

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



295

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

other names/site number Klamath County Museum

2. Location

street & number 1451 Main Street

☐ not for publication

city or town Klamath Falls

☐ vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Klamath code 035 zip code 97601

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide X local

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Oregon SHPO

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain):

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium
Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

Category of Property

(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

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DEFENSE: armory

RECREATION AND CULTURE: auditorium

SOCIAL: meeting hall

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: museum

EDUCATION: library

SOCIAL: meeting hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT: Art Deco

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: BRICK; TERRA COTTA

roof: ASPHALT

other:

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Klamath Co., Oregon

Name of Property

County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Klamath County Armory and Auditorium, located at 1451 Main Street in downtown Klamath Falls, Klamath County, Oregon was built in 1935 as an armory and auditorium in the Art Deco style. The large, two-story with partial basement building has a vaulted roof over a central drill hall. The building is constructed of various materials including wood, local brick, concrete, and hollow clay tile. The foundation is poured concrete under the walls with concrete piers sitting on natural soil under the central drill hall. The load-bearing walls on the sides of the arch have a steel framework with brick and/or block infill and are strengthened with reinforced concrete beams and steel anchors. The building is designed in the Art Deco style with an emphasis on tall windows, engaged columns, and stylized metal and cast-stone decorations on the exterior. The exterior of the building displays multi-colored, rough-textured brick with facing brickwork that includes six bands of alternating flat and projecting courses capped with a cornice at the roofline. Multi-light windows with Art Deco metal spandrels between the lower- and upper-floor window openings, and decorative cast-stone pilasters exaggerate the vertical feeling of the building. The vaulted roof with engaged columns extends over the interior central drill hall of the building while varying levels of flat roofs cover the remainder of the building. A small addition off the rear of the building continues the use of brick and cornice lines. The property contains one contributing building, the Armory and Auditorium, and one non-contributing building, the Van Brimmer Cabin.

Narrative Description

Setting

Klamath Falls, Klamath County, Oregon is located in south-central Oregon approximately 25 miles north of the California border on the east side of the Cascade Mountains. The Klamath County Armory and Auditorium stands at the intersection of Spring and Main Streets in Klamath Falls. Main Street, the east-west artery, makes a wide turn toward the south in the 1100 block, so that the Armory faces southwest.¹ This is an old commercial section of the city, separated from the Mills Addition residential area to the south by the railroad tracks. At the opposite end of Main Street, at the Link River, was the location of the original Linkville, later to become Klamath Falls. The commercial center spread east from the Link River, which 'links' Upper Klamath Lake with Lake Ewauna and through it the Klamath River. The early 20th century town was bounded on the east by the A Canal and on the south by the railroad which came to Klamath Falls in 1909. The original and current Amtrak Station (built 1909) is three blocks south and one block east of the Armory. Most of Spring Street is industrial.

The Armory occupies the entire southeast portion of Block 8 in the Hot Springs Addition. This land was donated by both the city of Klamath Falls and Klamath County for construction of the Armory. Historic commercial and retail buildings are to the south of the Armory on Main Street, with an old Coca-Cola Bottling Plant to the east across Spring Street. To the immediate west of the Armory are commercial buildings and a fire station, all built prior to the construction of the Armory.² Farther west up Main Street are the historic 1929 Art Deco and Egyptian Revival Balsiger Ford Building, the 1930 Elk Hotel, and the 1925 Oregon Bank Building.³

A front walk flanked by grass lawns and a large Silver-Leaf Maple tree extends to the main entrance of the Armory and Auditorium. Approximately 50' to the southeast of the front entrance stands the historic 1864 Van Brimmer Cabin.⁴ Because the cabin does not date to the period of significance, it is considered a non-contributing building. Large volcanic

¹ Each facade is described by the closest cardinal compass point.

² These buildings include a new silkscreen business called Trekker Designs, that previously was the Mars Hotel and before that the Miller Photography Office (1910); the c. 1907 Klamath Land Development Company building, and Fire Station No. 1, built in 1931 by Howard R. Perrin, Architect.

³ The Oregon Bank Building (905 Main Street) was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1987.

⁴ The Van Brimmer Cabin was obtained from the National Park Service and moved to this location after the Armory was converted to a museum. There is a possibility of its return to that agency. The cabin occupies approx. 289 square feet.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

Native American grinding stones (also moved here after 1970) sit on each side of the main entrance, and flower beds in front of the Armory are filled with native and domestic plants. On the far west side of the property is outdoor exhibit space.

General Characteristics

The 124' x 165' two-story, with partial basement, Armory and Auditorium rests on a concrete foundation.⁵ The building footprint contains 15,359 square feet with a total square footage of three floors at 25,576 square feet. The foundation in the large truck entrance and east into the central drill hall is steel-reinforced concrete, designed to accommodate heavy artillery pieces while the rest of the central drill hall is supported by concrete piers set on natural soil. Additional piers are under the balconies on both sides. Architectural conservator Frederick Walters notes how "the construction of the building encompasses a variety of materials, including brick, steel, wood, reinforced concrete and hollow clay tile."⁶ The primary load-bearing walls on both sides of the central drill hall contain a two-story steel framework with structural clay tile infill in the first story under the arches and brick above. Walters notes that "the arched roof is of wooden construction. The arches bear on steel plates at the sidewalls, which in turn are anchored in a reinforced concrete beam. Anchor bolts extend down through the arch foot and concrete beam into the brick wall below. Steel tie rods span between the bases of each wooden arch."⁷ The mechanically laminated arches are vertically laminated with short boards and sustained by tie rods.

The brick walls are built with "ruggled" (rough textured) local bricks of several colors from the Klamath Brick and Tile Company. While the earliest blue prints specify "Flemish Bond" brickwork, the walls are largely hollow clay tile and bricks with facing brickwork that utilizes the American or common bond system: one row of headers to five rows of stretchers. A decorative motif of six bands of alternating flat and projecting horizontal courses of brickwork under the cream-colored metal cornice goes around the whole building, except for the projecting entrances. The large, 4-over-4, double-hung windows have bottom ledges made of a single course of vertical brick ends (rowlocks). This is repeated under other windows on all sides of the building. There is also a single row of vertical bricks (soldiers) serving as a lower terminus to the brickwork of much of the exterior wall. Walters continues: "The structure is a quiet expression of the Art Deco style popular during this period. There is a vertical emphasis expressed in the tall windows and the engaged columns. The composition has a hard edge, angular character, and uses metal spandrel panels, and stylized cast-stone decoration."⁸

A large vaulted roof covers the central drill hall of the Armory with the remainder of the building covered by flat roofs. The single-story, west side Officer's Rooms and Enlisted Men's facilities and the north and south wings of the east facade have the lowest level of the flat roofs. While the cornice material edging the meeting of the balcony walls and the vaulted roof implies a second roofline, the east and west wings of the south facade, the stage, and Apartment/Plotting Room rise higher to a true second-story roofline. The projecting center of the south facade rises higher still. This is crowned by the vaulted roof over the central drill hall. The rooflines move inward toward the center of the building as they move upward. The south face of the vault has six multi-paned windows filling the arch; these windows are separated by vertical pillars that thrust upward through the top of the arch. The north end of the vault is brick. On top of the vaulted roof is a large skylight. The upper west side of the building contains a door opening from the balcony onto the first-story roof. Doors at each end of the Apartment/Plotting Room access respective flat roofs over the north and south wings of the east facade. All three doors with roof access have been shortened by about one foot, creating very tall jambs in order to keep standing water on the flat roofs from coming into the building. Also, overflow holes were drilled into the outer edges of the flat roofs to allow for drainage and to prevent overload from weight.

The trim around the wood windows, at the roofline, and on and around the doors matches the scrolls, cast-stone eagles, helmeted soldiers and fluted pilasters above them, and beside the front doors. This creates a unified decorative scheme that includes even the mortar between the multi-colored bricks, while the patterned placement of the multi-colored bricks enriches the solid surface. This is complemented by rows of X-patterned windows above the public entrances. The very formal and geometric floral designs on the metal spandrels express Art Deco at its most military. The exterior of the building captures some of the New Deal era's confidence: solid and safe, but accessible, as welcoming as a community center as it is upright and strong as an armory.

⁵ The partial basement was originally planned as a rifle range.

⁶ Frederick L. Walters, *Architectural Conservation Assessment. Klamath County Museum, Klamath Falls, Oregon*. Prepared for the Klamath County Museum under The National Institute of Conservation, Conservation Assessment Program. Independence, Oregon, 2001, 2.

