

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

KONAWA SCHOOL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION BUILDING

LOCATION: West and South Streets, Konawa, Oklahoma 040, Seminole County 133

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

OWNER: Konawa Board of Education, Box 127, Konawa, OK 74849

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Seminole County Courthouse, Wewoka, OK 74884

DESCRIPTION: good condition; altered; original site

The Konawa School vocational education building is a single-story, rectangular (64' x 30') structure constructed from lightly tooled and barely coursed native sandstone. The roof is flat with parapets on three sides; on the fourth side the roof extends as an eave. Window openings had metal encased panes, and above the opening on the end wood siding extended to the roof line. All but one of the windows have now been enclosed with wood inserts. The building was accessed by one garage door and single entryways on either side. The structure's architectural integrity has not been impeached.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1937-1938; builder/architect: unknown

Unlike other school districts in the western part of Oklahoma during the 1930s, Konawa experienced an increasing enrollment. This increase strained the physical resources of the school which had a bonded indebtedness of \$5,000,000 and a declining property valuation. Only the timely assistance of the WPA enabled the district to meet this challenge, providing additions to the physical plant as well as facilities dedicated to an enriched and progressive education--vocational arts program. (A gymnasium and tennis courts were also constructed, but because their integrity has been compromised they are not a part of this nomination. An NYA constructed band room is not included either.) The Konawa vocational education building, therefore, is significant because it symbolizes the critical, educational assistance provided by the WPA construction program, and because architecturally it is unique in terms of type, style, workmanship and materials in the community. Construction also enabled jobless workers to find meaningful employment and a measure of economic security when it was not available within the private sector.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: less than one acre

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

UTM: 14 704650 3870390

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: A tract of land ten feet north, west, south and east of the north, west, south and east walls of the building centered upon the above referenced UTM,

in Block 7 of the Shirley Townsend Addition to Konawa original plat

PICTURE REFERENCE: 73-a; 73-b