

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**DATA SHEET**

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED **OCT 24 1975**  
DATE ENTERED **JAN 11 1976**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  
**Tilghman, Marshal William M., Homestead**  
AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER *mi NW of Chandler off US 60*  
**SE/4 NE/4 SE/4 Sec. 31, T 15 N, R 4 E** —NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CITY, TOWN **Chandler**  VICINITY OF **2 m. NW** CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT **No. 3**  
STATE **Oklahoma** COUNTY CODE **40** COUNTY **Lincoln** CODE **081**

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME **Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Reid**  
STREET & NUMBER **Route 2, Box 16**  
CITY, TOWN **Chandler**  VICINITY OF STATE **Oklahoma**

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. **Office of the County Clerk**  
STREET & NUMBER **Lincoln County Courthouse**  
CITY, TOWN **Chandler** STATE **Oklahoma**

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE **Special Tilghman Homestead Survey**  
DATE **1975** —FEDERAL  STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS **Oklahoma Historical Society**  
CITY, TOWN **Oklahoma City** STATE **Oklahoma**

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Tilghman Homestead, today a comfortable two-story frame house, began as a one-room log cabin shortly after Marshal Tilghman claimed the quarter section on which it stands in the land run of Sept. 22, 1891. In the next few years it "grew" after the fashion of many such pioneer homes, first with a duplicate 14 x 16-foot log cabin adjacent to the original (tied together saddle-wise; i.e., under a single roof with a 12 x 16-foot open areaway or "dogtrot" between), then by adding a second story (enclosing the areaway to create another room and installing a stairway). Before Tilghman sold the homestead in 1911 a one-story kitchen wing had also been added to the west (back) side of the house.

John M. Gardner took over the homestead Sept. 25, 1911. The house, with 40 acres, has remained in his family ever since. Mrs. Reid, a grand-daughter, bought out the interest in the house of her two sisters in 1962. She and Mr. Reid then did considerable re-arranging of rooms downstairs, including addition of a den and bath off the kitchen. They also made some largely cosmetic changes on the exterior. Windows were changed and front porch lines altered. Basically, however, the house remains pretty much as it was when Marshal Tilghman sold it in 1911. Under its modern wallboarding inside and wood siding outside its log walls remain, as does the handsome stairway leading up from the once open dogtrot.

Two-story "core" of the house - the original log section - is roughly 40 feet east-west and 16 feet deep. The east front is protected by a rather formal two-story portico. The one-story west wing - kitchen, den, bath, and small porch - is 24 feet wide, 18 feet deep. The entire house is in very good condition today inside and out.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1891 - 1911

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

At Cromwell, Oklahoma, there died recently almost the last of the great sheriffs who carried law and order to our Western border. From some points of view William Tilghman was the greatest peace officer the West ever had. Other marshals and sheriffs held office for two or three years and made reputations. Tilghman fought against crime for more than fifty years, was always in the harness, took a thousand chances, and survived till he was well into the seventies. He made more arrests of dangerous bad men, broke up more gangs of outlaws, sent more criminals to the penitentiary, than any individual officer on the frontier. And with it all he was quiet, gentlemanly, soft-spoken, never overbearing, a friend of all the little boys in the neighborhood.

That glowing tribute to a great man was written many years ago by William MacLeod Raine. A writer today might cavil at the choice of a word here and there, but not at their essential judgment. Historian A. M. Gibson puts Tilghman with Chris Madsen, Jim Rhodes, and Charles Colcord in that small group of "dedicated United States deputy marshals who tamed the Indian Territory and the West."

When this area was opened to settlement by run Sept. 22, 1891, Tilghman came directly to this site from across the Deep Fork River in the Kickapoo Nation. As a lawman he was well acquainted with the territory and is believed to have picked out well in advance the 160-acre homestead on which he intended to file claim. He probably erected his original one-room log cabin within a few months. When the Reids made some interior changes in the house in 1962 (cf. No. 7) they discovered 1893 newspapers lining the original log walls. Tilghman added to the house in the years that followed. By Sept. 25, 1911, when he sold the homestead to John M. Gardner for \$5,600, it had pretty much its present configuration.

Tilghman had bought town lots in nearby Chandler in 1901. Shortly thereafter he built the beautiful home that still stands at 209 West 8th Street. As for Tilghman the lawman, he continued to fight lawlessness (he was three times elected sheriff of Lincoln County) until the day he died ... Nov. 1, 1924. Ironically, he had come out of retirement in response to a call for help from the wildly booming oil camp of Cromwell. There attempting to disarm a drunk disturbing the peace in front of Ma Murphy's dancehall -- and attempting it, characteristically, without drawing his own weapon -- he was cut down finally by a second hidden gun.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Gibson, Arrell M., Oklahoma: A History of Five Centuries, Norman, Harlow, 1965, p. 216, 309  
 Raine, William MacLeod, Famous Sheriffs & Western Outlaws, New Home Library, 1944, pp. 201-216  
 --- Unpublished research notes by Don Sporleder, Davenport, OK - 1975

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY One acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Note: The only available USGS map was prepared in 1905 and therefore has no UTM tics. Latitudes and Longitudes are as follows:

Long.: 96° 54' 42"  
 Lat.: 35° 43' 47"

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Kent Ruth, Deputy

ORGANIZATION

Oklahoma Historical Society

STREET & NUMBER

Historical Building

CITY OR TOWN

Oklahoma City

DATE

August 1975

TELEPHONE

405/884-5456

STATE

Oklahoma

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

*[Handwritten Signature]*

TITLE

SPO

DATE

OCT 20 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acting

*[Handwritten Signature]*

DATE

1/11/96

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

1-7-76

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*[Handwritten Signature]*