

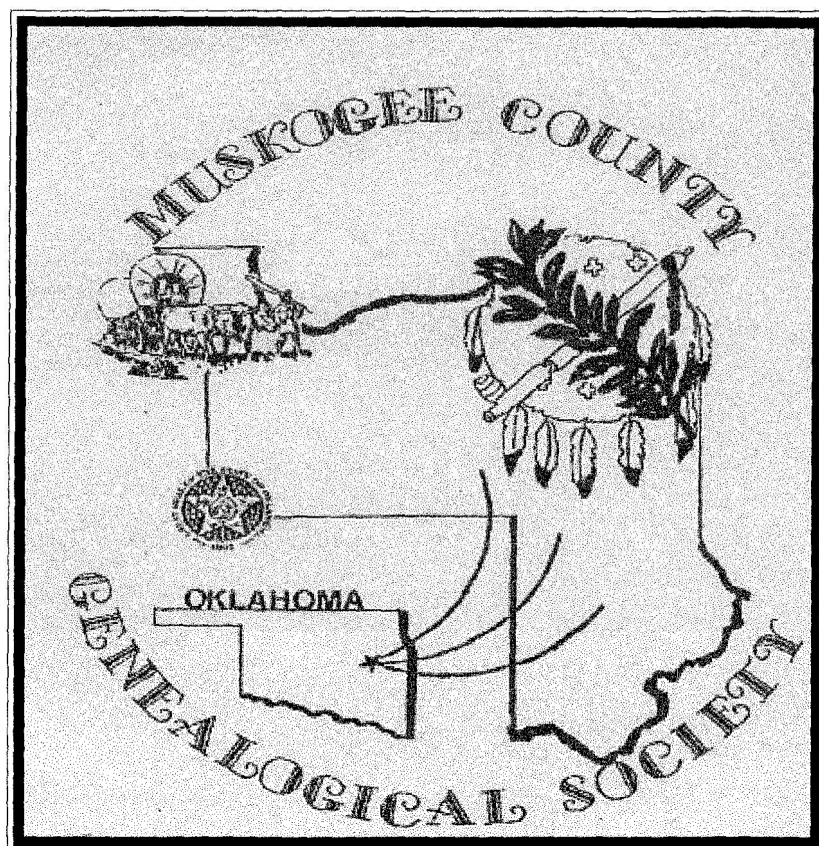
Muskogee County Genealogical Society

Quarterly
Publication

Volume 23
Issue 4

Oct.-Dec. 2006

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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.
Thank You!***

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) 6:00pm "How To" session; 7:00 pm Meeting and speaker at the Muskogee Public Library, 801 West Okmulgee, Muskogee, Oklahoma. The Board of Directors meetings are held the third Monday at 6:00 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. Individual or family membership is \$21 per year and includes the Quarterly publication. A \$11 per year membership is available for those that do not wish to receive the Quarterly.

Publication and Research Request 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 current price list of our publications is provided on our website at: <http://rootsweb.com/~okmuscg/index.htm> or write to us for a list.

Our research assistance policy is outlined on our website, or you may write to us for a Research Request Form at:

Muskogee County Genealogical Society
c/o Muskogee Public Library
801 West Okmulgee
Muskogee, OK 74401

2006 Board Members:

Stacy Blundell, President

Nancy Lasater, Secretary

Barbara Downs, Treasurer

Members at Large:

Linda Stout, Library

Sue Tolbert, Workshops and Education

Alissa Hill, & Brandy Hoyt, Publications

Diana Reaser, Quarterly Editor



Mark Your Calendar!

All events at the Muskogee Public Library unless otherwise noted

January

- | | | |
|----|---------------|--|
| 6 | 10 a.m.-4p.m. | MCGS Board Training Workshop |
| 16 | 5:30 p.m. | Board Meeting |
| 16 | | Quarterly Material Deadline—Issue 1 |
| 25 | 6:00 p.m. | 1st in Genealogy Class Series “Organizing Your Research” |
| 25 | 7:00 p.m. | “The Works Progress Administration” by Marjorie Barton |

February

- | | | |
|----|-----------|---|
| 13 | 5:30 p.m. | Board Meeting |
| 22 | 6:00 p.m. | 2nd in Genealogy Class Series “Collecting Data” |
| 22 | 7:00 p.m. | MCGS Meeting |

March

- | | | |
|----|-----------|---|
| 6 | 6:00 p.m. | Ft. Wayne Trip Preparation Workshop |
| 13 | 5:30 p.m. | Board Meeting |
| 17 | | George G. Morgan at Hot Springs Village, AR |
| 22 | 6:00 p.m. | 3rd in Genealogy Class Series “Citing Sources” |
| 22 | 7:00 p.m. | “The Civilian Conservation Corps” by Karen Wagner |

April

- | | | |
|----|-----------|---|
| 17 | 5:30 p.m. | Board Meeting |
| 17 | | Quarterly Material Deadline—Issue 2 |
| 26 | 6:00p.m. | 4th in Genealogy Class Series “Cemetery Research” |
| 26 | 7:00p.m. | MCGS Meeting |
| 27 | | Arbor Day [Dedication of Penquite Tree, exact date to be announced later] |
| ? | | Volunteer Fair [Date to be announced later] |

May

- | | | |
|----|-----------|--|
| 15 | 5:30 p.m. | Board Meeting |
| 24 | 6:00p.m. | 5th in Genealogy Class Series “Courthouse Records” |
| 24 | 7:00 p.m. | MCGS Meeting |

June

- | | | |
|----|-----------|--|
| 19 | 5:30 p.m. | Board Meeting |
| 28 | 6:00 p.m. | 6th in Genealogy Class Series “Immigration & Naturalization” |
| 28 | 7:00 p.m. | MCGS Meeting |
| ? | | Muskogee Garden Tour |
| ? | | Muskogee City Centennial Celebration |

July

17 5:30 p.m. Board Meeting
17 Quarterly Material Deadline—Issue 3
31 6:00 p.m. Ft. Wayne Trip Preparation Workshop

August

15-18 Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference Ft. Wayne, IN

September

18 5:30 p.m. Board Meeting
27 6:00 p.m. 7th in Genealogy Class Series “Census Records”
27 7:00 p.m. MCGS Meeting

October

16 5:30 p.m. Board Meeting
16 Quarterly Material Deadline—Issue 4
25 6:00 p.m. 8th in Genealogy Class Series “Research in Newspapers & City Directories”

November

6 5:30 p.m. Board Meeting
15 6:00 p.m. 9th in Genealogy Class Series “Military Records Research”
15 7:00 p.m. MCGS Meeting

December

4 5:30 p.m. Board Meeting
13 6:00 p.m. Holiday Party and Election of 2008 Officers

Welcome to the new members and thanks to
those who have renewed their membership since
the last Quarterly!

New Members:

Mary Rogers, Carolyn Abbott Trimble

Renewals:

Marlene Leahey, Jannett Rose, Thomas Crossland, Randy & Barbara Painter

*Muskogee County
Genealogical Society
Library Volunteer
of the Quarter
Award*

Presented to

Sherry Jackson

December 2006



Muskogee County First Families

The Muskogee County Genealogical & Historical Society honors the memory of our early pioneers with a special certificate issued to their descendants. The purpose of this program is to recognize those with Muskogee roots, encourage people to undertake genealogical and historical research, and to provide resources for other researchers. All applications and documents will be made available in the Surname Research folders in the Grant Foreman Collection and may be published in the Society Quarterly or other publications.

Descendants of the early residents of what is today Muskogee County may qualify for one of the following certificates:

<i>Pioneers</i>	Residents prior to 1880
<i>Settlers</i>	Residents prior to Nov. 16, 1907
<i>Early Family</i>	Residents prior to 1920

Application Instructions

1. A \$25 fee is required for each certificate requested. The name of only one ancestor (or married couple if both qualify) can be identified on a certificate.
2. Completely fill out the top portion of the Release Form and sign it.
3. Complete the Application form beginning with the Applicant as Generation 1 and using appropriate genealogical format:
 - Dates: day month year (example: 27 March 1922)
 - Places: city or town county state country (example: Muskogee, Muskogee County, Oklahoma, USA)
 - Always use the woman's maiden name
4. A direct line from applicant to ancestor must be proved at each step, including the spouse in each generation. Collateral descent is not acceptable. Only bloodline descent is acceptable.
5. Proof is required for each date listed for both persons in each generation. All documents must include a full citation written on the copy itself. Bible records must include a photocopy of the title page with publication date and current owner's name and address.

6. Proof of residence in Muskogee County must be provided:
 - Pioneers Residence prior to 1880
 - Settlers Residence prior to 16 Nov. 1907
 - Early Family Residence prior to 1920
7. Submit CLEAR LEGIBLE COPIES of documentation. If the copy is not clear, submit a typed transcript of the pertinent information along with the copy. PLEASE DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS. COPIES ONLY!

Your completed application should include:

1. Signed Release Form including documentation of ancestor's residence.
2. Ancestor Chart showing direct line.
3. Completed Application Form
4. Photocopies of all documentation with source citations.
5. \$25 check or money order payable to Muskogee County Genealogical Society.
6. Keep a copy for your records.

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

Rules of Evidence

1. Primary information from original sources is preferred. These documents would include birth, marriage and death registrations from state or county vital records.
2. Secondary information may be used as corroborative evidence.
3. Unacceptable materials:
 - Oral, written, or published family traditions may be in error and cannot be accepted as documentation.
 - Printed or manuscript genealogies, genealogical records or compilations.
 - Family group sheets or charts.
 - Lineage papers, accepted or unaccepted, from other patriotic or hereditary societies by themselves are not considered proof.
 - "Family Trees" or "Family Data Collections" from the Internet.

Muskogee County First Families Release Form

Please type or legibly print, filling out the upper portion of this page and sign it.

