

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

NEW STATE SCHOOL

LOCATION: Vicinity of Hartshorne, Oklahoma 040, Pittsburg County 121; Sec. 15, T 3 N, R 16 E

CLASSIFICATION: building; private; public acquisition--N/A; unoccupied; unrestricted; present use--storage

OWNER: Mr. Mead Norton, P. O. Box 1734, Oklahoma City, OK 73101

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Pittsburg County Courthouse, McAlester, OK 74501

DESCRIPTION: Fair condition; altered; original site

The classic one-room building, the New State school is a single story, rectangular (26' x 34') structure constructed of rusticated and coursed native sandstone. The roof is gabled and covered with sheet metal; the east front sash window on cut stone sills reach to the eaves; the front door is recessed behind an archway. On the east a sheet metal, lean-to garage has been added. Despite the addition, the integrity of the building has not been impaired.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1936; builder/architect: Okla. State Dept. of Education pattern book

The school building is significant because construction of it provided work opportunities for unskilled and unemployed laborers in a very remote area where the effects of drought and agricultural depression and put many on the state relief rolls. For the youngsters in the isolated area, the building meant a chance at a relatively modern education. Previously any formal learning was haphazard. Architecturally the building is unique in the community because of its type, style, scale, materials and workmanship. The fact that the New State school building is one of few WPA-constructed one-room school houses that survives also makes it significant.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: One acre

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

UTM: 15 261800 3846040

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: From U.S. highway No. 270 in Hartshorne, follow the paved county road south by the city lake; two miles beyond the lake bear south at the Y toward Counts. Approximately six miles beyond the Y, or at the first right turn, turn west one-fourth of a mile, then back to the north one-half of a mile. The property begins at a point 209 feet south of the NE corner of the SW 1/4 of Sec. 15, T 3 N, R 16 E, and runs west 209 feet, south 209 feet, east 209 feet and north 209 feet.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 143-A, 143-B