

(Continued from page 1A) by the US Army as the curator of the Fort Sill National Historic Landmark and Museum, and by 1985 he had assumed the position of director. His responsibilities involved the preservation and interpretation of the history of Fort Sill including a complex of 50 original 19th century structures and also seven Native American cemeteries while serving as a senior curator for the U.S. Army and simultaneously, as a steward for the National Park Service.



Towana Spivey

Spivey was primarily responsible for the planning and development pertaining to a major complex of three museums focusing on frontier military, early settlement and Native Americans relating to Fort Sill, and the histories of the Field Artillery, Aviation, and Air Defense Artillery.

Early in his career at Fort Sill, Spivey had the opportunity to research the history of ENIAC, the world's first computer built for the US Army during WWII. Over a period of time, he instigated a nation-wide search for this long forgotten icon of technology and was able to locate and save from destruction all existing components of this giant, super computer.

Several years later he worked directly with former vice presidential candidate Ross Perot in restoring it for display in Perot's Computer Museum located in Plano, Texas. On the 50th anniversary of the invention of ENIAC, Time Magazine identified it as the "... most important artifact of the 20th century."

Spivey has served on numerous boards and advisory committees for such organizations as the Oklahoma Archeological Survey; the Historic Review Committee for the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (appointed by the governor); Oklahoma Museum's Association; Southwestern Oklahoma Historical Society and he was also a charter member of the

"Bison — From the Pre-historic Past to the American Frontier," and Oklahoma Genesis — A survey of Historic Maps in Oklahoma History."

His long-term interests in the history of the frontier, Native Americans, military architecture, 19th century art and photography have resulted in several books, and articles and his photographs have gained national exposure in publications by Time-Life. He has served as primary consultant, or been featured in at least 35 television documentaries focusing on subjects such as bison, Geronimo, Quanah Parker, frontier military, Apache prisoners of war, Buffalo Soldiers and other topics for major networks such as the Public Broadcasting System, Arts & Entertainment, Turner Network, Discovery and the History Channel.

He has contributed or appeared in similar programs for Japanese Broadcasting, British Broadcasting, Canadian Broadcasting and Norwegian Broadcasting corporations and has provided advisory support for several feature films such as Dances with Wolves, Far and Away, Geronimo; Wind Talkers; and others.

In 1975, Spivey began assembling data, photos or existing copies of early 20th century silent films made within Oklahoma during the first two decades of the 20th century. Many notable frontier characters from the 19th century such as US Marshals Bill Tilghman, Chris Madsen and Jack Abernethy; and outlaws such as Al Jennings; showmen such as Buffalo Bill and Pawnee Bill; and tribal leaders such as Quanah Parker and Hunting Horse; were stars of the day in films such as "The Wolf Hunt," "The Cache Bank Robbery," "Wounded Knee," "The Passing of the Oklahoma Outlaws," "Sign of the Smoke," and "Daughter of Dawn."

Over a period of almost three decades, he presented hundreds of audio visual lec-

Towana Spivey: Inducted Into the Chickasaw Hall of Fame

Throughout his life and career, Towana Spivey, of Madill, has been involved in preserving the history, language and material culture of many Oklahoma tribes, including the Chickasaw, Choctaw, Comanche, Kiowa, Chiricahua, Apache and the Warm Springs Apache.

While conducting archaeological investigations at 19th century military posts and historic sites, Spivey worked simultaneously as curator for the Chickasaw White House, conducting research and restoration of the home to its original form.

He was also a consultant on the preservation of the 1855 Chickasaw Council House in Tishomingo.

Since 1982, Mr. Spivey has served as director/curator of Fort Sill National Historic Landmark and Museum in Lawton. He is also a senior curator for the U.S. Army Museum System and is currently involved in the planning for the new Field Artillery Museum at Fort Sill, as well as the ongoing development of the National Historic Landmark and Museum.

Spivey has served on numerous boards and advisory committees for such organizations as the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, Governor's Review Committee for Oklahoma State Preservation, Oklahoma Museums Association and Southwest Oklahoma Historical Society.

Spivey has authored several books and articles pertaining to frontier history and has served as a primary consultant or has been featured in at least 35 television documentaries.

He has also worked as a historical consultant to movie productions, playing an intricate role in the development of characters and ensuring historical accuracy in the making of the movies "Windtalkers" and "Dances with Wolves." Spivey was graduated from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in 1986 with a bachelor's degree in history and natural science. He earned his Master's degree from the University of Oklahoma in Anthropology/Archeology and Museum Studies.

Spivey is the descendent of several generations of Chickasaws who came to Indian Territory in 1837 from northern Mississippi. He was born in Madill, and still lives on the original 140-acre Chickasaw allotment of his grandparents, Henry "Buck" Russell and Gladys Rogers.

or guest lecturer for the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Center, Smith & Wesson Firearms Historical Society, American Association for State and Local History, and several major universities in Montana, Texas, Colorado and Oklahoma. He has served as a consult to the Smithsonian Institution on numerous projects and for the Oklahoma State Legislature regarding the

Congressional Gold Medals being awarded by Congress to 32 tribes and 257 individuals in November 2013.

His consultations to the Pentagon regarding the death of a Native American soldier killed in Iraq and cultural sensitivities surrounding his burial on a North Dakota reservation were critical in avoiding conflict with the American Indian Movement. Spivey also