



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

927

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Madisonville Armory
other names/site number Hk-M-120

2. Location

street & number 670 Park Ave. not for publication N/A
city or town Madisonville vicinity N/A
state Kentucky code KY county Hopkins code 107 zip code 42431

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
 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 R. Beall 9/6/02

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

8. Statement of Significance

MADISONVILLE ARMORY
HK-M-120; Hopkins County, KY

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 1947-1949

Significant Dates 1947

Significant Person N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder McMeekin, Robert, architect

Ruby & Company, 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: _____

10. Geographical Data
Acreage of Property 4.8 acres

MADISONVILLE ARMORY
HK-M-120; Hopkins County, KY

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

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	
116	456	730	4129	880	3	_____
2	_____	_____	4	_____	_____	Madisonville East 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 ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMADISONVILLE ARMORY
HK-M-120; Hopkins County, KY

Kentucky's National Guard Facilities: 1931-1951 MPS

Section number 7, 8 Page 1**Narrative Description**

The Madisonville Armory (HK-M-120), located at 670 Park Avenue, meets National Register criteria A (historic association) and C (type of construction). The armory was completed in 1947 and designed by architect Robert W. McMeekin. R.P. Whitton was the engineer for the project; the building company is unknown. The Madisonville Armory serves as both a military and community center for Madisonville, and is situated on a hill overlooking the city park. The brick armory consists of a two-story central block with one-story wings on either side. The three-bay east elevation (front facade) features a set of glass doors flanked by sidelights and a transom. Brick pilasters mark off the central section of the building. The one-story wings each have three windows apiece. A limestone surround with an inscribed eagle and the words NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY sits above the doorway. The louvered windows are distinctive to the Madisonville Armory; windows of that type are not found on any other Kentucky armories. The windows can be opened from the inside by a hand crank.

The Madisonville Armory has three floors - a basement, first, and second floors. The armory sits on a fall-away lot, and the basement houses the maintenance/OMS area, storage and utility rooms. The first floor contains offices, storage rooms, and a day room. A few steps up from the first floor is the drill hall. Unlike the other post-World War II armories, the Madisonville drill hall was built with a concrete floor. A second-floor balcony overlooks the drill hall, and features four rows of concrete seats. Tall multi-light metal casement windows run along the north and south walls of the room. A concrete block room with a handicapped-accessible elevator was added to the drill hall in the 1970s, in compliance with the American Disability Act. This elevator goes to the basement. Original wooden doors are located throughout the building.

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Madisonville Armory (HK-M-120) meets criteria A (historic association) and C (type of construction) of the National Register of Historic Places. The armory is relevant to the history of the National Guard during the period of significance: 1931-1951. The armory meets the multiple property listing's registration requirements established for the armory property type because it possesses integrity of location, setting, materials, design, and association. The armory maintains integrity of location and setting because it remains in the same place and the park setting is the same as well. The building retains most of its original materials: it has the original windows, drill hall floor, original wooden doors and hardware, and original radiators. The metal casement windows in the drill hall are original, as well. The design of the armory is the same: administrative building with attached drill hall, and original interior arrangement, with only one or two exceptions. The armory retains its integrity of association because it is owned by the National Guard/Commonwealth of Kentucky, and has been used as an armory since its completion in 1947.

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

MADISONVILLE ARMORY
HK-M-120; Hopkins County, KY

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Kentucky's National Guard Facilities: 1931-1951 MPS

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The Madisonville Armory is recognizable as an armory, having the main components of that building type (design): an administrative building with an attached drill hall, and interior room arrangement is the same. The armory has served as both a community and military center for the community. The armory is a good example of a late 1940s armory in Kentucky because of its large size and forbidding appearance. The armory is significant for its association with the National Guard, a state-based military entity.

Men from Hopkins County have been involved in a militia of some type since the early 1800s, and have been involved in several wars, including the War of 1812, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, and World Wars I and II. The soldiers were mobilized for the Berlin Crisis in 1961, and went to Fort Stewart, Georgia, for training. Units which have been in Madisonville include: Headquarters Company of the 3/149th Infantry, Company C, 243rd Tank Battalion, Company C, 123rd Armor, and currently, Company A, 2/123rd Armor.

The National Guard has participated in many state active duties, including flood and snow emergencies, riots and prison escapes, and security for the execution of death row inmate Harold McQueen in July, 1997. Besides serving as the home of the soldiers, the Madisonville Armory has served as a home for many community events, such as dances in the drill hall, basketball games, meetings, and Rotary Club functions. When the men returned from the Berlin Crisis in 1962, a dance was held in their honor at the armory.

The Madisonville Armory has served as an important building for the community because it serves as both a community and military center.

Verbal Boundary Description - The parcel designated by the Hopkins County PVA as tax map/parcel #M-33-37-26.

Verbal Boundary Justification - The chosen boundary encompasses the building, its related motor pool and parking lot, and forested land behind the armory, for a total of 4.8 acres, the area historically associated with the Madisonville Armory.

Bibliography

Files on the Madisonville Armory, located at the 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 armory manager SGT. Van Hook, January 29, 1998.