

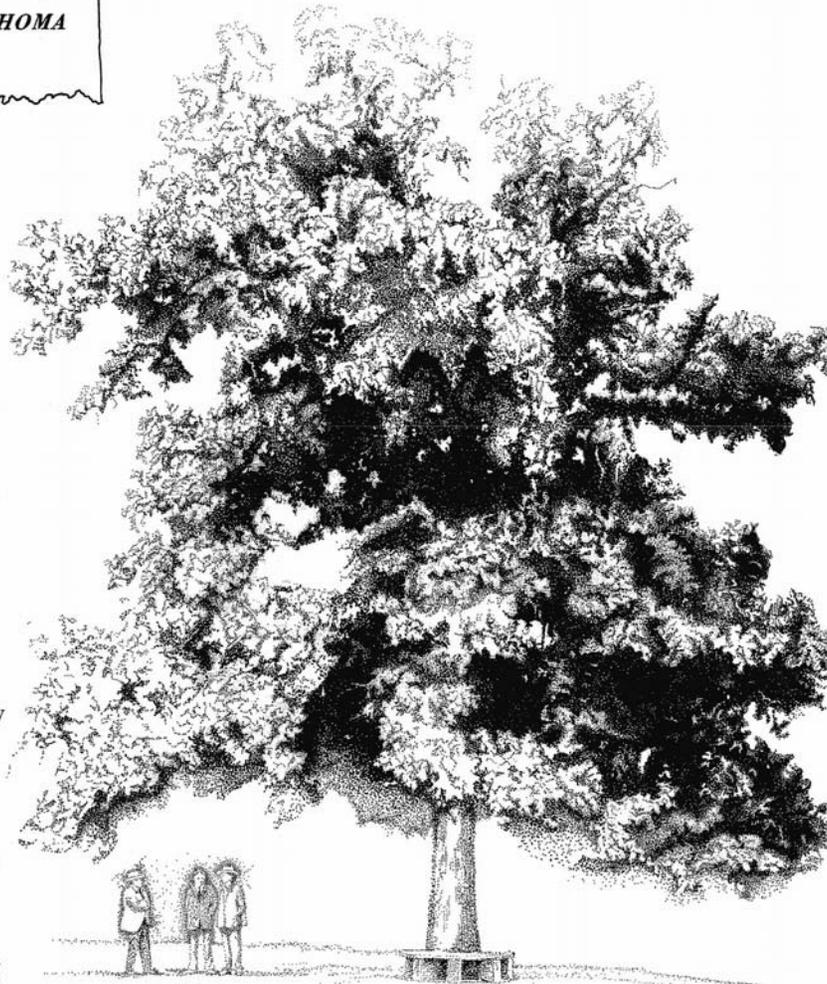
# CREEK NATION COUNCIL OAK



Creek Nation Council Oak Park Site

Council Oak is the birthplace of Tulsa Oklahoma. The Creek Nation Council Oak is an important landmark of the region. The events that have taken place under this Post Oak tree have shaped Northeastern Oklahoma history. Established as a Council Oak for a segment of the Creek Nation in the area, it's importance continued with the oil barons in the 1920's and today to the citizens of Tulsa.

The Creek Nation Indian Tribe that currently resides in Oklahoma once occupied parts of Georgia and Alabama during America's early years. Once referred to as Muscogee Creeks, they were forced politically and violently from their homes during 1828 to 1838. In an attempt to appease the Creeks and the white settlers in the Georgia and Alabama regions, the Creeks, as well as other tribes, were offered a section of land west of the Mississippi River. These lands, occupied by various tribes, eventually become known as Indian Territory, home to the Five Civilized Tribes.



According to one legend, a leader of a Creek clan traveled up the Arkansas River seeking a place to establish a home for his people, the exact year is still unknown. It was at this post oak over looking the river that he placed the council fires from his clan. The tree became more than a meeting place; it was also the cornerstone of the community. Here is where the "Square" was established and in an open field just south of the tree is where the busk grounds and stick ball field was. This Creek community produced many important civic leaders in the early years of Tulsa; some became political leaders, ministers, cattle barons and one became the first postmaster of Tulsa.

During Tulsa's 'Oil Capitol' days, the property the tree is located on was owned by Mr. Earl Sinclair and then later sold to C. B. Peters in 1921, both gentlemen revered the tree for it beauty and historical value. The property changed ownership during the 1960's, and at one point during this decade the tree was almost destroyed to make room for a parking lot. Citizens of Tulsa and the Creek Nation rallied together to save this historic living landmark. Today it is registered as a National Historical Site as a park under the care of the Department of Tulsa Parks and Recreation.

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NAME AND LOCATION OF STRUCTURE  
**CREEK NATION COUNCIL OAK**  
1750 SOUTH CHEYENNE TULSA TULSA OKLAHOMA

SURVEY NO. HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
OK-1 SHEET 1 OF 3 SHEETS

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