

BURIAL GROUND FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

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5407

Field worker's name Pete W. Cole

This report made on (date) April 19, 1937

1. Name (if any) of burial ground Family burial ground of Joe Homer

2. Founded (date) Unknown By Site picked by Joe Homer

3. Abandoned (date) Unknown Why abandoned all in cultivation

4. Present owners of premises Audie Phelps

Address of present owners Lane, Oklahoma

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

5. Original owners of premises. Allotment of Jos. Homer, sold to Benton Holmes--

6. Give names of other persons who at one time owned the premises.

7. Approximate number of graves. 40

8. Approximate number of marked graves 5

9. General condition of headstones, including inscriptions.

10. Number of inscriptions copied and attached: 1 (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 Improperly Kept

13. Detailed location of burial ground.

14. Legal location of burial ground, County Atoka

Section 21 Township 3 S. Range 13 E.

(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.

Number of sheets attached to this form 3

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Graveyard

11 MAY 19

INTERVIEW WITH JACKSON CARN
Full-blood Choctaw, 59 yrs
Wardville, Oklahoma.

JOE HOMER.

Joe Homer was active in politics in his time and participated in several troubles that were common at that time. In his lifetime, he selected some fine land where he made his home and lived until his death, in October 1908. He made large improvements on his land by splitting rails and fencing what land he needed. There is one mulberry post that was split by Joe Homer in 1889. This post was later moved and can be seen today on the allotment of his son, Lafayette Homer, (now deceased).

The Joe Homer family burial ground is located in a field. He picked the spot and it is dated as far back as 1884; hence, we know that it is over a half century since this site was reserved for this purpose, but there are no marking or headstones to show on several of the graves.

It is not known as when it was first started nor when it was abandoned but from a date we find on a tombstone reads April 3, 1889, it is now at least forty eight years old.

LOCATION

It is located on a forty acre tract of land in a field now all under cultivation. It is a little spot on a hill close

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to the branch, a distance of about thirty yards one way and fifteen yards the other way, enclosed by one string of barb wire; and can be seen from Highway No 19 which runs by within one hundred yards.

There are only six marked graves one can find and nothing is shown of the rest of the graves. Since there are no Indian settlements here and no one to take care of the place, proper attention is badly needed.

All of the graves have sunk or caved in; headstones have fallen or broken; and tall weeds and bushes are growing in rank profusion. The only sight that is beautiful to the scenery and to show that the deceased families now resting in peace once lived as men, women, and children and enjoyed the fruits of the land that nature had provided for them, are groves of sassafras trees grown tall at this particular place. The bottom of some of the trees are at least ten inches in diameter and they reach as high as thirty five or forty feet in the sky.

It is to be considered that much work has been done by Joe Homer in his lifetime to prepare this place that his family and his friends might rest in peace. After the spirit leaves to the place prepared for it the body should return from whence it came.

When Joe Homer died he was laid to rest at this same place but there is no marking or tombstone that was ever placed over his grave, and today we do not know the exact location of his grave.

This land is now the property of Audie Phelps.

BURIAL GROUND OF JOE HOMER

FIELD WORKER PETE W. COLE.

April 19, 1937

AGNES DAUGHTER OF

J & S HOMER BORN AUG. 1871
Died Aug 13, 1889
Age 18 yrs.

FAREWELL
(HANDS CLASPED HERE)

Harriet G. Wife of
J. D. McClure

Born
1860
Died
Dec. 31 1884
Age 24 years

MALINE

BORN JUNE 29, 1887
DAUGHTER OF DIED
J & R HOMER OCT. 29, 1887

S. JERRY

BORN
APR. 8, 1878

DIED
FEB. 23, 1888

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BENY

SON OF J. H. & R. H. HOMER

BORN

SEPT. 23 1888

DIED

April 3, 1889
