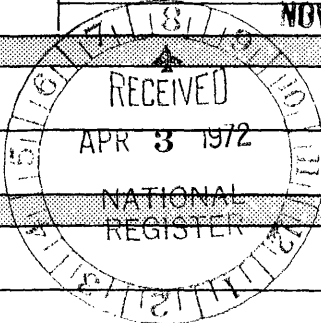


NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Oklahoma	
COUNTY: Bryan	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
NOV	5 1972



1. NAME

COMMON:
Bloomfield Academy *site*

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Bloomfield Seminary

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
c. 2.5 m. S of

CITY OR TOWN:
Achille (NW/4 NE/4 Sec. 8, T 9 S, R 9 E)

STATE Oklahoma	CODE 40	COUNTY: Bryan	CODE 013
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <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 _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Dr. Ernest Bollinger

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Achille	STATE: Oklahoma	CODE 40
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Office of the County Clerk

STREET AND NUMBER:
Bryan County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Durant	STATE: Oklahoma	CODE 40
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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
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STATE: Oklahoma
COUNTY: Bryan
ENTRY NUMBER NOV 15 1972
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Bloomfield Academy began, in the spring of 1852, as a site "in the hitherto unbroken forest in the midst of a grove." It was, in the words of the wife of the site's selector, a "situation . . . afterwards much admired by passing travelers." Today the so-called Academy Grove is fully as admirable. And almost the only indication of man's having passed this way -- and operated for two-thirds of a century a notable educational institution -- are a scattering of weathered, for the most part toppled gravestones amid the trees.

The original buildings at Bloomfield were of logs and probably quite plain. The first superintendent, as noted elsewhere in this nomination, assisted with the carpenter work to hold down costs. The Chickasaw Nation's regard for education was generally greater than the resources at its disposal for providing it.

The Civil War closed virtually all schools in the Nation. For a time, Confederate Indian troops used Bloomfield's buildings and they were reported as half-ruined when the war ended. With peace, however, one of the first acts of the Chickasaw legislature was to vote money to rehabilitate the Nation's educational system. The neighborhood school was a logical first step in this program - a feasible alternative to the more elaborate, and costly, boarding schools.

One of the first of these neighborhood schools opened in 1867 at the Bloomfield Academy facility, war-damaged as it was. The school was conducted by a Captain Frederick Young, who held classes for boys and girls. Between 1867 and 1876, when Bloomfield Seminary for girls was established, the buildings were undoubtedly rehabilitated to a certain extent, although official records show no appropriations for this purpose.

Only after 1888, when Douglas H. Johnson took over as superintendent, was the original log school building replaced by a modern frame building. On Oct. 15, 1896, both it and the remaining original structure were destroyed by fire. About a week later "An Act to rebuild Bloomfield Seminary" was passed by the Chickasaw legislature and approved by Governor R. M. Harris. It carried an appropriation of \$14,000 for that purpose and a new facility was promptly erected . . . this time on a new location several hundred yards to the northwest. Still of wood, the new Bloomfield burned yet another time -- Jan. 24, 1914 -- and this time the government bought the old Hargrove College property north of Ardmore and re-established Bloomfield there. No ruins remain to mark either this or the original site some 75 yards southwest of the cemetery.

There are many graves scattered among the Academy Grove trees, however, to tell a bit of the Bloomfield story. One reads simply:

LITTLE
KITTIES
GRAVE
1853

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

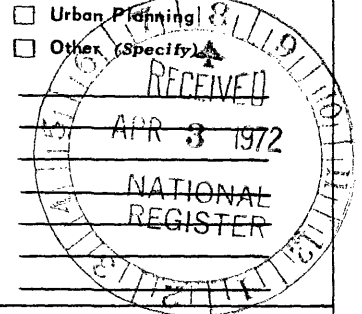
- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1852 to 1914

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input checked="" 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 Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The first written law of the Chickasaws provided for an appropriation with which to establish a tribal academy. This was in 1844. In 1851 the Chickasaw Manual Labor School for boys opened its doors. In 1852 two boarding schools for girls were established: Wapanucka Institute and Bloomfield Academy.

The Civil War brought disruptions. Chickasaw soldiers camped nearby, using the schoolroom as a hospital and a small building in the yard as a doctor's office. The academy closed in May 1863 and for a number of years the facility was operated as a neighborhood school, accepting both boys and girls. Then in 1876 it became Bloomfield Seminary, again limited to girls, and it remained open without interruption after that (although the government took it over, along with all other Chickasaw tribal schools in 1906) until 1914. In January of that year a fire destroyed most of its buildings and the school was subsequently moved to the grounds of the old Hargrove Methodist College north of Ardmore. Here it became (and remains today) Carter Seminary. But for approximately sixty years -- under a variety of owners, sponsors, and operating rules -- Bloomfield played an important role in the cultural development of the Chickasaws.

