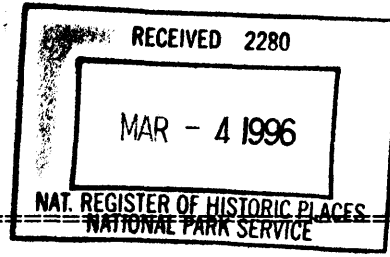


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



1. Name of Property

historic name Crescent School

other names/site number Johnson School

2. Location

street & number 2 1/2 mi e, 1/2 mi n of Jct. SH 18 & US 62 not for publication N/A
city or town Meeker vicinity X
state Oklahoma code OK county Lincoln code 081
zip code 74855

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this XX nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property XX meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide X locally. (N/A See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

B. Lake Wade
Signature of certifying official

1 March 1996
Date

Oklahoma Historical Society, SHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the
National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the
National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Edson A. Beall 4-4-96

Entered in the
~~National Register~~

Signature of Keeper Date
of Action

=====
5. Classification
=====

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 2 </u>	<u> 0 </u> buildings
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> sites
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> structures
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> objects
<u> 2 </u>	<u> 0 </u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) WPA Resources in Lincoln County, Oklahoma

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: EDUCATION Sub: school

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: WPA Standardized Style

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
roof ASPHALT
walls STONE:Sandstone
WOOD:Weatherboard
other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====
8. Statement of Significance
=====

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ECONOMICS
ARCHITECTURE
EDUCATION

Period of Significance 1938-1943

Significant Dates 1938

=====
8. Statement of Significance (Continued)
=====

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Works Progress Administration, builder

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====
9. Major Bibliographical References
=====

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

=====
10. Geographical Data
=====

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>14</u>	<u>694910</u>	<u>3931220</u>	3	___	___
2	___	___	___	4	___	___

N/A See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Cynthia Smelker
organization Okla. Historic Preservation Survey date 1 July 1993
street & number Oklahoma State University telephone (405) 744-5679
city or town Stillwater state OK zip code 74078-0611

=====
Additional Documentation
=====

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage
or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

=====
Property Owner
=====

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Neva Loy Sharp, c/o Neva E. Porter

street & number Route 2, Box 218 telephone _____

city or town Jones state OK zip code 73049
=====

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 9

Crescent School
name of property
Lincoln County, Oklahoma
county and State

SUMMARY

The Works Progress Administration (WPA) constructed the Crescent School in 1938. Located just off of US Highway 62 and only about two miles east of Meeker, Oklahoma, the school maintains its country setting. The two-room school is currently used as a private residence. The rectangular, one-story building is topped with an asphalt gable roof with a dropped gable extension. The walls are constructed of irregular coursed, polychromatic, native sandstone with a concrete foundation. The three round arched entries contain wood paneled doors. The wood, six-over-six, double hung windows have not been altered, although some are missing screens. Built in the WPA Standardized style, the school exhibits many representative WPA features, such as the three round arched entries, ribbon windows, exposed rafters and stone chimney with chimney pots. Unusual detail was applied to the building by the inclusion of several stone name and decorative blocks on the south gable end wall. The building maintains its integrity with only minor alterations occurring.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The east elevation is the building's primary elevation. Contained on this elevation are two round arched entries, a stone chimney with chimney pots, and an expanse of twelve ribbon windows. The round arched entries are located on opposite ends of the elevation and topped with a large diamond shaped stone. The nine-over-nine, wood, double hung windows are broken into equal lengths by the location of the slope chimney. (Photograph 1)

The south elevation faces onto the US Highway 62. The gable wall is ornamented with two, small fixed windows, a round arched niche through to the east elevation entry and five decorative and name stones. One of the stones contains a profile of Franklin D. Roosevelt, the American flag and the date of 1938, while the others contain the name of the Lincoln County Superintendent Carl Anderson; the Crescent School Board Members, Thomas R. Lee, Sam B. Guinn and John Sedlacek; District Number 96; and, the last stone has the abbreviated words U.S.A. over the letters W.P.A. and the year of 1938. The rectangular stone with Roosevelt's profile is in the center, topped by the elongated octagonal District Number stone. To either side of the Roosevelt stone are the diamond shaped stones with the local school officials names and below is also the diamond shaped WPA stone. Above the stones is a square vent window. (Photograph 1)

The west elevation has two six-over-six, wood, double hung windows; a round arched entry; and, two, small fixed windows. Similar to the east elevation,

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Section 7 Page 10

Crescent School
name of property
Lincoln County, Oklahoma
county and State

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the entry is topped by a diamond shaped stone. The exposed gable end in the middle of the building contains weatherboard. Also located near the center of the building is a small, cinderblock, box type addition. The addition has a flat roof and exposed rafter tails. (Photograph 2)

The south elevation contains only two, slightly off-center, six-over-six, wood, double hung windows and a square vent window. (Photograph 2)

Other contributing outbuildings within the school's boundary include a concrete cellar situated towards the northeast of the school. (Photograph 3) Also still visible although no longer intact are the foundation remains of two double-hole outhouses. One outhouse was located slightly northwest of the school, with the other being nearly directly west of the school. Sidewalks in deteriorating condition paved the way from the school to each of the separate outbuildings. (Photographs 4 and 5) All of these outbuildings would have been necessary during the time period the building was in use as a school.

