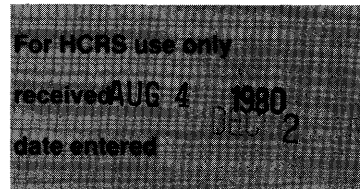


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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

historic Rochester Armory
and/or common Senior Citizens Center

2. Location

street & number 121 North Broadway _____ not for publication
city, town Rochester _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district First
state Minnesota code 22 county Olmsted code 109

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 type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input 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 City of Rochester
street & number City Hall
city, town Rochester _____ vicinity of _____ state Minnesota 55901

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Olmsted County Courthouse
street & number 515 Second Street SW
city, town Rochester _____ state Minnesota 55901

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Survey of Historic Resources has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 1979-80 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local
depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society -- 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House
city, town St. Paul _____ state Minnesota 55102

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Rochester Armory building is located on North Broadway, just north of the downtown commercial district, at the intersection of Second Street Northwest. It is a large rectangular structure, constructed of dark rust-red brick. The plan consists of an administrative headhouse about three-to-four stories at the east (front) end, and a large three-story drill hall to the rear. The northeast corner has a prominent crenelated octagonal tower. There are smaller towers at the northwest and southeast corners of the headhouse. Crenelations also extend along the east and north roof lines. The drill hall's north side is divided into five bays, each containing triple plate glass window arrangements, with segmental arches at the third story. A large segmental arch entryway is centered at the east side, with a segmental arch window configuration directly above. Other fenestration consists of recent plate glass sash in segmental openings. The interior has been remodeled to accommodate adaptive use as a senior citizens center. The exterior retains complete design integrity with the exception of window replacements.

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 type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1915

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Rochester Armory building is significant as a pristine example of the "medieval fortress school" of armory design, popular around the turn of the century. It also has served as a public center of community life since its construction in 1915, primarily as a National Guard Armory, and, since the late 1970s when it was acquired by the city, as a Senior Citizens Center. Indeed, the original construction cost was split between the state and the city. The armory building continues as an architectural landmark in Rochester while also serving as one of the city's most successful examples of adaptive use.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Gebhard, David, and Tom Martinson. A Guide to the Architecture of Minnesota. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1977. p. 315.
 Maps of Rochester, Minnesota. New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1920 and 1928.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Rochester, Minn.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A

1	5	5	4	3	0	2	0	4	8	7	4	5	9	0
Zone		Easting						Northing						

B

Zone		Easting						Northing							

C

Zone		Easting						Northing							

D

Zone		Easting						Northing							

E

Zone		Easting						Northing							

F

Zone		Easting						Northing							

G

Zone		Easting						Northing							

H

Zone		Easting						Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property consists of the north half of lot five and all of lot six, block 46, Original Plat of City of Rochester, Minnesota.

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

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert M. Frame III, Architectural Historian/Research Historian

organization Minnesota Historical Society date April 1980

street & number 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House telephone 612-296-9074

city or town St. Paul state Minnesota

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Russell W. Fridley

Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 7-15-80

For HCERS use only

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

for W. Ray Fuse date 12/2/80
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Linda Hunt McClelland date 12.2.80
 Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

**Note: These changes apply to
Rochester Armory in Olmsted County,
Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 80004268

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Olmsted

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC):

CITY:

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS: 121 N. Broadway

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

**Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer**

JUN 17 1988

Date