

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

Oklahoma Historic Preservation Survey, Oklahoma State University, 502 Math-Science Bldg., Stillwater, OK 74078

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

COALGATE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM/AUDITORIUM

LOCATION: Fox and Frey Streets, Coalgate, Oklahoma 040, Coal County 029

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

OWNER: Coalgate Board of Education, W. Cedar Street, Coalgate, OK 74538

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Coal County Courthouse, Coalgate, OK 74538

DESCRIPTION: excellent condition; altered; original site

The Coalgate gym and auditorium is a single story, rectangular (91' x 59') structure constructed of rusticated and roughly coursed native sandstone. The masonry is rather crude. The roof, covered now with composition shingles, is gabled; the entryways are recessed behind facades with arches and parapets. Pilasters on front and rear walls give visual relief. Window openings have been reduced in size with wood inserts and energy efficient metal windows installed. On the northwest corner a lean-to metal structure has been attached, but it in no way destroys the architectural integrity of the building.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1936; architect/builder: unknown

The gym/auditorium is significant because its construction gave work to unemployed coal miners on relief in the Coalgate area. Then as now, it provided space for school and community activities, especially basketball competition, which fostered a sense of identity and pride not widely known in the region beforehand. Architecturally the gym/auditorium is unique in the community because of its type, style, scale, materials and workmanship. Moreover, it is one of three extant WPA structures in the entire county.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

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

UTM: 14 755120 3824640

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lot 10, Block 133, Coalgate original

PICTURE REFERENCE: 36-A, 36-B

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SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER SCHOOL

LOCATION: Finney and Post Streets, Coalgate Oklahoma 040, Coal County 029

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

OWNER: First Baptist Church of Coalgate, Post and Finney Streets, Coalgate, OK 74538

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Coal County Courthouse, Coalgate, OK 74538

DESCRIPTION: good condition; altered; original site

A three room building, the old Carver school of Coalgate is a single story, rectangular (56' x 48') structure constructed of lightly rusticated and coursed native sandstone. The gabled roof is intersected by a frontal gable, the latter asymmetrically placed over an arched entryway leading to recessed doors. Most classroom window openings, which reach to the eaves and have cut stone sills, have been enclosed with wood inserts and new openings cut for metal sash windows. The window alteration, however, does not impeach the architectural integrity of the building.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1938; builder/architect: Okla. State Dept. of Education pattern book

The Carver school was the black school prior to integration in Coalgate. The WPA laborers who worked on it were also black. The building is significant, therefore, because construction of it provided work opportunities for unskilled and unemployed black laborers made destitute by the depression and because it created a new environment conducive to learning for black students previously deprived educationally. As an urban WPA building, it is remarkable for its modest scale. To the community it is unique architecturally because of its type (black school), style, materials and workmanship.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

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

UTM: 14 755320 3823900

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lot 3, Block 198, Coalgate original

PICTURE REFERENCE: 37-A, 37-B

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SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

COTTONWOOD SCHOOL

LOCATION: Vicinity of Coalgate, Oklahoma 040, Coal County 029

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

OWNER: Cottonwood Board of Education, Route 1, Coalgate, OK 74538

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Coal County Courthouse, Coalgate, OK 74538

DESCRIPTION: Good condition; altered; original site

A four room building, the Cottonwood school is a single story, rectangular (72' x 44') structure constructed of rusticated and coursed native sandstone. The hipped roof has a gable dormer without lights above the entry archway leading to recessed doors. Classroom window openings that reach to the eaves have been reduced in size with wood inserts, concrete block additions have been made to one side and to one-half of the rear, and the stone has been painted white. Despite these alterations, the building retains its essential architectural integrity.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1938-1939; builder/architect: Okla. State Dept. of Education pattern book

With coal mining as an economic base, Cottonwood was severely affected by the depression of the 1930s. Construction of the school building fortunately provided work opportunities for destitute miners and enabled them and their families to survive the economic catastrophe. It also created a new environment conducive to learning for students theretofore deprived educationally. Architecturally the building is unique in the community because of its style, scale, materials and workmanship.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

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

UTM: 14 756960 3827140

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lot 17, Block 10, Cottonwood original

PICTURE REFERENCE: 38-A, 38-B