

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

TIPTON RIDGE SCHOOL

LOCATION: Vicinity of Blocker, Oklahoma 040, Pittsburg County 121; Sec. 34, T 8 N, R 17 E

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

OWNER: Mr. M. O. Roberts, Rural Route 1, Box 2217, Quinton, OK 74561

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

DESCRIPTION: Fair condition; altered; original site

The classic one-room building, the Tipton Ridge school is a single story, rectangular (36' x 23') structure constructed of cut and roughly coursed native sandstone. The masonry is crude; the mortar is incised. The roof, covered with metal sheets, is gabled; the west front door is recessed behind an archway covered by a small porch. Window openings with cut stone sills have been enclosed with wood inserts; a small metal building has been added to the northeast corner. Neither alteration impeaches the integrity of the structure.

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

Construction of the school building provided work opportunities and some economic security for unemployed coal miners in a remote area where mines had been closed for some five years and residents had faced the prospect of starvation. A new physical atmosphere supportive of learning also resulted for students previously confined to a poorly lighted wood structure. Architecturally the building is unique in the community in terms of its type, style, scale, materials and workmanship. Now used as a hunting lodge, the structure is a good example of adaptive reuse.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: One and one-half acres

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

UTM: 15 271525 3889115

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: From state highway No. 31 just north of Blocker take the first unpaved county road that goes north, following it for approximately four and one-half miles. The building is on the east side of the road, occupying property that begins at a point 105 yards south of the NW corner of the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Sec. 34, T 8 N, R 17 E, and then runs south on the section line 105 yards, east 70 yards, north 105 yards, and west 70 yards.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 147-A