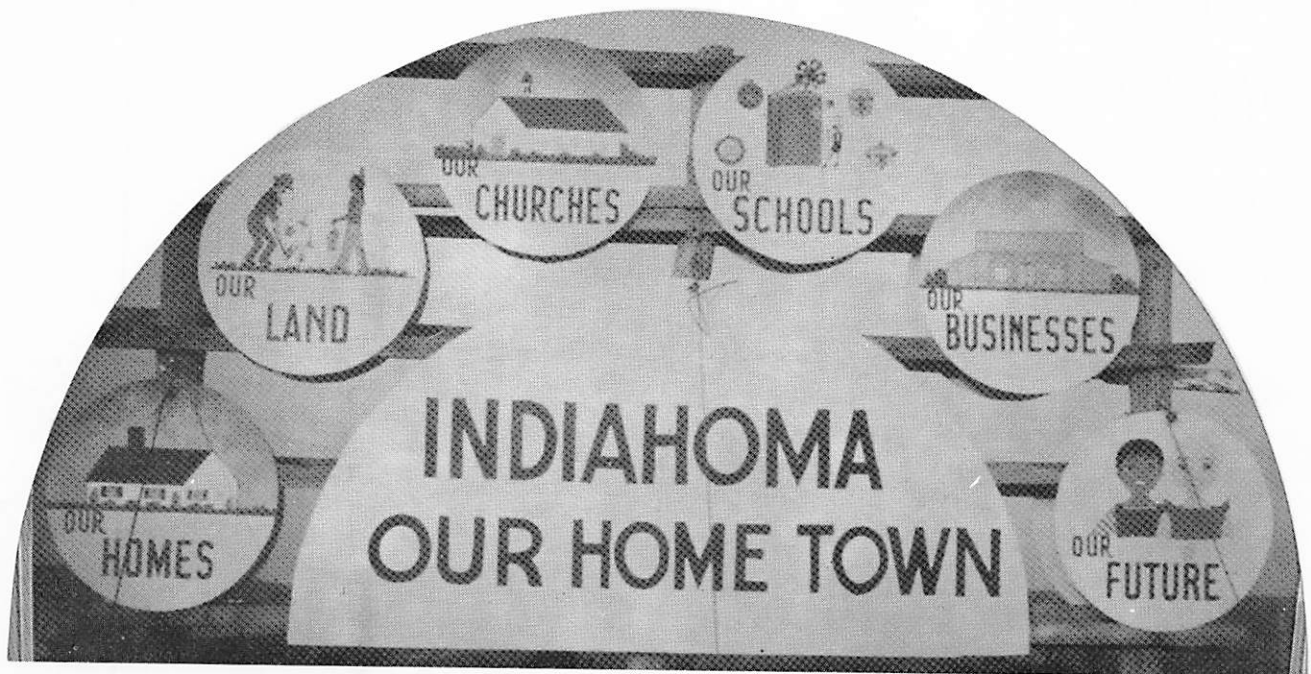
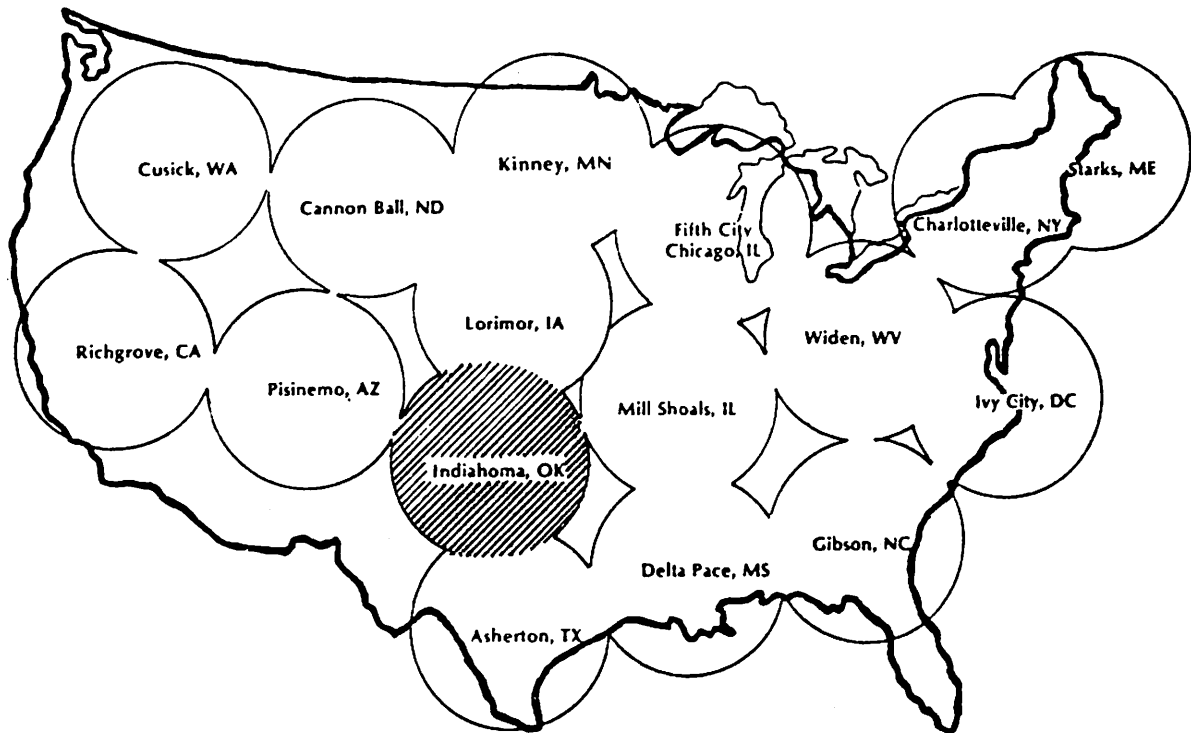


INDIAHOMA



COMMUNITY REPORT

NOVEMBER, 1980



Forward

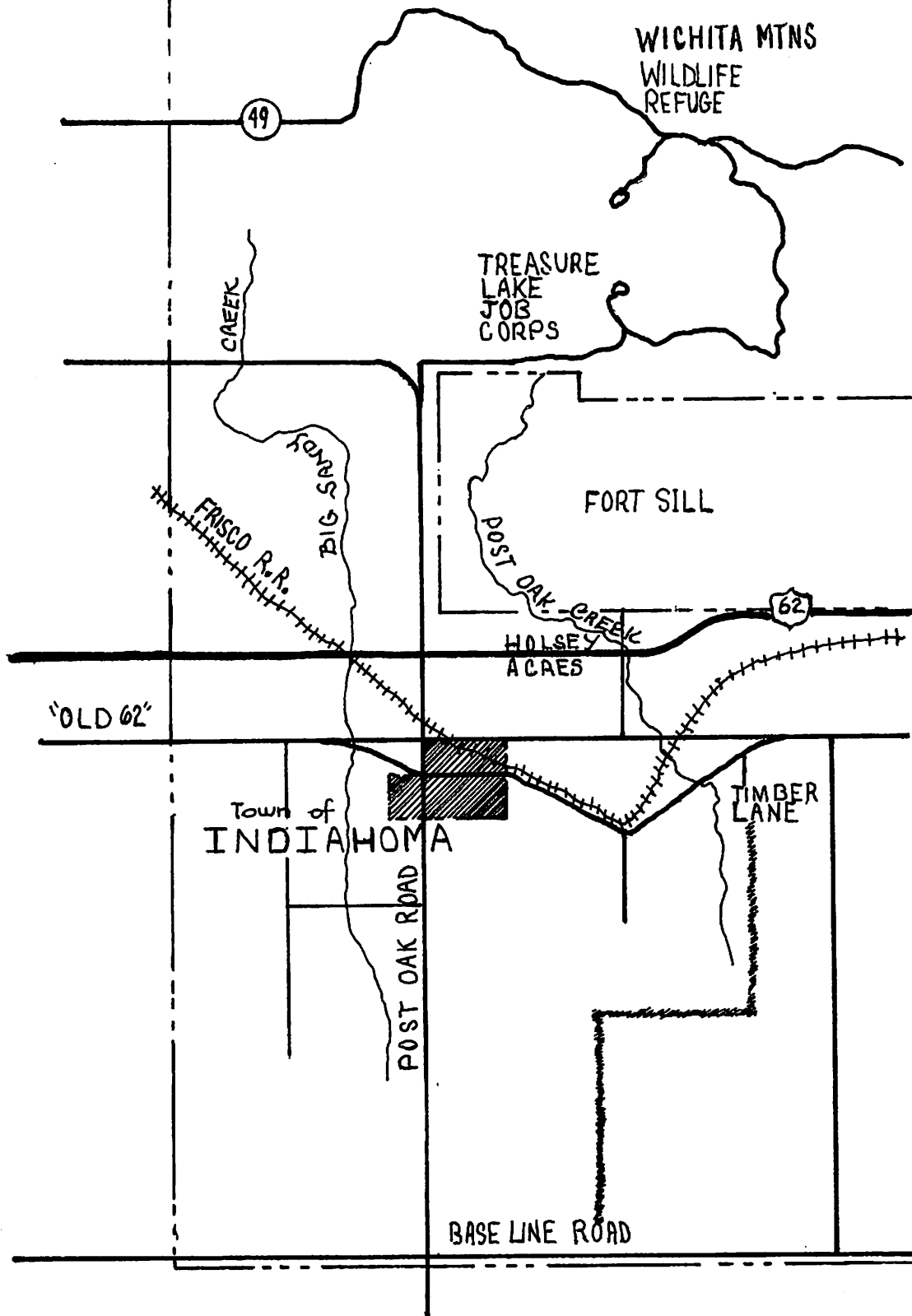
In June 1978, the Indiahoma community embarked on a four-year comprehensive socio-economic development project as a demonstration of a viable alternative for the small towns and rural communities scattered across this country. With the Institute of Cultural Affairs, a not-for-profit global organization providing volunteer consultants, Indiahoma joined a network of 16 rural and urban communities around the nation in creating signs of local development.

After two and one half years work, community residents, Institute volunteers and public and private sector representatives gathered in November 1980 and celebrated Indiahoma Week to assess the community's progress, highlight community structures and organizations, and write the community's story.

The following report is the product of that reflection. The first section is the story of Indiahoma and deals with its history, indicators of change and future promise. The second section deals with the methods of development which include the principles of creative change, the process and documentation of change, and the implications for other communities.

To the extent this report reflects the struggles, pain, successes and dreams of the 1200 residents of this community and those who have supported its endeavors, it is hoped that it may be a sign and tool for other communities concerned with substantial, comprehensive, human development.

THE INDIAHOMA COMMUNITY



INDIAHOMA COMMUNITY REPORT

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INDIAHOMA -- THE PLACE TO BE
(Tune: 16 Tons)

A long time ago on Indian land
A town got born and some people began,
Ft. Sill grew and the prairie town boomed,
Ahead of each family a great future loomed.

But we left this town, felt we had to roam,
Set out seeking a better home.
We searched far and wide, but now we see
Indiahoma was always the place to be.

New "62" done passed us by,
We bowed our heads, thought the town would die,
We lost our bank and grocery store,
But we kept our school and a whole lot more.

So folks take a look, do you like what you see?
How can we improve this community?
Let's put down our roots and stay a spell
And create a showplace where all is swell.

So don't leave this town, don't feel you have to roam,
Don't go to seeking a better home.
No need to search far and wide, for now we see,
INDIAHOMA IS SURELY THE PLACE TO BE!!!!

INDIAHOMA UNITY SONG
(Tune: Red River Valley)

To Indianhoma there came many people
With many hopes and dreams to be shared
The growth of our town was important
To young, old as those who care.

A heritage rich from the land
Blending hopes of all mankind
Sharing common goals for the future
Working side by side with our hands.

Today we are building our future
Improving schools and our day-to-day lives
Fort Sill, Treasure Lake and our farmers
Bringing help to the town that strives.

From this moment we say we' are moving
To a future where cash flows at home
Celebrations of our life together
Will mark the new unity we've shown.

I. THE STORY OF INDIAHOMA



I. THE STORY OF INDIAHOMA

A. PAST - THE HISTORY OF INDIAHOMA

This is the story of IndianhomA, the story of development in a small community in Comanche County, Oklahoma. The community is located south of the Wichita Mountains, 20 miles west of Lawton, and 90 miles southwest of Oklahoma City.

The Meeting of Two Cultures

"Long before 'The People' knew there was such a thing as a white man, they began putting together their inland empire, Comanchería. They built their empire as legitimately, by much the same method, and at approximately the same time as Charlemagne did his in Europe, around 500 A.D. The Comanches thoroughly whipped one enemy at a time until they consolidated the land." Albert Giles, in his book Comanche Days, thus begins the story of the rise of the Comanches in the southwestern lands of North America - in what is now Oklahoma.

In the year 1540, the Spanish explorer, Francisco Vasquez de Coronado, set out on an expedition into the lands of the great Southwest that resulted in the earliest European incursion into present-day Oklahoma.

These two vastly different cultures of Native American and European were predestined, it seems, to clash as each sought title to the land and resources of the vast continent of North America. Finally, after centuries of conflict, treaties, more conflict and more treaties, the southwestern area of the Indian Territory of the United States of America was designated as a reservation for the Comanches.

The Convergence of Two Peoples -- 1867 to 1901

" . . . The granite masses of the Wichita Mountains lift abruptly, wrapped always in purple haze. Beautiful streams carry away the water drained from their heights, and in the grassy flats deer and buffalo once abounded." ¹

This is the description of the lands assigned to the Comanches, Kiowas and Kiowa-Apaches as their reservation through the Treaty of Medicine Lodge in 1867. Throughout the years these lands have born the weight of many powerful dreams and broken hopes, struggles and victories.

Under the subsequent Jerome Agreement in 1892, each Indian man, woman and child was allotted 160 acres of land of his choice. The rest of the reservation, save the Big Pasture Reserve, was to be opened up to white settlement. This agreement was finally enforced by July 4, 1901. In selecting their lands, the families of Chebahtah, Kowena, Codopony, Sau-pitty, Tahmahkera and Asenap, among others, chose their portions within what soon became the Indian community.

In the meantime a lottery was being arranged for the rest of the lands not designated as reserve. This lottery was held on July 29, 1901, and immediately the rest of the 160 acre lots were settled by white families establishing farms and homes. Many of these families had fled the hardships of life in Europe and Russia to seek their fortunes in America. Among those coming to live in the Indian community were the Dillon, Potters, Brentons and Jones.

(¹ The Comanches: Lords of the South Plains, Wallace and Hoebel)

Two other significant events in the creation of this new community were the founding of the Post Oak Mission and the coming of the railroad into the land. In 1894, Reverend Henry Kohfeld approached Quanah Parker, Chief of the Comanches, and succeeded in obtaining a grant of land for a mission station on the reservation. Another Mennonite Brethren missionary joined him in 1901, Reverend A. J. Becker and his wife, and their ministry provided a strong Christian influence throughout the area.