Under the leadership of Elihu B. Hinshaw, who was principal from 1898 to 1906, Bloomfield's curriculum was up-graded. It soon became the only school in the Chickasaw Nation authorized by the Chickasaw Legislature to confer diplomas on its graduates. Work in the fine arts was emphasized especially during Hinshaw's administration. Items produced at Bloomfield were included in the Indian Territory exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis in 1904 and received special recognition. "Many of the women of Oklahoma, who trace their lineage back to a Chickasaw ancestry," the Oklahoma Historical Society noted in 1921, "owe their education and a large measure of their inspiration for the better things of life to the training and the cultural influences of Bloomfield Seminary."

John Harpole Carr (of the Missouri Conference of the Methodist Church) selected the site for Bloomfield Academy in the spring of 1852. It was in a pleasant grove surrounded by -- in the "flowery" descriptive prose of the day -- "undulating prairies of verdant green and all in gay

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Carr, Susan J., "Bloomfield Academy and Its Founder," The Chronicles of Oklahoma, Vol. II (1924), pp. 336-379
 Davis, Caroline, "Education of the Chickasaws 1856-1907," The Chronicles of Oklahoma, Vol. XV (1937), pp. 415-448
 Ruth, Kent, et al., Oklahoma: A Guide to the Sooner State, University of Oklahoma Press, 1957, p. 431
 Shirk, George H., "Bloomfield Seminary Centennial," The Chronicles of Oklahoma Vol. XXXI (1953), pp. 444-446

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		33° 47' 58"	96° 23' 01"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **One acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Kent Ruth, Deputy

ORGANIZATION: **Oklahoma Historical Society** DATE: **February 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Historical Building

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

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u><i>[Signature]</i></u></p> <p>Title <u><i>LO for [unclear]</i></u></p> <p>Date _____</p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u><i>[Signature]</i></u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u><i>11/14/72</i></u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u><i>[Signature]</i></u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u><i>11-14-72</i></u></p>
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NO. 101
HL

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Oklahoma	
COUNTY	
Bryan	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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(Number all entries)

No. 7. Description

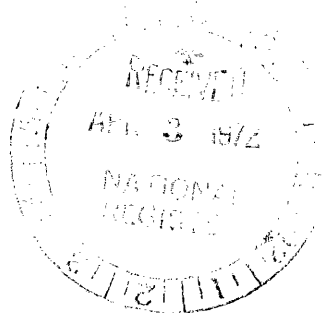
Bloomfield Academy

Another more elaborate stone is that of Angelina Hosmer Carr, first wife of Bloomfield's founder. It reads:

ANGELINA H.
wife of
Rev. J. H. Carr

Born in Mass.
April 1st 1820
Died
Sept. 28th 1864

Servant of God well done
Rest from Thy loved employ
Many Shall Rise up and call Thee Blessed
Little Hattie and Dollie infant
Children Rest Here with Mother



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Oklahoma	
COUNTY	
Bryan	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	NOV 15 1972

(Number all entries)

