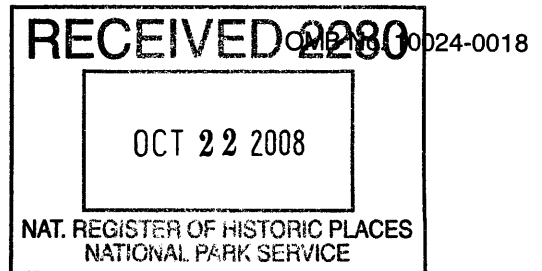


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

11499



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Silver City Cemetery

other names/site number Old Pioneer Cemetery

2. Location

street & number 6/10th of a mile from Section Line on South side of Section 22, T10N, R6W I.M.

city or town Tuttle [N/A] not for publication [X] vicinity

state Oklahoma code OK county Grady code 051 zip code 73089

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] State Historic Preservation Officer 10 20 08 Date

State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register  See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register  See continuation sheet.
- other, explain  See continuation sheet.

[Signature: Edson H. Beall] Signature of the Keeper 12.4.08 Date of Action

Silver City Cemetery  
Name of Property

Grady County, Oklahoma  
County/State

### 5. Classification

#### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

#### Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

#### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

#### Name of related multiple property listing.

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

#### Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

0

### 6. Function or Use

#### Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY:cemetery  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY:cemetery  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 7. Description

#### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	N/A
walls	N/A
roof	N/A
other	_____

#### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Silver City Cemetery  
Name of Property

Grady County, Oklahoma  
County/State

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

# \_\_\_\_\_

- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

# \_\_\_\_\_

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Exploration/Settlement

### Periods of Significance

1879-1941

### Significant Dates

1879

1890

1935

1941

### Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

N/A

### Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Oklahoma Historical Society

Silver City Cemetery  
Name of Property

Grady County, Oklahoma  
County/State

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### 10. Geographical Data

---

**Acreage of Property** 1 Acre MOL

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

- |    |      |         |          |                              |
|----|------|---------|----------|------------------------------|
| 1. | 14   | 607512  | 3909889  | (NAD27)                      |
|    | Zone | Easting | Northing |                              |
| 2. |      |         |          |                              |
|    | Zone | Easting | Northing |                              |
| 3. |      |         |          |                              |
|    | Zone | Easting | Northing |                              |
| 4. |      |         |          |                              |
|    | Zone | Easting | Northing | [N/A] See continuation sheet |

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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### 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Cynthia Savage, Architectural Historian, for City of Tuttle  
organization Architectural Resources & Community Heritage Consulting date June 2008  
street & number 346 County Road 1230 telephone 405-459-6200  
city or town Pocasset state OK zip code 73079

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### Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional Items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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### Property Owner

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(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Tuttle  
street & number 310 West Main Street, P.O. Box 10 telephone 405-381-3775  
city or town Tuttle state OK zip code 73089

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to range from approximately 18 hours to 36 hours depending on several factors including, but not limited to, how much documentation may already exist on the type of property being nominated and whether the property is being nominated as part of a Multiple Property Documentation Form. In most cases, it is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form to meet minimum National Register documentation requirements. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

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**DESCRIPTION**

The Silver City Cemetery is located two miles north of the city of Tuttle in northern Grady County, Oklahoma. Once situated in the center of the Silver City Trading Post, a well-known stopping point along the Chisholm Trail, the cemetery is now located in an agricultural field. The boundaries of the cemetery are clearly demarcated by a three-foot high, chain link fence that rests on concrete corners. The corners are being undermined by erosion. A new fence, and a possible adjacent, paved parking lot, has been proposed by the owner of the property, the city of Tuttle; however, as of May 2008, no changes had been made.

The cemetery is located on a high spot above the banks of a nearby creek. The creek branches off the South Canadian River farther to the east. The South Canadian River, extending through New Mexico, Texas and Oklahoma, has always been a major waterway that has also served as a political boundary. The river was a major influence on the development of Silver City. Silver City originated largely as a cattle crossing for Texas cattle traversing Indian Territory enroute to Kansas along the Chisholm Trail. The cemetery's elevated location above the creek has also undoubtedly contributed to its continued existence along the waterway.

The Silver City Cemetery ably conveys its historic significance for the period of 1879 to 1941. This period reflects the use of the cemetery by the settlers of the Silver City Trading Post. That the cemetery continued to be used for decades after the disappearance of the Silver City community in 1890 reflects the strong association between the cemetery, the community and the settlers. Overall, the cemetery maintains its integrity of location, design, workmanship, materials, feeling and association. Most notably, the setting of the cemetery has evolved from its earliest days when it was part of the larger Silver City Trading Post to its current pastoral setting. Because the traces of the community were removed within the period of significance, their loss does not appreciably impact the property's historic integrity. The limited number of burials in the cemetery after the period of significance also does not prevent the cemetery from conveying its historic significance. The graves are located amongst the earlier graves and are distinguishable by their modern headstones.

