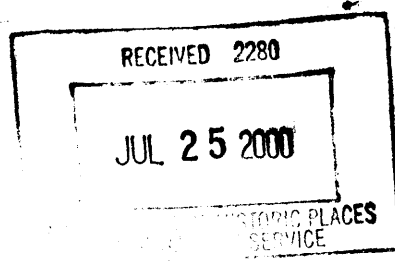


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



1017

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 an 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 First Regiment Armory Annex

other names/site number Portland Oregon National Guard Armory Annex (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 123 NW Eleventh Avenue not for publication

city or town Portland vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Multnomah code 051 zip code 97209

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

James Hamrick July 11, 2000
Signature of certifying official/Title/Deputy SHPO Date

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State of 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 certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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
Signature of the Keeper

8/31/00
Date of Action

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Continuation Sheet

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PORTLAND OREGON NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY ANNEX (1891)
123 NW Eleventh Avenue
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

COMMENTS OF THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE:

The First Regiment Armory Annex or Portland Oregon National Guard Armory Annex (preferred – due to established armory naming convention in the State Historic Preservation Office), built in 1891, is located at 128 NW 11th Avenue, on Lots 5-8 of Block 69 of Couch's Addition to the City of Portland. The building was constructed in what historically was and continues to be a predominately industrial area of downtown Portland.

The Armory Annex is eligible for listing in the National Register for its association with the founding of the National Guard in Oregon. Built as an annex to the 1887 First Regiment Armory (now demolished), the 1891 building housed the drill hall and rifle range for the regiment units. The building has statewide significance as the first armory built in Oregon for the newly organized Oregon National Guard.

Oregon's militia began as early as 1843 with the passage of the first militia law by the provincial government. In 1849 having achieved territorial status, the federal government assisted the militia by paying for its volunteers and weapons. In 1857 laws regarding the militia gave the governor ex-officio Commander in Chief authority and provided rules governing the militia. Then in 1862 the state formally adopted a military code officially giving the governor control over the militia. In 1887 when anti Chinese riots occurred, the need of a more organized militia was realized.

In May of 1887 the Oregon Legislature passed a law that authorized the construction of armory buildings in towns of more than 10,000 people. That year marked the construction of the First Regiment armory. Later in the winter of 1887 State Legislator Col. Summers sponsored a more comprehensive law that created the Oregon National Guard. While the law of 1887 allowed for the construction of armories, other than the First Regiment Armory, no other armories were constructed in Oregon until 1910 when the next armory was constructed in Albany; over 20 years after the Portland Armory and Annex were constructed.

As originally designed, the building occupied the entire block. However, in 1968 the Blitz-Weinhard Brewing Company purchased the Armory and demolished the original 1887-88 armory, leaving only this Annex. The Annex was constructed in 1891 for use as a drill and event hall and firing range. In spite of the loss of the

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original armory, the Annex retains its original elements of style, form, proportion and scale, thereby retaining the feeling and sense of its historic period through its present appearance.

Designed by early Portland architectural firm of McCaw and Martin, the Armory Annex is a rare example of the "Castellated" architectural style. Built in 1891, the Armory Annex, with its fortress-like structure was constructed of random ashlar stone and brick with a pentagonal corner tower, and central, recessed arched entrance flanked by turrets on the upper portion. The turrets have crenellated parapets and loophole vertical slots for firing arms.

The 200x100 foot rectangular building is two and a half stories in height. The building is constructed of painted red brick and stone. Situated on a sloped lot, the basement of the building is exposed at the northeast corner. The random ashlar basement and first floor have segmental arched window openings. Second floor windows have segmental arch hoodmolds with multiple course rowlocks. Windows throughout the building are 2/2 double hung wooden sash with stone sills. The second floor is accented with loophole openings between each window opening. The unique loophole openings also have stone sills. A belt course divides the first and second floors. Another belt course extends along the second floor at the middle of the windows and a third belt course is located above the second floor windows.

The primary entrance to the building, in the east elevation, is a projecting entrance bay that flares at the base. The entrance is two stories in height topped with a crenellated parapet. At both ends of the parapet are two small turrets containing loophole openings and ending in corbeled brick. Between the turrets are raised letters that read "First Regiment Armory." Below the lettering is a decorative blind arcade and more brick corbeling. At the second floor level is an inset panel with the seal of the State of Oregon in relief. Further accenting the entrance is a compound round arch with simple archivolt. Two double wooden doors with iron strap hinges lead into the interior.

The interior of the building is a single large open space. The bowstring trussing system used to design the roof of the structure is unique. The trussing system of laminated wood and wrought iron bars is unique for its maximum use of wood and minimum use of metal to minimize costs yet not compromise on strength or durability. The floor is concrete and the interior of the brick and stone walls are unfinished.

Changes to the exterior and interior of the have been minor. The entrance at the west elevation has been modified to accommodate a large overhead garage door. The roof skylights have been removed. All of the basement windows have been filled in with concrete block. A new opening was cut into the south wall of the building and a skywalk added to the west elevation to provide access to other Blitz-Weinhard buildings. The second floor balcony on the interior was removed at an unknown date.

