



The National Park Service and the Arbuckle-Simpson Aquifer*

Western States Water Council
Tulsa, Oklahoma
October 20, 2022

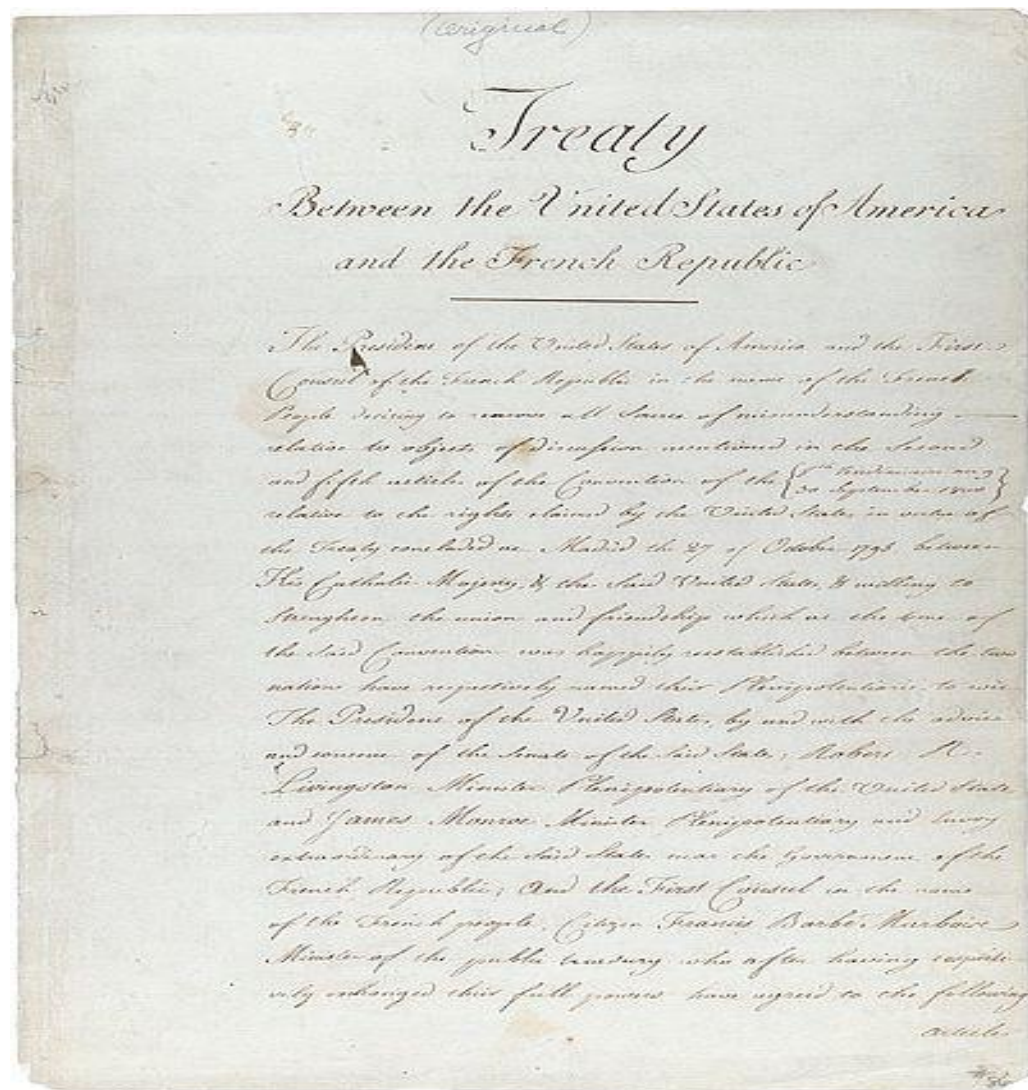
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NPS Water Resources Division

* The views presented herein are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the United States, the Department of the Interior or any other federal agency.

