

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

Oklahoma Historic Preservation Survey, Oklahoma State University, 502 Math-Science Bldg., Stillwater, OK 74078

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

IRON POST SCHOOL

LOCATION: Vicinity of Afton, Oklahoma 040, Ottawa County 115; NE 1/4, Sec. 1, T 25 N, R 22 E

CLASSIFICATION: building; private; public acquisition--N/A; occupied; unrestricted; present use--private residence

OWNER: Nellie Severs, Rt. 3, Afton, Oklahoma 74331

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Ottawa County Courthouse, Miami, OK 74354

DESCRIPTION: excellent condition; altered; original site

This two-room school is rectangular (73' x 26') shaped and constructed of uncut native stone laid in cobweb fashion. It has a gabled roof with projecting eaves. The front facade of the building has two single door entrances at either end with gabled hoods. An unusual common double-door exit is centered on the rear facade of the structure. The original band windows with concrete sills have been replaced with wood insets and smaller energy efficient windows substituted. These alterations do not impeach the integrity of the building.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1938; builder/architect: Okla. State Dept. of Education Pattern Book

Without a doubt the construction of schools constitutes a commitment to the future. The construction of Iron Post school is significant in that it is evidence of the commitment of the WPA to the future of the United States, even during times of economic recovery. Moreover it was economically important to the community. Wages from some 7600 man-hours of labor utilized in construction were infused back into the local economy, stimulating business growth. Jobs generated through the schools construction allowed destitute men to feed their families which maintained hope and pride in the midst of economic depression. Architecturally the Iron Post school is significant for its fine workmanship completed with unskilled labor and its unique configuration of entryways.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

Quadrangle: Afton, Okla.
1:24,000/7.5 min.

UTM: 15 330970 4061300

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Go 4.3 miles east of Afton on U.S. highway 59 and from the NE corner of Sec. 1, T 25 N, R 22 E, go west 208 feet, south 416 feet, east 208 feet, and north 416 feet.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 114-a; 114-b