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BURIAL GROUNDS FORM  
 WORKS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION  
 Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma. 67

Field Workers Name Alene D. McDowell

This report made on (date) April 20, 1937

1. Name (if any) of burial ground Silver Lake Cemetery
2. Founded (date) Unknown (about 65 By Delaware Indians.  
years ago)
3. Abanded (date) Still used Why abanded \_\_\_\_\_
4. Present owners of premises this was set aside by the Government
5. Address of present owners \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Answer fully, if possible, questions 5 to 13 inclusive, here or on sheets firmly attached to this form.

5. Original owners of premises.
6. Give names of other persons who at one time owned the premises.
7. Approximate number of graves 500
8. Approximate number of marked graves 200
9. General condition of headstones, including inscriptions.
10. Number of inscriptions copied and attached 6  
Place each inscription on a separate sheet and attach all to this form.)
11. Any other information you were able to gather about the burial ground including its history.
12. Condition of the premises Good
13. Detailed location of burial ground \_\_\_\_\_

14. Legal location of burial ground, County Washington

Section 30 Township 26N Range 13E

North.

The plat on this form represents 640 acres, one square mile, and is subdivided into 40 acre tracts. The center of the section, and burial ground should be located accordingly. If possible, make additional subdivisions on plat to give more accurate location.

		20	

Number of sheets attached to this form. 9

SILVER LAKE BURIAL GROUND

This burial ground was set aside by the Government for the Delaware Indians. There are three acres of this ground and it is fenced with barbed wire.

Congress approved this grant July 1, 1902, and it was ratified by Cherokee Nation, August 7, 1902.

Registered Delaware Allotment Deed No. 187.

Delaware-Cherokee Indian Roll No. 78.

Cherokee Nation, Oklahoma, formerly Indian Territory.

DESCRIPTION: Section 30-Township 26N-Range 13E.

There are about five hundred graves in this cemetery.

The Field Worker checked this with an old Delaware Indian woman who has lived near this place for sixty or sixty-five years; also with an Undertaker who has lived here for forty years.

The Undertaker described this soil as very sandy. There is a layer of sandstone rock about three or four feet under the ground and this has to be blasted out, leaving the grave where the casket sits, in a vault like condition.

There are about three hundred graves not marked and the Undertaker said he had dug into other graves several times when digging a grave. It is difficult to locate

a grave that is not marked. The graves are very close together and have rock built up from one to two feet high on the graves. The headstones are very good in most cases. There are very few that the names cannot be read.

This cemetery is located on a hill and is surrounded by the Country Club Grounds. It is kept in good condition for a country cemetery. The Country Club tried to have the cemetery removed, but, it being a government grant for a cemetery, the Indians protested and the government decided in their favor.

This three acres were set aside out of the allotment of Harry Arnold, and at one time his allotment surrounded it. This is according to the County map.

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The earliest grave marked was:

James- Son of J. & B. Simon

Died July 21, 1871. Aged 15 years.

The marker was bought from Carlinohouse at Peru, Kansas,

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Daughter of E. & M. Halfmoon (name not legible)

Born January 17, 1871-Died March 25, 1873.

Aged 2 years, two months.

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(given name not legible) last name Whiteturkey

Died March 1874. Aged 48 years.

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Frank Wilson

Died April 15, 1874. Aged 19 years.

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Mary Armstrong or  
We-sah-pun-a-gua, Indian name

Died January 25, 1877  
44 years - 7 months

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There was a slab headstone for French Wilson, died December 15, 1884. He was 39 years, 10 months old. This headstone had the Masonic emblem engraved.

There was another peculiar name and the engraving was made of the name in a circle. Taul-Bart-Fouts - son of Lizzie Halfmoon, died April 8, 1888, aged a years, 10 months and two days.

The Delaware woman, Mrs. Day, stated the first burial in this cemetery was her husband's brother. She did not remember his name but he was eight years old. Her husband was Jim Day, a Delaware Indian. She informed the workers the fence had been moved on the north side of the cemetery and that five graves were outside the cemetery.

This was first named the Delaware Cemetery and there

was once a Delaware Indian church located on the site. It has since been named the Silver Lake Cemetery, there being a large lake a short distance south.

This cemetery consists of three acres located in the NE quarter of the NW quarter of the SE quarter of the NW quarter. Section 30 - township 26N Range 13E, Washington County, Oklahoma.

INSCRIPTIONS ON HEADSTONES

Silver Lake Cemetery

Washington County, Oklahoma

James Wilson

Born in Wyandotte County, Kansas

March 15, 1845

Died September 29, 1906

I. R. R. M. (Independent Order of Red Men)

T. O. T. E. (I understand this to be a pass word  
of the I. R. R. M.)

INSCRIPTIONS ON HEADSTONES  
Silver Lake Cemetery  
Washington County, Oklahoma

**John Sarcoxie**

Born 1819 - Died April 29, 1895

Aged 76 years

A faithful member of the Baptist Church 23 years



INSCRIPTIONS OF HEADSTONES

Silver Lake Cemetery

Washington County, Oklahoma

Joseph Wagon

Died April 25, 1899

Aged 36 years

Remember friends as you pass by,

That all mankind are born to die,

Then let your cares on Christ be cast.

That you will dwell with him at last.

INSCRIPTIONS ON HEADSTONES

Silver Lake Cemetery

Washington County, Oklahoma

Robert Lee Bixler

Died January 25, 1897

Aged 20 years, 7 months, 2 days

But is he dead? No, No, he lives

His happy spirit flies

To heaven above and there receives

The long expected prize.

INSCRIPTIONS ON HEADSTONES

Silver Lake Cemetery

Washington County, Oklahoma

Fielding Halfmoon

Born December 28, 1858

Died March 24, 1906

Forever Mary, wife and children all

From you a father Christ doth call.

INSCRIPTIONS ON HEADSTONES

Silver Lake Cemetery

Washington County, Oklahoma

Effie Pearl, wife of Bert Garrett

Died March 21, 1910

Aged 25 years, 10 months, 19 days.

Remember friend as you pass by,

As you are now, so once was I,

As I am now, so you shall be,

Prepare for death and follow me.