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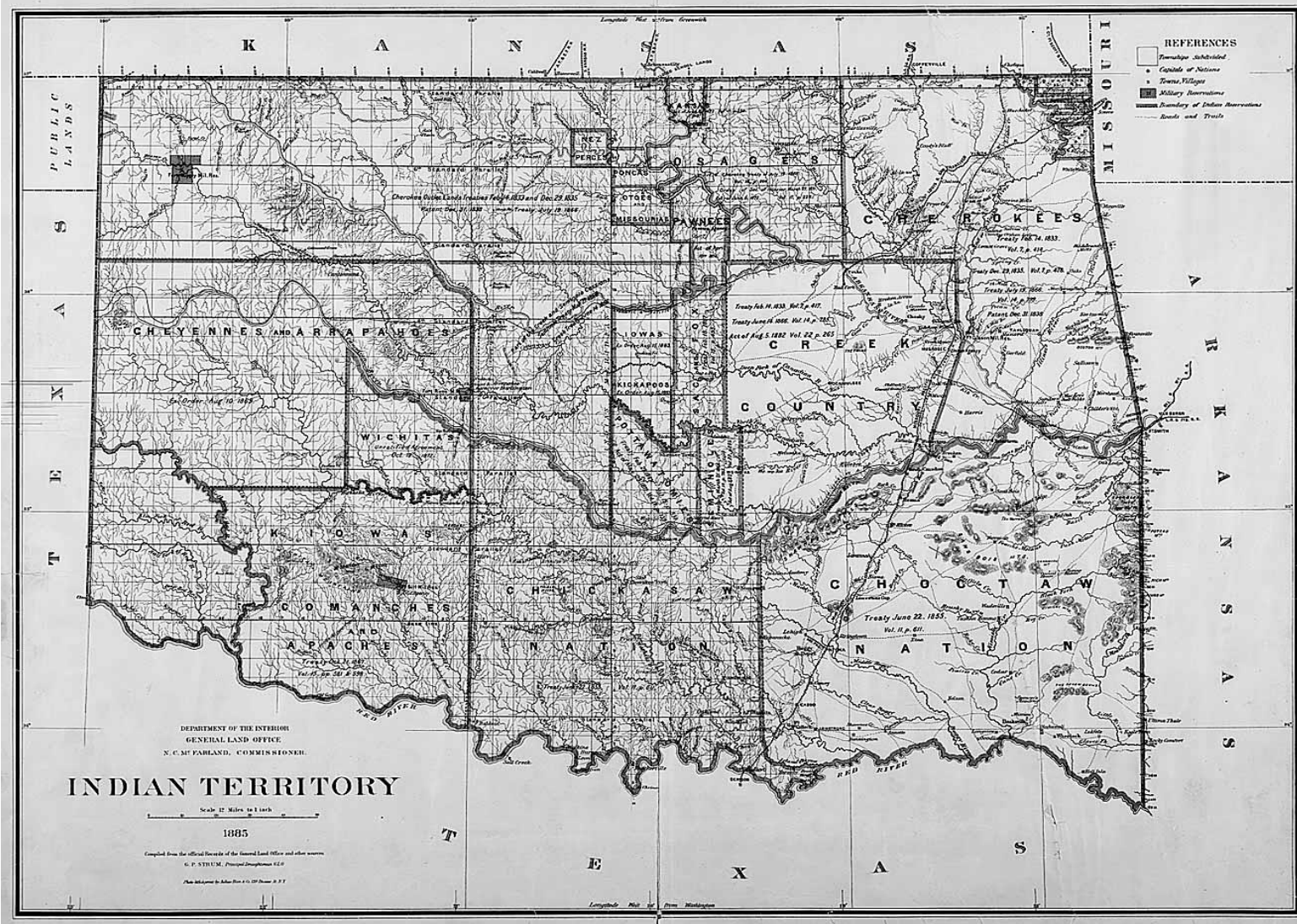
