

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

LEONARD SCHOOL AND AUDITORIUM/GYMNASIUM

LOCATION: South 161st and East 161st Streets, Leonard, Oklahoma 040, Tulsa County 143; SE 1/4, Sec. 22, T 17 N, R 14 E

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

OWNER: Leonard Board of Education, Box 37, Leonard, OK 74043

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Tulsa County Courthouse, Tulsa, OK 74174

DESCRIPTION: good condition; altered; original site

A single story, L-shaped (100' x 54', with extension of 43' x 42') structure, the Leonard school and gymnasium is constructed of cut but unrusted blocks of native sandstone randomly laid. The masonry lacks any artistic quality. The roof is flat with parapets (particularly pronounced above the front entry), while wall caps and window sills, lintels and side facings are pre-formed concrete. The double door, front entryway is recessed, and the south, exterior wall has pilasters. Window openings have been reduced in size with wood inserts and smaller, more energy efficient windows installed. On the north a walkway to a new gymnasium has been enclosed with sheet metal and attached to the building. Neither alteration, however, effects the architectural integrity of the building.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1938-1939; architect/builder: Okla. State Dept. of Education pattern book

The drought and the drop in agricultural prices left the economy of the Leonard community in shambles and many workers without gainful employment. Virtually destitute, the latter found some economic relief by working on the construction of the Leonard school facilities--a fact that makes the structure particularly significant. That it also infused the wages from some 60,000 man-hours of labor into the local economy was also important. As it replaced a condemned wood building and remains in use today, the WPA-built school was the genesis of and continues to nurture modern education in the area. Architecturally, the building is notable in the community for its type, style, materials and workmanship.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: less than one acre

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

UTM: 15 247620 3979670

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Go north of the Leonard community, situated on U.S. highway No. 64, on the county section line (E. 161st) to S. 161st Street to the school property on the NW corner of the intersection, being (200' x 200'), SE corner of Sec. 22, T 17 N, R 14 E

PICTURE REFERENCE: 144-a; 144-b