Around the turn of the century the St. Louis-San Francisco (Frisco) Railroad went through this land from Lawton to Snyder. Along this line, south of the mission, and near the Post Oak and Big Sandy Creeks the town of Indianahoma began.

"Maddische's stories of Jesse James would delight the heart of any youngster. She loves to tell of the time he came to the Indian camp with his outlaws and threw up a piece of fry bread, shot a hole in it, and caught and ate it. Apparently the Indians and outlaws were able to share the mountain without any difficulty. As a child she lived out in the mountains north of Indianahoma. She made weekly trips to Ft. Sill for supplies, like rice which the Indians called 'worm food', and did not want to eat. They were given bacon which they did not know how to use, so they buried it. She did not attend the White Man's school because her parents felt she was too frail. They hid her when the Indian agent came and told him her eyes were bad. Today (around the age of 100) she still sees well enough to quickly recognize her friends."

-Maddische as translated to
Elaine Vose

The Time of Growth and Stability -- 1901 to 1930

By 1902 the Post Office had been designated and on July 21, 1903, an election "for and against incorporation" was held with 13 in favor and 4 against. Therefore, on August 29, 1903, the Comanche County Commissioners ordained the City of Indianahoma as incorporated, the name being a combination of 'Indian' and 'Oklahoma'. The town boasted a small school house, a doctor in the community, and other hopeful businessmen.

By 1909 the bank was founded to insure the town's role as an economic center for the farmers of the area, as well as churches established to provide comfort and fellowship.

By 1910 cotton production in the area had enabled Comanche County to have one of the highest concentrations in the state. The town boasted 1000 people by 1911 according to the Lawton paper, as well as the following businesses and establishments: 3 grocery stores, 4 dry goods stores, 2 department stores, 2 meat markets, a hardware and implement company, a racket store, a drug store, the State Bank, a weekly newspaper, a tailor shop, a doctor, a furniture store, a jewelry store, a bakery, 2 restaurants, a hotel, a mill, a lumber yard, 2 cotton gins, a brass bank, a cement block manufacturing company, a livery barn, 2 churches, a good public school, a barber shop, 2 pool halls, a real estate and insurance firm, 2 machine and blacksmith shops, 6 building and cement contractors, and 3 lodges.

From this time through the 1920's the town enjoyed stability in its role as the hub of the community as cotton prices were up and prosperity was evident. Cotton gins in the town did a booming business. This was truly the golden age of Indianahoma.

"We moved to Indianahoma 2 miles southeast of town February 1902. We moved our big circus tent from Lawton to Indianahoma. We lived in the front of it and had hay stored in the back of the huge tent. We left spaces to tie the horses during the bad winter storms. The Indians called my father 'Big Tent'. After that my dad dug into the side of a hill called a dugout. After that he built a one-room log cabin and lived in that and the dugout combined for a while. My dad dug a well when we first got there near the largest cottonwood tree I had ever seen. Later he dug a well closer to the house and got a windmill which was our first. Dad and two other men would go to get materials for building. They would load the wagon in Lawton and spend the night in the wagon yard and then come back home next day. They got materials to build a two-room school house in 1903."

-Ida Baker

"I was born 3 miles north of Indianahoma on my father's allotment. Each Indian was allotted 160 acres. Ours had a well and a muddy pond which we kids played in. I started school at Mountain View country school. I only spoke Comanche at that time. I remember Indianahoma when the main streets ran north and south and it was a busy town. I feel sad when I go there now because it has changed so much. I liked going to McCarthy's store for the gingersnaps they put in a big barrel. When you bought candy there they would put it in a striped sack. It seemed like candy just tasted better out of a striped sack."

-Lottie Quetone

"Ferdinand Clark Jones was my dad's name but he was called Deacon because he studied to be a preacher. He homesteaded in 1901. I still have the deed and the papers that got the deed. You had to work the farm, make improvements for the first year - like build a barn and a house. Dad and Mom moved here in a tent and wagon. The tents were heavy duck cloth and were treated with a type of linseed oil to keep it waterproof. My dad was the first Constable here in Swanson County, before it was called Comanche County. We farmed with mules and raised Jersey cows which we milked and sold the milk and cream for a living. I still remember the big tornado that struck here on October 17, 1925. Buster Brenton had a Kodak and had set it up to take some pictures during the storm. The day before the storm, school had been dismissed for cotton picking. The storm had completely demolished the school. After the storm he took a picture of a telephone pole with a box board sticking through it. These were times never forgotten." -K.C. and Margaret Jones

"I do remember most farmers would gather their crops and come into Indianahoma to the town fair. I remember Daddy grew a watermelon that weighed 100 lbs. and won First Prize at the fair. They didn't let traffic go up and down Main Street. One of the games was the 3-legged race. I am sure I entered the races. There was the Fat Man Race. Herman Asenap and Joe Lambert were the two fat men who always ran the race and won. I remember the cotton gins. There were two in Indianahoma at that time. My daddy brought us to town one day on a bale of cotton on a wagon pulled by a team of horses and let us watch a bale of cotton being ginned." -Mollie Chebahtah

"I was born at almost the end of the Horse and Buggy Days. My father had a Kentucky Trotter for his buggy horse. When we went places, it seemed like we were going very fast, with the wheels whirring around. Our daily needs could be found in Indianahoma. My dad took me to the dentist, that was in the Old Lodge Hall that burned. There were hotels, blacksmith shops, a garage. The banker, a Mr. Chambers, wanted to take my father, my sister Esther, and I on our first car ride; they plumped us into the back seat and off we went. My sister and I were wide-eyed with fear and wonder. We were desperately trying to keep our small bodies on the seat. There was a depot and a section-house in Indianahoma in those days. When that big locomotive came puffing up to the station, my heart would skip a beat. They seemed more like trains than those we have today." -Dorothy Glenn

"Mr. Parnell, my barber, rode in on Saturday. There were several barber shops then, about 1917, and on Saturdays I would come to town on horseback to get a haircut. Sometimes it took until 3:00 in the morning to get a hair cut there were so many waiting to get in the barber's chair. Every Saturday there was a bandstand in the middle of the street near Brenton's store. George Rush was a bandmaster then. There were races with wagons pulled by horses which had rollers with wire wrapped around the rollers. This was a type of tug-of-war game. There were watermelon-eating contests and pie-eating contests.

We had a ball diamond then and played lots of ball games. One ball team was called the Comanche Indians and another team was called American Legion Team. The town supported the teams. We played near the post office ground. Roy Giles had the grocery store and hardware. He managed the Comanche Indian Team. Mr. Giles took everybody down to his store, measured them up and bought suits for them. This really made our team play well . . ."

-Spencer Mowatt

Loss of Strong Agricultural Economic Base -- 1930 to 1960

By the end of the 1920's many state farm journals were warning the farmers of the danger of one crop farming and those with foresight were calling for diversification of the economic base of rural southwest Oklahoma. These warnings were largely unheeded and the Depression in 1929 brought economic disaster to the farmers of the area. Gins closed as the government paid for lands to be plowed under and promoted mechanization and larger farms to combat the economic crisis. In the midst of this the other tragedy of the 1930's struck Oklahoma -- the Dust Bowl. The drought culminated in 1936 and the migration out of communities like Indianahoma began. This out-migration intensified in the late 1940's with the economic shifts in the nation following World War II favoring urban jobs and growth. Capping this decline in Indianahoma was the loss of the lands in the northeastern part of the community to Ft. Sill expansion in 1956. This gave the total community a near fatal blow as this was almost one-sixth of its area taken out of economic production as well as forcing the removal of the old Post Oak Mission and cemetery to the south.

"The 30's were hard times for everyone. We raised our own food in the garden and butchered our own pork and beef. We canned the meat so it would keep. Often the community would kill a cow and do the work together. Everyone who worked got some meat."

-Rosie Wisner

"I remember the dust bowl. It came after people had plowed up the land. All the grass was out. This was about 1935. That was when our second son was born, David. The dust was so thick that we laid a wet cloth over his face so he could breathe."

-K.C. and Margaret Jones

"I came to Indianahoma in 1947. We still had a cotton gin, a doctor and a regular old-fashioned drugstore. At this time we had to register with the government for our allotments for planting wheat and cotton. It seemed that every year a new baby was born, and yet every year the allotment was cut. Finally the 160 acre farmer just couldn't make it anymore. As the families kept leaving the farms the big farms just got bigger. The whole system favored big farms and big business."

-George Robertson

Business Decline and the Dream for Community Revival -- 1960 to 1978

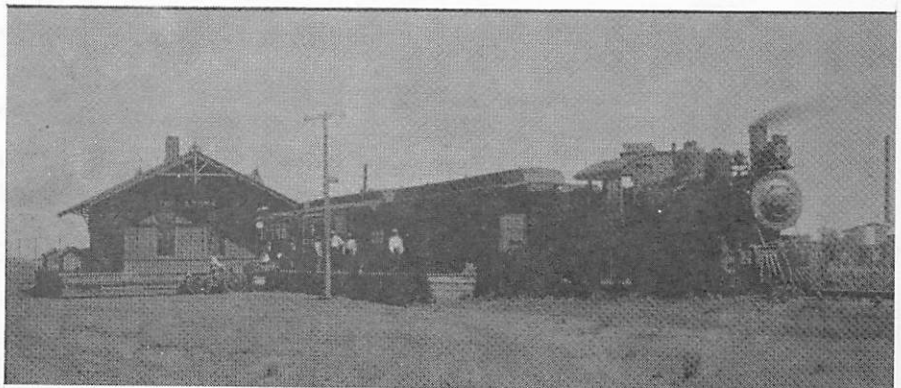
The 1960's continued the economic struggle in terms of the business community and social services. The bank moved to a nearby town in 1965. The doctor who left in the 1950's was not replaced. U.S. Highway 62 which had gone through the heart of town moved one mile north in the early 70's. The grocery store closed in 1975. Parents found themselves apprehensive year after year that the high school would close due to low enrollment. Despite these mishaps, Mayor Virginia Derrisaw was instrumental in initiating the low cost housing units in 1969 on the eastern edge of town. The 1960's also saw the building of the Treasure Lake Job Corps Center in the Wichita Mountains. During the 1970's a 3¢ sales tax was initiated. In 1976 Indianahoma citizens traveled to Oklahoma City to apply for a \$105,000 HUD grant which was later awarded.

"Mrs. Derrisaw envisioned a goal for Indianahoma. Her dream consisted of seeing Indianahoma become a growing, caring, successful community. The park in Indianahoma was dedicated and named Derrisaw Park in her memory on July 4, 1971."

-Deanna Tucker

A New Beginning -- 1978 to 1980

The spirit of survival is deep in the old families of Indianahoma, both Native American and white, as well as the newcomers who have been absorbed over the past 79 years. In June 1978, the community gathered in the school auditorium for a week-long Human Development Consultation to begin a new phase of Indianahoma's history. Creating a comprehensive development four-year plan to revitalize the needed services as well as the economy, the community has decided to remain a vital small town and an example for all other communities. This corporate decision has brought together in one common effort the young and the old, men and women, the farmer and the businessman, the teacher and the housewife, the Native American and white, in building OUR HOME TOWN.



B. PRESENT - THE INDICATORS OF CHANGE

1. TOWARD ECONOMIC SELF-SUSTENANCE

INTENT: In June 1978 during the Human Development Consultation the expressed intent of the citizens of the Indianahoma community was to move toward economic self-sustenance by expanding local commerce and essential services.

CONTRADICTIONS: Although all of the contradictions identified in the Consultation Summary Statement have an effect upon economic development, those which seem most directly related to the economic life of the community had to do with undeveloped channels for obtaining resources, unexplored alternatives for developing economic enterprises, untapped potential for retail trade and a narrow range of business-management skills in the community.

INDICATORS OF CHANGE: Among the many indicators of economic development, the following are representative.

a. IMPROVED WATER SYSTEM

The new 110 foot high water tower which dominates the Indianahoma skyline indicates the community's decision to provide for future commercial, industrial and residential water needs.

b. EFFECTIVE TOWN GOVERNMENT

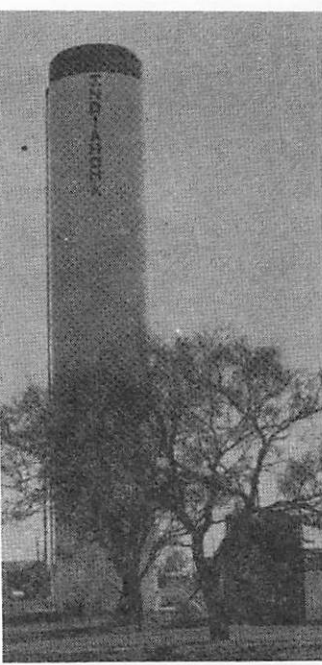
With increased citizen involvement the Town Board has actively promoted Indianahoma, securing an \$840,000 HUD grant for street paving, water improvements and housing rehab, along with establishing a professional town management system.

c. FINANCIAL INVESTMENT AND BUSINESS ACTIVITY

After a 40-year decline in population and commercial activity, financial investment in the past two and one half years has amounted to almost \$3,000,000, with individuals seeking assistance in financing new businesses.

d. INDIAHOMA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Indianahoma Community Development Corporation (ICDC) was incorporated in May 1979 as a not-for-profit association in order to promote the economic, social and human development of the entire Indianahoma community. A \$200,000 mini-mall is currently in final stages of set-up for construction in the spring of 1981.



"Economic development has occurred when an environment has been created in which the individual feels very comfortable to invest his money there-by creating more jobs and an increased flow of money...There are some conditions that have to occur before development can begin...In southwest Oklahoma either you have water for today and for 20 years down the road or you really aren't going to move anywhere."

- Director of Economic Development,
Association of South Central
Oklahoma Governments 11/80

a. IMPROVED WATER SYSTEM

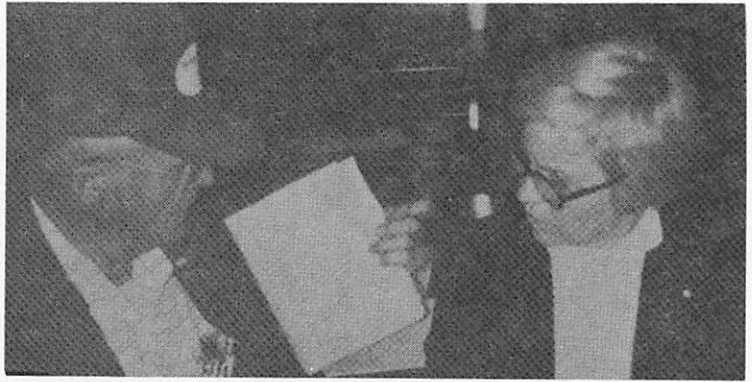
Industrial and commercial development requires an adequate water and sewage system. The dominating landmark today in Indianahoma is the new water tower. Like many small communities, Indianahoma has been concerned about the adequacy and quality of its water supply. Equipment was beginning to show wear, while the potential for further town growth was clouded with the issue of the water system. Four years ago town representatives went to the state capitol and applied for a grant to build a water tower. The 200,000 gallon storage facility was completed in 1980. Meanwhile, in early 1979 community leaders began to discuss a means to further action. Residents enjoy their soft well water, but state health officials had issued an ultimatum because of the high fluoride content. The Indianahoma Voice informed everyone of all the facts and figures for two alternative proposals. A public meeting brought together residents, town officials, the town lawyer, and representatives from the Association of South Central Oklahoma Governments (ASCOG). The alternatives and costs were discussed. Afterward, a telephone survey was undertaken to let residents express their opinions; 145 preferred the present system with a defluoridation plant while only 5 were in favor of another system.

