

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

OKMULGEE LAKE DAM AND RECREATION AREA (Two structures)

LOCATION: Vicinity of Okmulgee, Oklahoma 040, Okmulgee County 111

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

OWNER: The City of Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447

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

DESCRIPTION: good condition; altered; original site

The dam was constructed of cut rock and a very unique fountain was built in front of it. The smaller shelter measures 21' x 15' and has a new brown gabled roof. It is constructed of crudely-cut and crudely-coursed stone from the lake.

The larger shelter measures 32' x 49' and has a gabled roof. It is also constructed of crudely-cut and crudely-coursed stone that was taken from the lake by WPA workers. This shelter also has a cross gable supported by wooden poles. Stone has also been used to create pediments.

The bathhouse area is located within the entrance area. The bathhouse itself is gone, but the entryway down to the water is still used. It contains a boat dock and stone steps that lead down to the water. It is 238 feet across and is constructed of crudely-cut and coursed stone from the lake.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1937; builder/architect: unknown

Construction of these recreational facilities provided jobs for destitute, unskilled and unemployed laborers at a time when such opportunities were scarce. It is unique as a WPA project because of the use of stone from the Okmulgee Lake. These buildings are also unique in terms of type, style, and workmanship.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than five acres

Quadrangle: Okmulgee Lake, Okla.  
1:24,000/7.5 min.

UTM: undetermined

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Situated west and south of Okmulgee, the Lake and Recreation area are in the NW 1/4 of Sec. 8, T 13 N, R 12 E.

PICTURE REFERENCE: none