

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

OAKVIEW SCHOOL

LOCATION: Vicinity of Ponca City, Oklahoma 040, Kay County 071; SW 1/4, Sec. 20, T 26 N, R 3 E.

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

OWNER: Greg Husen, Rt. 2, Box 55, Ponca City, OK 74601

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Kay County Courthouse, Newkirk, OK 74647

DESCRIPTION: good condition; altered; original site

The Oakview School is a single-story, rectangular (45' x 30') structure constructed of rusticated native stone laid in a random coursed pattern. The gable roof has an interior chimney and a cross gable that forms a porch supported by four wood columns over the recessed front entry. Window openings with concrete slip sills reach to the eaves in the classrooms. Despite renovation into a private residence that enclosed the rear windows with wood inserts, the schoolhouse retains much of its architectural integrity.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1941-1942; builder/architect: unknown

As a WPA structure in northwestern Oklahoma, the Oakview school is most unique in that it employs native stone as a construction material. Moreover, it is one of the few WPA-constructed, two-room school buildings remaining in the northwestern counties. The structure is also significant because its construction had a direct impact upon the rural community surrounding Oakview during and after the depression. Some 12,000 man-hours of wages were poured into the local economy; jobless agricultural workers earned a paycheck and salvaged their pride; and interest in education improved remarkably. Finally, conversion of the school into a private home demonstrates how suitable WPA buildings are for adaptive reuse.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

Quadrangle: Ponca City, Okla.  
1:24,000/7.5 min.

UTM: 14 677470 4065060

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Go three miles east of the Pioneer Woman Monument in Ponca City and one-half mile north to one acre of land located in the NW corner of the SW 1/4 of Sec. 20, T 26 N, R 3 E, beginning at the NW corner of said 1/4 section, thence east 10 rods, south 16 rods, thence west 10 rods, thence north 16 rods to place of beginning.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 14-a; 14-b