In June 1980 the town voted overwhelmingly to approve the authorization of the Public Works Authority (PWA) to borrow \$210,000 from Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) by a vote of 77 to 19. This will be combined with the earlier water tower grant to update and improve the water system, including distribution lines and fire hydrants. A defluoridation plant will also be installed during the current fiscal year. (The Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Neighborhood Revitalization grant also includes monies for water lines and fire hydrants). A sewer project is planned that will meet Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards through increasing the lagoon area and extending sewerage lines. This project will be funded by a 75% EPA grant and 25% local match.

"I feel you've overcome
the problem of U.S.
Highway 62 by-passing
your community."

- J. C. Kennedy

May 10, 1979

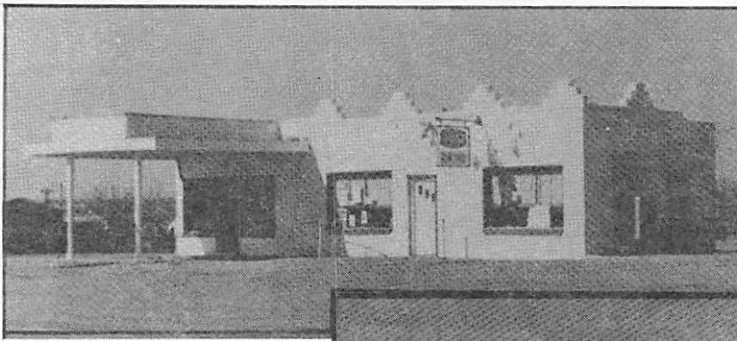


b. EFFECTIVE TOWN GOVERNMENT

Economic expansion requires an effective local public sector which can channel county, state and federal resources to the city and maintain a secure yet dynamic environment for development. In March 1979, the first town election in 13 years was held. City officials have commented about the support of the citizens and their willingness to come out to the twice monthly Town Board and other civic meetings. A style of professionalism marks the town administration, with an active and informed board, a clerk, water commissioner and attorney -- all of whom attend the council meetings. New town ordinances were codified and published in April 1979, and a town marshal and municipal judge (the first since the 1930's) were appointed by the board.

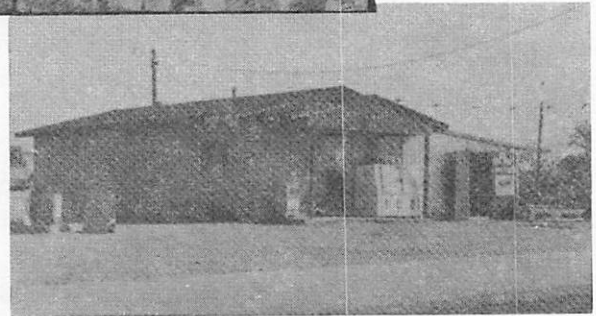
The most significant change is the new funding for basic town improvements -- the foundation for long range economic development. After two years of effort involving applications, public meetings, trips and research, the city received word in March, 1980, from Washington, D.C. announcing an award of \$840,000 from the Small Cities Program of HUD. This three-year neighborhood revitalization program will include up to 47 residential housing rehabilitations, demolition and removal of 10 unsafe structures, road improvements and replacement of water lines and installation of fire plugs in the designated area. A local attorney has been hired to be the administrator. Other grants have been secured by the town for a park, street repairs, sports equipment and traffic control signs.

One major reason for the successful implementation of town improvements is the new relationship created between the town and outside governmental agencies and organizations. ASCOG has functioned in an advisory capacity, with management assistance, economic planning, and grants processing. The Comanche County Commissioners office has provided legal help and equipment for local work days. The county Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) program has provided short-term work crews for special projects, including 9 summer youth work force slots. The EDA and FmHA administration officials have come to public meetings in Indianoma to provide information and help in working with their agencies. A longstanding creative partnership has been strengthened with the Treasure Lake Job Corps center located near the town. Job Corpsmen involved in construction training have provided voluntary labor for town-financed improvement projects, including school additions, community center remodeling and Indianoma festival preparation.



"Civic pride and progress are alive and well in Indianahoma."

- THE COTTON ELECTRIC CURRENT
July 14, 1980



c. FINANCIAL INVESTMENT AND BUSINESS ACTIVITY

The small but increasingly vibrant business sector of the Indianahoma community is struggling to reverse a forty-year trend of declining commercial services. A key to this is the injection of capital through both the private and public sectors. In the past two and one half years almost \$3,000,000 has been attracted. Of this \$1,633,000 has been private investment (55% of the total) in new businesses, new house construction and building improvements. \$1,362,750 has been from the public sector (45%) in the form of loans and grants for major improvements in basic services which create a foundation and an atmosphere for long-range economic development. These include street paving, housing rehab, water lines replacement, construction of a public market and other community improvements.

New businesses include Possum Hollow Ranch Supply, Carother's Grocery and Station, the Indianahoma Watch Shop and a cafe. A local facility was leased and operated by the Wellington Steel Co. of Ohio on a contract job for the Lawton Goodyear Tire Plant, employing local welders for its three month contract. All of these efforts hold the promise of renewed business expansion over the next few years.

FINANCIAL INVESTMENT IN THE INDIAHOMA COMMUNITY (1978-1980)			
SECTOR	PROJECT	SOURCE	AMOUNT
PRIVATE	Businesses - New/ Expanded	Individuals/Banks	\$ 25,000
	Churches - Additions/ Improvements	Congregations	75,000
	Community Life - Signs/ Celebrations	Donations	4,000
	Housing - New/Improved	Individuals/Banks	1,520,000
	Services - Health Center/ Community Center	Donations	<u>9,000</u>
		PRIVATE TOTAL	\$1,633,000
PUBLIC	Community Development Street Paving/ Housing Rehab/ Water Lines	Housing and Urban Development (HUD)- Community Block Grant	840,000
	Day Care Center	Great Plains Improve- ment Foundation	1,500
	Derrisaw Park	Heritage, Conservation and Recreation Service (HCRS)/Town Board	6,000
	Public Housing Modernization/Upkeep	HUD	21,250
	Public Market (Mini-Mall)	Economic Development Agency (EDA)/ Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) Loan	200,000
	School Cafeteria	Indiahoma School Dis trict/Job Corps	16,000
	Traffic Signs	Oklahoma Dept. of Transportation	1,000
	VISTA Program Travel/Stipends	ACTION	67,000
	Water System	FmHA Loan	<u>210,000</u>
		PUBLIC TOTAL	1,362,750
GRAND TOTAL			\$2,995,750

"Given patience, given determination, I am sure that you are going to see here a (public market) facility that you will be proud of. The thing that I particularly respect when I look at this town is the idea that you 'can do.' You can do, you can do it yourself. Admittedly, you get to a point where you need a little outside help. But it is so much more pleasant to ask for help when you have reached the point where you've done everything you can. You then deserve the assistance that you are getting."

- Director of Economic Development, ASCOG 11/80

d. INDIAHOMA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Indiahoma Community Development Corporation (ICDC) was incorporated after several community meetings in May 1979 to promote the economic, social and human development of the entire Indiahoma district. The ICDC is a private, not-for-profit association of forty members and a Board of Directors of seven local citizens. This development group has been instrumental in many community projects, including the operation of the Community Center, Health Center, The Indiahoma Voice, the VISTA Project, and the support of local efforts for business and industrial development.

After the community initiated contacts with the EDA office in Oklahoma City, the ICDC was incorporated and applied for and received a \$120,000 grant from EDA to build a public market facility. After several months of work through ASCOG, the ICDC received a FmHA loan of \$80,000 with a 40-year, 5% payback schedule as the community's local match. The public market or 'mini-mall' is currently designed to provide nine new shops for commercial services and community activities. Architectural blueprints and specifications have been completed and an option is signed to purchase 2.9 acres of land on the corner of Showplace Boulevard and Post Oak at the town entrance from US Highway 62. Final arrangements are being made by the corporation's attorney with EDA and FmHA. Construction of the public market will begin in the spring of 1981. The loan will be repaid with rent collected from occupying businesses and all money over and above management and reserve will be made available to the Indiahoma community for helping local citizens start new businesses and industry. The ICDC is committed to a self-supporting local community, providing local employment and pride in production. The ICDC hopes to bring the many untapped skills and crafts in the community to productive service for the sake of the entire community.

The ICDC is eager to work closely with the Town Board on needed projects, as well as with other organizations in the community which are in need of financial or technical assistance. Furthermore it is the intention of the ICDC to help relate the community to county, state and national needs and resources.

2. TOWARD HUMAN SELF-CONFIDENCE

INTENT: Over the past two and one half years the residents of the Indianahoma community have intended to build a cohesive style of life by engaging organizations and individuals in the community, recovering their heritage, increasing celebrations and community-wide activities and creating information exchange.

CONTRADICTIONS: Although all underlying contradictions affect to a greater or lesser degree every area of local development, those which appear most directly related to human self-confidence, had to do with conflicting images of community life, inadequate circulation of civic information and unintentional forms of decision making.

INDICATORS OF CHANGE: Among the many indicators of change in the arena of community self-confidence, these four are representative.

a. INCREASED COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS

The first annual Festival of Home Towns in May 1980 drew 2000 people from south-central Oklahoma and north Texas to celebrate the vitality of small town life. Other new community-wide events, such as the annual Country Western Show fanned the flames of a new spirit in Indianahoma.

b. SYMBOLS OF PRIDE AND UNITY

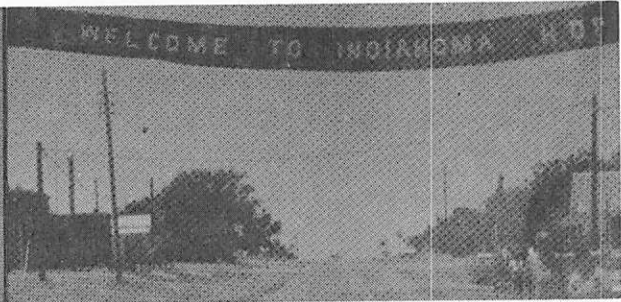
A new welcome sign on US Highway 62 declares "INDIAHOMA - OUR HOME TOWN". New street signs, a "Warrior" mural and several other symbols remind the community of its unique heritage.

c. REGULAR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Without a newspaper for 40 years, the community launched The Indianahoma Voice which has been published twice a month for the past two and one half years and mailed to every family in the district as well as outside to many friends of Indianahoma.

d. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Residents restored the old bank building for use as a Community Center for activities and meetings. Youth programs, an active Volunteer Fire Department and expanded organizational activities mark the community today.



"I am pleased to see the community spirit that prevails here...Our history is one of people working together. People came together and they did it themselves. It's the spirit that built our state and that's why it excites me to see this happening again...You really are to be congratulated for this kind of an attitude."

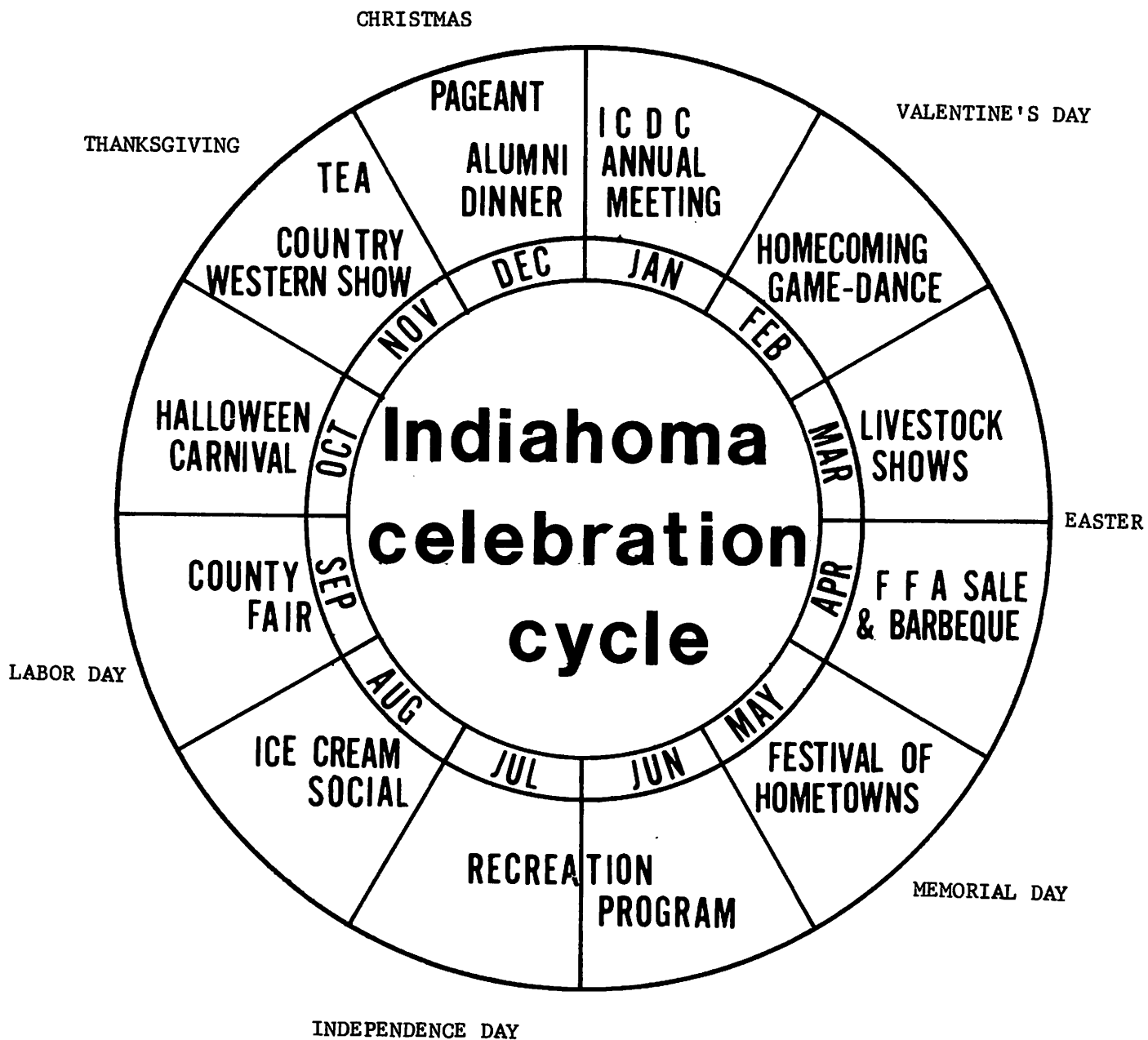
The Hon. David Boren
Governor of Oklahoma
August 3, 1978

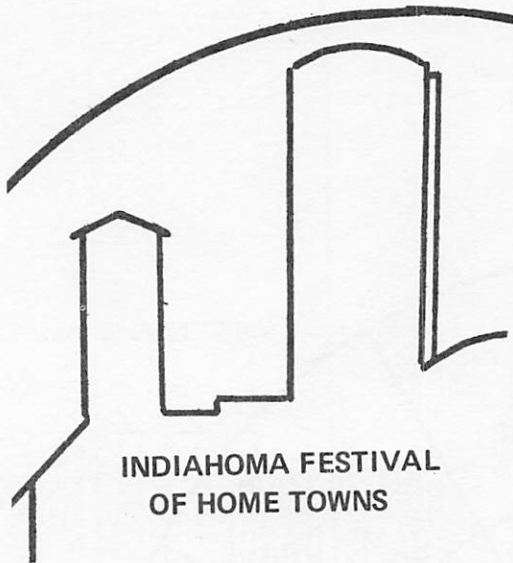
a. INCREASED COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS

The spirit of a community is best demonstrated in its celebrations and special events. Indianahoma turned out in its finest to welcome Governor David Boren in July 1978 immediately following the Consult. This was an event of great pride as he praised the people of Indianahoma as representing a "rekindling of the pioneer spirit that gave birth to Oklahoma as well as our nation as a whole".

