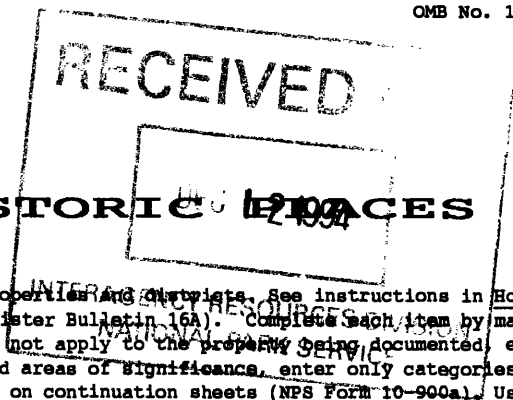


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Olympia Armory  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 511 Granby Lane not for publication \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Columbia vicinity \_\_\_\_\_  
state South Carolina code SC county Richland code 079  
zip code 29201

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.)

Mary W. Edmonds 12/7/94  
Signature of certifying official Date

Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy SHPO, S.C. Department of Archives & History, Columbia, S.C.  
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 H. Beall 1-20-95

Entered in the  
National Register

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

### 5. Classification

<b>Ownership of Property</b> (Check as many boxes as apply) <input type="checkbox"/> private <input type="checkbox"/> public-local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-State <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<b>Category of Property</b> (Check only one box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) <input type="checkbox"/> district <input type="checkbox"/> site <input type="checkbox"/> structure <input type="checkbox"/> object	<b>Number of Resources within Property</b> <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Contributing</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Noncontributing</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>1</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>    </u></td> <td style="text-align: right;">buildings</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>    </u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>    </u></td> <td style="text-align: right;">sites</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>    </u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>    </u></td> <td style="text-align: right;">structures</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>1</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>0</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;">objects</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">Total</td> </tr> </table>	Contributing	Noncontributing		<u>1</u>	<u>    </u>	buildings	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	sites	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	structures	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	objects			Total
Contributing	Noncontributing																			
<u>1</u>	<u>    </u>	buildings																		
<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	sites																		
<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	structures																		
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	objects																		
		Total																		
Name of related multiple property listing Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) <u>N/A</u>		Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register <u>0</u>																		

### 6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DEFENSE</u> <u>RECREATION &amp; CULTURE</u> <u>RECREATION &amp; CULTURE</u>     	Sub: <u>Arms Storage/Armory</u> <u>Auditorium</u> <u>Sports Facility</u>     
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**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DEFENSE</u>     	Sub: <u>Arms Storage/Armory</u>     
---	---

### 7. Description

<b>Architectural Classification</b> (Enter categories from instructions) <u>Modern Movement/Art Deco</u> <u>or Moderne</u>  	<b>Materials</b> (Enter categories from instructions) foundation <u>Brick</u> roof <u>Synthetic: Rubber</u> walls <u>Brick</u> other <u>Metal</u>  
---	--

**Narrative Description**  
 (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

### 8. Statement of Significance

**Applicable National Register Criteria**  
 (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- 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 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**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

**Significant Dates**

1937

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Period of Significance**

1937

**Architect/Builder**

Works Progress Administration

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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: S.C. Department of Archives & History, Columbia, S.C.

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of Property Less than one acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>17</u>	<u>497440</u>	<u>3759310</u>	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
	<u>See continuation sheet.</u>					

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title John T. Blake, A.I.A., President

organization Blake Architectural Associates, Inc. date 1 April 1994

street & number 620 Sims Avenue telephone (803) 256-0356

city or town Columbia state SC zip code 29205

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

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

name State of South Carolina, c/o Adjutant General Stan Spears

street & number 1 National Guard Road telephone (803) 748-4217

city or town Columbia state SC zip code 29201

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 5

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Olympia Armory  
Name of Property

Richland County, South Carolina  
county and State

The Olympia Armory is a one-story rectangular load-bearing brick building featuring a barrel-vaulted roof, brick parapeted end walls, and intricate brick detailing. The design displays Art Deco and Moderne influences in the corbelled pilasters and window surrounds. The facade is defined by its triple step-down of the parapet. This treatment is present at both the front and rear elevations of the building. This step-down feature allows the center area and middle three bays of the facade to extend higher than the two flanking bays on either side. It also follows the general curvature of the roof, places predominance, and expresses the verticality and strength of the front and rear facades. The three central bays are enhanced by tall metal-frame windows and corbelled pilasters. The brickwork on the pilasters repeats the step-down effect by triple-stepping or corbeling outward in profile and triple-stepping downward in the column's top termination detail. To enhance the vertical effect, brick panels above each window increase the visual elements of the window design. Window panes are utilized with a vertical dimension two-and-one-half times greater than the horizontal dimension.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 6

Olympia Armory  
name of property  
Richland County, South Carolina  
county and State

The Olympia Armory is significant as an excellent example of the National Guard armories designed with Art Deco or Moderne influences and built by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) during the late 1930s and early 1940s.

