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# Efforts Recalled By Street Names

Visitors to Norman are acquainted with the names of Asp and Boyd streets around the university, but the contributions of those two men may not be as familiar. An article appearing in The Daily Oklahoman on April 26, 1914, sheds some light on the reason for their recognition.

"In the early part of the year 1893, and after three great openings of land to homestead settlement with reservations for public schools only, it was found by a few spirited citizens, notably Honorable Henry E. Asp and Dr. David R. Boyd, the latter then president of the University of Oklahoma, that soon the public domain would be exhausted and that we would have no lands reserved for higher education and public buildings," the writer's opening sentence stated.

A bill providing for opening of the Cherokee Outlet was then pending before Congress. Asp and Boyd appeared in Washington and worked to secure an amendment to the bill reserving Section 13 in each township for public building purposes. But they failed to obtain it.

Sen. Orville H. Platt of Connecticut, chairman of the committee, was in sympathy for their purpose, so he drafted another amendment. This one authorized the president, after making his proclamation reservations of Sections 16 and 36 for public schools, "to make other such reservations of lands for public purposes as he may deem wise and desirable."

This act was approved by President William Henry Harrison on the last day of his term of office, March 3, 1893.

Asp and Boyd returned to Washington to intercede with Harrison's successor, Grover Cleveland, to make the additional reservations of land for higher education and public buildings.

The result was that on Aug. 19, 1893, Cleveland proclaimed opening of the Cherokee Strip's six million acres, reserving Section 13 in each township for university, agricultural college and normal school purposes, and Section 33 in each township, where not otherwise reserved, for public buildings. Congress approved his action.