Applicant

Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip	
E-Mail	
Phone Number	

Qualifying Ancestor (or couple if both qualify)

Name:	
Date first in Muskogee County:	
Came to Muskogee County from:	

Person Who Did the Research (If different from applicant)

Name:	
E-Mail or phone #	

I certify that the statements made in this application are true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that this application and its attachments become the property of the Muskogee County Genealogical Society when they are submitted and may be used by the Society for any lawful purpose, including display, reproduction and/or publication. Any information about living persons may be deleted.

Signature of Applicant: _____
Date: _____

APPLICATION APPROVED BY MCGS:

Date: _____ By: _____

Certificate Type: _____

Certificate Number: _____

Sent to Applicant on: _____

(date)

Muskogee County First Families Application

Applicant's Name	
Address:	City: State: Zip:
Phone:	
Email:	
I make this application by virtue of my descent from who resided in what is now Muskogee County Oklahoma on	
Proof of Residence:	(attach documentation)
GENERATION 1	DOCUMENTS
Applicant:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Marriage Date:	
Marriage Place:	
Name of Spouse:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
GENERATION 2	DOCUMENTS
Father:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Death Date:	
Death Place:	
And his () wife	
Mother:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Death Date:	
Death Place:	
Marriage Date:	
Marriage Place:	
GENERATION 3	DOCUMENTS
was the child of	
Father:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Death Date:	
Death Place:	
And his () wife	
Mother:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Death Date:	
Death Place:	
Marriage Date:	
Marriage Place:	

Muskogee County First Families Application

GENERATION 4	DOCUMENTS
was the child of	
Father:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Death Date:	
Death Place:	
And his () wife	
Mother:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Death Date:	
Death Place:	
Marriage Date:	
Marriage Place:	
GENERATION 5	DOCUMENTS
was the child of	
Father:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Death Date:	
Death Place:	
And his () wife	
Mother	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Death Date:	
Death Place:	
Marriage Date:	
Marriage Place:	
GENERATION 6	DOCUMENTS
was the child of	
Father:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Death Date:	
Death Place:	
And his () wife	
Mother:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Death Date:	
Death Place:	
Marriage Date:	
Marriage Place:	

Muskogee County First Families Application

GENERATION 7	DOCUMENTS
was the child of	
Father:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Death Date:	
Death Place:	
And his () wife	
Mother:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Death Date:	
Death Place:	
Marriage Date:	
Marriage Place:	
GENERATION 8	DOCUMENTS
was the child of	
Father:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Death Date:	
Death Place:	
And his () wife	
Mother:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Death Date:	
Death Place:	
Marriage Date:	
Marriage Place:	
GENERATION 9	DOCUMENTS
was the child of	
Father:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Death Date:	
Death Place:	
And his () wife	
Mother:	
Birth Date:	
Birth Place:	
Death Date:	
Death Place:	
Marriage Date:	
Marriage Place:	

It is always interesting to browse the advertisements in the old newspapers. My how times have changed!

These two are from the Muskogee Phoenix, December 1906.

The Many Xmas Shoppers Throng This Way

Do not put off your Xmas shopping one minute longer for if you wait until the last three days the stocks will not be complete and the crowds will make it less comfortable. Our sales force can give you more attention now than later, and our delivery service will be more prompt.

Two More Days to Vote for the Big Dolls

Do your shopping these two days and vote for the little girls of your choice.


33 1-3 Discount
On all Men's Suits, Overcoats and Raincoats

Men's Silk Initial Handkerchiefs 50c
All initials large size.

COLLAR SALE—About half the lot was sold out yesterday. Hundreds of pretty collars yet for..... 15c and 25c

COST SHOE SALE—Every pair goes, not one held back!

Toys
and
Dolls



Toys
and
Dolls

Everybody says the FAIR STORE has the largest selection and the prices are away below what you pay elsewhere.
Buy now and we will deliver when wanted.

THE FAIR STORE

THE CHRISTMAS PRESENT STORE

Gifts by the thousands for the children as well as for grown up people, at prices that are away below what you pay at other places.



Tomorrow is the Last Day to Vote for the Dolls

Ladies' Coat Sale

We throw on sale tomorrow over 200 long Coats, good styles in Plaids, Stripes, Black and plain colors; the prices have been reduced from \$10.00..... **\$8.00**

BIG REDUCTION ON FURS

33 1-3 Off on Men's Suits, Overcoats, Raincoats

Toys and Dolls—We are Headquarters

THE FAIR STORE

Indian Pioneer History Collection

Vol. 107 pages 166....(15)

Transcribed by Ann Gardner 2006

Mounts, George

Interview

12987

I

Nannie Lee Burnes

Investigator

February 18, 1938

An interview with George Mounts Miami, Oklahoma

My father was Miles Mounts, born, I think, in Kentucky of Pennsylvania Dutch stock. My mother was Eliza McAfee but I do not know where she was born. I was born, I think, in Howell County, Missouri, May 5, 1874.

Civil War Days

During the Civil War my father was with the Southern Cavalry operating out of Sarcoxie, Missouri. He was a blacksmith and went along with his company of cavalymen in the capacity of a blacksmith. The only incident of his service that would be of interest here is after the close of the war, there was so much banditry along the border of Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas and Indian Territory that soldiers were still kept in Southern Missouri to help quell these raids.

On one of their dashes into the Indian country from Sarcoxie they naturally would take all the available men there and so my father accompanied them and as best I know they came to the vicinity of Carey's Gap, south of Fairland. Among the prisoners that they took on that raid was Kinch West, the father of Bill.

The old West home is the old story and a half four room house that is at the foot of the hill six or seven miles south of Fairland on the west road. They had arrested Kinch and were taking him back with them. The soldiers were riding around him, some in front and some behind, and they thought that they had him securely tied to his horse when, some way, he managed to get his hand loose and as he urged his horse ahead he drew his gun and fired back at the soldiers. My father, who was among the front ones, received one of the bullets in the fleshy part of his leg and he carried this bullet twenty-five years. Finally after we came to this country to live it worked around on the inner side of his leg and showed just under the skin. He went to a physician and asked him to cut it out and he wanted \$25.00 for the job so father came home and took a razor and cut it out himself.

To Kansas

From Missouri, my parents went to Kansas and homesteaded 160 acres and took an additional school claim of forty acres five miles west of Greensburg, Kansas, and here we built a sod house which had a roof of lumber. We had gone to Kansas in March of 1883. We found gyp rock in the well and after we went below that we had fair water. This gyp dirt made from

the gyp rock made a fair cement.

We stayed there until the fall of 1888. Father who had been looking for a new location, had met on a previous trip a Wyandotte Indian, Albert Mudeater, at Baxter Springs, Kansas, who told Father that he had a good place here that he would rent, or rather lease him. So father returned home and the family got ready to come to the Indian Country. We came overland in three wagons, driving a couple of good cows and six or seven loose horses and were in Independence, Kansas, the night that Benjamin Harrison was elected President.

Life in the Indian Country

Mudeater was waiting for us at Baxter Springs and came with us from that place to the place he had in mind for us, which is now the O. P. Zimmerman place south and a little west of Ottawa and on the north side of the Neosho River.

From Baxter Springs, we had traveled the old Military road to the Baldwin Grove just north and west of Ottawa. When we reached the place we found only a one-room log house with no chinking in the cracks. Father did not want this place but we spent the night there and the next morning he began to look around and not far from us on the other side of the river he came to Aunt Sallie Hudson's (a Cherokee) place. She knew Father, though she had not seen him since she was a refugee during the Civil War days so asked him to bring his family there, saying that she had an extra house and could find plenty of work for my father, my younger brother, Charlie, and me. We began shucking corn for her and father established a small blacksmith shop on the farm and did local work that winter and the next year that we lived there.

Father was a peaceable man and after we moved here he learned that old Kinch West still lived at Carey's Gap and for years Father, wishing to avoid trouble, did not go to Fairland or any place south of us.

The second year we moved across the Neosho and lived in the Ottawa Nation on the Mose Pooler farm and Father still continued his blacksmithing shop and had a better location at the ferry. This was the Military crossing over the Neosho River. Dad's friendship with the Hudsons caused him to lease from them and so we moved back farther north than where we had lived on their home place near the mouth of Hudson Creek. This time we were located one-half mile south and one-half mile east of the present Pleasant Valley Schoolhouse. We moved there Christmas week and here lived many years. Brother Charlie and I did the farming and Father built a blacksmith shop on the place and we continued to live there until after Father's death, in 1896.

Home Life

Our homes were not very comfortable in those days. In bad weather we did not have nice warm barns for the cows and at milking time we would drive them up to the house throw them some corn and here, protected from the wind, Mother would milk. Water for home use had to be carried from a well or convenient spring. Many of the cattle ran on the open range and had no protection from the cold weather and storms. Our barns were rude affairs made of either logs or native lumber and often covered with hay or straw.

In one of those years, I remember that the Texas fever spread among the cattle and no matter which way you went you would see the dead cattle lying sometimes in bunches and sometimes singly. After the fever had run its course there were very few cattle left in the country and even the big pasture was almost empty. The cattle from Colorado owned in the Big Pasture at this time belonged to Al Dively and Tom Griffith.

On the 14th of February of that year, I was cleaning a gun and it went off and as my hand was over the mouth of the gun it severed my middle finger from my hand. Our nearest physician was at Prairie City, now Ogeechee. So they went for Doctor Collins and when he came and saw my hand he said that he would have to take it off but my father said "no", so they called another doctor by the name of Ford to aid him. A man of the name of Joe McCoy came along and when he saw my hand he fainted. My hand was saved but I am minus that finger on my right hand. The spring ploughing had to be done and that spring I ploughed with the lines fastened in a loop around that arm above the elbow.

We had malaria. First to have it was Brother Charles, who soon recovered, but I was not so fortunate. Dr. Eli James, the old pioneer physician, made ninety-nine trips to see me and once when he thought I was dying he stayed two days. After my recovery, I began to wonder how I would pay him as money was not plentiful in those days. In payment for the bill I let him have a stag hound that I owned, three loads of corn and killed him four hogs.

