

Oklahoma

Research Outline

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Oklahoma

This outline describes major sources of information about families from Oklahoma. As you read this outline, study the *United States Research Outline* (30972), which will help you understand terminology and the contents and uses of genealogical records.

RECORDS OF THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

The Family History Library has many of the records listed in this outline. The major holdings include biographies, cemetery records, census records, court records, vital records, and some American Indian records.

Some of the sources described in this outline list the Family History Library's book, microfilm, and microfiche numbers. These are preceded by *FHL*, the abbreviation for *Family History Library*. These numbers may be used to locate materials in the library and to order microfilm and microfiche at Family History Centers.

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOG

The Library's records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog found at the library and at each Family history center. To find a record, look in the Place Search of the catalog for:

- The *place* where your ancestor lived, such as:

UNITED STATES - CENSUS
OKLAHOMA - NATIVE RACES
OKLAHOMA, TULSA - PROBATE RECORDS
OKLAHOMA, TULSA, TULSA - VITAL RECORDS

- The *record type* you want to search, such as:

UNITED STATES - **CENSUS**
 OKLAHOMA - **NATIVE RACES**
 OKLAHOMA, TULSA - **PROBATE RECORDS**
 OKLAHOMA, TULSA, TULSA - **VITAL RECORDS**

The section headings in this outline match the names of record types used in the catalog.

ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

The following archives, libraries, and societies have collections or services helpful to genealogical researchers.

- Oklahoma Department of Libraries
200 N.E. 18th Street

Oklahoma City, OK 73105-3298
 Telephone: 405-521-2502, 800-522-8116
 Fax: 405-525-7804
 Internet: www.odl.state.ok.us

The Oklahoma Department of Libraries includes two areas of particular interest to genealogists: the Oklahoma Room and the State Archives Division. The Oklahoma Room houses printed materials, while the State Archives Division maintains Oklahoma government records and other historical documents.

- National Archives—Southwest Region
501 West Felix Street, Building 1
Fort Worth, TX 76115-3405
Telephone 817-331-5620
Fax 817-334-5621
Internet: www.archives.gov/southwest/
Mailing address:
P.O. Box 6216
Fort Worth, TX 76115-0216
- National Archives—Central Plains Region
2312 East Bannister Road
Kansas City, MO 64131-3011
Telephone: 816-823-5032
Fax: 816-268-6235
Internet: www.archives.gov/central-plains/

- Oklahoma Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 12986
Oklahoma City, OK 73157
Internet: www.rootsweb.com/~okgs
- Oklahoma Historical Society
2100 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4997
Telephone: 405-521-2491
Fax: 405-521-2492
Internet: www.ok-history.mus.ok.us

A guide to family histories at the society is:

Huffman, Mary, comp. *Family History: A Bibliography of the Collection in the Oklahoma Historical Society*. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: The Society, 1992. (FHL book 976.6 A3hm.)

- University of Oklahoma
Western History Collection
630 Parrington Oval, Room 452
Norman, OK 73019
Telephone: 405-325-3641
Fax: 405-325-2943
Internet: <http://libraries.ou.edu>

The following lists manuscripts in their collection:

Southwell, Kristine L., comp. *Guide to Manuscripts in the Western History Collections of the University of Oklahoma*. Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 2002. (FHL book 976.6 J53s.)

- Thomas Gilcrease Institute of American History and Art
1400 North Gilcrease Museum Road
Tulsa, OK 74127-2100
Telephone: 918-596-2700
Fax: 918-596-2700
Internet: www.gilcrease.org
- Museum of the Great Plains
601 Ferris
Lawton, OK 73507
Telephone: 580-581-3460
Fax: 580-581-3458
Internet: www.museumgreatplains.org

A useful guide to Oklahoma records is:

Koplowitz, Bradford. *Guide to the Historical Records of Oklahoma*. Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1997. (FHL book 976.6 A3kb 1997.)
Contains a survey of records kept in counties and cities through 1920.

To learn more about the history and record-keeping systems of Oklahoma counties, use the eleven inventories of county archives published by the Historical Records Survey around 1940. The Family History Library has inventories for Atoka, Beckham, Cherokee, Cimarron, Haskell, Lincoln, McIntosh, Mayes, Muskogee, Pittsburg, and Pushmataha Counties.

Computer Networks and Bulletin Boards

Computers with modems are important tools for obtaining information from selected archives and libraries. In a way, computer networks themselves serve as a library. The Internet, certain computer bulletin boards, and commercial on-line services help family history researchers:

- Locate other researchers
- Post queries
- Send and receive E-mail
- Search large databases

- Search computer libraries
- Join in computer chat and lecture sessions

You can find computerized research tips and information about ancestors from Oklahoma in a variety of sources at local, state, national, and international levels. The list of sources is growing rapidly. Most of the information is available at no cost.

Addresses on the Internet change frequently. As of July 2005, the following sites are important gateways linking you to many more network and bulletin board sites:

- USGenWeb
<http://www.usgenweb.com/>
A cooperative effort by many volunteers to list genealogical databases, libraries, bulletin boards, and other resources available on the Internet for each county, state, and country.
- Roots-L
<http://www.rootsweb.com/roots-l>
A useful list of sites and resources. Includes a large, regularly-updated research coordination list.

For further details about using computer networks, bulletin boards, and news groups for family history research, see the *United States Research Outline* (30972), "Archives and Libraries" section.

FamilySearch™

The Family History Library and many Family History Centers have computers with FamilySearch. FamilySearch is a collection of computer files containing several million names. FamilySearch is a good place to begin your research. Some of the records come from compiled sources; some have been automated from original sources.

Family history center computers with FamilySearch may have access to computer on-line services, networks, or bulletin boards. Those services are available at many public libraries, college libraries, and private locations.

BIBLE RECORDS

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) collection contains some Bible records from Oklahoma. This collection is described in the "Genealogy" section of this outline. An index is available on their Internet site, www.dar.org. The collection is partially indexed in E. Kay Kirkham, *An Index to Some of the Bibles and Family Records of the United States*, vol. 2. Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, 1984. (FHL book 973 D22kk v. 2; fiche 6,089,184.)

Some Bible records have been published in:

Bible Records. [N.p.]: Daughters of the American Colonists (Oklahoma), 1977[?]. (FHL book 976.6 D2b; film 1,036,369, item 2.)

Cook, Mrs. John P. *Collection of Oklahoma Bible and Family Records: Assembled by D.A.R. Chapters of Oklahoma.* N.p.: 1954. (FHL book 976.6 D2c; film 873,998.)

BIOGRAPHY

The best collection of published biographies in Oklahoma is at the Oklahoma Historical Society. The Family History Library has several helpful biographical works.

There is no statewide biographical index or major manuscript collection. State, regional, and county histories often have biographical sections containing valuable information. Some representative biographical encyclopedias are:

Portrait and Biographical Record of Oklahoma: Commemorating the Achievements of Citizens who have Contributed to the Progress of Oklahoma and the Development of Its Resources. Chicago: Chapman Publishing Co., 1901. (FHL book 976.6 D3p; film 874,324.)

Thoburn, Joseph Bradford. *A Standard History of Oklahoma: an Authentic Narrative of Its Development from the Date of the First European Exploration Down to the Present Time, Including Accounts of the Indian Tribes, both Civilized and Wild, of the Cattle Range, of the Land Openings and the Achievements of the Most Recent Period.* 5 vols. Chicago: American Historical Society, 1916. (Vols. 2-5 on FHL film 1,425,716 items 1-4.)

Hill, Luther B. *A History of the State of Oklahoma.* 2 vols. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1908. (FHL book 976.6 H2h; film 1,000,353 items 1-2; fiche 6,051,224.) Volume 2 contains biographies.

Oklahoma Historical Society. *Chronicles of Oklahoma* (see Periodicals section in this outline).

Biographical sketches of residents of Indian Territory (see the "History" section of this outline) are published in:

O'Beirne, Harry F. and Edward S. *The Indian Territory: Its Chiefs, Legislators and Leading Men.* St. Louis, Mo.: C. B. Woodward Co., 1892. (FHL film 989,201 item 2.)

O'Beirne, Harry F. *Leaders and Leading Men of the Indian Territory with Interesting Biographical Sketches: Choctaws and Chickasaws.* Chicago: American Publishers Association, 1891. (FHL film 1,000,354, item 1.)

CEMETERIES

The *Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Collection* contains tombstone inscriptions from some

Oklahoma cemeteries. This collection is described in the "Genealogy" section of this outline. Another important collection is *Cemetery Records of Oklahoma*, 9 vols. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society, 1959-62. (FHL book 976.6 V3i; films 824,250-52.)

The following book lists many cemeteries by county, and mentions where the records are published:

Pierce, Barbara and Brian Basore. *Oklahoma Cemeteries: A Bibliography of the Collections in the Oklahoma Historical Society.* Oklahoma City, Okla.: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1993. (FHL book 976.6 V3p.)

If you are searching for the burials of white and Indian ancestors in any of the 17 northeastern counties, use James W. Tyner and Alice Tyner Timmons, *Our People and Where They Rest.* 12 vols. Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma, 1969-78. (FHL book 976.6 V3t; vols. 1-6 on film 1,290,833 items 5-10; vols. 7-10 on film 1,290,834 items 1-4; vols. 11-12 on film 1,888,927 items 5-6.) The Family History Library has a master index to these volumes by Jerri G. Chasteen (FHL book 976.6 V3t Index).

Inscriptions from graves relocated as a result of the Arkansas River Navigational System are recorded by Madeline S. Mills and Helen R. Mullenax, *Relocated Cemeteries in Oklahoma and Parts of Arkansas, Kansas, Texas.* Tulsa, Okla.: Mills and Mullenax, 1974. (FHL book 976.6 V3mm; film 928,142 item 5.)

CENSUS RECORDS

Federal

Many of the federal census records are found at the Family History Library, the National Archives, and other federal and state archives. The *United States Research Outline* provides more detailed information regarding these federal records.

The Family History Library has the 1910, 1920, and 1930 U.S. federal censuses for Oklahoma and the soundex (phonetic) indexes for 1910 and 1920.

Territorial

The earliest federal census of the area that is now Oklahoma is the 1860 census of Arkansas, which included what was then the Indian Territory. This census does not list Indians, but lists free and slave inhabitants in the Cherokee, Choctaw, Creek, and Seminole nations. The slave schedules provide the names of slave owners, but not the names of slaves. This census and a published index are available at the National Archives—Southwest Region, the Oklahoma Historical Society, and the Family History Library.

The 1870 and 1880 censuses have been lost and the 1890 federal census has been destroyed. The 1890 veterans schedule and index are available at the Family History Library and at the National Archives.

The Family History Library has the 1900 federal census. There are separate schedules and indexes for the Indian Territory and the Oklahoma Territory for 1900.

In addition to the federal territorial censuses, a separate census was taken in 1890 of the Oklahoma Territory (FHL film 227,282). This includes information on the entire household but is incomplete for some areas. A card index is available at the State Historical Society. A helpful source for locating families in this census is *Smith's First Directory of Oklahoma Territory: For the Year Commencing August 1st, 1890* (see the "Directories" section of this outline).

For information on censuses of specific Indian Tribes, see the section on "Native Races" in this outline.

CHURCH RECORDS

Before 1900 the largest religious groups in Oklahoma were the Baptist, Roman Catholic, Disciples of Christ, and Methodist churches. An inventory of churches and church records is *Preliminary List of Churches and Religious Organizations in Oklahoma*. Oklahoma City, Okla.: Historical Records Survey, 1942. (FHL book 976.6 K2h; fiche 6,046,945.) This lists Southern Baptist, Disciples of Christ, Methodist Episcopal, Methodist, and Roman Catholic churches.

The Family History Library has very few church records from Oklahoma. The library has histories of some local churches and congregations.

Many denominations have collected their records in central repositories. You can write to the following addresses to learn where their records are located:

Baptist

Southern Baptist Convention
901 Commerce Street #400
Nashville, TN 37203-3699
Telephone: 615-244-0344
Fax: 615-782-4821
Internet: www.sbhla.org
Their catalog is available on their Internet site.

Disciples of Christ

Disciples of Christ Historical Society
1101 Nineteenth Avenue, South
Nashville, TN 37212
Telephone: 615-327-1444
Fax: 615-327-1445
Internet: <http://www.discipleshistory.org/>

Methodist

United Methodist Archives Center
Drew University Library
36 Madison Ave.
P. O. Box 127
Madison, NJ 07940
Telephone: 973-408-3590
Fax: 973-408-3909
Internet: <http://www.drew.edu/depts/library/methodist/umac.aspx>

For a history of the Methodist Church, see Sidney H. Babcock, and John Y. Bryce, *History of Methodism in Oklahoma: Story of the Indian Mission Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South*. N. p., 1935. (FHL book 976.6 K21b; fiche 6,100,019.) This is for the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Roman Catholic

Chancery Office
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
7501 N.W. Expressway
Oklahoma City, OK 73132
Telephone: 405-721-5651
Fax: 405-721-5210
Internet: www.catharchdioceseokc.org

For a history of the Catholic Church see Thomas E. Brown, *Bible Belt Catholicism: A History of The Roman Catholic Church in Oklahoma, 1905-1945*. New York, New York: United States Catholic Historical Society, 1977. (FHL book 976.6 K21bt.)