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The Armory Annex is eligible for listing in the National Register as the earliest armory facility in the State of Oregon. The Armory also meets National Register as an excellent example of the Castellated style in Portland designed by the Portland architectural firm of McCaw and Martin. The period of significance for the building is 1891 to 1949, which is signified by the construction date of the Annex and the 50-year mark, as the building continued to operate as an armory until 1968.

Portland

~~Oregon National Guard Armory Annex~~
Name of Property

Multnomah County, Oregon
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

National Guard Armory

Defense/arms storage

Recreation/culture

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Warehouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Castellated

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Stone, brick

roof Asphalt

other _____

Narrative Description

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

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Description

The Oregon National Guard Armory Annex, built in 1891, is located at 128 NW Eleventh Avenue in Northwest Portland. Specifically, it is located on Lots 5-8 of Block 69 of Couch's Addition to the City of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon. The two-story brick and stone building was designed in the Castellated style by the noted early Portland architectural firm of McCaw and Martin. The Armory Annex, with its fortress-like structure, was constructed of random ashlar stone and brick with a pentagonal corner tower, and central, recessed arched entrance flanked by turrets on the upper portion. The turrets have crenellated parapets and loopholes vertical slots for firing arms. Between the turrets are raised letters that read "First Regiment Armory" and the Oregon State seal. The building is in fair-good condition.

As originally designed, the building occupied the entire block. However, in 1968 the Blitz-Weinhard Brewing Company purchased the Armory and demolished the earlier 1887-88 portion of the building. The demolished portion of the armory contained the company captains' offices, officers' clubrooms and quarters, dining room, and ballroom. The remaining portion was called the Annex and was completed in 1891 for use as a drill and event hall, and firing range. In spite of the loss of the 1887-88 building, the Armory Annex retains its original elements of the style, form, proportion and scale. The Armory Annex retains the feeling and sense of its historic period through its present appearance.

The Armory Annex is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion 'A' as the earliest armory facility in the State of Oregon, representing the beginnings of National Guard history in Oregon. The Annex is also meets National Register Criteria 'C' as an excellent example of the Castellated style in Portland designed by the early architectural firm of McCaw and Martin. It was in use as an armory until 1968 when it was replaced by a new building located at 2107 NE Columbia Blvd. The building is classified as a Rank 1 in the Portland Historic Resources Inventory.

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Setting

The Armory Building is located between NW Tenth and NW Eleventh avenues along NW Davis Street in the historic industrial portion of Northwest Portland. The Armory Annex has entrances on both the east (NW Tenth Avenue) and the west (NW Eleventh) elevations. Original streetcar tracks extend along NW Tenth Avenue; the eastside of the Annex.

A historic industrial area surrounds the site of the Annex; these buildings date from the early 1900s to the 1960s. Located to the northwest is the 13th Avenue National Register Historic District that was listed in the register in 1986. Many of these buildings are now being rehabilitated into office and retail spaces as the industrial nature of the area evolves into commercial use. The Armory Annex is the oldest standing building in the area. When construction on the Armory began in 1887, the area consisted of residences and vacant lots. By 1908, the area was a mix of residences and industrial buildings. A public school was located across NW Eleventh Avenue.

Exterior

The rectangular building measures 200 feet in length and 100 feet in width, and is two and one half stories in height. It is constructed of red brick and stone, painted white. The lot is sloped so that the basement level is above ground at the northeast corner of the building. The random ashlar basement and first floor have brick segmental arched window openings. Second floor windows have segmental arch hood molds with multiple-course rowlocks. All windows including the loopholes have stone sills. The wood windows are two over two double-hung sash. All basement windows have been filled with concrete block. A single tower remains at the corner of NW Tenth and NW Davis. Originally, there were two additional towers; one stood at the corner of NW Tenth and NW Couch, the other stood diagonally across from this tower. These towers were demolished as part of the 1968 Blitz-Weinhard demolition redevelopment plan. The second floor is accented with loopholes between each window opening. A belt course divides the first from second floors. Another belt course extends along the second floor at the middle of the windows and a third belt course is above the second floor windows.

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East Elevation

The east elevation is comprised of two floors plus a basement level at the corner of NW Tenth and Davis. A pentagonal tower is also at this corner. This elevation has a central projecting, entrance bay which flares out at the first floor. The entrance is two stories in height topped with a crenellated parapet. At the parapet are two turrets containing loopholes, and which end in corbeled brick. Between the turrets are raised letters that read "First Regiment Armory". Below the lettering is a decorative blind arcade and more brick corbeling. At the second floor level in the entrance bay is an inset panel which contains a relief design. The design contains a large disc with rays emanating from it. Inside the disc is the State of Oregon emblem. Two round holes are on either side of this panel. The parapet of the corner tower also contains these holes.

The entrance opening is embellished with a compound round arch with simple archivolt. Two double wooden doors with iron strap hinges, open into the building. A cornerstone in the tower reads "Annex 1891".

North Elevation

The north elevation extends the length of NW Davis Street between NW Tenth and Eleventh avenues. The second floor is divided vertically by brick pilasters. The first floor is separated from the second floor by brick corbeling. First floor windows have non-historic iron grilles. A small door opening in the center of this elevation has been enclosed with concrete block.

