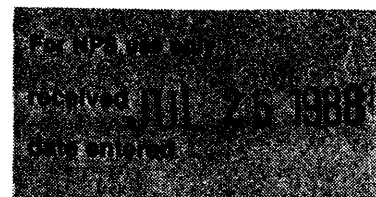


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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



Continuation sheet

Item number various

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ROBERT E. LEE SCHOOL

LOCATION: 9th and Louisiana Streets, Durant, Oklahoma 040, Bryan County 013

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

OWNER: Durant Board of Education, 405 N. 5th Street, Durant, OK 74701

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

DESCRIPTION: excellent condition; altered; original site

A building of twelve or more rooms, Robert E. Lee school is a single story, L-shaped (189' vertically, and 114' horizontally) structure constructed of buff brick laid with a running bond. The roof is flat with parapets; the doors are recessed within towers capped by pyramidal roofs of spanish tile. Entryways into the towers are arched. Decorative cornices midway on the wings, the towers, red roof tile, archways and buff brick give a Spanish colonial motif to the building. Window placement on concrete sills is by twos and threes. Original windows have been replaced by ones more energy efficient. The new windows do not infringe upon the architectural integrity of the building.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1937; builder/architect: Albert S. Ross

The school building is significant because construction of it enabled destitute laborers in the Durant area to find useful employment after months, if not years, of unemployment. Also the structure created an educational environment more conducive to learning. As a WPA school building, the structure is notable for its stylistic allusion to Spanish colonial architecture and its use of brick building materials. It also suggests the relative "prosperity" of urban school districts as opposed to those in rural areas. Within the community the building is unique architecturally because of its style and workmanship.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

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

UTM: 14 741480 3763880

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lots 7 and 8, Block 246, Durant original

PICTURE REFERENCE: 18-A, 18-B

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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.



Signature of the Keeper

9-8-88

Date of Action

=====

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