The cemetery is laid out in a fairly consistent manner with discernible rows of markers. The majority of markers, as well as the more prominent ones, are clustered towards the northeast side of the cemetery. There is a scattering of markers along the west and south sides, although these tend to be smaller gravestones. There are three family plots in the cemetery that are outlined by old, decorative, metal fencing. There are undoubtedly unmarked graves within the cemetery, and possibly outside of the current boundaries, but no intensive study of the cemetery has been done to identify the number and/or location of these graves.

The cemetery has a variety of tombstones. The majority of early graves that are marked have fairly ornate, tall, narrow, marble markers. The later graves, including those of James H. and Adelaide Johnson Bond, are modern, wide, short, upright, granite markers. There are also some flat, rectangular, granite markers. There is one, flat, marble, veterans marker in the cemetery, that of Albert Lee Click who served during World War I. Overall, the markers in the cemetery are typical of their period and class of citizens. Most are in fairly good condition, although some have fallen down and several upright marker now lie flat, in multiple pieces. While not remarkably ornate, the markers

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do convey the intent of the families to remember and pay tribute to their loved ones in death.

A number of the headstones in the cemetery are for more than one person. This is common in modern times with husband and wives typically sharing a large, single stone with separate inscription spaces. As example of this in the Silver City Cemetery is the modern stone for Samuel and Carrie Crites. However, several of the 1890s stones also contain more than one name. This is remarkable in the Silver City Cemetery because of its use on headstones for children. The earlier burial information is typically located towards the bottom of the stone. This possibly indicates the family did not immediately mark the grave or that the marker is partially a memorial to a child buried earlier, possibly in the Silver City cemetery in an unmarked grave or possibly elsewhere as dictated by circumstance.

The tallest marker in the cemetery is that of Nora Agnes Bond Tuttle. Born on July 26, 1872, Nora Tuttle passed away on June 6, 1889. Her grave is marked by a marble marker that consists of a narrow, rectangular shaft on top of an ornamented pier with a base. The marble marker is set upon a concrete foundation. The shaft is decorated with a foliated wreath with "Nora" and, directly below the wreath, a cross. Centered on the pier is the inscription "Nora Agnes/wife of J. H. Tuttle/and/daughter of/A. and J.H. Bond/BORN/July 26, 1872/DIED/June 6 1889. The base of the marble marker is inscribed with "TUTTLE." On the south side of Nora's marker are two sayings. The first reads "Pause, stranger pause, and drop a tear./Purity and beauty lies sleeping here./Here sweetly sleep till Jesus come/To take his precious jewels home." Below this, is "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." Nora Tuttle's marker is located in one of the three fenced family plots in the cemetery. Within the fenced area, to the south of Nora's marker, is the small, marble marker for Frederick H. Tuttle. Frederick was born on March 24, 1904 and passed away on July 17, 1904. As noted on the tombstone, he was the son of J.H. and C.M Tuttle. Thus, Frederick is Nora's husband's child with his second wife. As was typical for childrens' graves, Frederick's marker is topped by a reposing lamb. To the east of Nora's marker is a marble marker consisting of a cross on a short base. There is no inscription readily visible on this marker.

The earliest identified grave in the cemetery is that of Alexander McLish who died on September 12, 1879 at the age of 10 years, 5 months. Reportedly, a cowboy named William Ward died in 1876 from a gunshot wound and is the first burial in the cemetery; however, his grave is not marked. During the Silver City days of the cemetery, between 1879 and 1890, eight people were immortalized in marked graves at the cemetery. Following the demise of the community in 1890, the cemetery entered a "territorial phase" that lasted from 1891 until statehood in 1907. This was the period of heaviest use of the cemetery with twenty-seven marked graves being added to the cemetery. The year 1911 was the last year of significant use of the cemetery with two new graves for three persons, two of them for twin baby girls, added that year. Between 1919 and 1941, seven graves were added to the cemetery, all of them spouses of persons buried previously or original Silver City settlers. After 1941, only eight new graves were added. There later graves were all for members of the Tuttle family. The later interments in the cemetery do not detract from the property's ability to convey its significance as those interred were direct relatives of the original residents of Silver City.

