

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Item number various

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ARKOMA SCHOOL

LOCATION: Arkoma and Blocker Streets, Arkoma, Oklahoma 040, Leflore County 079

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

OWNER: Arkoma Board of Education, Box P, Arkoma, OK 74901

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Leflore County Courthouse, Poteau, OK 74953

DESCRIPTION: Good condition; altered; original site

A four-room building still used as an educational facility, the Arkoma school is a single story, rectangular (74' x 42') structure constructed of cut and coursed native sandstone. The hipped roof has a gable dormer without lights above the front entry archway and recessed doors. End doors are also recessed behind archways. Window openings with concrete sills have been filled with new metal windows or wood inserts. A concrete block structure has been attached to the south end and a portion of the west front. Fortunately the integrity of the building is still intact.

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

Significantly, construction of the school building created jobs and some economic security for destitute coal miners and agricultural workers long on relief and short on self respect. Close to Fort Smith, Arkansas, the Arkoma area was particularly hard hit by the depression. The building also stimulated an interest in modern education and over the last 49 years has continued to nurture it. Within the community the structure is notable architecturally in terms of its allusion to Richardsonian Romanesque style, its materials, its scale and its character of workmanship.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

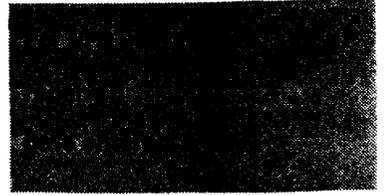
Quadrangle: South Fort Smith, Okla.
1:24,000/7.5 min.

UTM: 15 369770 3913150

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The nonimated property is contained within a rectangle centered on the above UTM reference point. The west line runs parallel to and 10' from the west wall of the building; the north line runs parallel to and 10' from the north wall of the building; the east wall runs parallel to and 10' from the east wall of the building; and the south line runs parallel to and 10' from the north wall of the building, all in Lots 5, 6 and 7, Block 4, Arkoma original

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PICTURE REFERENCE: 85-A, 85-B

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: Various Date Listed: 9/8/88

Various Various Oklahoma
Property Name County State

WPA Public Buildings, Recreational Facilities and Cemetery
Improvements in Southeastern Oklahoma, 1935-1943 TR
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Carol D. Shuel
Signature of the Keeper

9-8-88
Date of Action

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Amended Items in Nomination:

The actual resource count for the entire multiple property nomination should be 50 contributing buildings and 9 contributing structures (no non-contributing resources). Each of the individual properties should be counted as one building with the following exceptions: Roberta School Campus--2 buildings; Spencerville School Campus--2 buildings; Stroup Park Swimming Pool and Bathhouse--1 building, 1 structure; Wetumka Cemetery Pavilion and Fence--2 structures; Twyman Park--2 buildings, 4 structures; Jeff Lee Park Bathhouse and Pool--1 building, 1 structure; and Colony Park Pavilion--1 structure. (Stroup Park Swimming Pool and Bathhouse is being returned to the OK SHPO because of substantive problems which must be clarified.)

Scipio School--Ownership should be private, not public.

Roberta School Campus--Acreage should be two, not less than two.

The level of significance for all properties is local.

The above information was confirmed during a 9/8/88 telephone conversation with Oklahoma Deputy SHPO Melvena Heisch.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file