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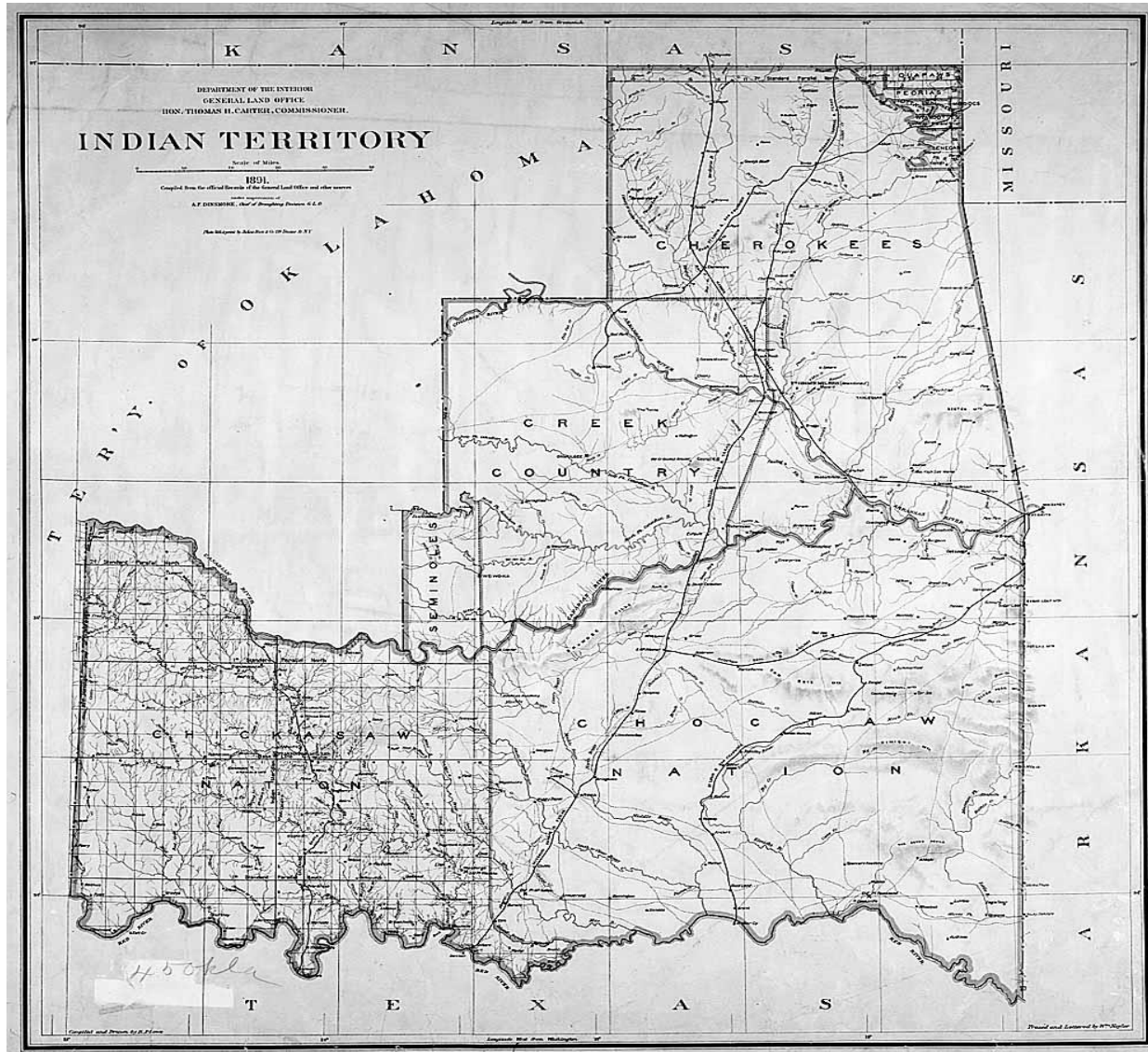
