

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

MOUNT ZION SCHOOL

LOCATION: Vicinity of Rentiesville, Oklahoma 040, McIntosh County 091; SW 1/4, Sec. 2, T 12 N, R 18 E.

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

OWNER: Leslie K. Ferren, 1309 Locust, Muskogee, OK 74401

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: McIntosh County Courthouse, Eufaula, OK 74432

DESCRIPTION: excellent condition; altered; original site

A one-room school, Mt. Zion is a single-story, rectangular (25' x 39') building constructed of cut but uncoursed native stone of auburn and buff colors. The roof is gabled. The square windows have concrete sills and on the rear reach to the eaves. All trim has been painted red and the single door main entry has a small rain shelter attached to it, but these alterations do not impeach the integrity of the structure.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1935; builder/architect: Oklahoma State Dept. of Instruction Pattern Book

Because Mt. Zion is a community of Creek Indian freedmen, construction of this school gave jobs to destitute black laborers at a time when such opportunities were very few. The project also infused wages of some 24,000 man-hours of labor into the local economy. It created a new environment conducive to learning for black students theretofore deprived educationally in this rural and very remote area. In addition, the school is very unique within the area in terms of type, style, materials, scale, and workmanship.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: One acre

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

UTM: 15 284280 3934970

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Go east of Checotah on U. S. 266 some 6 miles then 5 miles north on county road then east on county road 2 miles to the school site, in a 1.5 acre tract in the SW corner of the SW 1/4 measuring 210 feet by 315 feet in Sec. 2, T 12 N, R 18 E.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 45-a; 45-b