OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

MORRIS SCHOOL AND GYMNASIUM/AUDITORIUM

LOCATION: Fifth and Young Streets, Morris, Oklahoma 040, Okmulgee County 111

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

OWNER: Morris Board of Education, Box 1, Morris, OK 74445

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

DESCRIPTION: good condition; altered; original site

The Morris School and Gymnasium/Auditorium combination contains eight rooms or more and is a T-shaped (146' x 276') structure constructed of red brick. The masonry of the brick is running bond. The roof on the school is flat, while the gymnasium/auditorium has an arched roof. The structure also has parapets. The entryways have new glass doors and concrete lentils. The window openings have wood inserted and smaller, more energy-efficient windows installed. These windows have brick sills. There is an addition attached to the south side of the structure, but it does not impeach the integrity of the building.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1940; builder/architect: unknown

This structure is significant because it provided job opportunities for destitute workers at a time when there were few in the region and infused wages of some 32,000 man-hours of labor into the local economy. It also created a new environment conducive to learning for students in Morris. Architecturally, this structure is unique in terms of type, style, scale, workmanship, and especially materials. Being red brick makes it very unique within Okmulgee County for a WPA building.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than two acres

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

UTM: 15 241300 3943810

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Situated in a tract that begins 1040 feet south and 208 feet west of the northeast corner of Sec. 18, T 13 N, R 14 E, go north 416 feet, west 208 feet, south 416 feet, and east 208 feet.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 88-a; 88-b