



Muskogee County Genealogical Society Quarterly

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HUGH JACOB LLWYD

Hugh Llwyd was born March 31, 1870 in Manchester, England of Welsh parents. His father, Thomas, was an Anglican priest. Because of Thomas' health the family was encouraged to emigrate to Canada, which they did when Hugh was 4 years old. Hugh went into business in Toronto as a young man and later moved to New York City to work in the ladies' wholesale millinery business. By that time two brothers had become Anglican priests. Hugh received his call to the ministry also and studied for the priesthood at the Kansas Theological Seminary in Wichita. After graduation in 1899 his first post was in the Pawnee and Stillwater area where he served several churches. In 1906 Muskogee's Episcopal congregation needed a priest and he was sent here. While still living in Canada Hugh fell in love with Maud Apted and they were married in Kansas City, Missouri December 15, 1902. The officiating priest was A. R. Llwyd, possibly one of Hugh's brothers. Maud joined him in Muskogee where they made their home and raised their two sons, Albert (born 1905) and Edwin (born 1913).

Fr. Llwyd led the Episcopal Church in Muskogee for 35 years from 1906 until he suffered a fatal heart attack in 1941. The 35th year of his ministry in Muskogee was marked on March 1, 1941. He was the oldest Episcopal clergyman in point of service in the state and was dean of all Muskogee ministers. His wife, Maud, died in January 16, 1942. Both are buried in Greenhill Cemetery. Edwin made his home in Muskogee as well and was an attorney for the Veterans Administration. Albert became a landman and lived in Texas and Indiana.



Sources: **The Rev. Hugh J. Llwyd
was rector at Grace from
1906 to 1941.**

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Sources:

The History of Grace Episcopal Church, Marjorie Paxson , 1993, Pg. 21 - 34

Muskogee Daily Phoenix April 16, 17, & 19, 1941

Muskogee Daily Phoenix January 19, 1942

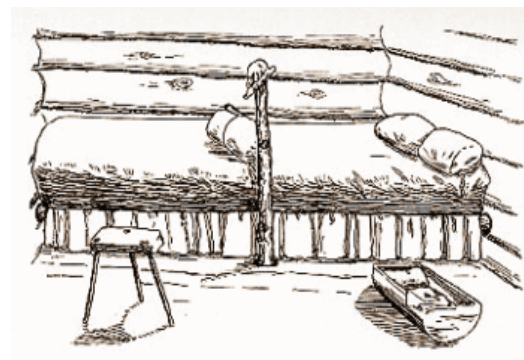
Jackson County, Missouri, marriage records, digital collection

Trivia from Crawford County, IL

Submitted by Karen Wagner

The first wagons of the pioneers were called "truck wagons." The wheels were sawed out of a large log and were a solid piece of wood with a hole in the center for the axel. Soft soap was the only grease ever used for them, and when a little dry of soap with their "hullabaloo" could be heard for miles as they passed along the road.

Then too, this was the day of the one leg bedstead. To many folks of today this will seem strange and impossible. All or nearly all, of the pioneer log cabins were furnished with a one leg bedstead. To start with you must have an un-plastered log house, then a post and two bedrails. Each rail is fastened in an auger hole in the wall. The sides of the house wall formed the end of one side of the bed, and thus a one legged bedstead is complete. Cross pieces are laid across the bedrails. The bed ticking is filled with leaves or grass and the bed is finished. And here has been found as refreshing rest and as sweet dreams as ever came to royal palaces.



But the one legged bedstead passed away. No one can tell exactly when or how but not one has been in this county for years and years.

Article Original Source: **Crawford County History Related by Pioneer Citizen**, The Argus, June 6, 1940, by E. A. Wolfe, Submitted by Sandy Cirullo, Transcribed by K. Ortman

Editor Note:

“With pictures in short supply, we'll rely on descriptions, mostly from people who saw or slept in such beds. First is Sarah Brewer-Bonebright, born in 1837, talking about mid-19th century Iowa.”

Picture and Quote Source: Log cabin beds with one leg, Jack bed, one-legged bedstead, Alabama. Website: <http://www.oldandinteresting.com/>

Muskogee's Welfare History

POSTED BY WALLY WAITS



Before statehood and government social services, Muskogee residents formed the "Board of Associated Charities." Later, it became the "Board of United Charities." The Associated Charities generally undertook systemic projects not already provided by individuals and local organizations. It often oversaw the allocation of priorities when the needs were overwhelming. One example of the board's activities was its organizing a large meal for four to five hundred people at Christmas, 1916.

