

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

ARDMORE ARMORY

LOCATION: Sunset and Main Streets, Ardmore, Oklahoma 040, Carter County 019

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

OWNER: City of Ardmore, P.O. Box 249, Ardmore, OK 73402

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Carter County Courthouse, Ardmore, OK 73402

DESCRIPTION: good condition; altered; original site

The Ardmore Armory is a single-story, rectangular (235' x 147') structure consisting of a central drill floor section and two wings. The armory is constructed of rusticated native sandstone laid randomly. The drill floor segment has a high arched roof with parapets which rise to points on the ends. Each wing has a flat roof and parapets. All parapets are capped with cut sandstone blocks. Entryways are situated off center and are framed by pilasters that reach to the roof line. Elongated metal casement windows rest on pre-formed concrete sills. Indentations above the windows extend to the roof line. Two garage doors on either wing are enclosed with segmented arches with a Keystone. A garage door entering the central drill floor is framed by pilasters and, above the door, a stepped facade of different colored stone that also forms a cornice at the roof line. Quoins at the corners of the structure provide additional decorative detail. Enclosure of a few window openings by buff bricks have not destroyed the integrity of the armory.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1936; builder/architect: unknown

Significant for its quality of workmanship and for its scale, the Ardmore Armory suggests pride in workmanship and a job well-done on a scale that makes it one of the more prominent buildings in Ardmore. The stone used for its construction was quarried nearby and gives the structure a unique character. Its construction provided jobs for workers badly hurt by crop failures and a slumping oil industry. Also noteworthy is the fact that the armory has played and continues to play a part in the national defense and military preparedness of the nation.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Two acres

Quadrangle: Ardmore West, Okla.
1:24,000/7.5 min.

UTM: 14 670290 3783000

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Beginning 237 feet north of the SE corner of NE SE SW of Sec. 25, T 4 S, R 1 E, a point near 1st and Sunset Streets, go west 300 feet, north 300 feet, east 300 feet, and south 300 feet

PICTURE REFERENCE: 1-a; 1-b