Oklahoma’s Civil War Monuments and Memorial Landscapes

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This project originated a number of years ago before I moved to Kentucky. I began to take note of the few Civil War monuments in the state after hearing Randy Thies of the Kansas State Historical Society talk of his research on the many, many such monuments in Kansas. Pursuit of monuments and then memorial landscapes (places where actual vestigates of the Civil War landscape remains and has become memorialized) relating to the Civil War became a near obsession for a while and ultimately resulted in several presentations on the subject at reenactments and other venues. This presentation is a “final” result of my research, though I still consider this a work in progress.

Oklahoma Monuments

This project has shown just how rare Civil War monuments and memorial landscapes are in the state of Oklahoma. The earliest memorialization was the establishment of the Fort Gibson National Cemetery in 1868 and the reburial of many Union dead from Oklahoma Civil War battlefields. It was not until after the turn of the twentieth century, however, that others memorials would follow.

Early in the 20th century, homes were created for Union and Confederate veterans, and both had associated cemeteries. The Confederate Home in Ardmore dates to 1910, and is still standing. The nearby Rose Hill Cemetery contains a large Confederate soldier’s plot where many residents of the home have gone to their final bivouac. The Union Home in Oklahoma City is no longer standing, but the Union Cemetery remains.

Typically, true monuments were erected by veterans groups during the late 19th and early 20th century, when the veterans were both successful and influential members of their communities. Veterans associations that were responsible for Oklahoma monuments during this period are the Grand Army of the Republic, the Women’s Relief Corps of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, The United Confederate Veterans, and the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

In Oklahoma, the first true monument to be erected appears to be Confederate Monument on the grounds of the Cherokee National Capitol (UDC, 1913), followed by a Union monument in the Enid Cemetery (LGAR, 1917), a Confederate monument on the grounds of the Bryan County Courthouse (UDC, 1918), a Union monument in Oklahoma City’s Fairlawn Cemetery (GAR, 1918), a Confederate monument in Oklahoma City’s Fairlawn Cemetery (UDC, 1923), and a Confederate monument in Oktaha Cemetery (UDC, 1940). Undated monuments are in Durant’s Highland Cemetery (UDC) and in Miami’s GAR cemetery (WRC). Compared to
Kansas, Texas, and Arkansas, this is indeed a very small number of monuments.

Two monuments to Confederate General Stand Watie were erected by the UDC, probably in the 1910s or 1920s. One is in Polson Cemetery next to his grave, and the other on the grounds of the Cherokee National Capitol in Tahlequah. An additional monument to Watie was added to the Polson Cemetery in 1971 by the Oklahoma Historical Society.

In 1935, the Oklahoma legislature passed statutes creating the Union Memorial and Confederate Memorial rooms in the Oklahoma Historical Society building. These rooms have been a significant feature of the OHS exhibits since that date, but when they move to their new headquarters building in 2005 it is unclear how this memorialization will continue.

Commemoration of Civil War landscapes was in some cases not the primary intention of historic site memorialization. Such is the case at the first site to be memorialized by its purchase by the Oklahoma Historical Society in 1936--Fort Gibson. The OHS followed through the years with the acquisition, preservation, and development of Hunter’s Home, Fort Towson, Fort Washita, Doaksville, Rose Hill Plantation, Honey Springs Battlefield, and Cabin Creek Battlefield.

The second battle of Cabin Creek was initially memorialized in 1961 by the UDC. The Battle of Round Mountain was commemorated by the Payne County Historical Society in 1955 through the placement of a monument in a small roadside park. In 1959, the Oklahoma Historical Society placed a monument commemorating what was then thought to be a cemetery of Confederate dead from the Battle of Middle Boggy. At this location, a museum of Confederate history was later established in the form of the Confederate Memorial Museum.

The Oklahoma State Capitol for years flew a Confederate flag as part of its 14 flags exhibit on the capitol grounds. This exhibit has been replaced with a new centennial plaza featuring inlaid engraved granite memorials to significant events of Oklahoma History. Unfortunately, the Civil War is not included. In fact all that can be found at the capitol are two paintings commemorating the Battle of Round Mountain and the surrender of Confederate General Stand Watie, which have graced the Senate Lounge since 1998 and 2000 respectively.