⁷ Walters, 2.

⁸ Walters, 2.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium
Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon
County and State

Exterior Description

South (Front) Facade

The Klamath County Armory and Auditorium has two principal facades: the front (south) and east side. The main, front facade projects outward and upward from the rest of the south side creating the impression of a building with east and west wings. The projecting facade has a wide, recessed, main entranceway, with large glass windows and two glass doors filling the space of the original three sets of wooden doors. Three rows of multi-paned windows with X-patterned muntins fill a large transom that spans the width of the entryway. On both sides of the recessed entrance are angled, fluted, engaged pilasters that reach from the base of the doors to the top of the transom. Above the transom the letters spelling "KLAMATH COUNTY MUSEUM" are attached to the facade.

At the corners of the projecting facade are angled, fluted, engaged pilasters from the cornice halfway down the building ending in cast-stone, partial figures of helmeted soldiers on brick pedestals. In front of the facade, but attached, are two, 4'-high, concrete abutments holding metal lamps rising out of large caliber cartridges. On the southeast corner, low on the wall, is a plaque that records the date of construction and the names of the architect and the building committee.

Lower-floor windows on either side of the projecting facade are 4-over-4, double-hung, wood-sash. Second-floor windows consist of two, fixed, aluminum-sash windows, and three, double-light, hopper-over-fixed, aluminum-sash windows. Metal spandrel panels separate these lower- and upper-floor window openings.⁹ At the center of the top of the front facade is a cast-stone eagle with a projecting body and widespread wings that echoes the projecting facade and side wings. The great vaulted roof is stepped back from the front of the building, but still carries the analogy with the lifted head of the eagle rising above the brickwork of the facade.

The east and west "wings" of the front facade of the building also have first- and second-story windows separated by metal spandrel panels with the same geometric Art Deco relief decoration as the projecting facade. The lower-floor windows are 4-light, wood-sash, hopper-windows, and while the upper-floor windows are 4-over-4, double-hung, wood-sash.

Entrances at the southwest and southeast corners of the front facade project at a 45 degree angle from the body of the building with 4-foot high, concrete abutments and recessed entryways with stepped-back brick walls mimicking the fluted pilasters at the front entranceway. The southeast corner entrance consists of double-doors with a transom of two rows of multi-light windows with X-patterned muntins. The southwest corner entrance is bricked-in but the stepped-back brick walls are still visible. Cast-stone scrollwork adorns each entryway on the projecting overhang.

East Facade

The east facade also contains an east facade entrance that projects out beyond and above the rest of the east side, creating the illusion of north and south "wings." This projecting facade consists of the same five equally spaced windows in the upper-story and the outermost windows are separated from the four-paned windows below by a metal spandrel panel with the same relief decoration as on the front. The recessed entrance doors are flanked by angled, fluted, engaged pilasters. Cast-stone partial figures of helmeted soldiers on brick pedestals decorate the corners with angled, fluted, engaged pilasters above. There is a single vertical band of bricks (soldiers) above each of the upper-story windows, and a cast-stone eagle flies at the center of the upper wall with its wings up against the cornice. The east entrance is half as wide as the main entrance facade and contains a set of double-doors. This entrance allows access into the central drill hall, to the east side hallway north and south, and to the stairway to the east side balcony, Plotting Room, and Apartment.

The north and south "wings" of the east side of the Armory are one-story high and each has four, 9-over-9, double-hung, wood-sash windows. Alternating flat and projecting courses of brickwork run horizontally across the top of the windows up to the cornice on both "wings." The rise of the projecting front facade, arched roof, and clerestory windows of the east balcony can be seen above the one-story north and south "wings." The clerestory consists of two sets of three, 6-light, awning-style windows that tip out from the bottom. These windows have embedded wire mesh. The north end of the second-story Plotting Room includes a door that opens onto flat-roofed area of the south "wing." This pattern of a door close to the balcony with two windows toward the street is echoed on the south end of the second-story Apartment.

⁹ The blue prints specify lead spandrels.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Klamath Co., Oregon

Name of Property

County and State

Another angled entrance is at the northeast corner of the building which leads up a short stair to the kitchen, central drill hall, and the Banquet and Instruction Room. This corner entrance is the same as the southeast corner entrance, but with only one row multi-paned windows with X-patterned muntins exposed. Stairs, with a concrete ramp beside them, lead up to the double-door entrance.

North (Rear) Facade

The rear facade is similar to the front and east facades with the middle portion of the facade extending (but not projecting) to a second story, giving the impression of east and west "wings." A narrow chimney rises above the kitchen. A small stairway extends down the east end of the back of the building to an exterior door into the basement. Above these stairs are three, 6-over-6, double-hung, wood-sash windows placed next to each other. Just west of these windows are two, 1-over-1, double-hung, wood-sash windows. There is a double-door opening into the stage as well as two more 1-over-1, double-hung, wood-sash windows for the westernmost dressing room. A small, one-story, brick addition that retains compatible materials and features of the main building is also located off the rear facade. A brick chimney attached to the addition rises up the middle of the facade.

West Facade

The west facade faces a platted alleyway and the sides of neighboring buildings and does not mimic the projecting facades of the front and east sides. A large garage door is located in the north end, flanked by four, multi-light windows with louvered vents. These windows and the windows in the locker room and toilets are multi-paned with wire mesh embedded in the glass.¹⁰ The west side balcony clerestory windows are awning windows like the east side of the balcony and also have embedded wire mesh. The Captain's Room and the Orderly's Room have paired sets of 6-over-6, double-hung, wood-sash windows. There is a transom window over the single exterior door near the south end of the west side of the building into the Lieutenant's Room.

An open, wooden lean-to with a metal roof is attached to a portion of the west facade. The lean-to was created for outdoor exhibit space after the Armory was converted to a museum. Close by are two, open, wooden, gabled-roof structures that were also built to shelter large items in the museum's collection.

Alterations to the Exterior

When the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium was converted to a museum in 1969, the skylight was boxed-in with steel siding and the arch windows were covered with spray-on foam to protect museum artifacts from light. The clerestory windows on the east and west sides were painted black. In 2001 the black paint was removed from these windows and in 2006 UV film was applied to them. In the front facade, large panes of glass now replace the two outside sets of double-doors. The central doors were replaced with glass doors. All five of the windows in the upper-story of the front facade have been replaced with aluminum windows. The east facade entrance is now only a double-door, and the third door and the decorative multi-paned transom are boarded up. At the southwest corner, the opening that held the original double-doors has been bricked-in to create an interior vault.¹¹ At the northeast corner, a ramp has been added next to the stairway for wheelchair access to the kitchen/Banquet/Instruction Room. The large truck entrance doors on the northwest end of the building have been replaced with an overhead garage door. The eastern window into the Quartermaster's/Storage Room has been bricked-in. Metal security have been placed over most first-story windows.

In 1975, geothermal heating was installed and a city-operated reinjection well and control structure were built at the rear of the building. The alternating horizontal level and projecting courses of brickwork under the cornice was copied on the brick control structure for continuity.¹²

A lean-to roof with open wire fencing forming an enclosed exhibit space is attached to the west side of the building. Another roofed, open, wire fencing structure is located south and west of the lean-to creating a second enclosed exhibit space. Both of these wire structures were built soon after the building was converted to a museum.

¹⁰ The two windows in the Gun Stack Room have Burglar-Proof sashes.

¹¹ See photograph #11 of bricked in southwest entrance.

¹² The conversion to geothermal heat is credited with saving the building because of the cost of heating with oil. See photograph #10 for the continuation of the horizontal decorative banding on the addition.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

Interior Description

The main floor interior of the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium includes a lobby, public restrooms with large closets at each end of the lobby, a large central drill hall, a public hallway on the east side of the central drill hall with two large meeting rooms on the east side, and a private hallway on the west side with offices and general support (showers, toilets, drying room and locker room) and special support (weapon and ammunition storage) rooms on the west. On the north end of the central drill hall is the stage, flanked by dressing rooms, kitchen and supply storage.

