

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

HEAVENER HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM/AUDITORIUM

LOCATION: 4th and H Streets, Heavener, Oklahoma 040, Leflore County 079

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

OWNER: Heavener Board of Education, Box 698, Heavener, OK 74937

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Leflore County Courthouse, Poteau, OK 74953

DESCRIPTION: excellent condition; altered; original site

The Heavener gym and auditorium is a two story, rectangular (84' x 90') structure constructed of rusticated and roughly coursed native sandstone. The roof is both gabled and flat with parapets. Extending vertically through both floors, window openings with concrete sills are separated by brick work. Double-door entryways are covered with lean-to porches. The roof extensions lend an art deco flavor to the building. Most windows have been enclosed with inserts of brick, an alteration that does not severely impeach the architectural integrity of the building.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1939-1940; builder/architect: unknown

The gym/auditorium is significant because construction of it enabled destitute workers in the Heavener area to find jobs when none were available in the private sector and because it provided space for school and community activities, especially basketball, which fostered a sense of identity and pride not widely known in the region beforehand. As a WPA building, the structure is notable for its scale, excellent masonry, and hint of art deco style. Within the Heavener community it is unique architecturally because of its type, style, scale, materials and workmanship.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acres: Less than one acre

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

UTM: 15 354090 3861290

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lots 6 and 7, Block 85, Heavener original

PICTURE REFERENCE: 98-A, 98-B