

HICKS, ALFRED F.

CEMETERIES--CHEROKEE  
BALL CEMETERY

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Alfred F. Hicks, Interviewer:  
Indian Pioneer History 9-149.

The Outlaws Graveyard as told  
by J. T. Ball and others.  
June 22, 1937.

#### THE BALL CEMETERY.

The reason this cemetery is called the Outlaws Cemetery is because of Al Spencer, the leader of a band of outlaws, who was buried here.

The cemetery is near the place where Al Spencer was born and reared. At the time this band of outlaws started out they all picked this cemetery in which to be buried. There were six others beside Spencer in the Band. They are all buried in the cemetery and all of them were killed by the law except one and he was killed in an auto wreck getting away from the law; that was Lee Jarrett. The wreck happened in the northeast end of Nowata County. He was with a man by the name of Albert Connor. Connor was killed later at Coffeyville, Kansas, by the officers.

Dick Gregg, another of the gang, was killed at Sand Springs, Oklahoma, by officers. Glenn Jarrett was killed at McAlester, Oklahoma, in the prison brick yard by an inmate. He was sent to prison for bank robbery. Walter Jarrett a brother was killed at a place, unknown, in Missouri. by officers also.

Sam Rogers, another outlaw/<sup>died</sup> in Claremore, Oklahoma, from a gun wound he received in Lenapah, while robbing a bank.

Al Spencer, the leader of the gang, was killed four miles north of Coffeyville, Kansas, at a little white school house to which he had been decoyed by a man who Spencer thought was his friend, but who had tipped off the officer.

This Cemetery was owned and started by a man named John N. Ball, in 1883, when he buried his sister here. It is located four mile north and four mile east and three quarters of a mile south of Nowata, Oklahoma, in section 6, township 26 North, Range 17 E. There are about 275 graves in it. There are about 200 marked graves.

The seven outlaws all have nice stones at their graves.

The Jarrett boys buried here are all brothers and were all born and reared in Nowata County.

At the graves of the outlaws, where their people could not afford a tomb stone, a bunch of gamblers at South Coffeyville, Oklahoma, Coffeyville, Kansas and Nowata helped pay for the stones.

Most of this information came from J. Ball, a nephew of John L. Ball, who lives about one-half mile from the Cemetery today.