

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

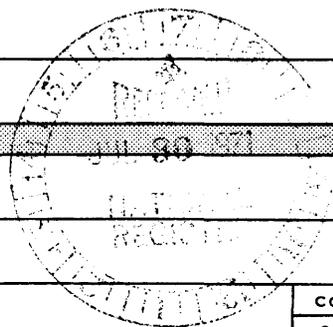
STATE: Oklahoma	
COUNTY: Atoka	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
APR 13 1972	

1. NAME

COMMON:
First Oil Well in Oklahoma
AND/OR HISTORIC:
"Old Faucett Well"

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
c. 4 m. NE of
CITY OR TOWN:
Wapanucka (NE/4 NE/4 Sec. 8, T 2 S, R 9 E)
STATE: Oklahoma CODE: 40 COUNTY: Atoka CODE: 005



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
J. B. Coe
STREET AND NUMBER:
2800 S. Hayden St.
CITY OR TOWN: Amarillo STATE: Texas CODE: 47

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Office of the County Clerk
STREET AND NUMBER:
Atoka County Courthouse
CITY OR TOWN: Atoka STATE: Oklahoma CODE: 40

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Oklahoma Historic Sites Survey
DATE OF SURVEY: 1958 Federal State County Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Oklahoma Historical Society
STREET AND NUMBER:
Historical Building
CITY OR TOWN: Oklahoma City STATE: Oklahoma CODE: 40

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Oklahoma	COUNTY: Atoka	ENTRY NUMBER APR 13 1972	DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The "Old Faucett Well" was drilled on a relatively level, grassy plain on the west side of Clear Boggy Creek. Derrick, buildings, and equipment were simple and minimal. When abandonment came, shortly after Dr. Faucett's departure in 1888, it did not take nature long to begin to return to the site to its original appearance.

Today only the head of a six-inch casing, raised but a few inches above ground level, marks the spot. A few half-grown trees stand nearby, with some stones that could have served as foundation for a building or platform. There is nothing else in sight to remind one that this is the spot from which oil and gas were first taken from a drilled well in what is now the state of Oklahoma. Production was really that only by definition, perhaps; but oil and gas were found. The spot, therefore, as a "first," would certainly seem worthy of suitable recognition.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1885-1888

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Almost a century has passed since petroleum appeared on the economic scene in what is now Oklahoma. It was in 1872 that the state's first oil company, the Chickasaw Oil Company, was organized. And so over-ridingly important has petroleum become that some indention of historic "firsts" is obviously justified. National Register status is therefore being sought for what is generally conceded to be Oklahoma's first commercial oil well, the Nellie Johnstone No. 1 in Bartlesville (Washington County). And this nomination -- for the "Old Faucett Well" -- would recognize what is believed to be the first producing well.

The world's first producing oil well was drilled in 1859 at Titusville, Pa. In the years that followed, interest in oil spread westward to Kansas -- where the town of Panola began using gas in 1882 -- and Oklahoma. And one of the first to recognize the possibilities for the new fuel in Indian Territory was Dr. H. W. Faucett of New York. In a letter dated Dec. 12, 1883, he was writing former Gov. Allen Wright of the Cherokees:

It would be impossible to interest capital in the work unless there was some agreement as to the extent of territory that could be had and the specified royalty; it would not do to wait until petroleum was found. You will please write me fully and explicitly as to what can be done in both the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations. Say if you think the exclusive privilege can be had, also the pipe line privilege for transporting oil.

On Oct. 23, 1884, the Choctaw Council approved creation of the "Choctaw Oil and Refining Company, for the purpose of finding petroleum or rock oil, and increasing the revenue of the Choctaw Nation." On Dec. 13, 1884, the Cherokee Council passed a similar act of authorization. The concessions -- which must go down in history as among the most generous ever granted -- covered exclusive producing, transporting and refining rights in both nations . . . for a total area of nearly 20,000 square miles.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Snider, L. C., Petroleum and Natural Gas in Oklahoma, Oklahoma City: Harlow-Ratliff Co., 1913, p. 76.
 Wright, Muriel H., "First Oklahoma Oil . . ." The Chronicles of Oklahoma, Vol. IV (1926), pp. 322-328.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	34°	24'	06"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	96°	22'	25"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

NO JT
HL

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **5 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Kent Ruth, Deputy

ORGANIZATION: Oklahoma Historical Society DATE: August 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: Historical Building

CITY OR TOWN: Oklahoma City STATE: Oklahoma CODE: 40

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Jerry N. Shu

Title Liaison Officer for Oklahoma

Date JUL 23 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/13/72

ATTEST:
William J. Samway
 Keeper of The National Register

Date APR 13 1972

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Oklahoma	
COUNTY Atoka	
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(Number all entries)

