

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

LEE SQUARE SCHOOL

LOCATION: Vicinity of Nowata, Oklahoma 040, Nowata County 105; NW 1/4, Sec. 11, T 25 N, R 17 E.

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

OWNER: C.H. and C.E. Mayhew, 236 N. Willow, Nowata, OK 74048

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Nowata County Courthouse, Nowata, OK 74048

DESCRIPTION: good condition; altered; original site

This two-room school is a single-story, rectangular (29' x 53') structure constructed of cut native stone of buff and light buff colors. The workmanship reaches the level of artistic expression. Some stones were cut into a triangular shape and were strategically placed within the rectangular stones to make a unique design. The roof is gabled. There is a portico with a gabled roof at the front entrance. Inserts have been placed in the windows that, on the rear, reach to the eaves, and smaller, energy-efficient windows have been added. Red shingles have been added to the roof. These alterations do not impeach the integrity of the building.

SIGNIFICANCE: ca. 1936-1937; builder/architect: Oklahoma State Dept. of Instruction

The school is especially significant for its quality in workmanship and materials selection. Construction of this WPA structure provided work for destitute laborers and infused wages of some 20,000 man-hours of labor into the local economy, alleviating much of the pain of the depression. It also provided new opportunities to those living in an educationally deficient area.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: One and one-half acres

Quadrangle: Chelsea Northwest, Okla.
1:24,000/7.5 min.

UTM: 15 279510 4060810

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Go east of Nowata on highway no. 60 some 8.5 miles then south on highway no. 28 another 2 miles, then east on county road 1 mile to the school site: beginning at the NW corner of the NW 1/4, go east 315 feet, south 210 feet, west 315 feet, and north 210 feet to the point of beginning, in Sec. 11, T 25 N, R 17 E.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 69-a; 69-b