

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

received AUG 14 1985

date entered SEP 25 1985

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Frederick Armory

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Bentz and Second Streets N/A not for publication

city, town Frederick N/A vicinity of Sixth Congressional District

state Maryland code 24 county Frederick code 021

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name State of Maryland, Military Department Contact: Col. Raymond Clift
728-3388 x244

street & number 231 West Hoffman Street

city, town Baltimore N/A vicinity of state Maryland 21201

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Frederick state Maryland 21701

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust
Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1980 federal state county local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u> N/A </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Frederick Armory occupies a 0.7 acre niche at the northeast corner of Baker Park, a large city property through which runs Carroll Creek. Immediately to the south of the Armory building are pedestrian walks, a band shell, and a much used and well equipped playground.

The building, setting on a full basement, is two stories tall and emulates a Medieval fortification. The east and west facades are connected by a one-story drill hall. A bronze plaque in the center hall names John B. Hamme as architect and Lloyd C. Culler as builder, and dates the building 1913. The center front block is executed in red brick laid in Flemish bond pattern. The front (Bentz Street) facade faces east and is comprised of symmetrical two-bay sections on each side of a center block containing three-story towers. The side sections contain two windows at basement level with 2/2 sash and stone water table. First and second floor windows occur two at each level. These have 4/4 sash and brick segmental lintels and stone sills. A dentilled cornice crosses each side section (10 dentils two headers tall per section) surmounted by 6 crenelles with stone caps at the roofline.

The center of the front facade is characterized by two three-story towers flanking a one-bay center section with stone segmentally arched doorway. The stone water table corresponding to that of the side sections crosses the bases of the towers. Towers are octagonal and contain one window in each of their three full sides at first and second floor levels, 2/2 replacement sash, stone lintels and sills. A band of stone molding corresponding to the line of the dentilled cornice of the side sections crosses the towers above the second floor windows. The third floor of the towers feature narrow decorative slots (one header wide) centered over the windows of the lower floors. The slots have stone caps and sills. At the roof levels of the tower are two narrow stone strip moldings with dentils between the strips, one dentil to each of the three full sides of the towers.

The center section of the front facade features wide double doors recessed 3-4 feet under the segmental arch. Surmounting the arch at the front wall plane is a rectangular stone panel identifying the building as the possession of the Maryland National Guard. At second floor is a segmentally arched window composed of three 2/6 casement windows under a 6-pane horizontal strip. The window arch is finished at the corners with square stone pieces. The dentilled cornice of the side sections continues across the center block and four stone capped crenelles top the center section. The center doorway is accessed by a cement ramp leading from the north (Second Street) side and gracefully turning cement steps leading from the front (Bentz Street) sidewalk.

The south (Baker Park) side of the front block contains four bays with one window each at basement, first and second floor levels, 4/4 sash on the upper floors. All windows have brick segmental arches and stone sills. The dentilled cornice and crenelled roofline continue as on the front facade.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1946	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1913 **Builder/Architect** Architect: John B. Hamme
 Builder: Lloyd C. Culler

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Applicable Criteria: A, C
 Applicable Exceptions: none
 Significance Evaluated: state

The Frederick Maryland Armory is primarily significant for its association with the reorganization and expansion of the National Guard system in the twentieth century. It derives additional significance from its role as a social center for its community, a function it has served continuously since its construction date. Architecturally, the building embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type, including a T shaped plan with a two-story front "head house" section and a one story perpendicular "drill hall" extending to the rear; its facade is detailed to recall Medieval fortifications, with towers flanking the central entrance, crenellated parapets, and strip buttresses.

The Frederick Armory was designed by John B. Hamme and built by Lloyd C. Culler in 1913. Hamme was a York, Pennsylvania architect and Culler a local contractor who also constructed several buildings at the Hood College Campus in Frederick.

The design is the product of the study of ideas gathered after inspection of several northern armories. Although the main purpose of the Armory was to maintain a "stable and proper" militia, it was also planned from the beginning that the public would share in the use of the building. The drill hall was intended to double as an auditorium to serve long-felt community needs for convention and meeting space.