COURT RECORDS

Major Oklahoma courts that kept records of genealogical value were established as follows:

- 1844- **U.S. district courts.** From 1844 to 1889, the pres. U.S. District Court for the Western District of Arkansas had jurisdiction over criminal and some civil matters in the Indian Territory. Beginning in 1889, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas assumed this jurisdiction.
- 1890- **District courts of Oklahoma.** Beginning in pres. 1890 the Oklahoma Territory was divided into several court districts that serve one or more counties. A district court judge now serves in each county. These courts are often referred to as **county courts**. They have jurisdiction over civil and criminal cases, including probate records. The Family History Library has some of the early court records, such as 128 microfilms of Logan County territorial records, 1890 to 1907.

The **Supreme Court** is a statewide appellate court, as are the **Court of Appeals** and the **Court of Criminal Appeals**.

The Family History Library does not have county, supreme, or appeals court records. You can obtain copies of these records by contacting the clerk's office in each county. Some of the federal court records for the territorial era are at the Oklahoma Historical Society.

DIRECTORIES

Directories of heads of households have been published for major cities in Oklahoma. For example, the Family History Library has:

- Oklahoma City
1905-06 FHL film 928,379 item 3

1905-06, 1906, 1916, 1941, 1960, 1969,
1975, 1986 FHL book 976.638 E4p
- Tulsa
1913, 1924, FHL film 1,321,478 item 3
(1913), 1,440,588 item 6 (1924)

1966, 1968, 1985 . . . FHL book 976.686 E4p

1909-35 Films 1,760,274-283

For a list of heads of households in the entire territory in 1890, see the reprinted edition of *Smith's First Directory of Oklahoma Territory: For the Year Commencing August 1st, 1890*. Guthrie, Okla.: James W. Smith, 1890? (FHL book 976.6 E4s 1890; film 1,307,628 item 11.) The book at the Library has an every-name index, but the edition on film does not.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

Indian Residents

The Caddoe, Pawnee, and Wichita tribes were living in the area of Oklahoma in the 1700s. About the time the United States acquired the area through the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, other tribes such as the Quapaw, Oto, and Osage migrated to eastern Oklahoma. By 1837, the Civilized Tribes (see the "Native Races" section of this outline) had settled most of their members in Oklahoma.

After the Civil War, many other tribes from throughout the United States were forcefully or by treaty moved off their lands and settled in Oklahoma. There were about 80,000 Indians in Oklahoma in 1860, when the entire area was known as the Indian Territory. In 1924 all Indians in the Indian Territory were declared citizens of the United States. Most Indians now live in the eastern part of the state, and make up four percent of the total population.

For information about the records of American Indians in Oklahoma, see the "Native Races" section of this outline.

White Settlers

Only a few thousand non-Indians lived in the Territory before 1889. After the Civil War, a few people from the South moved into the Indian Territory. Anyone wishing to live in this area needed permission from the Indians, but some white settlers tried to move into the Territory without permission.

A mining boom in the 1870s brought Europeans into the Choctaw Nation (present-day southeastern Oklahoma). Descendants of Italian, Slavic, Greek, Welsh, Polish, and Russian miners still live in that area. Between 1878 and 1885, "Boomers" (other white settlers) tried unsuccessfully to take over Indian lands.

In 1889 the "Unassigned Lands" (land not assigned to Indian tribes) in central Indian Territory were opened for settlement by non-Indians. This created the first of the famous Oklahoma land runs (see the "Land and Property" section of this outline). Approximately 50,000 settlers came the first year. Another run in 1893 brought 100,000 settlers, mostly to the "Cherokee Outlet" (northwestern Oklahoma).

The land runs brought homesteaders from China, Japan, Mexico, England, France, and Canada, as well as from nearly every state. People from the southern states settled mostly in eastern and southern counties, while people from northern states favored the northern and western sections. Wheat farming attracted German Mennonites and Czechs to the northwestern counties. When Oklahoma became a state in 1907, there were 1,400,000 residents.

Between 1907 and 1920, the discovery of oil brought many people from other oil-producing areas and from the Midwest. The population of the state reached about 2,400,000 by 1930. The drought and the Great Depression of the 1930s caused thousands of farmers to move to urban areas or migrate west to California.

GAZETTEERS

Gazetteers and local histories can help you locate places in Oklahoma. Published gazetteers include:

Morris, John W. *Ghost Towns of Oklahoma*. Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1977. (FHL book 976.6 H2mo.)

Shirk, George H. *Oklahoma Place Names*. 2nd ed. Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1974. (FHL book 976.6 E2s; film 1,035,624 item 8.)

GENEALOGY

Most archives, historical societies, and genealogical societies have special collections and indexes of genealogical value. These must usually be searched in person.

A major manuscript collection is the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Collection (FHL films 862,003-010 and 858,639). This contains transcripts of Bible, cemetery, church, marriage, death, obituary, and probate records. It was microfilmed in 1971 at the DAR Library in Washington, D.C., and is available at the Family History Library.

Additional volumes, which have not been filmed, have been added at the DAR Library. The DAR has indexed the volumes that were filmed in 1971, and the additional volumes. An every-name index is found on the DAR Internet site www.dar.org. The DAR Library will provide photocopies from their volumes for a fee.

The following are published indexes to family and genealogical information. These also include lists of researchers and the family lines they are researching.

Oklahoma Genealogical Society. *First Families of the Twin Territories*. Oklahoma City, Okla.: Oklahoma Genealogical Society, 1997. 2 vols. (FHL book 976.6 D4f.) Contains lineages of persons who settled in the Indian Territory or the Oklahoma Territory before statehood, 1907.

Bivins, Willie Reeves Hardin, et al. *Southwest Oklahoma Keys*. Oklahoma City, Okla.: Southwest Oklahoma Genealogical Society, 1982. (FHL book 976.6 D2s.)

Garrison, JoAnn, ed. *Oklahoma Genealogical Society Surname Index*. Oklahoma City: Okla.: Oklahoma Genealogical Society, 1969. (FHL book 976.6 D2g; fiche 6,047,968.)

HISTORY

- 1803 The United States acquired most of the area that is now Oklahoma as part of the Louisiana Purchase. The panhandle remained under Spanish control. The Quapaw, Osage, Oto, and other Indian tribes arrived about this time.
- 1812 Most of present-day Oklahoma became part of the Missouri Territory.
- 1819 Most of what is now Oklahoma became part of the Arkansas Territory.
- 1821 Mexico declared its independence from Spain and the panhandle came under Mexican control.
- 1830 The western part of the Louisiana Purchase, including the Arkansas Territory, was designated as the Indian Territory. The Indian Removal Act set aside lands west of the Mississippi River for Indian settlement and allowed for the removal of Indians from the eastern states to be resettled in this Territory.

- 1845 The United States annexed the Republic of Texas, including the present-day Oklahoma panhandle.
- 1850 The United States government purchased the panhandle lands from Texas. The panhandle became "No Man's Land," and was unattached to any state or territory.

During the 1850s, much of the land in the Indian Territory was not assigned to any specific tribe. Railroad companies, some federal officials, and white settlers pressured to have these "Unassigned Lands" opened for settlement.

- 1854 The Indian Territory was limited to the area of what is now Oklahoma.
- 1860 Greer County was created by Texas in present-day Oklahoma. This sparsely-settled area was claimed by Texas and the United States until it was added to Oklahoma in 1896.
- 1861-1865 The Five Civilized Tribes sided primarily with the Confederacy and raised the Confederate Indian Brigade and the Indian Home Guard. They fought in battles in the Arkansas and Oklahoma area. Some Indians enlisted in Union regiments early in the war.
- 1866 New treaties with the Five Civilized Tribes realigned boundaries and allowed the federal government to move other tribes there. Almost two million acres were designated as "Unassigned Lands" in central Oklahoma.
- 1872 Railroads now crossed the territory.
- 1889 The federal government purchased the "Unassigned Lands" from the Indians and opened them for white settlement. The first land rush attracted about 50,000 people. For historical accounts of the land run of 1889, see Stan Hoig, *The Oklahoma Land Rush of 1889*. Oklahoma City, Okla.: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1984. (FHL book 976.6 H2hs.)

- 1890-1906 The Organic Act of 1890 established the Oklahoma Territory. This act organized seven counties in the "Unassigned Lands" and the Oklahoma panhandle ("No Man's Land") and provided for the organization of additional counties as Indian governments were discontinued and surplus land was opened to settlers.

During this time, the Oklahoma Territory expanded to fill western Oklahoma by gradually absorbing the following areas:

- Several reservations in central Oklahoma (1891)
- Cheyenne and Arapaho land (1892)
- The "Cherokee Outlet" (1893)

Greer County (1896)

Comanche, Kiowa, and Apache lands (1901 and 1906)

The eastern portion of the area continued as Indian Territory.

- 1893 100,000 immigrants were attracted to northwestern Oklahoma when the "Cherokee Outlet" lands were opened.
- 1897 An oil boom began at Bartlesville and thousands of new settlers arrived.
- 1907 The Oklahoma Territory and Indian Territory, known as the "twin territories," were combined to become the state of Oklahoma.

A helpful book about the many boundary changes in Oklahoma is John W. Morris, ed., *Boundaries of Oklahoma*. Oklahoma City, Okla.: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1980. (FHL book 976.6 E3b; fiche 6,051,502.)

The Family History Library collects town, county, and state histories. For general background, you may want to study the following:

Hill, Luther B. *A History of the State of Oklahoma*. 2 vols. Chicago: Lewis Publishing, 1908. (FHL book 976.6 H2h; film 1,000,353 items 1-2; fiche 6,051,224.)

McReynolds, Edwin C., et al. *Oklahoma: The Story of Its Past and Present*. Rev. ed. Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1971. (FHL book 976.6 H2mc.)

Gittinger, Roy. *The Formation of the State of Oklahoma (1803-1906)*. Berkeley, Calif.: University of California Press, 1917. (FHL book 976.6 H2gi; fiche 6,125,891.)

LAND AND PROPERTY

Records of Indian Lands

By the 1830s, the U.S. government had begun moving many Native Americans from the southeastern states to Indian Territory. Each tribe had their own reservations, governments (called "Nations"), and capitals. Many tribal members received individual land allotments (see the "Native Races" section of this outline). Treaties in 1866 and later years realigned boundaries of the Indian reservations and created the "Unassigned Lands" in central Oklahoma.

Federal Land Records

The "Unassigned Lands" in central Oklahoma became part of the public domain. The federal government surveyed this land and began distributing it to private ownership in 1889. "No Man's Land" (the Oklahoma

Panhandle) was added to the public domain and made available for settlement in May 1890.

Individuals could acquire land from the government through cash purchases or by homesteading the land. Claims had to be registered at land offices. The first land offices were established at Guthrie and Kingfisher.

Land Runs. Unique to Oklahoma were the famous land runs when entire districts were opened to settlement on a given day on a first-come basis. This created tremendous runs as individuals rushed to stake their claims to surveyed sections of land.

The first land run was in the "Unassigned Lands" in April 1889. Additional lands were added to the new Oklahoma Territory and opened to runs in September 1891, April 1892, September 1893, and May 1895.

The lands opened for the 1891 to 1895 runs had been reservations of various Indian tribes in the western part of the state (and not the Indian Territory reservations of eastern Oklahoma belonging to the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek, Seminole, and other tribes).

Land lotteries. Other western reservation lands were distributed through a land lottery in 1901, and at an auction in 1906. Those who obtained land in the lottery of 1901 are listed in Julie Peterson Hinton, and Louise F. Wilcox, *El Reno District 1901 Land Lottery: Index to Names of Homesteaders Filings*. El Reno, Okla.: J. P. Hinton, 1985. (FHL book 976.6 R22h; film 1,321,059 item 2.)

Records of the land offices. The records of the local land offices are at the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, State Archives Division. The National Archives has the land entry case files, the original tract books, and the township plats of the general land offices. The patents and copies of the tract books and township plats are at the:

Bureau of Land Management
Federal Building
1474 Rodeo
Box 27115
Santa Fe, NM 87502-0115
Telephone: 505-438-7582
Fax: 505-438-7582
Internet: www.blm.nm.gov

The Oklahoma Historical Society has microfilm copies of the tract books. They have an index for surnames (not given names) in each county. The Oklahoma Genealogical Society is compiling a statewide index. The books are arranged by the location of the lands in each township. *Smith's First Directory of Oklahoma Territory: For the Year Commencing August 1st, 1890* (see the "Directories" section of this outline) lists the names and addresses of residents in the territory in 1890. This may help you identify the township and county where a family lived.

County Land Records

After land was distributed to private ownership, subsequent transactions, including deeds and mortgages, were recorded by the county. You can obtain copies by writing to the county clerk at the county courthouse. The Family History Library is presently acquiring microfilm copies of deeds and mortgages from the counties.

MAPS

One of the best books of maps for Oklahoma is John Wesley Morris, Charles R. Goins, and Edwin C. McReynolds, *Historical Atlas of Oklahoma*, 3rd ed. Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1986. (FHL book 976.6 E3m 1986; 1965 edition on film 1,000,357 item 3.)

The University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University have large collections of maps and atlases. The Family History Library has several maps, including some of the Indian Territory.

MILITARY RECORDS

The *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118) provides more information on federal military records and search strategies.

Many military records are found at the Family History Library, the National Archives, and other federal and state archives. The *United States Research Outline* provides more information about the federal records. For Oklahoma, the following sources are also very helpful.