It is striking just how few formal monuments to the Civil War exist in Oklahoma. I have not quite settled on a conclusion on why this is so, but it may relate to the relatively late non-Indian settlement of the state. Though I am not certain of Native American participation in organizations such as the UCV or GAR, which were responsible for most of the monument building in Oklahoma and elsewhere, it is clear that the Indian Nations themselves made no attempt to memorialize their participation and the participation of their citizens in this conflict that was truly devastating and that changed forever their
relationship to this piece of land and the U.S. government.

Another factor may be the nature of the war in the Indian Territory. The individual Indian nations were bitterly divided between remaining with the Union and secession. Nations and families split, and thrown into the mix were tensions and rifts from the Indian removals of the 1830s and that still smoldered in 1861. Fighting in the Nations was bitter, destructive, and often personal. By contrast, to the north is Kansas, a decidedly Union state, and to the south Confederate Texas. In both, memorialization through monument construction is substantially more common than in Oklahoma.

Post-War Reconciliation

There can be no question that the emotional wounds resulting from the Civil War, and particular those associated with the defeat of the Confederacy, have been a long time healing. There is ample evidence that these wounds have yet to heal as much as the passage of 140 years would seem to allow.

War itself has played a major role in this process of reconciliation. The Spanish American War is said to have spurred a renewal of National patriotism in the south, and World War I and II had equally profound effects. The *Bryan County Democrat* of June 14, 1917, reported on the first Confederate reunion ever held north of the Mason-Dixon line—in Washington, D.C. The decision to hold the reunion in the “North” was expressly so the delegates could show their support for the U.S. war effort in Europe.

The June 20 edition of this same paper noted under the heading “Daughters of Confederacy” that the General Stand Watie monument committee “had announced that $1,023, constituting the funds collected for the erection of the monument have been invested in War Savings Stamps and Liberty Bonds. Contract has been let and the cost of the monument will be $1,650. The United Daughters of the Confederacy anticipated that the entire amount would be assembled by December of this year, but war work has superseded all other patriotic efforts, and the monument committee is lending a helping hand.” Part of this war work of the Oklahoma UDC was sponsorship of three wards with ten beds at the American Military Hospital No. 1 at Neuilly, France.

The *Bryan County Democrat* also took note of the speeches made at the dedication of the Confederate monument on the ground of the Bryan County Courthouse, on May 22, 1919. Describing the comments of former Confederate Colonel Jim Tom Story, the May 23 Democrat reported, “The colonel showed that the times of the sixties are solidly welded to the present, and that the old Confederates of today are bending their feeble energies in helping to win this war, and that we must win it, and will win it! He pictured the old veterans at work, under President Wilson, and standing bravely under the flag,
and wound up saying, Long may it wave o’er
the land of the free and the home of the brave.”

And it is also said that World War II saw the
return to celebrations of Independence Day in
Vicksburg, Mississippi, in response to a rebirth
of National patriotism associated with World War
II. Little note of this holiday had been taken since
July 4, 1863, when Union troops occupied the
city after a long and difficult siege.

Regional Tour Suggestions

The map that follows shows that most of
the Civil War places in Oklahoma are to be found
in the eastern half of the state. Most are also
not too far off major highways: I-35, I-40, I-44,
US 69, and US 70. Three groupings also are
suggested that might translate into convenient
regional tours for those wanting to strike off for
a day or weekend to visit these places.

In the central portion of the state, around
Oklahoma City, are the monuments in Fairlawn
Cemetery, the Union Cemetery, the Oklahoma
Historical Society Building, the State Capitol, all
in Oklahoma City, and, a little further removed,
the monument in the Enid Cemetery and the
monument in Payne County to the Battle of
Round Mountain.

The northeast will take you, from north to
south, to the GAR monument in Miami, the
Cabin Creek Battlefield, the Polson Cemetery
and Stand Watie’s grave, the monuments at the
Cherokee National Capitol building in Tahlequah,
Hunter’s Home in Tahlequah, Fort Gibson and
Fort Gibson National Cemetery, the monument
in the Oktaha Cemetery, and the Honey Springs
Battlefield near Checotah.

Along the southeastern border of Oklahoma,
you will find, west to east, the Confederate Home
in Ardmore, Fort Washita, the monuments in
Durant on the county courthouse grounds and
in Highland Cemetery, the Confederate Memo-
rial Museum in Atoka, Rose Hill Plantation near
Hugo, and Doaksville and Fort Towson near the
community of Fort Towson.