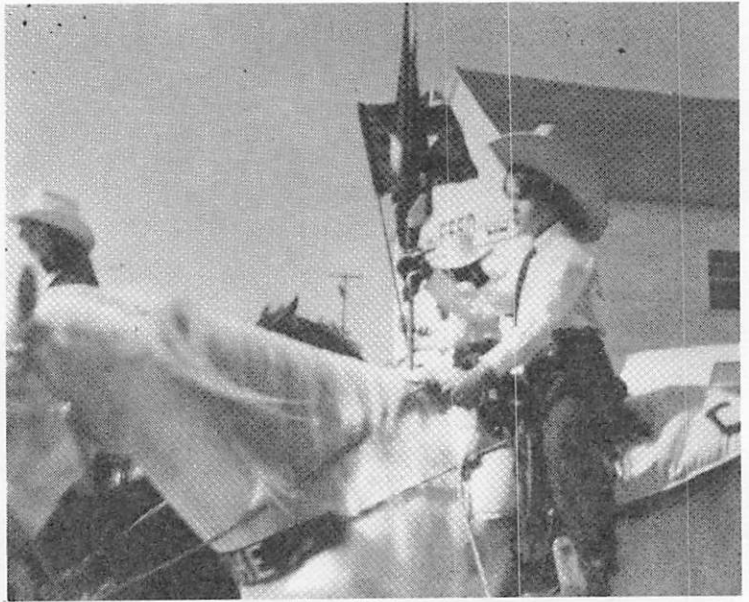
In December of 1978, the community held its first annual Country/Western Show which featured the talent of the local band as well as others in the community, and nearby towns. This event has been adopted by the school classes and draws a talented group of performers and enthusiastic crowds. It has become an opportunity for the community to celebrate its life through country-western music.

Out of the renewed community pride of Indianahoma came a decision to host a "Festival of Home Towns" in May 1980 on Memorial Day Weekend. This major undertaking took the hard work of many people of the community, Job Corps, VISTA Volunteers, CETA workers, and generated a great deal of excitement in the community. Key to the event was the decision to have "something for everyone" -- a street dance, parade, two-mile run, pet contest, games, food fair, pow wow, church services, horse show, tour of the Wildlife Refuge, and booths featuring food, jewelry and displays. Financial support was received from the State Arts Council and the Great Plains Country as well as 41 businesses in the area. The parade, pow wow and horse show were the first in over 40 years.



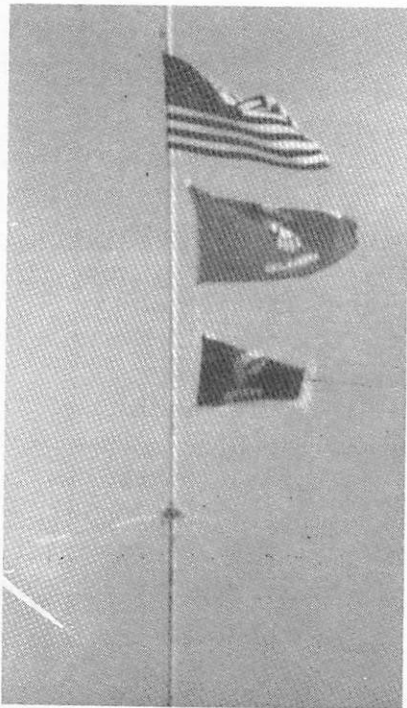
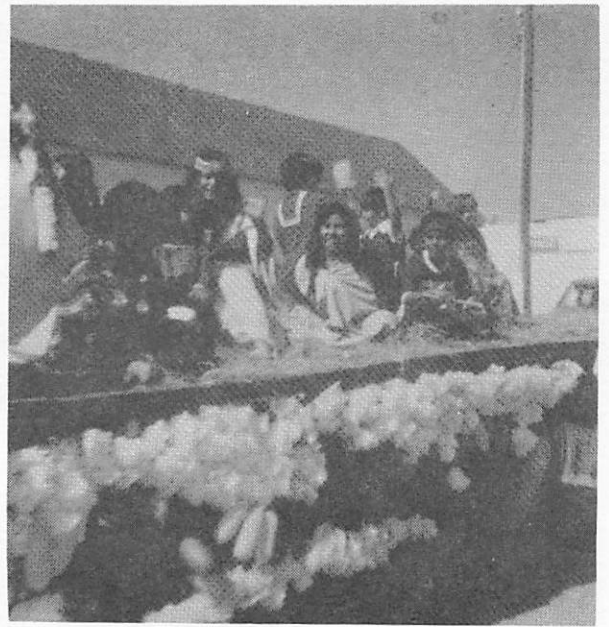


INDIAHOMA FESTIVAL OF HOME TOWNS



INDIAHOMA FESTIVAL OF HOME TOWNS:

The purpose of the Festival is to recognize the importance of having a home town and of the individualism of these home towns. The Festival will celebrate the fact that Every Home Town is a Great Place to Be Alive, whether it be a rural town or an urban neighborhood, whether it be highly developed or just beginning to care for itself anew. People working together for a common goal, communities working together for a common goal, nations working together for a common goal - this is our reason for celebrating with the Festival of Home Towns.



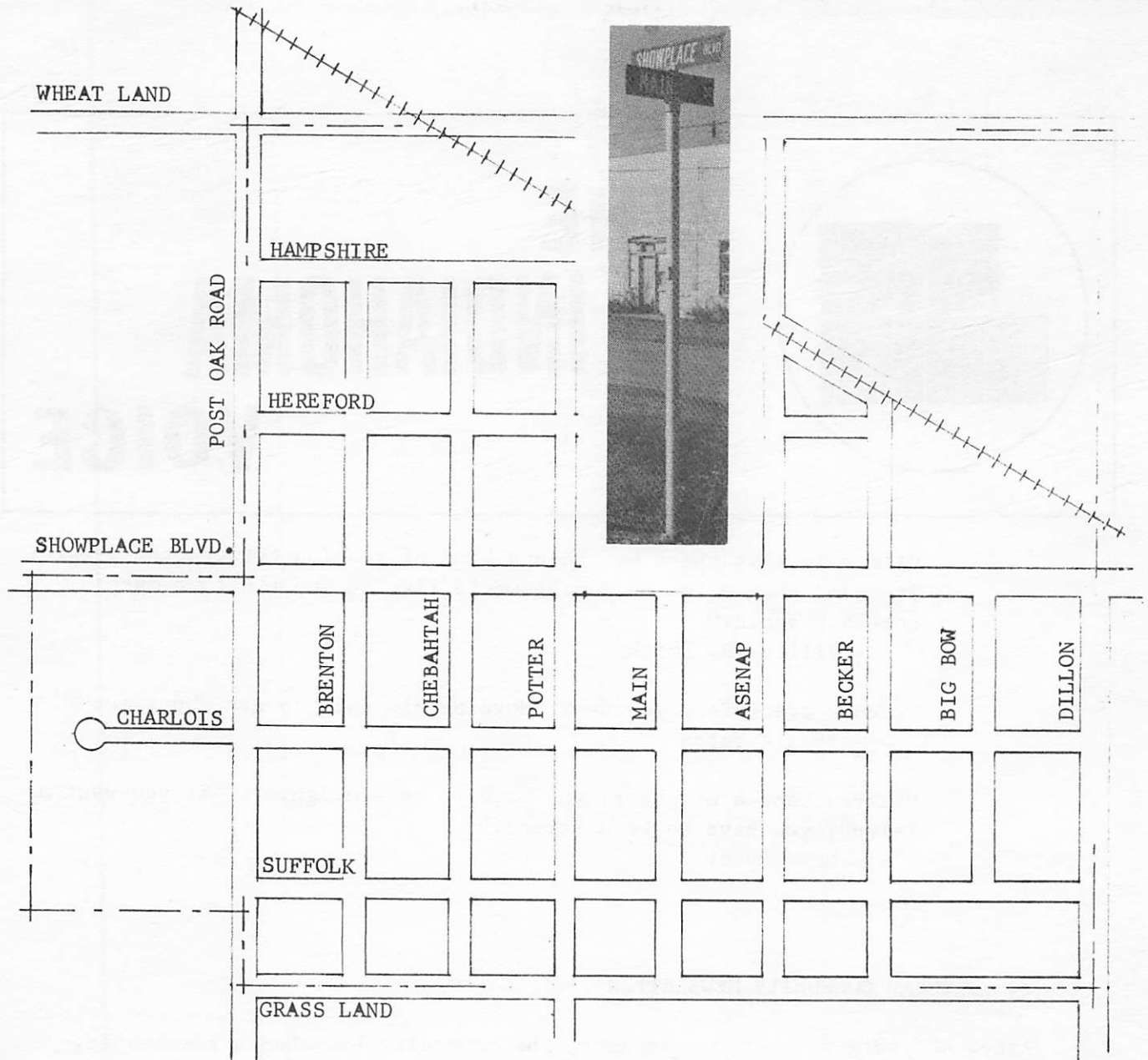


b. SYMBOLS OF PRIDE AND UNITY

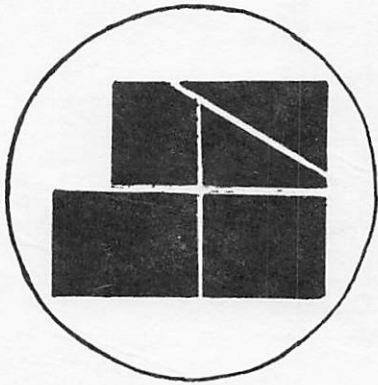
After four decades of population loss and general decline, community residents gathered in August 1978, in a series of neighborhood meetings to select names for the town's streets. Traditionally the center street running north/south was known as Main Street but people had forgotten the other names. Through these meetings the streets were renamed to reflect the uniqueness of Indianahoma. The streets running north/south were all named after historical families of Indianahoma, alternating native American and white families names, except for the traditional section line on the west edge of town. It was named after the old Menonite Post Oak Mission in the area. The streets running east/west were named to capture the agricultural nature of the community. The thoroughfare through town, which was old Highway 62, was renamed Showplace Boulevard to claim the future possibility of the town. The community raised money to have street signs made. The new signs were put up by the Future Farmers of America (FFA), the Future Homemakers of America (FHA), city employees and volunteers. Today these bright blue signs are daily reminders of the community's identity.

During the initial Consultation, large signs were put up on the roads announcing the Human Development Project. After the one on Highway 62 was toppled several times by strong winds, it was decided to erect a more permanent welcome sign for the community. The school Student Council sponsored a contest, and a local resident designed the winning entry. Several people in the community helped paint the new welcome sign and it was erected in April, 1980, reflecting a new sense of pride in "OUR HOME TOWN".

The new water tower has become a symbol for Indianahoma as it displays the colors of the Indianahoma school, painted white with a black cap and the town name in large black letters. Another significant source of pride for the community is the mural in the gym lobby painted in August 1980 by a Corpsman from the Treasure Lake Job Corps. It depicts the strength of the Indian warrior and the beauty of the Wichita Mountains, welcoming all to "Warrior Land".



THE CITY OF INDIAHOMA STREET NAMES			
NORTH-SOUTH HISTORIC NAMES		EAST-WEST AGRICULTURAL NAMES	
POST OAK	- Mennonite Mission	WHEATLAND	- Plains Crop
BRENTON	- Pioneer Grocer	HAMPSHIRE	- Swine Breed
CHEBAHTAH	- Comanche Scout	HEREFORD	- Cattle Breed
POTTER	- Pioneer Merchant	SHOWPLACE	- Community Pride
MAIN	- Traditional Street	CHARLOIS	- Cattle Breed
ASENAP	- Comanche Interpreter	SUFFOLK	- Sheep Breed
BECKER	- Mennonite Missionaries	GRASSLAND	- Plains Vegetation
BIG BOW	- Kiowa Chief		
DILLON	- First Postmaster		



THE INDIAHOMA VOICE

"I'm sure that there has been a kind of reunion between the people. It seems that a lot of people would like to see the town make a comeback again."

- William R. Smith

"People are friendlier now. More people call to ask about me."

- Bessie Yates

"If you want a neighbor, you have to be a neighbor. If you want a friend, you have to be a friend."

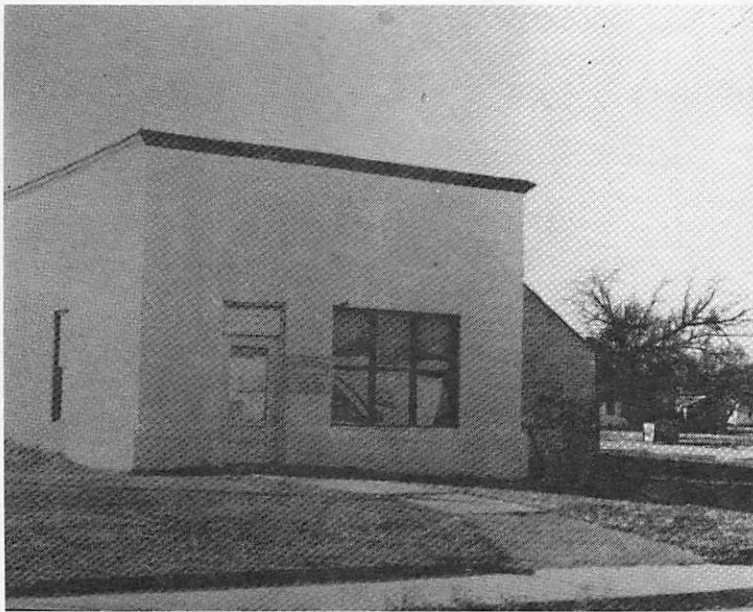
- Mrs. Ryder

c. REGULAR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

After 40 years without a newspaper, the community launched a newsletter, The Indianahoma Voice, in July 1978, to exchange information about events in the community. This effort has grown into a bi-weekly newsletter of six pages that covers the issues facing the community, school news, area news, advertising of businesses, and other articles contributed by residents. A key feature has become the "Old Timers Tales" - interviews with elders from the community which have enriched the awareness of Indianahoma history -- its struggles and successes.