No. 8. Significance

Bloomfield Academy

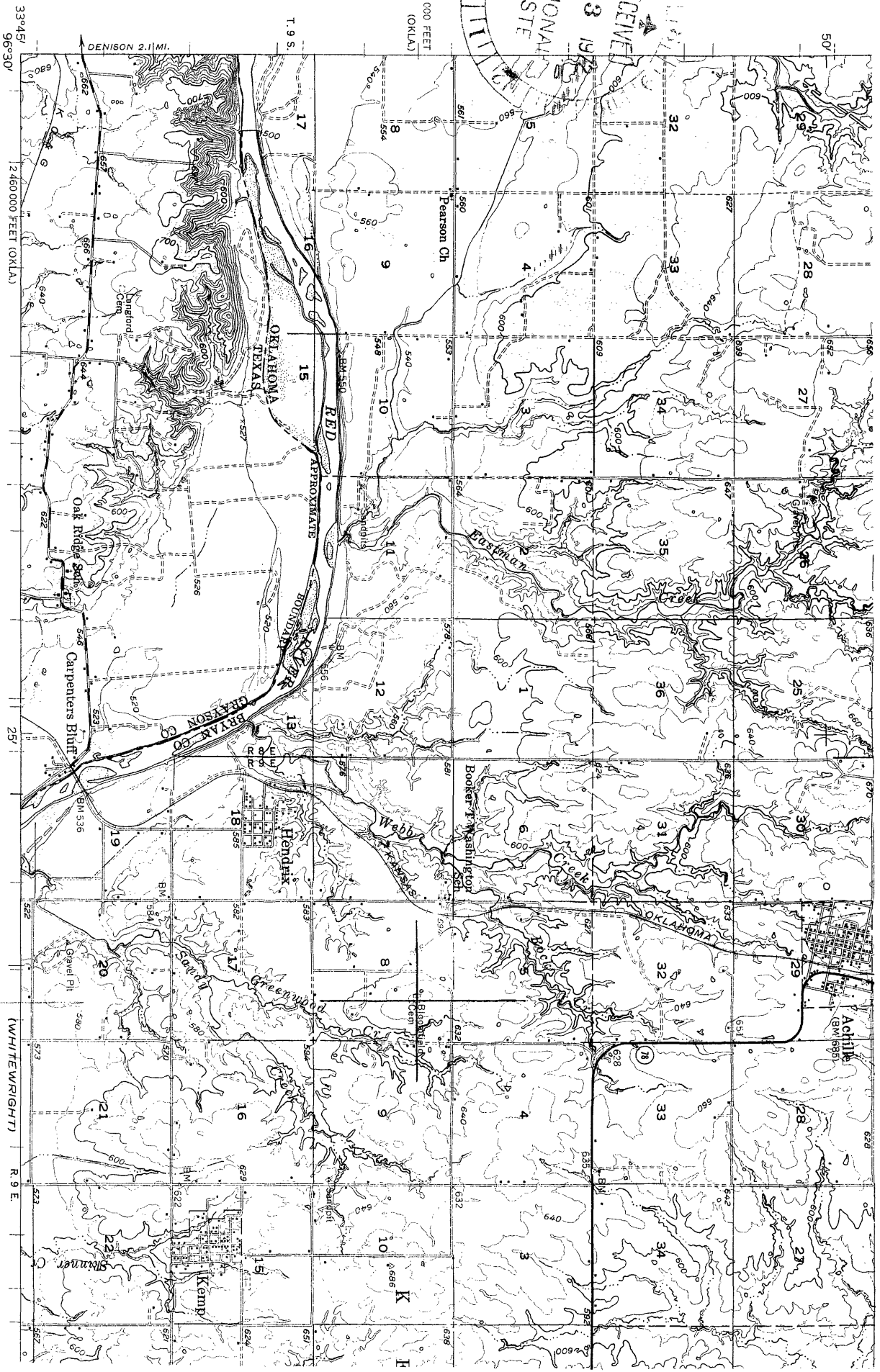
attire with wild flowers of all hues and kinds, so like a garden spot planted and cared for by nature's own bountiful hand." The name Bloomfield was thus logical. It might, however, as logically have been George Washington, for it received \$1,000 a year from the educational trust fund set up by General Washington with the money given him by the first U. S. Congress in acknowledgment of his services during the Revolutionary War.

The above \$1,000 was included in the two-thirds share of the school's operating expenses put up by the Chickasaw Nation. The American Board for Foreign Missions contributed the other one-third. Carr supervised construction of the school, was then appointed superintendent. He opened its doors to 25 girls in the fall of 1853. (During construction a neighborhood school had been kept operating for nearby boys and girls.) He remained in charge of the boarding school until it closed, following outbreak of the Civil War. (Mrs. Carr died in 1864 and is buried in the Bloomfield cemetery. He remarried in 1865, left the area in 1867.) After the first appropriation for building, the superintendent received \$66.66 yearly per pupil. His salary was \$600 a year. Carr held down expenses by doing much of the necessary carpenter work himself, and by supervising a farm and two orchards. The girls were taught English (where this was necessary), spelling, reading, writing, mental and written arithmetic, natural philosophy, botany, and history. They were also instructed in sewing and other house work as well as in drawing, painting, music and other arts. Nor was religious instruction overlooked. Opening morning exercises at the school included recitation of memorized Bible verses and study as to their meaning. Singing and Bible verses were also used at other times of the day.

Worthy of note is the fact that among the boys attending Bloomfield, before 1876 when it was co-educational, was Douglas H. Johnston. In 1882 he became superintendent of the seminary, serving until 1898 when he was elected governor of the Chickasaw Nation. The Nation's last chief executive, he served until 1907 when Oklahoma statehood dissolved all of the independent tribal governments. The Johnston home still stands, near Emet. Known as "The White House of the Chickasaws," it is now owned by the Oklahoma Historical Society and National Register status for it is being sought.



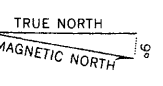
RECEIVED
 APR 3 1958
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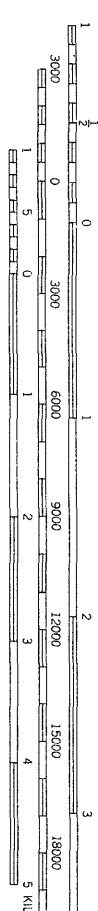
(SHERMAN)

33°45' 12460000 FEET (OKLA.)
 96°30'

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, USCG&S, USCE, and Oklahoma Geodetic Survey
 Topography from aerial photographs by Keish plotter
 Aerial photographs taken 1955-1956. Field check 1958
 Polyconic projection, 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grids based on Oklahoma coordinate system, south zone
 and Texas coordinate system, north central zone
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 zone 14, shown in blue
 Red tint indicates area in which only
 landmark buildings are shown



APPROXIMATE MEAN
 DECLINATION, 1958



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
 DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 10-FOOT CONTOURS
 DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

SCALE 1:62500
 (WHITTEWRIGHT)

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER 2, COLORADO OR WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST