

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Eastern University Preparatory School

and/or common Preparatory Hall

2. Location

street & number College Hill _____ not for publication

city, town Claremore _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 002

state Oklahoma code 40 county Rogers code 131

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <u>N/A</u> in process | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property

name Board of Regents - Claremore Junior College

street & number College Hill Drive

city, town Claremore _____ vicinity of _____ state Oklahoma

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the County Clerk

street & number Rogers County Courthouse - 219 South Missouri

city, town Claremore _____ state Oklahoma

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Northeastern Oklahoma Counties Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1981 _____ federal _____ state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Oklahoma Historical Society - State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Oklahoma City _____ state Oklahoma

7. Description

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|------------|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved | date _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | | |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Preparatory Hall, constructed in 1909, is a red brick building measuring 147' x 62'. The flat-roofed structure consists of two stories and a raised basement. On the front of the building, there is a colossal portico of the Ionic order with a triangular pediment supported both by columns and rectangular pilasters. The portico extends 38' across the front of the building. Dentils adorn the pediment and the top of the outermost pilasters.

The front entrance to the building, located in the portico, is framed by pilasters which support a full entablature. Directly above the portico there is a dome situated on a rectangular base. On each side of the front facade, approximately 50' from the center, there is a 2' protrusion.

Located in the center of both sides of the building is a 3' x 4' rusticated brick attachment approximately 8' high.

Although the original panes have been replaced with thermopane, the fenestration remains unchanged. Above the entablature over the front entrance, there are paired windows which extend up to the architrave of the portico. On the remainder of the front, the window pattern is the same for all three stories. There are two sets of paired windows, 6' apart, on either side of the portico. On the portions of the front which are set slightly forward, there are two adjoining paired windows.

On the sides of the building the fenestration is the same for the first and second stories, but different on the raised basement. In the first and second floors there are two single windows in the center and two paired windows on each side. The raised basement has four paired windows, two on each side of the 3' x 4' x 8' rusticated brick attachment.

The fenestration for the rear of the structure on both first and second floors includes triple windows at each end, four paired windows, and two single windows. On the first floor, the two single windows and the two paired windows on the northeast are half as tall as the ones on the first floor. On the northwest end, there is a double window which begins in the middle of the first floor and extends upward to the middle of the second floor. In the raised basement, there are two paired windows and two single windows.

Additional decorative elements include brickwork friezes over all of the first story windows and slight labels around all of the first and second story windows. A parapet, approximately 4' from the roof, extends around the entire building.

In the 1970s two alterations were made to Preparatory Hall. An elevator shaft, extending from the raised basement to the top of the second floor, was added to the northeast end of the rear of the building. Dimensions of the elevator shaft are 15' x 15'. A one-story wing, opposite the elevator shaft, was also added to the rear of the structure. Dimensions of the wing are

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Continuation sheet

Item number

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30' X 62'. There is a glass enclosed walkway from the original structure to the main part of the wing. Neither of the additions impair the significance of the building as they are constructed with similar materials and follow the same architectural style as the original structure. Both alterations are unobservable from the front of the building. The red brick was painted white in the 1950s and the additions follow that color scheme.

Preparatory Hall currently serves as one of several buildings housing Claremore Junior College. Situated on a hill overlooking the town of Claremore, the building is located on College Hill Drive and is accessible from the street via a parking lot and walkway. The grounds are landscaped with trees, shrubs, and flowering plants. The building is slightly removed from other buildings on the campus.

8. Significance

| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900– | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Specific dates 1909–1971 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Preparatory Hall is significant because it housed one of the first high schools in northeastern Oklahoma and later it served as the focal point for the Oklahoma Military Academy, the only military academy in Oklahoma, for over 50 years. It is one of the oldest buildings continuously associated with education in northeastern Oklahoma.

Preparatory Hall, constructed in 1909, was the first and only building designed to serve the Eastern University Preparatory School. Enrollment was drawn from throughout eastern Oklahoma as well as from the nearby states of Arkansas, Missouri, and Kansas.

From 1909 to 1919, Eastern University Preparatory School served approximately 200 students annually. The bulk of the course offerings were academic. The fine arts curriculum was strong with courses in piano, orchestra, voice, band, drawing, and painting. Vocational and technical training was also offered. Students gained practical experience through campus maintenance projects. A model lab school for elementary education majors was maintained in the building to provide classroom experience for future teachers.

In 1919 the Oklahoma legislature declared preparatory schools were unnecessary and converted Eastern University Preparatory School into the Oklahoma Military Academy (O.M.A.). Until 1971, Oklahoma Military Academy was the only exclusive military school in Oklahoma. It offered high school and junior college courses in addition to military training. Preparatory Hall was the Academy's first building and the only one housing academic divisions for several years.

In 1971 the school again underwent a change. Oklahoma Military Academy was replaced by Claremore Junior College, a state-supported institution. Preparatory Hall continued to be used for both administration offices and classrooms. Presently, the original part of the structure houses administration officials and the addition serves as classrooms for the School of Business.

9. Major Bibliographical References

"The Eastern University Preparatory School," Harlow's Weekly (May 22, 1915), pp. 348-349.

Interview with Richard H. Mosier, President of Claremore Junior College, June 10, 1981.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Sageeyah, OK

Quadrangle scale 7.5 minutes

UMT References

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Verbal boundary description and justification Beginning at a point 800' west and 100' north of the intersection of College Hill Drive and Oklahoma Highway 88, proceed east 500', then north 250', then west 500' and then south 250' to point of beginning. Preparatory Hall is located within these boundaries.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| | | | | |
|-------|-----|------|--------|------|
| state | N/A | code | county | code |
|-------|-----|------|--------|------|

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| state | | code | county | code |
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Claudia A. Craig - Supervised by Dr. George O. Carney

organization Northeastern Oklahoma Counties Survey date September 24, 1981

street & number Oklahoma State University telephone Oklahoma

city or town OK CITY state OK

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *C. M. [unclear]* 1-4-82

title _____ date _____

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| For HCPS use only | |
| I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register | |
| <u><i>[Signature]</i></u> | date <u>2/19/82</u> |
| Keeper of the National Register | |
| Attest: | date |
| Chief of Registration | |