

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

TATUMS SCHOOL

LOCATION: Vicinity of Tatums, Oklahoma 040, Carter County 019; SE1/4, Sec. 12, T 1 S, R 3 W

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

OWNER: Tatums Neighborhood Trust/Board of Education, Box 248, Fox, OK 73435

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Carter County Courthouse, Ardmore, OK 73402

DESCRIPTION: good condition; altered; original site

The Tatums School is a ten-room, single-story, rectangular shaped (144' x 59') structure. It is constructed of red brick which has been painted white. It has a flat roof with limestone capped parapets. Entryways are recessed, while the front entry is framed with modified pilasters and a roof line cornice. A green sunscreen has been added to the upper portion of the aluminum sash windows, placed by threes, that rest on brick sills. A small wellhouse has been added to the north end of the building, and a courseway for the handicapped has been built for the front entry. These additions in no way impair the original integrity of the structure.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1936; builder/architect: The Oklahoma State Department of Education pattern book

The Tatums School is distinctive to Tatums, a totally black community, for its type, style, scale, and workmanship. It is significant to note that its construction provided work for many unemployed oil field workers and agricultural laborers during the depression. For fifty years it has served the community well by promoting learning in an area with limited educational facilities.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: One acre

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

UTM: 14 640950 3816270

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: From the SW corner of SE 1/4 go 780 feet north to a point of beginning, then go 208 feet east, 208 feet north, 208 feet west and 208 feet south in Sec. 12, T 1 S, R 3 W

PICTURE REFERENCE: 9-a; 9-b