West Elevation

The west elevation faces NW Eleventh Avenue. The entrance bay is quite different from the east elevation entrance bay. The projecting entrance bay is capped by a stepped gable parapet flanked by two square turrets. A stone cannonball tops each turret. On top of the peak of the pediment is a stack of stone cannonballs. The brick corbeling is similar to the other entrance. In the center of the brick pediment is a loophole. Corbeling accents the bottom of the pediment. The second floor of the entrance bay consists of two windows alternating with three loopholes. The square entrance opening has been altered. Originally, the opening was a large round archway similar to the NW Tenth Avenue elevation. Presently, the opening is enclosed with a large overhead garage door. To either side of the entrance are two narrow windows. At the south end of this elevation a

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skywalk was added to the second floor in the 1970s. Presently, this skywalk projects from the second floor and extends across NW Eleventh Avenue to an industrial building.

South Elevation

The south elevation is entirely obscured by the addition of a Blitz-Weinhard Brewery warehouse building, yard, and parking lot. A portion of the brick wall can be seen at the east end where a loading dock and parking lot are located. The wall, originally an interior wall, shows evidence of door and window openings which have been enclosed with brick.

Interior

The interior of the Annex presently consists of a single large open space. The roof system is significant for its early and unique structural design. The building is nominal 100' x 200' clear span both directions. The roof trusses span the 100' dimension and the length is divided into 10 bays, 8 equal center bays of approximately 20', and two end bays make up the balance. The trusses are bow-string, simple in concept but unique in design. The top chord is a lattice composite with laminated 2 x 10s for the top and bottom members and an "X" lattice of double 2 x 6s across a 4 x 4; the whole system tied with 1" wrought iron through bolts. The top member appears to be of uniform thickness but the bottom member has as many as six 2x 10s at the end bearings. The bottom chord of the bow-string is two 1 1/4" wrought iron round bars held up by three sag rods. Most likely, the rods are wrought iron as at the time of construction, steel bars were not readily available. The ingenious truss design makes a maximum use of wood, an inexpensive material, and a minimum use of expensive iron.

Two other features are notable in the roof system. The end bays are rounded down to bring the roof below the parapet. This is accomplished by four similar but lighter lattice frames whose upper ends are supported by the end of the main trusses. In addition, there are similar diagonal frames in each corner. The second feature is the three runs of stiffening lattices between the main trusses. These are similar in construction but lighter with a horizontal top member and a concave bottom. This concavity may have been esthetic as the extra labor must have exceeded any material saving.

Finally, there are 2 or 3 x 10 or 12 inch purlins about 30 inches on center resting on the top of the lattice frames and suitably cross braced. The decking is ordinary and probably

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a full four quarter cut for the 30 inch span. Originally, there was a viewing balcony at the second floor. The rock and brick wall structural system is exposed on the interior. The floors are concrete.

Alterations

Most alterations to the building occurred circa 1968.

Exterior: The entrance on the west elevation has been modified. A skywalk has been added to the west elevation.

Interior: The second floor balcony and roof skylights have been removed. Brewery and bottling equipment have been installed over the years. A new opening was cut in the south wall to connect the new warehouse building to the Armory Annex.

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 in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or 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)

Military

Period of Significance

1891-1949

Significant Dates

1891

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

McCaw & Martin

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:

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Statement of Significance

The Portland Oregon National Guard Armory Annex meets National Register Criterion 'A' for its association with the founding of the National Guard in Oregon. Built as an annex to the 1887 Portland National Guard Armory (now demolished), the 1891 building housed the drill hall and rifle range for the regiment units. The building has statewide significance as the first armory built in Oregon for the newly organized Oregon National Guard. It remained in constant use as an armory until 1968 when the building was sold. The Oregon National Guard was involved in the Spanish American War, World War I and II, and the Korean War, as well as fulfilling civic duties for the State of Oregon. The next armory building constructed in the State was erected in Albany in 1910, over twenty years after the Portland Armory and Annex were completed.

In addition to its importance as a military institution, the Armory and Annex is locally significant as it provided early Portlanders with a public hall; a place where armory recreational ball games, plays, dances, shows, gymnastics and circuses were held. The Portland Armory and Annex was a social gathering place for Portland for over 70 years. The building remains in its original location and retains its historic relationship with the surrounding area.

The Portland Oregon National Guard Armory Annex also meets National Register Criterion 'C' as an excellent representation of the Castellated style in Portland. The Annex stands as one of few remaining works by the early Portland architectural firm of McCaw and Martin.

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The Oregon Militia and Oregon National Guard

The Oregon Militia, the forerunner of the Oregon National Guard, dates back to early Oregon history, when the provincial government passed the first militia law in 1843. The militia law was used to form a battalion of mounted riflemen composed of male inhabitants between the ages of 16 and 60. Military units, however, were not formed under this law because of the large presence of French Canadians and Hudson's Bay personnel who did not recognize the current government. A second military bill, passed in 1844, led to the formation of the Oregon Rangers; a fifteen-man force organized to combat Indian uprisings. In 1845, the bill was amended to require one representative from each county to join for the protection of the region.

The first organized militia was formed in December 1847 in response to the Cayuse Indian attack on the Whitman Mission at Waiilatpu. Fifty militia members traveled by boat from Oregon City to Fort Vancouver where an adjunct general was appointed to oversee administration and logistical control of the troops.

