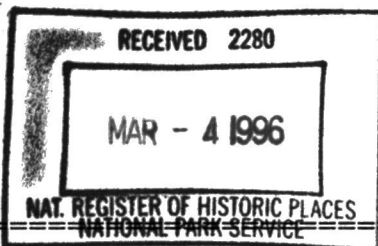


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



1. Name of Property

historic name Midlothian School

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 2 1/2 mi w, 4 mi s 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 US 66 & SH 18 not for publication N/A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.)

[Signature]
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 H. Beall 4.4.96

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>1</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>1</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

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 9

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

=====

SUMMARY

The Midlothian School was constructed in 1936-1937 by the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Erected in the small, rural village of Midlothian, the school met the criteria of a country school. Although boarded up, the school apparently currently functions as a church with a sign dedicating the property to religious purposes located on a nearby telephone pole and three wooden crosses erected southeast of the school. Situated two and a half miles from State Highway 99 and about four miles south of Chandler, the school maintains its rural setting with no visible buildings being constructed in the immediate vicinity. Containing two-rooms, the school is fairly typical of the WPA constructed education buildings in Lincoln County. Built in the WPA Standardized style, the school exhibits many representative WPA features. These attributes include use of native sandstone, arched entries, a stone chimney, exposed rafter tails, double windows and ribbon windows. The rectangular, one-story building is topped by an asphalt covered gable roof with a slightly dropped gable roof extension. The walls are constructed of irregular coursed, polychromatic native sandstone with a concrete foundation. The primary entrances, on the south and west sides, contain single doors sheltered by arched entries. Another entrance is located on the east side. Other than the boarding of all the windows and replacement of some of the doors, the school has not undergone any exterior alteration. The building retains a fairly high degree of integrity.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The west elevation has one arched entry, two medium sized windows and two small windows. The entry, located just north of the center of the building, is identical to the south entry with voussoirs and a keystone. Additional typical WPA decorative detail visible on this side of the building are the exposed rafters tails. (Photograph 1)

The south elevation of the building contains a centrally located arched entry flanked by two boarded windows. The entry is offset by matching voussoirs and a keystone. A small, square vent window is located high in the gable. On the opposite end of the building, the north elevation, the gable end is devoid of any opening or decorative detail. (Photograph 1 and 2)

The east elevation contains the characteristic WPA ribbon windows. The two sets of ribbon windows are divided by the stone chimney located off-center towards the south. Also on this elevation is a single door accessed by stone steps. This door does not match the other two entries, being square rather than round arched and not having any decorative detail. Exposed rafter tails provide further detail to this side of the building. (Photograph 2)

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 10

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

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Located to the west of the school is possibly an old hitching rail for horses. Additionally, to the southeast of the school are three fairly modern wooden crosses.

ALTERATIONS

The building has undergone only minor alterations. Principle among these alterations are the boarding of all windows to protect the building as it is no longer in use. Other alterations include a new metal door, wood door and an air conditioning unit added to one of the windows. These alterations are small in scale and do not adversely impact the integrity of the building. The Midlothian School continues to maintain its integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship and conveys the feeling of its past environment.

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8. Statement of Significance

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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

1937

N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Works Progress Administration, builder

9. Major Bibliographical References

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Other

Name of repository: _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 11

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

SUMMARY

The Midlothian 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 Midlothian 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. Although a sign near the building indicates the property is dedicated for religious purposes, the school does not derive any significance from this relatively modern function. Contextually, the Midlothian 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 plat of Midlothian was filed on 5 September 1904. Growth of the village, however, was never substantial. Composed of twenty-one blocks, the town boasted a few business establishments, a post office and a Fort Smith and Western Railroad Depot. The Midlothian Post Office continued in operation until 15 November 1919. The railroad continued slightly longer, into the late 1930s; however, the last recorded station agent worked only until 1920. A grocery store and gas station remained in the Midlothian area into the 1960s. Other businesses slowly disappeared, leaving only a few remnants of the village including the school building.¹

The Midlothian School District was organized prior to 1908. First through tenth grades were taught in the frame, three-room school until the early 1930s. At that time the ninth and tenth grades were discontinued to allow those students to attend Chandler High School in Chandler. The WPA approved construction of a new, native stone, two-room school for the district in early September 1936. 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.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 12

Midlothian School
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The construction plan for the new stone school included the demolition of the old frame building. While erection of the new building was occurring, the students used the local Baptist church. By the end of March 1937, the school was completed and in use. Costing 7,500 dollars, the new schoolhouse was dedicated with a basket dinner on Sunday, 18 April 1937. Following a decline in attendance, the Midlothian School District was annexed to the Chandler School District.² Currently, the school is used for religious proposes. This modification in use does not impact the building's significance as it does not fall within the period of significance.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

As a WPA building, the Midlothian School is architecturally significant. 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 Midlothian School is representative of many distinguishing WPA characteristics. These include the use of polychromatic native sandstone for construction material; a simple, functional design; limited architectural features of two round arched entries and a stone chimney; and, minimal decorative details consisting of ribbon windows, exposed rafters and matching voussoirs and keystones accenting the entries. The building remains in good condition, attesting to the quality of work put into the construction project by the local WPA workers.

The Midlothian School is typical of the WPA schools constructed in Lincoln County. It bears a distinct similarity to the Concord, Crescent 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 Midlothian School, however, include an arched chimney top, one square entrance and placement of the building's entrances. Unlike the majority of WPA schools where the entrances are all round arched with voussoirs, the Midlothian School has one squared off entrance on the east elevation. Additionally, the placement of entrances is also different from the other three schools. On the

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Midlothian School
name of property
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Midlothian School one entrance is situated on each of the two side elevations with an additional one on the gable end elevation. This placement of entrances is similar to those on the Pleasant Grove and Mount Vernon schools. Concord, Crescent and Warwick schools all have two side entrances located on opposite ends of the ribbon windows with a third entrance, situated slightly off-center, on the other side of the building. While these differences are only slight, they serve to individualize the Midlothian School.

ENDNOTES

1. Lincoln County, Oklahoma History, (Claremore, OK: Country Lane Press, 1988), 170-173.
2. Ibid, 173 -174. See also The Lincoln County Republican (Chandler, Oklahoma), 2 September 1936; 16 September 1936; 31 March 1937; 14 April 1937.

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property Less than one acre

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	14	687910	3945530	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

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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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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9, 10 Page 14

Midlothian School
name of property
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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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.

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

The Lincoln County Republican. Chandler, Oklahoma. 2 September 1936; 16 September 1936; 31 March 1937; 14 April 1937.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 1-4, Section 31, T14N, R4E

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

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

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Property Owner

=====

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

name Jack and Joyann Mileham

street & number P.O. Box 59 telephone

city or town Chandler state OK zip code 74834

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Midlothian School
NAME:

MULTIPLE WPA Resources in Lincoln County MPS
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: OKLAHOMA, Lincoln

DATE RECEIVED: 3/04/96 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/19/96
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/04/96 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/18/96
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 96000375

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 4.4.96 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



Midlothian School

Lincoln County, Oklahoma

Photographer: Cynthia Smelker

Date: 5 January 1993

Location of Negative: Oklahoma SHPO

Looking towards the Northeast

Multiple Property Nomination of WPA Resources in Lincoln County

1/5, 1993



Midlothian School

Lincoln County, Oklahoma

Photographer: Cynthia Smeller

Date: 5 January 1993

Location of Negative: Oklahoma SHPO

Looking towards the Southwest

Multiple Property Nomination of WPA Resources in Lincoln County

2

Midlothian School USGS Map

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