

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

ENID ARMORY

LOCATION: Sixth and Elm Streets, Enid, Oklahoma 040, Garfield County 047

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

OWNER: The Oklahoma Military Department, 3501 Military Circle, N.E., Oklahoma City, OK 73111

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Garfield County Courthouse, Enid, OK 73701

DESCRIPTION: excellent condition; unaltered; original site

The Enid Armory is a two-story, essentially rectangular (246' x 175') building constructed of red brick. Extending from the central drill floor are one and two story units that externally make the building appear to be a series of different sized cubes. The roof is flat with parapets capped by concrete blocks. Central entryways are framed on the sides by brick piers and, above, a frieze that suggests a porch roof. Fixed and single windows are encased by metal and rest on concrete slip sills. On the front, insets above the windows rise to the roof line. There are four to five garage doors on either side of the structure.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1936; builder/architect: unknown

The third largest constructed in Oklahoma, the Enid Armory is an exceptional resource for the local community and the region. Architecturally, as a WPA building it is unique in its use of brick construction materials, contrasting with armories in the state other than those in the northwest which were generally built of native stone. The use of the building by the Oklahoma National Guard for the past 50 years underscores its significance. There, units of the guard have prepared themselves for military action in World War II and Korea and for civil defense and disaster relief. In other ways the structure has also contributed to an improved quality of life in Enid. Construction of the armory poured wages from some 152,000 man-hours of labor into the local economy during a critical portion of the depression, materially improving the community's economic condition and quality of life. Those same wages also enabled the laborers on the project, many of whom were agriculturalists driven to destitution by the drought, to provide for their own families and to tide themselves over the economic slump until better times returned.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Three acres

Quadrangle: Enid East, Okla.
1:24,000/7.5 min.

UTM: A 14-601330-4028700; B 14-601370-4028760

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: From the southwest corner of Gore Park, Marshall-

Gannon Addition to the Enid original go north 416 feet, east 312 feet, south 416 feet, and west 312 feet.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 5-a; 5-b; 5-c