

## OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

CLAYTON HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

LOCATION: West Pine Street, Clayton, Oklahoma 040, Pushmataha County 127

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

OWNER: Clayton Board of Education, Box 190, Clayton, OK 74536

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

DESCRIPTION: excellent condition; unaltered; original site

The Clayton high school auditorium is a single story, T-shaped (98' vertically and 98' horizontally) structure constructed of untoolled and uncoursed native stone. Masonry and stone placement is excellent. The roof is flat with parapets capped with limestone blocks; entryways are recessed; window placement is by twos. Angular lines lend an art deco flavor to the structure. The building is surrounded by a WPA constructed drainage ditch that is well maintained, as the auditorium itself is.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1936-1937; builder/architect: unknown

The building is significant because of the work opportunities construction of it provided relief roll laborers in the rural Clayton area, enabling them to attain a measure of economic security and self respect. The building also promoted community awareness and the presentation of theatrical productions, both of which raised spirits during difficult times. As a rural WPA school building, it is remarkable in its type (only one other auditorium as opposed to a gym/auditorium was located), scale/size and its allusion to art deco style. To the community it is unique architecturally because of its type, style, scale and workmanship. It and other WPA structures became the prototype of buildings constructed from uncut and uncoursed native stone during and after World War II.

### GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

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

UTM: 15 284060 3829840

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lots 9, 10, 11 and 12, Block 1, Clayton original

PICTURE REFERENCE: 150-A, 150-B