

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUL 6 1979 SEP 7 1979
DATE ENTEREDNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Lynn Armory

AND/OR COMMON

Lynn National Guard Armory

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 36 South Common Street

CITY, TOWN

Lynn

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Sixth

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

025

COUNTY

Essex

CODE

009

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☒ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Edward F. King, Governor

STREET & NUMBER

Massachusetts State House, Beacon Street

CITY, TOWN

Boston

VICINITY OF

STATE

Massachusetts

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Essex County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Essex County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Salem

STATE

Massachusetts

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth #525

DATE

1978

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts

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

Located on a level lot facing the Lynn Common, the Lynn Armory is a Romanesque Revival structure built of red brick with sandstone trimmings. The building is made up of a head house which has a drill shed attached to its rear (south) wall.

Head House: Containing the building's major facades (east, north & west), the Head House is rectangular in plan with rounded bays at each of its four corners. It rises from a plinth of rock-faced granite and is constructed of pressed brick which has been pointed with tinted mortar to emphasize the walls' appearance of solidity. The roof is nearly flat and is masked by a crenellated parapet on its east, north and west sides. Windows of the head house (except where otherwise noted) are made up of 1/1 sash, the top half of which is arched; the sash is set in brick surrounds with arched heads, and sandstone sills.

Head House - North Elevation: Facing South Common Street, the north elevation is nearly symmetrical, containing the building's major entry centered at the first story. The entry is set behind a wide arch with a sandstone architrave and has modern wooden doors (mid-20th c.) On either side of the entry, below grade level, are light wells which allow access to the cellar. Set on each of the entry at the first story is a single window. Second and third stories of the facade each contain three sets of paired windows. The third story windows are set in three blind arches. Framing the north elevation are two circular corner towers, 22' in diameter, each of which rises four stories to a crenellated parapet built out from the wall on a corbelled base. The northeast tower has evenly spaced windows at its first three stories and oculi at its fourth story; the northwest tower has similar fenestration, except where blocked by an attached stair tower and oriels which connect to the second story of the side tower. At the third story of the northwest tower is a carved sandstone plaque of the state seal of Massachusetts.

Head House - West Elevation: Facing an empty lot, the west elevation is framed by the structure's northwest corner tower and by a smaller rounded bay at the structure's southwest corner. The west elevation is symmetrical, consisting at both the first and second stories of a narrow center bay with one window per floor flanked on each side by a wider outer bay with two windows per floor. The second story windows are set in three blind arches which correspond in widths to the bays below. At the third story are three pairs of windows surmounted by corbelling which supports the parapet above. Fenestration of the small southwest corner bay is irregular consisting of one window at each story set in positions which spiral from the base of the bay to its top.

Head House - East Elevation: Facing a neighboring building (approx. 15' distant), the east elevation is a mirror image of the west elevation.

Head House - South Elevation: Undecorated, the south elevation is mostly covered by the drill shed. Near the southeast corner, a square-plan chimney rises along the exterior of the south elevation.

Drill Shed: Constructed of a porous red brick and centered on the rear wall of the head house, the drill shed is nearly as wide as the head house. The shed is approximately

(continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JUL 6 1979

DATE ENTERED

SEP 7 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

140' long, divided into four bays on the exterior by buttresses; each bay contains two arched windows. The drill shed is enclosed by a steeply pitched slate roof and has a stepped gable at its south end. The south elevation of the drill shed has a small wing (with half-hip roof) at its first story. Above the wing are three arched windows which provide light for the shed's interior hall. Alterations to the drill shed are minor, consisting of the enlargement of two windows on the east wall, both of which have been converted to doors.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
— PREHISTORIC	— ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	— COMMUNITY PLANNING	— LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	— RELIGION
— 1400-1499	— ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	— CONSERVATION	— LAW	— SCIENCE
— 1500-1599	— AGRICULTURE	— ECONOMICS	— LITERATURE	— SCULPTURE
— 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	— EDUCATION	☒ MILITARY	— SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
— 1700-1799	— ART	— ENGINEERING	— MUSIC	— THEATER
☒ 1800-1899	— COMMERCE	— EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	— PHILOSOPHY	— TRANSPORTATION
— 1900-	— COMMUNICATIONS	— INDUSTRY	— POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	— OTHER (SPECIFY)
		— INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1893 ~~1888~~ ARCHITECT Wheeler & Northend

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lynn Armory retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association. Built in 1893 to replace the Franklin Street Armory of 1888, the present Lynn Armory is among the best examples of Romanesque Revival architecture in the city. In addition, the Lynn Armory is one of several important Victorian public buildings located at the east end of the Common, all of which served to make this area the city's major institutional center. Included in this group are (or were) the Old Lynn City Hall (1867-1868 - demolished); St. Stephen's Memorial Church (1881) potential NR); and the Lynn Public Library (1898-1900 - potential NR).

Unlike the many Romanesque revival factories of Lynn's business district, most of which have Romanesque decorative details on their facades only, the Lynn Armory was designed to carry its decoration around three sides, leaving only the drill shed without Romanesque decorative details. In May of 1893, plans drawn by Wheeler Northend were accepted by the Commonwealth and construction began in summer of 1893. Currently in original condition, the building consists of a "head house" of approximately 68' (facade) by 86' (depth) to which a drill shed of 140' length is attached at the rear (south). At the time of the building's dedication, local newspapers boasted that it was among the "best arranged" armories in Massachusetts due to the efforts of "Commissioner Leighton" who oversaw construction and who allowed the local militia companies to work out the building program with the architects, rather than forcing the architects to work within more restrictive state plans for armory construction.