The east entrance separates the two, large meeting rooms on the east side with a wide corridor to a double-door entry into the central drill hall. The southernmost of these two rooms is the Battery Club Room and the northernmost is the Banquet and Instruction Room. The Battery Club Room was provided with a folding door that could be pulled across the middle to create two smaller rooms as needed. A large stairway off of this corridor accesses the east side balcony and Plotting Room/Apartment. There is a large closet beneath the stair. At the northeast corner of the building is the kitchen.¹³ At the middle of the north end of the building is the stage area. It is divided into three parts: a central stage with dressing rooms on either side. Brick piers topped with cream-colored newels flank the cream-colored proscenium arch against a brick wall, continuing the color scheme from the exterior. The wooden floor of the stage has a facing panel toward the audience that is decorated with a scallop design.

At the northwest corner of the building is the Quartermaster's Room/Supply Storage area. Just south of this room is the large truck entrance that leads east through very tall and wide double-doors (each one is a hinged two-part door) into the central drill hall. A short hallway to the north leads to the Quartermaster's/Storage Room (left) or downstairs into the partial basement (right). A double-door leading south out of the truck area passes by the Gun Stack Room door and into the locker room. From the locker room there is a large double-door into the central drill hall directly opposite the east entrance. A private hallway parallel to the central drill hall opens off the locker room to the Officer's Rooms. The shower, drying room, and toilets are located between the officer's rooms and the locker room and are accessed by a single entrance from the private hallway. A second door accesses an interior corridor that connects the Orderly's Room, Lieutenant's Room and the Captain's Room. The private hallway and the interior corridor both have doors at their southern ends that open into the east end of the lobby by the southeast entrance.

Frederick Walters notes:

The structure had a centralized, large drill hall with an impressive arched roof. This central hall was open from first (ground) floor to the underside of the arch. A floor to ceiling foyer, lit by a series of tall, south-facing windows, created a dramatic entry to the building.¹⁴ Surrounding the central core on three sides were two-story wings that provided ample circulation, exit paths, and various secondary support rooms. These support rooms were offices, meeting rooms, kitchens and dining areas, and storage areas. Accessed from the second (upper) floor, a continuous series of raised wooden spectator seating was provided on three sides of the central drill hall. At the north end of the drill hall, a wide stage with modest fly drop accommodated performance, lecture, and entertainment opportunities.¹⁵

The foyer has a small room on each side (under the stairs to the south balcony) for ticket sales. The cutout design of the top of the doors of these rooms, like the top of the stylized fan motif on the spandrels, matches the cutout design above the lobby windows and compliments the ornate painted designs on the Art Deco ceiling.¹⁶ The ceiling rises from 9 ½' on the north side of the lobby (toward the central drill hall) to 14 ½' at mid-lobby, and then it is flat across to the south side. The 20' angled portion of the ceiling has eight panels containing paintings that include stylized arrowhead motifs. On both sides of each panel are green stripes with white chevrons in them. The panels are separated by massive beams which are now painted white. The Lobby walls are covered in green ceramic tile up to about 4' above the floor. The smooth green tile wainscot continues on the lower parts of the stairways in the lobby, and the tile reappears throughout the building as a unifying decorative motif. Two glass doors with glass panels on each side lead from the lobby into the central drill hall/auditorium. To the left of the doors is the public coat room accessed from the lobby.

¹³ See blueprints.

¹⁴ The lobby ceiling slants upward from one story on the north side to one and one-half stories on the south.

¹⁵ Walters, 1.

¹⁶ See photograph #13 of the ceiling and photograph #14 of the Ticket Room doors in the Lobby.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

Stairs at each end of the foyer lead to the balconies. The wide, wooden banisters end in wooden volutes. Another set of stairs leads up from the landings to the top of the bench seating at the south end of the building. In addition an Apartment (for a janitor/maintenance person) and storage area and a Plotting Room were built on the upper-floor on the east side. These are above the two, large, ground-floor meeting rooms. At the north end of the hall, smaller stairways on both sides of the stage access the balconies from the floor of the central drill hall. Long walkways run the length of the building on the second-floor level on both sides of the central drill hall and the balconies are accessed by short stairs down into the rows of built-in bench seating. The side balconies consist of three rows of bench seating which wraps around the southeast and southwest corners; there are nine rows of bench seating at the south end of the hall. Another large stairway comes up from the east entrance.

Along both sides of the central drill hall on the ground floor (under the balconies) are compartments with doors that held the many chairs that were used in the facility and the vents for the heating system. Inside the central drill hall on the southeast end there were two small rooms under the balcony for sound and other equipment storage (basketballs especially) and refreshments, designated as Baseline Stations. These are the eastern reflection of the space that is the coat room on the west side of the doors. There are sets of doors entering the central drill hall from the southwest and southeast corners of the building that create conduits into the interior from the exterior corner entrances. These southeast corner interior doors have glass windows in their upper halves.

The original wood floor had basketball court lines and anytime the building was not specifically in use or closed at night, it was available for young people to come in and play basketball. There are wood floors in the hallways, offices and most public rooms, except for the floor tile in the lobby, kitchen, stairs and stairway landings. The showers, toilets and locker rooms, Quartermaster's Office and Storage Room, Gun Stack Room and the Truck entrance have concrete floors.

Alterations and Additions

When the Armory and Auditorium was converted to a museum, the southwest corner entrance was bricked-in and a wall built from the wall of the men's bathroom to the wall of the interior corridor, creating a vault that retains the two steps down that led to the old entrance/exit. The three sets of double-doors in the south (front) facade were reduced to one set of glass doors and the remaining space was filled in with large, glass windows. The stairways at both ends of the lobby were also walled-in, restricting access to the upper-floor. The green tile wainscot in the lobby was covered with wooden paneling and painted white.¹⁷ Pine walls throughout the building were painted white. Much green tile about the building was covered or removed. The cutout design in the lobby walls above the windows was covered as well. The five wooden doors leading from the lobby into the central drill hall were removed and the space was filled with glass panels and two glass doors.

The east hallway was partitioned into a storage vault (at the south end) and two storage closets opening into the respective meeting rooms. Restrooms were built into the hallway spaces flanking the east entrance. The Battery Club Room was divided into two rooms (where the sliding divider was located). Another small room was built into the southeast corner of that (once large) meeting room. A small storage room was built on the south end of the Banquet and Instruction Room for the use of groups that rented the room over long periods of time.

The chair compartments on the east and west walls of the central drill hall were converted to exhibit spaces by replacing the doors with glass and wood faces. The large double-door entrance to the central drill hall from the west side was covered over (the doors are still extant) by a continuous display along the west wall. The five doors on the north side of the lobby leading into the central drill hall were replaced with two glass doors and glass partitions. Freestanding, non-permanent walls were built leading from the lobby into the central drill hall to create a gallery. Cases were built onto the backs of these walls and the tops of these spaces are used for both exhibition and storage. Exhibits were built into the north two-thirds of the stage, leaving space for visitors to walk in front of the cases and the east dressing room is also an exhibit space. The west dressing room is storage. The divider between the Lieutenant's and Orderly's rooms was removed and the closet in the Lieutenant's room converted to a kitchenette.

Although the uses of rooms have changed, the integrity of the walls and spaces is retained. The tin-lined shower room is now used for storage (it was once a darkroom) as are the locker and Gun Stack rooms. The Plotting Room and storage rooms upstairs are currently a darkroom, while the Apartment is additional storage. The Quartermaster's Room/Supply room is now a workshop. The basement is additional storage. It still houses the boiler for the oil furnace that originally heated the building. That furnace still functions as backup for the geothermal system.

