

**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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PITTSBURG SCHOOL AND GYMNASIUM

LOCATION: Vicinity of Pittsburg, Oklahoma 040, Pittsburg County 121; Sec. 20, T 3 N, R 14 E

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

OWNER: Pittsburg Board of Education, Box 118, Pittsburg, OK 74560

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

DESCRIPTION: excellent condition; unaltered; original site

A building of some fifteen classrooms, the Pittsburg school and gymnasium is a single story, U-shaped (152' across; 152' on one wing; 132' on another) structure constructed of buff brick. The roof is flat with parapets. Wood sash or metal casement windows rise to interior ceilings and are placed by twos and threes. Doors are recessed behind arches. Red tiles over the front entry ways, the gym entry pediment, and a scrolled cornice above the gym give the building an architectural style reminiscent of mission revival and art deco.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1936-37; architect/builder: unknown

As a rural WPA school building, it is remarkable for its scale/size, its use of buff colored brick, and its art deco/mission revival style. To the community it is unique architecturally because of its type, style, scale and workmanship. But the school building is especially significant because it provided work opportunities for unemployed coal miners primarily in the Pittsburg area who had long been on state relief rolls, giving them some self respect and a measure of economic security. In that the structure provided space for a grade school and a high school as well as a gym, it constituted the beginning of modern education in the area--which it continues to nurture.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Two acres

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

UTM: 15 738630 3844780

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Situated on the western edge of the community, the school property is described as a two acre square tract (295 feet by 295 feet) in the SE corner, of the SW 1/4, of the NW 1/4, of the SE 1/4 of Sec. 20, T 3 N, R 13 E.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 144-A, 144-B

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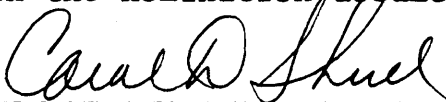
SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

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.


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
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)