill Montgomery, Wayne Pittman, Wanda Reid, Bill Wilson, Mike Wilson

Discussion 20 April 1975 concerned a request by Wanda Reid to use the sanctuary 04 May.

It was announced at the 08 June 1975 meeting that Wes James would substitute for the minister during his vacation.

Election of officers on 22 June 1975 included Deacons: David Hill, Dennis Hill and Bill Wilson; Elders: Dale Hill, John Ausmus and Wes James; Trustee, Mike Wilson. Eighteen members were present.

At the 11 November 1975 meeting it was announced that Wayne Pittman would speak at the church dinner 12 December 1975.

1976

John Ausmus, Minister David Brockus, Bill Cook, Dale Hill, David Hill, Dennis Hill, Jim Hill, Steve James, Wes James, Milton Jones, Bill Wilson, Mike Wilson, Michael L. Wilson.

Missionary from Japan, Milton Jones was to speak in March.

Election of officers for the following years was held 13 June 1976. Deacons: David Hill, Dennis Hill, Bill Cook; Elders: Bill Wilson, John Ausmus, Wes James; Trustee: Jim Hill.

1977

John Ausmus, Minister David Brockus, Denny Campbell, Bill Cook, Dale Hill, David Hill, Dennis Hill, James E. Hill, Jim Hill, Wes James, Betty Montgomery, Michael L. Wilson, Bill Wilson, Keith Wilson, Mike Wilson Michael L. Wilson.

New officers elected 10 July 1977 were Deacons: Wes James, Bill Cook, Jim Hill, Dennis Hill; Elders: Bill Wilson, John Ausmus, Dale Hill; Trustees: Jim Hill, Mike Wilson.

At the 11 December 1977 meeting minister David Brockus resigned effective 09 January 1978.

1978

John Ausmus, Bill Cook, Minister Bill Hardin, Dale Hill, Dennis Hill, James E. Hill, Jim Hill, Wes James, Bill Wilson, Mike Wilson.

It was announced at the 23 April 1978 meeting that Bill Hardin was to be the new minister.

1979

Donna Ausmus, John Ausmus, Mildred Campbell, Maxine Graham, Minister Bill Hardin, Carolyn Hill, Dale Hill, Dennis Hill, James E. Hill, Jim Hill, Judy Hill, Betty Montgomery, Marlene Reed, Bill Wilson, M. Wilson, Mike Wilson, Keith Wilson.

1980

Donna Ausmus, John Ausmus, Denny Campbell, Mildred Campbell, Pam Campbell, Maxine Graham, Lois Green, Bill Hardin, Lisa Hardin, Steve Hardin, Virginia Hardin, Carolyn Hill, Dale Hill, Dennis Hill, Doris Hill, Jim Hill, Judy Hill, Allece Leeds, Martha Panter, Tom Panter, Wanda Rhinehart, Janet Wilson, Mike Wilson.

A pulpit committee was formed at the 13 February 1980 meeting to locate a part-time minister. The committee consisted of John Ausmus, Tom Panter, Dennis Hill, Mike Wilson and Dale Hill.

1981

Denny Campbell, Mildred Campbell, Pam Campbell, Maxine Graham, Carolyn Hill, Dale Hill, Dennis Hill, Doris Hill, Jim Hill, Judy Hill, Martha Panter, Tom Panter, Preacher Ron Raymond, Kevin Rhodes, Arthur Rodriguez, Wanda Rhinehart, Janet Wilson, Mike Wilson and Terry _____.

1982

Mildred Campbell, Pam Campbell, Maxine Graham, Carolyn Hill, Dale Hill, Dennis Hill, Doris Hill, Jim Hill, Judy Hill, Martha Panter, Tom Panter, Ron Raymond, Arthur Rodriguez, Janet Wilson, Mike Wilson, Robyn _____.

Alan Bemo spoke one Sunday night in April. Alan Bemo was still overseas on 16 May.

On 16 May it was announced that Max Dye would mow for \$21.00.