¹⁷ The green tile can still be seen through the hole in the wood paneling where the piping for the water fountain comes through.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

A Research Library with a newspaper morgue was built into the upper-floor of the south end of the building. A cripple wall was built out to the north (covering the bench seating) to create the floor space for the library and newspaper rooms. The middle section of the bench seating was removed to make space for a ramp down from the center of the top level to the east and west walkway level and continuing the walkway across the south end of the building. There is storage space on both sides of the ramp and at the walkway level. The elevator was installed in the early 1970s and the lobby entrance to the elevator is at the east end of the previous Public Coat Room. The rest of the coat room houses the lift mechanism for the elevator and a small janitor's room. The elevator has not worked for many years and the elevator door in the lobby is now glass and the space is used for exhibits.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

MILITARY

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1935-1969

Significant Dates

1935, building constructed

1969, building converted to Klamath Co. Museum

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Howard R. Perrin, architect

Edward P. Brosterhous, builder

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in 1935 with the construction of the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium, and ends in 1969 when the building was converted to the Klamath County Museum.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Due to the exceptional significance of the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium, the period of significance is extended to 1969, after which the building was converted for use as the Klamath County Museum.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Klamath County Armory and Auditorium, located in downtown Klamath Falls, Klamath County, Oregon, is significant locally under Criteria A and C, and also Criterion Consideration G for its important use as a military armory, and entertainment and recreation in Klamath County as a public gathering place, and also for architecture as an example of the Classical Moderne style encompassed by the term "Art Deco" in Klamath Falls. Designed by local architect Howard R. Perrin, the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium was constructed in 1935 during the middle of the Great Depression to meet the burgeoning county's need for a place for large gatherings and to build a sense of community. The Armory and Auditorium was not only home to the Oregon National Guard's 249th Coast Artillery until the 1950s, but also functioned as community center, concert venue, and public meeting space, among other uses through the 1960s. The period of significance begins in 1935 with the construction of the building, and ends in 1969 when the building was converted for use as the Klamath County Museum.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Klamath County Armory and Auditorium is eligible for the National Register under National Register Criterion A and Criterion Consideration G for its significant association with military activities and important role in providing space for recreation and entertainment in Klamath Falls and greater county. In her thesis, "History of the 1935 Klamath County Armory," Sheilah DeBlander describes how "after the dedication, the armory became the hub of [the] growing community" of Klamath Falls.¹⁸ It was completed in 1935 using \$45,000 from city bonds, county funds of \$49,000 and a grant from the Public Works Administration of \$30,700. Military historian Warren W. Aney notes that "by 1935 the Klamath Falls unit had a large, new armory, constructed by joint efforts of the city and county. This was somewhat unique, since almost all of the other armories in Oregon were state-built or rented from private owners (the Portland Armory was the only other city-county built armory)."¹⁹ Although the city of Klamath Falls and Klamath County were united in their desire to build an armory, the inability of the State of Oregon to provide any funds for the armory made the grant from the Public Works Administration the final necessary ingredient for this project to proceed. The Klamath County Armory and Auditorium was identified as Public Works Project No. 1825.

The military role of the Klamath County Armory was the primary justification for it being built. After World War I, the United States government was aware of the need for a trained body of soldiers to be on call and strongly supported the idea of the citizen-soldier: the National Guard. After the local National Guard unit, Battery D of the 249th Coast Artillery, was established in Klamath Falls in 1927, they met and drilled in a frame building that was inadequate for their needs, especially for securely housing their weapons, specifically the artillery pieces. Battery D quickly established a reputation as a "crack unit," by repeatedly winning awards for marksmanship and perfect attendance. It was the opinion of the people of the city of Klamath Falls and Klamath County that "their boys" both needed and deserved an armory. At this time, there were no National Guard armories on the east side of Oregon.

From 1935 through World War II and into the 1950s, the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium was the home of the Oregon National Guard's 249th Coast Artillery. It was a community center where local children played basketball and clubs met for meetings and luncheons. It was also an auditorium for public entertainment such as big band and western dances and shows, boxing and wrestling matches, circuses, amateur and professional performances, and large public meetings, such as the drawing for local homesteads by World War II veterans. Commercial expositions and automobile and agricultural shows were held in the building, the largest venue in the city. Bench seating in the balconies on three sides of the hall and hundreds of chairs for the main floor made it possible for the Armory and Auditorium to accommodate audiences that at times numbered nearly 3,000.

When the National Guard moved to Kingsley Field in 1952, the building continued as the Klamath Auditorium, still serving as a venue for concerts, gatherings, and social other social events. As television assumed the role of mass entertainment, however, the use of the building decreased, and in 1969 the building was converted to the Klamath County Museum with only a few modifications to the exterior and interior of the building. Forty years later, however, clubs still meet in the building. Classes are still taught and banquets still eaten in the Instruction Hall/Banquet Room. Concerts and lectures

¹⁸ Sheilah DeBlander, "History of the 1935 Klamath County Armory," Senior Thesis, Senior Seminar 415, Southern Oregon University, Dr. Karen Sundwick, June 4, 2003, 14.

¹⁹ Warren W. Aney, "History of the Klamath Falls National Guard Unit and Armory," Tigard, Oregon 97223. April 2004, 4.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

continue as museum activities. The Armory is not only the place that houses the history of Klamath County; it is where much of that history actually took place.

The Klamath County Armory and Auditorium is also eligible for the National Register under National Register Criterion C for its Classical Moderne styling of Art Deco architecture in Klamath Falls. It was designed by local architect, Howard R. Perrin, and constructed by former Klamath Falls contractor, Edward P. Brosterhous of Bend.²⁰ Classical Moderne traits exhibited in the exterior of the Armory and Auditorium includes emphasis on the vertical with tall windows and engaged columns on an otherwise boxy, rectilinear shape. It is capped with a montage of rooflines. A quietly polychromatic exterior is accomplished by using several different colors of brick with cream-colored wooden and metal trim. Nonstructural decorative elements include a stylized fan motif in the ornamental metal spandrels and cast-stone stylized eagles above and helmeted soldier figures astride both main entrances. Stylistic characteristics in the interior include a stylized painted floral ceiling in the lobby and a cutout design in the tops of the interior lobby doors and in the walls above the windows that mimics the top of the stylized fan motif of the spandrels.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Brief History of Klamath Falls

Klamath Falls is located on the east side of the Cascade Mountain Range and on the western edge of the Basin and Range Geographic Province, approximately 25 miles north of the Oregon-California border. Upper and Lower Klamath Lakes, Tule Lake, and Clear Lake provided habitat for the waterfowl and fish that fed the Native Americans who lived here and traded on routes that became the major arteries of travel today.²¹ Klamaths and Modocs traveled north along the east side of the Cascades to trade with Native Americans on the Columbia River on a path now designated as Oregon State Highway 97, or as it was known in the early twentieth century, the Dalles-California Highway. Local Native Americans (especially the Modocs) also traveled the southwestern end of this path, south to Weed, California.

The many lakes and waterways also drew Euro-American trappers looking for beaver. These included Peter Skene Ogden, of the Hudson Bay Fur Company, who came to the Klamath Basin in 1826 and Martin Frain, who later settled in this country. Captain John C. Fremont and his military men passed through the Klamath Basin in 1843 and again in 1846. The Applegate Trail came through the Klamath Basin bringing settlers looking to make their homes on the fertile land by the lakes. Prospectors arrived after gold was discovered in Jacksonville in 1851. These newcomers came into conflict with the Native Americans. In response, Fort Klamath was established in 1863 and a treaty was signed on October 14, 1864, moving the Klamaths, Modocs and Yahooskin, a branch of the Snake Paiute, onto the Klamath Reservation.²² The Modoc War began in 1872 culminating in the execution of four Modoc men, Captain Jack, Schonchen John, Black Jim, and Boston Charley, for the killing of General Edward Canby on October 3, 1873. The fort was closed in 1890. Troop "B" of the Oregon Cavalry, stationed at Fort Klamath, was the earliest version of the National Guard in Klamath County; it later disbanded in 1896.

Linkville (now known as Klamath Falls) was established in 1867 by George Nurse. The first schoolhouse was built in 1878 and in 1884, the first church was built. Founded on the banks of the Link River where Native American villages had been, the town spread eastward, adding businesses and services as the population increased. The town was difficult to get in and out of. Surrounded by mountains, deserts, and lakes, transportation was a severely limiting factor. Stage coaches came up the treacherous Topsy Grade and paddle-wheelers brought travelers from Laird's Landing, in California, to town.

²⁰ "Howard Randolph Perrin was born in Pawtucket, Rhode Island on March 10, 1891. He received a B. S. degree in Engineering from Brown University in 1914. After graduation he practiced as an architect and engineer in Boston from 1914 to 1921 in the firm of Perrin, Harvey & Watkins, and with the Aberthaw Construction Co. In 1922 Perrin moved to Klamath Falls, where he opened the office which was to continue for the next 47 years. During his long practice in Klamath Falls he produced a large volume of work, including the Elks temple, Willard Hotel, Klamath County Jail, Dorris City Hall, Lakeview City Hall, Klamath armory, Henry Grimes Building, Murray Building, Hirvi Building and the American Legion Veteran's Memorial Building. Perrin was a member of the American Institute of Architects and was on the Oregon State Board of Architect Examiners from 1940 to 1954, serving as president in 1945, and again in 1949." Quoted from Richard Ellison Ritz, *Architects of Oregon, A Biographical Dictionary of Architects Deceased – 19th and 20th Centuries* (Lair Hill Publishing, 2003), 314-315.

