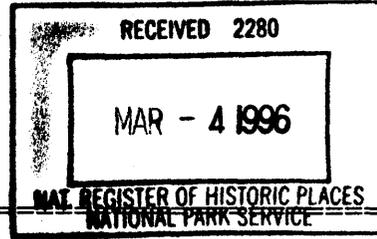


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Spring Dell School

other names/site number Springdell, Springdale, Spring Den

2. Location

street & number 5 mi s, 1/2 mi w of Jct. US 66 & SH 18 not for publication N/A  
 city or town Chandler vicinity X  
 state Oklahoma code OK county Lincoln code 081  
 zip code 74834

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.)

*Blake Wade* 1 March 1996  
Signature of certifying official 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 R. Beall 4.4.96*

Entered in the  
National Register

           
Signature of Keeper Date  
*for* 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>  3  </u>	<u>  3  </u> buildings
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  0  </u> sites
<u>  1  </u>	<u>  0  </u> structures
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  0  </u> objects
<u>  4  </u>	<u>  3  </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

WOOD:Weatherboard

other BRICK

\_\_\_\_\_

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

EDUCATION

ARCHITECTURE

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance 1936-1943

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates 1936

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

=====  
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 Two acres

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>14</u>	<u>690920</u>	<u>3944260</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 Charles W. and Mary Jo Miller

street & number Route 3, Box 129B telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town Chandler state OK zip code 74834  
=====

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 9

Spring Dell School  
name of property  
Lincoln County, Oklahoma  
county and State

SUMMARY

The Works Progress Administration constructed the one-room Spring Dell School in 1936. Located about half a mile from State Highway 18 and five miles south of Chandler, the building maintains its rural environs. Built in the WPA Standardized style, the school exhibits many representative WPA features, such as use of native construction materials, exposed rafters, ribbon windows, gable and shed roofed entrances and a brick chimney. The rectangular, one-story building is topped with an asphalt gable roof. The walls are constructed of native stone, which has been painted red. An entry containing a single wood door is located on both the east and west sides of the building. The entry on the east side is sheltered with a shed roof. The entry on the west side has a gable roof. Other exterior features of the school include a red brick, slope chimney on the west elevation. Decorative details consists of a WPA plaque, exposed rafter tails and double windows. The WPA plaque reads "Spring Dell, District 75, 1936, WPA Project 980." Although some alterations have occurred, most notably the infill of the ribbon windows and painting the building, the Spring Dell School maintains its integrity.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The west elevation serves as the building's facade. Visible on this elevation are the red brick, slope chimney, exposed rafter tails, infilled ribbon windows and a single entrance. The entrance's gabled roof has brackets and exposed rafter tails. The ribbon windows, originally five, nine-over-nine, wood, double hung windows, have been infilled with weatherboard painted white. The infill created two smaller, one-over-one, metal, hung windows. (Photograph 1)

The south and north elevation contain little architectural or ornamental detail. Both gables, as originally constructed, are covered with narrow weatherboard painted white. Centered on the south elevation are two paired, one-over-one, wood windows with a rectangular vent high in the gable. The north elevation contains only two paired one-over-one windows in the lower portion of the weatherboard covered gable end. (Photographs 1 and 2)

The east elevation of the school has only one small fixed window and a single entrance. The entrance is covered with a shed roof with brackets and exposed rafter tails. (Photograph 2)

Within the school's boundaries, there are five buildings and one structure. A contributing native stone retaining wall crosses the west side of the property. (Photograph 1 and 3) Located near the southwest corner of the school building, is a small, contributing, gabled roofed, well house. (Photograph 1 and 3) A

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 10

Spring Dell School  
name of property  
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=====  
contributing concrete cellar is situated immediately south of the well house. (Photograph 1 and 3) On the northeast corner, a small, modern noncontributing, metal shed has been constructed. (Photograph 2 and 5) Further to the northwest is a small, modern, noncontributing, shed roofed, cinder block outbuilding. (Photograph 4) Nearly directly east of the school, is a noncontributing, modern tin agricultural outbuilding. (Photograph 5)

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS

Only minor alterations have been undertaken on the building. The most notable alteration is the infill of the ribbon windows. This is, however, a common alteration which does not destroy the integrity of the building. Other alterations include the painting of the polychromatic, native stone walls with red paint and placement of a newer roof. The Spring Dell School continues to maintain its integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship and conveys the feeling of its past environment.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 11