Any of these regional tours will leave you
with an appreciation, I hope, of the importance
of the Civil War on the Indian Territory and on
Oklahoma.

On a final note, I have purposefully not in-
cluded highway historical markers thought there
are a number that inform the public about the
Civil War and that are, in fact, part of the me-
morial landscape of Oklahoma.

William B. Lees
Lexington, Kentucky
Thanksgiving 2004

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Location of Civil War Monuments and Memorial Landscapes

Hypelinked: Click on red dot to navigate to information page.

Leavenworth, KS
Battle of Round Mountains
Yale vicinity - 1955

Great controversy exists over the exact location of this battle.

Round Mountains (Twin Mounds) can be seen on horizon behind and to right of monument - old highway is in foreground.

Battle of Round Mountains
Here between the landmark known as Round Mountains to the South and a camp on Salt Creek three miles to the Northwest was fought the first battle of the Civil War in Oklahoma.

[DESCRIPTION OF BATTLE]

SPONSORED BY THE PAYNE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
DECEMBER, 1955
Cabin Creek Battlefield
Vinita vicinity - 1961

Cabin Creek Battlefield State Historic Site
Oklahoma Historical Society
Commemorates two Civil War Battles fought at the Cabin Creek crossing of the road between Fort Scott, Kansas, and Fort Blunt (Gibson), Cherokee Nation. Battle July 1-2, 1863 was U.S. victory and September 19, 1864 was C.S.A. victory. Both were Confederate attacks on U.S. supply train from Fort Scott to Fort Blunt.

More on next page
Monuments at Cabin Creek Battlefield

UDC erected marker in 1961 to commemorate the second Battle of Cabin Creek (the Confederate victory). No mention is made of the first battle.

TO HONOR
THE CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS
OF THE
BATTLE OF CABIN CREEK
SEPT. 10, 1864

ERECTED BY
OKLA. DIVISION
UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY
JUNE 1961

Oklahoma Historical Society has placed granite unit markers around a circular drive within the eight acre state historic site.
Cherokee National Capitol

Tahlequah - 1913

Oklahoma's oldest Civil War Monument is on the grounds of the Cherokee National Capitol.
Vandalism of Oklahoma’s Oldest

The Tahlequah UDC monument is the oldest formal Civil War monument in Oklahoma. Part of it is missing (the pediment) and it has been vandalized—its future seems at risk. It has the appearance of a monument that has no champion, and that is falling to the cultural forces that make it politically incorrect to remember the Confederacy or Confederate soldier. The monument is on the grounds of the historic Cherokee National Capitol building, constructed in 1868.
Stand Watie Monument
Tahlequah, Cherokee National Capitol grounds - ca. 1920

IN HONOR OF
GEN. STAND WATIE
ONLY FULL BLOOD INDIAN BRIG. GEN.
IN THE CONFEDERATE ARMY.
THIS BRAVE CHEROKEE
RENDERED HEROIC SERVICE
TO THE CONFEDERATE CAUSE
IN IND. TERR.
BORN IN GA DEC. 12, 1806
DIED IN CHER. NAT. SEPT. 9, 1871
A TRIBUTE TO HIS MEMORY
BY OKLA. DIV.
UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE
CONFEDERACY.
“LEST WE FORGET”

This monument carries the same text as the UDC Stand Watie Monument at the Watie Gravesite in the Polson Cemetery. The Polson Cemetery monument is clearly earlier, but neither is dated and so far I have not determined precisely when either was erected. Of note, however, funds raised in 1917 by the U.D.C. for this monument were invested in U.S. War Savings Samps and Liberty Bonds as a patriotic gesture for the U.S. involvement in World War I.
Construction on the United Confederate Veterans home was begun in 1910 and was officially opened in May of 1911. It now is a facility of the Oklahoma Department of Veteran Affairs. Though a project of the UCV, due to state funding used in its construction this home was deeded to the State of Oklahoma and its operation was overseen by the state legislature. After the passing of the last resident Confederate veteran, the home was opened to veterans of the Spanish American War and World Wars I and II.
Paired C.S.A. and U.S. monuments in front of former Confederate Home placed “In Memory of the Brave Americans who Served” is the most profound Civil War monument in Oklahoma in that it identifies soldiers of both sides as American patriots who, as pawns of history and perhaps unintentionally, confronted the great business left undone by the nation’s founding fathers. On the front lawn is a monument to all of the Nation’s armed conflicts.

