

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

SUMNER SCHOOL GYMNASIUM/AUDITORIUM

LOCATION: Vicinity of Perry, Oklahoma 040, Noble County 103; NE 1/4, Sec. 7, T 21 N, R 2 E

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

OWNER: Perry Board of Education, 610 Elm, Perry, OK 73077

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Noble County Courthouse, Perry, OK 73307

DESCRIPTION: good condition; altered; original site

The Sumner Gymnasium/Auditorium is a single-story, rectangular (93' x 72') structure constructed of rusticated and cut native stone arranged in a random coursed ashler pattern. The roof is hipped. The double door northeast entrance is recessed within two decorative stone columns with battlement-like concrete caps and beneath a concrete awning. Fixed metal windows with continuous concrete sills reach to the eaves and are spaced in groups of three and four. Additions to the north and west sides of the building have compromised its architectural integrity.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1940; builder/architect: unknown

Construction of the Sumner School Gymnasium/Auditorium created jobs and some economic relief for unemployed agricultural workers. Wages from some 29,000 man-hours of labor revitalized the local economy. The building also improved local educational facilities and is still in use today. By providing space for school/community athletic and social gatherings, the gymnasium aroused a sense of civic pride and identity. As a WPA building, the gymnasium is architecturally notable in terms of its large scale for a rural school, style, decorative workmanship, and construction materials.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Five acres

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

UTM: 14 668560 4020660

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Go east from Perry nine miles on U.S. 64 and two miles north on a county road to the property beginning at the NE corner of the NE 1/4 of Sec. 7, T 21 N, R 2 E, go 500 feet, then south 435.6 feet, then east 500 feet, then north 435.6 feet to point of beginning.

PICTURE REFERENCE: None