Wolf Chasing

Dr. James, then a young man, was a familiar figure on these prairies as he either rode a large horse or drove a team of little mules to a four-wheeled cart. He was followed by a pack of hounds and always he had time for a wolf chase. As the dogs he had could not catch an old gray wolf that he saw frequently he wanted my stag hound, Old Sharp. This hound with the aid of his other hounds who came to his assistance after the stag hound had caught the wolf, finally killed the wolf but not until after the wolf had torn the dogs badly in the death fight.

I have stood beside Dr. James and heard him call imitating the coyote and you could not tell the difference in his call and that of the animal; and this was the reason that it was so easy for him to start a chase. He could call the wolves into the open.

I had only that one staghound until one of the men who was moving away gave me his pack of hounds so after that I took my pack and joined in many of the wolf hunts.

I went to a wolf chase last winter and how different it was from the ones that we had in those days. Then we rode horse back and the range was mostly open and we could follow the hounds, but last year several were in cars and would drive the roads and try to be near where the dogs would pass until the end of the chase when they left their cars and went foot to the scene of the kill.

When we moved there were only three houses between us and Bluejacket: they were the Leck Lee Place, Silly's Place (now the Zajie Place) and Pat Murphey's place.

We seldom went to town and when we did for things that we could not obtain at Prairie City, we drove to Seneca, Missouri, or Baxter Springs, and it was more than twenty miles to either which meant a long, slow trip in the farm wagon. The roads were scarcely more than trails and in the winter it was often impossible to drive a wagon through the muddy country. If it was necessary one went horseback and brought back the necessary articles in a sack carried across the horse.

Miami and Fairland

In 1890 they began to talk two new towns. Old Ogeechee was moved three miles west of the Frisco from its old location out on a rise covered with tall bluestem grass and because the beautiful colorings of the prairie flowers reminding one of a Fairy land it was named Fairland. Today all that remains at Ogeechee is the schoolhouse and a switch for loading stock.

On this side of the river the different Indian Tribes felt that they wanted a town and so the purchase of five hundred eighty-eight acres from the Ottawas was finally arranged through Washington and the town of Miami was laid out in the early part of 1891. I helped to haul the lumber for some of the sawmills down on Grand River, and from the Frisco at Fairland.

Miami has a different history from any of the other towns in the Indian Territory. It was bought outright and so did not come under any jurisdiction of any of the tribes and during the first two years had saloons and, of course, this attracted many undesirable people here. Once the Federal officers came here, raided the saloons and closed them. When the case was taken up with the United States Courts the Federal men were compelled to pay for the liquors that they had destroyed and taken. The saloons were not closed until a special act of congress established a form of government and placed it under the Arkansas Laws.

The first railroad reached Miami from Baxter Springs in 1896 but was not extended from there to Afton until 1901 so during the first few years it was a favorite spot with the cowboys and those desiring to celebrate.

I am the only person here who saw Bill West kill Kenny, the town marshal. Bill West and his father, Kinch, had passed a boy of the name of Hart and me. We were bringing a load of corn to town south of the Neosho here. They were in a buggy and were driving two big mules. We crossed and as we came up Main Street the Wests were talking to Long Mike, a gambler, on the street and when I reached the place in the street right in front of Kenny's blacksmith shop, which was on the west side of the main street fronting the east, Bill West walked to the door and said to Kenny, "I don't want any trouble but I want my watch and gun". Kenny had arrested West a few days previously for shooting out some windows and had taken his watch and gun from him. West escaped and had sent Kenny word that he was coming back on this day at two o'clock and that he did not want any trouble but he wanted his watch and gun. Some say that this was a sweetheart's watch and some say that he had her picture in the watch. Kenny, instead of giving him the gun and watch, ducked behind a partition in the shop and fired at West. West then drew his gun and aimed at where Kenny was hiding and, firing just below the top of the partition, his shot struck Kenny in the top of the forehead and Kenny fell over a wagon wheel with his brains oozing out.

West then walked into the shop and got his gun and watch and, after looking at Kenny, turned and came out. He walked up to the north corner of the block, looking at his gun as he walked, crossed the street and entered the old Cottonwood Hotel. He walked through it out to the well back of it and got a drink and turned and came back to the street. His father who had driven up the street was coming back so he walked out and got in the buggy and drove south out of town. John Cheyne, who was in charge of the Bigham store across the street heard the shot and came across after West left and when he saw Kenny lying there he called to Hart and me and asked us to come there. We got off the load of corn and went inside and Cheyne said to us, "Boys, this man gave his life for this town. Help me lift him up". We did and put him on a bench in the shop. When I went home and told my father what I had seen, he told me that I was not to mention it to any one as he did not want any trouble with West.

In the excitement that followed, the part Hart and I had played was overlooked and at the trial the only witness that gave testimony was the small son of Kenny who was at school about a half a block away and did not reach there till later. West was taken to Fort Scott for safekeeping but he escaped here and later escaped from another jail and the last time that he was captured, he was being held in Oswego, Kansas.

I did not mention this until after my father died in 1896. One day I was talking to

Mandy Lee, a cousin of Bill's, and I mentioned seeing him shoot Kenny. A few days after that evening, Kinch drove up to our place and called to me to come there. I was scared but I went and then he asked me to tell him what I had seen and heard. When I told him he said, "That is just what Bill told me. You will not be hurt and I will see you again soon." As soon as he could get in contact with Bill, they began to plan for him to give himself up and stand trial but before the arrangements could be made, a Federal officer came across West asleep in the hills about twenty-five miles east of Eureka Springs and killed him.

Our laws in those days were very different from the present ones. When we first came here we had the Indian Police and when any one of the Indians would complain against a white settler, he would be taken by the Indian Police across the state line either into Kansas or Missouri and told not to return.

Fairland had its characters, too, in those days; among them Ted Donalds, Jerry Tell and some others jumped him up in Fairland one day and followed him to the Jake Samples place some seven or eight miles but he turned on them as he reached the timber they went back to town without him. At another time, then a group of men were drinking, Ted Donalds and Bill West held up the operator of a shooting gallery at Fairland and one held him while the other shot notches in his hair.

When they were building the first old steel bridge here shortly after 1900, Mort Canday and I were the first persons to cross it. The bridge was finished and the approach was completed on the south side and they were several feet from the bridge on this side. We rode on from the other side and across the bridge and then jumped our horses across the uncompleted approach here. The contractor swore at us but we only laughed and told him that we wanted to be the first to cross the new bridge.

The old white two-story school building here that was built in the summer of 1900 was the first free school in the Indian Territory. When it was torn down to be replaced by the large brick building, the lumber was bought by George Nicely, the elevator man, and he built the east part of his mill and elevator out of it on Third Street southeast.

I had little schooling except in the few subscription schools but, some way, I have managed to pick up quite a bit of music and can play several instruments. My favorite instrument is the guitar and I used to go eighteen and twenty miles to play for a dance but after Farther died and Mother did not have good health I found that I could not farm, look after her and attend all of the dances so one morning after I had been out all night I called my hand and told him that we were parting company and that I was settling up with him. I told him I could not keep on as we were going as we had always gone together and then I turned to the girl who helped in house and asked her if she wanted the old guitar, that if she didn't that I was going to hang it over a post.

As Mother's health grew worse I left the farm and brought her to Miami and took care of her until her death in about 1910, after which I returned to farming and this time I purchased a building that stood about one hundred fifty yards northwest of the Hudson Creek Schoolhouse and moved it across the road east on some land allotted by Doyle Nideffer.

It was a three-room house and built of white pine boards and some of these were two feet wide. The house is still used but it has been weather boarded since. I was told that it was an old home of the Dalton Family. After living here five years I returned to Miami where I have continued to live since.

100 YEARS AGO
Items extracted
From the Muskogee Daily Phoenix &
The Muskogee Times-Democrat
By Barbara Downs

MUSKOGEE DAILY PHOENIX, October 5, 1906

Y.M.C.A. MEETING

Mr. Bruno Hobbs, of Denver, field secretary of the International Committee of the Y.M.C.A. met with a number of young men interested in Y.M.C.A. work last night at the Presbyterian church for the purpose of discussing plans for the organization of a local Y.M.C.A.

Born, September 29, to Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Diederich, 549 S. Sixth street, a ten pound boy.

ESTABLISHED FIRST SCHOOL

Prof. H. M. Butler who in 1898 established the public school system in Muskogee is in the city after an absence of six years, during which time he has been in the government service in the Philippines has returned to the city.

MUSKOGEE DAILY PHOENIX, October 6, 1906

Y.M.C.A. MEETS

At a meeting of the Y.M.C.A. Thursday evening the association decided to erect a large building in the spring. The structure will be the home of the association and will be equipped with a reading room, library, gymnasium and baths. A committee was appointed to secure as large a membership as possible for next year.

MUSKOGEE DAILY PHOENIX, October 7, 1906

MARRIAGE LICENCES

The following marriage licenses were issued at the office of the United States clerk Saturday: Lennis Tatro, 26, Porter, and Miss Dora Murphy, 23, Morris; Jess K. Wadley 22, and Miss Ethel Morgan, 17, Webbers Falls; Frank Kirby 25, and Miss Myrtle Elizabeth Crossland, Keifton. The father of the girl accompanied the groom to be in the latter case.

WEST SIDE RINK

A new electric piano, 100 pairs new Richardson skates, the floor kept in perfect condition and just one block west of the Turner hotel. Spend an evening at the rink with your friends.

MUSKOGREE TIMES-DEMOCRAT, November 14, 1906

There are now about sixty persons employed in making the Muskogee Times-Democrat the leading newspaper of Indian Territory.

The new race track which will soon be built in Muskogee will be one of the fastest in the southwest.

MUSKOGEE TIMES-DEMOCRAT, November 14, 1906

PORUM

Votes Bonds for New \$8000 School BuildingMore Improvements

Porum, I. T., Nov. 14, - This town has voted \$8,000 in school bonds for the construction of a two-story brick school house. The townsite company has donated a full block in the residence portion of the town as a site for the school building.

