United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

various

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ROBERTA SCHOOL CAMPUS (Two buildings)

LOCATION: Vicinity of Durant, Oklahoma 040, Bryan County 013; Sec. 24, T 7 S, R 9 E

CLASSIFICATION: buildings; private; public acquisition--N/A; occupied; unrestricted; present use--storage

OWNER: Mrs. Ruby Mattingly Raper, Route 1, Box 229, Durant, OK 74701

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Bryan County Courthouse, Durant, OK 74701

DESCRIPTION: fair condition; altered; original site

The Roberta school campus is composed of two buildings: a four-room classroom and a gymnasium/auditorium. The classroom is a single story, rectangular (66' x 42') structure with a wood frame and clapboard siding. The hipped roof, covered now by composition shingles, has a gable dormer without lights above the archway to recessed doors. Wood sash windows in the classrooms reach to the eaves. The south window opening on the east front has been covered with siding and a smaller window inserted. New siding also covers the north end of the building.

The gymnasium/auditorium, situated 80 feet south of the classroom building, is a single story, rectangular (74' \times 66') structure also constructed of wood frame and clapboard siding. Covered by sheet metal, the roof is gabled; small windows placed by twos reach to the eaves; recessed front doors are entered through an archway. The south end of the structure has been opened to permit parking of farm vehicles on the wood floor. This alteration, along with the window enclosure on the classroom building mentioned above, does not impeach the architectural integrity of the two structues.

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

As rural WPA school buildings, the structures are notable primarily for their wood construction. Indeed, campuses totally of wood construction are rare. Within the community they are unique architecturally because of their type, style, scale and workmanship. The two buildings on the Roberta school campus are especially significant because construction of them provided work opportunities and some economic security for laborers long on relief and on the verge of starvation. They also created a new environment conducive to learning for students theretofore deprived educationally. And the gym was the focus of community pride and spirit.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than two acres

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

UTM: A--14 749250 3757260; B--14 749250 5757200

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Follow state highway No. 78 south of Durant to its intersection with state highway No. 70E; turn east and go four miles to the Roberta community, turning north on the unpaved county road. The property begins at a point 990 feet north of the SE corner of Sec. 24, T 7 S, R 9 E, and goes west 275 feet, north 330 feet, east 275 feet and south 330 feet.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 22-A, 22-B, 22-C, and 22-D

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD		
NRIS Reference Number: Various	Date Listed:	9/8/88
Various	Various	Oklahoma
Property Name	County	State
Improvements in Southeastern Oklahoma Multiple Name	, 1935-1943 TR	
This property is listed in the National Places in accordance with the attached subject to the following exceptions, notwithstanding the National Park Servin the nomination documentation. Signature of the Keeper	d nomination do exclusions, or	cumentation amendments, ion included

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