In 1849, Oregon achieved territorial status; the federal government assisted the militia by paying for its volunteers and weapons. State laws regarding the militia were redefined in 1857, giving the governor ex-officio Commander in Chief authority along with the power to appoint an adjunct general and staff officers. It also authorized legislation to provide necessary rules and regulations for governing the militia. In 1862, the state formally adopted a military code officially giving the governor power over the militia. A system of cash payments was established in 1865 to encourage volunteer companies to participate in parades.

Uniforms were not supplied to the units in the early years of the militia. The county courts, however, were authorized to pay each company \$50 per month. Armory rent averaged about \$10, thus leaving a balance of \$40 a month which was often spent on libation.

The need for a more organized militia arose in 1887 when anti-Chinese riots occurred. The militia remained organized through the spring and summer as sporadic disturbances continued throughout the city. Because of these disturbances and others around the state, the Oregon Legislature passed a law in May 1887, which authorized the construction of armory buildings in towns of more than ten thousand people. Prominent Portlanders such as Lieutenant Col. C.F. Beebe, William Ladd, Henry J. Corbett, W.B. Ayers, H.J.

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Corbett, and John Lewis were instrumental in the passage of the new law. That same year, construction of the Portland Armory began. Although the 1887 law allowed for the construction of armories, no other armory was built in Oregon until 1910.

The winter of 1887-88, after the armory law was enacted, Col. O. Summers sponsored a more comprehensive law that created the Oregon National Guard. This new law established a framework for the Oregon National Guard and tax to support the units. The Guard's brigade was composed of three regimental districts in the state. The first regiment of infantry, commanded by Colonel C.F. Beebe of Portland, included units from Portland and Astoria, the second regiment included units from the upper Willamette Valley and the southwestern coast, and the third regiment included units from Columbia River Valley and Northeastern Oregon. Within each unit were several companies designated by a letter in the alphabet. A brigade General was appointed by the Governor and guidelines set up for each unit. Each unit, composed of not less than 40 men and no more than 60 men, were provided uniforms and equipment at the state's expense. Each unit was required to meet once a month and at least once a year at a muster camp for instructions.

Activities of the Oregon National Guard

The first action seen by the newly organized Oregon National Guard came with the Spanish American War in 1898. The President requested that one Oregon regiment of infantry be enlisted. A few hours after the order was issued to assemble, seven companies of the first regiment were gathered in the Portland Armory Annex ready to march. The regiment arrived in San Francisco in May 1898 and embarked for the Philippine Islands.

These troops took part in the assault upon the City of Manila and continued on for six months on guard duty in the Philippines. In 1899, the Oregon units saw bitter fighting in the battle of Malabon, Marila and Baliuag. There were 1,630 Oregon infantry men active in the Philippines: 13 were killed in action; 4 died of wounds; 3 were reported missing in action; 2 killed by accident; 43 died of disease; and 84 were wounded in action.

Following the war, the Oregon National Guard was reorganized into a 3rd and 4th Infantry Regiment and a separate battalion of infantry, Battery A, Field Artillery and Troop A, Cavalry. The separate battalion was later absorbed by the regimental

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organization and in December 1911, the 4th Infantry was disbanded to form eight companies of Coast Artillery, Oregon National Guard. The 3rd Infantry then consisted of twelve rifle companies.

With the advent of World War I came another reorganization, the introduction of the Oregon National Guard into federal service. The Oregon National Guard was integrated as part of the 41st Division, with other troops commissioned from Washington, Idaho, Montana and a part of Wyoming. On March 25, 1917, the President called the Oregon 3rd Infantry into service under the direction of General White. This regiment was mobilized overnight and was one of the first National Guard regiments in the country to be ready for service in World War I. Prior to the declaration of war, the 3rd Infantry was utilized in guarding the Interstate Railroad Bridge across the Columbia River and the railroad bridge across the Willamette River, in addition to guarding utility facilities. Mobilization of all remaining Oregon National Guard units into federal service was directed on July 25th, 1917.

By February of 1918, all units of the Oregon National Guard had arrived overseas. Oregon furnished 44,166 citizens to the armed forces of the United States during World War I. Of this number 367 were killed in action. Following World War I, the units of the 41st Infantry Division were returned to their respective states and reorganized in May 1919.

The Oregon National Guard was involved in maintaining battleships in the interim between the two World Wars. With the onset of WWII, the Oregon National Guard took another active role in the war. The 41st Infantry Division was one of the first Infantry Divisions to be called into federal service for the emergency prior to the declaration of war in 1942 and the first division to embark for overseas service in the South Pacific. The unit was also one of the first Divisions to make contact with the Japanese in offensive combat in the South Pacific.

After WWII, the Oregon National Guard was deactivated in 1947 and 1948 but were mobilized again in 1951 as the Korean War mounted. Afterwards the units returned to state control. In 1961, a State Military Department was formed to take over all the functions of the National Guard. Currently, the Governor is the head of the National Guard with an Adjutant General with staff reporting to the Governor. Each community with a sufficient population to support the Guard Unit has a unit assigned to it.