Civil War (1861-1865)

Two useful books concerning Union soldiers buried in Oklahoma are:

Talkington, N. Dale. *The Long Blue Line: Civil War Union Soldiers and Sailors Buried in Oklahoma*. Houston, Tex.: N. D. Talkington, 1999. (FHL book 976.6 V3tn; fiche 6,003,026.)

Talkington, N. Dale and Deone K. Pearcy. *Tributes of Blue: Obituaries of Civil War Union Soldiers and Sailors Buried in Oklahoma*. Tehachapi, Calif.: T. P. Productions, 1996. (FHL book 976.6 V4t; film 2,055,188, item 1.)

Pension records for Confederate veterans living in Oklahoma are at the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, State Archives Division. The Family History Library has a copy of these records, arranged by application numbers (FHL films 1,001,530-48; index on film 1,001,529). A published index is:

Index to Applications for Pensions From the State of Oklahoma Submitted by Confederate Soldiers, Sailors and their Widows. Oklahoma City, Okla.: Oklahoma Genealogical Society, 1969. (FHL book 976.6 M24o; fiche 6,046,932.)

Confederate Army casualty lists for battles in Indian Territory are on the last portion of FHL film 1,025,138.

A special census was taken in 1890 of Union veterans of the Civil War (FHL film 338,235). Several indexes to the returns have been published and are at the Family History Library.

For information on Indians who served on the side of the Confederacy, see:

Foreman, Grant. *History of the Service and List of Individuals of the Five Civilized Tribes in the Confederate Army*. 2 vols. Oklahoma City, Okla.: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1948. (not at FHL.)

Spanish-American War (1898)

A history of Oklahoma's participation in the war is John Alley, "Oklahoma in the Spanish-American War," in *Chronicles of Oklahoma* 20 (Mar 1942): 43-50 (see the "Periodicals" section of this outline). This includes brief sketches of some soldiers and a casualty list for battles in Cuba.

World Wars I (1917-1918) and II (1941-1945)

A published roster of soldiers who died in World War I is in W.M. Haulsee, et al, *Soldiers of the Great War*, 3 vols. Washington, D.C.: Soldiers Record Publishing Association, 1920. (FHL book 973 M23s; fiche 6,051,244.)

World War I draft registration cards for men age 18 to 45 may list address, birth date, birthplace, race, nationality, citizenship, and next of kin. Not all registrants served in the war. The Oklahoma records are indexed, with digital images, on the Internet site www.ancestry.com. For registration cards for Oklahoma see also:

United States. Selective Service System. Oklahoma, *World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M1509. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1987-1988. (On FHL films beginning with film number 1,851,604.)

Biographical sketches of soldiers who died during World War II have been published in *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, volumes 21-27 (see the "Periodicals" section of this outline).

Additional biographical sketches of soldiers from Oklahoma are in volume 2 of *A History of the Second World War: A Remembrance, An Appreciation, A Memorial*. Oklahoma City, Okla.: Victory Publishing Co., 1946. (FHL book 973 H2sw; vol. 1 on film 1,035,575 item 7; vol. 2 on film 1,035,603 item 5.)

Additional Military Sources

For further background information on Oklahoma's military history see:

Daugherty, Fred A. and Pendleton Woods. "Oklahoma's Military Tradition." *Chronicles of Oklahoma* 57 (Winter, 1979-80): 427-45. (FHL book 976.6 B2c.)

Faulk, Odie B., Kenny A. Franks, and Paul F. Lambert, eds. *Early Military Forts and Posts in Oklahoma*. Oklahoma City, Okla.: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1978. (FHL book 976.6 M2e; fiche 6,088,102.)

NATIVE RACES

Tribes

Five Civilized Tribes. Beginning in the 1820s, the U.S. Government began moving all tribes east of the Mississippi River to the Indian Territory in western Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma. A series of treaties provided for the removal of almost all principal eastern tribes.

The Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek, and Seminole (known as the Five Civilized Tribes) were among the many southeastern tribes who were removed by treaty to Indian Territory. In 1838 the Cherokees who had not already moved voluntarily were forced to move to Indian Territory. This migration became known as the "Trail of Tears." Large parcels of land were distributed to these five tribes who became self-governing "Nations".

White settlers moving west after the Civil War pressured the government to extinguish Indian title to lands and relocate the Indians. The alliance between the Five Civilized Tribes and the Confederacy during the Civil War also provided Congress with an excuse to realign tribal boundaries. Treaties in 1866 and later reduced the land of the Five Civilized Tribes by almost half. These created the "Unassigned Lands" in central Oklahoma that were eventually opened for land runs (see the "Land and Property" section).

Other Tribes. Some of the western land forfeited by the Five Civilized Tribes was reserved for other tribes through later treaties. These lands in the Indian Territory were assigned to tribes such as the Kiowa, Comanche, Wichita, and Cheyenne. Other tribes were later brought in at various periods from Texas, Nebraska, California, Oregon, Idaho, Arizona, and

other states. As many as 65 tribes were eventually relocated to the state, including:

Alibamu	Kiowa Apache	Piankashaw
Apache	Koasati	Ponca
Apalachee	Lipan	Potawatomi
Arapaho	Miami	Quapaw
Biloxi	Mikasuki	Sauk
Caddo	Missouri	Seneca
Delaware	Modoc	Shawnee
Fox	Muklasa	Tawakoni
Hitchiti	Munsee	Tawehash
Huron	Natchez	Tonkawa
Illinois	Nez Percé	Tuskegee
Iowa	Okmulgee	Waco
Iroquois	Osage	Wea
Jicarilla	Oto	Wyandot
Kansa	Ottawa	Yscami
Kichai	Pawnee	Yuchi
Kickapoo	Peoria	

Records

Land allotment records. Many Indians received allotments of land. These records are described in the *United States Research Outline* (30972). A major set relating to Oklahoma is the land allotment records of the Five Civilized Tribes. These records are often referred to as the "Dawes Rolls" (see below).

Dawes Rolls. The Dawes "Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes" was established in 1898 to enroll individuals as citizens of one of the five tribes. When the governments of the Five Civilized Tribes were dissolved in 1908, the U.S. Government granted parcels of their land to qualified native individuals. Many white persons had married Native Americans, and thus were eligible for land. The enrollment records of the Dawes Commission were used to determine eligibility for land.

The commission reviewed the enrollment applications and abstracted the information onto cards known as *Enrollment Cards for the Five Civilized Tribes, 1898-1914*. (On 93 FHL films beginning with 1,490,261.) These records document about 101,000 Native Americans. The original applications are at the National Archives—Southwest Region and are on 468 Family History Library films, *Applications for Enrollment of the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes, 1898-1914*, beginning with FHL film 1,439,798.

A helpful guide and index to these records is Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes, *The Final Rolls of Citizens and Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory*. 2 vols. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, [1907?]. (FHL book 970.1 Un3c; rolls on film 908,371 item 2 and index on film 962,366.)

Guion Miller Cherokee Rolls. In 1906, the U.S. Government appointed Guion Miller to compile a roll of Cherokees eligible for compensation from the government for lands taken in the 1830s. Applicants had to document their lineage back to an Eastern Cherokee living in the 1830s and prove that they had not affiliated with any other tribe. Over 45,000 applications that document about 90,000 Cherokees living about 1910 are in Eastern Cherokee Applications, 1906-1909 (On 348 FHL films beginning with 378,594; **film 378,594** has an index.)

Bureau of Indian Affairs Records. The U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) was authorized to administer Indian programs beginning in 1824. A local field agency or subagency of the BIA served the tribes in a given area. Some of the agencies that served Oklahoma were the Concho, Kiowa, Osage, Pawnee, Quapaw, and Shawnee. Most of the agency records are at the National Archives—Southwest Region, with a few at the National Archives—Central Plains Region. For further information see Edward E. Hill, comp., **Guide to Records in the National Archives Relating to American Indians**, Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1981. (FHL book Ref. 970.1 H551g; fiche 6,125,461.)

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of many records of the BIA and the field agencies including:

- Land allotment records.
- *Indian Census Rolls, 1885-1940*, arranged by agencies for the entire United States (On 692 FHL films beginning with 573,847).
- BIA heirship, school, census, annuity, probate, land, vital, and other records.

Other Records. The Indian Archives Division of the Oklahoma Historical Society has an extensive collection for Native American research including copies of the Dawes Rolls. Many of these records are on microfilm at the Family History Library. These are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under Oklahoma Historical Society. Indian Archives Division. The Society's collections are described in Lawrence Kelly, "Indian Records in the Oklahoma Historical Society Archives," **The Chronicles of Oklahoma**, 54: 227-44 (see the "Periodicals" section of this outline).

Another major repository for Oklahoma Indian records is:

Five Civilized Tribes Museum
Federal Building
Agency Hill
Honor Heights Drive
Muskogee, OK 74401

Telephone: 918-683-1701
Fax: 918-683-3070
Internet: www.fivetribes.org

Inventories and guides. The following guides describe some of the records available for Indian research:

Debo, Angie. "Major Indian Record Collections in Oklahoma," in **Indian-White Relations: A Persistent Paradox**, edited by Jane Smith and Robert Kvasnicka. Washington, D.C.: Howard University Press, 1976. (FHL book 970.1 Sm61i.)

Svoboda, Joseph G. **Guide to American Indian Resource Materials in Great Plains Repositories**. Lincoln, Neb.: University of Nebraska, Center for Great Plains Studies, 1983. (FHL book 970.1 Sv51g.)

NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

Immigrants seeking to become citizens often applied at a U.S. District Court or a district court at a county courthouse. You can obtain copies of declarations, certificates, and other records by contacting the clerk's office in the county. The Family History Library has microfilm copies from some counties.

For naturalization records after September 1906, contact the National Archives—Southwest Region or the local office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The Southwest Region branch at Fort Worth has records of the U.S. District Court for the Indian Territory, 1889-1907; Oklahoma Eastern District, 1907-1988; Oklahoma Western District, 1907-1956; and Oklahoma Northern District, 1925-1969.

NEWSPAPERS

By 1900, 10 daily papers, 80 weekly papers, and 12 monthly newspapers were being published in the Oklahoma Territory. Several more were published in the Indian Territory.

The Oklahoma Historical Society has a large collection of newspapers. They are indexing obituaries, marriage notices, and many other items on their Internet site, www.ok-history.mus.ok.us. For a guide to their holdings, consult John Stewart and Kenny Franks, *State Records, Manuscripts, and Newspapers at the Oklahoma State Archives and Oklahoma Historical Society*. Oklahoma City, Okla: State Department of Libraries and Oklahoma Historical Society, 1975. (not at FHL.)

The Family History Library does not have copies of Oklahoma newspapers, but it does have some abstracts of vital statistics published in newspapers. Genealogical and historical periodicals such as **Chronicles of Oklahoma** (see the "Periodicals" section of this

outline) have published obituaries and lists of newspapers that have been preserved on microfilm.

A helpful guide to locating early newspapers is Grace Ray, *Early Oklahoma Newspapers: History and Description of Publications from Earliest Beginnings to 1889*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1928. (not at FHL.)

PERIODICALS

The major genealogical periodicals and magazines helpful for Oklahoma research are:

The Chronicles of Oklahoma. 1921—. Published by the Oklahoma Historical Society, 2100 North Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73105. (FHL book 976.6 B2c.) There is a book which indexes vols. 1-37 (1921-1959), and a book that indexes vols. 38-57 (1960-1979). (FHL book 976.6 B2c Index.) A valuable topical guide is:

Welsh, Carol. *An Annotated Guide to The Chronicles of Oklahoma, 1921-1994*. Oklahoma City, Okla.: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1996. (FHL book 976.6 A33w.)

Four States Genealogist. 1969-1973. Published by the Indian Nations Press, 812 Mayo Building, Tulsa, OK 74103. (FHL book 973 B2fs.) This pertains to the states of Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma.

Key Finder. 1980-. Published by the Northwest Oklahoma Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 834, Woodward, OK 73802. (FHL book 976.6 D25k.)

Oklahoma Genealogical Society Quarterly (formerly: *The Bulletin*). 1961-. Published by the Oklahoma Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 12986, Oklahoma City, OK 73157-2986. (FHL book 976.6 B2q.)

The Texarkana U.S.A. Quarterly. 1974-. Published by the Texarkana U.S.A. Genealogical Society, Inc., P.O. Box 2323, Texarkana, AK-TX 75504-2323. (FHL book 976 D25t.)

The Tree Tracers. 1976-. Published by the Southwest Oklahoma Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 148, Lawton, OK 73502-0148. (FHL book 976.6 B2tr.)

Tulsa Annals. 1966-. Published by the Tulsa Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 585, Tulsa, OK 74101-0585. (FHL book 976.6 B2t.)

PROBATE RECORDS

Prior to statehood, Oklahoma probate records were kept by the U.S. district courts. The probate records are now under the jurisdiction of probate or county courts. The files include wills, dockets, administrator's

records, guardianship records, inventories, appraisements, sales records, minutes, and journals.

You can obtain copies of the records by contacting the clerk's office in each county. Many Indian probate records are at the National Archives—Central Plains Region. The Family History Library has copies of some probate records from some counties.

For information on the names of non-natives, Native Americans, and “freedmen” (free blacks) who filed probate papers in the U.S. Federal Court, Northern District, Indian Territory, see Opha Jewell Wever and Rosalie Wagner, *Probate Records, 1892-1908, Northern District Cherokee Nation*. 2 vols. Vinita, Okla.: Northeast Oklahoma Genealogical Society, 1982-1983. (FHL book 976.6 P2w.)