The Voice is produced by a volunteer staff and is now sponsored by the ICDC. It is moving towards being financially self-supporting through advertising and donations. It is mailed to 370 residences in the community; 140 copies go outside the community to former residents and people in the public, private and voluntary sectors who are interested in the development of Indianahoma.

The Voice staff also prints occasional flyers for the community, prepares press releases for area newspapers and designs posters to announce special events.



"In any endeavor, the first thing is to get the people together and work toward a common goal. I think that this spirit is lacking in most towns, but we're having it here and I think that's what a town needs."

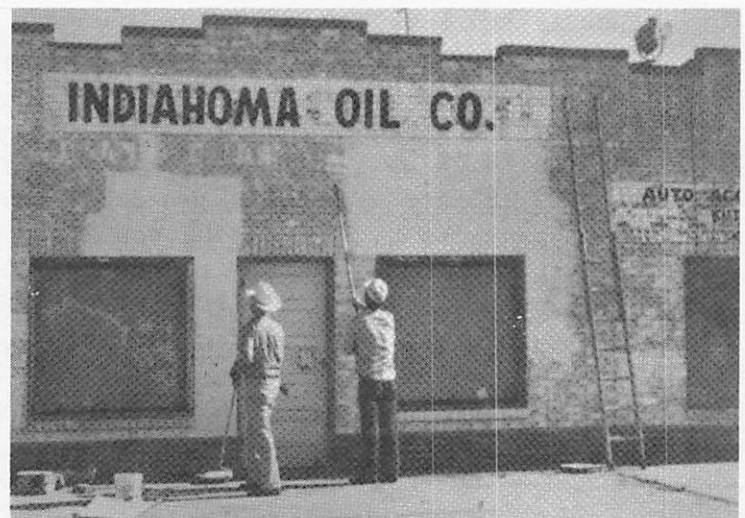
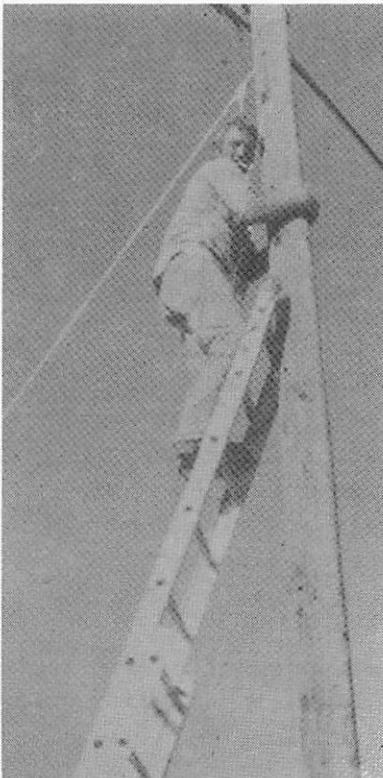
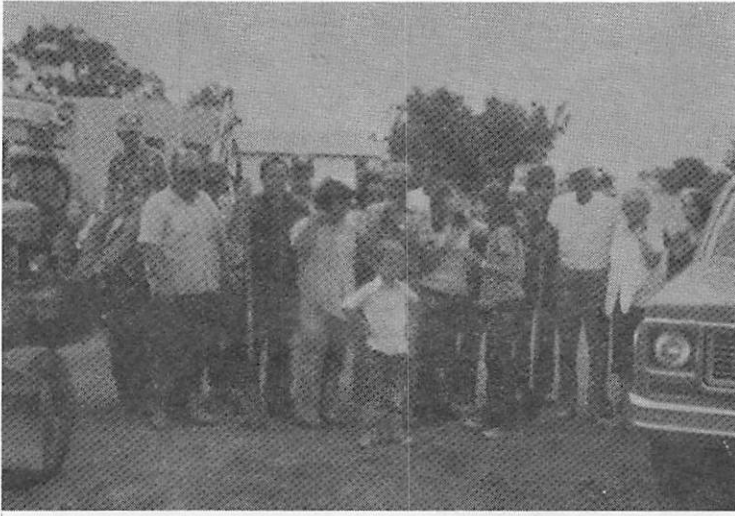
- Mrs. Colleen Jones, August 3, 1978

d. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

The strength of a community is measured in its care and concern for its people. This strength has been present in Indianahoma in the efforts of the Volunteer Fire Department, the volunteer groups related to the school such as FFA Boosters and Young Homemakers Organization, and the hours of labor donated by the Town Board and School Board members.

Following the Consult the community was given permission to use the old bank building as a community center. An abandoned building for 15 years, it was renovated in 1978 and serves as a place for meetings, classes, Voice production, VISTA Volunteer activities, as well as interview space for representatives of the county to aid community residents with food stamps and winter heating bills relief, saving community residents the trip to Lawton.

Other signs of community care have been the formal organizing of a Park Board and a Child Day Care Center Board. Informally some volunteers joined forces over four months to create the "Festival of Home Towns".



3. TOWARD SOCIAL SELF-RELIANCE

INTENT: The intent of the Indianhoma community over the past two and one half years has been to care for its residents and environment by beautifying the town, improving housing, expanding educational services, providing health care and creating a recreational park system.

CONTRADICTION: All of the contradictions delineated in the 1978 Consultation are to some extent related to the social development of Indianhoma. Those which seem the most directly related were remote health care, undeveloped community space and inadequate means of delivering basic services.

INDICATORS OF CHANGE: The following are the most dramatic indicators of a growing self-reliance in Indianhoma.

a. INDIAHOMA HEALTH CENTER

After 30 years without a health facility, residents established a health center through the rehabilitation and equipping of a donated building. A public health nurse has provided preventive care through monthly checkups and referrals during the past two and one half years.

b. BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS AND TOWN BEAUTIFICATION

All five churches and two commercial buildings have made additions or have been renovated. Two donated buildings have been remodeled for community use. Forty six homes have been improved. Numerous community work days have been held.

c. RECREATION AND PARK DEVELOPMENTS

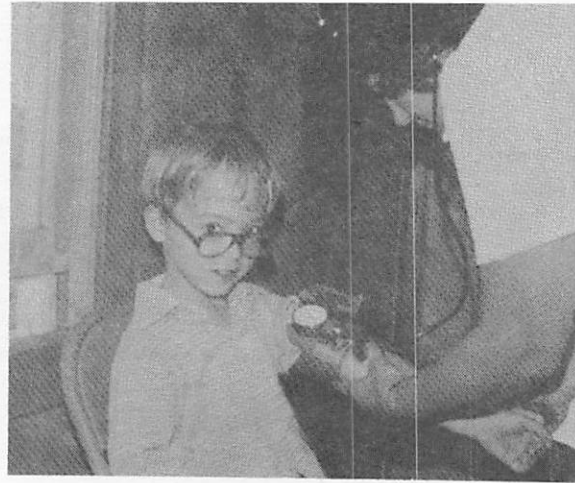
In 1979, a Little League program was held and during the 1980 summer a six-week recreational program provided activities for both children and adults. The town received a park grant and a new park board is making final plans for park construction to begin in spring of 1981.

d. INDIAHOMA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

New curriculum activities, expanded services, new facilities, new extra-curricular activities have enlivened the Indianhoma Schools, while a pre-school is being formed.

"Few medical problems in Oklahoma are more acute than delivery of services in small towns. This program in Indianhoma may well serve as a model for other communities to pattern after."

- Senator Al Terrill



a. INDAHOMA HEALTH CENTER

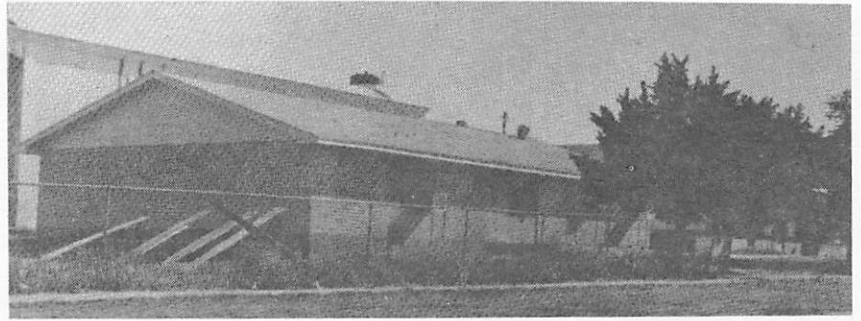
"A major dream of the community is to have health services available," read one of the goals during the Consult week in June 1978. Indiahoma had not had a local clinic for over 30 years. Residents immediately got together and held several meetings to decide what steps would be taken. A local resident offered the use of the old dilapidated doctor's office building and former Indian agency office. A series of work days completely refurbished the building with new walls, ceilings, bathroom, water and electricity. Inkind donations of furniture and medical supplies were obtained, particularly in Oklahoma City, with the help of a physician who has been a continual advisor to the Health Center. A three-day Health Fair was held in October 1978. Events at the Fair included a proper diet presentation, a well-baby program, an immunization clinic, blood pressure checks and lung capacity checks, and a presentation of rescue techniques. The Health Caretakers were commissioned to care for the health of their neighbors and the Center was opened.

For the past twenty months the Center has operated on a regular monthly schedule with a visiting public health nurse from Comanche County examining 20 to 25 people on each visit. Blood pressure and height and weight testing are done without appointment. Diabetes, anemia, and glaucoma screening are offered by appointment, and pap smear and breast exams are scheduled for the near future. There is no charge for services at the Center, as donations and town funds pay for the upkeep.

Other health-related activities have also happened. Two residents have taken their Cardiac Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training at Cameron University, and nine others were trained by the Red Cross in Indiahoma. Another aspect of preventive health is the elders nutrition center in Cache, a nearby town. Citizens are taken by bus every weekday for a hot lunch as well as fellowship. Currently 17 to 20 Indiahomans are taking advantage of the program on a regular basis. During the heat wave of 1980, the Community Center was designated as a heat relief center and was outfitted with a large evaporative cooler.

"People are working together who have lived here but haven't worked together before."

-Mildred Preast

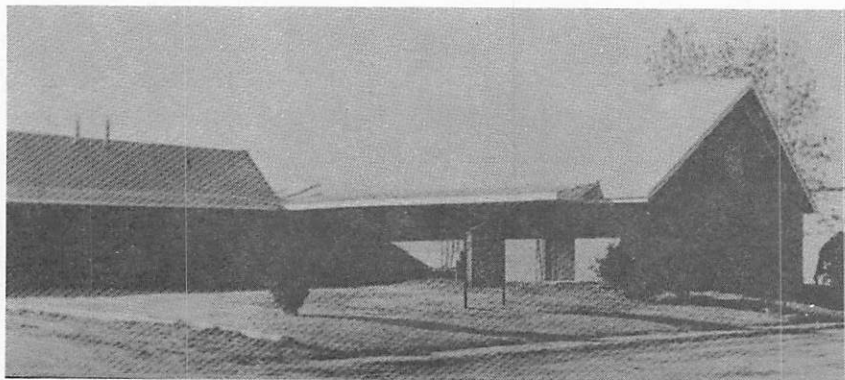
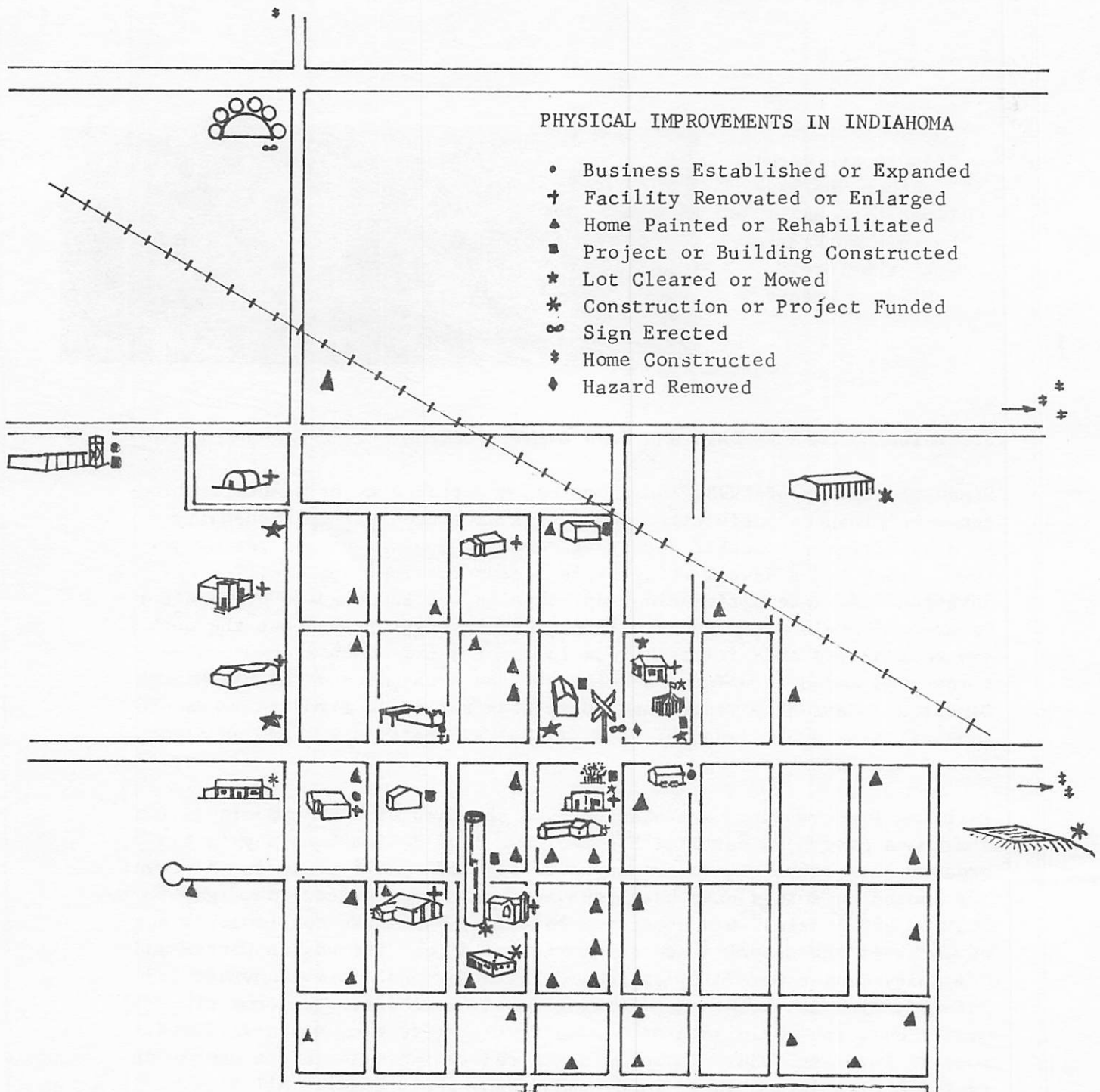


