

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

DEWAR SCHOOL CAMPUS (TWO BUILDINGS)

LOCATION: East Fifth and Roy Streets, Dewar, Oklahoma 040, Okmulgee County 111

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

OWNER: Dewar Board of Education, Drawer A, Dewar, OK 74431

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Okmulgee County Courthouse, Okmulgee, OK 74447

DESCRIPTION: good condition; altered; original site

The Dewar School Campus contains two WPA buildings. The school of eight rooms is a single-story, rectangular (158' x 52') building constructed of brick. The masonry of the building is running bond. The roof is flat with parapets. There is a three-door entrance with pilasters that hint at an art deco style. The windows contain concrete sills and have partial wood inserts. A small addition is attached to the north side. These alterations do not impeach the architectural integrity of the building.

The gymnasium/auditorium is a rectangular (73' x 81') structure constructed of coursed and rusticated native stone of buff color. The roof is arched in the center and flat on both sides. All parts have parapets. Pilasters are used at the entrance to give the structure a decorative flavor. The windows contain wood inserts that have been painted pink; the concrete sills are also painted pink. The alterations do not impeach the integrity of the building. This gymnasium is attached to Dewar's first school building, which was not built by the WPA.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1937-1938 and 1941; builder/architect: unknown; "JNO" O. Bradley (gym)

Construction of the buildings at Dewar enabled unskilled and unemployed laborers to work at a time when such opportunities were scarce. It gave them an income that prevented starvation and infused wages of some 126,000 man-hours of labor into Dewar's economy. The project also created a new environment conducive to learning for children in and around Dewar. Architecturally, the school is unique because the use of brick as the building material rather than stone. The gym is unique in that the size and placement of windows and doors and pilaster strips display an art deco style. Both are important as WPA structures in terms of type, style, scale, workmanship, and especially materials.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

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

UTM: A-15 233340 3927630; B-15 233370 3927670

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: All of Block 21, Dewar original; specifically, from the intersection of Roy and East Sixth streets, go 43 feet north and 30 feet east to a point of beginning for the school, and then go 52 feet east, 158 feet north, 52 feet west, and 158 feet south. From the intersection of Roy and East Fifth streets, go east 110 feet to a point of beginning for the gym property and then go 81 feet east, 73 feet south, 81 feet west, and 73 feet north.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 83-a; 83-b