VITAL RECORDS

Birth and Death Records

Some counties kept birth and death records as early as 1891, although most did not start until after statehood in 1907. The early records, which are quite incomplete, are at county courthouses. The Family History Library has copied some of the vital records of the Superintendent of Public Health in a few counties.

The statewide registration of births and deaths began in 1908 and was generally complied with by 1930. The Family History Library has not acquired copies of these records, as of 2005. You can write to:

Vital Records Service
Oklahoma State Department of Health
1000 Northeast 10th Street, Room 111
Oklahoma City, OK 73117
Telephone: 405-271-4040
Internet: www.health.state.ok.us

The current fees for obtaining copies of the state's records are listed on the Internet site above. Copies of birth records are restricted to the individual, their next of kin, or a legal representative. See the above Internet site for requirements for requesting records. Death records are not restricted.

Delayed registrations of births (for persons born before registration began in 1908) are available from the Vital Records Service mentioned above.

Marriage and Divorce Records

Marriage bonds, affidavits, licenses, and certificates were kept by each county beginning about 1890 or when the county was created. Many marriages in the territorial era were not recorded, and some were recorded in county courthouses in Arkansas, Kansas,

and Texas. Write to the appropriate county clerk for information.

The Family History Library has marriage records for some counties. Published transcripts of marriage documents include:

Bode, Frances M. *Oklahoma Territory Weddings*. Geary, Okla.: Pioneer Book Committee, 1983. (FHL book 976.6 V2bf; fiche 6,104,367.) This includes history, wedding albums, and marriage files from Blaine, Caddo, and Kingfisher counties.

Tiffée, Ellen. *Oklahoma Marriage Records, Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory*. 10 vols. [Howe, Okla.?]: E. Tiffée, N.d. (FHL book 976.6 V2t; film 1,321,223 items 11-16, vols. 1-6.) This includes marriages of white settlers, 1890-1907, found in U.S. court files for the eleven southeastern counties.

Divorces were granted after 1907 by the district courts or the circuit court in each county. You can write to the clerk of the court for information. The Family History Library has records from some counties.

Inventory of Vital Records

You can learn more about the history and availability of birth, marriage, death, and divorce in *Guide to Public Vital Statistics Records in Oklahoma*. Oklahoma City: Historical Records Survey, 1941. (FHL book 976.6 A3hr; film 874,325 item 3.) This guide describes the records kept by the state, and each county.

FOR FURTHER READING

The following handbooks will give you further information about research and records in Oklahoma:

Brown, Jean C. *Oklahoma Research: The Twin Territories*. Sapulpa, Okla.: [J. C. Brown], 1975. (FHL book 976.6 D27b; film 928,207 item 4.)

Blessing, Patrick J. *Oklahoma: Records and Archives*. Tulsa, Okla.: University of Tulsa Publications, 1978. (FHL book 976.6 A3b.)

Eichholz, Alice, ed. *Red Book: American State, County, and Town Sources*. 3rd ed. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 2004. (FHL book 973 D27rb 2004.) Contains bibliographies and background information on history and ethnic groups. Also contains maps and tables showing when each county was created.

Koplowitz, Bradford. *Guide to the Historical Records of Oklahoma*. Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1997. (FHL book 976.6 A3kb 1997.) This lists records kept in counties and cities through 1920.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Family History Library welcomes additions and corrections to improve future editions of this outline. Please send your suggestions to:

Publications Coordination
Family History Library
35 N. West Temple Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84150
USA

We appreciate the archivists, librarians, and others who have reviewed this outline and shared helpful information.

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File: US—Oklahoma

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Oklahoma Historical Background

Effective family research requires some understanding of the historical events that may have affected your family and the records about them. Learning about wars, governments, laws, migrations, and religious trends may help you understand political boundaries, family movements, and settlement patterns. These events may have led to the creation of records that your family was listed in, such as land and military documents.

The following important events in the history of Oklahoma affected political boundaries, record keeping, and family movements.

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 1803 | The United States acquired most of the area that is now Oklahoma as part of the Louisiana Purchase. The panhandle remained under Spanish control. The Quapaw, Osage, Oto, and other Indian tribes arrived about this time. |
| 1812 | Most of present-day Oklahoma became part of the Missouri Territory. |
| 1815-1840s | During this period many Eastern Indians were moved into this area. |
| 1819 | Most of Oklahoma became part of the Arkansas Territory. |
| 1821 | Mexico declared its independence from Spain, and the panhandle came under Mexican control. |
| 1830 | The western part of the Louisiana Purchase, including the Arkansas Territory, was designated as the Indian Territory. The Indian Removal Act set aside lands west of the Mississippi River for Indian settlement and allowed for the removal of Indians from the eastern states to in this Territory. |
| 1845 | The United States annexed the Republic of Texas, including the present-day Oklahoma panhandle. |
| 1850 | The United States government purchased the panhandle lands from Texas. The panhandle became "No Man's Land," and was unattached to any state or territory.
During the 1850s, much of the land in the Indian Territory was not assigned to any specific tribe. Railroad companies, some federal officials, and white settlers pressured the government to have these "Unassigned Lands" opened for settlement. |
| 1854 | The Indian Territory was limited to the area of what is now Oklahoma. |
| 1860 | Greer County was created by Texas in present-day Oklahoma. This sparsely settled area was claimed by Texas and the United States until it was added to Oklahoma in 1896. |
| 1861-1865 | The Five Civilized Tribes sided primarily with the Confederacy and raised the Confederate Indian Brigade and the Indian Home Guard. They fought in battles in the Arkansas and Oklahoma area. Some Indians enlisted in Union regiments early in the war. |
| 1866 | New treaties with the Five Civilized Tribes realigned boundaries and allowed the federal government to move other tribes there. Almost two million acres were designated as Unassigned Lands in central Oklahoma. |

1872	Railroads crossed the territory.
1889	The federal government purchased the Unassigned Lands from the Indians and opened them for white settlement. The first land rush attracted about 50,000 people. For historical accounts of the land run of 1889, see Stan Hoig, <i>The Oklahoma Land Rush of 1889</i> (Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1984; FHL book 976.6 H2hs).
1890-1906	The Organic Act of 1890 established the Oklahoma Territory. This act organized seven counties in the Unassigned Lands and the Oklahoma panhandle (No Man's Land) and provided for the organization of additional counties as Indian governments were discontinued and surplus land was opened to settlers. During this time, the Oklahoma Territory expanded to fill western Oklahoma by gradually absorbing the following areas: Several reservations in central Oklahoma (1891) Cheyenne and Arapaho land (1892) The Cherokee Outlet (1893) Greer County (1896) Comanche, Kiowa, and Apache lands (1901 and 1906) The eastern portion of the area continued as Indian Territory.
1893	100,000 immigrants were attracted to northwestern Oklahoma when the Cherokee Outlet lands were opened.
1897	An oil boom began at Bartlesville, and thousands of new settlers arrived.
1898	Over 300,000 men were involved in the Spanish-American War, which was fought mainly in Cuba and the Philippines.
1907	The Oklahoma Territory and Indian Territory, known as the Twin Territories, were combined to become the state of Oklahoma.
1917–1918	More than 26 million men from the United States ages 18 through 45 registered with the Selective Service for World War I, and over 4.7 million American men and women served during the war.
1930s	The Great Depression closed many factories and mills. Many small farms were abandoned, and many families moved to cities.
1940–1945	Over 50.6 million men ages 18 to 65 registered with the Selective Service. Over 16.3 million American men and women served in the armed forces during World War II.
1950–1953	Over 5.7 million American men and women served in the Korean War.
1950s–1960s	The building of interstate highways made it easier for people to move long distances.
1964–1972	Over 8.7 million American men and women served in the Vietnam War.

Your ancestors will become more interesting to you if you also use histories to learn about the events that were of interest to them or that they may have been involved in. For example, by using a history you might learn about the events that occurred in the year your great-grandparents were married.

Historical Sources

You may find state or local histories in the Family History Library Catalog under Oklahoma or the county or the town. For descriptions of records available through Family History Centers or the Family History Library, click on Family History Library Catalog in the window to the left. The descriptions give book or film numbers, which you need to find or to order the records.

Local Histories

Some of the most valuable sources for family history research are local histories. Published histories of towns, counties, and states usually contain accounts of families. They describe the settlement of the area and the founding of churches, schools, and businesses. You can also find lists of pioneers, soldiers, and civil officials. Even if your ancestor is not listed, information on other relatives may be included that will provide important clues for locating your ancestor. A local history may also suggest other records to search.

Most county and town histories include separate sections or volumes containing biographical information. These may include information on 50 percent or more of the families in the locality.

In addition, local histories should be studied and enjoyed for the background information they can provide about your family's lifestyle and the community and environment in which your family lived.

About 5,000 county histories have been published for over 80 percent of the counties in the United States. For many counties there is more than one history. In addition, tens of thousands of histories have been written about local towns and communities. Bibliographies that list these histories are available for nearly every state.

For descriptions of bibliographies for Oklahoma available through Family History Centers or the Family History Library, click on Family History Library Catalog in the window to the left. Look under BIBLIOGRAPHY or HISTORY - BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Local histories are extensively collected by the Family History Library, public and university libraries, and state and local historical societies. Two useful guides are:

Filby, P. William. *A Bibliography of American County Histories*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1985. (FHL book 973 H23bi.)

Kaminkow, Marion J. *United States Local Histories in the Library of Congress*. 5 vols. Baltimore: Magna Charta Book, 1975-76. (FHL book 973 A3ka.)

State History

A helpful treatment of the many boundary changes in Oklahoma is John W. Morris, ed., *Boundaries of Oklahoma*. (Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1980; FHL book 976.6 E3b; fiche 6051502). This is listed in the Family History Library Catalog under OKLAHOMA - HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY.

For general background, you may want to study the following:

Hill, Luther B. *A History of the State of Oklahoma*. 2 vols. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1908. (FHL book 976.6 H2h; film 1000353 items 1-2; fiche 6051224.)

McReynolds, Edwin C., et al. *Oklahoma: The Story of Its Past and Present*. Rev. ed. Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1971. (FHL book 976.6 H2mc.)

Gittinger, Roy. *The Formation of the State of Oklahoma (1803-1906)*. Berkeley, Calif.: University of California Press, 1917. (FHL book 976.6 H2gi; fiche 6125891.)

United States History

The following are only a few of the many sources that are available at most large libraries:

Schlesinger, Jr., Arthur M. *The Almanac of American History*. Greenwich, Conn.: Bison Books, 1983. (FHL book 973 H2alm.) This provides brief historical essays and chronological descriptions of thousands of key events in United States history.

Webster's Guide to American History: A Chronological, Geographical, and Biographical Survey and Compendium. Springfield, Mass.: G&C Merriam, 1971. (FHL book 973 H2v.) This includes a history, some maps, tables, and other historical information.

Dictionary of American History, Revised ed., 8 vols. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1976. (FHL book 973 H2ad.) This includes historical sketches on various topics in U.S. history, such as wars, people, laws, and organizations.

Oklahoma Statewide Indexes and Collections

Introduction

In the United States, information about your ancestors is often found in town and county records. If you know which state but not the town or county your ancestor lived in, check the following statewide indexes to find the town or county. Then search records for that town or county.

The indexes and collections listed below index various sources of information, such as histories, vital records, biographies, tax lists, immigration records, etc. You may find additional information about your ancestor other than the town or county of residence. The listings may contain:

- The author and title of the source.
- The Family History Library (FHL) book, film, fiche, or compact disc number. If the words *beginning with* appear before the film number, check the Family History Library Catalog for additional films.
- The name of the repository where the source can be found if the source is not available at the Family History Library.

What You Are Looking For

- Your ancestor's name in an index or collection.
- Where the ancestor was living.

Steps

These 2 steps will help you find information about your ancestor in statewide indexes or collections.

Step 1. Find your ancestor's name in statewide indexes or collections.

On the list below, if your ancestor lived between the years shown on the left, he or she may be listed in the source on the right.

