

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

PRAIRIE VALLEY SCHOOL

LOCATION: Vicinity of Seminole, Oklahoma 040, Seminole County 133; SW 1/4, Sec. 7, T 10 N, R 6 E

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

OWNER: Strother Board of Education, Route 3, Seminole, OK 74868

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

DESCRIPTION: excellent condition; altered; original site

The Prairie Valley School is single-story with five classrooms and a gymnasium/auditorium. A brick, L-shaped structure, the school measures 195 feet by 135 feet along the front and side. The gymnasium/auditorium has an arched roof, while the classroom section has a flat roof. The building alludes to an modernesque style with curved corners near the front entry and vertical lines elsewhere. The windows are now metal sash with continuous brick sills and lintels. The window openings on the gym have been reduced in size by wood insets. Friezes, pilasters, and curved entryways add a decorative element to the building. There is a metal addition on the west side of the building, but it and the window alterations do not impair the integrity of the structure.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1939; builder/architect: unknown

As a rural WPA-built school, this structure is significant for its allusion to art deco style and its brick construction. Architectural type, style and workmanship also make it notable within the community. Construction of it also provided jobs for workers left destitute by the depression and introduced an environment conducive to learning.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: two acres

Quadrangle: Prague SW, Okla.
1:24,000/7.5 min.

UTM: 14 707560 3813900

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: On State Highway 90 go eight miles north and on 99A two and one-half miles west of Seminole to school property that begins 2080 east of the SW corner of Sec. 7, T 10 N, R 6 E, then north 416 feet, east 208 feet, south 416 feet and west 208 feet.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 75-a; 75-b