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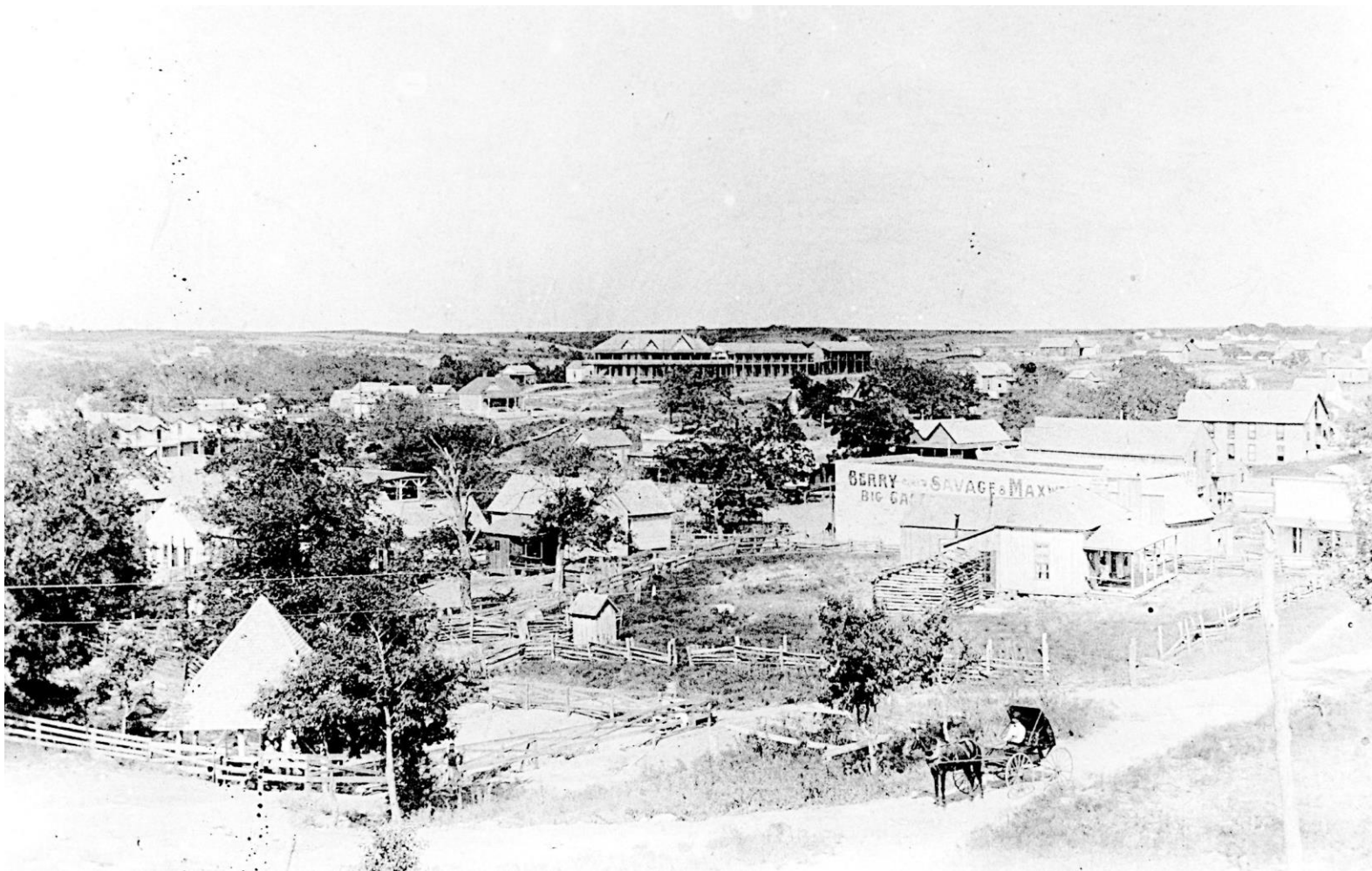