1580–Present	Ancestral File International Genealogical Index Family History Library Catalog - Surname Search To see these files, click here.
1600–present	Oklahoma Genealogical Society Quarterly . (FHL book 976.6 B2q.) See the surname index at back of each volume.
1600–present	Clevenger, Anna Bentley. One Hundred Ancestral Charts . (FHL book 976.6 D2sw, vols.1–5.) Contains about 7,000 names.
1600–1916	Thoburn, Joseph Bradfield. A Standard History of Oklahoma: an Authentic Narrative of its Development from the Date of the First European Exploration

- Down to the Present Time, Including Accounts of the Indian Tribes, Both Civilized and Wild, of the Cattle Range, of the Land Openings, and the Achievements of the Most Recent Period.* (FHL film 1425716 items 1–4; has volumes 2–5.) The Library does not have volume 1. Indexed in Biographical File at the Oklahoma Historical Society. Has extensive family history information.
- 1600–1959 Neff, Lewis Edwin. *Lineages of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Oklahoma.* (FHL book 976.6 C4m.) Contains about 2,000 names.
- 1600–1991 *Index to Ancestors of the 1990–1991 Members of the Oklahoma Genealogical Society.* (FHL book 976.6 D22i.) Contains about 7,500 names.
- 1600–1990 Bivins, Willie Hardin. *Southwest Oklahoma Keys.* (FHL book 976.6 D2s.) These are records of the Southwest Oklahoma Genealogical Society, including about 1,400 names.
- 1600–present *Periodical Source Index (PERSI)* lists records (by place or surname) that were published in genealogical magazines or periodicals. This resource should not be overlooked. It is available on the Internet through Ancestry.com. (FHL book 973 D25 per, various combined indexes and, annual supplements; fiche 6016863, 6016864; compact disc no. 61.)
- 1600–1930s *Biographical File.* (Not at the FHL.) Available only at the Oklahoma Historical Society. This file indexes county histories and so forth. You can write to request a search of this file.
- 1640–present *The Tree Tracers.* (FHL book 976.6 B2tr.) See the index at back of each volume.
- 1650–1968 Garrison, Jo Ann. *Oklahoma Genealogical Society Surname Index.* (FHL book 976.6 D2g; fiche 6047968.) Contains about 4,000 names.
- 1685–1979 *The Chronicles of Oklahoma.* (FHL book 976.6 B2c index.) See the cumulative indexes to volumes 1–37. Contains about 40,000 names.
- 1700–1900 Starr, Emmet, et. al. *History of the Cherokee Indians and Their Legends and Folklore.* (FHL book 970.3 C424se; film 2067.) About 8,500 names.
- 1700–1900 Starr, Emmet, et. al. *Old Cherokee Families: Notes of Dr. Emmet Starr.* (FHL book 970.3 C424seb.) For letter books A to L. An on-going project to publish all the notes of Dr. Emmet Starr. Contains about 12,000 names.
- 1700–1912 Starr, Emmet, et. al. *Old Cherokee Families and Their Genealogies.* (FHL films 1421497–500.) These are original notes for above books.
- 1700–1900s Duke University Library. *Duke Indian Oral History Collection and Index.* (FHL films beginning with 1486555; the index is on film 1486555; fiche begins with 6052870.)
- 1700–1860 White, Virgil D. *Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files.* (FHL book 973 M28g, vols. 1–4.) Volume 4 has the index to volumes. 1–3. Lists soldiers and often their spouses, children, and places of residence. Contains about 400,000 names.
- 1700–1976 Daughters of the American Revolution (Oklahoma). *A Roster of the Oklahoma Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution 1909–1959 and Register of Ancestors.* (FHL book 976.6 C4d, and supp.) Contains about 3,800 names.
- 1700–1983 White, James D. *The Souls of the Just: A Necrology of the Catholic Church in Oklahoma.* (FHL book 976.6 K2w, vols. 1–2.) Contains about 3,000 names.
- 1730–1940 Cook, Mrs. John P, comp. *Collection of Oklahoma Bible and Family Records* (FHL book 976.6 D2c, vols. 1–2; film 862005 item 2–3.) Collected by the DAR. Contains about 200 names.
- 1740–1900 White, Virgil D. *Index to War of 1812 Pension Files.* (FHL book 973 M22i, vols. 1–3.) Lists soldiers and their spouses. Contains about 150,000 names.
- 1750–1924 Blankenship, Bob. *Cherokee Roots.* (FHL book 970.3 C424bl, 2 vols.) Contains about 50,000 names.
- 1760–1835 Baker, Jack D. *Cherokee Emigration Rolls, 1817–1835.* (FHL book 970.3 C424be.) Place of residence is often listed. Contains about 1,600 names.
- 1760–present *Tulsa Annals (Tulsa, Oklahoma).* (FHL book 976.6 B2t.) See the index at back of each volume.

- 1770–1920 **Census indexes, 1860, 1880, 1900–1920.** See What to Do Next, and click on **Family History Library Catalog**. Then select CENSUS or CENSUS - INDEXES from the topics that are listed.
- 1770–1970 Kirkham, E. Kay. *An Index to Some of the Family Records of the Southern States: 35,000 Microfilm References from the N.S.D.A.R. Files and Elsewhere.* (FHL book 973 D22kk; fiche 6089183.) This indexes by surname the DAR collection below.
- 1770–1940 Daughters of the American Revolution. *Genealogical Collection.* (FHL films 862003–862010.) This collection is not cataloged as one set. See the Library Catalog entries for each film number. For a surname index, see E. K. Kirkham's book above.
- 1770–1970s Daughters of the American Colonists. *Bible Records.* (FHL book 976.6 D2b; film 1290834 item 5.) Contains about 900 names.
- 1780–1910 Garrett, Sandi. *Only The Names Remain.* (FHL book 970.3 C424gs, vols.1–5.) Contains about 12,000 names.
- 1780–1851 Watson, Larry S. *Cherokee Old Settler Roll, 1851.* (FHL book 970.3 C424wa.) Contains about 3,000 names.
- 1780–1851 Drennen, John. *1851 Drennen Roll of the Cherokee Indians.* (FHL film 924606 item 5.) Lists persons who were living in what is now Oklahoma.
- 1787–1908 Jordan, Jerry Wright. *Cherokee by Blood: Records of Eastern Cherokee Ancestry in the U.S. Court of Claims, 1906-1910.* (FHL book 970.3 C424j, vols.1–9.) Contains about 14,000 names.
- 1800–1900s *Index to Applications for Pensions from the State of Oklahoma.* (FHL book 976.6 M24o; fiche 6046932.) Includes the names of soldiers, sailors, and widows. The applications and an index are also on film.
- 1800–1890 Jackson, Ronald Vern, ed. *1890 Oklahoma Census Index: Special Schedule of the Eleventh Census (1890) Enumerating Union Veterans and [Widows].* (FHL book 976.6 X22jv 1890.)
- 1800–1890 *An Index to the 1890 United States Census of Union Veterans and Their Widows in Oklahoma and Indian Territories: Including Old Greer County and Soldiers Stationed at Military Reservations in the Territories (Section I) Also an Index to Records from the Oklahoma Union Soldiers' Home Including Civil War Veterans and Their Dependents . . .* (FHL book 976.6 M2o; film 496937 item 1.)
- 1800–1900 *Portrait and Biographical Record of Oklahoma: Commemorating the Achievements of Citizens who Have Contributed to the Progress of Oklahoma and the Development of its Resources.* (FHL 976.6 D3p; film 874324 or 547089.) Contains about 1,100 names.
- 1800–1900 Hill, Luther B. *A History of the State of Oklahoma, With the Assistance of Local Authorities . . .* (FHL book 976.6 H2h; film 1000353 item 2; fiche 6051224.) Contains about 1,900 names.
- 1800–1969 Tyner, James W. *Our People and Where They Rest.* Native Americans. (FHL book 976.6 V3t, vols. 1–12; films beginning with 1290833 item 5–10.) Contains about 5,800 names.
- 1800–1974 Mills, Madeline. *Relocated Cemeteries in Oklahoma and Parts of Arkansas, Kansas, Texas.* (FHL book 976.6 V3mm; film 928142 item 5.) Contains about 2800 names.
- 1800–1970 University of Oklahoma Western History Collections. *Indian Pioneer Papers, 1860–1935.* (FHL fiche 6016865 index; 6016866–981.) Alphabetized, indexed. Contains information gathered from interviews, including about 18,000 names.
- 1800–1901 Bogle, Dixie. *Cherokee Nation Births and Deaths, 1884–1901.* (FHL book 970.3 C424bo.) Contains about 2,400 names. Taken from the *Indian Chieftain* and *Daily Chieftain* newspapers.
- 1800–1915 *Index to Applications for Pensions from the State of Oklahoma.* (FHL book 976.6 M24o; fiche 6046932.) Use this index to find the application number, then use the source below. Submitted by Confederate soldiers, sailors, and their widows.

- 1800–1915 Contains about 7,800 names.
Oklahoma Board of Pension Commissioners. *Confederate Pension Applications for Soldiers and Sailors*. (FHL films 1001529–548, numbered applications; index is on film 1001529.) Contains about 7,800 names.
- 1800–1898 United States. Court of Claims. *Eastern Cherokee Applications, August 29, 1906, May 26, 1909*. (FHL films beginning with 378594.) Compiled for Native Americans; indexed.
- 1800–1901 Hinton, Julie. *El Reno District 1901 Land Lottery: Index to Names of Homesteaders' Filings*. (FHL book 976.6 R22h; film 1321059 item 2.) Gives place of residence. Contains about 8,000 names.
- 1800–1941 *Ministers and Elders Licenses Registered in Indian Territory, Oklahoma, 1843–1941*. (FHL book 976.67 U2m.) Contains about 1,380 names.
- 1800–1900s Note: There are valuable collections on the Indian tribes of Oklahoma, for example:
Creek
Chickasaw
Choctaw
Cheyenne and Arapaho
Kiowa
Quapaw
Sac and Fox and Shawnee
Cherokee
Seminole
- 1800–1890 *An Index to the 1890 United States Census of Union Veterans and Their Widows in Oklahoma and Indian Territories: Including Old Greer County and Soldiers Stationed at Military Installations in the Territories (Section 1) Also an Index to Records From the Oklahoma Union Soldiers' Home Including Civil War Veterans and Their Dependents*. . . . (FHL book 976.6 M2o; film 496937 item 1.) Gives the county of residence and the state from which veterans served in the Civil War. Contains about 3,000 names.
- 1800–1890 Jackson, Ronald Vern, et. al. *1890 Oklahoma Census Index: Special Schedule of the Eleventh Census (1890) Enumeration Union Veterans and (Widows) of Union Veterans of the Civil War*. (FHL book 976.6 X22jv 1890.) Names A to CI are missing. Contains about 2,400 names.
- 1800–1900 United States. Veterans Administration. *General Index to Pension Files, 1861–1934*. (FHL films 540757– 541300.) If an ancestor is listed in the index, you can request copies of the records from the National Archives.
- 1800–1906 Loftin, Bennie C. *Probate Records, Oklahoma Historical Society Microfilm Publications, Roll USC 48, United States District Court, Second Division, Central District, South McAlester, Indian Territory: Central District South McAlester, Indian Territory*. (FHL book 976.6 P2p.) Contains About 1,000 names (surnames only).
- 1800–1908 Wever, Orpha J. *Probate Records 1892–1908 Northern District Cherokee Nation*. (FHL book 976.6 P2w.) This supplement has records from 1904–1908. Contains about 6,000 names.
- 1810–1890 Wagner, Rosalie. *Cherokee Nation 1890 Census: Index of Persons Living Under Permit in the Coo-Wee-Scoo-Wee and Delaware Districts*. (FHL book 970.3 C424wro.)
- 1815–1962 *Cemetery Records of Oklahoma*. (FHL book 976.6 V3i, 9 vols.; films 824250–52.) Contains about 43,000 names.
- 1816–1891 O'Beirne, Harry F. *The Indian Territory: Its Chiefs, Legislators, and Leading Men*. (FHL film 989201 item 2.) Contains about 300 names.
- 1820–1898 Blankenship, Bob. *Dawes Roll "Plus" of Cherokee Nation "1898"*. (FHL book 970.1 B611d.) Also has Guion Miller roll information.
- 1820–1898 Blankenship, Bob. *Guion Miller Roll "Plus" of Eastern Cherokee, East and West*

- 1820–1968 *Mississippi "1909"*. (FHL book 970.1 B611g.) Also has Dawes roll information. Daughters of the American Revolution. Capt. Warren Cottle Chapter. *Oklahoma Cemetery Records*. (FHL book 976.6 V3d; film 496552 item 7 and 862010 item 4.) Contains about 4,700 names.
- 1820–1896 Watson, Larry S. *Old Cherokee Census Roll, 1895 & Index to Payment Roll, 1896*. (FHL book 970.3 C424wls.) Lists persons alive and dead. Gives relationships, age, and address. Contains about 4,000 names.
- 1820–1914 Graves, B. J. *Cherokee Roll: Indians by Blood*. (FHL book 970.3 C424gb, vols. 1–3.) Indexes the *Final Rolls of Citizens and Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes*. Contains about 8,000 names.
- 1820–1907 United States. Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes. *The Final Rolls of Citizens and Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory*. (FHL book 970.1 Un3c; film 908371 item 2 or 962366 item 1; fiche 6051501.) Use this index to learn the person's roll number. Contains about 150,000 names.
- 1824–1906 O'Beirne, Harry F. *Leaders and Leading Men of the Indian Territory, With Interesting Biographical Sketches*. (FHL film 1000354.) Contains about 360 names.
- 1837–1907 Bode, Frances. *Oklahoma Territory Weddings*. (FHL book 976.6 V2bf; fiche 6104367.) Contains about 4,250 names.
- 1840–1901 Bogle, Dixie. *Cherokee Nation Marriages, 1884–1901*. (FHL book 970.3 C424bd.) Has birth information. From the Indian Chieftain Newspapers. About 3,000 names.
- 1850–1950 *Smith's First Directory of Oklahoma Territory, for the Year Commencing August 1st, 1890*. (FHL book Q976.6 E4s 1890; film 1307628 item 11.) Contains about 8,000 names.
- 1860–1971 Percy, Deone. *Oklahoma Death Notices and Obituary Index to the Daily Oklahoman, (1947–1971)*. (FHL book 976.6 V4p, vols. 1–2; film 1697873 items 1–2.) Contains about 79,300 names.
- 1873–1918 Haulsee, W.M. *Soldiers in the Great War*. (FHL book 973 M23s; fiche 6051244.) Volume 3 has Oklahoma; gives names only. Contains about 1,400 names.
- 1873–1918 United States. Selective Service System. *Oklahoma, World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918*. (On 76 FHL films beginning with 1851604.) Men ages 18 to 45 are listed alphabetically by county or draft board.
- 1900–1972 Slack, C. T. *Genealogies of the Kickapoo Indians*. (FHL film 928361.) Contains about 4,000 names.
- 1900–1938 Hoyle, Wilma Jean. *Master Index [to] Agent Funeral Records: Books 1–14*. (FHL book 976.6 V22mi.) Contains about 6,600 names. Ages 18 to 45 were registered. Gives birth date and name of a close relative.
- 1910–1945 *Chronicles of Oklahoma*. List of soldiers who died in World War II. (FHL book 976.6 B2c.) See volumes 21–26 for the lists. Has soldiers birth date, home residence, and the name of the father or mother. Contains about 1,400 names.
- 1910–1945 *A History of the Second World War: A Remembrance, An Appreciation, A Memorial*. (FHL book 973 H2sw, vol. 2; film 1035603 item 5.) Volume 2 has biographical sketches with soldiers birth date, birth place, and parents' names. Not indexed. Contains about 2,000 names.