This armory was built in 1936-37 and was one of several armories designed for the South Carolina National Guard under the direction of Brigadier General James C. Dozier, Adjutant General of South Carolina. Senator W.H. Nicholson, praising General Dozier for making the construction of twenty-four new armories possible during this period, said at the dedication of one such armory, "He is a man who has proved that in times of war there is none braver and in times of peace none finer," further observing that such buildings were dedicated "not to war but to peace."<sup>1</sup>

Until 1939, South Carolina possessed only two State-owned armories--one in Columbia, built in 1905, and one in Beaufort, built ca. 1776--opting instead to rent space for the nearly forty other National Guard units around the state. These spaces were usually too small and not well suited for storing military equipment and for conducting training exercises. With the advent of the Works Progress Administration, however, a source to fund state-owned armories of adequate size became available.<sup>2</sup> By August 1938, 36 communities had requested National Guard units.<sup>3</sup> The new armories provided facilities not only for the Guard units, but were also able to support assorted other community activities as well, in large part because they had an open floor space of at least 75' x 100'.<sup>4</sup> According to General Dozier, the new armories also "served to strengthen already good morale

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<sup>1</sup> The State (Columbia, S.C.), 22 February 1937.

<sup>2</sup> Report of the Adjutant General of the State of South Carolina for The Period Beginning July 1, 1938 and Ending June 30, 1939 (Columbia: Printed under the Direction of the Joint Committee on Printing, General Assembly of South Carolina, 1939); "The construction of armories by the State has been recommended by the Adjutant General in his annual report for the past twelve years. No appropriation, however, for this purpose has been allotted to date." Report of the Adjutant General of the State of South Carolina for The Period Beginning July 1, 1935 and Ending June 30, 1936 (Columbia: Printed under the Direction of the Joint Committee on Printing, General Assembly of South Carolina, 1936), p. 15; and Report of the Adjutant General of the State of South Carolina for The Period Beginning July 1, 1936 and Ending June 30, 1937 (Columbia: Printed under the Direction of the Joint Committee on Printing, General Assembly of South Carolina, 1937), p. 14.

<sup>3</sup> The State, 18 August 1938.

<sup>4</sup> "Due to the fact that there will be an inspection of the National Guard in Olympia armory Wednesday evening the Richland Drum and Bugle corp will meet on Assembly Street...." The State, 15 March 1938; Adjutant General James C. Dozier, South Carolina National Guard, to Mr. William H. Alston, 30 January 1939, Administrative Reference File, 1911-1939, Office of the Adjutant & Inspector General, Records of the Military Department, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section   8   Page   7  

Olympia Armory  
name of property  
Richland County, South Carolina  
county and State

---

[among the National Guard units] and a pride of organization is marked in the outfits."<sup>5</sup>

The Olympia armory was built to replace the 1905 armory on Assembly Street and became a center of community activity in the mill villages of Granby and Olympia. It hosted sporting events, theatrical performances, and other civic activities. A stage was part of the original design and the floor was marked for use as a basketball court.<sup>6</sup> Olympia School, located adjacent to the armory, also utilized it as a gymnasium until the school constructed one for its students' own use.

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<sup>5</sup> The State, 6 March 1938.

<sup>6</sup> John T. Blake, AIA, Interview with Colonel Henry L. Durant, South Carolina National Guard, Columbia, S.C., 6 January 1994.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section   9   Page   8  

Olympia Armory  
name of property  
Richland County, South Carolina  
county and State

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Unpublished Sources

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Office of the Adjutant & Inspector General  
Administrative Reference File, 1911-1939

Adjutant General James C. Dozier, South Carolina National Guard, to  
William H. Alston, 30 January 1939.

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National Guard, Columbia, S.C., 6 January 1994.

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Printing, General Assembly of South Carolina. 1935-36, 1936-37, 1937-  
38, 1938-39, 1939-40.

The State (Columbia, S.C.), 22 February 1937; 6 March 1938; 15 March 1938;  
18 August 1938.



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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 10 Page 9

Olympia Armory  
name of property  
Richland County, South Carolina  
county and State

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Verbal Boundary Description

Block 6, Lot 7, Section 112-03, as listed in the Richland County (SC) Tax Records, Property Map Sheet 11203, Revised 12/92, and represented on the accompanying map at 1" = 100'.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire parcel which has been historically associated with the nominated property.

United States Department of the Interior  
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section \_\_\_\_\_ Page 10

Olympia Armory  
name of property  
Richland County, South Carolina  
county and State

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Photographs

The information is the same for all photographs:

Name of property: Olympia Armory

County/State: Columbia, Richland County, South Carolina

Name of photographer: John T. Blake

Date of photograph: Spring 1994

Location of original negative: S.C. Department of Archives and History

Photo #

1. Facade, oblique (East)
2. Facade, pilaster detail (East)