²¹ Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge, established by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1908, was the first waterfowl refuge in the United States. Millions of migrating waterfowl follow this section of the Pacific Flyway and many nest here as well.

²² These tribes are collectively now called The Klamath Tribes.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

In 1890, the population was 2,444 and by 1900 it had increased 60 percent to 3,970. Hoping to cast off its reputation as a rough trapper and prospector's town, the town changed its name to "Klamath Falls" on January 1, 1893.

As more settlers arrived and agriculture increased, the demand for irrigation also increased. Various local irrigation projects were eventually amalgamated into the "Klamath Project" by the Federal Bureau of Reclamation following the 1902 Reclamation Act, draining nearly all of Lower Klamath Lake, reducing the size of many of the other lakes, and bringing into production more arable land and irrigation waters to previously dry-land farmers.

When the railroad came to Klamath Falls on May 20, 1909, it was because Southern Pacific needed a new train route. Jack Bowden explains:

SP's largest and most efficient locomotives could not operate on the steep grades across the Siskiyou Mountains between Hornbrook and Ashland, making it necessary to use as many as six smaller locomotives to lift a tonnage train up over the mountains in either direction. Little wonder, then, that Harriman had decided to bypass that portion of the line with his new line, east of the Cascades. This line, by way of Klamath Falls, came to be known as the Natron cutoff.²³

The arrival of the train was met with great celebrations and dancing in the streets. And 30 years later, as musicians traveled by train north to Portland, Oregon and Seattle, Washington, and passed through Klamath Falls, the train also meant dancing in the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium for the locals. "Local" is used expansively here as people came from miles around, as far away as Northern California and Central Oregon, to attend the music events in the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium. The musicians and their managers soon learned they could draw bigger crowds in Klamath Falls than in many larger towns to the west.

Bowden explains that "with the arrival of the railroad, the area was immediately opened up for the development of its vast timber and agricultural resources."²⁴ The railroad allowed shipping to market of livestock and agricultural products as well as lumber. One train carried so many carloads of Klamath County sheep and cattle and other livestock to California markets every year that it was called the "Livestock Special." It is said to have shipped over 1,000 carloads of livestock every year. Klamath County's special potatoes, the "Netted Gems," were so well-known that the local baseball team was named after them. The "Klamath County lumber boom" was also vital to the growth and vitality of the area. Bowden boasts "in 1941, Klamath County ranked first in Oregon and second in the entire nation in the amount of lumber produced, with a total output of 843 million feet."²⁵

The lumber boom made Klamath Falls and Klamath County different from other places, especially during the Great Depression. Buildings were built up and down Main Street in Klamath Falls during the 1920s and 1930s, including the Klamath Falls Administration Building (originally the City Library) and Willard Hotel, both built in 1926. The Balsiger Ford Building and the Williams Building (built by a livestock baron) were built in 1927, the Arcade Hotel in 1928, the Oregon Bank Building in 1929-30, the Elk Hotel and First Interstate Bank Building in 1930, and the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium in 1935. Nineteen twenty-six was also the year the Natron Cutoff was completed into Eugene, Oregon, opening markets north of Klamath Falls. The Natron Cutoff also allowed entertainers to travel by train between San Francisco, California and Portland or Seattle, and brought the nationally-acclaimed acts such as Duke Ellington to the relatively small town of Klamath Falls.

During the first-half of the twentieth century, lumber production and population increased substantially, as Bowden explains:

W. E. Lamm, writing in his book *Lumbering in Klamath*, estimates that between 1900 and 1910, the annual lumber production for Klamath County averaged about nine million feet. The SP completed its railroad line to Klamath Falls in 1909, and by 1920, just 11 years later, output had soared to 10 times that amount. The Klamath County lumber boom had begun. During the next 20 years, the population of the county would increase from 8,554 to 32,407, and by 1940 it would be in excess of 40 thousand. Whereas in 1908 there had been a mere

²³ Jack Bowden, *Railroad Logging in the Klamath Country* (Oso Publishing Co, Hamilton, MT, 2003), 17.

²⁴ Ibid., 16.

²⁵ Ibid., 8.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

trickle of freight moving out of the county, by 1918, just 10 years later, Klamath Falls would be the second-largest freight receiving and forwarding center in the state, exceeded only by Portland.²⁶

This is the historical context into which the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium was built.

History of the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

In March 1918, the Klamath Falls *Evening Herald* cited a "need for some organized protection of the city and county," and on October 19, 1922 ran the headline, "Guard Company May Be Formed in This City, Possibility of Armory and Increased Payroll Seen: Investigation on."²⁷ The article continues:

Formation of a National Guard company here was discussed at a meeting in the American legion club rooms last night which was attended by Adjutant General George White, loyal ex-service men and others. Dr. T. C. Campbell, W. T. Lee and R. E. Bradbury were named as a committee of investigation. Should a National Guard unit be formed here, according to the committee, it would mean the distribution locally each year of \$10,000, and the guard would be without expense to the community. As the government is anxious to establish several new guard companies in Oregon, it is believed Klamath Falls would be assigned a company. This, it was pointed out, would probably lead to the construction of an armory which would provide a public hall for all public gatherings.²⁸

Even with these inducements, it was another five years before Klamath County succeeded in raising a unit. On September 27, 1927, the *Evening Herald* reported "National Guard to Organize Tonight: General orders for the ceremony were received yesterday from General George A. White, Salem."²⁹ In 1927, Battery D of the 249th Coast Artillery organized and received federal recognition in Klamath Falls. This was one of six coast artillery batteries organized in Oregon. Their summer field training took place at Fort Stevens, a coast artillery post on the mouth of the Columbia River in northwestern Oregon.³⁰

On February 7, 1929 the following article in the *Evening Herald* dealt directly with the need for an armory:

Speaking on behalf of the proposed armory in Klamath Falls, Representative Andrew M. Collier said, "The company at Klamath Falls was organized two years ago and is meeting in a frame building. We have about \$25,000 worth of equipment with improper facilities of caring for it. General White will bear me out in the statement that our company is the 'crack' outfit of the state and enjoys the highest rating. There is no armory in Eastern Oregon and Klamath County is entitled to an armory if anybody is."³¹

The 1916 National Defense Act passed by the U. S. Congress "established a system of armory instruction that required members of all the organizations to assemble for drill not less than 48 times each year."³² One result of this "federalization" was a need for more armories, places to drill, places to store ammunition and arms. The Ashland Oregon National Guard Armory, constructed between 1912 and 1913, had been built with an eye to its potential as a community center and its construction included a stage and chairs in order to be usable for public entertainment.³³ Klamath Falls wanted its armory to meet these same public needs.

Sheilah DeBlander, in her thesis, "The History of the 1935 Klamath County Armory," states:

Voters needed to approve the levy allocating funds specifically for the construction of an armory. According to Oregon law, cities and counties that raised fifty percent of the funds to construct armories would receive state money for the

²⁶ Ibid., 7.

²⁷ Klamath Falls (Oregon) *Evening Herald*, March 20, 1918, p. 1.

²⁸ Klamath Falls (Oregon) *Evening Herald*, October 19, 1922, p. 1.

²⁹ Klamath Falls (Oregon) *Evening Herald*, September 27, 1927, p. 1.

³⁰ Aney, 2.

³¹ Klamath Falls (Oregon) *Evening Herald*, February 7, 1929, p. 1.

³² Globalsecurity.org, "Oregon Army National Guard," retrieved from <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/agency/army/arng-or.htm> (accessed March 29, 2011).

³³ Ibid.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Klamath Co., Oregon

Name of Property

County and State

remainder. The state was responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the building. According to armory backers, specific funding from the county would come from a direct tax of \$45,000, while the city's share would be generated through the issuance of \$45,000 worth of bonds contingent upon additional state funding for the project. Estimated cost of the armory construction in 1930 totaled \$180,000.

