

CARSKLOWEY, JAMES R. CEMETERIES--CHEROKEE #7882  
SHAWNEE

219

Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

# CHARACTERISTICS-CHEROKEE

7882

This report made on (date) October 20 and 21, 1937.

- Address of present owners **Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

5. Original owners of premises. **Cherokee Nation**

- Section **1** Township **24 N** Range **18E**

(north)

Number of sheets attached

to this form

A 4x4 grid of squares. A handwritten 'X' is drawn in the center, spanning the intersection of the second and third columns and the second and third rows.

CARSELOWEY, JAMES R.

CEMETERIES-CHEROKEE  
SHAWNEE

7882

James R. Carselowey  
Journalist  
October 20-21, 1937HISTORY OF SHAWNEE CEMETERY

The Shawnee Cemetery was established in 1883, when a full blood Shawnee Indian by the name of Blackcat was buried there, by Sam Bread, a full blood Cherokee, with whom he was staying. Shortly after Blackcat's death and burial on the Sam Bread place, he traded the place to Lewis Shawnee, who was a full blood Delaware Indian and his wife, a full blood Shawnee. The cemetery from that date went under the name of the Shawnee Cemetery, and was on land occupied by Louis Shawnee, who, when allotment came, had two acres set aside by the Cherokee Nation as a burial ground for the Shawnee Tribe of Indians. No other tribe is buried there, except where another Indian has married into the Shawnee Tribe.

One peculiarity about this strictly Indian cemetery, is that there are only two monuments in the cemetery, and one of them was put there by the Government for a World War veteran. Some of the Indians buried there were well able to erect monuments, some even were drawing oil royalties, and one was the last chief of the Shawnee tribe, and was said to be well fixed financially.

A great many of the graves were covered over with clapboards, or plank, sufficient to turn water, and I asked William Shawnee, one of the younger of the tribe who accompanied me to the cemetery, if that was an Indian custom, and he said it was.

The graves were all well rounded up with dirt, where there were no covers on the graves. It seems that the Indians had a dread of a watery grave.

According to J. K. Taylor, a former Vinita Undertaker who held many of the early day burials in this cemetery, and Indian burial ceremony consisted of the beating of tom-toms all night, and upon leaving about daylight, food would be placed on the grave for the deceased, and the grave would be visited for three successive nights. If the food was not gone when they returned, the spirit was not satisfied; if gone it was satisfied. It was not generally done, but sometimes relics were buried with the dead.

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CARSELOWEY, JAMES R.

CEMETERIES-CHEROKEE  
SHAWNEE

223  
7552

3

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Cora E. Powell

Born Oct. 11, 1893.

Died July 8, 1894

Budded on earth, to bloom in heaven.

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Cora White

Died June 30, 1936

Aged 53 Years

(Burckhalter Funeral Home Marker)  
Vinita, Oklahoma.

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Robert Harvey

Died Sept 8, 1936

Aged 92 Years

(Lugenbuel Funeral Home Marker)  
Vinita Oklahoma.

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Thomas Williams

Oklahoma

PVT. I O L 56 INF.

Sept. 24, 1918.

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CARSELOWEY, JAMES R.

CEMETERIES-CHEROKEE

SHAWNEE

7882

4

## Field Worker's Note

The following unmarked graves are burials in the Shawnee Cemetery, according to William Shawnee, now owner of the land surrounding the cemetery, and living nearby. He says his father, Lewis Shawnee, started keeping a record of all who died and were buried in the Shawnee Cemetery, since 1891, and that he, himself, has kept the record up, since his father's death on January 16, 1930. The record was kept in an old D. E. Ledger book, and was loaned to me to copy. There is no record of births, but the date of each death is given. I am reproducing the names and dates as given in the book, with the exception of correcting the spelling of some of the names, that I know to be wrongly spelled. The spelling was very bad, as for instance: Gorge for George, Albarte for Albert, Juli'y for Julia etc. Each page was headed as follows:

DEAD OF INDIANS (Shawnees Only Buried here)

	(Date of Death)
1 -Mr. Eli Rogers,	Nov. 22, 1891
2 -Mrs. Rosie Bigknife,	May 12, 1892
3 -Mr. Henry Bigknife,	February 1, 1894

CARSELOWEY, JAMES R.

CEMETERIES-CHEROKEE  
SHAWNEE

7882

5

- 4- Mrs. Fannie Carpenter, November 12, 1896
- 5- Mrs. Julia Fox, August 20, 1900
- 6- Mr. Henry Rogers, Feb. 11, 1901. (Last Chief of the Shawnee Tribe)
- 7- Mrs. Mary Britton, February 21, 1901
- 8- George Carter, April 30, 1901
- 9- Henry Born, November 11, 1901
- 10- Tom Rogers, 1902
- 11- Mr. Charley Jackson, Killed November 18, 1902
- 12- Baby Martin White, July 29, 1903
- 13- Mr. Thomas Stande, August 24, 1903
- 14- Mr. Albert Longtail, Nov. 18, 1903
- 15- Mr. Joe Flint, January 7, 1904
- 16- Mrs. Katy Blair, July 23, 1904
- 17- Tom Daugherty, February 1, 1905
- 18- Ben Ellick, March 6, 1905
- 19- Mrs. Bread, March 11, 1905
- 20- Mrs. Rebecca Ellick, Sept. 26, 1907
- 21- Mrs. Janie Fox, June 26, 1908
- 22- Boy McKinley Harvey, July 9, 1908
- 23- Mr. Frank Dushane, Killed Nov. 24, 1910
- 24- Mr. Henry Ellick, December 24, 1910

CARSELOWEY, JAMES R.