1983

Doug Bemo, Mildred Campbell, Maxine Graham, Carolyn Hill, Dale Hill, Dennis Hill, Doris Hill, Jim Hill, Judy Hill, Martha Panter, Tom Panter, Arthur Rodriguez, Janet Wilson, Mike Wilson, Derry _____, Robin _____.

At the 10 April meeting it was announced that Max Dye would mow again this summer.

Arthur Rodriguez was the preacher in October, November and December.

1984

Mildred Campbell, Carolyn Hill, Dale Hill, Dennis Hill, Doris Hill, Jim Hill, Judy Hill, Martha Panter, Tom Panter, Preacher Arthur Rodriguez, Janet Wilson, Mike Wilson, Sharon _____

Judy Hill was in the hospital 09 September 1984.

1985

Mildred Campbell, Candace Cothorn, Clyde Cothorn, Maxine Graham, Carolyn Hill, Dale Hill, Dennis Hill, Doris Hill, Jim Hill, Judy Hill, Steve Hill, Martha Panter, Tom Panter, Minister Arthur Rodriguez, Sharon Rodriguez, Janet Wilson, Mike Wilson.

On 30 June 1985 a special meeting was called. Those present were: Carolyn Hill, Dale Hill, Dennis Hill, Doris Hill, Tom Panter, Minister Arthur Rodriguez, Sharon Rodriguez, Janet Wilson, Mike Wilson.

1986

Meeting of 12 January 1986 lists Committee members for the year. They were: Mildred Campbell, Candace Cothorn, Clyde Cothorn, Maxine Graham, Carolyn Hill, Dale Hill, Dennis Hill, Doris Hill, Jim Hill, Judy Hill, Arthur Rodriguez, Sharon Rodriguez, Martha Panter, Tom Panter, Joe Rybolt, Sherry Rybolt.

Men's meeting of 24 September 1986 attendees were: Clyde Cothorn, Dale Hill, Jim Hill, Tom Panter, Arthur Rodriguez.

Kelly Green's wedding was to be 19 December 1986.

1987

No names submitted for 1987.

1988

Don Campbell, Marla Campbell, Mildred Campbell, Danny Dominguez, Sharon Ellis, Terry Ellis, Maxine Graham, Byran Hill, Carolyn Hill, Dale Hill, Dennis Hill, Doris Hill, Jim Hill, Judy Hill, Steven Hill, Pat Lowrey, Rhonda Lowrey, Martha Panter, Tom Panter, Arthur Rodriguez, Sharon Rodriguez, Kara Sharp, Mike Sharp.

1989

Committee members listed at 09 January 1989 meeting were: Kelly Armstrong, Ray Armstrong, Don Campbell, Marla Campbell, Mildred Campbell, Sharon Ellis, Terry Ellis, Carolyn Hill, Dennis Hill, Jim Hill, Judy Hill, Pat Lowrey, Martha Panter, Tom Panter, Arthur Rodriguez, Sharon Rodriguez, Cara Sharp, Mike Sharp.

Rhonda Lowrey and new baby girl, Leah, were mentioned.

At the June 1989 meeting it was announced that Maxine Graham was moving to Florida.

Stephen Hill was at the 10 September meeting.

1990

Ray Armstrong, Don Campbell, Marla Campbell, Mildred Campbell, Candy Cothorn, Clyde Cothorn, Tabitha Cothorn, Patty Dorn, Sharon Ellis, Terry Ellis, Carolyn Hill, Dale Hill, Dennis Hill, Doris Hill, Jim Hill, Judy Hill, Heather Hill, Steve Hill, Pat Lowrey, Rhonda Lowrey, Kyle Panter, Martha Panter, Tom Panter, John Proctor, Martha Proctor, Arthur Rodriguez, Sharon Rodriguez, Gary Rogers, Janice Rogers, Sue Rogers, Joe Rybolt, Cara Sharp.

Bill Hardin was approved as speaker for the Father-Son Banquet.