As to be expected for the time period due to a lack of prenatal and neonatal care and preventative medicine to check childhood diseases, the majority of marked graves, twenty-three, in the cemetery were for children under the age of twelve. Of these, the majority, ten, were for children less than a

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**Continuation Sheet**

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year old. Four graves were for children between the age of one and two. There were two headstones each for children that were three, ten and eleven. Other ages with just one were five, six and eight. Six of the children died during the Silver City-era of the cemetery, between 1879 and 1890. Fifteen were buried during the cemetery's territorial era of 1891 to 1907. Only two children were buried after statehood and there were no children buried in the cemetery after 1911.

Of the remaining thirty-one headstones, twenty were for women and eleven for men. Only two women were buried in the cemetery during the Silver City-era; both of their husbands were later interred in the cemetery as well. There were no men buried in identified graves during the Silver City-era. During the territorial era, eight women and five men were buried in the cemetery. Three of the eight women were joined by their husbands later; five women had husbands who were apparently buried elsewhere. Of the five men, two already had wives buried at the cemetery and one was joined later by his wife. After statehood, ten women and six men were interred in the cemetery. Of the ten women, only two apparently did not have family ties to other people in the cemetery. All six of the men buried after statehood had wives in the cemetery.

Most of the people buried in the Silver City Cemetery were born in the nineteenth century. The only person in the cemetery to reportedly reach 100 years of age, Granny Vicy Herman, is also the one with the earliest birth year, 1800. Seven were born in the 1840s, five in the 1850s and three in the 1860s. During Silver City's two decades, the 1870s and 1880s, eight persons were born in each decade that were later buried in the cemetery. In the decade after Silver City ceased to exist, fourteen later residents of the cemetery were born. Only three persons born in the 1900s and five born in the 1910s were buried in the cemetery.

A list of the markers in the Silver City cemetery is below. The list is based upon an inventory of the cemetery compiled in the mid 1960s by Clyde Mitchell Duckwall, Jr. with assistance from Mrs. Clyde Mitchell Duckwall, Sr., Mrs. Gladys Mell Duckwall and Mr. J.B. Tuttle. The original list was published in the June 1964 issue of the Oklahoma Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 9, Number 2. The list was transcribed to electronic form by Jo White and posted to the website [http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~okgs/silver\\_city\\_cem\\_grady\\_co.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~okgs/silver_city_cem_grady_co.htm). Additionally, burials occurring after the original compilation of the list were added. Corrections were made to the list based upon current photographs of the cemetery taken for this project.

The list is rearranged from alphabetical to chronological with shared stones combined in a single entry. For the shared markers, the more recent death date is used for placement in the list as this is the most likely date of the headstone. The list does not represent all graves in the cemetery as there are unmarked graves and unreadable stones. There are also reports of persons buried outside the cemetery boundaries. To assist in identification of family members, those in the same family are marked by matching symbols in front of their first names. A key to these symbols is at the bottom of the list.

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Name:	Death/Birth Date:	Notations:
+Alexander McLish	September 12, 1879	Age 10 years, 5 months
∞/#Mary E. Campbell Johnson	August 27, 1880	Wife of M.T. Johnson; age 38 years, 11 months, 8 days
∞Edwin G. Campbell Moore	October 14, 1881/January 15, 1870 April 19, 1884/February 24, 1884	Son of C.L. & S.L. Campbell Infant son of C.F. and J.L. Moore
□Helen R. Wood	October 2, 1888	Age 7 months, 27 days
#Lizzie L. Johnson/ Pollie Pearl Johnson	May 28, 1889/January 9, 1888 October 28, 1888/June 10, 1880	Children of J.O. and S. J. Johnson
**/^Nora Agnes Tuttle Bond	June 6, 1889/July 26, 1872	Wife of J.H. Tuttle; daughter of Ada and J.H.
**Clyde Bond/ James H. Bond	September 15, 1892/June 10, 1881 October 20, 1879/May 15, 1879	Sons of J.H. and A. Bond
Nellie J. Green/ John R. Green	April 19, 1893/December 3, 1891 February 23, 1890/February 14, 1890	Children of J.B. and MA. Green
@Ellen M. Malcom	March 5, 1891/October 7, 1855	Wife of James Pope Malcom
#Montford T. Johnson	February 17, 1896	Age 52
Stella Connaway	May 9, 1896/October 11, 1871	Wife of P.K. Connaway
∞C.L. Campbell	October 27, 1896/February 5, 1848	Mason
#Norma Johnson	June 17, 1897/October 9, 1893	
Virgie Elizabeth Gray	June 17, 1898/December 11, 1892	Daughter of A. Gray
Fannie Colbert	October 15, 1898/July 28, 1878	Wife of J.A. Colbert
Kirk B. Faris/ Virgie E. Faris	January 5, 1899/August 18, 1893 May 6, 1891/August 19, 1880	Children of R.H. and A.E. Faris
@James Pope Malcom	February 14, 1899/September 2, 1844	
□Thomas C. Wood	September 3, 1899	Son of L.L. and Katie Wood; age 10 months, 14 days
Granny Vicy Herman	1900/1800	
Lila Schrock	April 26, 1900/September 10, 1899	Daughter of L.L. and Frances Schrock
*Francis F. Fryear	November 1, 1900/November 14, 1896	Son of S.B. and Rosy Fryear
+Forrest H. McLish	December 11, 1900/August 22, 1899	Son of N.F. and C.M. McLish



