

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

UTICA SCHOOL CAMPUS (Two buildings)

LOCATION: Unmarked Streets, Utica, Oklahoma 040, Bryan County 013

CLASSIFICATION: buildings; public; public acquisition--N/A; unoccupied; unrestricted; present use--storage

OWNER: Board of Education, School District No. 45, Utica, OK 74763

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Bryan County Courthouse, Durant, OK 74701

DESCRIPTION: good condition; altered; original site

The Utica school campus is composed of two buildings: an eight-room school/gym facility and a gymnasium/auditorium. The school/gym building is a single story, rectangular (130' x 80') structure constructed of poured concrete. The roof is arched over the gym and flat over the classrooms. Parapets and pilasters decorate the building, giving it a distinct art deco flavor. Large metal casement windows extend to classroom ceilings. Front entryways are recessed.

The gym/auditorium is situated 150' directly south of the classroom. Constructed of wood with clapboard siding, it is rectangular (60' x 86') with a stepped, arched roof. There are no windows; the entry is on the north end. New siding seems to have been added, but it does not impeach the architectural integrity of the building.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1939; builder/architect: unknown

As rural WPA school buildings, the structures on Utica School Campus are notable because of their scale, the art deco allusion in the classroom building, and construction materials--poured concrete and wood. Within the community they are unique architecturally because of their type, style, scale, materials and workmanship. Moreover, construction of them provided work opportunities for unskilled and unemployed laborers in the region where few had existed previously, and they created a new environment conducive to learning for students theretofore deprived educationally. And the gym/auditorium provided recreational and community meeting facilities for Utica, enabling the development of a civic pride sorely lacking among residents.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

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

UTM: A--14 756900 3754450; B--14 756890 3754360

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lot 2, Block 6, Utica original

PICTURE REFERENCE: 23-A, 23-B, 23-C, 23-D