

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

WHITE OAK SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

LOCATION: Vicinity of Vinita, Oklahoma 040, Craig County 035; NW 1/4, Sec. 28, T 25 N, R 19 E

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

OWNER: Vinita Board of Education, Rt. 4, Vinita, OK 74301

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Craig County Courthouse, Vinita, OK 74301

DESCRIPTION: excellent condition; altered; original site

The White Oak gymnasium is a rectangular (100' x 55') addition to a pre-existing school building constructed of brick which has been painted white. The roof is arched with stepped parapets. The main entryway is recessed and framed by pilasters; the latter decorates the side of the gym as well. Window openings have been filled with wood inserts; their concrete sills have been painted red. Additions on the rear and side of the gym have pretty much destroyed the integrity of this building.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1942; builder/architect: unknown

The White Oak gymnasium is significant for its brick building materials. Most WPA structures in northeastern Oklahoma were constructed from native stone. Equally significant is the wages from some 32,000 man hours of labor that construction of the buildings brought to the community. In many cases the WPA wages were the sole means of income for depression stricken men. As these wages were spent locally they stimulated the economy and helped ease the burdens of a limited money supply. The school still serves as an economic resource for the community as teachers salaries and workers wages are infused back into the local business community.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

Quadrangle: White Oak, Okla.
1:24,000/7.5 min.

UTM: undetermined

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Go approximately 6 miles west of Vinita on U.S. highway 66 to a tract of land that begins in the southeast corner of the NE 1/4 of Sec. 28, T 25 N, R 19 E, and goes north 416 feet, west 208 feet, south 416 feet and east 208 feet.

PICTURE REFERENCE: none