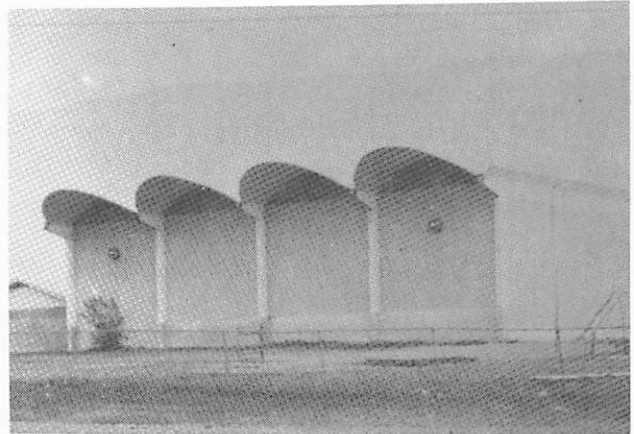
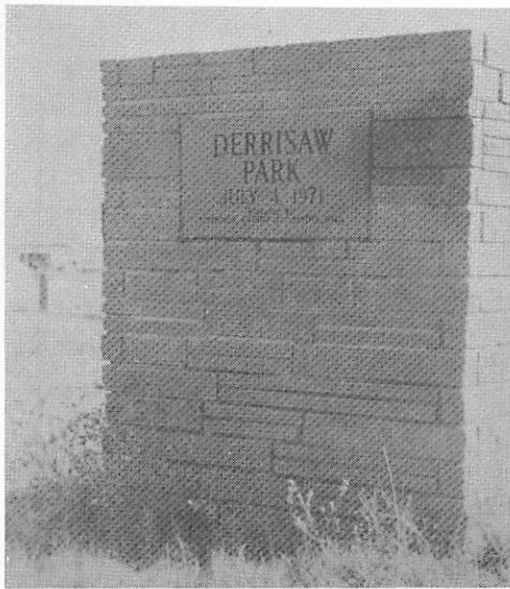
b. BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS AND TOWN BEAUTIFICATION

Since the summer of 1978, Indianahoma has undertaken major beautification and town clean-up activities. Work days have been held periodically to draw citizens together for trash removal, mowing, vacant lot clearing, street and sidewalk repair, plaza construction, and facility renovation. An intensified clean-up campaign was launched to prepare for Governor Boren's visit in July 1978. People still talk about the work day that hauled over fifteen truck-loads of junk. Even a downtown street was paved by volunteer workers. The areas around the new Health Center and Community Center have both been reclaimed from the weeds and junk piles as public spaces, with sidewalks, grassy spots and an imaginative flower planter.

Building improvements have also changed the face of the community. Two new homes have been built within the town, and at least twenty in the broader community. Improvements have been made in 46 homes in the town. Two unused buildings have been renovated as a convenience store/gas station and a cafe. Six other new buildings have been constructed, one of which is the school's new cafeteria building. The Health Center and Community Center were old, abandoned buildings that were renovated and painted, with new bathrooms, ceilings, and furniture. The Community Center building was placed on the National Register of Historic Buildings in November 1980. There is a noticeable increase in the number of families cleaning up their yards and fixing their homes. All five churches have completed major construction work, including building additions and a new parsonage. Five downtown buildings were painted during the summer of 1978.

When the community decided to hold a four-day festival in May 1980, people launched a major clean-up of the festival grounds, a vacant block lot near the center of town, as well as a general town clean-up. Clubs and organizations have started special beautification projects: the FHA planted trees in March 1980; and the 4-H Club built the planter at the Community Center. A plan is currently being developed to plant trees for a windbreak on the edge of town.





c. RECREATION AND PARK DEVELOPMENTS

Recreational activities in the past have focused on summer youth programs, particularly Little League baseball. In 1979, the Little League was a very successful program. In 1980, Indianahoma missed getting on the schedule. This spurred community leaders and parents into action. Community VISTA Volunteers and teenage CETA workers helped organize a six-week program that provided sports activities, arts and crafts classes twice a week, and field trips. The city applied for and received over \$500.00 of sports equipment from the Great Plains Improvement Foundation (CAP) in Lawton. The highlight of this program was the weekly swimming trip to a nearby pool. This began with forty-two participants and grew to over a hundred swimmers and observers by the end of the summer. Several of the swimming evenings were concluded with an ice cream social or a watermelon feast at the Community Center. This concern by the community for the youth is ongoing and a new youth activities committee has been formed by the churches. This group meets regularly to plan for youth recreation programs and has undertaken renovation of an old gym for use by the youth and young adults.

In 1903 at the town's incorporation a park reserve was set aside. In 1971, the park was dedicated to Virginia Derrisaw, the first woman mayor of Indianahoma and one of the first in the entire state. No major effort was undertaken to develop the space until 1979 when a comprehensive plan was created and submitted to the Heritage, Conservation and Recreation Service (HCRS) for funding. A \$3000.00 grant with 50% matching was announced in June 1980, and a 9-member Park Board has been appointed by the Town Board to oversee the development. Construction is set to begin in spring 1981 for a physical fitness trail, dance pavillion, children's playfield, barbeque pit, and restrooms.

d. INDIAHOMA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The Indianhoma Public School was founded in 1903, and by 1923 included an elementary, junior and high school. Over the past years it has provided a central focus for the whole community. In response to the national trend of closing small schools came a renewed determination to keep the Indianhoma schools open. The past several years reflect several positive changes in the arenas of curriculum expansion, vocational guidance, and school spirit.

The elementary teachers and their principal, with the assistance of the reading specialist have individualized the reading program so that all students are working on their respective levels. The special education department has increased to three teachers. The Johnson-O'Malley Committee has become an integral part of the school system by individually assisting the Native American students and furnishing teacher assistants to aid those students with special needs. The Indianhoma School has become a part of a cooperative effort with other schools in a computerized math program which has energized new excitement among the students. The Title programs have improved communication and computational skills of the children involved. The school's first Library Club was formed in October 1980.

In the arena of career development the vocational departments have actively pursued new avenues for their students with great results. The guidance and counselling department is gathering data and supplies plus refurbishing a room for a new career resource center.

New spirit has been instilled in the student body by the newly revived High School and Junior High Cheerleaders. In 1979, the Junior Class sponsored the 2nd Annual Country Western Show and in 1980, the Senior Class sponsored the 3rd Annual Show. There are new curtains in the auditorium made by parents and teachers, a "Warrior" mural in the gym lobby, and a new cafeteria built by the Treasure Lake Job Corps. And finally, the school held a very successful Open House during Indianhoma Week, the first in several years, with over 200 visitors.

Indiahoma initiated a well-received Headstart Program in the school in the summer of 1970. Due to space requirements, it had to be discontinued in 1977. Therefore a Day Care Center for Indianhoma was a part of the Consult plan in June 1978. In July 1980, the Great Plains Improvement Foundation (CAP) awarded \$1500 to be used to establish this Center. In October 1980 the Center board was appointed, and has proceeded to rent a facility which meets all standards required by state law. The projected opening is January 1981. It will provide for 15 pre-school children with a curriculum allowing for physical, intellectual, social and emotional development. The key to success will be parental involvement and support of the community.



Photos by Tim Ford, Lawton Constitution

Indiahoma Celebrates First Year Of IHDP

The town of Indiahoma celebrated the first completed year of their Human Development Project (IHDP) under the direction of the Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA) Saturday afternoon with Lt. Gov. Spencer Bernard delivering the keynote address.

of the legislature and House of Representatives said that Indiahoma had captured the original pioneer spirit which has built Oklahoma.

"You make your own luck. Someone once said that luck is the combination of determination and hard work," he

"We are sitting in a state which is on the verge of becoming one of the strongest states in the union. Over past eight years Oklahoma has established over 75,000 new manufacturing jobs and we have the lowest unemployment in the nation.

homa from all over the nation." In delivering the project report Indiahoma's second woman mayor, Barbara Bailey said that she felt like a great deal has been accomplished and promised much more to come next year.

The human development workers have successfully completed the construction of a community health center complete with the necessary facilities for the Comanche County Health nurse to come monthly to give checkups to those in need.

"Our health center has really become a reality working closely with the county health department. We've had over 75 people checked

Community Pride Reflected In Indiahoma's

By BILL BRAUN

INDIAHOMA (Staff) — Another step in the ongoing effort to revitalize Indiahoma was taken Tuesday with the erection of street signs.

The signs were mounted on 30 metal poles located at intersections throughout the community, according to Mayor Barbara Bailey.

The attitude behind the drive to heighten a sense of community pride

such as A, B, C, or D Street, and were not marked with signs.

Now, Mrs. Bailey said, north-south streets are named after settlers, Indians, missionaries, geographical landmarks and other fragments of Indiahoma's history. The names include Post Oak, Dillon (an early settler), Becker, one of the first white missionaries, and Chetula (a Comanche scout), she said.

The street and sign project cost about \$2,200 and was financed with city money and fund-raising efforts. Additional materials were donated as was the labor involved. The signs have been ready for some time, but officials delayed the arrival of spring and completion of the job during and past winter work before erecting the markers.



New Street Signs

Indiahoma Seeks Aid For Market Project

By BILL BRAUN

INDIAHOMA (Staff) — Business-shy Indiahoma could have eight or 10 new shops a year from now on if a \$200,000 "public market" project develops as currently designed.

The plan entails construction of a mini-mall, to be located on the southwest edge of town. A pre-application for a \$120,000 grant has been submitted by the Economic Development Administration, which EDA funds will be provided if applicant complies with procedures and administrative requirements in seeking the grant.

As conceived, the mini-mall will encompass 4,300 square feet and house eight or 10 small shops, Mayor Barbara Bailey said.

It appears now that a pharmacy, beauty shop, wholesale Indian costume shop, Indian craft and jewelry shop, women's clothes store and combination coffee-shop bakery, plus other

from the mall interior, plans include a paved parking area and construction of outdoor stalls to allow for short-term sale of produce or "flea market" items, Mrs. Bailey said.

EDA officials are to announce by Oct. 1 whether funds will be provided during the fiscal year beginning on that date. If final approval is granted

A 2.93-acre tract on Old U.S. 66 at Post Oak Road and Shawnee Boulevard, is the intended site. The developing group has an option to purchase the land, owned by a local citizen, the mayor said.

Efforts are also being made to situate a grocery at Indiahoma, since the community's only grocery store was

Indiahoma festival rated as successful

By SKIP GIBSON

INDIAHOMA (Staff) — Mayor Barbara Bailey Monday rated as highly successful the first annual Festival of Home Towns which attracted several thousand persons to this small community over the weekend.

"We felt like everything went just real well, the size of the crowds, and this being the first time," Mrs. Bailey

event next year. It is just too long for some of the people, so we will probably go to two days and reschedule some events," Mrs. Bailey said.

Two events that proved most popular were the Saturday parade and an evening street dance. Mrs. Bailey said a pet show and games which gave youngsters an opportunity to be actively involved in the festival also proved

INDIAHOMA FESTIVAL OF HOME TOWNS:

The purpose of the Festival is to recognize the importance of having a home town and of the individualism of these home towns. The Festival will celebrate the fact that Every Home Town is a Great Place to Be Alive, whether it be a rural town or an urban neighborhood, whether it be highly developed or just beginning to care for itself anew. People working together for a common goal, communities working together for a common goal, nations working together for a common goal - this is our reason for celebrating with the Festival of Home Towns.

the committee feel best. Any people commented the parade and street dance it was the best thing they had seen in Indiahoma in a long time. Some people had the street dance after it was held the first time. It began Friday with both shops and ended Monday.



Indiahoma gets grant for park

INDIAHOMA (Staff) — The Town of Indiahoma has recently been awarded a \$3,000 grant by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Services for the development of Derrisaw Park. This announcement came from fourth district Congressman Tom Steed.

Funding will cover development of a picnic area, trails, sports and playfield and support facilities.

A matching grant of \$3,000 is being

Indiahoma Week due wrap up with dinner

INDIAHOMA (Staff) — Indiahoma Week will be concluded with a dinner tonight and a turkey shoot Sunday.

The community supper will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Awards will be presented to Indiahoma citizens and guests plus visitors from Texas, Lawton, Oklahoma City and other local towns.

The Future Farmers of America Turkey Shoot is set for 1 p.m. by the barn. Competition classes will include school district residents, students, age

Friday afternoon FFA students and VISTA volunteers tore down and cleaned up a porch on the old Indiahoma Oil Co. building. The porch had been damaged and presented a hazard.

Indiahoma began its successful course of community action in 1978 when it consulted with a group from the Institute of Cultural Affairs, a non-profit human development organization, and others.

Through these efforts Indiahoma citizens have improved the town using their own money and also by seeking out government grants.

Indiahoma hires grants manager

INDIAHOMA (Staff) — A home-town attorney was hired by the Indiahoma Board of Trustees at its regular meeting Monday night to be its federal grants manager.

Darryl Perry, 27, will start his work on Indiahoma's three-year, \$840,000 development grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Perry, an Indiahoma High School alumnus, studied business and accounting at Cameron University and graduated from the University of Oklahoma Law School in 1978. He is also a part-time municipal judge at Indiahoma.

He and his wife, Sydney, are expecting their first child in a few months.

New water tank nearly finished, already towering at Indiahoma

C. FUTURE - THE PROMISE OF TOMORROW

1. THE IMPLICATIONS OF HOPE

After two and one half years of socio-economic development, Indiahoma is moving into a new phase of sharing its story and deepening its resolution to create a demonstration of a viable small town for the 1980's. One clear indication of this shift in Indiahoma has been its new relationship with nearby communities. Over sixty articles have appeared in newspapers and magazines around the state as well as numerous television news briefs, reporting 'a formerly dying town coming alive with a new hope and determination'. Residents have carried this story of 'new hope' as far as Pisinemo, Arizona, Chicago and Houston. Due to its signs of change, Indiahoma has also had a creative impact on nearby communities through its participation in county structures and the Great Plains Improvement Foundation (GAP). The three county Cotton Electric Cooperative, of which the community is a part, featured the story of Indiahoma in its monthly newspaper. A broader network of communities through the Association of South Central Oklahoma Governments (ASCOG), an eight county area, has heard the Indiahoma story in their newsletter "as an example of people working together for the benefit and betterment of all".

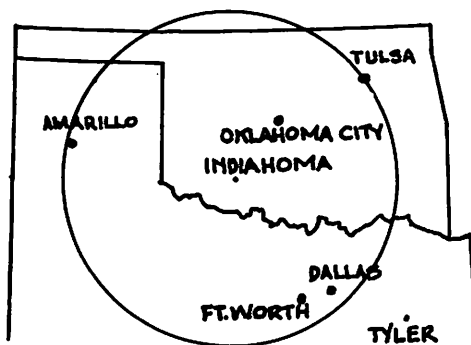
In terms of broader impact, Indiahoma has hosted visitors from 16 states and 6 other nations, all interested in its approach to development and mails The Indiahoma Voice to 140 persons and agencies throughout the USA. Indiahoma hosted the "Festival of Home Towns" over a four day Memorial Day weekend in May 1980, in which over twenty other towns and cities joined in the celebration of revitalized local community.

