



SEP 28 1982

# ***Court Corrected 1st Land Surveys***

Several towns, a major lake and a county in Oklahoma bear all or part of the name of Texas and one county got its name from a designation once given by the Texas legislature. That county is Greer, once part of the larger Greer County, Texas.

An exploring expedition mistakenly identified the North Fork of the Red River as the main stream, which is the Prairie Dog Town Fork of the Red River, erroneously placing what are now Jackson, Harmon, Greer and part of Beckham counties in Texas.

In 1888, the area was organized and named under laws of Texas. The surveying error was discovered and a dispute arose that lasted six years.

The United States Supreme Court ruled that the North Fork of the Red River was not the main channel. Result of the decision was the transfer of 1.5 million acres of land from the State of Texas to Oklahoma Territory.

When the decision was handed down on March 16, 1896, news was telegraphed to Quanah, Texas. Judge G.A. Brown was holding a trial in Mangum, as judge of the 46th Judicial District of Texas.

When a courier from Quanah delivered a message of the court's decision, Judge Brown declared he no longer had jurisdiction, dismissed jurors and returned to Vernon, Texas.