

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

HUNTER WATERWORKS (Five buildings)

LOCATION: South Texas Street, Hunter, Oklahoma 040, Garfield County 047

CLASSIFICATION: buildings; public; public acquisition--N/A; unoccupied; unrestricted; present use--none

OWNER: The City of Hunter, Hunter, OK 74640

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

DESCRIPTION: good condition; unaltered; original site

The Hunter Waterworks consists of five pumphouses arranged in an L-shaped pattern east of the city-owned lake. The buildings at the far extremities are constructed of red brick: the building farthest north measures 9' x 8' and the building on the southeast corner measures 13' x 10'. The three other buildings, later additions, are constructed of poured concrete blocks and measure 6' x 6' except for the center building, which measures 7' x 7'. Starting with building #1 in the southeast corner, the distances between buildings are 69 feet, 92 feet, 75 feet, and 71 feet. The structures have sloping flat roofs except for building #3, which has no roof and building #2, which is partially ruined. Building #5 has a wood frame window. Entrances consist of single wood doors. The pumphouses retain their architectural integrity and could easily be restored to their original condition.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1937; builder/architect: unknown

The construction of the Hunter Waterworks during the Depression was important to this agricultural community as a means of temporary employment and as a moral booster. Besides providing an opportunity for work, the project brought a much-needed improvement to the city of Hunter: a dependable water system. The importance of a waterworks to western Oklahoma towns is revealed in city clerk Edna Lewis' remark in 1938 that the new waterworks facility "has meant more to the town than any other project." As a WPA project, the Hunter Waterworks is important as an example of water supply projects conducted throughout northwestern Oklahoma. Within the community, the pumphouses are unique in terms of type and style.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

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

UTM: Undetermined

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lots 3, 6, and 20, Block 31; Lot 22, Block 37; Lot 5, Block 38; Hunter original.

PICTURE REFERENCE: None