

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

WEBSTER HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM AND ATHLETIC FIELD

LOCATION: 40th and Yukon, Tulsa Oklahoma 040, Tulsa County 143

CLASSIFICATION: structure; public; public acquisition--N.A; occupied; unrestricted; present use--education

OWNER: Tulsa Board of Education, Box 470208, Tulsa, OK 74147

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Tulsa County Courthouse, Tulsa, OK 74174

DESCRIPTION: excellent condition; altered; original site

Situated on the south side of the athletic field, the Webster High School Stadium is rectangular (240' x 34') in size and was constructed with a poured concrete superstructure enclosed with red brick. The stands rise sixteen tiers. The enclosed area beneath the stands has metal casement windows, three garage doors, and seven single door entries. A press box constructed above the stands does not affect the architectural integrity of the structure. A new stands on the north side of the field is not a part of this nomination.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1940; architect/builder: unknown

Tulsa west of the Arkansas River is a community primarily of blue collar workers. To provide this area with its own high school was one of the principal objectives of Tulsa officials when the federal government sponsored construction program began in the 1930s. The result was an entire campus constructed by depression agencies. The principal building, a massive two story brick structure, was designed by John Duncan Forsythe and funded by the Public Works Administration (FERA). The gymnasium, built at the same time, apparently was also PWA. The contribution of the WPA was on a lesser scale, the stadium and athletic field, but it rounded out Tulsa's only "federally built" high school campus.

The stadium and field are also significant in that they reflect the broad definition of "useful" employed by the agency in selecting projects. Moreover, the field became a source of pride for Webster students, a pride that translated into remarkable victories on the football field and sustains the community despite its blue collar character. Architecturally, it is unique in that it is one of, if not the largest, stadium built by the WPA in Oklahoma.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: less than two acres

Quadrangle: Sapulpa North, Okla.
1:24,000/7.5 min.

UTM: A-14 768920 3999750; B-14 768840 3999740

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The south 1/2 of Blocks 1, 2 and 3 Clinton Homesites Addition to Tulsa original.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 153-a; 153-b