Associated Charities sometimes became involved after individual efforts began.. One woman from Coffeyville, Kansas, came to the attention of a trained nurse in Muskogee. The Kansan was very ill and destitute. At first, the nurse called upon a minister's wife and Dr. John Reynolds to assist the woman. Then the case became the responsibility of the Associated Charities. It seems the divorce of her elderly parents, an Italian father and a German mother, forced the destitute woman to fend for herself. With no close relative to turn to for assistance, she struck out on her own. Fortunately, a Muskogee nurse realized she needed help.

Muskogee's first urban renewal followed the disastrous 1899 fire that destroyed most of the downtown district. Part of that renewal took the form of realigning streets in order to improve traffic flow. This was partly because fire-fighting apparatus needed straighter avenues to race quickly to fires. Wider streets also helped to prevent fires from spreading. A look at a map of today's streets shows an orderly pattern because of the city council's improvement effort.

The realignment of streets, however, sometimes resulted in the destruction of buildings, both businesses and homes, which were found jutting into the path of a new street right-of-way. Removing these buildings sometimes caused hardships.

"Bread Mary" was an Irish woman. She lived near the intersection of Okmulgee and Cherokee in a house marked for destruction. This elderly woman made her living by selling homemade bread. Her hard work prompted some to chip in for the construction of a small house to be located out of the new street's path.

In addition to private individuals helping, societies aided people, too. Two organizations are noteworthy for their efforts. These were the Women's Christian Temperance Union and the Elks. The latter helped in another case caused by street realignment. The members of the Elk's lodge pooled their money in order to build another home for the Yates family in a situation similar to "Bread Mary."

Among other efforts, United Charities dispensed the money raised by the Phoenix Ice and Milk Fund, a Depression Era project of the local newspaper. However, generous donors eventually realized that there were more demands for donations than a single household could support.

A new approach offered a way forward so that organizations and donors worked together better. In 1932, United Charities was the second organization to join the newly established Community Chest. The new organization took donations and divided the money among competing organizations. Initially, fifty percent of the money went to the Red Cross.

Then the United Charities took the name "Muskogee Welfare Association" shortly after it joined the Community Chest. The Community Chest evolved into the United Way of today.



The Muskogee Welfare Association survived for decades afterwards. One of its accomplishments was its establishment. The Muskogee Welfare Association survived for decades afterwards. One of its accomplishments was its establishment and operation of the Day Nursery pictured above.

Karen Wagner contributed to this history of Muskogee's welfare effort.

Labels: [Board of Associated Charities](#), [Board of United Charities](#), [Bread Mary](#), [Community Chest](#), [Day Nursery](#), [Dr. John Reynolds](#), [Karen Wagner](#), [Muskogee Welfare Association](#), [The Elks](#), [United Way](#), [WCTU](#)

000 in value. Officials of the company said it was fully insured.

QUESTION

Of Caring For County's Poor Up Until First Of Next July Is Puzzling To County Officials—Declare No More Money Is Left In Charitable Fund

What to do with seventeen inmates of the Muskogee county poor farm is a serious question that now confronts the county officials.

There is not a dollar in the poor and insane fund, and M. A. Sylvester, who has charge of the county poor, will not keep them unless the county commissioners pay him a claim of \$573.70 for the month of January.

When this claim was presented, County Attorney Branson began digging into affairs at the poor farm or county home. He says he discovered that \$7,500 has been spent since the first of the last fiscal year, leaving not a dollar on hand to care for the poor for the next six months in the year. He advised the county commissioners to reject this claim because there was no money to take care of it, and no provision by which the county can pile up obligations.

"Why, I find the county has been paying Sylvester the sum of \$22.50 a month each, for the care of the inmates at the county home. This is more money than I spend on myself in a month. My grocery bill will not run much over that and there are three to feed. At that rate a man keeping the county poor should get rich.

"Under the law the keeper of the home may allow these people to work on his farm."

Branson says that for years the keep of the county poor has been handed out to one man without even receiving bids, as provided by law. Under the statutes where the county does not own its own poor farm as in Muskogee, the commissioners shall on the first of each April advertise for bids in the newspapers and let the contract to the lowest bidder. "I find," said Branson, "that this has never been done. Four or five years ago a bid of \$22.50 for the keep of each inmate was approved by Chairman Swanson and since that time the same contract has been renewed.

"Now the question is, what are we going to do to take care of these poor people until the first of next July?"

Muskogee History of Concern for it's Needy

READY TO HANDLE THE COUNTY POOR

"We have several propositions for taking care of the poor," said Commissioner Strayhorn today. "We must have a farm before we can make any permanent disposition of the county charges, but we will be able to make arrangements to carry them in colonies for a while longer. We will remove the negroes from the colony soon."

