

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

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



Continuation sheet

Item number various

Page 92

SPAULDING SCHOOL GYMNASIUM/AUDITORIUM

LOCATION: Section Line Highway and 2nd Street, Spaulding, Oklahoma 040, Hughes County 063

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

OWNER: Spaulding Community, Spaulding, OK 74066

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Hughes County Courthouse, Holdenville, OK 74848

DESCRIPTION: excellent condition; altered; original site

The Spaulding gym and auditorium is a single story, rectangular (90' x 80') structure constructed of untooled and uncoursed native sandstone. Now covered with composition shingles, the roof is gabled. Window openings on the front, which reach to the eaves, have been enclosed with wood inserts; those on the east rear have been enclosed with concrete blocks. From the west front, however, the architectural integrity of the building remains unimpeached.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1936; architect/builder: unknown

The gym/auditorium is significant because its construction provided jobs for destitute, unemployed oil field workers in the Spaulding, restoring to them some personal pride and some economic security. It is also important because it provided space for school and community activities, especially basketball, which fostered a sense of identity and purpose not widely known in the region earlier on. It remains a focus of pride for a people whose town has all but disappeared. Within the community itself the structure is unique architecturally because of its type, style, scale, materials and workmanship. As a WPA gym/auditorium, it is wholly unique in southeastern Oklahoma in terms of roof line and window placement patterns.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

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

UTM: 14 733460 3877130

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lots 4, 5 and 6, Block 13, plus 60 feet of right of way, Spaulding original

PICTURE REFERENCE: 61-A, 61-B

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Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

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

<u>Property Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>
<u>Various</u>	<u>Various</u>	<u>Oklahoma</u>

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