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W.L. Dobbs	December 26, 1902/September 2, 1882	
Dobbs	January 16, 1903/January 16, 1903	Son of J.H. and M.A. Dobbs
*Rosy Fryear	April 25, 1903/December 12, 1871	Wife of S.B. Fryear
Eva A. Sloan	March 23, 1904/September 29, 1879	Wife of Jesse I. Sloan
Jacob Bonner	May 2, 1904/May 8, 1853	
^Frederick H. Tuttle	June 17, 1904/March 24, 1904	Son of J.H. and C.M. Tuttle
Amanda A. Edgar	June 29, 1904/July 12, 1844	Wife of H.T. Edgar
∞/#Adelaide B. Campbell Johnson	April 11, 1905/May 17, 1866	
Virgil E. Dudley	January 21, 1907/June 18, 1905	Son of A.W. and M.A. Dudley
Edith Powell/ Ethyl Powell	January 1911	Twin daughters of Charles and Laura Bonner Powell
Araca Cochran	1911/1850	
^Alma Nora Tuttle Click	1919/1894	
**James H. Bond	1920/1842	
^James Harley Tuttle	1922/1859	
∞Sallie Humphrey Campbell Minter	1926/1852	
**/#Adelaide Johnson Bond	1933/1841	
∞/^Carrie M. Campbell Tuttle	1936/1873	
*Stephen Burl Fryear	1941/1861	
^Virgie Molette Tuttle Plomondun	1949/1892	
^Albert Lee Click	December 23, 1951/ July 9, 1892	Oklahoma/Private 385 Field Hospital, 97 Division
Ruth C. Reese	May 13, 1965/April 5, 1885	
^James Bond Tuttle	May 15, 1966/July 15, 1896	
^Ada Brandon Tuttle	January 4, 1976/April 1, 1895	
^Samuel Crites	September 27, 1976/November 1, 1914	
^Sally Leona Roberts	November 13, 1981/July 21, 1910	Daughter of James H. & Carrie Tuttle
^Carrie Crites	October 14, 2005/May 5, 1917	

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- # = members of the Johnson Family
- ∞ = members of the Campbell Family
- ^ = members of the Tuttle Family
- \*\* = members of the Bond Family
- \* = members of the Fryear Family
- @ = members of the Malcom Family
- + = members of the McLish Family
- = members of the Wood Family

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**SIGNIFICANCE**

**SUMMARY**

The Silver City Cemetery is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with the early settlers of northern Grady County, Oklahoma. The cemetery originated in the late 1870s in order to accommodate a fundamental need of the Silver City Trading Post, one of the earliest settlements in what is now Grady County. The Silver City Trading Post was a notable stop along the famed Chisholm Trail because it provided a good crossing point over the South Canadian River and the amenable accommodations provided by families in the Silver City area. The cemetery continued to be used after the town no longer existed, primarily for the internment of the early day Silver City settlers or their immediate relatives. The cemetery is the last tangible resource associated with the Silver City community. The cemetery also contains some of the most prominent names in the early settlement and development of this portion of Grady County, including the Johnsons, Campbells, Bonds and Tutties.

The Silver City Cemetery meets National Register Criteria Consideration D because the cemetery is the only existing resource associated with the Silver City Trading Post. As one of the earliest communities in the north portion of Pickens County, Choctaw Nation, and as a critical crossing point along the Chisholm Trail, the community was historically significant. The cemetery also contains persons of transcendent importance in the local area. Although the Silver City Trading Post existed for only a relatively short time, the early settlers of the area continued to play a significant role in community development of the subsequent surrounding communities. Despite these later ties, many original residents of the Silver City area returned to the Silver City Cemetery for their final resting place.

The period of significance for the Silver City Cemetery begins in 1879 and extends to 1941. The year 1879 represents the first identified burial in the cemetery. The period of significance ends in 1941 because that is the year of the last burial of a Silver City pioneer. Although only a few of burials occurred after 1941, all of those interred were related to original Silver City settlers; as such, their presence does not significantly detract from the historic integrity of the cemetery.