The county commissioners, finding their fund for the poor practically gone and being informed that County Attorney Branson would oppose any deficiency judgments, were put up against a hard proposition. At a meeting this week it was decided that Commissioner Strayhorn should be given a free hand in dealing with the affair. The contract with L. P. Hatley has been ordered cancelled. This contract has been fought through the courts and has brought considerable notoriety to the county.

Above: Muskogee Times Democrat
2 Mar 1916, Page 1, Column 6

Left: Muskogee Times Democrat
4 Feb 1915, Page 1, Column 3

BUILD COUNTY HOME ON TAXES

Fifteen Thousand Dollars Through Levy Will Be Used for Institution

Muskogee county will have a county home for its aged dependents despite the ruling of the attorney general that the recent bond election was illegal, but it will cost only about one-third as much as the original structure planned.

County Commissioner W. H. Harrower said Thursday morning that a home costing approximately \$15,000 would be built by a tax levy. It had been planned to spend \$50,000 on the home and the bond issue was for that amount.

The home will be built on the site of the old home which was destroyed by fire last March. At present the county charges are living in tents near the ruins of their old home. There has been considerable suffering among them during the past month owing to the heavy rains.

Construction on the new home will start immediately according to Harrower. The county commissioners meet Monday and definite arrangements will be made then for the construction of the building. The proposed detention home for girls and the ward hospital project have both been abandoned.

— "Books For the Boys" —

Left: Muskogee Times Democrat
31 May 1923, Page 5, Column 5



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Right: Muskogee Times Democrat
26 March 1923, Page 12, Column 2

FIRST INMATE OF HOME DIES

Billy Proctor, In Institution Nine Years, and Friend of Fireman, Is Dead

"Billy" Proctor, the first of life's derelicts ever given shelter within the walls of the Old Folks' Home at 328 Callahan, is dead.

For nine years the institution was to William H. Proctor everything that the name implies. He had no other place to live, and when the end of his allotted span was reached Monday morning, he was sitting quietly on the sofa in the living room of the institution. Death came peacefully, as if Proctor had dropped quietly to sleep.

"Billy" was 71 years old. Because of his long residence at the home, he was known to many charitably-inclined people in Muskogee. He was the particular friend of the firemen of No. 2 station on C street, and spent many pleasant hours with his youthful cronies at the engine house.

The death of Proctor is the third at the Old Folks' Home this year, Mrs. John D. Benedict, chairman of the Old Folks' Home committee of the United Charities, said. This winter has been particularly hard on the aged and infirm inmates, of whom there are now seventeen at the home.

The funeral will be held at 2:30 o'clock Tuesday from the Street-Eicholtz chapel on West Okmulgee. Proctor's only known relative is a sister in California from whom he heard infrequently.



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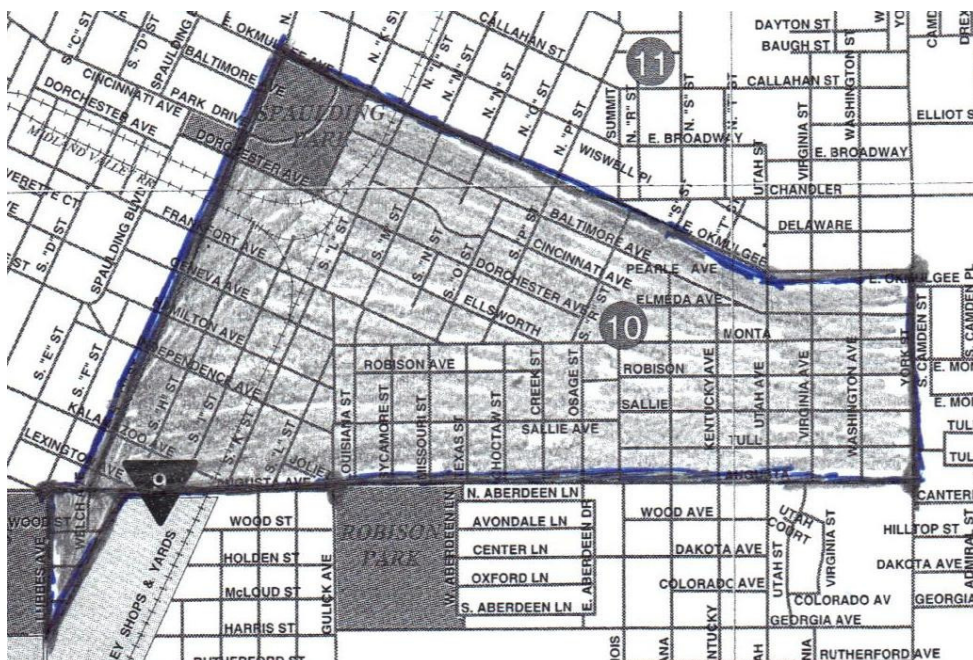
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The "Poor Farm" Revisited....