Building no longer sports “Confederate Home” across pediment but UCV on the capitals topping its grand columns betray its original purpose.
UCV Soldiers Plot in Rose Hill Cemetery

Many of the hundreds of Confederate veterans buried in this soldier's plot were undoubtedly once residents of the nearby Confederate Home.
Miss Muriel Wright dedicates the Memorial stone at the Confederate Cemetery, June 4, 1959 (courtesy Confederate Memorial Museum).
Confederate Memorial Museum was established near the memorial to the Confederate dead of the Battle of Middle Boggy. While cemetery does hold graves of Confederates who died and were buried during the Civil War (as well as veterans buried after the war), it is now known that these are not graves of soldiers killed at battle of Middle Boggy but instead who died of disease while in camp nearby.

Sandstone slabs mark Civil War era graves. Modern markers were placed after extensive historical research. Cemetery also contains graves of Confederate veterans buried after the war.
Doaksville State Historic Site

Fort Towson - 1830s

Doaksville was established in the 1830s and faded into history following the Civil War. The largest town in the Choctaw Nation in the 1840s and the Choctaw National Capital from 1850 to 1863, Doaksville may be where the last Confederate General, Brig. Gen. Stand Watie, surrendered. Excavations have revealed the buildings and artifacts of old Doaksville, and a trail now leads visitors through the site of this once-vital community. Doaksville is operated by the Oklahoma Historical Society.
I am uncertain as to when this monument was placed though I think it is one of the latest in the state based on its design. It is unusual in that it was erected by the VFW.
Bryan County Courthouse
Durant - Dated 1917, Dedicated 1918

This statue of a Confederate private “at rest” was sculpted in Italy on behalf of the Julia Jackson chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and was delivered about 1914. It was intended to be erected with a drinking fountain at the intersection of Main Street and Third Avenue but that was not allowed. When a new courthouse was authorized in 1917, the architect and construction contractor (Manhattan Construction Company) offered to construct at no charge a base for the monument on the courthouse grounds. The courthouse cornerstone was set on July 4, 1917, and the base of the monument is inscribed “1917,” but due to construction delays related to the World War, the monument was not dedicated until May of 1918.

ERECTED IN HONOR OF OUR GALLANT CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS
BY
JULIA JACKSON CHAPTER
UDC NO. 564
AD 1917
LEST WE FORGET
Enid Cemetery
Enid - 1917

This monument was erected by the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic (LGAR) in 1917. The LGAR was an unofficial auxiliary to the GAR, the Union veterans organization.

1861 - 1865
TO THE UNKNOWN DEAD
ERRECTED BY THE
LADIES OF THE G.A.R.
IRVIN McDOWELL
CIRCLE NO, 18. 1917.
**Fairlawn Cemetery, GAR**

**Oklahoma City - 1918**

**ERECTED A.D. 1918**


The bronze plaque on the front of this monument, above the boldly engraved word “LOYALTY,” shows this to be a monument to U.S. veterans of all wars past and present, erected by the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR-the Union veterans organization) and many others. Bronze plaques are also found on the sides; one reads “IN MEMORIAM [wreath] THE UNKNOWN DEAD” and the other “IN MEMORY, 1861 [GAR Logo] 1865, FRATERNITY - CHARITY - LOYALTY.” This appears a clearly GAR inspired Civil War memorial that was broadened to encompass the patriotic loyalty to the U.S. soldiers then involved in World War I.

More on next page
Additional images of Fairlawn Cemetery GAR Monument

Head-on view of the monument in 2002 and at its dedication in 1918. The monuments and cannon are the same, but missing are four pedestals topped with cannon balls that originally surrounded the monument. The base of these pedestals are still to be found, and in 2002 a pot for flowers seemed to be placed on one.
Fairlawn Cemetery - UCV
Oklahoma City - 1923

United Confederate Veterans
1861 1865
"These were men
Whom power could not corrupt,
Whom death could not terrify,
Whom defeat could not dishonor."

Dedicated to our beloved Confederate dead
By the Jefferson Davis Memorial Association
Oklahoma City, Okla. June 23, 1923

"Lord God of hosts, be with us yet
Lest we forget, lest we forget."