**HISTORIC BACKGROUND**

Located in Indian Territory, the area that became Grady County, Oklahoma, was first part of the vast original Choctaw Nation, granted to the tribe in 1820 in the Treaty of Doaks Stand and covering much of what is now southern Oklahoma. Seventeen years later, the Chickasaws formed an alliance with the Choctaws and were largely removed to the Choctaw lands in Indian Territory by 1840. The Chickasaw District of the Choctaw Nation was "...located between the western boundary of Mashu-la-tubbe district of the Choctaw Nation and the Ninety-eight degree west longitude and the Canadian and Red rivers." In exchange for the privileges of forming the district, the Chickasaw tribe paid the Choctaws \$530,000.<sup>1</sup>

Quickly chafing at their incorporation into the Choctaw Nation, the Chickasaws began rallying for their

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<sup>1</sup> Mary Hewett Bailey, "A History of Grady County," (M.A. Thesis, Norman, Oklahoma: The University of Oklahoma, 1937), 5-6.

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own tribal domain. In 1855, the matter was resolved by the Choctaw-Chickasaw Treaty which divided the old Choctaw Nation into three areas. The Choctaw tribes retained the east one-third of their original lands in Indian Territory. The Chickasaw tribe gained their autonomy from the Choctaw tribes and the center one-third of the original Choctaw Nation in exchange for \$150,000 paid to the Choctaws. The final one-third of the old nation was perpetually leased to the United States government for \$800,000 with the Choctaws receiving three-fourths of the money and the Chickasaws the remaining \$200,000.<sup>2</sup>

The Chickasaws divided their lands into four counties, Tishomingo, Panola, Pontotoc and Pickens. Pickens, the westernmost county, was roughly bounded on the north by the South Canadian River, on the west by the 98<sup>th</sup> Meridian, on the south by the Red River and on east by the Washita River. With the exception of a six mile stretch on the far west side, the current Grady County was formed out of the north portion of Pickens County.<sup>3</sup>

As part of the Chickasaw Nation, non-Native American settlement in Pickens County was restricted by the laws of Indian Territory. However, under Chickasaw law after 1866, tribal members, including intermarried white men, were "...given the right to reduce to possession and improve, hold and occupy any part of the public domain not previously appropriated." Additionally, Chickasaws could purchase improvements made by other tribal members to the public domain. Similar to the federal government program of land acquisition, tribal members were required to make a certain amount of improvements within a specified time in order to retain the right to possess, use and dispose of the improvements. Ownership of the improvements also conferred the right to income from the land.<sup>4</sup>

#### HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

Beginning in 1866, cattle from Old Mexico and Texas were driven through Indian Territory to Kansas railheads for shipment to markets in the north and east. There were three primary trails that cattlemen utilized, the Shawnee, Chisholm and Western (or Dodge City). The Chisholm Trail, named for the wagon road previously opened by Jesse Chisholm, traversed the west portion of Pickens County, Chickasaw Nation. The trail entered Indian Territory from Texas at a community named Fleetwood, located just north of the Red River. The trail extended northward thru Pickens County with only a little variation until north of the Washita River. Then curving towards the east, the Chisholm Trail exited Pickens County at the South Canadian River, just north of the community of Silver City.<sup>5</sup>

The Chisholm Trail then continued northward through the north part of Indian Territory. In Kansas, the Chisholm Trail terminated originally at Abilene, "...the first of the great Kansas cow towns." Subsequently, the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad reached Newton, Kansas, some sixty miles to the south of Abilene. Newton, thus, replaced Abilene as a cow town. Subsequently, Wichita, Kansas, usurped Newton's place on the trail and later Caldwell, Kansas, did the same to Wichita.

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid. See also Arrell Morgan Gibson, Oklahoma: A History of Five Centuries, (Norman, Oklahoma: The University of Oklahoma Press, 1981), 48-49, 62, 75-76.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., 6.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., 9.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., 9.

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Thus, the end of the trail, and therefore rail connections, were brought ever closer to Indian Territory.<sup>6</sup>

Overall, the Chisholm Trail was the trail favored by Texas cattlemen from 1867 until about 1872 when the Western Trail, terminating in the new town of Dodge City, Kansas, became the preferred route. The Cimarron River Branch of the Chisholm Trail then developed. This branch split from the main trail around Dover Stage Stand, just north of present-day Kingfisher, to head northwest towards Dodge City. Cattle continued to move over the Chisholm Trail in massive numbers for more than a decade. Estimates put the number of cattle moving on the Northern Cattle Drives at 394,784 for the year 1880 alone. By the mid-1880s, several factors contributed to a decline in the cattle drives. In addition to the spread of railroads to Texas and the expanded ranching operations on the northern plains, the cattle trails were impacted by the 1884 Kansas act which imposed a quarantine on herds entering the state. By 1890, the era of great cattle drives was over.<sup>7</sup>

