

## OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

DU BOIS GRADE SCHOOL

LOCATION: Vicinity of Muskogee, Oklahoma, 040, Muskogee County 101

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

OWNER: Board of Education, Box 429, Rt. 2, Muskogee, OK 74401

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Muskogee County Courthouse, Muskogee, OK 74401

DESCRIPTION: excellent condition; altered; original site

This rectangular (29' x 100') school building is constructed of uncut native stone of auburn color in a masonry of random rubble. The roof is flat with parapets. The doorway is recessed behind an arched entryway which contains a triangular arch above it that reaches beyond the roof. There is also lunette just above the entryway. The windows are very large or very small and were used to add decorative elements to the structure. All of these windows have concrete sills and all windows have partial wood inserts. The brick structure on its north side was the original Summit school building to which the WPA structure was attached. It and the window alterations do not impeace the original architectural integrity of the building.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1940; builder/architect: unknown

DuBois School is located in a predominantly black city, which makes it particularly important in Oklahoma. This school is significant because it constituted an economically important community resource. Its construction provided wages for local families which were infused back into the depressed local economy and help to minimize the impact of the financial crisis on mainstreet. Jobs generated by the construction of the school enabled previously destitute men to provide for their families and restored a sense of pride in their own manhood. The educational significance is apparent in that the school has served for many years as the only educational facility in the black community. Architecturally, the structure is notable for its vernacular style and its remarkable workmanship.

### GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

Quadrangle: Muskogee SW, Okla.  
1:24,000/7.5 min.

UTM: 15 280670 3949670

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: From the SE corner of the SW 1/4 of Sec. 20, T 14 N, R 18 E, go 832 feet west as the point of beginning, then go north 416 feet, west 208 feet, south 416 feet, and east 208 feet.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 54-a; 54-b