The armory levy drew favorable responses from around the county. Citizens from Klamath Falls, Malin, Merrill, Olene, Dairy, Hildebrand, Bonanza, Beatty, Bly, Chiloquin, and Fort Klamath signed an ad to show their support. The full-page ad appeared in the *Evening Herald* on November 1, 1930 with the message 'Vote for Your Armory.' Organizations such as the Keno Grange and the Veterans of Foreign Wars endorsed the measure as well. . . . The paper predicted a heavy voter turnout for the upcoming election that included ballot measure 502-503 requesting \$45,000 in bonds from the city and \$45,000 in direct taxes from the county towards the armory's cost. The measure passed by a vote of 1178 to 672 in the city and 2205 to 1647 in the county. . . . In the state's history, public support for such a measure had never occurred the first time.³⁴

This level of public support is all the more surprising since the Stock Market Crash on Black Tuesday, October 29, 1929, had plunged the nation headlong into the Great Depression. Millions of Americans were out of work. The State of Oregon did not have the matching funds for the Armory. But when Franklin D. Roosevelt, newly elected President of the United States, took office on March 4, 1933, he immediately implemented a series of programs to help the economy, called the "New Deal." The Public Works Administration was a New Deal agency created by the National Industrial Recovery Act of June 1933. It provided money for the construction of public works such as dams and bridges and helped to stabilize the economy. Mr. R. E. Bradbury, who was a member of the original committee of investigation for the establishment of a local National Guard unit, and was also a local public works committee member, suggested the "presentation of the proposed armory plans to Marshall Dana, Northwest Regional Administrator for the Federal Public Works Program (PWA).³⁵ Two possibilities existed: 1) The PWA might provide funds directly for the armory, or 2) Klamath Falls might receive some portion of the PWA allotment for the State of Oregon to use for the armory. Applications were submitted in 1933 and anticipation was high. It was also necessary to submit a bill to the Oregon Legislature requesting only "a dollar from the state, thus overcoming the law requiring state involvement in funding armories."³⁶ A site was selected. A local architect was hired, in harmony with PWA criteria for buildings that served their communities in a variety of ways. Hiring local engineers, inspectors, contractors, subcontractors, and laborers helped to relieve local unemployment. Using local brick helped the local economy. Klamath Falls was ready.

In the Multiple Property Document historic context statement "National Guard Armories of Kansas," Susan Jezak Ford explains:

The Public Works Administration had granted \$26,000 in direct funding for the [Kansan] armory. The PWA, created by Franklin Roosevelt in 1933, and the WPA (Works Progress Administration), created in 1935, was designed to relieve the country's severe depression by creating work projects. The infusion of cash into the PWA and WPA projects all over the country significantly impacted hundreds of communities with the construction of bridges, schools, stadiums, museums and National Guard armories. Anti-military sentiment initially created resistance to including armories in WPA projects, but the worsening Depression and deteriorating situation in Europe promoted a realization that armories should be built to train potential soldiers. Thus, a wave of new armory construction began in the mid-1930's.³⁷

On January 17, 1934, the *Evening Herald* headline exclaimed "Klamath Armory Approved." The Klamath County Armory had managed to become one of the earliest of this new wave of armories. In the online Oregon Blue Book "Oregon History: The Great Depression," it states, "The Public Works Administration and the Public Buildings Administration worked with the WPA in other ways to transform Oregon. Projects included a city hall in Canby, a dramatic capitol and state library in Salem, an armory in Klamath Falls, a high school in Corvallis, a dormitory at the State School for the Blind, a sewage disposal plant in Medford, and five stunning bridges spanning major estuaries on the Oregon coast."³⁸ Without the grant from the Public Works Administration, there would not have been sufficient resources to build the Klamath Falls

³⁴ DeBlander, 3-4.

³⁵ DeBlander, 5.

³⁶ DeBlander, 5.

³⁷ National Register of Historic Places, Multiple Property Documentation Form, National Guard Armories of Kansas, Kansas, National Register #64500888, 4.

³⁸ Oregon Blue Book, "Oregon History: The Great Depression" retrieved from <http://bluebook.state.or.us/cultural/history/history25.htm>.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

Armory. The grant successfully fulfilled its mission: it helped reduce unemployment, improved the local economy in Klamath Falls, and made possible a building that would change the history of the city and greater Klamath County.

Work began in earnest after all the red tape was cleared and the architect "estimated the armory to be ninety percent complete by July 19, 1935. Work rushed because of an upcoming 20-30 Convention in Klamath Falls in late August or early September."³⁹ By the time the armory was officially completed, there had already been a luncheon for the 20-30 Club, a wrestling match with the "Rough Greek" Harry Demetral from Chicago against the "Russian Lion" Al Karasick of Portland, a boxing match, more wrestling, and a concert with violin and contralto voice. All this even before the official dedication on November 11, 1935, the "most elaborate observance of Armistice day in Klamath Falls in many years" proclaimed the *Evening Herald*.⁴⁰ At the dedication ceremony, Adjutant General of the State of Oregon, General George A. White, called the armory, "one of the finest armories in the United States."⁴¹

There are many reasons the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium was so central to life in Klamath Falls and Klamath County. For one, the building was large and could hold a great number of people involved in a variety of functions. The Armory was located in town, easily accessible, and it was adaptable. The Armory and Auditorium truly suited the times. But most of all, it fit the needs of this particular community. The Armory and Auditorium was just the right kind of building, grand enough for a military ball, but simple enough for tag-team wrestling. Klamath country lumbermen, stockmen, farmers and railroaders, with the accompanying business community, built a building that became the heart of the city.

The first criterion for the success of any community center is always the community's commitment to it. Since the State of Oregon was only in for a dollar, it was not responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the Armory and Auditorium and it would be necessary to cover these costs locally. "In September, the armory committee discussed upkeep for the building, a lease granted to Mack Lillard (a local boxing and wrestling promoter) and other armory issues. The National Guard contributed \$360 to the armory out of its state allotment of \$700, with additional revenues coming from armory rentals. The federal government paid a night watchman to protect government materials contained in the armory. The city and the county planned to contribute small amounts to complete and furnish the armory, officially completed by September 12, 1935."⁴² Once again the city and county showed their willingness to step up to the plate.

Boxing and wrestling matches started immediately and were immensely popular. The basketball courts were busy with regional and local games, leagues on Thursday, and Klamath Union High School students after school. The building policy was to allow usage unless there was a schedule conflict. The Armory and Auditorium became the place for charity events, Firemen's Balls, and Policemen's Balls. The 20-30 Club put on the "Charity Milk Ball, Christmas Night, December 25, ARMORY" asking "Can you feed your family on 20 cents a day? All proceeds will be used to purchase milk for needy families during the coming year."⁴³

The military uses of the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium increased as the United States moved toward World War II. Battery D continued winning awards for marksmanship and perfect attendance. Recruitment increased. "Oregon's coast artillery regiment reorganized in 1939 [and] the Battery D designation moved to Albany and the Klamath Falls battery was divided to become Battery A and Battery C. Commanders were Capt. John F. Olin and Capt. George D. Powell."⁴⁴ On September 16, 1940, the Oregon National Guard Units were "federalized," by Executive Order from Franklin D. Roosevelt. When the Klamath Falls boys were sent to Fort Stevens, the Armory and Auditorium became the site of a whole different kind of military activities: fund raisers, sales of war bonds, and recruitment center (3,176 young men came to the Armory to enlist for World War II.) It even became a collection center at times. The building meeting rooms held groups of women rolling bandages, and the pre-USO group, the Klamath Commandos, sold Coca-Cola at various sports events to raise money. DeBlander notes, "In 1943, they held a dance at the armory on Washington's birthday. Funds from this dance helped wounded soldiers make the journey to Klamath Falls to recuperate from their injuries. A photo of the dance showed a crowd estimated at close to 3,000 with the Commandos earning \$1,000 towards their project."⁴⁵ Klamath Falls had a Naval Air Station, the Marine Barracks tropical disease recuperation center, Camp White was just over the hill by Medford,

³⁹ DeBlander, 12.

⁴⁰ Klamath Falls (Oregon) *Evening Herald*, November 10, 1935, 8.

⁴¹ DeBlander, 14.

⁴² DeBlander, 12-13.

⁴³ Klamath Falls (Oregon) *Evening Herald*, December 23, 1940, 2.

⁴⁴ Aney, 2.

⁴⁵ DeBlander, 16.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

Oregon, and Camp Abbott, just south of Bend, Oregon. There were always plenty of soldiers for dances. DeBlander explains:

Dances at the Armory took place on a regular basis with little encouragement. In fact, Baldy Evans and his orchestra provided music as a regular feature on Wednesdays and Saturdays. William "Baldy" Evans Senior played piano and led a nine-piece group begun in 1930 called Baldy's Band. On May 28, 1942, local bandleaders, Baldy Evans and Pappy Gordon provided the music for a War Dance. Service men danced free, as did 'the ladies'.⁴⁶

Baldy Evans also turned his hand to promotion, bringing in big bands to the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium as well.