No. 8. Significance

First Oil Well In Oklahoma

A rig was finally put up in the Choctaw Nation, near Clear Boggy Creek, in late 1885. Drilling was a laboriously slow process. Most of the supplies were sent from St. Louis to Atoka by way of the newly built Missouri-Kansas-Texas ("Katy") Railroad. From here they were carried by ox wagon the last 14 miles to the well site. Complicating matters was a tenuous communications link with Eastern backers of the venture and a resulting shortage of money. The well however did finally reach a total depth of 1,414 feet. And it did get an encouraging -- if not necessarily profitable -- show of both oil and gas. Then in early 1888, Dr. Faucett took sick and had to leave Indian Territory. He died soon afterwards, and the "Old Faucett Well" did not long survive him.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Oklahoma	
COUNTY Atoka	
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1. NAME			
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AND/OR HISTORIC: "Old Faucett Well"			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
c. 4 m. NE of			
CITY OR TOWN: Wapanucka (NE/4 NE/4 Sec. 8, T 2 S, R 9 E)			
STATE: Oklahoma	CODE 40	COUNTY: Atoka	CODE 005
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. - Atoka Quadrangle			
SCALE: 1:125,000			
DATE: 1898			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			
		Lat.: 34° 24' 06"	
		Long.: 96° 22' 25"	

(Stone wall)

46 20'

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

96° 30'
34° 30'

R. 8 E.

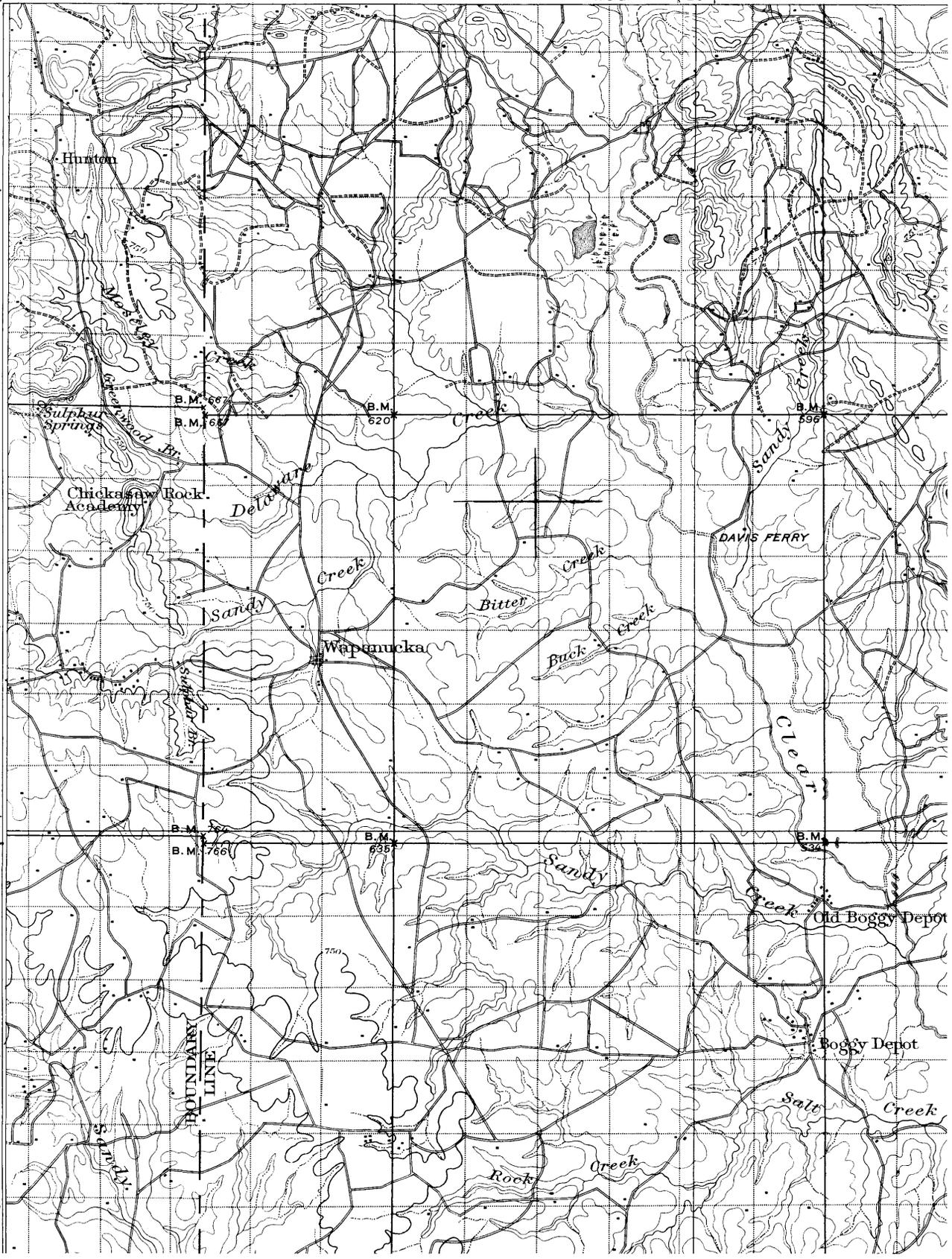
R. 9 E.

20'

T. 1 S.

T. 2 S.

T. 3 S.



20' 00"
N
↑

20'

omingo)