O. D. Revel has begun excavation for a three story brick block to cost \$20,000.

There will be a box supper sociable in the Labor Temple, Friday, Nov. 16, beginning at 8 P. M. This sociable will be given under the auspices of the Union Bible School and the proceeds will go toward the library now being built up there. A cordial invitation is extended to all who are interested in the work. By order of COMMITTEE

INCORPORATIONS

The articles of incorporation of the Hulbert Townsite Co., were filed at the clerks office this morning. The company is capitalized at \$6,000. The incorporators are R. F. Kind, W. A. Parker and B. A. Randle.

MUSKOGEE TIMES-DEMOCRAT, December 10, 1906

STORE NEWS

The paving on West Okmulgee is going to be a great thing for that street. The property holders on West Broadway from Third out to Fifth could do nothing that would enhance the value of their property more than to pave the streets. If the property holders are alive to the situation they will not delay paving much longer

Mr. Evans, of the Fair Store, deserves the thanks of every woman in Muskogee for having taken the initiative in providing a full line of holiday toys, from which they may select Christmas gifts for the kids. What the women in Muskogee have needed at Christmas time most for years has been a place to buy toys for children of all ages, and the Fair Store this year is providing it.

Streets Furniture Company is making a specialty of Christmas goods this Month and keeping the store open nights to accommodate their trade. A piece of furniture as a Christmas present is a constant reminder of the donor.

Melsch, the jeweler, has a most attractive line of Christmas goods this year, among which are to be found a great many little articles which are not only inexpensive but very elegant.

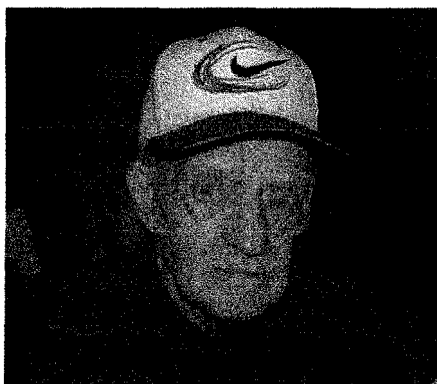
MUSKOGEEEE TIMES-DEMOCRAT, December 31, 1906

SOCIETY NOTES

The annual New Year's dance will be given by the Elks at their club rooms this evening. All the Muskogee Elks and visiting Elks are invited to this dance.

Invitations have been received by a large number of Muskogee people to attend a dance to be given in Tahlequah Friday night of this week.

James Ford's Life Before WWII



Interviewee: James H. Ford, Jr.
Interviewer: Wally Waits
Location: Muskogee Public Library
Date: October 6, 2006

JAMES: I was born in Muskogee.
WALLY: When?
JAMES: I was born in 1926 but my birth wasn't registered until 1927.
WALLY: OK, why was that?
JAMES: We lived way out in the country so things like that were done when you got the time.
WALLY: Where did you live out in the country?
JAMES: We lived southwest of Muskogee towards Wainwright.
WALLY: Who were your parents?
JAMES: My parents were James H. Ford and Margaret Colela Ford. Colela Ford. She was Cherokee Indian.
WALLY: Where did you start school?
JAMES: I started to school at Fairview School, a country school, southwest of Muskogee.
WALLY: What was the school like?
JAMES: It was a two-room schoolhouse country school and Mr. and Mrs. Eland Rainwater were teachers.
WALLY: How do you spell their last name? Rainwater?
JAMES: Right.
WALLY: And what do you remember about them? You remember their names really well.
JAMES: They were very good people. He was not only a teacher but coached our ball teams, our basketball teams, softball teams. He was a small man but very athletic. He was a wrestler in college so he was very athletic. And they were very good people. Everybody liked them.
WALLY: What grades did he teach?
JAMES: He taught the primary grades, the upper grades to the 8th grade.
WALLY: Through the 8th grade?
JAMES: Through the 8th grade, yes.
WALLY: Describe the schoolhouse.
JAMES: It was a two-room schoolhouse. White frame, faced south. I think it's where a church is now.
WALLY: Which church?
JAMES: I don't know which church but I think they made a church out of the building or on the property where the building was. It was the old Fairview schoolhouse.
WALLY: OK. Did they have blackboards in the classrooms?
JAMES: Oh yeah. They had blackboards.
It was a small country school with a very strong athletic program. Mr. Rainwater instated a tumbling team and we traveled over the country putting on shows.
WALLY: Did you really?

JAMES: Yeah. And it was interesting.

WALLY: Were you in a tumbling team?

JAMES: Yes, I was on a tumbling team and two of my sisters were on a tumbling team.

WALLY: And what years were this?

JAMES: I can't remember those years. But I was on the tumbling team in 6th, 7th and 8th grade. As long as we were there, through the 8th grade, we had a good tumbling team. Good athletic program. We didn't have football but we had very good basketball players.

WALLY: Who was that? The good basketball player.

JAMES: Gene Herndon, Bill Condon, Charles Ford. We had a very good girls' basketball team. Very competitive. We matched games with all the little country schools around.

WALLY: What do you remember about the teaching style?

JAMES: Teaching style was probably very much like it is today. Mr. Rainwater was very outgoing. He told us stories. Every day he'd take 30 minutes off to tell us a story about characters he had invented. Adventure stories and things like that. And he was very good at it. And we enjoyed it very much and looked forward to it every day.

WALLY: Do you remember any of the stories?

JAMES: No, I really don't.

WALLY: Do you remember what they were about?

JAMES: Oh, they were adventure stories and stuff like that. He always had a theme for them. He made them up but he was very good at it and we looked forward to it every day.

WALLY: What was his wife like?

JAMES: She was a very good teacher too. I think they both came from families of teachers and they were very interested in the young people. They went out of their way, even after school, and things like that. They were always there for you, you know, if you needed something or anything. They was really there for the kids, day and night. I know that everybody that went to them out there they really appreciated them.

WALLY: How did you get to school?

JAMES: I walked. If I walked the road it probably would be 2 miles or more but I cut across the pasture. It was only about a mile that way from one section line to another. We lived south of the school. I worked before school and after school for Bradley Dairy out there. It was a big dairy farm and of a morning before I went to school I went to their pasture and run the cattle in the feedlot. Hooked up the first 5, I think it was, to milkers that they had. And then I went on to school. They had people that came in after me and took care of the rest of it and I done the same thing in the afternoon. Feed the cows in the feedlot and stuff like that. It was interesting. A lot of hard work but it was interesting.

WALLY: Do you remember what you were paid?

JAMES: Yeah. I got a dollar a week.

WALLY: What year was this?

JAMES: It was probably about 1934/1935 or something like that.

WALLY: That's pretty good money for the Depression.

JAMES: It was, but I worked hard. I worked hard, a lot of hours, and I made a dollar a week at school because I worked at school as a janitor before school. When I'd get through at the dairy I'd go to school and sweep and mop the floors in the gymnasium

and the schoolroom.

WALLY: So you had a gymnasium at the schoolhouse?

JAMES: It was built on after I started there but it was a new gymnasium. It was a good deal because the country schools out there would come there for basketball games and tournaments and stuff like that. And they had a good little track program. We always had a good little track team and our basketball teams were very competitive for a country school.

WALLY: Did you ever get to go to the county fair here in Muskogee?

JAMES: Oh yes, yes. That was something we had to do every year.

WALLY: To go to the fair?

JAMES: Yes, go to the fair. Being from the country we had a lot of people out there that had country type exhibits there and we enjoyed the fair. It was a lot bigger than it is and had a lot of stuff that dealt with those times, agriculture and stuff like that. It's too commercial nowadays. They're just there for the money.

WALLY: What do you remember about the fair?

JAMES: We always loved the fair. The kids did. We had to save our pennies and nickels.

WALLY: Do you remember any of the rides that you enjoyed?

JAMES: I don't remember too much about the rides. I was really more or less fighting the rides. I was scared of them. I didn't care too much for the rides. Everything else I enjoyed the fair. We always did.

WALLY: How did you get to town?

JAMES: Well, usually we walked. We didn't have a car until up in the late 30's. We come to town at least once a week. Usually it was on Saturday and we had a team and a wagon that we brought to town you know to haul the goods home, groceries and stuff like that.

WALLY: Where did you put the team while you were...?

JAMES: Had a feedlot down on south Main Street just before you get to the tracks on the east side of the street. That's where everybody that come into town that came in on horses and that's where they tied up down there.

WALLY: Do you remember the name of the lot?

JAMES: No, I don't. We just called it the feedlot. We would usually come to town early on Saturday morning and loose rein the horses and put the feed bags out. That was it. Sometimes we'd stay in town the biggest part of the day. Kids would go to the morning movie and then we had five movies in Muskogee. We'd go to the morning movie and the afternoon movie and after we'd seen them both we were ready to go home.

WALLY: Which theater did you prefer?

JAMES: Well, I preferred the Broadway. It was handy. At that time I think the Ritz cost a little more than the Broadway. We had the Broadway, Roxy, _____, Ritz and they had a colored movie house down on Second Street. I can't remember the name of it.

WALLY: Did you ever go there?

JAMES: I didn't. My father did. If there was something he wanted to see he'd go. But I never went to it like he did.

WALLY: Where did your family shop when they came to town?

JAMES: Mostly there were stores on Okmulgee past Second Street that we shopped in. I can't remember the name. And we had Kress's and Woolworth then – we don't have

now.

WALLY: Kress and Woolworth?

JAMES: Yeah, we had Kress and Woolworth and we had _____. Oh there was a quite a lot of them we had then that we don't have now. But we had a good assortment then of stores, but back during the Depression things were different than they are now. You had to watch your pennies but the prices aren't what they are today. They were commensurate with the economy, you know.

JAMES: My father worked for _____ Company owned by Carl Bates. One of the prominent families.

WALLY: What did your father do?

