

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

SCIPIO SCHOOL

LOCATION: Vicinity of McAlester, Oklahoma 040, Pittsburg County 121; Sec. 20, T 7 N, R 13 E

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

OWNER: Scipio Baptist Church, Route 1, McAlester, OK 74501

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

DESCRIPTION: Good condition; unaltered; original site

A two-room building, the Scipio school is a single story, rectangular (76' x 26') structure with an offset constructed of rusticated and coursed native sandstone. Masonry is rather crude. With a composition shingle covering, the roof is gabled with one step; two of three doors are recessed behind archways and are covered by small porches. Wood sash windows, resting on cut stone sills, on the west side reach to the eaves.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1936-1937; builder/architect: Okla. State Dept. of Education pattern book

The school building is significant because construction of it was the genesis of modern education in the Scipio area, a rural and isolated region. Architecturally it is notable within the community in terms of type, Richardsonian influence upon style, scale, materials and workmanship. Construction also helped to alleviate the consequences of the depression of the 1930, providing work opportunities for unskilled and unemployed laborers long on the relief rolls of the state because of the closing of the coal mines. These jobs stimulated the local economy and rekindled individual self respect.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreege: Two acres

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

UTM: 15 230485 3883330

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Follow U.S. highway No. 270 west from McAlester to the first county road going north beyond the turnpike entrance; there turn north and follow the paved and unpaved county road for approximately ten miles to an intersection with another county road; turn north and go one mile; turn back east one-quarter of a mile; the property is on the north side of the road, beginning at a point 209 feet east of the SW corner of the SE 1/4 of Sec. 20, T 7 N, R 13 E, and running 209 feet north, 418 feet east, 209 feet south and 418 feet west.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 146-A, 146-B