

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

NORRIS SCHOOL

LOCATION: Vicinity of Red Oak, Oklahoma 040, Latimer County 077; Sec. 14, T 6 N, R 22 E

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

OWNER: New Harmony Freewill Baptist Church, Rural Route, Red Oak, OK 74563

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Latimer County Courthouse, Wilburton, OK 74578

DESCRIPTION: Excellent; altered; original site

A two-room building originally, the Norris school is a single story, rectangular (68' x 28') structure constructed of rusticated and coursed native sandstone. The roof, covered with composition shingles, is hipped with a centrally placed gable that serves as porch for a two-door recessed entryway. The original entryway has been enclosed and a smaller porch added; windows on the west front have been enclosed with wood inserts. To the rear of the building has been attached a concrete block room. These alterations notwithstanding, the essential integrity of the building remains intact.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1940; builder/architect; Okla. State Dept. of Education pattern book

Within the community, the school building is significant architecturally because of its type, allusion to Richardsonian style, scale, materials and workmanship. Moreover, construction of it provided work opportunities for unskilled and unemployed laborers made destitute by the depression and demoralized by reduction to beggary. Notable too is that the building created a new environment conducive to learning for students, replacing a dilapidated wood structure.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: One acres

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

UTM: 15 320900 3874590

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: From Red Oak follow U.S. highway No. 270 east some five and one-half miles to an unpaved county road; go north three and one-half miles to site of the school on the east side of the road. The nominated property is a 209 square foot tract in the NW corner of Sec. 14, T 6 N, R 22 E.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 77-A, 77-B