

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

ANTLERS SCHOOL CAMPUS (Three buildings)

LOCATION: A and 3rd Streets, Antlers, Oklahoma 040, Pushmataha County 127

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

OWNER: Antlers Board of Education, 306 NE A Street, Antlers, OK 74523

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Pushmataha County Courthouse, Antlers, OK 74523

DESCRIPTION: excellent condition; altered; original site

The Antlers school campus includes three WPA structures: Rodman Hall Auditorium, a Home Economics building and Brantley Elementary School. The auditorium is a single story, rectangular (130' x 73') structure constructed of untooled and uncoursed native sandstone. The roof, covered with composition shingles, is pent in type; the main doors are recessed behind arches. Wood inserts enclose the original window openings and a concrete block extension has been added to the south rear. The alterations, however, do not impeach the architectural integrity of the structure.

The Home Economics building is situated directly west of the auditorium. A single story, rectangular (88' x 45') structure with offsets, it was constructed of beautiful dark red, untooled and uncoursed sandstone. With a composition shingle covering, the roof is gabled, with intersecting gables on either end on the front and on one end on the back. The front porch roof is supported with small columns; windows are wood sash and rest on concrete sills. An exterior chimney is located on the rear.

The Brantley Elementary School occupies an area just south of the home economics building. It is a single story, inverted U-shaped (207'x 54' horizontally, with two 36' x 34' vertical wings) structure constructed of cut blocks and roughly coursed native sandstone. Masonry is generally crude. The roof is gabled with parapets, while the windows are now metal encased. The front entry porch between the wings is covered by a flat roof supported by an open arcade; entry on the north wing is through a porch under a gable roof and parapets. The tower-like character of the parapets give the building a Gothic Revival flavor.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1937-1940; builder/architect: unknown

As urban WPA school structures, the Brantley building is notable for its unique architectural style, while it and the home economics building demonstrate the improvement of workmanship over time (1937-1940). Within the Antlers community, the school structures are unique architecturally because of their type, style (gothic as opposed to vernacular), scale and workmanship. Moreover, they became the prototype of subsequent and widespread use of native stone as construction material. The three buildings are significant because construction of them provided work opportunities for unskilled and unemployed laborers in the Antlers community which had been hard hit by the impact of the depression on the timber industry. The importance of the structures to the educational life of the town is reflected by that fact

that they are still in use as places of learning.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than two acres

Quadrangle: Antlers East, Okla.
1:24,000/7.5 min.

UTM: A--15 258540 3791020; B--258480 3791000; C--258440 3790940

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lot 3, Block 7 and West one-half of Block 8, Locke Addition, Antlers city

PICTURE REFERENCE: 149-A, 149-B, 149-C, 149-D, 149-E, 149-F, 149-G, 149-H