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Under the new law, County Commissioners, Judge John Catlin, Henry Corbett, and J. A. Newell authorized Multnomah County to purchase a block in Couch's Addition in Northwest Portland to build an armory (Multnomah County purchased the land for \$15,250). The land was located between NW 10th and NW 11th and NW Davis and Couch streets. After purchasing the block, the County hired the well-known firm of McCaw and Martin to design the new building. The plans were completed in 1887 and bid for the building were solicited.

Multnomah County awarded a \$32,000 contract to Joseph E Smith in May 1887, to build the new armory. Laid on August 6th, 1887 the cornerstone contained a time capsule. Band music, speeches, and marches were part of the opening festivities. The Armory was completed on January 10, 1888 and subsequently turned over to the Oregon National Guard. The Guard was represented by Col. Charles F. Beebe, Henry Corbett, and the Multnomah County Commissioner. Dignitaries noted that the armory was a "substantial and noble structure".

The massive armory building was built of brick and stone and measured 100 feet by 200 feet with bastions on opposite corners. An article in the August 20, 1890 *Guardian* states that:

The roof is supported from the sides by heavy cross beams and iron rods, giving a drill room on the second floor the entire size of the building, free from posts or other obstructions. The lower floor is divided into two sections by a wide assembly hall, running two-thirds of the way back from the entrance on Ninth Street. The remaining third is partitioned off for the entrance on C Street. On the left of the assembly hall is a large room for the board of officers and five company rooms, occupied by A, E, G, I, and K companies. On the right are the library, colonel's room, field and staff room, headquarters' room, field and staff room, non-commissioned staff room, two company rooms, one occupied by Company C, band room, and a large drill room for squads. In the center of the building is a room for storing ammunition.

The Oregon National Guard quickly outgrew this original building and by 1891, the Annex was constructed. The Armory Building and its Annex, the first in the state, had the newest equipment and facilities. The Annex, designed with the same stone and brick

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construction as the 1887 Armory Building, contained the drill hall. The Annex, measuring 200 feet by 100 feet, was constructed as a large open room with a second floor gallery with 5,000 seats. The gallery seats were used to view public drills, concerts, and athletic events (baseball games). The hall was also used as a mess hall to feed volunteers as they passed through Portland. Below the drill hall (basement) on the north side of the building was a rifle range. The volunteers would be trained regularly on marksmanship. Medals were given for excellence in marksmanship. Each company would use the drill hall once a week to practice the drills and marches in parades.

The Portland National Guard Armory continued in use for the Guard's activities over the next 80 years before the building was sold after being considered obsolete. Articles in the local papers over the years speak of the armory and the efforts to replace it. Efforts to replace the building were cited in early Portland papers. One of the first articles appeared in 1928 when an effort was made to demolish the structure in favor of a new building. As the Depression struck, the effort dwindled. In 1935, local building inspectors deemed the armory unsafe in the event of a fire and in 1940 the *Oregon Journal* editorial called the building obsolete and unfit likening it to an old cow barn.

In 1966, the National Guard Armory sold the building to help finance a new armory. The 1887-91 building was sold for \$300,000 to Blitz-Weinhard Brewing Company who used the Annex for storage. The 1887 Armory was demolished by Blitz-Weinhard in 1968 and the site used for a parking lot and storage tank facility. When the armory was demolished a copper box that held the time capsule was opened. The time capsule included coins, buttons, newspaper clippings, documents, photographs, and calling cards. Although slightly modified on the interior for use as a storage facility, the Portland Armory Annex is intact.

Other Armories in Oregon

Nineteen armories were built in Oregon between 1887 to 1939. The Portland Armory and Annex preceded all other armories by almost 20 years. Of the nineteen armories, only twelve of the buildings remain: Portland (1891); Albany (1910); The Dalles (1911); Ashland (1913); Roseburg (1914); McMinnville (1922); Silverton (1925); Cottage Grove (1931); Newberg (1932-39); Springfield (1932-39); Hillsboro (1932-39); and Klamath Falls (1932-39). Roseburg and Ashland armories are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The 1891 Annex remains and is a lasting reminder of the beginnings of the National Guard in Oregon and represents the oldest armory building in Oregon.

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William McCaw

William F. McCaw designed many of Portland's most prominent late 19th-century buildings. McCaw was born in Dublin, Ireland in March 1850 to John and Martha McCaw. John McCaw, William's father, was a builder and architect who moved his family to Belfast in 1862 to pursue his career. At the age of 12, William took his first drawing lessons and by the age of 15, he started studying architecture with his father. He studied architectural theory for three years, and then studied construction. At the age of 18 years, McCaw designed his first building and supervised its construction.

In 1872, at the age of 22, McCaw left Ireland and traveled to Toronto and secured work as a head draftsman for architect William Irving. McCaw met his wife S.A. Wardlaw, a native of Belfast, Ireland, shortly after arriving in Toronto. The couple married in 1874 and had two children. McCaw worked as a draftsman for three years before starting his own business in Toronto that he managed successfully. In 1881, McCaw moved to Portland, Oregon because of his health. McCaw began his Portland career in the architectural office of Warren Williams and remained in his employment until January 1884, when he started his own architectural office.

