


DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE
Site contains segment of 01d Military Road constructed in 1832 from Fort Smith, Arkansas to Fort Towson, Oklahoma.

About 500 feet of the Road is in a condition much like the original construction except trees are growing in the roadbed.

The Road is about 18 feet wide. Presently the Road is used as a hiking trail with no alterations.

Campsite area (opening) and spring development are located adjacent to the Road.


STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This site shows excellent evidence of one of the first Military Roads constructed in the Territory of Oklahoma.

This Road was the Far Frontier at the time of its construction in 1832. It facilitated the necessary protective measure while civilization was emerging on the frontier. It was the take off point for exploration and conquest. It gave the Choctaw and Chichasaw tribes the means of establishing unified governments and an agrarian civilization on the frontier.

See continuation sheet
BOOKS
O. GEOGRAPMICA DATA


# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM 

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ITEM NUMBER
8 PAGE 2

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Road opened the section of Oklahoma Territory from Ft. Smith, Arkansas, to Ft. Towsen, Oklahoma, ( 150 miles) for the movement of Indians to the southwest and horses and other goods to Ft. Smith. It thus created a commerce and industry transportation and development corridor into Oklahoma Territory.

The old road demonstrates the engineering techniques in location, design, and construction of U. S. Military road construction 1834-1900.

This was a vital military road used in creating and maintaining U. S. Military presence in Oklahoma Territory from 1834-1900.

This and other roads were vital to the Indian settlement in Oklahoma Territory creating the only link between communities. The link or links eventually resulted in enough political unification to secure statehood for Oklahoma in 1907.

This road location was used until about 1932, when relocation and construction of a highway was made several miles to the west (now U.S. 271). Several sections of the old road still exist North and South of this point but this site is generally the best preserved section of the old road.

The road was a joint project of the War Department and the Indian Service under the leadership of Captain John Stuart. Robert Bean (a frontiersman) layed out the route and was assisted by young Jesse Chisholm.

The road was used by a number of Military including General Zackory Taylor, Ulysses S. Grant and Jefferson Davis. General Albert Pike used the road in soliciting Indians to join the Confederacy.

This Site is about midway on the 150 mile road. The campsite and spring are located adjacent to the road where they have not materially affected the road.

# HATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES <br> INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM 

(Continuation Sheet)

| STATE |
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| OKTahOMA |
| COUNTY |
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1.

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2. Bearss, Edwin C. and A.M. Gibson. 1969. Fort Smith, Little Gibraltar On the Arkansas. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman. 349 pages. Illus., Index, Bibliography. Annotated.
3. Debo, Angie. 1972 revision. The Rise and Fâll of the Choctaw Republic. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman. 455 pages. Illus., Index, Bibliography. Annotated.
4. Foreman, Grant. 1934 (Second Printing 1966). The Five Civilized Tribes. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman. 455 pages. Illus., Index, Bibliography. Annotated.

Miers, Earl Schenck (Editor). 1956. The American Story. Kingsport Press, Kingsport; Tennessee. 352 Pages. (Sixty historians, contributors) Illus., Index.

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Nutiall, Thomas. 1821 (Reprinted 1966). A Journal of Travels Into the the Arkansas Territory, 1819. March of America Facsimile Series, Number 63. University Microfilms, Inc., Ann Arbor 296 pages. Illus.

Peck, Henry L. 1967 (3rd Edition). The Proud Heritage of LeFlore County. Hoffman Printing Company, Muskogee. 402 pages. Illus., Index. Annotated.

Shirley, Glenn, 1968. Law West of Fort Smith, A History of Frontier Justice in the Indian Territory 1834-1896. University of Nebraska PERIODICALS AND PAMPHLETS

Chronicles of Oklahoma XLVIII, No. 1, Spring 1970. Carl L. Davis and Leroy H. Fischer, "Dragoon Life in Indian Territory, 1833-1846", pp 2-24. Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City.

Gunriing, I.C. (Updated). The Butterfield Overland Mail Through Eastern Eastern Oklahoma (First of a Series) Eastern Oklahoma Historical Society, Wilburton. 31 pages. Ilius.

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

 INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM(Continuation Sheet)

| state |  |
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| Oklahoma |  |
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(Updated) The Edwards Store or 01d Red Oak. (Second of a Series). Eastern Oklahoma Historical Society, Wilburton. 41 pages. Illus.

## MAPS

1. Debo, Angie. Towns, Roads and Railroads of the Choctaw Nation about 1877, in the Rise and Fall of the Choctaw Republic, pp 224. Illus.

Forman, Grant. Map of Indian Territory, in the Five Civilized Tribes, pp 384.

3
McReynolds, Edwin C. Map of Indian Territory, 1837-55, in Ok1ahoma a history of the Sooner State, pp 128.

- Map, the Twin Territories, 1856-66, in Oklahoma, a history of the Sooner State, pp 276.

5. Morris, John W. and Edwin C. McReynolds. Map Number 9, French Explorers, 1806-1821; Map Number 16, American Explorers, 1832-1853; Map Number 22, Important Routes and Trails; Map Number 24, Forts and Military Roads, 1917-1876. All in Historical At?as of Oklahoma.

United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. Ouachita National Forest, Kiamichi Division, Oklahoma (Indian Meridian). 1966.

United States Geological Survey Topographic Maps: Blackjack Ridge Quadrangle, Oklahoma, 1966; Heavener Quadrangle, Oklahoma, Leflore County, 1959; LeFTore Quandrangle, Oklahoma, 1965; Muse Quadrangle, Oklahoma, LeFlore County, 1966; Page Quadrangle, Oklahoma, 1959; Summerfield Quadrangle, Oklahoma, LeFlore County, 1965; Whitesboro Quadrangle, Oklahoma, 1966.

## PERSONS CONSULTED

Johnston, Homer. A long-time resident of the area, now living at Heavener, Oklahoma. Former law enforefment officer and game management specialist, LeFlore County, retired.

St. John, Margeva. A resident of Mena, Arkansas who lived as a child (eight years old) at Talihina in the early 1920's while her father, H. A. Schmieding, was resident engineer for the building of a hi\&hway over the Winding Stair Mountains.