Previous to the great cattle drives of the late 1860s, the western portion of the Chickasaw Nation was not heavily populated. With an increasing number of cattle and men passing through the area after 1867, early settlements, more of trading posts, began to emerge. The Silver City Trading Post was one of the earliest in Pickens County, Chickasaw Nation. The trading post opened in the late 1870s with the primary purpose of furnishing supplies to cowboys driving cattle along the Chisholm Trail and to service area cattle ranches. The stop along the Chisholm Trail was in use previous to this, dating back at least to the late 1860s when the area first came under settlement but also as a cattle crossing for the South Canadian River. By the 1880s, goods were freighted to Silver City from the nearest rail locations at Atoka, Arkansas City and Caldwell, Kansas. Silver City was designated a federal post office in May 1883, becoming the first post office in what would become Grady County. In the mid-1880s, the community was thriving with a cemetery, a store building, blacksmith shop, two or three log houses and a schoolhouse. About a half mile north of the store, and next to the schoolhouse, was the Silver City Cemetery. The cemetery was located between the 7S Bond Ranch and the Williams/Johnson/ Campbell/Tuttle Ranch.<sup>8</sup>

Typical of the period, Silver City eagerly awaited the coming of the railroad. As frequently happened, however, when the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway Company (Rock Island) built through the far north part of the Chickasaw Nation in 1890, it did not cross the South Canadian River at Silver City. Instead, the railway company crossed the river at a location several miles west of Silver City. The settlers at Silver City quickly shifted their interests, and buildings, to the newly opened town of Minco, Indian Territory. The last tangible resource associated with the Silver City Trading Post is the Silver City Cemetery, also known as the Old Pioneer Cemetery.

A description of Silver City at its peak was provided by members of the Malcom family. Arriving in 1889, the family witnessed the town as it was fully developed. The Malcoms also left their mark on the community in the form of Ellen M. Malcom's 1891 grave and James Pope Malcom's 1899 grave in the Silver City Cemetery. According to their son's recollection

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<sup>6</sup> Charles Robert Goins and Danney Goble, Historical Atlas of Oklahoma, (Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 2006), 105 and 116-117.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Hewitt, "Grady County," 9-10.

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When the Malcoms came in sight of Silver City viewing it in the South Canadian River bottom, they beheld hundreds of Indian teepees there. The Indians came from the west to do their shopping, which lasted several days at the Silver City Trading Post. The general store was full of Indians. The main part of the store was 24' wide and 50' long. A big stove occupied the middle, at the west end, on the south side was an annex about 16' by 1'. In this room was the post office.

(The) Chisholm Trail was just east of the store. On the east side of the trail was Widow Shirley's house. The two rooms on the west were one and a half stories high and a shed room on the east side. The house was painted white and trimmed in green.

The Cornett house was south of the Shirley home. The hotel was southwest of the store. The three-room house of Joe Lindsay was northwest of the store, northwest of the store was the cemetery, and west of the cemetery was the school house. North of the store was the Charlie Campbell Ranch house, the two-room log house built by "Caddo Bill" Williams, the barn, and a blacksmith shop.

A big dug well just south of the store served the travelers and cowboys as well as the store, hotel, and homes.

In addition to being the last remnant of the Silver City community, the Silver City Cemetery is also the final resting place for a number of notable pioneers in this part of the Chickasaw Nation. This includes prominent early day settlers such as the Bonds, Johnsons, Campbells and Tuttle. Following the displacement of Silver City, these pioneers continued to aid in the development of the area by their activities in the nearby communities of Minco and Chickasha. Significantly, despite their improvement efforts in these other towns, these settlers returned to Silver City one last time for internment in the Silver City Cemetery.

The first recorded settler in the Silver City area was W.G. Williams, known as "Caddo Bill." Williams, a white man born in 1839 in Clay County, Kentucky, married Annie Eastman, a member of the Caddo tribe, in 1863. Thus, Williams as an intermarried citizen of the Caddo tribe could claim land in Indian Territory but not legally in the Chickasaw Nation. In 1868, the Williams moved their cattle operation to "...the rich, fertile valley of the South Canadian River." Building a log house, sheds and barns, the Williams enjoyed "...a clear view of the land to the east, south, and west..." from their new home. However, the Williams had intended to settle in Caddo Country, which was fifteen miles to the west. Four years after mistakenly settling in the Chickasaw Nation, the Williams sold their buildings and location to Montford T. Johnson of Johnsonville near Byers, Oklahoma.<sup>9</sup>

From 1872 through 1878, Johnson used the Williams place as a ranch quarters for his range riders and cowhands. In 1878, his sister and brother-in-law, Adelaide Johnson Bond and James H. Bond,

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<sup>9</sup> Adda Mitchell Voigt, "Silver City Community and School in the Development of Public Education in Oklahoma: 1868-1895 and 1910-1922," (M.E. Thesis, University of Oklahoma, 1949), 11-16.