While working independently McCaw designed the Portland National Guard Armory, First Presbyterian Church, Grace Methodist Church, Portland Cordage Works, the United Presbyterian Church, and many Portland residences. He remained in business for himself until 1888, and then joined in partnership with Richard F. Martin, establishing the firm of McCaw and Martin. In June 1891, McCaw expanded his partnership with F.M. White forming the partner of McCaw, Martin, & White. The firm became one of the most prominent architectural firms in Portland. The new firm is responsible for designing the well-known Dekum & Reed Block, Portland University buildings, Women's Home, Gilman House, and the Skidmore Block.

William McCaw was a member of the Knight of Pythias and the AOUW. As First Lieutenant and Engineer officer for the First Regiment of the Oregon National Guard, it is logical he would have been awarded the contract for the Armory and Annex. McCaw is not listed in the 1898 business directory or the Oregon death index, suggesting he may have moved from Oregon around 1898 and died in another state.

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Portland
Oregon National Guard Armory Annex
Name of Property

Multnomah County, Oregon
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than an acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

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

2

Zone			Easting						Northing							

3

Zone			Easting						Northing							

4

Zone			Easting						Northing							

See continuation sheet

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 M. Tess

organization Heritage Consulting Group date 11-24-99

street & number 123 NW Second Avenue, Suite 200 telephone (503) 228-0272

city or town Portland state OR zip code 97209

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name Gerding/Edlen Development Company Suite 220

street & number 4650 SW Macadam Ave. telephone (503) 299-6000

city or town Portland state Or zip code 97201

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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

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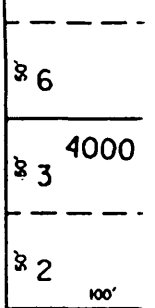
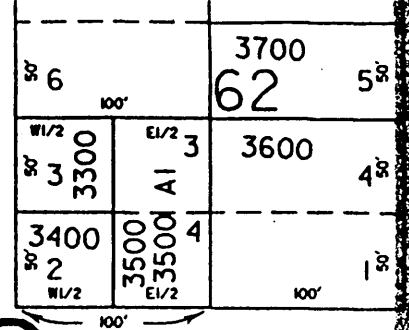
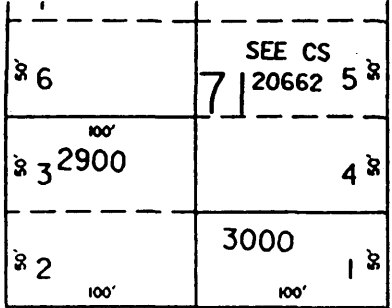
Verbal Description

The nominated area includes the north half of Tax Lot 7500, Lots 5-8, Block 69 in Couch's Addition to Portland, Oregon, Section 33, T1N, R1E, of the Willamette Meridian. The property is located between NW 10th and NW 11th streets in Northwest Portland, Oregon.

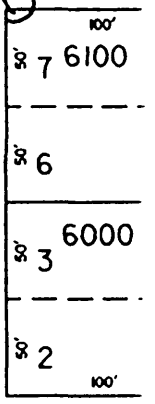
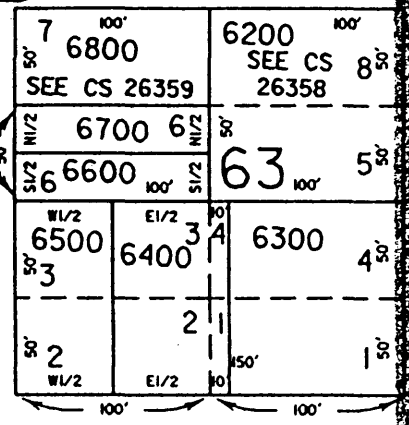
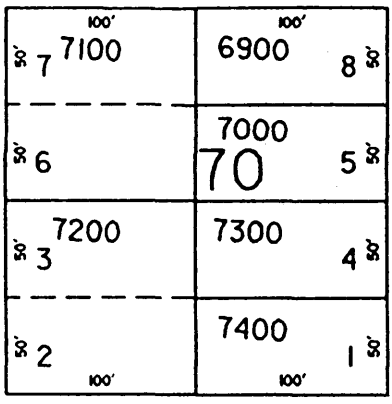
Boundary Justification

The nominated area includes the north half of Tax Lot 7500, Lots 1-4, Block 69. This corresponds to the historic property lines of the Portland Oregon National Guard Armory Annex.

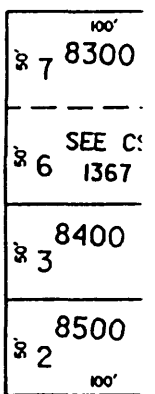
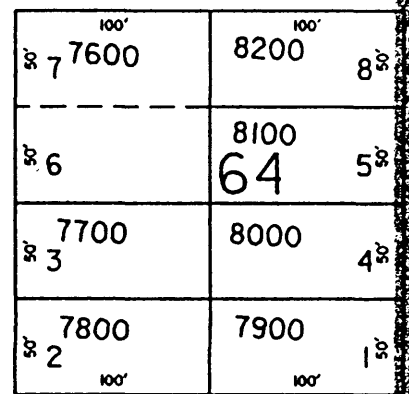
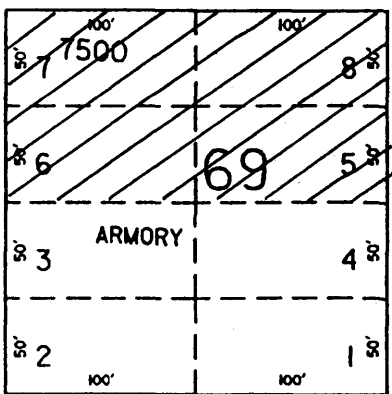
SEE MAP IN IE 33DA