For ideas on ways your ancestor's name might be spelled by indexers or in collections, see Name Variations.

Step 2. Copy and document the information.

The best method of copying information is to:

- Make a photocopy of the page(s) with your ancestor's name.
- Document where the information came from by writing the title, call number, and page number of the index or collection on the photocopy. Also, write the name of the library or archive.

Where to Find It

Family History Centers and the Family History Library

You can use the Family History Library book collection only at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, but many of our books have been microfilmed. Most of our films can be requested and used at our Family History Centers. To locate the address for the nearest Family History Center, [click here](#).

For information about contacting or visiting the library or a center, see [Family History Library and Family History Centers](#).

Libraries and Archives

You may be able to find the books at public or college libraries. If these libraries do not have a copy of the book you need, you may be able to order it from another library on interlibrary loan.

To use interlibrary loan:

- Go to a public or college library.
- Ask the librarian to order a book or microfilm for you through interlibrary loan from another library. You will need the title of the item and the name of the author.
- The library staff will direct you in their procedures. Sometimes this is free; sometimes there is a small fee.

You can find addresses and phone numbers for most libraries and archives in the [American Library Directory](#), published by the American Library Association. The *American Library Directory* is available at most public and college libraries.

Maps

Computer Resources

MapQuest Maps

Summary: Must know address, city, state, and zip code; more recent maps

Animap

BYU FHL – on computer

Summary: Has each state with maps. Shows county boundary changes and allows marking of cities and finds distances.

Google Maps

Summary: Has address finder, allows keyword searching, and allows street, satellite, or terrain views

Geology.com Maps

Summary: Has Relief, Elevation, Drainage, Political and Road Maps for each state.

Oklahoma Maps Bibliography

Andriot, Jay. *Township Atlas of the U.S.* McLean, Virginia, 1991.

Rel/Fam Hist Ref - **G 1201.F7 A5 1991**

Summary: Shows "minor county subdivisions" maps start after 1930 and are provided by the Bureau of the Census. Census county subdivisions or minor civil divisions. Does not include Hawaii or Alaska.

Evaluation of Oklahoma Maps: pp. 789-817. General history of counties with precincts, census county divisions, public land surveys and townships.

Kirkham, E. Kay. *A Genealogical and Historical Atlas of the United States.* Utah: Everton Publishers, Inc. 1976.

Rel/Fam Hist - **G1201.E6225.K5 1976.**

Summary: Shows changes in boundaries in the United States from colonial days up to 1909. Civil War maps and information.

Evaluation of Oklahoma Maps: State historical information, p. 36. Map: 1909 p 237.

Mattson, Mark T. *Macmillan Color atlas of the States.* Toronto: Simon Schuster Macmillan, 1996.

Rel/Fam Hist Ref - **Quarto Shelves G 1200.M4 1996**

Summary: General state information.

Evaluation of Oklahoma Maps: pp. 251-257. General state information includes; Maps with highways, climate & environment, history & important events, population & government, ethnicity & education, economy & resources.

Thorndale, William and William Dollarhide. *Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1947.* Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1987.

Rel/Fam Hist Ref - G1201.F7 T5 1987

Summary: Outlines counties and changes in 10 year intervals. Gives brief history on census, its growth and accuracy. Sources for maps come from state/territorial laws. Evaluation of Oklahoma Maps: pp. 275-280. Shows modern boundaries and changes.

Map Collection **on the 2^d floor of the old** section of HBLL.

Map cases - G4020-G4204. Shows state maps with county boundaries etc.

Johnson, Howard L. and Claude E Duchon. *Atlas of Oklahoma Climate*, University of Oklahoma Press: London, 1995.

Map Collection - **G 1366.C8 J6 1995**

Summary: Climate changes by years and months.

Evaluation: The first three chapters gives explanations for charts. Gives chronology of actual natural disaster events to match up with ancestor's thought, ideas, newspaper clippings.

Morris, John W., Charles R. Goins and Edwin C. McReynolds. *Historical Atlas of Oklahoma 1st Edition*, University of Oklahoma Press: London, 1986.

Map Collection Quarto - **G 1366 .S1 M6 1986**

Summary: Spanish and French explorer claims on land. Native American tribal lands Creek, Chikasaw, Choctaw, Seminole etc. Important routes and trails.

Evaluation: Shows lands belonging to individual tribes, reservations. Shows forts and military roads that may show ancestor's movements while in military service of families that traveled with the militia.

Morris, John W., Charles R. Goins and Edwin C. McReynolds. *Historical Atlas of Oklahoma 2nd Edition*, University of Oklahoma Press: London, 1986.

Map Collection Quarto - **G 1366 .S1 M6 1986**

Summary: **Spanish and French explorer claims on lands. Native American lands, Forts and camps and Military roads.**

Evaluation: **Excellent to place a tribe in this region - military movements. Civil War battle sites.**

Morris, John W., Charles R. Goins and Edwin C. McReynolds. *Historical Atlas of Oklahoma 3rd Edition*, University of Oklahoma Press: London, 1986.

Map Collection Quarto - **G 1366.S1 M6 1986**

Summary: Shows geographic regions, Indian territories and lands. Different Native American tribal lands, Spanish and British claims.

Evaluation: Gives important geographic information on Native American tribes. Gives history of land development and boundary changes over time and statistics for these and other topics from about 1763.

FAMILYSEARCH™

G U I D E

Family History Library • 35 North West Temple Street • Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3400 USA

Introduction

Federal censuses are taken every 10 years. Oklahoma residents are included in territorial or federal censuses for 1860, and 1890 through 1920.

- The 1850 census was the first federal census to give the names of all members of the household.

For more information about the U.S. Federal Censuses, see Background.

What You Are Looking For

The information you find varies from record to record. These records may include:

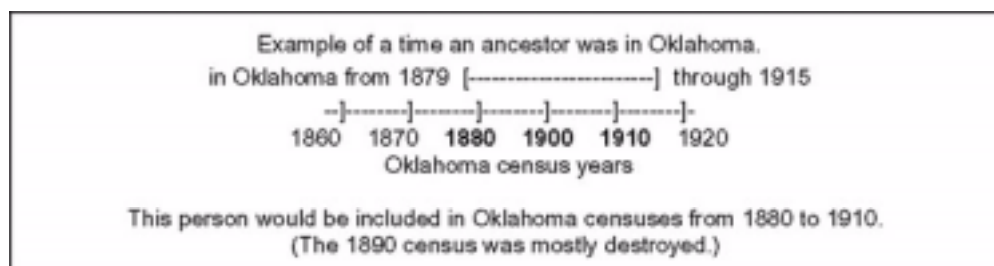
- Names of family members.
- Ages of family members, which you can use to calculate birth or marriage years.
- The county and state where your ancestors lived.
- People living with (or gone from) the family.
- Relatives that may have lived nearby.

Steps

These 5 steps will help you use census records.

Step 1. Determine which censuses might include your ancestors.

Match the probable time your ancestor was in Oklahoma with the census years. This will determine which censuses you will search.



Step 2. Determine a census to start with.

Start with the last census taken during the life of your ancestor.

The censuses from **1790 to 1840** give the name of the head of household and the number of males and females in age groups **without** their names.

The censuses from **1850 to 1920** give more information and include the name, age, and birthplace of every person in the household.

The censuses for 1930 and later are available from the U.S. Census Bureau only.

For ways the census can help you find your ancestor's parents, see Tip 1.

Step 3. Search the census.

For instructions on how to search a specific census, click on one of the following years:

1860 1870 1890 1900 1910 1920

For information about archives and libraries that have census records, see [Where to Find It](#).

Step 4. Search another census.

Repeat steps 2 and 3 until you search all the censuses taken during the life span of your ancestor. Each census may contain additional information.

If you skip a census taken when your ancestor lived, you risk missing additional information, such as names of in-laws or other relatives who may have lived with or near the family. Those names and relationships may help you identify earlier generations.

For other information about how to search the census, see [Tips](#).

Step 5. Analyze the information you obtain from the censuses.

To effectively use the information from the census, ask yourself these questions:

- Who was in the family?
- About when were they born?
- Where were they born? (Birthplaces are shown in censuses for 1850 to 1920.)
- Where were they living—town or township, county, and state?
- Where were their parents born? (Birthplaces are shown in censuses for 1880 to 1920.)
- Do they have neighbors with the same last name? Could they be relatives?

For more about comparing information in several censuses, see [Tip 3](#).

Tips

Tip 1. How can the census help me find my ancestor's parents?

Searching the census taken closest to the time the ancestor married has the best possibility of finding your ancestor and spouse living close to their parents and other family members.

Tip 2. How can I understand the information better?

Sometimes knowing why the census taker asked a question can help you understand the answer. Detailed instructions given to census takers are in the book, *Twenty Censuses: Population and Housing Questions 1790-1980*, updated as *200 Years of U.S. Census Taking*, both by the United States Census Bureau.

Tip 3. How can comparing information in more than one census help me?

Comparing censuses indicates:

- Changes in who was in the household, such as children leaving home or the death of grandparents or a child.
- Changes in neighbors. Remember, neighbors might be relatives or in-laws.
- Changes about each individual, such as age.
- Movement of the family within Oklahoma to a different county or town.
- Movement of the family out of Oklahoma if the family no longer appears in the census for Oklahoma.

You will eventually want to know every country, state, county, township, and town where your ancestor was located. You can then check information in other records for those places. A careful check of all available federal census records can help you identify those places.

Ages and estimated birth dates for an individual may vary greatly from census to census. Often ages are listed more accurately for young children than for older adults.

Background

Description

A census is a count and a description of the population of a country, colony, territory, state, county, or city. Census records are also called census schedules or population schedules. Early censuses are basically head counts. Later censuses give information about marriage, immigration, and literacy. United States censuses are useful because they begin early and cover a large portion of the population.

What U.S. Federal Censuses Are Available

Censuses have been taken by the United States government every 10 years since 1790. The 1920 census is the most recent federal census available to the public; the 1930 census will be released in 2002.

The 1890 census taken by the federal government was destroyed in a fire. A separate census was taken of the Oklahoma Territory in 1890. See the census section of the *Oklahoma Research Outline* for more information. Portions of another special schedule, taken in 1890 of Union Civil War veterans and their widows, have survived. The surviving 1890 veterans' schedules cover Washington D.C., half of Kentucky, and all of Louisiana through Wyoming (the states are in alphabetical order from K through W). These schedules contain approximately 700,000 names.

Types of Census Schedules

The following census schedules are available for Oklahoma and were created in various years by the federal government:

- **Population schedules** list a large portion of the population; most are well-indexed and are available at many repositories.
- **1890 veterans' schedules** list Union veterans from the Civil War or their widows who were living in 1890.
- **Slave schedules** for Southern states list slave owners and the number of slaves they owned in 1850 and 1860. There is an 1860 slave schedule for Oklahoma. The 1860 Arkansas census includes part of Oklahoma and lists free and slave inhabitants in the Cherokee, Choctaw, Creek, and Seminole nations.

How the Censuses Were Taken

People called enumerators were hired by the United States government to take the census. The enumerators were given forms to fill out and were assigned to gather information about everyone living in a certain area or district. Enumerators could visit the houses in any order, so families who are listed together in the census may or may not have been neighbors. The accuracy of the enumerators and the readability of their handwriting varies.

After the census was taken, usually one copy was sent to the state and another to the federal government. Sometimes copies were also kept by the counties. Few of the state and county copies survived.

When the Censuses Were Taken

Census takers were supposed to gather information about the people who were part of each household on the following dates:

1790 to 1820: First Monday in August
1830 to 1900: June 1 (June 2 in 1890)
1910: 15 April
1920: 1 January
1930: 1 April

If your ancestor was born in the census year, your ancestor should be listed only if he or she was born before the census date.

If your ancestor died in the census year, your ancestor should be listed only if he or she died after the census date.

The census may have actually taken several months to complete and may reflect births and deaths after the census date.

Censuses from 1930 to the Present

U.S. Federal Censuses from 1930 to the present are confidential. The 1930 census will be available in 2002. You may ask the U.S. Census Bureau to send information about:

- Yourself.
- Another living person, if you are that person's "authorized representative."
- Deceased individuals, if you are "their heirs or administrators."

You may request information for only one person at a time. There is a fee for each search. To request information, you must provide the person's name, address at the time of the census, and other details on Form BC-600, available from the U.S. Census Bureau.

For the address of the U.S. Census Bureau, see *Where to Find It*.

Territorial, State, and Local Censuses

Territorial, state, and local governments also took censuses. Nonfederal censuses generally contain information similar to and sometimes more than federal censuses of the same period.