CEMETERIES-CHEROKEE  
SHAWNEE

7882

6

25-Mrs. Lizzie Beaver,	March 19, 1911
26-Mr. Joe White,	Kill himself May 15, 1911
27-Dora Gibson,	August 31, 1911
28-Rosie Walker,	January 31, 1912
29-Mrs. Julia Flint,	January 31, 1912
30-Mrs. Washington Wolf (Frank Wolf)	March 6, 1912
31-Yon Jene Hill,	March 11, 1912
32-James Walker,	March 19, 1912
33-Mr. James Bigknife,	March 25, 1912
34-Mr. Charley Fridge	January 26, 1913
35-Ben Carpenter Boy,	January 26, 1913
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36-Mrs. Rosa Harvey,	July 24, 1913
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37-Mrs. Susan Daugherty,	August 18, 1913
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38-Mrs. Amy Harvey,	October 5, 1913
39-Mrs. Susan Bigknife,	September 10, 1914
40-Mrs. Amy Paskell,	August, 1915
41-Mrs. Nancy White,	September 3, 1916
42-Master Cleave Harvey,	November 1916
43-Miss Mary Spybuck,	February 18, 1917
44-Mr. McLothlin, from Spavinaw Town,	Feb. 26, 1917
45-Miss Ada Shawnee,	July 20, 1917
46-Boy Edward White,	Killed January 25, 1918



CARSELOWEY, JAMES R.

CEMETERIES-CHEROKEE  
SHAWNEE

7882

7

47-Mrs. James Wolf,	January 25, 1918
48-Mrs. Mary Tucker,	Nov. 7, 1918
49-Miss Gladys Secondine,	November 9, 1918
50-Mrs. Nancy Bigknife,	February 1918.
51-Miss Ida Shawnee,	March 25, 1919
52-Mrs. Susan Profit	Aug. 5, 1919
53-Baby Daugherty,	October 3, 1919
54-Ora Dick,	October 6 1919
55-Baby Daugherty,	October 24, 1919
56-William Tooley,	Dec. 26, 1919 (Was a very prominent leader among his tribe)
57-Mr. Bill Daugherty,	February 14, 1920
<del>58-Mr. Lewis Beaver,</del>	<del>February 14, 1920</del>
59-Mrs. Annie Flint,	March 1, 1920
60-Mr. John Greenfeather,	March 10, 1920
61-Mr. Bill Harvey,	April 2, 1920
62-Miss Jack Secondine, Girl	April 2, 1920
63-Mrs. Nancy Flint,	Jan 12, 1922
64-Mrs. Susan Fox,	October 16, 1922
65-Mrs. Mary Beaver,	January 12, 1923
66-Mr. George Washington,	March 11, 1923
67-Miss Manda Colston,	January 3, 1924
68-Mr. Sandfield Harvey,	June 16, 1923

CARSELOWEY, JAMES R.

CEMETERIES-CHEROKEE  
SHAWNEE

7882

8

69-Mrs. Sandy Harvey,	May 29, 1904
70-Mr. Billy Jones,	June 1, 1924
71-Mr. Moses Squirrel*	Killed August 12, 1919
72-Mr. Frank Wolf,	June 24, 1924
73-C. J. Shawnee,	Killed July 4, 1924
74-Mrs. Anna White,	Killed July 1924
75-Mr. Clifford Washington,	October 20, 1924
76-Witer Mary Brown,	November 10, 1924 (Probably Widow Brown)
77-Baby Hilderbrand,	Dec. 6, 1924
78-Christopher Washington,	Dec. 8, 1924
79-Mrs. Mollie White,	January 21, 1926
80-Mrs. Clara Williams,	March 25, 1927
81-Mr. James Harvey,	October 14, 1928
82-Mrs. Manda Longtail,	July 2, 1929
83-Mr. Lewis Shawnee,	Jan. 16, 1930 (the man who kept these records.)

\*Field-Workers Note: Moses Squirrel was a young man about 21 years old, who played the violin. He was killed while attending one of the annual stomp dances of the Shawnee tribe of Indians, in the White Oak Hills. He was given the regular Indian burial, at which time tom-toms were beaten all night, food was placed on his grave for three days. This young man's violin was buried in the grave with him.

CARSELOWEY, JAMES R.

CEMETERIES-CHEROKEE  
SHAWNEE

7882

9

84-Mr. James Shaw,	October 19, 1930
85-Mr. Daniel Washington,	January 31, 1931
86-Mrs. Lucy Williams,	January 15, 1932
87-Mrs. Frances Shawnee,	August 31, 1933 (Wife of man who kept these records)
88-Mr. Tom Fox,	January 2, 1934
89-Charley Longtail*	Killed Feb. 23, 1934
90-Bill Britton,	July 7, 1934
91-Mrs. Frances Brown,	April 21, 1891
92-William Brown,	May 8, 1934
93-Charley Walker,	November 16, 1934
94-Lorenzo Carpenter,	June 25, 1936
95-Mrs. Cora White,	June 30, 1936
96-Rosa Harvey,	September 8, 1936
97-Dalton Beaver,	December 12, 1936
98-Elizabeth Rogers,	No date
99-John Rogers,	No date
100-Blackcat,	1883

\*Charley Longtail was shot by his wife, Fannie Longtail, now  
serving a life term at McAlester Penitentiary.