Historical Timeline of the Five Civilized Tribes

1803 Oklahoma was a part of Louisiana Purchase
1808-1817 Negotiations result in some Cherokee migration to Arkansas settling between Arkansas and White Rivers
1824 Ft. Gibson established
   Plays an important role in tribal history in Indian Territory
1830 Removal act authorizes creation of Indian Territory; tribes began removal culminating with the Trail of Tears in 1838/1839
1840’s-1860 Tribes prosper in Indian Territory
1860 US Army stationed at Ft. Gibson leaves Indian Territory as beginning of war approaches
1861 Tribes “courted” by representatives of Confederacy to gain their support
1866 New treaties with US after tribes support Confederacy
1870’s Railroads come to Indian Territory
1872 Western Arkansas District Court established at Fort Smith with jurisdiction over Indian Territory
1880’s Boomer movement pressures government to open land for settlement in Indian Territory
1887 Dawes General Allotment Act forms reservations in Oklahoma Territory (Act does not include lands in Indian Territory)
1889 Unassigned Land Run
1890 Organic Act establishes Oklahoma Territory
1893 Opening of the Cherokee Outlet
   Congress forms Dawes Commission to allot land in Indian Territory
1895 Congress orders land survey of Indian Territory
1896 Dawes Commission attempts to gain tribal cooperation without success
1898 Curtis Act gives authority to Dawes Commission to allot lands without the tribal nations’ consent
1898-1906 Final Enrollment (Dawes Rolls) and allotment of land

November 16, 1907 Oklahoma statehood day