JAMES: He run their business for them. They had a service station and tire business.

They sold tires, batteries, automobile accessories and stuff like that. He done it all. He worked hard, long hours. He made a living. That was something a lot of people couldn't do. They couldn't find jobs, there wasn't any jobs. A lot of people wanted a job but a lot of them that wanted jobs that didn't want to work.



Knotts's Bakery 204 E. Okmulgee
Built about 1918

Early Muskogee History ¹.

Cherokee Nation and six miles east of the railroad, formerly an extensive trading post, has lost much of its business, it having been transferred to this place [Muskogee] which now is the most prominent as well as central point for shipments to all parts of interior².

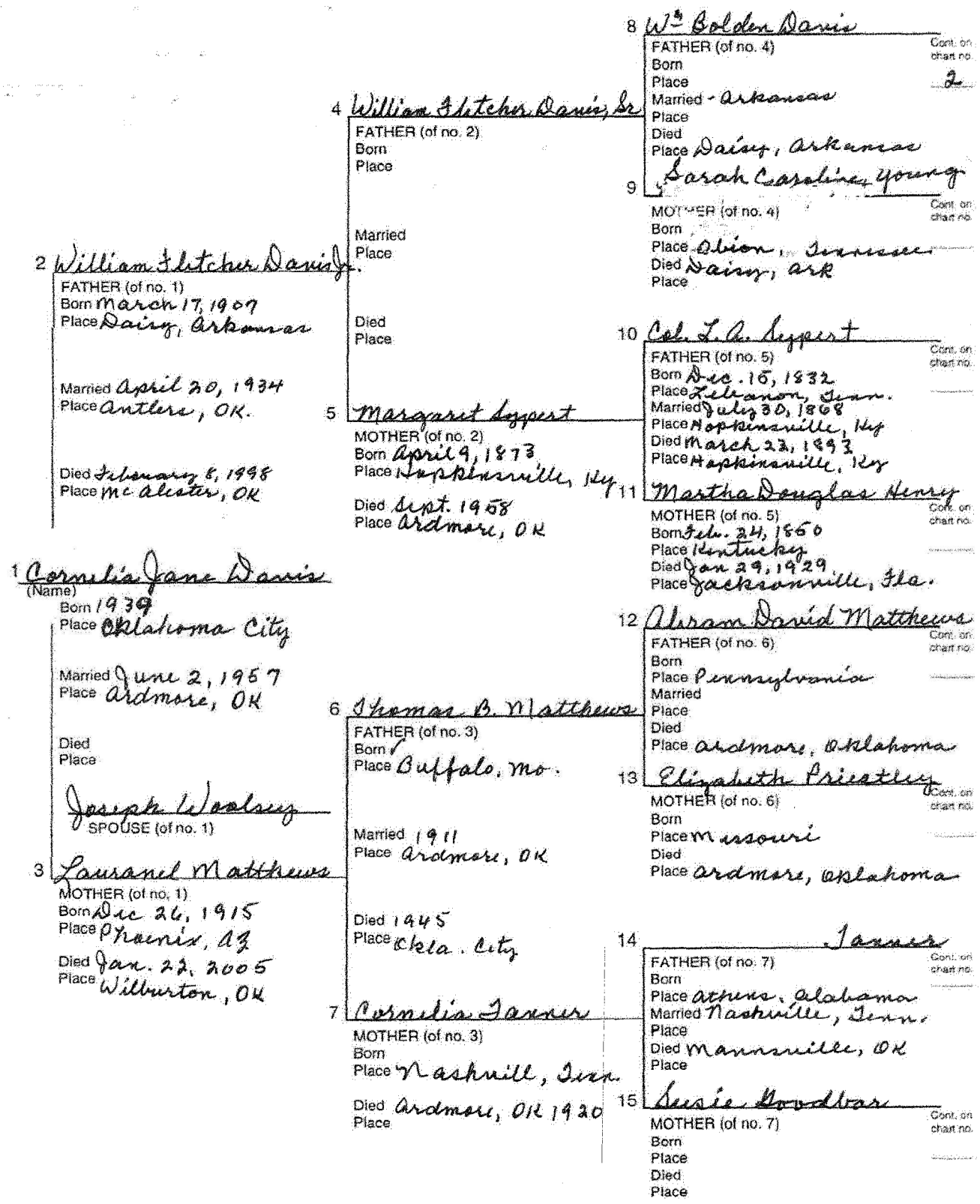
Muskogee is built on a fine rolling prairie, three miles south of the Arkansas River, the railroad company has an eating house³, a round house, and stock yards located here. There is also a wind mill⁴ with fine run of stone, for grinding corn, with a cotton gins attached. The Agricultural Society⁵ of the Indian Territory is to hold its second annual exhibition here the coming fall, and it is probable that each of the five principal tribes will be well represented. The consolidated agency is established at this place, which adds considerable to the importance of the point as regards its trade. Okmulgee, the capital of the Creek nation and also of the Territory, fifty miles farther west, is a trading post of considerable importance.

We enjoy a healthful and pleasant climate, seldom experiencing either extreme. The season is opening very late, the peach trees not blooming till the first of April, and the apple trees are just showing their blossoms. Irish potatoes, early corn, and most garden vegetables are up, but their growth has been slow and sickly on account of the cold weather.

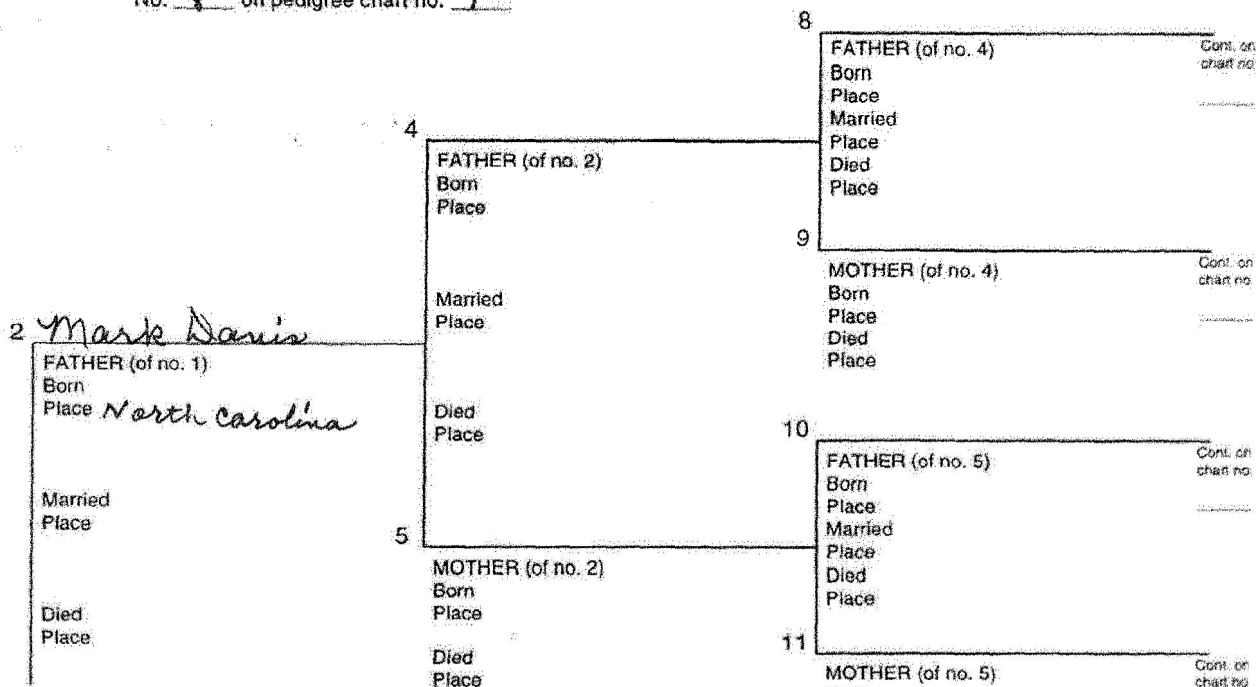
The Presbyterians have promising organization and a house of worship at Fort Gibson, where the Presbytery of Neoshoe convened on the 16th inst. have a church building, and our society was organized on the 18th with a membership of eleven, six of whom were men. The members are all whites; who established in touie [?] business here.

The young grasshoppers are, to say the least, numerous, near the Arkansas River. I have seen them so densely packed as to entirely cover the ground, and when frightened, the sound produced by their alighting upon the dry leaves resemble the falling of a brisk shower of rain. We are aiutienishly [?] wishing them wings, hoping that with them they might take their departure, but their growth, like that of the cops, seems to be very slow. There is a great deal of destitution among the natives this spring. There is but very little corn in the country, and if there was they have no means to purchase it with. I hear that game is dying from exposure and lack of nourishment.