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moved to the Silver City area to "...establish a new location of their own and to look after the Johnson herds already moved there in 1872." The Bonds, the first permanent family to settle in the area, built a spacious house on their 2,000 acre ranch they named 7S Bond Ranch. The 7S Bond Ranch was located a mile west of the Williams/Johnson holdings and, thus, a half of a mile west of Silver City. The Bond Crossing became a well-known crossing point for the Chisholm Trail over the South Canadian River. Many eager claimants began their April 22, 1889 run into Oklahoma Territory from the Bond Crossing. When the railroad missed Silver City by miles in 1890, the Bonds "...threw their support behind the new railroad town of Minco..." which was located six miles west of the Bond Ranch. The Bonds continued to be active in the community, most notably in education. The Bonds provided financial and morale aid to Meta Chestnutt in opening a college in Minco. Named El Meta Bond College for both Chestnutt and the Bonds, the college functioned until 1920. Coincidentally, that was the same year James H. Bond passed away. Bond, along with his wife who died in 1933, were "...buried with their pleasant memories of their service to humanity and of their children in the pioneer Silver City Cemetery."<sup>10</sup>

As with many of the other prominent citizens of Silver City, the Bonds formed lasting ties with other area families through marriage. In November 1888, the Bonds' daughter Nora was married to James H. Tuttle. The wedding was heralded as "...one of the greatest social affairs of the Silver City days." Following a wedding trip to Purcell and Sherman, Texas, the Tuttles set up housekeeping in Caddo Bill Williams old house. Unfortunately, Nora "...became ill with child..." within months of the wedding and passed away on June 6, 1889. She was interred in the Silver City Cemetery.<sup>11</sup>

The same year the Bonds moved to the Silver City area, Montford T. Johnson with his wife Mary Elizabeth Campbell Johnson relocated to his ranch on the South Canadian River. The Johnsons had a large cattle operation in the area for many years. In 1880, Mary passed away and was buried at the Silver City cemetery. Johnson then married Adelaide Campbell, daughter of Charles L. Campbell, and Johnson's first wife's niece. Following Silver City's abandonment and with his cattle herd reduced to half of what it was in its 1880s heyday, Johnson "...turned his attention to other enterprises in the town of Minco." As vice-president of the Minco Bank and in other official capacities, Johnson did much to promote and develop that community. Johnson passed away on February 17, 1897 and was buried next to his first wife in the Silver City cemetery. Following her death on April 11, 1905, Johnson's second wife, Adelaide Campbell Johnson, was also buried at the Silver City cemetery.<sup>12</sup>

Around 1881, Johnson sold his Silver City ranch to Charlie L. Campbell, his one-time brother-in-law and father-in-law. It is Charlie Campbell who is given credit for establishing the trading post that became Silver City in the late 1870s.<sup>13</sup> Campbell, born in London, England, married Sally Humphrey, a Chickasaw, following his service in the Confederate army. Following the demise of Silver City, the Campbell's established a large ranch east of present-day Chickasha and continued to be prominent citizens in that community. As mentioned above, the Campbell's daughter Adelaide married Montford

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<sup>10</sup> Ibid., 20-31.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid., 33-44.

<sup>13</sup> Hewitt, "Grady County," 9-10.

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T. Johnson. The Campbell's other daughter, Carrie, married James H. Tuttle in 1891. Charlie Campbell died on October 27, 1896. His body was then "...brought back to the ranch house at Silver City for funeral services, and he was laid to rest in the pioneer cemetery at Silver City."<sup>14</sup> His wife, Sally Humphrey Campbell Minter, was interred in the Silver City cemetery following her demise in 1928.

