

## OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

EASTERN OKLAHOMA STATE COLLEGE ATHLETIC FIELD AND STADIUM

LOCATION: Vicinity of Wilburton, Oklahoma 040, Latimer County 077; Sec. 7, T 5 N, R 19 E

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

OWNER: Board of Regents, Eastern Oklahoma State College, Wilburton, OK 74578

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Latimer County Courthouse, Wilburton, OK 74578

DESCRIPTION: good condition; unaltered; original site

The athletic field at Eastern Oklahoma State College is composed of a football gridiron and a red cinder track. Rectangular (278' x 14') in design and situated on the north edge of the field, the stadium is constructed of undressed and uncoursed native sandstone as well as poured concret. The stands rise in three tiers, with the exception of a center section where they rise to six tiers. Beneath the central portion there is space sufficient for a dressing room.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1937-1940; architect/builder: unknown

The athletic field and stadium at Eastern Oklahoma State College was the most modest of that type of facility constructed by the WPA in southeastern Oklahoma. It is significant in that it demonstrates the willingness of the agency to define "useful" projects in the broadest of terms. For the college the facility meant that students could participate in intercollegiate athletics for the first time--and for the next 50 years. Within the Wilburton community the field and stadium is unique architecturally at to type, workmanship and materials. The facility is especially significant because it was a part of a massive program of public works that kept destitute residents of the region from starving during the 1930s.

### GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Six acres

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

UTM: A—15 286800 3865800; B—15 286965 3865820

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The nominated property begins 309 feet north of the SE corner of Sec. 7, T 5 N, R 19 E, and goes 418 feet north, 627 feet west, 418 feet south and 627 feet east.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 82-A, 82-B