

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER SCHOOL

LOCATION: Finney and Post Streets, Coalgate Oklahoma 040, Coal County 029

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

OWNER: First Baptist Church of Coalgate, Post and Finney Streets, Coalgate, OK 74538

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Coal County Courthouse, Coalgate, OK 74538

DESCRIPTION: good condition; altered; original site

A three room building, the old Carver school of Coalgate is a single story, rectangular (56' x 48') structure constructed of lightly rusticated and coursed native sandstone. The gabled roof is intersected by a frontal gable, the latter asymetrically placed over an arched entryway leading to recessed doors. Most classroom window openings, which reach to the eaves and have cut stone sills, have been enclosed with wood inserts and new openings cut for metal sash windows. The window alteration, however, does not impeach the architectural integrity of the building.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1938; builder/architect: Okla. State Dept. of Education pattern book

The Carver school was the black school prior to integration in Coalgate. The WPA laborers who worked on it were also black. The building is significant, therefore, because construction of it provided work opportunities for unskilled and unemployed black laborers made destitute by the depression and because it created a new environment conducive to learning for black students previously deprived educationally. As an urban WPA building, it is remarkable for its modest scale. To the community it is unique architecturally because of its type (black school), style, materials and workmanship.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

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

UTM: 14 755320 3823900

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lot 3, Block 198, Coalgate original

PICTURE REFERENCE: 37-A, 37-B