In the 1880s, James H. Tuttle arrived on the Silver City scene as a prominent cattle buyer. In partnership with Bud Smith, Tuttle operated a number of ranches in Indian Territory. Between 1885 and 1905, Tuttle was one of the most prominent cattle buyers in the cattle industry in the "...Northern Chickasaw Nation." Following the 1889 death of his first wife, Nora Bond Tuttle, Tuttle resided with his in-laws at their Silver City ranch. In 1891, Tuttle married Carrie Campbell, daughter of Charlie and Sally Campbell. Living for a short time at the Silver City ranch, the Tuttle's built a home in Minco. While residing in Minco and maintaining the Silver City ranch, Tuttle opened a mercantile business and had interests in the grain elevator and mill. In 1899, Tuttle organized the Citizen National Bank in Chickasha, serving as president until 1904 when he sold out and moved back to the Silver City property, residing there for fourteen years before moving away. Tuttle died in 1922 and his second wife passed away in 1936. Both Tuttle's were laid to rest in the Silver City cemetery.<sup>15</sup> Notably, the town of Tuttle, located two miles south of the Silver City Trading Post, came into being in 1902. The town was named for prominent local rancher James H. Tuttle.

In 1903, James H. Tuttle received an allotment patent for the South half of the Southwest quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 22, Township 10 North, Range 6 West. The Silver City Cemetery is located in the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of the Northeast quarter of Section 22, Township 10 North, Range 6 West. In 1908, James H. and Adelaide Bond, Tuttle's first in-laws, granted a Warranty Deed to the same land that Tuttle received in his allotment patent to Tuttle's second wife Carrie. It is unclear why this transaction was necessary, although it may have to do with the Bond's original 7S Bond Ranch which would have been in the same vicinity. In 1917, the land on which the Silver City Cemetery is located was conveyed to James B. Tuttle by Carrie M. and J.H. Tuttle for the sum of \$6,000. James B. Tuttle was the oldest son of Carrie and James H. Tuttle. In 1935, James B. Tuttle and his wife Ada C. filed a Quit Claim Deed for the cemetery land, conveying it for one dollar to The City of Tuttle, Incorporated Town, Grady County, Oklahoma. Notably, the deed only gave surface rights to property with the restriction that "This conveyance (was) for a Public Cemetery, and no lots (were) to be sold." Additionally, the grantors reserved "...two lots situated and located one lot east and one south from the J.H. Tuttle, Sr. lot." The deed also noted that the land conveyed was "...the Old Pioneer Cemetery known as the Silver City Cemetery." As requested in the Quit Claim deed, both James Bond Tuttle and Ada Brandon Tuttle were buried in the Silver City Cemetery, James in 1966 and Ada in 1976.

The Johnsons, Campbells, Bonds and Tuttle's were the most prominent persons buried in the cemetery. Their varied activities were instrumental in aiding the development of the long-gone Silver City Trading Post and the still-present communities of Minco, Tuttle and Chickasha. These families were also intermarried, creating a crossing of family ties. These families were the most prevalent in the Silver City Cemetery. All together, members of these families account for nearly half of the marked

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<sup>14</sup> Voight, "Silver City," 50-53.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid., 69-75.



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graves in the cemetery. Although these ranching families built homes in the area, these are no longer extant. Associated with various businesses in Minco, Tuttle and Chickasha, none of the standing resources have the shared pioneering connection of the Silver City Cemetery. As such, the Silver City Cemetery is the best resource associated with all of these families and is an important connection to their earliest common settlement, the Silver City Trading Post. As eloquently expressed by Silver City resident and teacher Meta Chestnutt Sager, the Silver City Cemetery is "...where sleeps the dust of the real pioneers of Grady County and which is even today the most sacred spot in Grady County."<sup>16</sup>

The Silver City Cemetery is also noteworthy as the last extant resource associated with the Silver City Trading Post. Known from Texas to Kansas, the Silver City Trading Post was a significant stop along the famed Chisholm Trail. Like the community, the Chisholm Trail was short-lived but it left a lasting impact on the history of not only Indian Territory but Oklahoma as well.

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<sup>16</sup> Meta C. Sager, "Early Grady County History," The Chronicles of Oklahoma, Volume 172, (June 1939), 184.

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**GEOGRAPHICAL DATE**

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

A tract of land located in the Northeast quarter of Section Twenty-Two, Township Ten North, Range Six West of the Indian Meridian, Grady County, Oklahoma, being more particularly described as follows: Beginning 360.50 feet North of the Northeast corner of the West Half of the said Section 22; thence N.00°05'58"E. a distance of 200.00 feet; Thence S.89°57'51"W. a distance of 287 feet; Thence S.00°05'58"W. a distance of 200.00 feet; Thence N.89°57'51"E. a distance of 287 feet to the point of beginning.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

This is the current legally recorded description of the property. Although it is larger than the fenced cemetery, this is the same basic description of the land conveyed to the city of Tuttle by the Tuttle family in 1935. Thus, it is the property historically associated with the resource.

**PHOTOGRAPH LOG**

The following information pertains to all photograph numbers except as noted:

Photographer: Cynthia Savage  
Date of Photographs: 20 August 2007  
Negatives: TIFF Files