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Fort Gibson State Historic Site
Fort Gibson 1824 (U.S. Fort Blunt 1862-1865)

Original fort was built of logs and featured a stockade, reconstructed in 1936 by the WPA. Fort Gibson was abandoned and this stockade was likely in ruins when the Civil War began. Fort was occupied briefly by Confederates who were pushed out by U.S. forces in 1862. Renamed Fort Blunt, this place remained in U.S. hands for rest of the war, but was constantly harassed by Confederates.

Massive sandstone barracks building at fort, on which construction began in 1845, was certainly a key part of the landscape at Fort Gibson (Fort Blunt) during the Civil War.

Fort Gibson is operated by the Oklahoma Historical Society.
U.S. Fort Blunt, 1862-1865

As was custom during the Civil War, Fort Blunt was named after the commanding officer, Maj. Gen. James G. Blunt. A massive earthwork fortification, depicted on the plan reproduced here, was constructed to provide protection against a constant Confederate threat. Only a small portion of these earthworks remain, pictured here as they appeared in 1936 and today.
Fort Gibson National Cemetery
Fort Gibson - 1868

Fort Gibson National Cemetery was created in 1868 along with many other National Cemeteries as part of a program to provide proper burials to the Union Civil War dead. U.S. soldiers killed in a number of engagements in the Indian Territory are buried here, as well as soldiers from abandoned military posts such as Fort Towson.

More on next page
Additional images of Fort Gibson National Cemetery
Additional images of Fort Gibson National Cemetery - Graves of U.S. dead from Battle of Honey Springs

Graves of unknown Union soldiers killed at the Battle of Honey Springs in 1863, buried on the battlefield, and reinterred here after the war. As was practice, Confederate dead were left in their battlefield graves because they were not considered U.S. citizens when they died.
Fort Towson was established in 1824 and abandoned in 1856 after serving important duties in the resettlement of the Choctaw and Chickasaw and protecting the U.S. western frontier with Mexico. Much of the fort burned in 1856, but this location was nevertheless used as the headquarters of Confederate forces under General Sam Bell Maxey. Fort Towson is operated by the Oklahoma Historical Society.
Established in 1841 and abandoned by the United States at the onset of the Civil War, Fort Washita served as an important Confederate garrison. Brig. Gen. Douglas H. Cooper (C.S.A.) lived at the fort following the Civil War, died in 1879, and is said to be buried there. Fort Washita is operated by the Oklahoma Historical Society.

More on next page
Location of graves in Confederate cemetery at Fort Washita have been identified and marked with gravel. Graves are of soldiers who died while in garrison at the fort. Grave of Confederate commander Douglas H. Cooper may be among these unknown soldiers.
This classic obelisk was erected by the Womens Reserve Corps of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), the Union Veterans Organization. In addition to the GAR and WRC logos and the dedication panel, the monument base is engraved GAR. I do not know the date of this monument or the GAR cemetery, but interments date back to at least 1901.
Oklahoma statutes of 1935 create Confederate and Union memorial rooms within the Historical Society Building. The Oklahoma Historical Society will move to a new facility in 2005 and these memorial rooms will cease to exist in this form.
The Battle of Honey Springs was fought on July 17, 1863 and resulted in a decisive U.S. victory. The battle today is preserved and commemorated as a 1000+ acre historic site by the Oklahoma Historical Society. A park road, interpretive trails, visitor center, and education programs commemorate and interpret the battle.

More on next page
Honey Springs, the Site of the Confederate Headquarters and Depot, had until the late 1990s been the focus of commemoration at the battlefield. Here an interpretive kiosk and parking area was constructed and five granite monuments erected, left to right: Monument to Union Soldiers, Oklahoma Historical Society 1986; Five Civilized Tribes at Battle of Honey Springs (Union and Confederate), Intertribal Council of Five Civilized Tribes, 1987; 1st Regiment Kansas Colored Volunteers, Community Heritage Recognition Committee, 1988; Monument to Confederate Soldiers, Oklahoma Division United Daughters of the Confederacy and Oklahoma Division Children of the Confederacy, 1988; Texas Confederates at Battle of Honey Springs, Texas Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy.
“Hunter’s Home”
Murrell House State Historic Site, Park Hill - 1844

Last Antebellum mansion in Oklahoma, built ca. 1844 by Cherokee planter and merchant George M. Murrell at Park Hill. Ransacked but not burned by Confederates under Stand Watie, house is last visible reminder of the monied grandeur of the Indian Nations prior to the conflict. Operated by the Oklahoma Historical Society.
Mount Muncie Cemetery, Leavenworth, Kansas