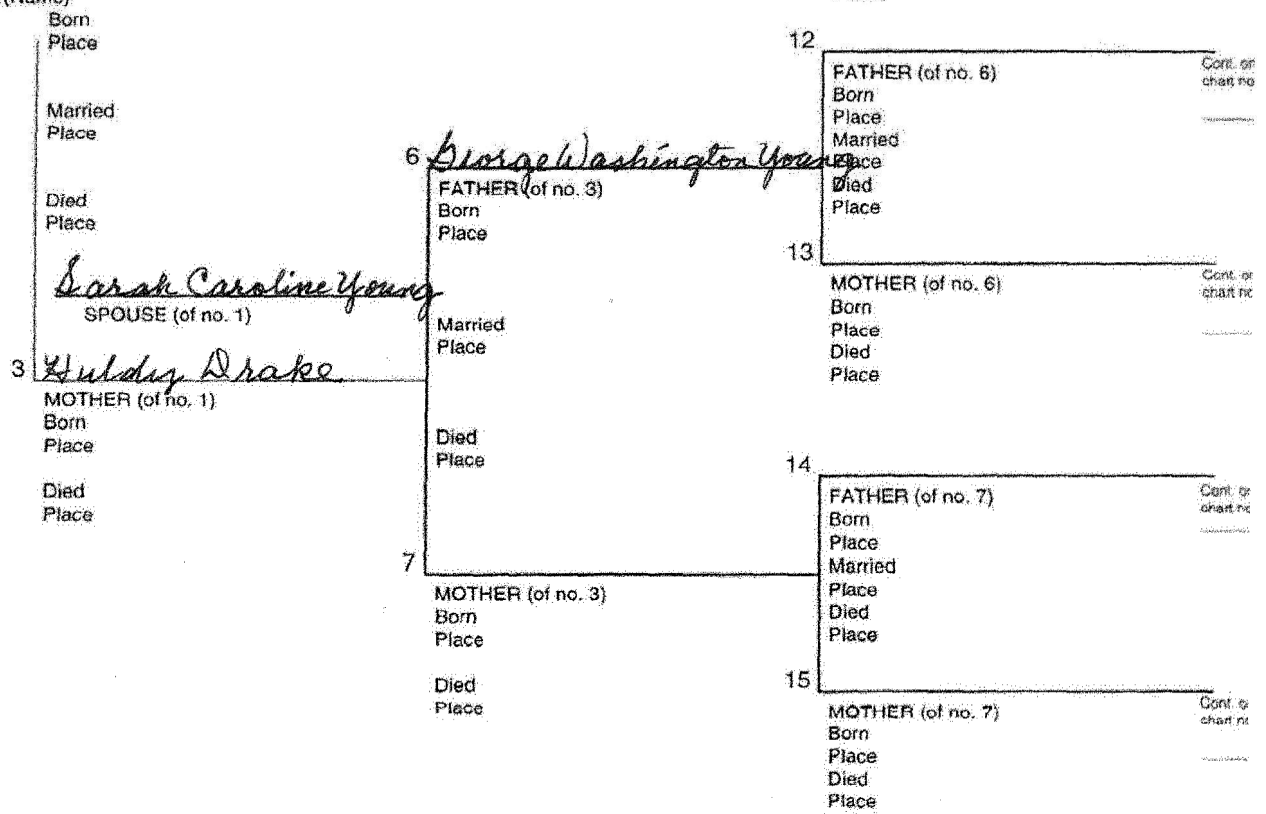
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1. Newspaper article from *The Freeborn County Standard* printed on Thursday, May 6, 1875 in Albert Lea, Minnesota. It has been edited. Author is unknown.
 2. This relocation of business was a consequence of the Cherokee Nation not allowing the railroad to build down the heart of their nation.
 3. The Mitchell House was run by James Mitchell.
 4. The windmill was replaced by a steam engine in September, 1876.
 5. Major John A. Foreman owned and operated this expansive business enterprise.
 6. Major Foreman, as society president, was a large force in promoting the agricultural and economic development of the Three Forks area during this period.



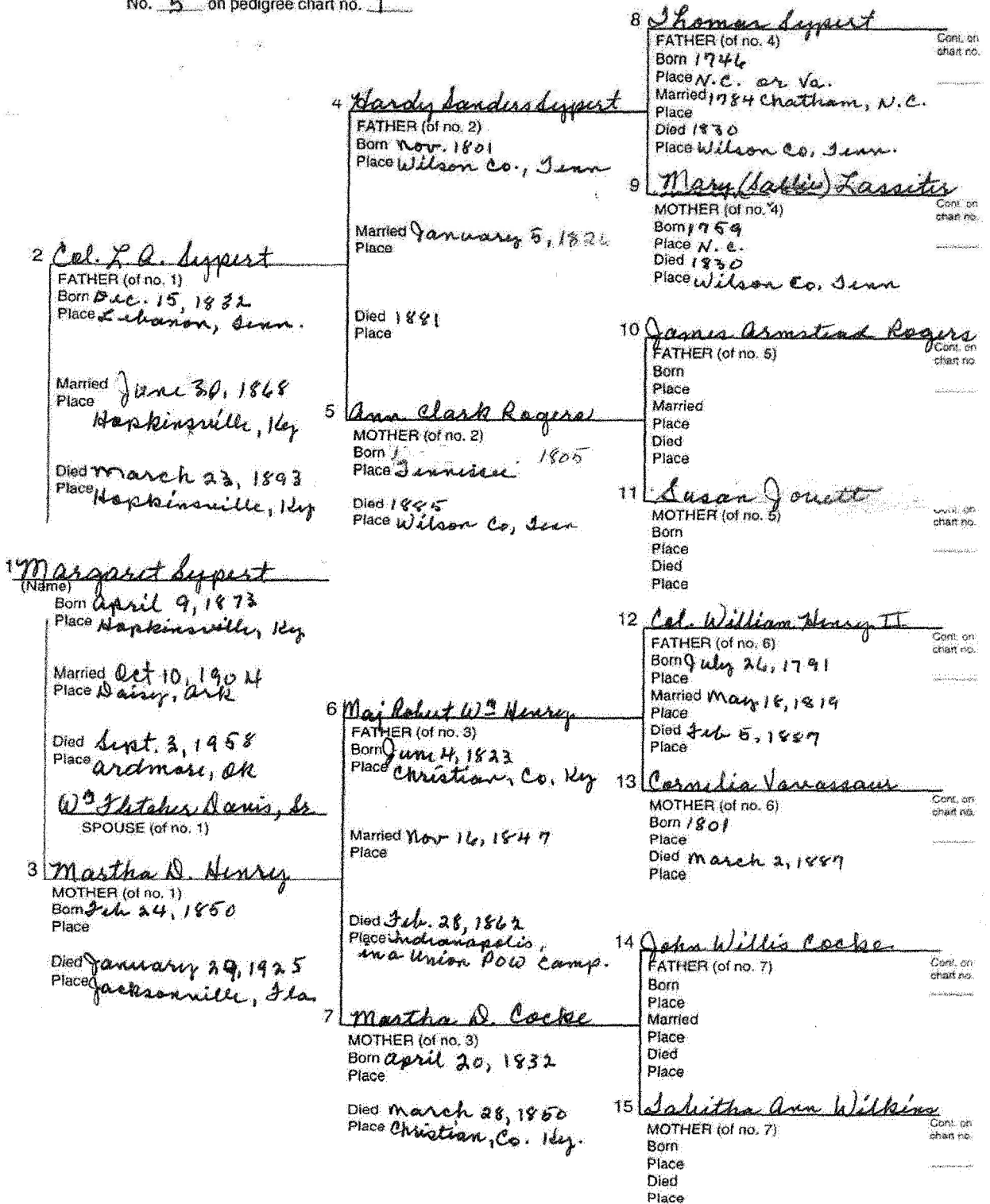
No. 1 on this chart is the same as
No. 8 on pedigree chart no. 1