Source: U.S. Geological Survey

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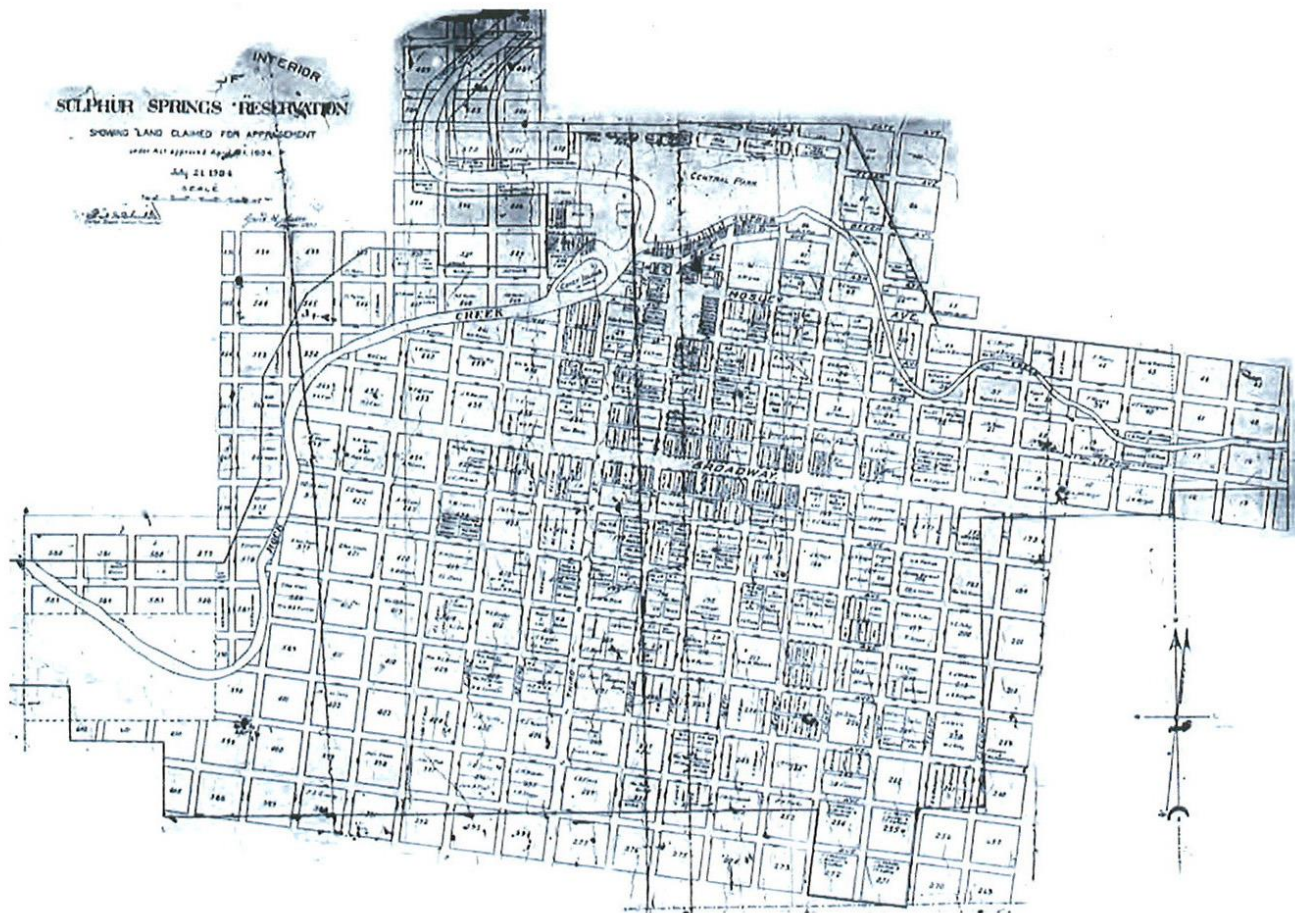
1902 & 1904 Deeds

By way of patent deeds issued in 1902 & 1904, the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations did “absolutely and unqualifiedly relinquish, cede, and convey” the lands that became the Sulphur Springs Reservation to the United States.

