

Structure/Site Information Form

FEB 26 1986
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IDENTIFICATION 1

Street Address: 10 N. State
Mt. Pleasant, Sanpete County, Utah

UTM: 12 461000 4377380
Quad: Mt. Pleasant, Utah
T. 15 S R. 4 E S.3

Name of Structure: Mt. Pleasant National Guard Armory

Present Owner: Mt. Pleasant City
115 W. Main

Owner Address: Mt. Pleasant, Utah 84647

Year Built (Tax Record):
Legal Description

Effective Age:
Kind of Building:

Tax #:

Beginning at the SW corner of Block 30 Plat "A" Mt. Pleasant City Survey, thence N 121 feet,
E 60 feet, N 60.5 feet, E 121 feet, S 181.5 feet, W 186.5 feet to beginning. 0.68 acres

STATUS/USE 2

Original Owner: State Armory Board

Construction Date: 1936-37

Demolition Date:

Original Use: Military

Present Use: Government

Building Condition:

Integrity:

Preliminary Evaluation:

Final Register Status:

- Excellent
- Good
- Deteriorated
- Site
- Ruins
- Unaltered
- Minor Alterations
- Major Alterations
- Significant
- Contributory
- Not Contributory
- Not of the Historic Period
- National Landmark
- National Register
- State Register
- District
- Multi-Resource
- Thematic

DOCUMENTATION 3

Photography:

Date of Slides: 1985

Slide No.:

Date of Photographs: 1985

Photo No.:

Views: Front Side Rear Other

Views: Front Side Rear Other

Research Sources:

- Abstract of Title
- Plat Records/Map
- Tax Card & Photo
- Building Permit
- Sewer Permit
- Sanborn Maps
- City Directories
- Biographical Encyclopedias
- Obituary Index
- County & City Histories
- Newspapers
- Utah State Historical Society
- Personal Interviews
- LDS Church Archives
- LDS Genealogical Society
- U of U Library
- BYU Library
- USU Library
- SLC Library
- Other Utah National Guard Files

Bibliographical References (books, articles, records, interviews, old photographs and maps, etc.):

Longsdorf, Hilda Madsen, compiler. Mount Pleasant, 1859-1939. Mt. Pleasant Pioneer Historical Association, 1939.

Mount Pleasant Pyramid (Mt. Pleasant, Utah), 1936-37.

"Mt. Pleasant National Guard Armory," Utah National Guard Files, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Architect/Builder: Niels P. Larsen/G.W. Brand (supervisor) and WPA

Building Materials: masonry

Building Type/Style: PWA Moderne

Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features:

(Include additions, alterations, ancillary structures, and landscaping if applicable)

The Mt. Pleasant National Guard Armory is a two-story, flat-roofed building designed in the PWA Moderne style. It consists of long rectangular block containing the principal entrance and flanking side wings. The front of the main block is broken up into three sections by low-relief pilasters. The center section has three recessed door panels and a slightly raised parapet which announces its importance. The side wings have taller, stepped parapets and the ends are symmetrically pierced by vertical window panels. The structure is built of brick and has been plastered. It seems likely that the smooth plaster exterior is original. A compatibly styled garage addition was built at the northeast corner of the building (n.d.), but because of its location at the rear and its unobtrusive styling it does not significantly detract from the original integrity of the building.

Total number of contributing buildings: 1

Total number of noncontributing buildings: 0

Photos

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date: 1936-37

Built in 1936-37, the Mt. Pleasant National Guard Armory is part of the Public Works Buildings Thematic Resource nomination and is significant because it helps document the impact of New Deal programs in Utah, which was one of the states that the Great Depression of the 1930s most severely affected. In 1933 Utah had an unemployment rate of 36 percent, the fourth highest in the country, and for the period 1932-1940 Utah's unemployment rate averaged 25 percent. Because the depression hit Utah so hard, federal programs were extensive in the state. Overall, per capita federal spending in Utah during the 1930s was 9th among the 48 states, and the percentage of workers on federal work projects was far above the national average. Building programs were of great importance. During the 1930s virtually every public building constructed in Utah, including county courthouses, city halls, fire stations, national guard armories, public school buildings, and a variety of others, were built under federal programs by one of several agencies, including the Civil Works Administration (CWA), the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), the National Youth Administration (NYA), the Works Progress Administration (WPA), or the Public Works Administration (PWA), and almost without exception none of the buildings would have been built when they were without the assistance of the federal government.

The Mt. Pleasant National Guard Armory is one of 232 buildings constructed in Utah during the 1930s and early 1940s under the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and other New Deal programs. Of those 232 buildings, 133 are still standing and are eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. This is one of 9 armories built, 6 of which are still standing. In Sanpete County 17 buildings were constructed, 13 of which remain.

This building was constructed between 1936 and 1937 as a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project. The supervisor of construction was G. W. Brand of Mt. Pleasant, and the architect was Niels P. Larsen of Salt Lake City.

Larsen designed several other National Guard armories in Utah, all of which

Mt. Pleasant National Guard Armory
History continued:

are virtually the same in appearance. They include the armories in Nephi, Fillmore, Manti and Spanish Fork, which are still standing, and the demolished armories that were in Logan and Cedar City. Land for the Mt. Pleasant Armory was donated by the city and was valued at \$3500. Located on that property was a two story building which was constructed in 1879 to house the ZCMI branch store at Mt. Pleasant. Its second floor housed the county courthouse and the city council chambers. It also had a large hall for political rallies, plays, etc., so that the building for many years was the "amusement" and community center for the town.

The Mt. Pleasant National Guard Armory served as an armory until recent years, when it was purchased by the city.