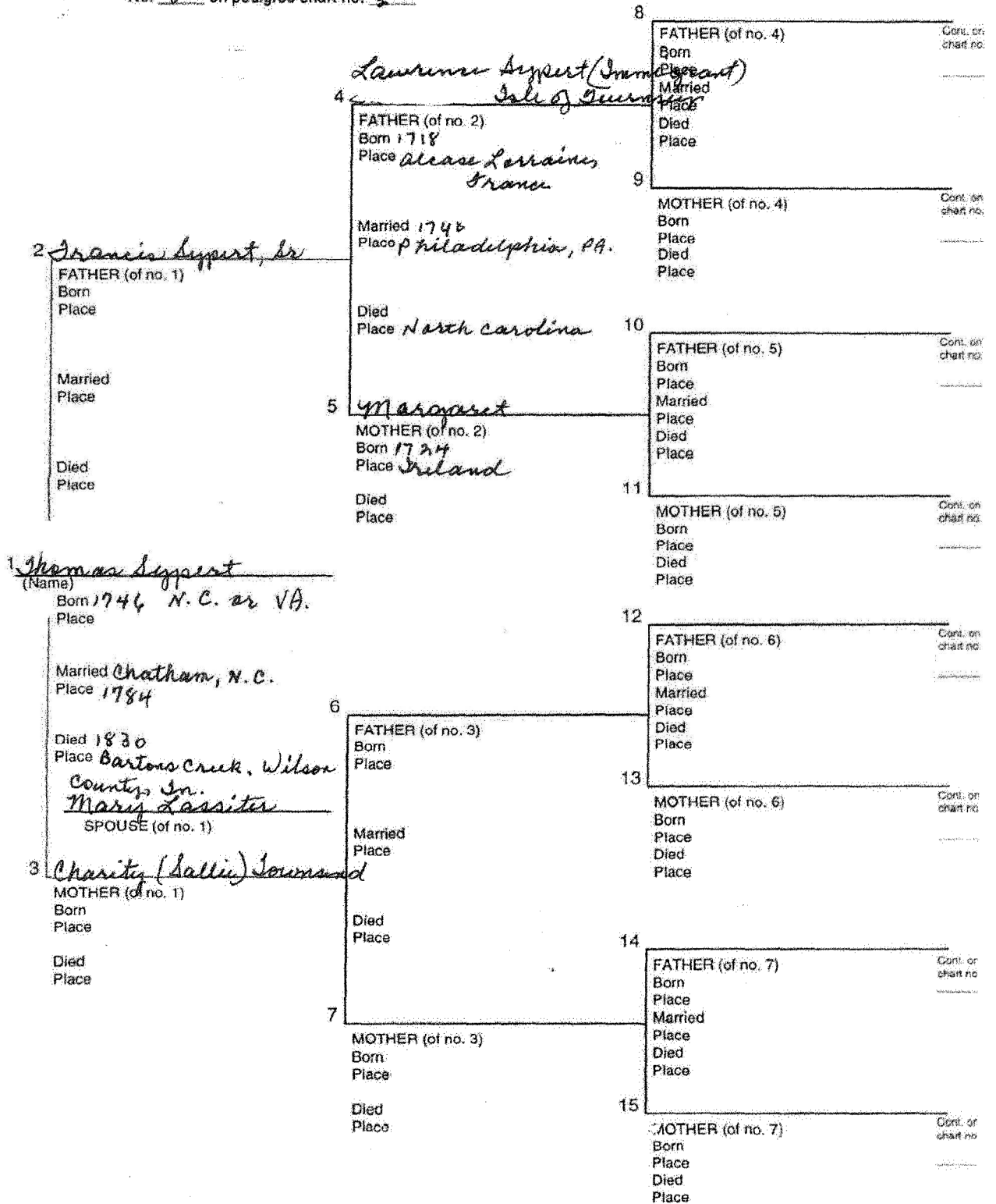
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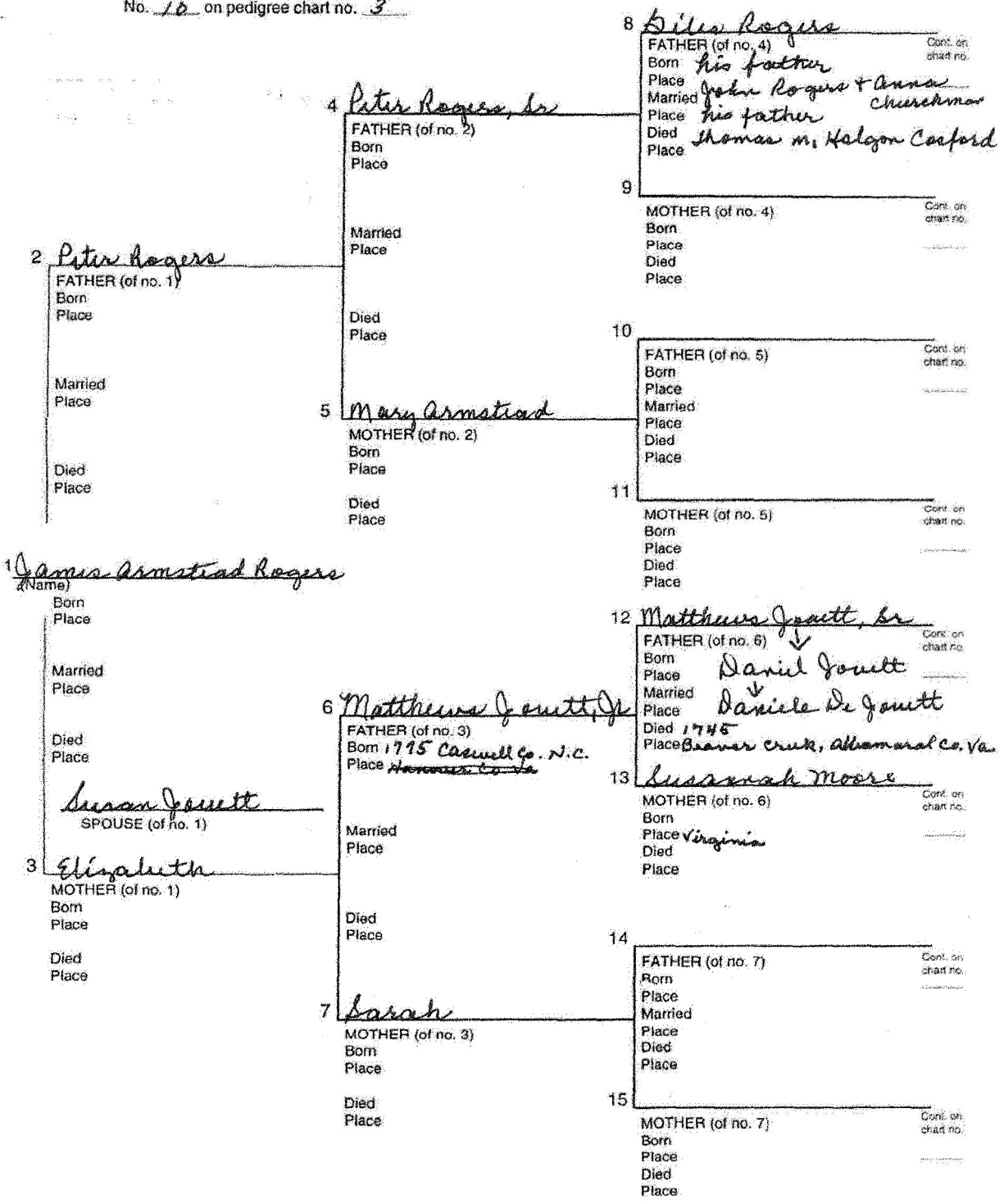
No. 1 on this chart is the same as
No. 5 on pedigree chart no. 1



No. 1 on this chart is the same as
No. 8 on pedigree chart no. 3



No. 1 on this chart is the same as
No. 10 on pedigree chart no. 3



Saving Cemeteries –One at a Time

In 1983 and again in 1991, Muskogee County Genealogical Society members, about 20 in all, set out to survey Muskogee County cemeteries and ultimately printed two books, *Cemeteries of Muskogee County* volumes I and II. These two volumes were compiled and edited by Walter and Deone Penquite, charter members of the Society. In this way our Society help to preserve the cemetery data.

In the 1970's, James W. Tyner and Alice Tyner Timmonds compiled a 12 volume set of cemetery surveys which included some Muskogee County Cemeteries. In addition, Gary Lester compiled a three volume set of Muskogee County cemetery surveys and in 1982 Sue Emler and Carole Elsworth compiled a two volume set.

Still, all Muskogee County cemeteries had not been surveyed and their was no comprehensive list of the surveys that had been done. In 2000 I started compiling such a list and ultimately published it on my Muskogee County History and Genealogy website. Today it also includes many surveys and gravestone photos.

In 2005 I was asked to compile a list of cemeteries and their locations in Muskogee County for Oklahoma Home and Community Education, Inc., a part of the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service. In October 2005 OHCE completed cemetery books for all 77 counties in Oklahoma and placed them in the research library of the Oklahoma History Center.

About the time that I began the list of cemeteries and created the website for them, I also became more interested in the preservation and restoration of all the old cemeteries that I was visiting. I began to make photographs of the cemeteries and the gravestones that survive in them. One of the cemeteries that continually attracted me was the Old Agency Cemetery just north of Muskogee. I began to do more in depth research on the people that were buried there and started the list of burials that I could document either through the gravestones, other surveys, probate files, obituaries and so on.

In 2003 I met Gary Young and Chuck Marcum quite by accident (another story) and discovered their interest in cleaning up and restoring the Old Agency Cemetery. In 2005 we established the Eastern Oklahoma Cemetery Preservation Organization, Inc. (EOCPO), its purpose to work to preserve and restore the old cemeteries of this part of the state. We have worked each season from October through March (to avoid the chiggers and ticks) mostly on Old Agency Cemetery but have also cleaned up Harnage Cemetery in Muskogee County and Keys Cemetery in Wagoner County. We will continue to work on small cemeteries as we can but our main project is Old Agency. After two years of work, only about a third of the cemetery is cleared of brush and trees. There is much more to be done. If you too are interested in preserving and restoring the cemeteries in our county, the information about EOCPO and our work is included on the following pages.

If you would like to learn more about saving our cemeteries you will find a list of websites and books on the next two pages.

Cemetery Resources

Websites

African American Cemeteries Online
<http://www.prairiebluff.com/aacemetery/>

Association of Gravestone Studies
<http://www.gravestonestudies.org/joinags.htm>

Cemeteries From the U. S. Civil War Center
<http://www.cwc.lsu.edu/cwc/links/hist.htm#Cemeteries>

Cemetery Junction
<http://www.daddezio.com/cemetery/>

Cemetery Records Online
<http://interment.net/>

Cemetery Photos
www.rootsweb.com/~cemphoto/

City of the Silent
www.alsirat.com/silence/index.html

Find A Grave
www.findagrave.com/index.html

funeralCENTRAL
www.funeralnet.com

General Cemetery Resources
www.geneasearch.com/cemeteries.htm

Headstone Hunter
www.headstonehunter.com

Nationwide Grave Locator
(National Cemeteries)
http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/j2ee/servlet/NGL_v1

Oklahoma Cemeteries Mailing List Homepage
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~okcemete/okcem.htm>

Resting Places of US Colored Troops
www.coax.net/people/lwf/cem_usct.htm

Saving Graves
www.savinggraves.com

The Olive Tree
http://olivetreenealogy.com/misc/grave_symbols.shtml

Tomb With A View
<http://members.aol/TombView/twav.html>

US Geological Survey Query Form
http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis/web_query.gnis_web_query_form

Books

There is an extensive list in the Bibliography of Sharon DeBartolo Carmack's book, *Your Guide to Cemetery Research*

Your Guide to Cemetery Research
Carmack, Sharon DeBartolo

The Last Great Necessity: Cemeteries in American History (Creating the North American Landscape)
Sloan, David Charles

Soul in the Stone: Cemetery Art from American's Heartland
Brown, John Gary

Cemeteries and Gravemarkers: Voices of American Culture
Meyer, Richard E.

Going Out in Style: The Architecture of Eter
Keister, Douglas

Cleaning Headstones, Memorials & Mausoleums
Hueston, Frederick M.

A Practical Guide for Church Cemeteries
Couch, Douglas G.

Landscapes of Memories-A Guide for Conserving Historic Cemeteries
Anson-Cartwright, Tamara

A Guide to Massachusetts Cemeteries
Lambert, David Allen

Mullet & Chisel: Gravestone Carvers in Newport, Rhode Island in the 18th Century
Luti, Vincent F.