ALTERATIONS

Only minor alterations have been undertaken on the building. Primarily this consists of the cinder block addition built in the middle of the building's west side. The addition is small in scale and is easily distinguished from the original building. The Crescent School continues to maintain its integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship and conveys the feeling of its past environment.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 11

Crescent School
name of property
Lincoln County, Oklahoma
county and State

SUMMARY

The Crescent School is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. The school is historically significant as an example of the work undertaken by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in Lincoln County, Oklahoma. The work relief provided by the WPA allowed many destitute people to survive the trying times of the 1930s while also stimulating the local, and therefore state and national, economies. The Crescent School is also significant due to its educational function. The construction of the new school building allowed for enhanced educational opportunities in Lincoln County during the latter half of the 1930s, the last real era of the small, rural school. The school is further eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The building is architecturally significant as a good example of the WPA Standardized style as applied to rural schools. Contextually, the Crescent School relates to "The Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.) in Lincoln County, Oklahoma, 1935-1943." The associated property type is WPA Resources, subtype Education-Related Buildings.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

Crescent School, also known as the Johnson School after Mrs. May Johnson who donated the land for the school, was established prior to the turn-of-the-century. The first school building for the Crescent School District was of log construction. The WPA and the Crescent School Board undertook construction of a new, native stone, two-room school building in 1938. The construction of the new building produced not only needed jobs for local men but also increased the economic viability of the immediate area. This in turn fortified the state and national economies. The building project further resulted in an improved educational facility which increased the quality of education in Lincoln County while also providing an enhanced space for community events.

In May 1938, the WPA allocated 17,500 dollars for the building of two new schools, one for the Crescent school district and the other for the Mount Vernon school district. At the time, twelve other education-related buildings were being constructed in Lincoln County by the WPA. Of the total allocation, the Crescent project was apportioned 7,516 in federal money. The school board contributed an additional 2,610 dollars in the form of materials to bring the total building cost to 10,126 dollars. Sixty-five WPA laborers were assigned to the project.¹ The Crescent School remained in use as a school until 1955, when the school district was consolidated with the Meeker school district.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Crescent School
name of property
Lincoln County, Oklahoma
county and State

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ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

As a WPA building, the Crescent School is architecturally significant as well. WPA-built architecture varied in size, shape, exterior features and decorative details; however, all possess one or more unifying attributes that identify it as WPA constructed. As an example of the WPA Standardized style, the Crescent School is representative of many distinguishing WPA characteristics. This includes use of polychromatic native sandstone for construction material; a functional design; limited architectural features of three round arched entries and a stone chimney; and, minimal decorative details consisting of ribbon windows, exposed rafters, chimney pots and stone name and decorative blocks. The building remains in good condition, attesting to the quality of work put into the construction project by the local WPA workers.

The Crescent School is typical of the WPA schools constructed in Lincoln County. It bears a distinct similarity to the Concord, Midlothian and Warwick schools. The design of each school is essentially identical. The basic design, however, does not apparently follow any of the available school patterns from the Schoolhouse Planning Division of the Oklahoma State Department of Public Instruction. The type and placement of the majority of exterior and decorative features on these four schools are also basically the same. All four schools have double bands of ribbon windows separated by a chimney and at least three entrances with the majority being round arched with voussoirs. Additionally, the size and placement of entrances and single windows is almost duplicated on each school. Distinguishing characteristics on the Crescent School include the stone name and decorative blocks and the round arched niche on the south elevation. While these differences are only slight, they serve to individualize the Crescent School.

ENDNOTES

1. Lincoln County, Oklahoma History, (Claremore, OK: Country Lane Press, 1988), 334. See also The Lincoln County Republican, (Chandler, Oklahoma), 4 May 1938.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Crescent School
name of property
Lincoln County, Oklahoma
county and State

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

"Crescent School." Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory, Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City.

Herring, Helen B. "A History of Lincoln County," M.A. thesis, University of Oklahoma, 1943.

Lincoln County, Oklahoma History. Claremore, OK: Country Lane Press, 1988.

The Lincoln County Republican. Chandler, Oklahoma. 4 May 1938.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

One square acre trace in the Southeast corner of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 14, T14N, R4E located at UTM reference point 14 694910 3931230.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries include the property historically associated with the school building.