1991

Ray Armstrong, Don Campbell, Marla Campbell, Mildred Campbell, Jason Checotah, Candy Cothorn, Clyde Cothorn, Sharon Ellis, Terry Ellis, Tom Gaither, Carolyn Hill, Dale Hill, Dennis Hill, Doris Hill, Jim Hill, Judy Hill, Steve Hill, JoAnn Kaopio, Pat Lowrey, Rhonda Lowrey, Kelly Panter, Kyle Panter, Martha Panter, Tom Panter, Gary Rogers, Arthur Rodriguez, Sharon Rodriguez, Malinda Rolland, Sherry Rybolt, Cara Sharp, Mike Sharp, Tammie Steele, Mary Ann Thouvenel, Sandy Thouvenel, Stephanie Thouvenel.

Bob Havens will speak in Arthur's place 27 October.

At the 11 November 1991 Arthur Rodriguez gave notice of his resignation.

On 08 December 1991 Bob Havens agreed to preach on Sunday morning until a regular preacher is hired.

1992

Don Campbell, Marla Campbell, Mildred Campbell, Candy Cothorn, Clyde Cothorn, Sharon Ellis, Terry Ellis, Bob Havens, Lori Havens, Brian Hall, Brian Hill, Carolyn Hill, Dale Hill, Dennis Hill,

Doris Hill, Jim Hill, Judy Hill, Steve Hill, Sharon Hill, Pat Lowrey, Rhonda Lowrey, Martha Panter, Tom Panter, Gary Rogers, Janice Rogers, Malinda Rolland, Sammy Rolland, Joe Rybolt, Sherry Rybolt, Cara Sharp.

July 14, 1992 committee attendees were: Mildred Campbell, Candy Cothorn, Clyde Cothorn, Sharon Ellis, Bob Havens, Debbie Havens, Brian Hill, Terry Hill, Carolyn Hill, Dale Hill, Dennis Hill, Doris Hill, Jim Hill, Judy Hill, Pat Lowrey, Rhonda Lowrey, Kyle Rybolt, Martha Panter, Tom Panter, Gary Rogers, Janice Rogers, Joe Rybolt, Sherry Rybolt, Cara Sharp, Mike Sharp.

1993

Don Campbell, Marla Campbell, Mildred Campbell, Candace Cothorn, Clyde Cothorn, Becky Crittenden, Dennis Crittenden, Sharon Ellis, Terry Ellis, Bob Havens, Debbie Havens, Lori Havens, Brian Hill, Carolyn Hill, Cheryl Hill, Steve Hill, Dale Hill, Dennis Hill, Doris Hill, Jim Hill, Pat Lowrey, Rhonda Lowrey, Kyle Panter, Martha Panter, Tom Panter, Gary Rogers, Janice Rogers, Malinda Rolland, Sammy Rolland, Joe Rybolt, Sherry Rybolt, Cara Sharp, Mike Sharp.



Obituaries

POTEET, Lester
 Lawrence, 72, Of Leisure World. Died March 3, 1990. An Engineer for McDonnell-Douglas. He was a writer and published author. He was a veteran of WW II and an avid golfer. Survived by his wife of 44 years Caroline Poteet, son, Attorney Lawrence Jay Poteet and granddaughter, Rhianon Poteet. Funeral service Wednesday 2:00 PM at The Northwood Clubhouse #3, Leisure World. Dilday-Mottell's 421-8411

Lester Poteet 1918-1990
 Lester Lawrence Poteet, 72, resident of Leisure World since 1976, died March 3, 1990. Born in Sapulpa, Okla. Lived in Long Beach from 1945 to 1976. He was an engineer for McDonnell-Douglas prior to retirement in 1974; a writer and published author of short stories; also wrote for The Golden Rain News and Orange County Register; an avid golfer; and veteran of World War II. *in the Coast Guard*

He is survived by wife of 44 years, Caroline; one son, Lawrence Jay Poteet of Glendale, Calif.; one granddaughter, Rhianon.