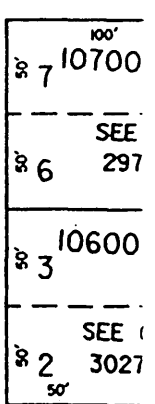
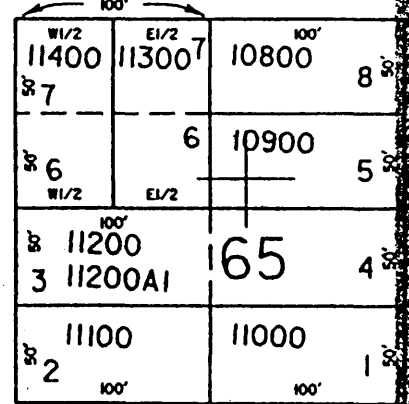
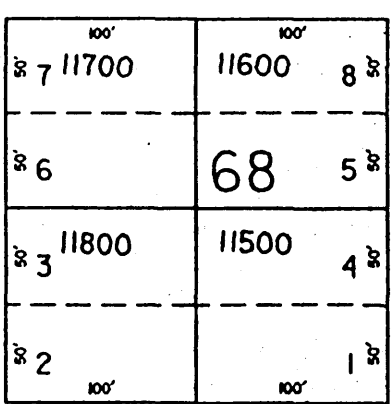
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N.W. (D)

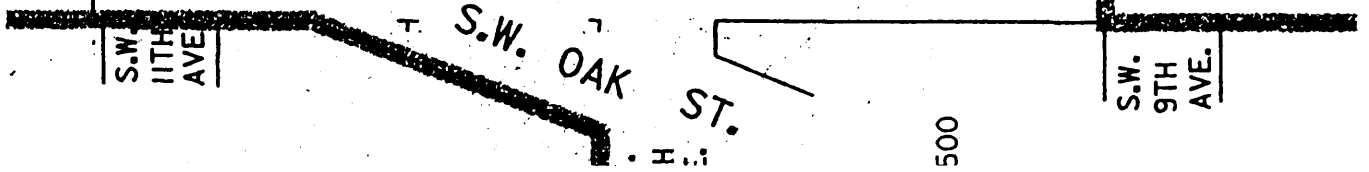


N.W. (C)



W. (B)

APPROX. 1/16 COR.



