

MCCLAIN COUNTY WPA PROPERTIES

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>OLI</u>	<u>NR</u>
1.	Blanchard Gym/Auditorium	Blanchard	x	
2.	Byars Gym/Auditorium	Byars	x	x
3.	Cole Teacherage	Vic. Blanchard	x	x
4.	Booker T. Washington School	Purcell	x	x
5.	Purcell City Hall	Purcell	x	
6.	Purcell Community Hall	Purcell	x	x
7.	Red Hill Park Pavilion	Purcell	x	x
8.	Red Hill Park Bathhouse and Swimming Pool	Purcell	x	
9.	Sharpe Memorial Park Rodeo Arena and Stands	Purcell	x	x
10.	Washington School Gym	Washington	x	x

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

BLANCHARD GYMNASIUM/AUDITORIUM

LOCATION: 5th and Harrison Streets, Blanchard, Oklahoma 040, McClain County 087

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

OWNER: Blanchard Board of Education, Box 38, Blanchard, OK 73010

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: McClain County Courthouse, Purcell, OK 73080

DESCRIPTION: excellent; altered; original site

A single story structure with high ceilings, the Blanchard gym is rectangular (101' X 91') and is constructed with red brick. The roof is arched with parapets. Substantial additions have been made to either end of the structure and window openings have been filled with inserts. These additions have greatly impaired the architectural integrity of the structure and make it unsuitable for nomination to the National Register of Historic places.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1941; architect/builder: unknown

As a WPA gymnasium, the Blanchard facility is unique because of its red brick construction and its larger than usual dimensions.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: less than one acre

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

UTM: undetermined

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lots 1-5, Block 53, Blanchard original plat

PICTURE REFERENCE: none

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

BYARS SCHOOL GYMNASIUM/AUDITORIUM

LOCATION: South 4th Street, Byars, Oklahoma 040, McClain County 087

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

OWNER: Byars Board of Education, Box 8, Byars, OK 74831

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: McClain County Courthouse, Purcell, OK 73080

DESCRIPTION: good; altered; original site

A single story structure with high ceilings, the Byars Gymnasium is rectangular (61' X 109') and is constructed of both rusticated native stone randomly laid and red brick set in running bond. The front facade, side and end walls are native stone; the rest is red brick. The roof is arched with parapets capped by cut limestone. Singly placed window openings, with pre-formed concrete sills, retain some original metal casement windows while others have been filled with wood inserts. The main entry extends from the front facade, with an arch containing double doors and brickwork in the rise. The side entry is recessed in an enclosed porch. The use of wood inserts in some windows has not impaired the architectural integrity of the building.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1940; architect/builder: unknown

A modern educational program in the 1930s in rural communities such as Byars required inter-varsity sports competition. Replacing out-of-door courts, the Byars gymnasium/auditorium facility permitted the school to schedule basketball competition for both male and female students with other districts. The WPA structure enhanced this activity, and in so doing engendered community pride among, and provided a recreational respite for, a people hard pressed by the depression. The Byars gym, then, symbolizes a government sponsored program that impacted both physical and social development. Construction of it also provided important job opportunities for persons long on relief and suffering from a lack of self-respect.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: less than one acre

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

UTM: 14 678180 3860060

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Located on the south edge of Byars, the property begins at a point 200 feet east of the NW corner of the NE 1/4, of the NW 1/4, of the NW 1/4 of Sec. 36, T 5 N, R 2 E and goes south 208 feet, east 116 feet, north 208 feet and west 116 feet.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 36-a; 36-b

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

COLE SCHOOL TEACHERAGE

LOCATION: Vicinity of Blanchard, Oklahoma 040, McClain County 087; NW 1/4, Sec. 12, T 7 N, R 4 W

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

OWNER: Cole Community, Cole Rural Route, Blanchard, OK 73010

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: McClain County Courthouse, Purcell, OK 73080

DESCRIPTION: excellent; unaltered; original site

A single story bungalow, the Cole Teacherage is rectangular (30' X 28') and is constructed of unrusticated sandstone randomly laid. The masonry is rather crude. Now covered with composition shingles, the roof is gabled, with a cross gable that, supported by two shafts, extends over a symmetrically placed front porch. The gable ends are covered by clapboard siding. Singly placed window openings, with pre-formed concrete sills, contain original wood sash windows.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1936-1937; architect/builder: unknown

The Cole Teacherage symbolized the commitment of the WPA to furthering quality education, even in rural and remote regions. Small school districts had real difficulty in attracting qualified teachers because of the absence of suitable housing. At Cole, as elsewhere, modern teacherages signaled the genesis of modern education. Architecturally the structure is unique in the Cole community in terms of type, materials and nature of workmanship. It is notable as a WPA structure because sandstone teacherages were not all that common. Finally, construction of the facility provided needed employment opportunities for agriculture workers who had been deprived of any economic security and self respect by the duration of the national depression.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: one acre