Probably the biggest reason for the Armory and Auditorium's importance to the community was simply its size. The Armory and Auditorium was the largest capacity building in the county. A Bob Wills performance sold tickets to 2,719 people.⁴⁷ For the Production Credit Association "four-to-five-hundred people attended and were served lunch."⁴⁸ In 1935, the only other place that could hold even close to as many people as the Armory and Auditorium was Poole's Pelican Theatre, at 120 S. 8th Street in Klamath Falls, which opened January 17, 1929. Poole's "had the third largest stage in the Pacific Northwest, featuring live entertainment and movies."⁴⁹ Said to seat over 1,500 people, the fact was that these people had to be seated in rows. Dancing and having lunch, en masse, was possible in the Armory and Auditorium, but not the theater.

Dancing was also available at the Lakeshore Inn. Nicol and Thompson tell how "Lakeshore Inn along Klamath Lake was a popular place for dinner and dancing. Going to the Lakeshore was always a special event because it was a little spendy."⁵⁰ But dancing at the Armory and Auditorium was not "spendy." Ads in the newspaper show admissions rates to dances in the Armory from 55 to 74 cents and \$1.00 to \$1.25 increasing slowly over time. The capacity at the Armory was so big that it did not have to be "spendy." Then, too, a "Friday Night Dance at the Willard Hotel in Klamath Falls, was also popular. Men wore suits and ties and ladies put on their best dresses for dancing to a local orchestra. Ladies had dance cards and everyone enjoyed exchanging dances with other couples."⁵¹ But the men at the Armory on Friday night didn't care one bit about the competition at the Willard Hotel because they were at the boxing matches. They were yelling and throwing popcorn and perhaps sneaking a bit of alcohol, totally oblivious to the ladies' dance cards at the Willard.

In addition, circuses could be accommodated in the Armory and Auditorium.⁵² Floors built to support artillery had no problems with elephants. Big was in and big was in the Armory. Automobile shows, tractor expositions, agricultural shows of all kinds were set in the Armory. And in the era of Big Bands, the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium was the place in southern Oregon to see the big name performers. Once Duke Ellington played there, its reputation was made. Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, Gene Krupa, Leighton Noble and his grand orchestra, Paul Whiteman, famed "King of Jazz," George Kaye and His Orchestra, and, Lawrence Welk, with his "Champagne Music," and lots more all played at the Armory. Many western entertainers and musicians were popular too with Tex Williams, Wesley Tuttle, Sons of the Pioneers, Maddox Brothers and Rose, Lefty Frizzell and the great Hank Thompson coming to Klamath Falls with their music and shows. Even B. B. King, the King of the Blues, played at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium!

The main reason for the Armory and Auditorium's success as a big band venue was its location on a rail route half-way between San Francisco and Portland. This brought the entertainers who soon discovered they could make money by performing in the Klamath Armory. But its location on Main Street in Klamath Falls was a plus for locals. It meant one needn't drive a long way to get there, like to the Oregon/California border for dancing (and drinking) at the "Cal/Ore, a popular night club between Klamath Falls and Dorris, on the California side of the state line that offered gambling, dining and cocktails."⁵³ The Armory was close to the train station and close to hotels and restaurants and did not need to serve

⁴⁶ DeBlander, 17.

⁴⁷ Klamath Falls (Oregon) *Herald and News*, November 28, 1952, 4.

⁴⁸ Nicol and Thompson, *Bill Kitt, From Trail Driver to Cowboy Hall of Fame* (Caldwell, ID, Caxton Printers, Ltd.), 148.

⁴⁹ Anne Ezell, "A History of Theatres in Klamath Falls", written for the *Herald and News*, 1992. As quoted in Floyd L. Wynne *Great Moments in Klamath History* (Bend, Or: Maverick Publications, 2005), 301.

⁵⁰ Nicol and Thompson, 149.

⁵¹ Nicol and Thompson, 149.

⁵² Klamath Falls (Oregon) *Herald and News*, June 3, 1946, 2.

⁵³ Nicol and Thompson, 149.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

food (except for items such as peanuts and popcorn). Unlike the fraternal organizations that were also located in town, there were no membership requirements for the Armory, where wrestling, boxing, basketball, and dancing to both national and local bands provided entertainment several evenings each week.

Part of the Armory and Auditorium's accessibility was due to the need for it to be self-supporting. This meant there was a strong motivation to keep this facility rented, that is, affordable to all the different city and county organizations that would make this building their place to meet. The Veterans of Foreign Wars placed an advertisement in the September 25, 1947 *Herald and News*: "If you enjoy a good dance, the VFW invites you to dance every Saturday night at the Armory,"⁵⁴ "every Saturday night" and the admission price of 74 cents, including tax! This means there was enough business to rent the building, pay the band and concessionaire, advertising and other costs and still help support the VFW. Clubs and service organizations made their homes in the Armory. Karate classes, dance competitions (especially square dances), professional and amateur, took place under the great arched ceiling. And they all paid their fees which together made up the armory budget.

Still another very important reason for the significance of the building was what could be called its demeanor. Egalitarian, even rough, more of a Madison Square Garden than a Carnegie Hall, the Armory was totally in step with a county where outdoor labor was the norm. Klamath Falls was growing exponentially and needed a building capable of bringing the citizens together under one roof in order to create one community. It needed an adaptable building that could bring them together in a wide-variety of ways.

The Klamath County Armory and Auditorium, with its centralized, large drill hall under an impressive arched roof hosted over three decades of Klamath life. Kids played basketball. The National Guard drilled and everybody danced. Agricultural shows celebrated the local "Netted Gems" (potatoes and baseball players), and Gorgeous George was a wrestling phenomenon. Locals met, lunched, and entertained each other, offering both professional and amateur shows. Local bands, sewing clubs, even children's dance and Brownie troops had a place to meet, to perform and to meet their neighbors. People met their future spouses here. People's lives merged and were changed here. In December of 1946 Veterans of World War II were allowed to apply for homesteads on former Bureau of Reclamation lands. Held in the armory the drawing took place on December 17, and 172 would-be farmers held their collective breaths to see who would become lucky landowners! When the National Guard moved to Kingsley Field in 1952, this building continued as the Klamath Auditorium. The building was converted into a museum in 1969, and on February 22, 1970, it was officially dedicated as the Klamath County Museum.

Architecture of the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium⁵⁵

Architect Howard Perrin designed the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium in a style popular in the day for public buildings, the Classical Moderne. The National Register nomination for another PWA-financed project, the Winona City Hall in Winona, Minnesota provides an excellent context in which to understand the popularity of Classical Moderne for use in public buildings between the 1920s and 1940s. The nomination explains:

Although not formally linked to the New Deal programs, the Classical Moderne architectural style . . . became visually synonymous with the New Deal construction projects of the 1930s. The Classical Moderne, like other architectural styles under the Art Deco umbrella, reflects the ideals popular within very limited temporal boundaries. From the late 1920s to the early 1940s, architects used the Classical Moderne for civic buildings in rural county seats as readily as for federal buildings in the nation's capitol.

A melding of traditional form and modern sensibilities, the style is known today by a variety of terms including Planar Classical, Starved or Stripped Classical, and Classical Moderne. The Classical Moderne style was characterized by classical massing and form; flattened, unadorned exteriors; and richly decorated interiors. Art historian Eva Weber includes Classical Moderne as one of three "distinct but related design trends of the 1920s and 1930s" encompassed by the term "Art Deco." The other two are Zigzag Moderne, known for its high and angular ornament, and the Streamlined Moderne, with its porthole windows and round corners. The Classical Moderne was "a more conservative style" than its two Art Deco counterparts, "blending a simplified and

⁵⁴ Klamath Falls (Oregon) *Herald and News*, September 25, 1947, 4.