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Joint Resolution Directing that the Sulphur Springs Reservation be named and hereafter called the “Platt National Park.”

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to change the name of the Sulphur Springs Reservation, an Indian reservation now in the State of Oklahoma, formerly in the Indian Territory, so that said Reservation shall be named and hereafter called the “Platt National Park,” in honor of Orville Hitchcock Platt, late and for twenty-six years a Senator from the State of Connecticut and for many years a member of the Committee on Indian Affairs, in recognition of his distinguished services to the Indians and to the country.

Approved, June 29, 1906 .

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Springs in 1906 (Gould Survey)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Antelope Spring</i> | 18. <i>Cliff Bromide Spring</i> |
| 2. <i>Buffalo Spring</i> | 19. <i>Unnamed</i> |
| 3. <i>Cunningham Spring</i> | 20. <i>Bromide Sulphur Spring</i> |
| 4. <i>Buse Spring</i> | 21. <i>Sulphur Spring</i> |
| 5. <i>Big Tom Spring</i> | 22. <i>Taff's Spring</i> |
| 6. <i>Arsenic Spring</i> | 23. <i>Iron Spring</i> |
| 7. <i>Little Tom Spring</i> | 24. <i>Soda Spring</i> |
| 8. <i>Swords' Spring</i> | 25. <i>Sulphur Spring</i> |
| 9. <i>Townsley's Spring</i> | 26. <i>Sulphur Spring</i> |
| 10. <i>Dog Spring</i> | 27. <i>Wilson Spring</i> |
| 11. <i>Unnamed</i> | 28. <i>Churchill Spring</i> |
| 12. <i>Hillside Spring</i> | 29. <i>Rucker's Spring</i> |
| 13. <i>Beach Springs</i> | 30. <i>Iron Spring</i> |
| 14. <i>Beach Springs</i> | 31. <i>Jericho Spring</i> |
| 15. <i>Beach Springs</i> | 32. <i>Unnamed</i> |
| 16. <i>Sand Spring</i> | 33. <i>Unnamed</i> |
| 17. <i>Bromide Spring</i> | |

Springs in 1988

1. *Antelope Spring*
2. *Buffalo Spring*
3. *Pavilion Springs*
4. *Hillside Springs*
5. *Black Sulphur Springs*