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

UTM: 14 630030 3884910

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Proceeding two and one-half miles south and four and one-half miles east of Blanchard on state highway No. 74B, turn south on an unpaved road and go one-fourth mile to the teacherage site on the west, it occupying a tract that begins in the NE corner of the SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Sec. 12, T 7 N, R 4 W and goes 208 feet south, 208 feet west, 208 feet north and 208 feet east.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 37-a; 37-b

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

PURCELL CITY HALL

LOCATION: 3rd and Main Streets, Purcell, Oklahoma 040, McClain County 087

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

OWNER: City of Purcell, 3rd and Main Streets, Purcell, OK 73080

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: McClain County Courthouse, Purcell, OK 73080

DESCRIPTION: excellent; unaltered; original site

A mix of one and two stories, the Purcell City Hall is rectangular (30' X 121') and is constructed of buff brick laid with a running bond. The roof is flat with parapets capped with cut limestone. Window openings, filled now with new metal encased panes, rest on pre-formed concrete sills. A limestone crest and a brick frieze above end and side entries, and doorways with sculpted limestone jambs and lintels framed by a stepped facade lend the building an art deco architectural style.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1935; architect/builder: unknown

Although the WPA contributed toward the completion of this building, the project was authorized and virtually completed by the FERA, the predecessor of the WPA. Since it was not principally a WPA project, it has not been nominated for the National Register.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: less than one acre

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

UTM: undetermined

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lots 1 and 2, Block 117, Purcell original plat.

PICTURE REFERENCE: none

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

PURCELL COMMUNITY HALL

LOCATION: 2nd and Adams Streets, Purcell, Oklahoma 040, McClain County 087

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

OWNER: City of Purcell, Purcell, OK 73080

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: McClain County Courthouse, Purcell, OK 73080

DESCRIPTION: excellent; altered; original site

The Purcell Community Hall is a single story, rectangular building (51' X 104') and is constructed of dark red native sandstone laid in a cob web pattern. The masonry is splendid. On the rear the roof is arched, while along the front it is flat. Window openings, with cut sandstone sills and limestone lintels, are filled with either original metal casement windows or with recently added wood inserts. On the front a limestone frieze and water table line provide decorative relief, as does the segmental arch entryway. The window inserts do not impeach the beauty or the integrity of this remarkable building.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1936-1937; architect/builder: unknown

The significance of the Purcell Community Hall lies primarily in its architectural style and workmanship. Reminiscent of a National Guard Armory, it has a style unlike any other civic center constructed by the WPA in Oklahoma. Its artistic frieze, segmental arch entry, vivid red hues of construction materials and cobweb masonry further set it apart; indeed, make it a work of art. That it was constructed early in the life of the WPA program, when the skills of workers still lacked refinement, makes the structure even more unique. It is also significant because construction of it provided needed job opportunities for workers made destitute by the national depression. The Community Hall is notable because it became a central focus of community life and activity for the next 50 years.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: less than one acre

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

UTM: 14 649600 3875680

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lot 1, Block 96, Purcell original plat.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 39-a; 39-b

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

RED HILL PARK PICNIC PAVILION

LOCATION: 2nd and Polk Streets, Purcell, Oklahoma 040, McClain County 087

CLASSIFICATION: structure; public; public acquisition--N/A; occupied; unrestricted; present
use--recreation

OWNER: City of Purcell, 3rd and Main Streets, Purcell, OK 73080

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: McClain County Courthouse, Purcell, OK 73080

DESCRIPTION: excellent; unaltered; original site

Rectangular in shape and measuring 9 feet by 23 feet, the Red Hill Park Pavilion is constructed of unrusticated and uncoursed native sandstone. It is enclosed on three sides, the west one of which contains a large fire place and chimney. The side wall includes two window openings without panes. The pavilion is covered with a gabled roof of wood shingles. The pavilion is situated on an overlook high above the Canadian River.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1938; architect/builder: unknown

The Red Hill Park Pavilion is significant because it is the only intact structure remaining of a remarkable recreational facility created by the WPA. Included within the park were tennis courts, a swimming pool, a caretaker's cottage and other picnic facilities. The pavilion, then, suggests the comprehensiveness of WPA recreational construction in Purcell and elsewhere and demonstrates the agency's concern for the total development of humankind. A recreational project was for it a "useful" project. Among the earliest WPA activities in the community, construction of the pavilion and adjacent park also provided some economic relief to destitute workers who had long been unemployed and on relief rolls. Construction brought food and some self-respect.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: less than one acre

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

UTM: 14 649610 3876670

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lots 5 and 6, Block 30, Purcell original plat.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 40

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

RED HILL PARK BATHHOUSE AND SWIMMING POOL

LOCATION: 2nd and Polk Streets, Purcell, Oklahoma 040, McClain County 087

CLASSIFICATION: structure; public; public acquisition--N/A; occupied; unrestricted; present use--recreation

OWNER: City of Purcell, 3rd and Main Streets, Purcell, OK 73080

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: McClain County Courthouse, Purcell, OK 73080

DESCRIPTION: excellent; altered; original site

The Red Hill Park Bath House was originally a rectangular building (26' X 60') and was constructed of red brick. The roof was gabled and under the eaves were located small windows. Men's and women's dressing rooms were separated by a "breeze way" that led to the pool area.