Using the boundary information given with the 1930 Census Instructions, this map has been marked to show the margins of the "Poor Farm" in Enumeration District 51-33.



The following is the area which was designated as the "Old Folks Home." Ironically, this area appears to have been where the Central High School was located, and is now and assisted living complex again.



Editor's Note: There has recently been a renewed interest regarding Muskogee's "Poor Farms" and "Old Folks Homes" The information on this page was originally published in the 2011 issue, Vol. 28.1 In the next few pages, are several articles researched and presented by Wally Waits through the Muskogee Times Democrat. Other areas and more in-depth information about these subjects can be found in special files, compiled by volunteers, in the History and Genealogy department at the Muskogee Public Library.

NORTHERN EXPOSURE

Other fathers and papas in our neighborhood were police detectives or truck drivers, but our Daddy was a bridge builder. Of course, this meant that he usually worked away from home all week and came home only on most weekends. There were times, though when the jobs were too far away for that to be and easy drive home on Friday after work and a long drive back on Sunday afternoon. During those bridge projects, we sometimes traded off, him coming home one weekend and us going to stay with him the next. And sometimes, it meant that we would go to the town nearest the building site and spend most of the summer. Those sojourns took us from Pawhuska to Coalgate, from Guthrie to Atoka. And they led us on some awesome adventures!

Winters in Pawhuska are unlike anything we knew growing up in Muskogee's Green Country. It may only be a hundred miles or so, but it is more like arriving at the North Pole! But bridges must be built where they are needed. When Daddy lived in these varied locations, he found whatever accommodations he could, and there were people who didn't want to rent to construction crews. In Pawhuska, this meant that he could only find a small travel trailer in a small trailer park in town. When I say small, I mean *micro* small!. There was one bed, one small sofa couch, a small table, a small stove, and a smaller room heater. That winter must have set a record for cold. The windows in the trailer would freeze over on the inside from the condensate in our breath, and at night we put our coats on over our pj's and piled under as many blankets as we remembered to bring.

We often got to go eat in a local restaurant, one that the job men frequented because they would pack a lunch of sandwiches and coffee for them to take to the job. We loved doing that. And before bed we would have a great time playing cards, mostly Crazy 8s, or dominoes. We love it because we were together as a family.

Notice that I did NOT say there was a small bathroom. That necessary was a considerable distance from our humble abode. Did you ever wonder about the capacity of the bladder in a twelve or sixteen year old? Let me tell you, it gets considerably larger when the alternative is a trip in the cold in the dark to a bathroom that seemed to have moved a block further away while we slept! And it seemed to us that every time we made the trip to Pawhuska, Old Man Winter did, too! We usually woke to find all the trailers wearing a blanket of snow, which was probably just as warm as the blankets we had slept under.

And then the weekend would be ending. Sunday came too soon, and Mom's job and our schooling called us back on the road, heading home. Those were probably the saddest times of all – except of course when my sixteen year old sister drove! But that's another story.

Editor's Note: This story was offered by guest contributor, Virginia Copeland, my sister and I chose to include it in this issue as an acknowledgement of the sacrifices all parents often make to keep the family ties intact. I appreciate the memories she helps us retain in spite of the fact I was the older sister. Thank you, Virginia.

Nancy Stanton Lasater

BOOKS AND MORE

Is a column published regularly in the Muskogee Daily Phoenix, submitted by members of the staff at the Muskogee Public Library. Occasional articles will be offered in this publication and this is a reprint of the article submitted:

May 19, 2011 by Nancy Calhoun
Genealogy and Local History
Muskogee Public Library
682-6657 ext. 257

Out of state requests are received regularly by the Genealogy and Local History Department at Muskogee Public Library. But an occasional request will be received from even outside of the United States.

Such was the case when an e-mail arrived from a history enthusiast in France. The medical school student has a passion for World War II history and the United States military who liberated the country. Although he's conducted other projects, his most recent project involved researching U.S. servicemen who died near the city of Nice. "One of the goals of my book is to locate a photo of all the soldiers who were killed in action in the area around Nice."

One of those men was Stanley W. Moore. He knew he served with the Paratroopers and was from the area of Gore, Oklahoma. He hoped to learn something about Stanley Moore and to acquire a photograph.