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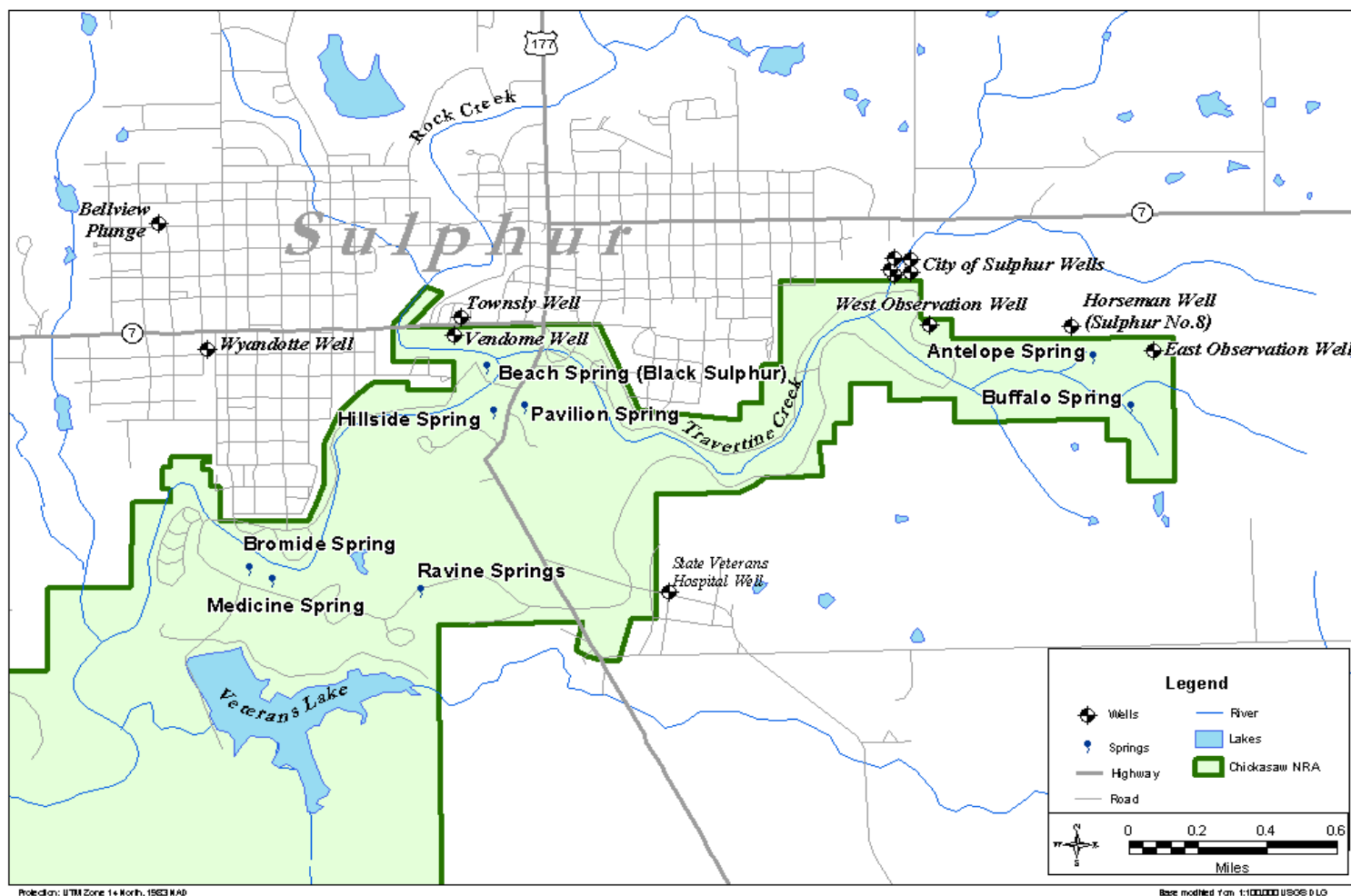


Figure 2: Wells and springs in the vicinity of the Travertine District, Chickasaw National Recreation Area.

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Reduced Discharge from Flowing Wells

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Historic Name	Date Measured	Flow		% Reduction
		GPM	Acre-Ft/Yr	
Cunningham Well	1911 1988	2500 140	4033 226	94
Frye Sanitarium	1917 1988	1000 2	1613 3	100
Vendome Well	1922 1988	2500 620	4033 1000	75
Lacey Wells (combined)	1923 1988	2500 330	4033 532	87
Wyandotte	1939 1988	1000 40	1613 65	96
Bellevue (Molacek)	1939 1988	3000 250	4839 403	92

