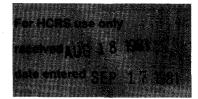
United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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

city, town

	historic State Arsenal			(LC13:D11-17)			
and/or commo	n The Nebras	<u>ska National Gua</u>	rd Arsena	1 Building			
2. Loc	ation						
street & numb	er 17th and	Court Streets			not for publication		
city, town	Lincoln	vic	inity of	congressional district	First		
state	Nebraska	code 31	county	Lancaster	code 109		
3. Cla	ssificatio	n					
Category district _X building(s structure site object	Ownership <u>X</u> public private both Public Acquisiti in process being consid	yes: re	upied n progress e stricted	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment X government industrial mllitary	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:		
		-					
4. Ow	ner of Pro	operty					
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Description

Condition

	excel	lent	
X	good		
	fair		

Check one deteriorated X_altered ruins unexposed

Check one X____ original site

> moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

__ unaltered

Situated just to the west of the south entrance to the Nebraska State Fair Grounds, the State Arsenal is a three-story rectangular building of reinforced concrete construction, with clay tile-lined red brick exterior walls. The original building was built in 1913, 30' x 52' in size, but was almost immediately added-to to increase the size to 30' x 93'. The original building and the addition each have a single stack red brick chimney of approximate ridge height.

The roof is of hip design and covered with the original diamond pattern gray asbestos roof shingles.

All exterior windows and doors, except for one recently added exterior door, are barred with the originally installed iron grillwork.

The basement is connected to the main and second floors by plank staircases, and by a Kimball Number 2 antifriction, quick-rising elevator, installed by the Otis Elevator Company as original equipment.

The original 1913 building contains the Kimball elevator, roughly centered, the stairs in the southwest corner, and the only two original interior rooms in the southeast corner of the second floor. The 1915 addition is entirely open on all three floors. Built originally as a warehouse, it was an entirely open floor plan except for the two second floor rooms which served as the Caretaker's quarters. As originally built, these two rooms were accessible by exterior stairs to a dock at the second floor level on the east side of the building. At ground level, an L-shaped dock connected the south and west doors, providing access to a rail siding just to the west of the building.

The docks, rail siding, and second floor exterior doors have since all been removed and several interior partitions have been added to enclose one room at the south end of the main floor and two additional rooms on the second floor east side. The 1915 addition remains open floor plan on all three levels. Our intent is to rebuild the dock (wood construction) on the east side of this building to original size and shape.

Plans are underway for the Nebraska National Guard Historical Society to convert the building into a museum of the Nebraska Guard.

8. Significance

Period /	Areas of Significance—C	heck and justify below		
prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899	archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture architecture art commerce communications		Iandscape architecture Iaw Iterature Iterature mulitary music t philosophy politics/government	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)

Specific dates 1913

Mande Architect Burd

Burd F. Miller, Omaha

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The State Arsenal is significant as the first structural manifestation of the Nebraska National Guard's presence in the State until after World War II. The building stands as a physical reminder of the changing nature of the guard from the Nebraska Volunteer Militia to the present Nebraska National Guard and serves as a fitting landmark for the guard's activities in the State as part of America's major reserve force.

The recruiting and retention of personnel in the Nebraska National Guard is based on heritage, mission accomplishment, and dedicated individuals. This building will display <u>all</u> that heritage, history, and persons in a living memorial for <u>all</u> to visit and to reflect with great pride on all our accomplishments, both individually and collectively.

The Nebraska National Guard, though Federally equipped since the passage of the Dick Act in 1903, remains, as successor to the Nebraska Volunteer Militia, a State force responsive to the Governor as Commanderin-Chief for use in quelling civil disorder and protecting persons and property during natural disasters. It is composed of Nebraskans who choose voluntarily to serve their fellow Nebraskans while simultaneously maintaining a ready defense posture for the United States as the major reserve force of the Army and the Air Force.

The State Arsenal was the first permanent facility provided by the Nebraska Legislature from tax funds for support of the Nebraska National Guard. Prior to completion of this building, the Federal properties issued for accomplishment of the State and Federal missions, were stored in rented or leased quarters that were generally very inadequate. It remained in use by the Guard as a warehouse for storage of unused supplies and equipment until 1963, when it was transferred to the State Fair Board, although for some brief periods it also served to provide temporary office space. From 1963 until mid-1980, it was used by the State Fair Board for storage and security services.

The quantity and complexity of equipment issued to the Nebraska National Guard after World War II created a need for far more space for storage and maintenance than was available in the Arsenal, and it was relegated to a place for storage of little-used equipment until declared surplus in 1963.

The building today is essentially the same as when constructed except for some necessary modifications to plumbing and electrical services.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Nebraska, 1913-1914, pp. 11-12; 1911-12, p. 121; 1915-16 pp. 6-8.

Legislative Journal of the State of Nebraska, 1963, p. 1740.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Less than 1 acre.	
Quadrangle name Lincoln, NE	Guadrangle scale 1:24,000
UMT References	
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Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property occupies a part of a larger parcel deeded to the State for use as a fair grounds, 50 x 93 feet in size, located just to the southeast of the new Bob Devaney Sports Complex of the University of Nebraska.

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	Nebraska Nat		any curator				
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treet & numb	er 1300 Milit	ary Road		telephone	(Home)	402/488-4281	
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ity or town	Lincoln			state Neb	raska	•	
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65), I hereby	nominate this proj	perty for inclusion in the perty for inclusion in the perty for inclusion in the perty for the perty	the National Reg	ister and certif	y that it ha	as been evaluated	
	Preservation Offic	•	Jann		4	7/28/	181
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