The swimming pool measured 105 feet in length and 44 feet in width. It was constructed of poured concrete.

Over time the bath house has been altered to include a cross gable on the front that extended over a vertical addition to the original building. This alteration and the fact that the pool is abandoned and grown up with weeds dictated that the facility not be nominated to the national register.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1938; architect/builder: unknown

The significance of the bath house and swimming pool is that they reflected the varied character of the WPA construction program, including such structures as useful." Of course, building the house and pool provided needed jobs to workers made destitute by the national depression.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: less than one acre

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

UTM: undetermined

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lots 1 and 2, Block 30, Purcell original plat.

PICTURE REFERENCE: none

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

SHARPE MEMORIAL PARK RODEO ARENA AND GRANDSTAND

LOCATION: 2nd and Van Buren Streets, Purcell, Oklahoma 040, McClain County 087

CLASSIFICATION: structure; public; public acquisition--N/A; occupied; unrestricted; present use--recreation

OWNER: City of Purcell, 3rd and Main Streets, Purcell, OK 73080

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: McClain County Courthouse, Purcell, OK 73080

DESCRIPTION: excellent; altered; original site

Situated on the west edge of the rodeo arena, the grandstand is J-shaped and is constructed of poured concrete. Rising 12 tiers and extending 302 feet, it sets into a hillside and is entered from the top, or street level. A steel pipe fence surrounding the arena and separating it from the grandstand is new, and a wood roof supported by heavy poles has been removed. These changes notwithstanding, the essential integrity of the grandstands remains unimpeached.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1938; architect/builder: unknown

The rodeo arena and grandstands is significant because it reflects the willingness of the WPA to adapt its construction program to unique regional interests. Purcell had a large hinterland devoted to the range cattle industry where the "round-up" was an integral part of daily life and the "rodeo" a principal recreational activity. Other communities chose to build football stadiums with WPA labor, but Purcell elected to construct a rodeo arena and grandstand--one of the few so constructed in the state. WPA officials consented, an act demonstrating the flexibility of the agency's guidelines. Construction also provided job opportunities for unemployed agriculture workers whose economic standing had vanished with the onset of the national depression.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: less than one acre

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

UTM: A-14 649640 3876580; B-14 649630 3876500

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lots 1 and 2, 7 and 8, Block 36, Purcell original plat.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 41-a; 41-b

OKLAHOMA LANDMARKS INVENTORY NOMINATION

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

SOURCE OF NOMINATION: Contract Survey

WASHINGTON SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

LOCATION: Main and Kirby Streets, Washington, Oklahoma 040, McClain County 087

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

OWNER: Washington Board of Education, Box 98, Washington, OK 73093

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: McClain County Courthouse, Purcell, OK 73080

DESCRIPTION: excellent; altered; original site

A single story structure with high ceilings, the Washington Gymnasium is rectangular (77' X 150') and is constructed of red brick laid with a running bond and now painted a cream color. The roof is arched with parapets capped with cut limestone. Metal casement windows rest on either pre-formed concrete or brick sills. On the front, two entries are situated at either end of an extended facade and are covered by pre-formed concrete porches. The latter stylistic touch suggests, barely, an art deco influence. On the rear of the gym is what must have been a bus barn or a vocational shop. The six garage doors are now enclosed with wood siding. The enclosures do not affect the architectural integrity of the building.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1941-1942; architect/builder: unknown

The Washington Gymnasium, as a WPA building, is significant for its brick construction and rather large dimensions. Most gyms were of native stone and smaller in size. Still in use, the facility is architecturally unique within the community in terms of type and nature of workmanship. The building also suggests the importance that WPA officials placed upon stimulating inter-varsity sports and community pride at a time when depressed economic conditions demanded recreational and social diversion. The size of the facility also provided a large number of job opportunities for unemployed workers made destitute by the national depression.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: one acre

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

UTM: 14 638250 3879960

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Situated on the south edge of the Washington community, the gym is on property that begins at a point 312 feet east of the NW corner of the NE 1/4, of the SW 1/4 of Sec. 26, T 7 N, R 3 W and runs 208 feet south, 208 feet east, 208 feet north, and 208 feet west.

PICTURE REFERENCE: 42-a; 42-b