Source: USGS Water Resources Investigations Report 94-4102

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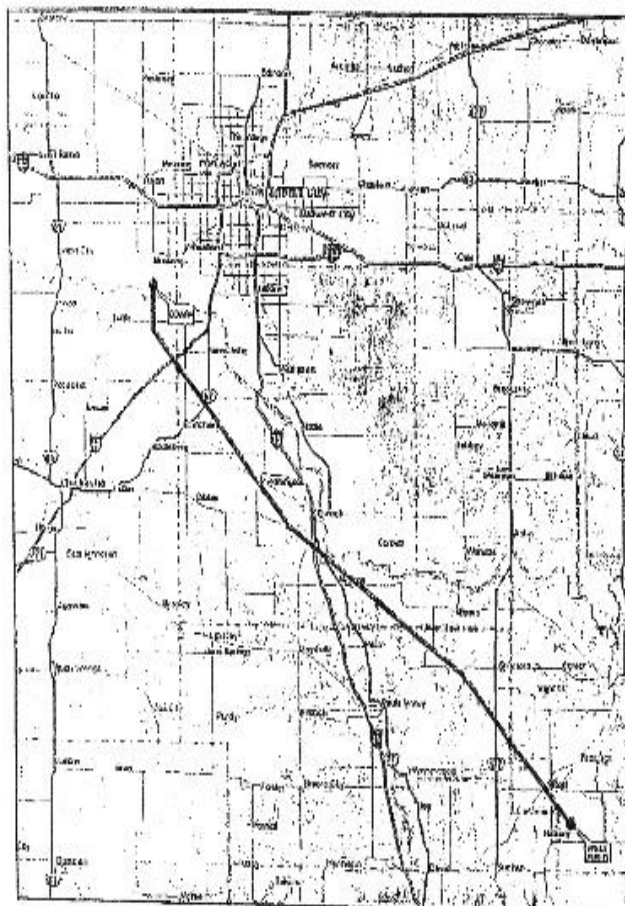
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PESA

Arbuckle-Simpson Aquifer Proposal

COWRA

- » Approximately 80-mile, 54-inch diameter pipeline, pump stations and storage tanks.
 - o Pipeline capacity approximately 60 mgd
 - o Approximately 5 booster pump stations
 - o Approximately 7 storage tanks



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Cities, Counties and Water Systems Using the Arbuckle Simpson Aquifer

City of Ada	W. Carter Co. W&S Corp	Counties of:
City of Durant	Pontotoc Co. RWD #6	Carter
City of Sulphur	S Oklahoma Water Corp	Bryan
City of Tishomingo	Bryan Co. RWD #5	Coal
City of Wynnewood	Garvin Co. RWD #6	Love
City of Ardmore	Johnston Co. RWD #3	Pontotoc
City of Davis	Murray Co. #1	Johnston
City of Wynnewood	Pontotoc Co. RWD #8	Atoka
Community of West Davis	Pontotoc Co. RWD #7	Murray
Town of Ratliff City	Bryan Co. RWD #2	Marshall
City of Roff	Buckhorn RWD	Hughes
City of Dougherty	Pontotoc Co. RWD #9	McClain
Town of Mill Creek		Seminole
City of Tupelo PWA		Pottawatomie
		Pittsburg
		Jefferson
		Cleveland
		Stephens

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SENATE BILL 288

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- Applied only to “sensitive sole source groundwater basins” - a major groundwater basin or subbasin all or a portion of which has been designated as a "Sole Source Aquifer" by the EPA pursuant to the Safe Drinking Water Act, including any portion of any contiguous aquifer located within five miles of the known areal extent of the surface out-crop of the sensitive sole source groundwater basin.
- Imposed a moratoria on issuing temporary permits for any additional municipal or public use of water from a sensitive sole source groundwater basin at locations outside of the basin and contracting by municipalities and other political subdivisions outside a sensitive sole source groundwater basin for water from the basin.

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- This moratoria was in effect until a hydrological study was completed and the Oklahoma Water Resources Board determined a maximum annual yield for the sensitive sole source groundwater basin.
- The legislation also required the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, before issuing a permit to withdraw water from a sensitive sole source groundwater basin, to determine if the proposed use is likely to degrade or interfere with springs or streams emanating in whole or in part from water originating from the sensitive sole source groundwater basin.