Memorial services were held Wednesday, March 7, at Northwood Clubhouse 3, Dr. Russell A. Pavy officiating. Dilday-Mottell Mortuary, 3936 Woodruff Ave., Long Beach, Calif. 90808.

from Leisure World paper

FERGUSON — Edward E. The funeral service for Edward E. Ferguson, 74, of Muskogee will be at 11 a.m., Friday, October 15, 2004 at the Mallett Funeral Home Chapel in Wagoner. Mr. Ferguson died Wednesday, October 13, 2004 in Bixby. Preceded in death by his wife, Francis; wife, Charlene; brother, Hank; and sister, Euna. Interment will be in Pioneer Cemetery in Wagoner. Edward Ferguson was born April 11, 1930 in Emid, OK. He retired after 34 years at McDonnell Douglas Aircraft. Survivors are his daughters and spouses, Eddisu and Randy Barker, Kim and Johnny Witten; son, Wally Ferguson; 9 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren; sisters, Jane Dry and Lillian Ferguson. Mallett Funeral Home, Wagoner, (918) 485-2911.

Muskogee Jail

By Wally Waits

The upper figure is the site of the future jail built in Muskogee. In 1901 it was a one-story wooden dwelling with a wrap-around porch on the south and east sides. By 1904, the house at 228 West Court was torn down to make way for the new jail.

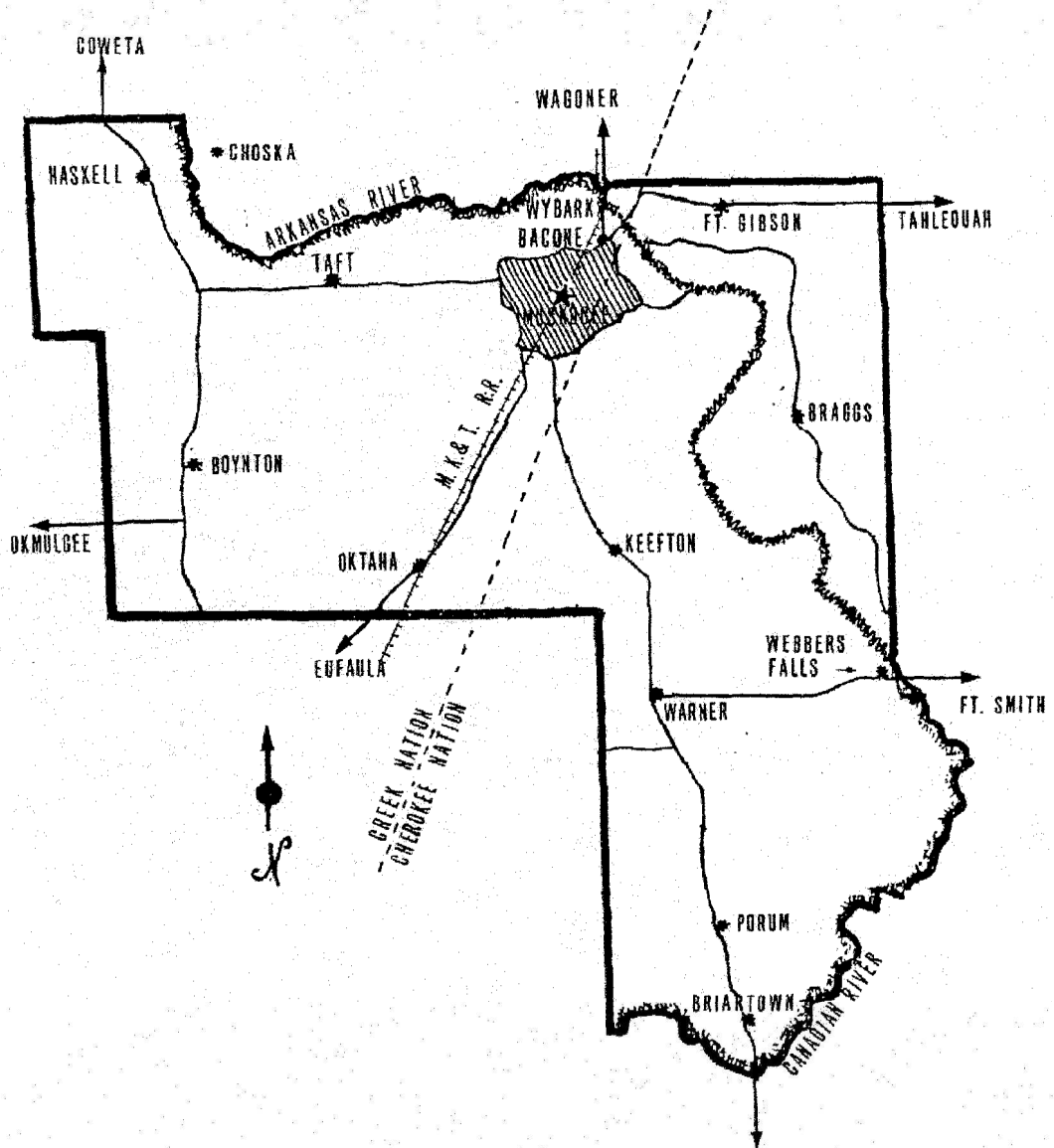
The jail was designed as a two-story structure, probably of brick, with a basement on the Court, or south, side of the building. In 1904 the structure is described as the "Sheriffs D[e]partment." The cell block was a one-story structure built behind the front offices for the town peace officers.