The Oklahoma area was included in the 1860 Arkansas state census. It does not list Native Americans, but lists other inhabitants. A special 1890 territorial census was also taken.

Oklahoma became a state in 1907. There are no state censuses for Oklahoma. For more information, see the census section of the *Oklahoma Research Outline*.

Territorial, state, and local censuses may be available on the Internet, at Family History Centers, in the Family History Library, and in state and local archives and libraries.

Where to Find It

Internet

Many Internet sites include census records, census indexes, or information about censuses. You may find the following sites helpful:

- Oklahoma GenWeb and USGenWeb have links to indexes and records and may have links to archives, libraries, and genealogical and historical societies.
- CensusLinks on the 'Net includes links to Internet sites with United States and Canada censuses and indexes. It includes information about censuses and how to use them, a Soundex calculator, census forms you can print, an age calculator, and more.
- The Archives and Libraries section of the *Oklahoma Research Outline* lists Internet addresses for several Oklahoma archives, libraries, and historical societies. These organizations may have microfilms and indexes of Oklahoma census records, and the Internet sites may list what records they have.

Family History Centers

Many Family History Centers keep copies of some census microfilms. Family History Centers can borrow microfilms of a U.S. Federal Census from the Family History Library. A small fee is charged to have a microfilm sent to a center.

You may request photocopies of U.S. Federal Censuses from the Family History Library. Staff at the Family History Center can show you how to request this service.

Family History Centers are located throughout the United States and other areas of the world. See "Family History Centers" for the address and phone number of the center nearest you.

Family History Library

The Family History Library has complete sets of the existing U.S. Federal Censuses from 1790 to 1920. No fee is charged for using the census microfilms in person.

For a list of indexes and other census records, click on Family History Library Catalog in the window to the left. Select from the list of titles to see descriptions of the records with the film or book call numbers. Use that information to obtain the records at a family history center or at the Family History Library.

For information about contacting or visiting the library, see *Family History Library and Family History Centers*.

National Archives

Copies of the existing federal censuses from 1790 to 1920 are available in the Microfilm Research Room in the National Archives Building and at the 13 Regional National Archives. The National Archives has a microfilm rental program for census records. Call 301-604-3699 for rental information. For information on how to order photocopies of census records from the National Archives, click here.

College and Public Libraries

Many college libraries have copies of the census microfilms, particularly for their own states. Many larger public libraries have copies of the census soundex and populations schedules. Smaller public libraries may be able to obtain the records through interlibrary loan.

State Archives, Libraries, Historical Societies

The Archives and Libraries section of the *Oklahoma Research Outline* lists Internet and mailing addresses for several Oklahoma archives, libraries, and historical societies. These organizations may have microfilms and indexes of Oklahoma census records, and the Internet sites may list what records they have.

U.S. Census Bureau

To request information from the 1930 census and later censuses, you must provide your relative's name, address, and other details on Form BC-600, available from:

The U.S. Census Bureau
P.O. Box 1545
Jeffersonville, IN 47131
812-218-3300

Genealogical Search Services

Many genealogical search services will search the census for a fee. These sources can help you find a genealogical search service:

- CyndisList lists many companies and individuals who do research and mentions publications about how to hire a professional genealogist.
- Advertisements in major genealogical journals may help you find a researcher.

For more information, see [Hiring a Professional Genealogist](#).

U.S. State Censuses

OKLAHOMA

1890

First Territorial Census 0227282

An index to the 1890 United States census of Union Veterans and their widows in Oklahoma and Indian territories (including Old Greer County) and soldiers stationed at military installations in the territories (section 1) also an index to records from the Oklahoma Union soldiers' home including Civil War veterans and their dependents, veterans of wars with Spain and Mexico, army nurses, and certain members of the National Guard of Oklahoma; and the Union soldiers; cemetery record (section 11)

Census 0496937

Census problems? Maybe this is why we can't always find our ancestors...

1790 - Washington D.C. is with Montgomery & Prince George Co.'s in Maryland

1820 and 1830 - Wisconsin is with the Michigan Census

1836 - Iowa Territory Census includes Minnesota

1840 - Montana is with Clayton Co., Iowa

1860 - Colorado is with the Kansas Census

- Montana is found in the 1860 Nebraska Census under "unorganized territory," which also includes what is now NE Colorado

- Oklahoma is with Arkansas, which was then Indian land

- Wyoming is included with Nebraska

Prior to 1880 IA did NOT mean Iowa, but Indiana

Virginia once covered many thousands of square miles more than it does now. A reference made to a person having been born in Virginia could mean that the person really was born in part of:

Illinois from 1781-1818

Ohio from 1728-1803

Indiana from 1787-1816

Pennsylvania from 1752-1786

Missouri from 1775-1792

Tennessee from 1760-1803

North Carolina from 1728-1803

West Virginia from 1769-1863

(Taken from Walla Walla **Gen. Soc. Blue Mt. Heritage**, Vol. 16, No. 4)

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Gibson, Arrell Morgan. Oklahoma, a History of Five Centuries. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1981. F 694 .**G49 1981**

Gittinger, Roy. The Formation of the State of Oklahoma. Millwood, New York: Kraus Reprint Company, 1974. F 927.**G532 1974 and Microfiche F 927.G532 1917**

Green, Donald Edward. Rural Oklahoma. Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1977. F 694.5 .**R87**

Hall, Ted Byron. Oklahoma Indian Territory. Fort Worth, Texas: American Reference Publishers, 1971. F 693 .**H233**

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Henderson, Caroline A. Letters from the Dust Bowl. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2001. F 702 N6 **H46 2001**

Hendrickson, Kenneth E. Hard Times in Oklahoma: The Depression Years. Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1983. F 700 .**H37x 1983**

Joyce, Davis D. An Oklahoma I had Never Seen Before: Alternative Views of Oklahoma History. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1994. F 700.**034 1994**

Koplowitz, Bradford S. Guide to Historical Records of Oklahoma. Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Books, 1990. **Ref. Book F 693 X1 K66 1990**

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Marriott, Alice Lee. Oklahoma, the Forty-Sixth Star. Garden City, New York: Doubleday, 1973. F 694.**M35**

McReynolds, Edwin C. Oklahoma: A History of the Sooner State. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1964. F 694 .**M16 1954**

McReynolds, Edwin Clarence. Oklahoma: The Story of its Past and Present. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1975. F 694.**M17 1971**

Morgan, H. Wayne. Oklahoma: A Bicentennial History. New York: Norton, 1977. F 694.**M8175**

Wenner, Fred L. The Story of Oklahoma and the Eighty-Niners. Guthrie, Oklahoma: Cooperative Publishing Company. **Quarto F 694.W45x**

Wright, Muriel H. Our Oklahoma. Guthrie, Oklahoma: Cooperative Publishing Company, 1939. F 694.**W826**

Adair County

Adair County was established from the old Cherokee Nation in 1907, retaining the approximate boundaries of Recording District 6 in the Indian Territory. County seat: Stilwell.

Benedict, John D. Muskogee and Northeastern Oklahoma. Chicago: S.J. Publishing Company, 1922. F 694 .**B44 and Microfiche CS 43 .G46x LH 12033 and Microfiche F 694 .B44**

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Alfalfa County

Alfalfa County was created in 1907 from a part of old territorial Woods County, which had been opened to settlement by the land run into the Cherokee Outlet (Strip). County seat: Cherokee.

Atoka County

Created in 1907 from Choctaw lands.

Bever County

Beaver County was created in 1890 by the Organic Act, which established Oklahoma Territory. Originally named County Seven, it included all of "No Man's Land", or the Oklahoma Panhandle. County seat: Beaver.

Beaver County Historical Society. History of Beaver County. Beaver, OK: Beaver County Historical Society, 1970-71. **Quarto F 702. B4 H5**

Erickson, John **R.** Panhandle Cowboy. Lincoln: U. of Nebraska Press, 1980. **F 702. B4 E733**

Jackson, Berenice. Man and the Oklahoma Panhandle. North Newton, Kansas: Mennonite Press, 1982. **F 702 C5 J33 1982**

The Saga of No Man's Land as Seen in 1888 and 1889: Early Historical Facts and Stories of Beaver City, Oklahoma, Cimarron Territory, the Oklahoma Panhandle. Beaver, Oklahoma: The Herald Democrat, 1969. **Microfiche CS 43.G46x LH 13850 and Americana 978.1 Al no. 58**

Beckham County

Beckham County was created at statehood from portions of territorial Greer and Roger Mills counties. County seat: Sayre.

Blaine County

Blaine County opened to settlement by the land run of 1892, was one of the six counties created from the former Cheyenne-Arapaho reservation. Originally known as County "C". County seat: **Watonga**.

Bryan County

Bryan County was created at statehood **using** the approximate boundaries of old Recording District 25 in the Choctaw Nation. County seat: Durant.

Caddo County

Caddo County was opened to settlement by lottery in 1901, was created from the Caddo-Wichita Reservation in west-central Oklahoma. Known as "I" County. At statehood a strip of land on the eastern edge of the territorial county was added to Grady County. County seat: Anadarko.

Canadian County

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Canadian County was opened to settlement by the land run of 1889, was designated County "Four" by the Organic Act of 1890. Following the opening of the Cheyenne-Arapaho lands in 1892, another tier of townships was added to the western border. County seat: El Reno.

Cranfill, William G. El Reno Before Statehood. El Reno, Oklahoma: Cranfill, 1955.
Americana F 704.E47 C73x 1955

Carter County

Carter County **was created** in 1907 from part of the old Chickasaw Nation. County **seat**: Ardmore.

Cherokee County

Cherokee county was created at statehood from the western half of old Recording District 6 in the Cherokee Nation. County seat: Tahlequah.

Benedict, John D. Muskogee and Northeastern Oklahoma. Chicago: S.J. Publishing Company, 1922. F 694 .**B44 and Microfiche** CS 43 .G46x LH 12033 **and Microfiche F 694 .B44**

Choctaw County

Choctaw County **was organized** in 1907 from part of the old Choctaw Nation. County **seat**: Hugo.

Cimarron County

Cimarron County was created in 1907 from the western third of territorial Beaver County, also known variously as "No Man's Land" and the Oklahoma Panhandle. County seat: Boise City.

Gardner, Fay Folkers. So Long, Old Timer!. Albuquerque, New Mexico: Gardner, 1979. F 697.G37x 1979

Jackson, **Berenice**. Man and the Oklahoma Panhandle. North Newton, **Kansas**: Mennonite Press, 1982. F 702 **C5 J33 1982**

The Saga of No Man's Land as **Seen in 1888** and 1889: Early Historical Facts and Stories of Beaver City, Oklahoma, Cimarron Territory, the Oklahoma Panhandle. Beaver Oklahoma: The Herald-Democrat, **1969. Microfiche** CS 43 .G46x LH 13850 **and Americana 978.1 A1 no.58**

Cleveland County

Cleveland County was organized in 1890 following passage of the Organic Act, which created Oklahoma Territory. It was known as County "Three" before changing the name to Cleveland. County **seat**: Norman.

Coal County

Coal County was created in 1907 from part of Tobucksy County of the Cherokee Nation. County seat: Coalgate.

Comanche County

Comanche County was organized in 1901 following the opening of the Comanche-Kiowa-Apache and Wichita-Caddo. **reservations to settlement**. County seat: Lawton.

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Cotton County

Cotton County was created in 1912 from the southern portion of Comanche County. The eastern part of the new county has been opened to settlement by the lottery of 1901; the western section had been part of the Big Pasture, sold by sealed bids in 1906. County seat: Walters.

Craig County

Craig County was created at statehood from the western two-thirds of Recording District 3 in the old Cherokee Nation. County seat: Vinita.

Benedict, John D. Muskogee and Northeastern Oklahoma. Chicago: S.J. Publishing Company, 1922. F 694 .B44 and Microfiche CS 43 .G46x LH 12033 and Microfiche F 694 .B44

Creek County

Creek County was created in 1907 from parts of Recording Districts 8 and 9 in the old Creek Nation. County seat: Sapulpa.

Custer County

Custer County was organized in 1892 following the land run into the former Cheyenne-Arapaho reservation. This county was first designated as "G" county. County seat: Arapaho.

Delaware County

Delaware County was organized at statehood from part of the old Delaware District of the Cherokee Nation. County seat: Jay.

Benedict, John D. Muskogee and Northeastern Oklahoma. Chicago: S.J. Publishing Company, 1922. F 694 .B44 and Microfiche CS 43 .G46x LH 12033 and Microfiche F 694 .B44

Dewey County

Dewey County was created in 1892 following the land run **into** the former Cheyenne-Arapaho reservation. Originally known as "D" County. County seat: Taloga.

Ellis County

Ellis County was organized in 1907 from the southwestern portion of Woodward County and half of the land that had been Day or "E" County in Oklahoma Territory. County seat: Arnett.

The History of Northwest Oklahoma. Dallas: Curtis Media, 1994. **Quarto F 694 .H66 1994**

Garfield County

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Garfield County was **organized** in 1893 following **the land run** into the Cherokee Outlet. Originally **designated** "O" County. County seat: Enid.

Eisele, Fannie L. [A History of Covington, Garfield County, Oklahoma, and Surrounding Territory](#). Covington, Oklahoma: Fannie Eisele, 1952. F 704 .C64 E3

Garvin County

Garvin County was organized in 1907 using the slightly reduced boundaries of old Recording District 17 in the Chickasaw Nation. County **seat**: Pauls Valley.

