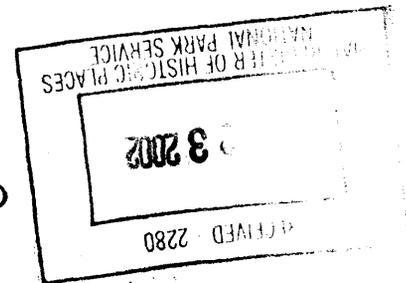


920



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property
historic name Ashland Armory
other names/site number Bd-A-27

2. Location
street & number 2519 Lexington Ave. not for publication N/A
city or town Ashland vicinity N/A
state Kentucky code KY county Boyd code 019 zip code 41102

3. State/Federal Agency Certification
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide x locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

David L. Morgan David L. Morgan, SHPO / Executive Director 6-18-02
Signature of certifying official Date

State Historic Preservation Office/ Kentucky Heritage Council

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 Edson H. Beall
 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): _____

 Signature of Keeper Date
 of Action

ASHLAND ARMORY
BD-A-27; Boyd County, KY

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

- 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 **MILITARY**

Period of Significance **1948-1949**

Significant Dates **1948**

Significant Person **N/A**

Cultural Affiliation **N/A**

Architect/Builder **Elswick, Fred, architect**
Wehr Construction Co., builder

Narrative Statement of Significance (begins p. 8-1)

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

ASHLAND ARMORY
BD-A-27; Boyd County, KY

10. Geographical Data
Acreage of Property 1.20 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
1 17 357 680 4258 850 Ashland Quad

Verbal Boundary Description and Boundary Justification (see p. 10-2)

11. Form Prepared By
name/title Kate Carothers

organization Kentucky Archaeological Survey date 4-16-99

street & number 1020A Export St. telephone (606) 257-1944
city or town Lexington state KY zip code 40502

Property Owner

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

street & number Boone National Guard Center
telephone (502) 564-0269

city or town Frankfort state KY zip code 40601

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceASHLAND ARMORY
BD-A-27; Boyd County, KYNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Kentucky's National Guard Facilities: 1931-1951 MPS

Section number 7 Page 1**Narrative Description**

The Ashland Armory (Bd-A-27) is situated on a corner lot at the intersection of Lexington Avenue and 22nd Street in a residential area of Ashland, Kentucky, the largest town in Boyd County. The armory is a two-story red brick building on a raised concrete basement and was constructed in 1948. On an interior plaque in the front hallway is the name of the architect, Louisville native Fred Elswick, and the builder, Wehr Construction Co., of Louisville. Attached to the rear of the U-shaped building is the drill hall, which rises above the administrative section of the armory. On the west elevation (facade) of the building are two round towers flanking the front doors. The cornice above the doors features dentil molding; otherwise the facade is unadorned. The symmetrical facade is made up of a central section flanked by two four-bay "wings." In the middle section, small windows are placed between the towers on both the first and second floors. Two windows flank the towers on either side of the doors, on both the first and second floors. A thin limestone band runs directly above and below both first- and second-story windows on the armory's administrative section. Otherwise the building is free of ornamentation.

The Ashland Armory consists of five floors, including first and second floors, the drill hall floor, which sits midway between the first and second floors, a basement, and a sub-basement. The windows on the administrative section consist of 12-paned metal-casement and metal-light windows. The windows on the drill hall section are metal casements also. All of these windows are original to the building. On the lower level (basement) of the drill hall are metal garage doors and metal casement windows. The sub-basement and basement have concrete floors; the sub-basement has one garage door on the east elevation. Otherwise, this level has no windows or doors. A rifle range was located in the sub-basement until 1992, when it was dismantled because of EPA regulations.

The interior of the building features tiled floors, concrete block walls, plaster, and dropped, acoustic tile ceilings (replacement). Some of the offices have wood paneling and carpet, and some of the larger ones have been divided into two rooms. The light fixtures throughout the building have been replaced with florescent fixtures, in most cases. The first and second floors are composed largely of offices and classrooms. A large shower room is located on the second floor; a kitchen is on the first. The kitchen is no longer used by the Guard.

The drill hall is a very large room with its original hardwood drill floor. The wooden floor sits in a shallow pit supported by crossbeams underneath. Around the perimeter of the wood floor is concrete. Wooden bleachers line two walls of the room; these were donated after the building was completed. The five bands of metal casement windows along the two walls are original. The Ashland Armory is one of only a handful of historic armories that maintain their original wooden floor. The armory has over 45,500 square feet of space and is one of the largest armories in the state.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

ASHLAND ARMORY
BD-A-27; Boyd County, KY

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Kentucky's National Guard Facilities: 1931-1951 MPS

Section number 8, 9, 10 Page 1

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Ashland Armory meets National Register criteria A (historic association) and C (type of construction) and is significant for its association with the National Guard, a state-based military entity, and as a type of construction: armory. The Ashland Armory meets the registration requirements established for the armory property type because it possesses integrity of location, setting, materials, design, and association. The armory has not moved, so it maintains integrity of location. The armory is in its original setting: a residential area. The design of the armory is the same: administrative building with attached drill hall and original interior arrangement. It possesses original materials - windows, wood drill hall floor, doors and hardware, radiators, interior layout.

The Commonwealth of Kentucky has owned the building, which has functioned as an armory, since its completion in 1948. The building is recognizable as an armory, having the main components of that building type (design): an administrative building with an attached drill hall, and interior rooms such as the drill hall and offices. The armory is a good example of a late 1940s armory in Kentucky, in that its large size and appearance resemble a fortress, and are reflective of the United States' military power and status as a world leader during and after World War II. The armory is significant for its association with the National Guard, a state-based military entity.

The Ashland Armory is also locally significant for its association with the community of Ashland. The armory has served as a meeting place for the community since its completion in 1948. The armory has been home to volleyball and basketball games, championship wrestling, Boy Scout/Girl Scout sleep-overs, and Father-Daughter dances. Different groups have used the armory over the years, including veterans groups, labor unions, and the Chamber of Commerce. Political rallies, dinners, and dances have also been held at the armory over the years. The telephone company used the armory for book distribution, the Wal-Mart has used it as a place to interview and hire employees, and groups such as the Ashland Builders Association and the Ashland Shrine have used the building for activities and shows. The Ashland Armory has been an important gathering place for the community of Ashland as both a home for their soldiers and a place for the community to congregate.

Verbal Boundary Description - The parcel designated by the Boyd County PVA as tax map/parcel # 038-NW-WO-24-003.00.

Verbal Boundary Justification - The chosen boundary encompasses the armory, the related motor pool, and front yard, for a total of 1.20 acres, the lot historically associated with the Ashland Armory.

Bibliography

Annual Report of the Kentucky Department of Military Affairs, 1996. Published by the State of Kentucky.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

ASHLAND ARMORY
BD-A-27; Boyd County, KY

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Kentucky's National Guard Facilities: 1931-1951 MPS

Section number 9 Page 2

File on the Ashland Armory located at Military Records and Research Branch, Frankfort.

Historical Annual of the National Guard of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Author
unknown. Baton Rouge: Army and Navy Publishing Company, 1938.

Interview with SFC and Armory Manager Edsel B. Fitzpatrick, Jr., December 1997.