OMB No. 1024-0018 NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90) RECEIVED 2280 United States Department of the Interior National Park Service 13 22 1997 NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NAT RE REGISTRATION FORM \_\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Name of Property \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ historic name Old Stroud School other names/site number N/A 2. Location \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ street & number 1 mi e, .3 mi s of Jct. I-44 and SH 99 not for publication N/A

\_\_\_\_ code <u>OK</u> county <u>Lincoln</u>

city or town , Stroud

state <u>Oklahoma</u>

zip code <u>74079</u>

\_\_\_\_ vicinity <u>X</u>

code <u>081</u>

3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the Na 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that determination of eligibility meets the oppoperties in the National Register of I and professional requirements set forth property	

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5. Classification	:== :=:
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) private public-local _X public-State public-Federal	
Category of Property (Check only one box)  X building(s)  district  site  structure object	
Number of Resources within Property	
Contributing         Noncontributing           2         1         buildings           0         0         sites           0         2         structures           0         0         objects           2         3         Total	
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register0_	

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

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6. Fund	ction or Use
	ic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) t: <u>EDUCATION</u> Sub: <u>school</u>
	t Functions (Enter categories from instructions) at: VACANT/NOT IN USE Sub:
 7. Desc	cription
Archite	ottural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) OTHER: WPA Standardized Style
	als (Enter categories from instructions) foundation <u>CONCRETE</u> roof <u>ASPHALT</u> walls <u>STONE:Sandstone</u>
	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)
XX 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.
XX 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 <u>1936</u>

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  X State Historic Preservation Office  Other State agency Federal agency Local government University Other  Name of repository:

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10. Geographical Data
Acreage of Property <u>Less than one acre</u>
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing  1 14 709690 3958900 3  2 4
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 <u>Cynthia Smelker</u>
organization Okla. Historic Preservation Survey date 1 July 1993
street & number Oklahoma State University telephone (405) 744-5679
city or town <u>Stillwater</u> state <u>OK</u> zip code <u>74078-0611</u>
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)

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Property Owner	
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO	or FPO.)
name Oklahoma Turnpike Authority	
street & number P.O. Box 11357	telephone
city or town Oklahoma City	state_OK zip_code _73136

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SUMMARY

The Works Progress Administration (WPA) constructed the Old Stroud School in 1936. Located just outside of the city limits of Stroud, Oklahoma, the school is one mile from State Highway 99 and less than a mile from State Highway 66. Built in the WPA Standardized style, the two-room school exhibits many representative WPA features. These include use of native stone for construction material, a brick chimney, ribbon windows and paired windows. rectangular, one-story building is topped by an asphalt covered, side-gable roof with a center dropped cross gable porch. The walls are constructed of polychromatic native stone with a concrete foundation. The gabled porch contains the building's primary entrance, two single wood paneled doors with transoms. Another entrance on the west side has a single wood paneled door covered by a shed roof. The wood, double hung, nine-over-nine windows have been boarded over. The building's decorative details include a cornerstone, transom windows, extended eaves, gable returns, double wood porch columns and paired and ribbon windows. There is one contributing and three noncontributing resources within the school's boundaries. To the east of the school building is a contributing, concrete cellar. Northwest of the school is a noncontributing cinder block building and to the south is a noncontributing basketball court. A noncontributing chainlink fence encircles the school. Old Stroud School has undergone only minor alterations and, therefore, maintains its integrity to a fairly high degree.

## EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The building's primary elevation is the south elevation. On the facade are two sets of paired windows and the dominant entry porch. The gable roofed porch is supported by four paired, wood columns and has gable returns. Within the porch are two single, wood, paneled doors topped with transom windows. Located in the lower west corner of this elevation, is a simple WPA cornerstone. cornerstone plainly reads "Stroud, Dist. 53, 1936." The area in front of the building, probably a former grassy area, has been covered with concrete to create a noncontributing structure, a basketball court.

The east elevation's only opening is a rectangular vent located high in the gable. Identical to the west elevation, are the east elevation's extended eaves and gable returns. The west elevation also contains a rectangular vent, as well as a large window and a single door. The window has been boarded over. The single door has an asphalt covered, shed covering supported with brackets.

The north elevation features the WPA's characteristic ribbon windows and a brick, slope chimney. Both the set of five and six ribbon windows have been

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covered with wood. A single window located on the far east corner of the elevation has also been boarded over. The brick chimney with possible chimney pots is deteriorating.