A search of military lists on Ancestry and in area and state publications confirm his name and service. Library researchers immediately turned to the U.S. Census where they found him on the 1930 U.S. Census, the only census now available upon which he is listed. They then turned to the newspaper obituary index and located an obituary for him. At least 10 members of Company H, Third Battery, Paratrooper Infantry, died August 25, 1944, in France where he was originally buried. His body was not returned to his home area until 1949. A service was then held in the Gum Springs School on January 19, 1949, before he was laid to rest for the final time in the Gum Springs Cemetery.

The U.S. Census also revealed that Stanley Moore was at least part Cherokee. Since he was born in 1924, well after the Dawes Commission closed its books, the Census revealed the names of his mother and grandparents. His family's Cherokee allotments were located in the far northwestern corner of Sequoyah County.

The obituary gave the names of the surviving relatives. An area historian provided the needed knowledge and contacts to finish connecting the pieces of the puzzle. Stanley's sister and her husband were able to provide information on Stanley Moore's short life prior to his death three days after his 21st birthday.

Photographs show a good looking, slim young man proudly posing in his pressed U.S. uniform, with his girl friend, and dressed in cowboy style astride a stuffed horse. As the French historian said, "He looks so young." In describing his book project, he continued, "This way his death and sacrifice will be remembered."

Another researcher contacted the library in search of a photograph of a young man whose entire crew perished in a plane crash after leaving their base in England during World War II. He only knew that Bobbie Dean Anderson's family resided in the Fort Gibson area. His quest was to acquire photographs of the members of the crew who perished in that crash.

U.S. Census Records and obituaries enabled him to make the contacts necessary to obtain a photograph needed to complete the combined photography collage of the crew. A copy is now displayed at the library. Staff Sergeant Anderson was the waist gunner. Nine other men died that day. The photograph of Anderson shows a young man in uniform standing in front of a star. It was the same background for the portraits of five other crew members taken at their base in Deenethorpe, England, before they departed on their last flight. Thanks to the efforts of others, those men are remembered over 60 years later. On this Memorial Day, may we do the same for those who served, for those who cared, for those who came before and made a path for us.

Resources are available at Muskogee Public Library for those researching military history. Online databases, books, and indexes can all aid the researcher. Finds just this week include a Creek veteran who served on both the Confederate and the Union sides in the Civil War, a veteran who served under Gen. Stand Watie, and a Cherokee veteran of the Spanish American War.



Muskogee County Marriage Records

1890-1948

The Muskogee Public Library Project of creating an index of marriage license information for the above shown years is now complete and available for use through the staff in the Local History and Genealogy Department. At this time, however, the index is only in the form of an alphabetical list by the Grooms' names only. A similar list is being developed in order by the brides' last names and will eventually be available on the Library website for Library patrons.

The process of creating these lists has been greatly assisted by volunteers from the Muskogee County Genealogical Society members, including, in no particular order: Linda Stout, Barbara Downs, Mary Downing, Nancy Lasater, Nancy Calhoun, Carol Payne. Apologies to anyone who was omitted from this list, but thank you all.

Muskogee County Genealogical & Historical Society

MEETINGS: MCGS meetings are held at 6:00 PM on the fourth Thursday of each month (except July and August) in the Grant Foreman room at the Muskogee Public Library, 801 West Okmulgee, Muskogee, OK. The Board of Directors meetings are held the third Monday at 5:30 PM in the library's Genealogy and Local History department. All members are invited to attend the Board meetings.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in MCGS is open to anyone promoting the purpose of the Society. Individual or family membership is \$20 per year due each January 1.

OUR 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.

BOARD MEMBERS 2014: President, Alissa Hill; Vice President, Nancy Calhoun ; Secretary, Linda Stout; Treasurer, Mary Downing; Past President, Jere Harris; Newsletter Editor: Barbara Downs; Quarterly Editor, Nancy Lasater; Webmaster: Sue Tolbert, **APPOINTED POSITIONS:** Research, Barbara Downs; Library Liaison, Nancy Calhoun; Three Rivers Museum Liaison, Sue Tolbert.

OUR RESEARCH POLICY: Outlined on our website <http://www.okgenweb.org/~mcgs/> 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.

PUBLICATIONS: MCGS publishes books of genealogical interest, focused on Muskogee County and Muskogee Indian Territory history. A current price list of our publications is provided on our website.

QUARTERLY

The MCGS Quarterly is published online four times a year: March, June, September, and December. Beginning in 2012 issue, current issues are published on-line. Copies and back issues of the can be ordered on request by mail or through our website.

NEWSLETTER

Beginning January, 2013 we began publishing a monthly newsletter to provide members and guest viewers with current and scheduled meetings and news.