Stories in Stone
Keister, Douglas

A Graveyard Preservation Primer
Strangstad, Lynette

EOCPO's Work at Harnage Cemetery
19 Nov. 2005 & 5 Feb. 2006



Before

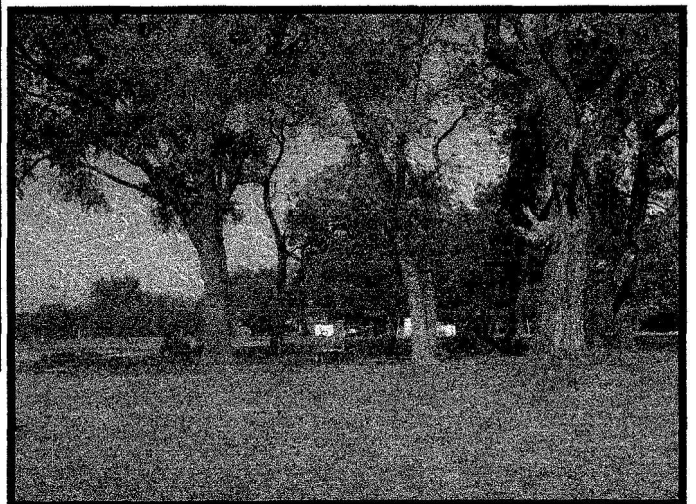


After

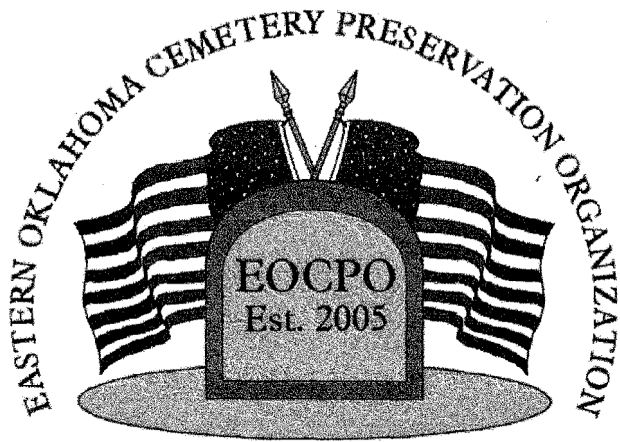
EOCPO Keys Cemetery Clean Up 21 October 2006



Before



After



Old Agency Cemetery Cleanup and Restoration



Do your part to help preserve our history! Please join us in working to clean up and restore this historic old cemetery that has been vandalized and neglected for many years.



2006/2007 Work Dates:

7 October	Agency Cemetery
21 October	Keys Cemetery
4 November	Agency Cemetery
2 December	Agency Cemetery
6 January	Agency Cemetery
3 February	Agency Cemetery
17 February	To Be Announced
3 March	Agency Cemetery
17 March	To Be Announced
7 April	Agency Cemetery

We meet at the Pilot Station on U.S. 69 and Harris Road in Muskogee at 8:45a.m. for the Old Agency Cemetery Cleanups and caravan to the cemetery. Please bring any equipment that you may have: loppers, metal blade weed eaters, chain saws, leaf blowers. Don't forget your gloves. Work time: 9-12:30.

We are currently seeking donations to purchase the west half of the Old Agency Cemetery. We also need fences, signs, equipment, and food money donations for future projects.

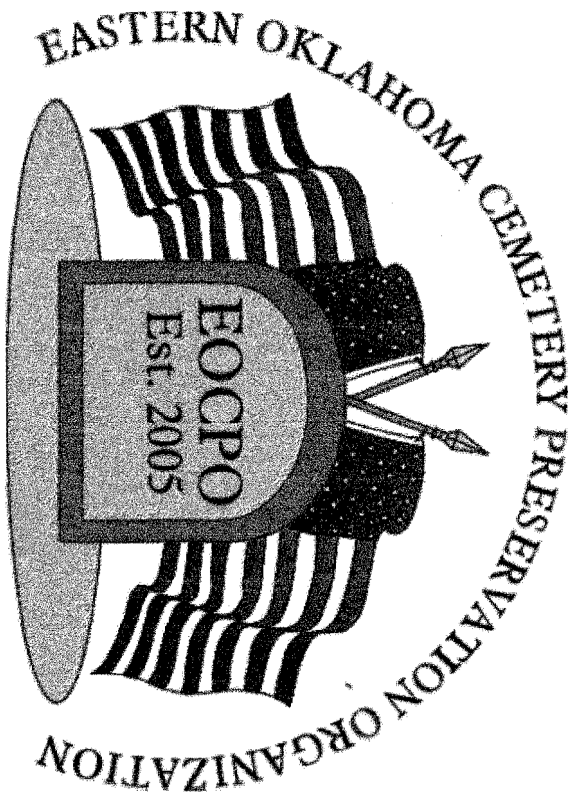
For more information visit our website at:
<http://www.eocpo.org>

Or

graytcote@cox.net
Chuck Marcum 918-906-9912

tolbert6@cox.net
Sue Tolbert 918-348-2397





le/Family memberships are \$18.00 a year. Make checks payable to EOCPO. Put and send application below to Chuck Marcum 7716 Riverside Dr. # 305C Tulsa, OK 6. You can also join online at our website and pay via PayPal at www.eocpo.org Membership Application.

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Children: _____

Address: _____

Town, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

How do you want to receive your newsletter?

- Email _____
- Paper _____
- Both _____

Eastern Oklahoma Cemetery Preservation Organization, Inc.

Purpose:

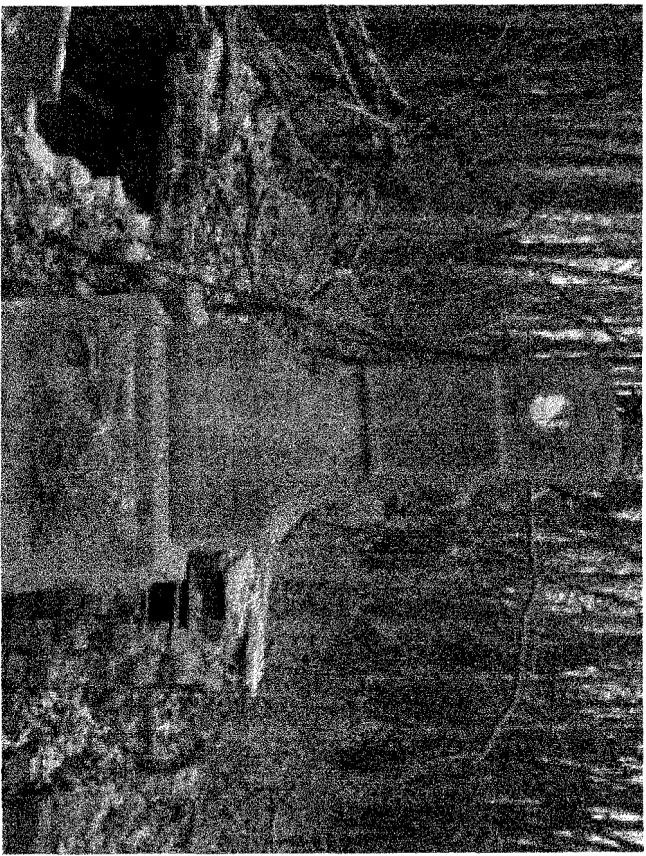
To bring together those persons interested in the preservation and restoration of cemeteries and burial places in eastern Oklahoma.

To restore and preserve the cemeteries and burial places in eastern Oklahoma.

To educate the public and increase the awareness of the historic value of the cemeteries and burial places in eastern Oklahoma as sources of community pride by encouraging their restoration and preservation as landmarks for future generations to appreciate.

To promote cemetery preservation through projects, programs and meetings.

Visit our website at <http://eocpo.org>



Our MCGS Cookbook Muskogee County Genealogical Society General Information

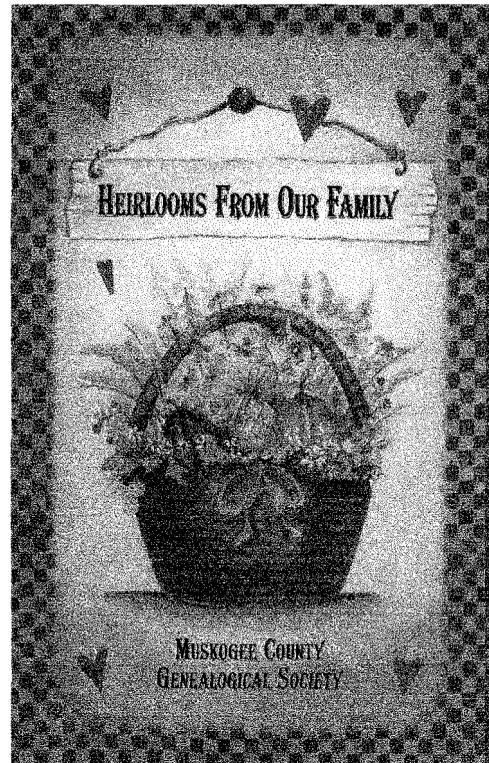
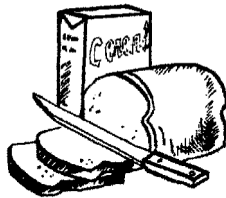


Our cookbook has arrived! Get yours today!

164 pages of tempting recipes passed down through the generations, as well as those of more recent times, contributed by our members and friends. Included are cooking tips, herbs & spices, hints for baking breads and desserts, tips on napkin folding, measurement & substitution chart, equivalency chart, food quantities for large servings, microwave hints and a calorie

The cookbook committee spent many long hours collecting, typing and organizing these recipes. We thank them for all their hard work.

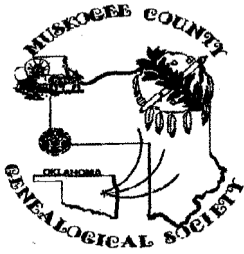
Cookbooks are available for purchase in the Grant Foreman Room, at Society meetings, or by mail. Cost is \$11 if purchased locally, \$13 if purchased by mail.



The Foreword to our cookbook was written by George G. Morgan, author of "How To Do Everything With Your Genealogy".

George is coming to Muskogee March 23, 24 & 25, 2006 to present a Writer's Workshop and Genealogy Seminar. Mark your calendars now!

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