The Armory was built for Company A, First Regiment of the Maryland National Guard. Company A traces its origins to the famous band of Frederick riflemen led by Michael Cresap, who joined the newly organized First Battalion of Infantry and saw action in subsequent border disputes and both world wars. The Armory was originally constructed to house one regimental headquarters and one other company sized element. Over the years it has housed medical, maintenance and other infantry companies. Since 1968, however, Company A has been the sole occupant. Over 16,000 men have passed through the Armory during their service in the Guard.

Like most of the armories in the State, the Frederick facility suffers from lack of vehicle storage space. Therefore, it must store most of its vehicles at Fort Detrick, several miles away.

Company A is in the process of vacating the Frederick Armory in order to occupy the new armory on I-70 outside Hagerstown. The Maryland Department of State Planning is currently studying possibilities for re-use of the building. A proposed municipal lease agreement would give the building to the city at a cost of \$1 per year for use as a recreation center. The location of the Armory on the edge of Baker Park and adjacent to a playground and band shell make such an alternative use both logical and feasible. The building was recently reassessed in excess of \$300,000 making it more likely that the State will offer it for sale at auction. The building is already in de-facto recreational use in that the gymnasium is extensively used by the YMCA and visitors to the adjacent park make use of soda machines and toilet facilities inside the building.

9. Major Bibliographical References

FHD-793

Vertical files, Maryland Room, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore.
Vertical files, Frederick County Public Library, Frederick.
Official Program, Star Spangled Banner Centennial and Home Coming Celebration, Sept. 1914.
Clipping files, Editorial Dept., Frederick News-Post, Frederick.
"A" Company Association Banquet pamphlet 205th Anniversary 1775-1980, March 1980.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 0.7 acres

Quadrangle name Frederick, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	8
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 Zone

2	9	2
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 Easting

1	1	0
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 Northing

4	3	6	5	5	8	0
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B

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

C

--	--

 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

D

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

E

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

F

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

G

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

H

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 1

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susanne Moore, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Maryland Historical Trust date July 1980; revised 7/85

street & number 21 State Circle telephone (301) 269-2438

city or town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *J. M. Smith* 8-14-85

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

See Continuation sheet for listing date
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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received
date entered

Continuation sheet Frederick Armory Frederick County, Maryland Item number 7 and 10 Page 1

7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

The rear first floor drill hall over full basement is executed in red brick, common bond, and contains 8 bays separated by buttresses with stone capped set-backs corresponding to the bases and tops of the of the first floor windows. At basement level are one window per bay, with 4/4 sash, with brick segmental arches and stone sills. At first floor level are three windows per bay, 4/4 sash, with round brick lintels and stone sills. The last (extreme westernmost) bay is wider than the others, sits on a stone foundation and contains inside a slightly indented segmental arch three windows, 4/4 sash with rounded arches and stone sills. Above the first floor windows just under the segmental arch are two pairs of 6/6 sash windows with stone sills. Surrounding brick arch is accentuated with white stone keystone and corner pieces. Both sides of the drill hall are identical.

The rear (west) facade, executed in buff-colored glazed brick in Flemish bond pattern, is apparently a later addition. It does not appear in a 1914 photograph of the building (on file at the offices of the Frederick News Post). This rear facade is identical in structural details to the front (Bentz Street) facade except that it rests on a stone foundation, it omits the dentilled cornice, and is composed of a different kind of brick. Two flights of stairs lead up from the lawn under the towers to a common landing in front of the center double doors.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Verbal Boundary Description:

In the City of Frederick:

BEGINNING for the portion hereby intended to be conveyed at a stake on the West side of North Bentz Street at the original north east corner of said lot and running thence N. 81-3/4 degrees West 180 feet, N. 16-3/4 degrees East 5.3 feet to the south side of West Second Street Extended; thence by and with the south side of said street N 85½ degrees North 64.1 feet, thence S 4½ degrees West 70.07 feet, S. 84¼ degrees East 103.05 feet, N. 16-3/4 degrees East 8 feet, S 82¼ degrees East 80/70 feet, S. 79 degrees East 88.28 feet, N. 16.3/4 degrees East 70.75 feet, to the place of beginning...

Boundary Justification:

The nominated property comprises the total parcel historically associated with the resource.