Indiahoma residents have actively helped other communities plan their future. Two local citizens participated in the Pisinemo Human Development Project consultation on the Papago Indian Reservation in Arizona. Indiahomans have also gone on speaking engagements to Oklahoma City, Tulsa and Dallas and have led "Town Meetings" and "Youth Forums" in northeast Oklahoma and an economic development seminar for Oklahoma state VISTA volunteers.

"Indiahoma Week: Past, Present, Future" in November 1980, was an event which enabled the community, local leaders and volunteers to rehearse the resolve that Indiahoma is a town of the future. The Week began with a workday followed by visits throughout the community collecting data from over fifty random households. After the day of visitation, a community pot-luck was held at the Community Center. At that meeting, additional data was elicited on basic changes and issues facing the community. The next day a Thanksgiving Luncheon was held by the Senior Class and a Community Tea for senior citizens and newcomers was hosted by the Young Homemakers and Future Homemakers. The next five days were

full of community activities such as basketball games, an ecumenical Community Sing, the Treasure Lake Job Corps Awards Ceremony, a High School workshop, a taco supper, film showing of "The World of Human Development", an Indianhoma slide show, School Open House, a work day and the third annual Country Western Show. The events of the week allowed residents to celebrate and support the various groups and activities in the community. Also during the week two task forces were at work. The documentation task force took the data from the community visits and began writing a report on the history, accomplishments and future plans. The extension task force worked with community organizations on the 18 events held and prepared the closing community supper and awards ceremony. Residents from five nearby towns participated in the events of "Indianhoma Week".

The interviews, workshops and conversations of "Indianhoma Week" revealed three major areas for future action. First, the continued increase of citizen leadership through the boards and task forces of the community. Second, the further expansion of economic development in the commercial, industrial and agricultural arenas. Third, a self-conscious response to communities which are interested in learning from Indianhoma about how it has engaged in Human Development. On the closing night of "Indianhoma Week" there were leaders from three neighboring towns present. Following the supper and awards presentations to members of the public and private sectors and local citizens, a three point plan for sharing the 'Indianhoma Story' was drawn up: 1.) preparing a written report on the accomplishments of Indianhoma over the past two and one half years, 2.) preparing a slide show and script to be used for presentations to other communities, 3.) preparing teams of local citizens and consultants which would take the Indianhoma Story across Oklahoma and into other states as well. Following this special week the Mayor spoke further about this to a community meeting and the plan is being put into effect.



FOUR HOURS DRIVE FROM INDIAHOMA

2. THE INSIGHT OF OTHERS

Excerpts from a talk given by Mr. Jim Harrison, Director of Economic Development, ASCOG, during Indianhoma Week, November 1980.

"I know Indianhoma well . . . Southwest Oklahoma has suffered over some period of time with out-migration and the deterioration of some of our economic bases, some of our communities. We think we have turned a corner. We think we are moving in a positive direction. Certainly your community shows evidence of that . . ."

Question: What is the significance of the last two and one half years of Indianhoma's development?

"If I may address this question, and I'm doing it looking at you from 60 or 70 miles away from you. I can see more about you than you can see about yourself. A comment that I would make to you is that I see a significant number of people sitting in the room this evening and judged from what I saw on this program you have been doing several other events. Nonetheless I can look out here and I can see that this room is full, there are people here, and they are people who give a darn. We all too often are invited to small communities in our area and we find a really insignificant number of people who cared enough to go to meetings. It seems to me that this is one of the main things that has come from the program you have gotten yourselves involved in. And I think that's a strong point for you -- involvement in community activities . . . "

Question: How can Indianhoma remain a small town and yet develop?

"If you are smart and you maintain this idea of community. As I've said several times, the cement that holds this thing together is the idea of community. If you plan for your development, if you use debt wisely, if you develop according to your talents and capabilities - these are some of the ways to control both your growth and your development. Also if you look to the farmer around you and bring him in as part of your community, you retain this idea. If you don't try to go too far, too fast. There is nothing wrong with being small. There is really nothing wrong with being large. If you have the personality and character to accept what you are. My suggestion to you is that you are moving in a very positive direction. You are looking to water, looking to sewage. You are looking to drainage. You are looking to streets. You need to continuously look to your municipal services. . . I think the basic thing is to create the personality and character that you desire and then to develop according to this. And try not to do it overnight . . . "

3. THE VISION OF OUR YOUTH

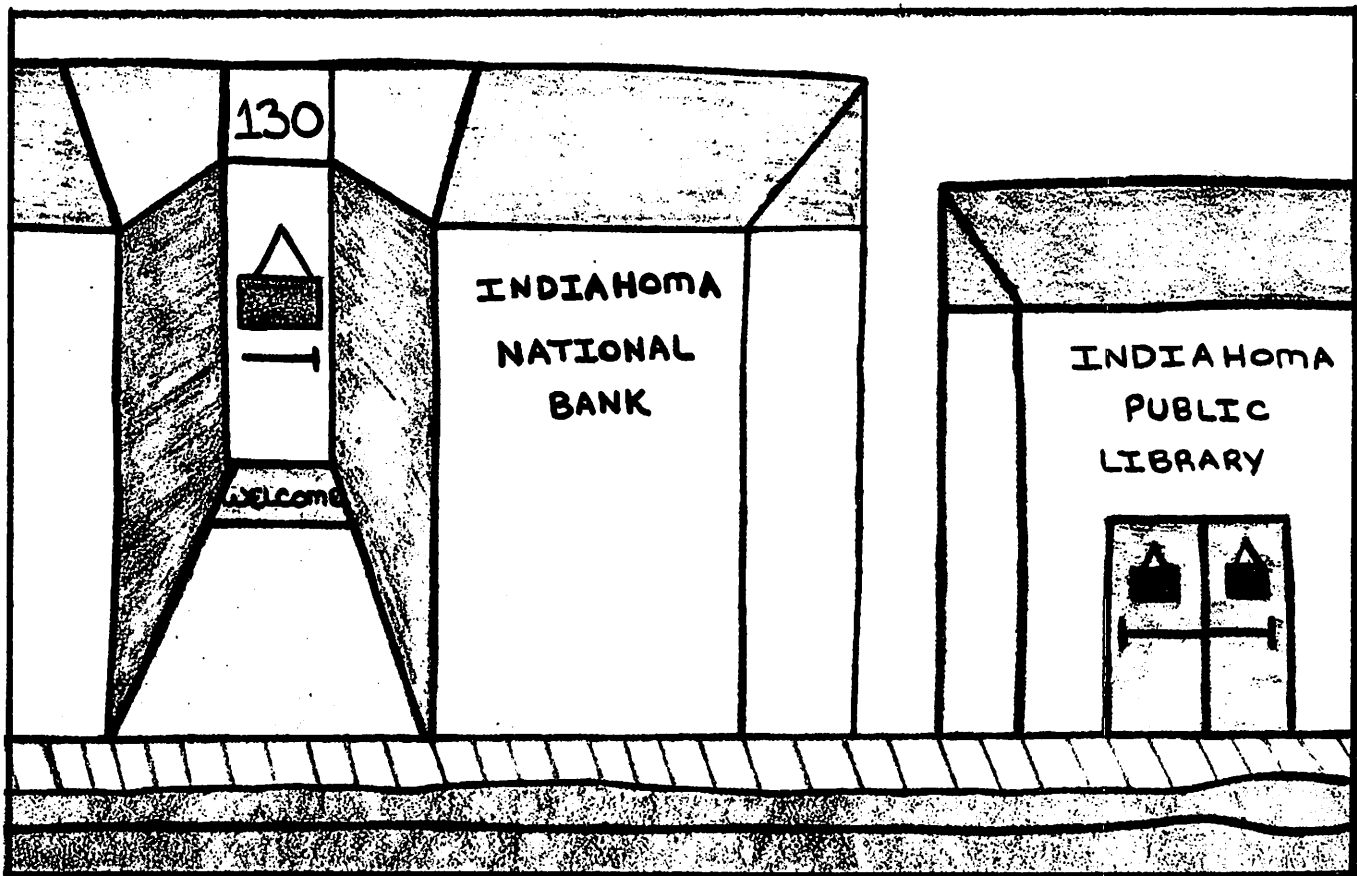
On these two pages are a sampling of essays written about the Future of the American Small Town and drawings showing Futuristic Indiahoma. These were done by students of the Indiahoma School during Indiahoma Week, November, 1980.

FUTURE OF AMERICAN SMALL TOWNS

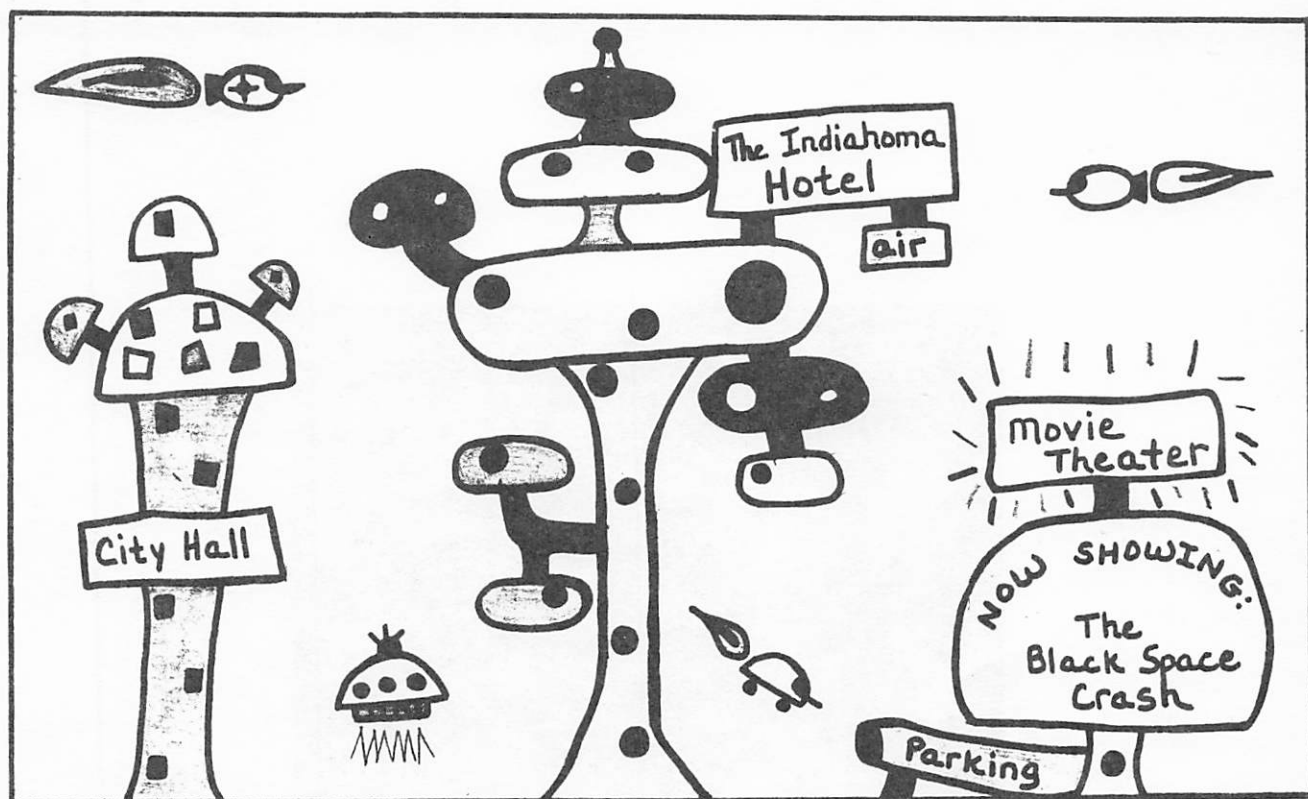
I think that small towns will grow larger, because more and more people are moving out of large cities into the country, to get away from the pollution and noise of the cities. If more people move to small towns then small towns will get more convenient shopping areas and places to eat. They will also have recreation like parks and swimming pools.

Indiahoma itself is already growing. We are planning things for the future of Indiahoma like a park, a mini-mall and school improvements to make our town a more beautiful place to live.

-Laura Bennett, 8th Grade



Tami Wozniak 5th Grade 11/80



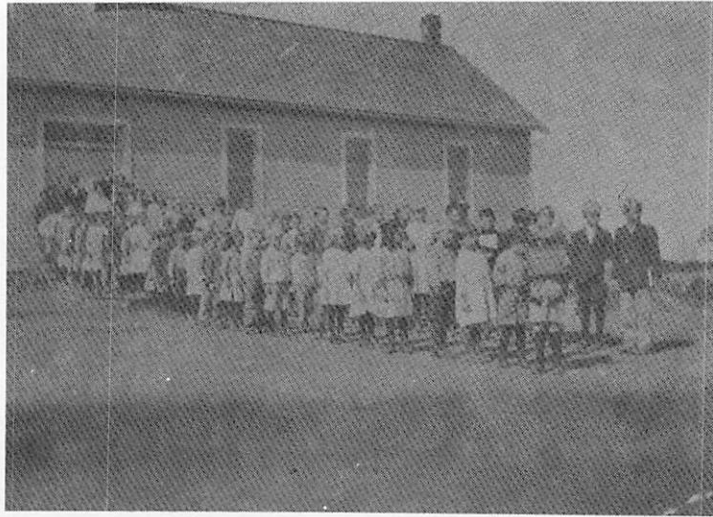
C.V. 6th Grade 11/80

FUTURE OF AMERICAN SMALL TOWNS

The future holds many things people don't know and many times we don't understand. The future holds many different things and changes. I'm sure by the time I'm fairly grown that Indiahoma will have a different store and be a whole lot larger. Within a few years I hope Indiahoma will have the mini-mall that I've heard about. I also hope we have recreation things for the younger and older people. I'm sure they'll enjoy it. Indiahoma may be a small town but it's not like a big city with all the smog and noise. On a winter day you can go outside and about all you would be able to hear is a few cars and maybe an occasional dog bark. In the winter my friends and I can go and walk through the snow without as much danger of getting hit by a car than you would in a city like Oklahoma City. In the summer Indiahoma is a fun place also. On a cool day everybody is out to enjoy the weather.

Indiahoma is a very kind place. The people who live here are very kind also . . . I couldn't name everyone but there are a whole bunch. I hope Indiahoma will improve but in the process I hope the people won't change. If Indiahoma does become a fairly big town I hope the people will participate in community activities. I like to see people get along and cooperate together. I love Indiahoma. I've lived here for 13 years and I really like it here. I hope it will be better by the time I graduate.

-Tonya Lightfoot, 8th Grade



Indiahoma's first school house and class.



School children planting flowers at corner
of Showplace and Main, 1979.

DO YOU CARE?

I love Cache and I love Snyder,
Altus, Lawton, Frederick, too.
But my roots are Indiahoma,
Ought I not to her be true?