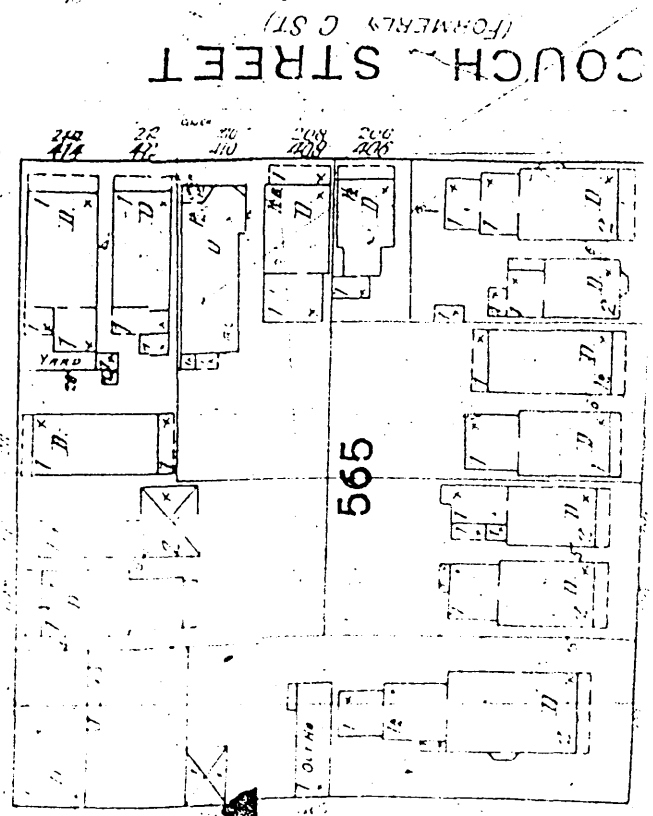
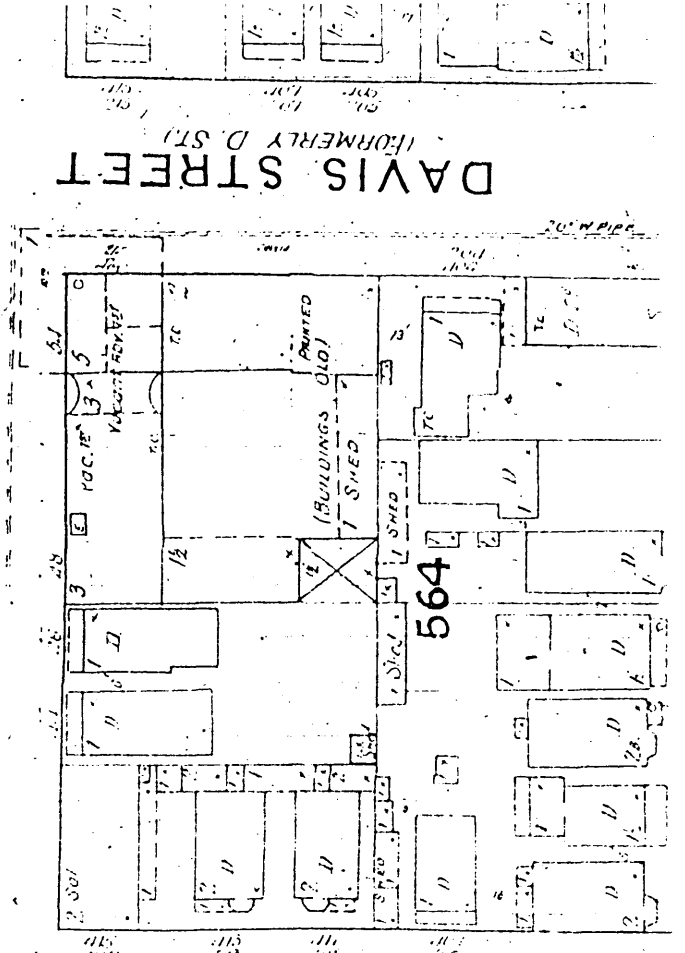
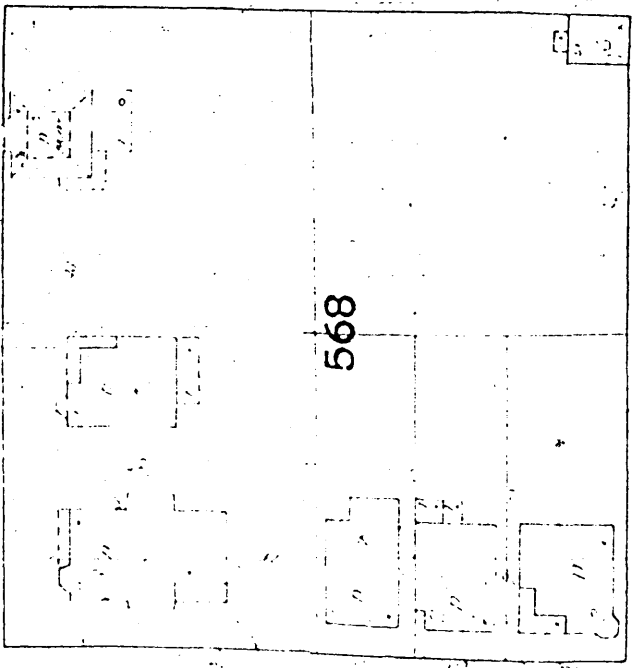
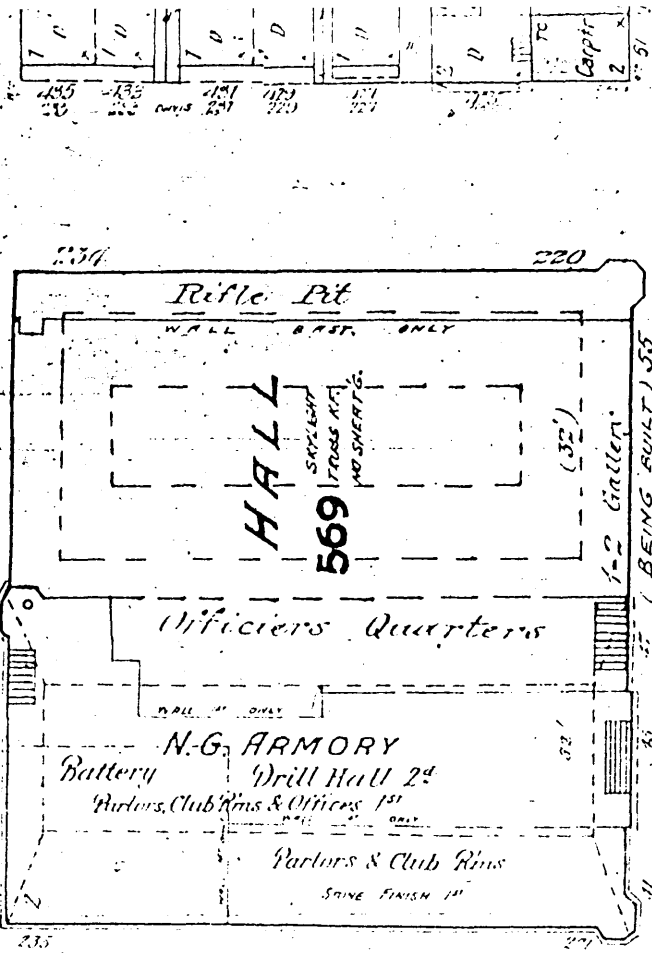
COUCH

9TH

(8TH)

N.W.

BUI



TENTH (FORMERLY N. 9TH ST.)

1895 Sanborn MAP