Spring Dell School  
name of property  
Lincoln County, Oklahoma  
county and State

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SUMMARY

The Spring Dell 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 Spring Dell School is also historically 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 Spring Dell School relates to "The Works Progress Administration in Lincoln County, Oklahoma, 1935-1943." The associated property type is WPA Resources, subtype Education-Related Buildings.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

On 15 January 1936, The Lincoln County Republican announced plans for a new native stone building for the Spring Dell School District. 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. The native stone, one-room school was to cost 4,000 dollars with construction to start at an unspecified date. Construction, however, was finished by the 27th of May when a crowd of more than two hundred gathered for an all-day dedication ceremony. General W.S. Key, Oklahoma State WPA Director, was the principal speaker.<sup>1</sup> The Spring Dell School remained in use as a school until 1976, when the school district was annexed to Chandler, Meeker and White Rock.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Due to its construction by the WPA, the Spring Dell School is architecturally significant. WPA-built architecture varied in size, shape, exterior features and decorative details; however, all possess one or more unifying feature that identify it as WPA constructed. As an example of the WPA Standardized style, the Spring Dell School is representative of many distinguishing WPA characteristics. These include use of polychromatic native sandstone for

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Spring Dell School  
name of property  
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=====  
construction material; a functional design; minimal architectural features consisting of gable and shed covered entrances and a red brick chimney; and, limited decorative details consisting of exposed rafters and ribbon windows. The building remains in good condition, attesting to the quality of work put into the construction project by the local WPA workers.

The Spring Dell School is one of the smaller WPA schools in Lincoln County. The school appears to have followed the 1EA1 plan of the Schoolhouse Planning Division of the State Department of Public Instruction. Shared attributes of the plan and the building include general layout, exterior features and decorative details. The only notable difference between the plan and school building is the weatherboard in the gable ends.<sup>2</sup>

Furthermore, the Spring Dell School is similar in design to the Fairview School; however, the decorative details, or lack of, serve to distinguish the two schools. The Spring Dell School has exposed rafter tails, ribbon and double windows, weatherboard in the gable ends and gabled and shed entry hoods with exposed rafter tails and brackets. The Fairview School, on the other hand, is relatively plain with only extended, boxed eaves, ribbon and double windows, and gabled entry hoods supported with brackets as decorative features. The school is reliant on the polychromatic sandstone laid in an irregular course to provide detail to the building. Although also constructed of polychromatic sandstone, currently painted red, the stone in the Spring Dell School is not the decorative element visible in the Fairview School. The Spring Dell School stone is of a smaller size and is laid in a more regular course. Notwithstanding the similarity in design, both schools possess distinctive attributes which differentiate the two schools from each other, as well as the other WPA schools in Lincoln County.

ENDNOTES

1. The Lincoln County Republican, (Chandler, Oklahoma), 15 January 1936 and 27 May 1936. See also Department of Information, Accomplishments Works Progress Administration for Oklahoma July 1, 1935 - March 1, 1937, (n.p., 1937), pg. 28.

2. Division of Schoolhouse Planning, School Buildings, Mineature (sic) Plans and Perspectives, (Oklahoma City, OK: State of Oklahoma, Department of Public Instruction, 1937).

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Spring Dell School  
name of property  
Lincoln County, Oklahoma  
county and State

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Department of Information. Accomplishments Works Progress Administration for Oklahoma July 1, 1935 - March 1, 1937. n.p., 1937.

Division of Schoolhouse Planning. School Buildings, Mineature (sic) Plans and Perspectives. Oklahoma City, OK: State of Oklahoma, Department of Public Instruction, 1937.

Index to Reference Cards for Work Projects Administration Project Files, 1935-1942. National Archives (Microcopy T-935 Rolls 54-56; T-926 Roll 11; T-936 Roll 13), Washington, D.C.

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

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

The Lincoln County Republican. Chandler, Oklahoma. 15 January 1936 and 27 May 1936.

=====

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning 734.52N Southwest corner of the Southwest 1/4, proceed east 295.16', then north 295.16', then west 295.16', then south 295.16' to the point of beginning in Section 4, T13N, R4E I.M.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries were derived from the legal description on record at the Lincoln County Assessors Office and include the property historically associated with the school building.

## Spring Dell School USGS Map

The location of the Spring Dell School is plotted on the USGS Chandler quadrangle, which is in the property file for Chandler High School.