By 1907, the building was extended northward with the addition of a one-story addition. Furthermore, electrical lights were now available. Despite the newness of the building, conditions inside were terrible.

Kate Barnard was the first woman elected to statewide office in the United States as Oklahoma's first Commissioner of Charities and Corrections. As part of her new duties she inspected all jails and prisons in the state.

It was her mission to make large improvements in man's lot that got her elected. Toward that end, she worked to improve jail conditions. When she visited Muskogee for her first inspection, she found the following. "First, it lacked proper ventilation. No air from the outside circulated in the cells, which often held as many as six men. Second, the county commissioners had compounded the ventilation problem by sandwiching the jail between two larger buildings and fronting it on an alley. Third, the cells did not have indoor toilets but instead employed slop buckets."

MUSKOGEE COUNTY



Muskogee County Genealogical Society

Muskogee Public Library
801 West Okmulgee
Muskogee, OK 74401

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801 West Okmulgee
Muskogee, OK 74401

MCGS meetings are held the 4th Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (with the exception of July and August) at the Muskogee Public Library, 801 West Okmulgee, Muskogee, OK.

The MCGS Quarterly is free to members. Back issues are available at \$3.25 each. Queries are free to members and \$1.00 for non-members. Articles and contributions for the quarterly should be sent to the above mailing address.

SURNAMES: YOU ARE RESEARCHING

Name	Event	County	State	Year

Comments:

I hereby release this information for a surname exchange or publication by the mcgs.

David Bachrach

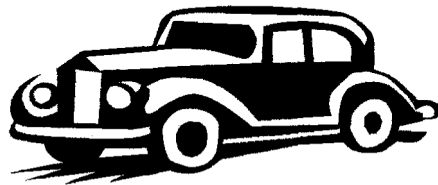
By Paul Lester - grandson

David Bachrach worked in the cigar business in Muskogee in 1911 - 1912. I can remember myself, that he was a tall, slender man who dressed like a dandy. He had a forceful, almost intimidating but also kind personality, whose stock rejoinder to my grandmother. Whenever she got upset with him about something, he would shrug his shoulders and say, "Well, pardon me for living."

David Bachrach was born in Baltimore in 1880 and left home very young, I'm told, to escape the iron hand of his father. There were six sons, no daughters. The story is that the father, a stern German immigrant, sometimes came home from work to find his wife exasperated by the boys' shenanigans that day. The father lined all six up and whipped each one with his belt on the theory that they probably all had done something wrong that day.