Someday she will be a Showplace,
Give her just a year or so.
Folks out here are gettin' with it,
But we've got a ways to go.

Has our city been forgotten,
Do we care for it no more?
While Cache claims to be a gateway,
Surely we can be a door!

Let us as a door be open,
To the benefits at hand.
Then in turn we'll be a blessing
To some others in the land.

Is our city faring better,
Since I've been its resident?
Could I say to Mr. Carter,
"Come and visit, President."

Could we have him tour our city,
Show each street with plenty pride,
Or would it be somewhat tempting
Just to find a place to hide?

I don't like to ask these questions
And to answer them I faint,
For my backyard seems so hopeless --
Needing cleanup, care, and paint.

But there's hope and help a comin'
We're a town that really cares.
We're working with each other,
Sharing community affairs.

Don't let people think we're lazy,
That our feet are full of lead.
There's no use of some a sayin'
There ain't nuthin' in our head.

We are sound of mind, well-balanced,
Let's get started -- we can't wait!
When once this town gets movin',
We'll be best in all the state.

Now it's time to quit the braggin'
Bout our up and comin' city.
All we ask for is your prayin',
We don't want nobody's pity.

- John Heidebrecht , 1978



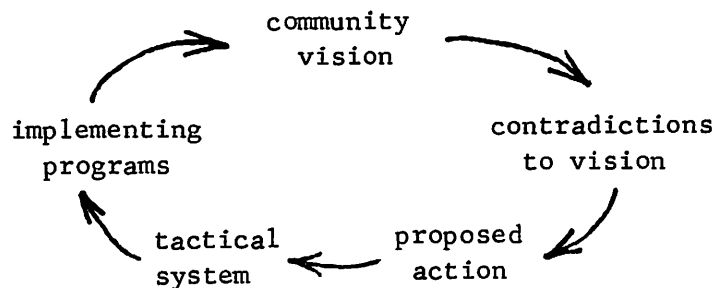
II. The Method of Human Development

Human Development is a unique happening in each community. Each town or neighborhood which decides to enter into the development process gives its own character, style and vitality to the framework. Part I of this report is about that uniqueness. Part II is about the framework.

For this kind of Human Development to begin, a joint decision between a community and an outside consultant such as the Institute of Cultural Affairs is required. The elements of that decision are:

- to become a demonstration of comprehensive development
- to build on the hope of a few people in the midst of apparent hopelessness.
- to act on the desire for both social and economic development
- to engage both local leaders and external consultants
- to make the process available to other communities

Once this joint decision has been made, a major planning event, the Human Development Consultation, is held. Both the process and the documented product of this planning process is illustrated by:



Two sets of principles undergird both the Consultation and the implementing of the community's plan:

Social Principles

Define geographical focus
Deal with all the issues
Work with all age groups
Attack the underlying problem
Highlight community symbols

Economic Principles

Develop local economy as a unit
Invest external capital
Keep money in community
Circulate money within local economy
Expand regional exchange

Each community has available elements which accelerate development by releasing the motivation of people as development takes place:

Support Systems

Public and private sector assistance provides funding
Wide-spread participation creates enthusiasm
Community organizations engage people
Dramatic, visible accomplishments release new hope
Catalytic consultants generate momentum

ONE TOWARD THE BUILDING OF ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN INDIAHOMA				TWO TOWARD THE BUILDING OF COHESIVE STYLE IN INDIAHOMA		THREE TOWARD THE BUILDING OF SOCIAL SELF-RELIANCE IN INDIAHOMA			
LOCAL COMMERCE A		ESSENTIAL SERVICES B				HUMAN ENVIRONMENT D		RESIDENT CARE E	
APPROPRIATE BUSINESS ENTERPRISE I	Shopping Mart 1 Program	CITY UTILITY SERVICE IV	Roadway Improvement Program 13	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT NETWORK VI	Civic Forum 21 Program	TOWN BEAUTIFICATION CAMPAIGN IX	Work Days Program 33	RURAL LIFE INSTITUTE XI	Comprehensive Pre-school 41 Program
	Family Restaurant 2 Program		Water Supply Program 14		Work Force 22 Program		Building Improvement Program 34		Management Skills 42 Program
	Personal Services 3 Program		Sewage Expansion Program 15		Organizational Involvement 23 Program		Systematic Greening Program 35		Local Apprenticeship 43 Program
	Business Expansion 4 Program		Utility Board Program 16		Neighborhood Club 24 Program		Neighborhood Showplace Program 36		Leadership Methods 44 Program
SMALL INDUSTRY COMPLEX II	Auxiliary Manufacturing 5 Program	INDIAHOMA 2000 PLAN V	Unifying Theme Program 17	COMMUNITY IDENTITY PROJECT VII	Heritage Recovery 25 Program	RESIDENTIAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT X	Home Renovation Program 37	COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE XII	Preventive Care 45 Program
	Welding Shop 6 Program		Comprehensive Zoning Program 18		Inclusive Symbol 26 Program		New Construction Program 38		Emergency Service 46 Program
	Meat Processing 7 Program		Town Expansion Program 19		Celebrational Events 27 Program		Self help Housing Program 39		Health Carestakers 47 Program
	Industrial Facility 8 Program		Planning Council Program 20		Ambassador Corps 28 Program		Construction Company Program 40		Resident Protection 48 Program
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AGENCY III	Technical Assistance 9 Program			COMMUNITY CENTER FACILITY VIII	Information Exchange 29 Program			RECREATIONAL PARK SYSTEM XIII	Facilities Construction 49 Program
	Capital Funding 10 Program				Resource Bank 30 Program				Activities Coordination 50 Program
	Development Corporation 11 Program				Project Coordination 31 Program				Park Development 51 Program
	Indianahoma Promotion 12 Program				Center Preparation 32 Program				Youth Center 52 Program

THE THIRTEEN ACTUATING PROGRAMS OF THE INDIAHOMA COMMUNITY ARE BEING IMPLEMENTED BY THE ORGANIZATIONS INDICATED BELOW.



ONE TOWARD THE BUILDING OF ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN INDIAHOMA				TWO TOWARD THE BUILDING OF COHESIVE STYLE IN INDIAHOMA		THREE TOWARD THE BUILDING OF SOCIAL SELF-RELIANCE IN INDIAHOMA			
LOCAL COMMERCE A		ESSENTIAL SERVICES B				HUMAN ENVIRONMENT D		RESIDENT CARE E	
APPROPRIATE BUSINESS ENTERPRISE I	I.C.D.C.	CITY UTILITY SERVICE IV	I.C.D.C.	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT NETWORK VI	I.C.D.C.	TOWN BEAUTIFICATION CAMPAIGN IX	I.C.D.C.	RURAL LIFE INSTITUTE XI	I.C.D.C.
	VISTA		VISTA		VISTA		VISTA		VISTA
	TOWN BOARD		TOWN BOARD		TOWN BOARD		TOWN BOARD		TOWN BOARD
	HUD OFFICE		HUD OFFICE		HUD OFFICE		HUD OFFICE		HUD OFFICE
SMALL INDUSTRY COMPLEX II	P.W.A.	INDIAHOMA 2000 PLAN V	P.W.A.	COMMUNITY IDENTITY PROJECT VII	P.W.A.	RESIDENTIAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT X	P.W.A.	COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE XII	P.W.A.
	CHURCHES		CHURCHES		CHURCHES		CHURCHES		CHURCHES
	SCHOOL		SCHOOL		SCHOOL		SCHOOL		SCHOOL
	HOUSING A'TY		HOUSING A'TY		HOUSING A'TY		HOUSING A'TY		HOUSING A'TY
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AGENCY III	DAY CARE BRI		DAY CARE BRI	COMMUNITY CENTER FACILITY VIII	DAY CARE BRI		DAY CARE BRI	RECREATIONAL PARK SYSTEM XIII	DAY CARE BRI

Underlying all the programs that a community undertakes and behind all its achievements is an elusive but indispensable element -- the human factor. This is the spirit of participation, cooperation and responsibility among the residents. This spirit which manifests itself in the community's physical appearance, organization and symbols of identity, generates a confidence in the future. With this spirit, the development process can be carried on indefinitely. Without it, even dramatic changes will either fade away, or worse, further the factionalism already present. And yet the human factor cannot become a program by itself. It emerges only in the midst of intensive, rapid socio-economic development when the tasks call forth responsibility, cooperative efforts yield demonstrable results, and momentum elicits participation.

The human factor cannot sustain the development process if the focus is solely on the one community. Accomplishments begin to be noticed by neighboring communities, and residents find themselves being asked for advice. They experience their effectiveness extending beyond their one community; in fact, their self-help efforts come to be seen as a demonstration of what any community can do. With that awareness, the impetus to excel increases, as does the concern to create events and programs which make the community's learnings more widely available. To the extent to which this process of extension occurs, the spirit of responsibility, participation and cooperation becomes ingrained in the community, and its continuing development is ensured.

The effectiveness of the development process needs to be measured in order to redirect the thrust of development, and in order to release new energy by celebrating the victories already won. One form of accomplishing this measurement is documenting change in the community. The scope of this Report (Part I) is the total life of the community during the period from the Consult in June of 1978 to the Community Extension Module (Indiahoma Week) in November of 1980. The process of creating the Report involves teams of residents and outside volunteers.

- visitation teams talk with a cross-section of community
- writing team focuses comments of community
- research team collects material from publications
- editorial team reviews assembled document
- production team completes printing and binding

Both this process and the Report produced accomplish three purposes:

- the community tells its own story
- the community gives an account to those who have invested in it
- the community creates a symbol of possibility for other communities

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The effectiveness of a comprehensive development effort such as the one in Indian Oklahoma depends heavily on the close cooperation of the public, private and voluntary sectors; each bringing its resources to bear in a coordinated effort. That cooperation has been amply demonstrated in Indian Oklahoma with the generous support and participation of many businesses, agencies, organizations and individuals.

All who have participated deserve more than appreciation. They deserve recognition for having helped to demonstrate the effectiveness of a comprehensive, local approach to community development, one that holds promise for many rural and urban communities throughout the world. The following lists are an attempt to recognize those who have given direct support or assistance to the Indian Oklahoma Human Development Project since June, 1978.

The Hon. George Nigh, Governor of Oklahoma
The Hon. Spencer Bernard, Lt. Governor of Oklahoma
The Hon. David Boren, U.S. Senator
The Hon. Henry Bellmon, U.S. Senator
The Hon. Tom Steed, U. S. Congressman
Oklahoma State Senator Al Terrill
Oklahoma State Representative Bob Harper
Comanche County Commissioner Frank Hawthorne

ACTION

Altus Air Force Base
Association of South Central Oklahoma Governments
Cameron University
City of Lawton
Comanche County CETA
Comanche County Department of Public Health
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Economic Development Administration
Environmental Protection Agency
Farmers Home Administration
Ft. Sill
Great Plains Country
Great Plains Improvement Foundation
Heritage, Conservation and Recreation Service
Lawton Chamber of Commerce
Oklahoma Department of Economic and Community Affairs
Oklahoma Department of Transportation
Oklahoma Historical Society
Oklahoma State Arts Council
Oklahoma State University - Extension Service
Oklahomans for Indian Opportunity
Southern Plains Inter-Tribal Center
Treasure Lake Job Corps
Wichita Mtns. Wildlife Refuge

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Ada	Ray James--Glen Childers Architects & Associates	Lawton	A & A Small Engine Shop Advanced Printers
Anadarko	Holly-Tex Carpet Mills		American National Bank
Apache	Sexton School Supply		Amfac
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Headrick	Farmer's Union Coop Gin		
Indiahoma	Carothers Sta. & Grocery Country Mart Frazier's Meat Processing Indiahoma Lumber Company Indiahoma Watch Shop Kelly Studios L & L Cafe Louie & Ruby Meyers Training Stables Possum Hollow Ranch Supply R & R Cafe Shamrock Grocery		

Lawton	Kennedy & Co.	Oklahoma	Big Al's
	Kroger's	City	Butler Paper Company
	KSWO TV		Cardinal Paper Company
	Lawton Boot & Western Store		Carpenter Paper Company
	Lawton Constitution		Duncan Bindery Service
	Lawton Industrial Development		Ed-Be, Inc.
	Service		First National Bank & Trust
	Lew Johnson's Restaurant		Grand Central Station
	Long John Silver's		Kraft Foods
	M'Lady Beauty Salon		Liberty National Bank & Trust
	McDonalds		Lindsey's Speedy Print
	Martin's Restaurant		Melton Company
	Mead Foods, Inc.		Midwest Paper Products, Inc.
	Meers Mining Co., Ltd.		Morton Foods
	Millers Distributing Co.		Oklahoma City Clinic
	Montego Bay Motel		Oklahoma Physicians' Supply Co.
	Montgomery Ward		Oklahoma University Health
	Mt. Scott Food, Inc.		Sciences Center
	Multi-Purpose Center of		Olivetti Corporation
	Lawton		Rainbow Bread
	Salas Little Mexico		Sonic, Inc.
	Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co.		Spraudling, Stagner, Alpern,
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	Ramon's Flowers & Gifts		Wm. E. Davis & Sons, Inc.
	Ratcliffe Book & Office Supply		Xerox Corporation
	Rosemont Dairy	Snyder	Bank of the Wichitas
	Roy Rogers Restaurant		Dairyland
	Sears, Roebuck & Co.		Farmer's Cooperative Assoc.
	Sesco Electric Supply Co.		George's Thrifty Wise Store
	Shakey's Pizza		Kiowa County Democrat
	Southwest Stationery & Book		Larry's Rexall Drug
	Supply		Lee Motel
	Speedy Print		Mac's Quick Mart
	T. G. & Y.		Mountain Valley Flowers & Gifts
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	Woods Bakery	Falls	Ft. Worth Pipe & Supply
	Wright's Doughnuts		Hancocks Fabrics
			Morris Brothers Lumber Co.

This report was enabled through the services of Royal Printing Co., Butler Paper Co., Carpenter Paper Co., and Western Paper Co., of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

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The Town Board of Indiahoma has actively promoted the development of the community, both directly as the city government and indirectly through the Public Work's Authority and the Housing Authority. The funding of many of the major improvements has come as the result of the action of the Board. The Town Board is proud of the community and its achievements. As other communities become aware of Indiahoma's development, the Town Board welcomes questions and stands ready to be of service to others who decide to lead in Human Development.



THE INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS



The Institute of Cultural Affairs is an intra-global research, training and demonstration group concerned with the human factor in world development. The ICA, a non-profit organization, presently offers programs in 40 nations. Among these programs are one day Town Meetings, community reformulation projects called Human Development Projects and other specialized consultations and seminars. The Institute is convinced that effective human development must be initiated on the local level. Toward these ends, its international volunteer staff live and work with local people in planning and actuating socio-economic projects around the world. The projects, located in both rural and urban communities are established for the purpose of demonstrating comprehensive human development. The ICA originally operated as a program division of the Ecumenical Institute, a research and training center founded in 1954 and still in operation. In 1973 the ICA was incorporated as a separate entity. The ICA receives funding from concerned individuals, corporations, foundations, organizations and government agencies.

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