The property has been encircled with a noncontributing chainlink fence. noncontributing cinder block outbuilding has been constructed to the northwest of the school and a noncontributing concrete basketball court on the south side. None of these constructions coincide with the period of the school's significance. However, there is a contributing, concrete storm cellar located to the school's northeast. The storm cellar was constructed more than likely contemporaneous with the school.

Although the photographs of the property submitted with this nomination date from 1992, SHPO staff verified with a site visit on June 2, 1997 that the property has not been modified. Although the property has deteriorated slightly from its lack of use, the building and the surrounding environs remain essentially as photographed.

### ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS

The school's original setting has been altered slightly by the construction of a noncontributing fence around the property. This was done probably when the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority was using the school as an office in approximately the early 1980s. The fence serves to isolate the school from its original open, rural setting. Additionally, a noncontributing, cinder block outbuilding and a noncontributing concrete basketball court have been constructed within the confines of the fenced area.

Only very minor physical alterations have been undertaken on the school. primarily consist of the boarding of the majority of the school's windows. As this alteration is common to WPA schools and is attributable to the building's current function, this alteration does not impeach the integrity of the building. The Old Stroud School continues to maintain its integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship and conveys the feeling and association of its past environment.

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#### SUMMARY

The Old Stroud 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 and the nation. 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. Stroud 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 Old Stroud 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.

### HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The first town of Stroud was established in 1892. Six years later, the St. Louis and San Francisco (Frisco) Railway sought to acquire land in the area to lay track for a line from Sapulpa to Oklahoma City. Due to the resistance of a land owner, the line was shifted one mile east. To exploit the benefits offered by the railroad to the utmost, the town relocated one mile east as well. However, components of the old Stroud continued to develop, including the original school.

The Old Stroud School district organized in 1893 with a crude, frame building being constructed at that time. An addition was constructed on the original school building in 1902. By 1919, bonds were voted for construction of a new building. On 7 January 1936, the second schoolhouse burned to the ground. Within three months, the WPA allocated funds for construction of a new stone building. 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 local community events. The Old Stroud School remained in use as a school until 1947, when Old Stroud District 53 was consolidated with Stroud District Subsequently the school was purchased by the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority, who utilized the building as an office for a time.2

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### ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Due to its construction by the WPA, the Old Stroud 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 Old Stroud School is representative of many distinguishing WPA characteristics. These include use of polychromatic, native stone for construction material; a functional design; minimal architectural features consisting of a single entry with shed covering supported with simple brackets and a brick chimney; and, limited decorative details of ribbon and paired windows, extended eaves and gable returns. The building remains in good condition, attesting to the quality of work put into the construction project by the local WPA workers.

Old Stroud also exhibits a unique architectural feature, a center, dropped gabled porch with freestanding double wood columns. This type of porch was not used on any of the other seventeen identified, extant WPA schools in Lincoln County. This type of porch, however, appears on the 1EO17 plan offered by the Schoolhouse Planning Division of the State Department of Public Instruction. The school, however, does not duplicate the 1EO17 plan. Old Stroud is a two-room building similar in arrangement to the other WPA schools in Lincoln County, while the plan features only one classroom with additional space for a stage, library, cloakroom and domestic science area. Old Stroud with its distinctive porch remains a good example of a WPA rural school which illustrates the variety of architectural features the predominately unskilled WPA workmen were capable of creating.<sup>3</sup>

#### **ENDNOTES**

- 1. <u>Lincoln County, Oklahoma History</u>, (Claremore, OK: Country Lane Press, 1988), 227-231.
- 2. Ibid, 233-234. See also <u>The Lincoln County Republican</u>, (Chandler, Oklahoma), 8 January 1936; 11 March 1936; 14 October 1936.
- 3. Division of Schoolhouse Planning, <u>School Buildings, Mineature (sic)</u>
  <u>Plans and Perspectives</u>, (Oklahoma City, OK: State of Oklahoma, Department of Public Instruction, 1937).

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### BIBLIOGRAPHY

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.

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

The Lincoln County Republican. Chandler, Oklahoma. 8 January 1936; 11 March 1936; 14 October 1936.

# VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning 40' west of the intersection of Old Stroud Road and the section line, proceed 215' west, 215' north, 215' east and then 215' south to the point of beginning, southeast corner of Section 20, T15N, R16E.

#### BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries encompass the property historically associated with the school building including the outbuildings.