The Armory's architects, Wheeler & Northend, were a Lynn firm which formed around 1886 and dissolved around 1893, after which Holman K. Wheeler continued a private practice in Lynn and Northend moved elsewhere. The years of the firm's existence co-incided with a period of growth for Lynn as well as a period of building activity which followed the Fire of 1889 that destroyed the city's business district. During the rebuilding, Wheeler and Northend designed a large number of Romanesque Revival style blocks of which the New Item Building (1890 - demolished) was the best known. Elsewhere in Lynn the firm designed the Lynn High School (Romanesque Revival style - 1890 - demolished) and a number of small scale commercial blocks. The scale of the Armory and its prominent site marks its as the firm's most important surviving design.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

City of Lynn. Building Department. 1893 Building Permits
Lynn City Item. May 12, 1893, p. 7; June 8, 1894, p. 2.
Lynn Scrapbooks. (unpublished - at the Lynn Public Library) Vol. 32, p. 40;
Vol. 37, p. 8.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 17,256 sq. ft.

QUADRANGLE NAME Lynn

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 33 9 30 0 4 7 10 2 8 4 0

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please refer to the attached assesor's map on which the boundaries are deliniated.
Lot #31 of block #732.

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

Candace Jenkins, National Registrar Coordinator with

Brian Pfeiffer, Consultant
City of Lynn

ORGANIZATION

Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

April, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

294 Washington Street

TELEPHONE

(617) 727-8470

CITY OR TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Patricia L. Weslowski 6/25/79

TITLE Executive Director, Mass. Historical Commission

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Forrest C. Neal
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

9-7-79

ATTEST:

Margaret Ouellet
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

7/4/79

parcel
125,

taken from: Lynn Assessors' Maps
Sheet #26

JUL 6 1979

CHUR

BOND

ST.

308.89

383.49

Parcel 2B
75,702



162.53

52,969

WASHINGTON SCHOOL

175

STREET

Parcel 2C
77,223

BLOSSOM

429.52

12,440

Lot #31
of Block
#732

17,256

Lynn
Armory

13,794

7-9

123.19

30-32
4534

80.33

12,736

106
44

SOUTH COMMON STREET

PARK

2906 2

2505

4095

B2

11328

1840

6672

3278

3091

6849

48-52
66

11,550

Parcel 2D
7995

52,270

245.59

221.63

145

SEP 7 1979

SEP 8 1979



Property

Lynn Armory

State

Mass. (Essex)

Working Number

7.6.79.1629

TECHNICAL

Photos 1Maps 1

CONTROL

OK ^{pl} 7.9.79

The most important surviving design of a local firm, this red brick armory is one of the ~~most important~~ best examples of the Romanesque Revival style in Lynn. Its interior deviates from the restrictive state plans for armory construction because a Commissioner ~~highly~~ permitted local militia companies to work with the architectural firm, Wheeler and Northend.

HISTORIAN

Accept &
Order
9/4/79

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Order
9/5/79

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up

Federal Register Entry

10-2-79

Send-back _____

Re-submit _____

Entered SEP 7 1979



Lynn Armory
Lynn, Mass.
Brian Pfeiffer 1979
147 Brattle St., Cambridge

Photo #1
View facing southeast

SEP 7 1979

*Essex
County*

JUL 6 1979

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

LYNN QUADRANGLE
MASSACHUSETTS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

Lynn Armory
Lynn, Mass.

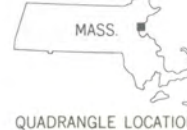
UTM REFERENCES:
19/339300/4702840



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1939. Topography by plane-table surveys 1943. Revised from
aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts 240(1970), 246
and 248 (1971). This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Boundaries in tidewater areas from information supplied by
Massachusetts Department of Public Works
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



SCALE 1:24,000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 9.2 FEET



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface ————
Secondary highway, hard surface ————
Unimproved road ————
Interstate Route ————
U. S. Route ————
State Route ————

LYNN, MASS.
N4222.5—W7052.5/7.5

1970

AMS 6868 IV NW—SERIES W814





**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02108
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

June 25, 1979

Mr. Ronald Greenberg, Acting Chief
Registration Branch
OAHP, Heritage, Conservation &
Recreation Service
440 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20243



Dear Mr. Greenberg:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

- BOSTON - Arthur J. Lynn (Schooner)
- HANOVER - Stetson House
- LAWRENCE - Downtown Lawrence Historic District
- LYNN - Lynn Armory
- LYNN - St. Stephen's Church
- SOUTHBRIDGE - Center Village Historic District

All have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Sincerely,

Christine Boulding

Christine Boulding
Survey Director

CB/leaf
Encl:

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

MASSACHUSETTS

STATE

Date Entered SEP 7 1979

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Stetson House	Hanover Plymouth County
Centre Village Historic District	Southbridge Worcester County
St. Stephen's Memorial Church	Lynn Essex County
Lynn Armory	Lynn Essex County

Also Notified

Honorable Paul G. Tsongas

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Honorable Gerry E. Studds
Honorable Edward P. Boland
Honorable Nicholas Mavroules

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Patricia L. Weslowski
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

NR Byers/bjr 9/12/79

For further information, please call the National Register at (202) 242-6100