Grady County

Grady County was organized at statehood from a portion of the old Chickasaw nation and part of Old Oklahoma Territory. County seat: Chickasha.

Grant County

Grant County was organized as one of the seven counties carved from the Cherokee Outlet in 1893. Originally called "L" County. County seat: Medford.

Webb, Guy P. [History of Grant County, Oklahoma, 1811-1970](#). North Newton, Kansas: Grant County Historical Society, 1971. F 702 .G75 W4

Greer County

Greer County prior to 1896 (the land between the North Fork and main branch of the Red River) was part of the State of Texas. On March 16, 1896 Greer County was awarded to the Oklahoma Territory, this established the south branch of the river as the boundary between Texas and Oklahoma. In 1907 the boundaries of the county were reduced when the old County was divided into Greer, Jackson, Harmon and a portion of Beckham counties. County seat: Mangum.

Harmon County

Harmon County was created on May 22, 1909, by special election from a portion of Greer County. County seat: Hollis.

Harper County

Harper County was organized in 1907 from the northwestern section of territorial Woodward County. County seat: Buffalo.

Haskell County

Haskell County was created in 1907 from parts of Recording Districts 12 and 14 in the old Choctaw Nation. County seat: Stigler.

Hughes County

Hughes County was created in 1907 from part of the old Creek Nation. County seat: Holdenville.

Jackson County

Jackson County was created in 1907 from a portion of **territorial** Greer County. County seat: Altus.

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Jefferson County

Jefferson County was created at statehood from a part of territorial Comanche County and the southwestern portion of the old Chickasaw Nation. County **seat**: Waurika.

Johnston County

Johnston County was established in 1907, its borders corresponding roughly to the northern half of Recording District 22 in the old Chickasaw Nation. County seat: Tishomingo.

Montgomery, John D. History of Johnston County, Oklahoma. Dallas, Texas: Curtis Media Corporation, **1988. Quarto F 702.J6 H57 1988**

Kay County

Kay County was created in 1893 after the land run into the Cherokee Outlet. Originally designated County "K", the name was later changed to the present spelling. County seat: Newkirk.

Kay County, Oklahoma. Ponca City, Oklahoma: Kay County Gas Corporation, 1919. F 702 .**K25 K2 1919**

Kingfisher County

Kingfisher County was created in 1890 following the run into the Unassigned Lands and the organization of Oklahoma Territory. A strip of land was later added to the western edge of the county after the land run of 1892. It was first known as County "Five". County seat: Kingfisher.

Kiowa County

Kiowa County was organized in 1901 following the opening of the Kiowa-Comanche-Apache and Caddo-Wichita reservations to settlement by lottery. The boundaries of the county changed only slightly after 1907 when a strip along the southern border was taken in 1910 to be part of Swanson County. The area was returned to Kiowa County in 1911 when Swanson County was invalidated by the Supreme Court. County seat: Hobart.

Latimer County

Latimer County **was organized at statehood** from a section of the old Choctaw Nation. County seat: Wilburton.

Le Flore County

LeFlore County was created at statehood from the major part of Recording District 14 in the old Choctaw nation. County seat: Poteau.

Lincoln County

Lincoln County was created in 1891 following the opening of the Sac and Fox, Iowa, Pottawatomie, and Shawnee reservations to settlement. Originally designated County "A". County seat: Chandler.

Logan County

Logan County **was opened to settlement** by the land run of April 22, 1889. After the Organic Act established Oklahoma Territory, **it was designated "One" County**. County seat: Guthrie.

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Forbes, Gerald. Guthrie, Oklahoma's First Capital. Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1938. F 704 G9 F7

Love County

Love County was created at statehood from part of the Old Chickasaw Nation. County seat: **Marietta**.

Major County

Major county was created at statehood from the southern portion of territorial Woods County. County seat: Fairview.

Marshall County

Marshall County was created at statehood from the southern half of territorial Recording District 22 in the old Chickasaw Nation. County seat: Madill.

Seekers of Oklahoma Heritage Association. Pioneer Sodbusters and Roustabouts, 1889-1987. Dallas: Curtis Media Corporation, 1987. Quarto F 704 .M25 P56 1997

Mayes County

Mayes County was created in 1907 from part of the old Cherokee Nation. County seat: Pryor.

Benedict, John D. Muskogee and Northeastern Oklahoma. Chicago: S.J. Publishing Company, 1922. **F 694 .B44 and Microfiche CS 43 .G46x LH 12033 and Microfiche F 694 .B44**

McClain County

McClain County was created at statehood using the boundaries of Recording District 18 in the old Chickasaw Nation. County seat: Purcell.

McCurtain County

McCurtain County was established in 1907 using the eastern part of Recording District 24 in the old Choctaw Nation. County seat: Idabel.

Carter, W. A. McCurtain County and Southeast Oklahoma. Idabel, Oklahoma: Carter, 1923. **F 702 M3 C3 1923 and Microfiche CS 43 .G46x LH 10458**

McIntosh County

McIntosh County was created at statehood from part of the old Creek Nation. County seat: Eufaula.

Benedict, John D. Muskogee and Northeastern Oklahoma. Chicago: S.J. Publishing Company, 1922. **F 694 .B44 and Microfiche CS 43 .G46x LH 12033 and Microfiche F 694 .B44**

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Murray County

Murray County was organized at statehood from part of the Old Chickasaw Nation. County seat: Sulphur.

Muskogee County

Muskogee County was created in 1907 from part of the old Creek Nation. County seat: Muskogee.

Benedict, John D. Muskogee and Northeastern Oklahoma. Chicago: S.J. Publishing Company, 1922. F 694 .B44 and Microfiche CS 43 .G46x LH 12033 and Microfiche F 694 .B44

Bristow, Joseph Quayle. Tales of Old Fort Gibson. New York: Exposition Press, 1961. F 704 .F72 B7

Noble County

Noble County was created after the land run of September 16, 1893, which opened the Cherokee Outlet to settlement. Originally designated "P" County. County seat: Perry.

Eisele, Fannie L. A History of Noble County, Oklahoma. Covington, Oklahoma: Eisele, 1958. E704.C64 E3 1958

Nowata County

Nowata County was created in 1907 from part of Recording District 3 in the old Cherokee Nation. County seat: Nowata.

Benedict, John D. Muskogee and Northeastern Oklahoma. Chicago: S.J. Publishing Company, 1922. F 694 .B44 and Microfiche CS 43 .G46x LH 12033 and Microfiche F 694 .B44

Gay, Felix M. History of Nowata County. Stillwater, Oklahoma: Redlands Press, 1957. F 702 .N9 G39x 1957

Okfuskee County

Okfuskee County was created at statehood from part of the old Creek Nation. County seat: Okemah.

Oklahoma County

Oklahoma County was created in 1890 following the land run into the Unassigned Lands and the passage of the Organic Act, which established Oklahoma Territory. Originally designated "Two" County. County seat: Oklahoma City.

Cosby, Hugh E. People of Midwest City. Moore, Oklahoma: Cosby Publishing, 1980. F 704.M52 P466x 1980

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Scott, Angelo C. The Story of Oklahoma City. Oklahoma City: Times-Journal Publishing Company, 1939. F 704.04 S36

Okmulgee County

Okmulgee County was created in 1907 from part of the old Creek Nation. County seat: Okmulgee.

Osage County

Osage county was created in 1907 after allotment of the Old Osage Nation. County seat: Pawhuska.

Debo, Angie. Tulsa: from Creek Town to Oil Capital. Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1943. F 704 .T92 D4

Tulsa: A Guide to the Oil Capital. Tulsa: Mid-West Publishing Company, 1938. F 704.T92 F5

Ottawa County

Ottawa County **was created** in 1907 from parts of Recording Districts 1 and 2 in the Indian Territory. Prior to settlement the land had been part of the Cherokee, Modoc, Ottawa, **Peoria**, Quapaw, and Wyandotte **reservations**. County seat: Miami.

Benedict, John D. Muskogee and Northeastern Oklahoma. Chicago: S.J. Publishing Company, 1922. F 694 .B44 and Microfiche CS 43 .G46x LH 12033 and Microfiche F 694 .B44

Pawnee County

Pawnee County **was created in 1892 following allotment of the Pawnee Reservation. Designated "Q" County at first. County seat: Pawnee.**

Payne County

Payne County was created in 1890 from part of the former Unassigned Lands, which had been opened to settlement **in 1889**. Originally designated "Six" County, it was renamed in 1892. In 1893, following the opening of the Cherokee Outlet, a strip of townships was added along its northern edge. County seat: Stillwater.

Cunningham, Robert E. Stillwater, Where Oklahoma Began. Stillwater: Arts and Humanities Council of Stillwater, Oklahoma, 1969. F 704 .S85 C8

Pittsburg County

Pittsburg County was created at statehood from part of the old Choctaw Nation. County seat: McAlester.

Pontotoc County

Pontotoc County was created in 1907 from part of the old Chickasaw Nation. County seat: Ada.

OKLAHOMA

McInroy, Hope Patterson. Beginning at Cold Springs: The History of Allen, Oklahoma. Allen, Oklahoma: McInroy, 1976. F 704.A42 M3

Pontotoc County Historical and Genealogical Society. Pontotoc County Quarterly. Ada, Oklahoma: The Society, 1969. F 702 .P74 037

Pottawatomie County

Pottawatomie County was created in 1891 following the land run into the Shawnee and Pottawatomie reservations. Originally designated "B" County. County seat: Shawnee.

Fortson, John. Pottawatomie County and What has Come of it: A History of Pottawatomie County. Shawnee, Oklahoma: Pottawatomie County Historical Society, 1936. Microfiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11905

Pushmataha County

Pushmataha County was created in 1907 from the northwest corner of Recording District 24 in the Choctaw Nation. County seat: Antlers.

Roger Mills County

Roger Mills County was created in 1892 following the land run into the former Cheyenne-Arapaho reservations. Initially designated "F" County. The boundaries of the territorial county were slightly reduced in 1907. County seat: Cheyenne.

Taylor, Nat M. A Brief History of Roger Mills County. 1947. **Microfiche** CS 43 .G46x LH 12389

Rogers County

Rogers County was created in 1907 from part of the old Cherokee Nation. County seat: Claremore.

Kaho, Noel. The Will Rogers Country. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1941. **Americana** F 704.C56 K2 1941

Benedict, John D. Muskogee and Northeastern Oklahoma. Chicago: S.J. Publishing Company, 1922. F 694 .B44 and **Microfiche** CS 43 .G46x LH 12033 and **Microfiche F 694 .B44**

Seminole County

Seminole County was created at statehood closely following the boundaries of Recording District 13 in the old Seminole Nation. County seat: Wewoka.

Sequoyah County

Sequoyah County was created at statehood roughly following the boundaries of old Recording District 11 in the Cherokee Nation. County seat: Sallisaw.

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Benedict, John D. Muskogee and Northeastern Oklahoma. Chicago: S.J. Publishing Company, 1922. F 694 .B44 and Microfiche CS 43 .G46x LH 12033 and Microfiche F 694 .B44

Stephens County

Stephens County was created in 1907 from part of territorial Comanche County and part of the former Chickasaw Nation. County seat: Duncan.

Texas County

Texas County was created in 1907 from the middle one-third of territorial Beaver County, formerly known as "No Man's Land". County seat: Guymon.

Green, Donald E. Panhandle Pioneer. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1979. F 702 T4 H574

Jackson, Berenice. Man and the Oklahoma Panhandle. North Newton, Kansas: Mennonite Press, 1982. F 702 C5 J33 1982

Tillman County

Tillman County was created at statehood from portions of territorial Kiowa and Comanche counties. County seat: Frederick.

Tulsa County

Tulsa County was created in 1907 from parts of the old Creek and Cherokee nations. County seat: Tulsa.

Debo, Angie. Tulsa; from Creek Town to Oil Capital. Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1943. F 704 .T92 D4

Tulsa: A Guide to the Oil Capital. Tulsa: Mid-West Publishing Company, 1938. F 704.T92 F5

Wagoner County

Wagoner County was created in 1907 from part of the old Cherokee Nation. County seat: Wagoner.

Benedict, John D. Muskogee and Northeastern Oklahoma. Chicago: S.J. Publishing Company, 1922. F 694 .B44 and Microfiche CS 43 .G46x LH 12033 and Microfiche F 694 .B44

Washington County

Washington County was organized at statehood from part of the old Cherokee Nation. County seat: Bartlesville.

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Benedict, John D. Muskogee and Northeastern Oklahoma. Chicago: S.J. Publishing Company, 1922. **F 694 .B44 and Microfiche CS 43 .G46x LH 12033 and Microfiche F 694 .B44**

Washita County

Washita County was created in 1892 following the land run into the Cheyenne and Arapaho reservation. Originally known as "H" County. County seat: Cordell.

Woods County

Woods County was established in 1893 following the land run into the Cherokee Outlet. Originally designated "M" County. Also was known as Wood County **until** an "s" was added through an early error. County seat: Alva.

Crissman, George R. A History of Woods County, Oklahoma. Oklahoma: 1929. F 701 W7 C75

Woodward County

Woodward County was organized in 1893 following the land run into the Cherokee Outlet. Originally designated "N" County. County seat: Woodward.

The History of Northwest Oklahoma. Dallas: Curtis Media, **1994. Quarto F 694 .H66 1994**

James, Louise B. Below Devils Gap: The Story of Woodward County. Perkins, Oklahoma: Evans Publications, 1984. F 702 W8 **J36 1984**