David was the eldest son. He married my grandmother, Birdie, eleven years his junior, in her home in Paris, Kentucky in 1912. An old Paris newspaper clipping about the wedding stated that the groom was from Muskogee. That was the only clue I had about Muskogee, although I did know he had lived for a couple of years somewhere in the Oklahoma Territory. After their wedding, Dave and Birdie moved to Little Rock where two daughters (including my mother) were born in 1915 and 1917. The family then moved to Dallas, where they remained the rest of Dave and Birdie's lives, except for a year or so when they lived in Oklahoma City in 1921-1922. For almost all his career, Dave was a traveling salesman of men's clothing. His territory was the entire state of Texas, which required several six-week driving sales trips a year, well into his early seventies. To cover the area, he and a driver used to speed across the state in a big Lincoln, with a rack of sample men's suits hanging across the backseat and a trunk load of other samples and order tablets.

Dave died in Dallas in 1957 at the age of 77, Birdie lived until 1983.



LINEAGE RESEARCH TIPS

1. Although you may have a strong supposition, never list it as a fact without proper documentation and always use pencil until proven -- then use pen.
2. Never totally depend upon the similarity of given names to prove relationships within a family group -- use as a clue only.
3. Family tradition are clues only -- always check against primary documentation such as court records.
4. The location of land owned by your ancestors should be located on a map and records of surrounding neighbors checked for relationships such as evidence of a marriage.
5. When searching for evidence of death, check not only for wills but, in case the person died intestate (without a will), check for Letters of Administration, inventories, sales and final estate settlements.
6. When searching for evidence of a marriage (if no official record is available) look for deeds where wife joined in selling the land. In some states, wives were supposed to relinquish their dower rights to the land.
7. When attempting to prove a migration, check records of neighbors for they may have moved together. Check deed books for Powers of Attorney to the state of prior residence.
8. When examining marriage records, always note names of witnesses for they may be related to either party.
9. For recent marriage records, be sure to use the date of the ceremony. When only a marriage bond was issued, be sure to state "bond dated" and then the date.
10. When searching for evidence of a birthdate, especially in the Revolutionary era when vital records were scarce outside the New England area, check church records, tombstones, and Bibles. The earliest time a man paid a poll tax may be evidence of when he reached legal age.
11. When writing for a birth record, especially 20th Century, be sure to ask for the complete record. Some states will not list parents' names unless requested.
12. Many courthouses do not have staff or time to search for unindexed records and it is quicker to hire a local record searcher who is familiar with the records.
13. When attempting to prove location or residence of Revolutionary Soldier, compare tax lists with militia lists, especially in Pennsylvania, for men tended to join the local militia instead of going to another county or town. If same men are found on both lists, it is a clue that you have found his place of residence.



Quarterly Publication
October–December 2004

801 West Okmulgee
Muskogee, OK 74401

Email: mucogeso@yahoo.com

Return Service Requested

MCGS Quarterly Publication Information

Editorial Policy:

The Editors invite contributions of public records, articles, Bible records, and transcripts from members and non-members. Contributions should be those focused on the history of Indian Territory and Muskogee County and its families. Neither the Editors nor the Board of Directors of the Muskogee County Genealogical Society take responsibility for errors of fact/data submitted. The views expressed in articles and reviews are those of the authors concerned and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors, the Board of Directors, nor the Members of the MCGS. The Editors retain the right not to publish material that is inconsistent with the policies of the MCGS.

Manuscript Submission:

Persons wishing to submit manuscripts or material for publication in the MCGS Quarterlies are requested to send their electronic files in Rich Text format to the following email address: mucogeso@yahoo.com All other material may be mailed to the address listed above. Material that has been previously published must be noted.

An-Quest:

Members and invited Fort Gibson Genealogical/Historical Society Members are invited to submit one free An-Quest (max. of 75 words) per year. Non-members An-Quest are \$1.00. Send all An-Quest to the address listed above.