The final resting place of U.S. Maj. Gen. Blunt is included in this list because of his critical importance for the conduct of the Civil War in Oklahoma. Of note is the renaming of Fort Gibson to Fort Blunt, and Blunt's role in the Battle of Honey Springs in 1863. Blunt was born in Maine in 1826, and spent several years as a sailor before pursuing a career in medicine. In 1856 he settled in Kansas and enlisted as a private in the Third Kansas Regiment when the Civil War erupted—he rose in the ranks until commissioned Brig. Gen. in the Kansas Volunteers. His military career included successes at places such as Prairie Grove, Honey Springs, and Newtonia. He settled in Leavenworth following the war. He spent much time in Washington, D.C., where he became ill about 1878 and was placed in a mental hospital, where he died in 1881.
Artwork in the Senate Lounge (see next two pages) represents the only commemoration of the Civil War in the Oklahoma State Capitol and grounds. A Confederate national flag once flew as part of the 14 flags exhibits on the ground until the Centennial Plaza makeover in 2003 (thought the flag was furled a few years earlier due to public protests of its presence). The centennial plaza pavement in front of the south steps of the Capitol features historical events of Oklahoma History, but notably absent is a reference to the sacrifice of the Civil War and the role of this conflict in shaping the future state of Oklahoma.
More images of the Oklahoma State Capitol Building -
Art in the Senate Chamber

**Battle of Round Mountain**
By Wayne Cooper, 1998 (Senate Lounge)

**Surrender of General Stand Watie**
By Dennis Parker, 2000 (Outside Senate Lounge)
Oktaha Cemetery

Oktaha - 1940

This monument is located in the Oktaha Cemetery and is on the northern edge of the Honey Springs Battlefield. Prior to the creation of the Honey Springs Battlefield park by the Oklahoma Historical Society, this was the only monument to what is generally accepted as the Indian Territory's largest and most decisive battle.
Polson Cemetery (Stand Watie)

Date Unknown

IN HONOR OF
GEN. STAND WATIE
ONLY FULL BLOOD INDIAN BRIG. GEN.
IN THE CONFEDERATE ARMY.
THIS BRAVE CHEROKEE
RENDERED HEROIC SERVICE
TO THE CONFEDERATE CAUSE
IN IND. TERR.
BORN IN GA DEC. 12, 1806
DIED IN CHER. NAT. SEPT. 9, 1871
A TRIBUTE TO HIS MEMORY
BY OKLA. DIV.
UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE
CONFEDERACY.
“LEST WE FORGET”

Polson Cemetery is about as close to being in Arkansas as you can get and still be in Oklahoma. This is the place of burial of Stand Watie, the last Confederate General to surrender, which he did at either Doaksville or Fort Towson in the Choctaw Nation, depending on who you believe. He spent the night before surrender at Rose Hill Plantation, featured also in this list.
Stuck Watie Monument
Polson Cemetery -1971

This monument was erected by the Oklahoma Historical Society in 1971 at the edge of the Polson Cemetery near the Stand Watie grave and earlier Stand Watie monument erected by the United Daughters of the Confederacy. This is a historical marker that presents a narrative description of Watie’s life and significant contributions to history.
Robert M. Jones was a wealthy Choctaw plantation and slave owner who resided at Rose Hill, one of his five plantations. He was strongly in favor of secession, and is said to have personally funded the Choctaw and Chickasaw Regiment (C.S.A.) during the Civil War. He served as the joint Choctaw-Chickasaw delegate to the Congress of the Confederate States of America. Cherokee General Stand Watie spent the night at Rose Hill before his surrender in 1865. Jones died in 1873 and is buried at Rose Hill. The Rose Hill plantation house burned in 1912.

Confederate battle flag in stone wall around cemetery, constructed in 1930s by WPA.
Union Soldiers Cemetery
(Oklahoma Veterans Cemetery) Oklahoma City- 1921


Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation now sits at site of long gone Union Soldiers Home.
The muffled drum's sad roll has beat
The soldier's last tattoo;
No more on Life's parade shall meet
That brave and fallen few.
On fame's eternal camping ground
Their silent tents to spread,
And glory guards, with solemn round
The bivouac of the dead.

"Bivouac Of The Dead"
By Theodore O'Hara
(Written in memory of the Kentucky troops killed in the Mexican War - 1847)