⁵⁵ The majority of this section is taken directly from National Register of Historic Places, Winona City Hall, Winona, Winona County, Minnesota, National Register # 99000806.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Klamath Co., Oregon

Name of Property

County and State

monumental modernistic neoclassicism with a more austere form or geometric and stylized relief sculpture and other ornament."⁵⁶

Although the Classical Moderne did not appear on a significant scale before 1933, the style had its roots in Bertram Goodhue's 1920 design for the Nebraska State Capitol in Lincoln. Weber describes the "stylized stone carvings, low reliefs, plan smoothness, and flat wall surfaces" that characterized the edifice. It was architect Paul Philippe Cret, however, who drove the style into the national conscience and solidified its association with government architect. Cret was a modernist but not a purist. He believed in the value of traditional, classical architecture but his tastes were more austere and his eye more restrained than most of his contemporaries, who were designing in the popular and highly decorative Beaux-Arts style. "This design philosophy was translated into vertical strips of windows and unornamented, planar walls and columns on a flow of Cret-designed monuments and public buildings in the 1920s and 1930s, setting both the trend and the standards for starved classicism."⁵⁷

The Classical Moderne's initial use on government buildings, and the fact that it was the popular style of the day when, for the most part, only governments were undertaking construction projects, served to reinforce the style's association with the public buildings of the New Deal. Although the Classical Moderne was not linked in any official way to New Deal programs, architectural historian Talbot Hamlin observed in 1938 that America had, indeed, established a "style" for public buildings . . . Hamlin characterizes the Classical Moderne style as one "that sometimes, recognizing its classical basis, adopts frankly classical mouldings, cornices, or conventional proportions, but it avoids the use of the orders and is usually free from historical precedent. . . . It believes in the greatest restraint in the use of the architectural ornament, but it welcomes richness of decoration in well-applied sculpture."⁵⁸

This decoration, one of the hallmarks of the Art Deco design, was often most pronounced on the interior. While the exterior of a Classical Moderne building could be austere, the interior was sure to provide a sharp contrast. Interior architectural flourish was not considered superfluous, even in government-funded public buildings. It served to bring relief, at least visually, from the bleakness of everyday life during the depression. Architect Cass Gilbert believed that interior decoration in public buildings had a positive sociological function, and that "property embellished, with inscriptions, murals, and sculpture, a public building is an inspiration toward patriotism and good citizenship, it encourages just pride in the state, and is an education to on-coming generations to see these things, imponderable elements of life and character, set before the people for their enjoyment and betterment." The cultural values, visual pleasure, and permanency embodied by Classical Moderne interiors served as a timely tonic as the depression wore on.⁵⁹

One of the reasons for the Classical Moderne's widespread popularity was its general adaptability. It was relatively easy for architects to retain the style's essential characteristics while expressing qualities unique to an individual location. Local interpretations varied depending on the available budget, materials, and size of the community the building served.⁶⁰

The Klamath County Armory and Auditorium displays the symmetry and relative austerity of the Classical Moderne. Save for brief flourishes of exterior decoration in the form of cast-stone eagle sculpture and soldier pilasters at entryways, decorative metal spandrels between windows, and engaged columns on the exterior of the arched-roof structure, the Armory and Auditorium is utilitarian, economical, and "government" in appearance. Although perhaps not as pronounced

⁵⁶ Eva Weber, *Art Deco in America* (New York: Bison Books, 1985), 12, as quoted in National Register of Historic Places, Winona City Hall, Winona, Winona County, Minnesota, National Register # 99000806, Section 8, 12.

⁵⁷ Ibid., 59-60; Lois Craig, *The Federal Presence* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1984), 294, as quoted in National Register of Historic Places, Winona City Hall, Winona, Winona County, Minnesota, National Register # 99000806, Section 8, 13.

⁵⁸ Talbot Hamlin, "A Contemporary American Style: Some Notes on its Qualities and Dangers," *Pencil Points* 19 (February 1938): 99, quoted in Lisa Reitzes, *Moderately Modern: Interpreting the Architecture of the Public Works Administration* (Ann Arbor, Mich.: University Microfilms, 1989), 166-167, as quoted in National Register of Historic Places, Winona City Hall, Winona, Winona County, Minnesota, National Register # 99000806, Section 8, 13.

⁵⁹ Cass Gilbert, "The Greatest Element of Monumental Architecture," *American Architecture* 136 (August 1929): 143-144, quoted in Reitzes, 140, as quoted in National Register of Historic Places, Winona City Hall, Winona, Winona County, Minnesota, National Register # 99000806, Section 8, 14.

⁶⁰ National Register of Historic Places, Winona City Hall, Winona, Winona County, Minnesota, National Register # 99000806, Section 8, 2 and 12-15.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

as in other Classical Moderne buildings of the era, the interior of the Armory and Auditorium exhibits intact interior decoration of the style, including Art Deco paintings on the ceiling panels, tile wainscoting in a random geometric pattern, and stair-stepped shaped doors in the lobby. In the Drill Hall, the stage is set-in to a polychromatic brick wall with ornate, engaged columns constructed of more polychromatic brick topped with cast-stone urns supporting a massive fluted, cast-stone arch over the stage front. Built of local brick and one of the largest buildings in the area, the use of the Classical Moderne style was adapted easily in the construction of the Armory and Auditorium to meet the needs of Klamath Falls and greater Klamath County. In terms of the building's architecture and historically significant role in providing a space both for its National Guard unit and a variety of community events, the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium both stands out and alone in the city and county.

Conclusion

The Klamath County Armory and Auditorium meets National Register Criterion A for its significant association with military, social history, and entertainment and recreation in Klamath Falls and Klamath County between 1935 and 1969. It also meets National Register Criterion C for architecture for its distinctive Classical Moderne style as part of the Art Deco movement. The Armory and Auditorium was not only a place for the National Guard, but was also a place for social gatherings and all kinds of entertainment: big bands, boxing and wrestling matches; service organizations activities, such as the Elk's crab feeds, club luncheons, circuses and Firemen's Balls; afterschool activities, such as Chess Club tournaments, Karate classes, and playing basketball; social groups meetings, such as the quilting club, the square dancing club, and the Brownies; commercial enterprises, such as agricultural and automobile shows; and important large meetings, such as the Veteran's drawings for homesteads after World War II and the stockholders' meetings for the Production Credit Association.⁶¹ Everyone had reasons to go to the Armory, and it was the common denominator before television and the internet. The Klamath County Armory and Auditorium belongs in the National Register because it shared that same spirit that brought the United States through the Great Depression, through World War II, and to the moon. Ask anyone today who grew up in Klamath Falls and Klamath County and he or she will have a story, maybe several, about "that time they were in the Klamath Armory." Even today you can still use the "old armory" as a landmark for directions. Parades still start here and, in its current use as the Klamath County Museum, the old armory itself is the museum's biggest and most important artifact.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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⁶¹ Nicol and Thompson, 149.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Klamath Co., Oregon

Name of Property

County and State

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Maps

ORMAP Tax Assessment Map

Klamath Falls

Klamath Falls – Tax Lot 11500

38 09 28CC

Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (minus 10' for alley), 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22.

Close-up of numbers for area calculation: 48,504 sq. feet.

Sanborn Company, Insurance Maps of Klamath Falls, Oregon 1931 – updated, Sheet 219 (three views)

Greater Klamath Falls Visitors Map Revised May 1989.

Klamath Falls Quadrangle, Oregon – Klamath County 7.5 Minute Series

State of Oregon Highway System, Published by ODOT GPS Unit, January 2008

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 # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☒ Other

Name of repository: Klamath County Museum

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium
Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon
County and State

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approx. 1.1 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>10N</u> Zone	<u>601203</u> Easting	<u>4675702</u> Northing	3	<u></u> Zone	<u></u> Easting	<u></u> Northing
2	<u></u> Zone	<u></u> Easting	<u></u> Northing	4	<u></u> Zone	<u></u> Easting	<u></u> Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium includes lots 1-6, and 15-22, block 8 in the Hot Springs Addition within Section 28, Township 38 South, Ranger 9 East, Willamette Meridian (tax lot 11500).

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes those resources that have historically been the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium and that maintain historic integrity.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Judith Hassen, with assistance of Cara Kaser, SHPO Staff

organization date Sept. 2010; rev. March 2011

street & number 21401 Silver Lake Road telephone (541) 783-2580

city or town Chiloquin state Oregon zip code 97624

e-mail judithhassen@hotmail.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium
Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon
County and State

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

City or Vicinity: Klamath Falls

County: Klamath **State:** Oregon

Photographer: Judith Hassen, nomination preparer, unless otherwise noted.

Date Photographed: August 2010, unless otherwise noted.

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0001.tif)
Exterior View: Main (south) facade showing entrance. Looking northwest. (Taken by SHPO staff, February 2011).
- 2 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0002.tif)
Exterior View: Main facade showing entrance, west wing and portion of east wing. Looking north. (Taken by SHPO staff, February 2011).
- 3 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0003.tif)
Exterior View: Detail of solidier pilaster.
- 4 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0004.tif)
Exterior View: East wing and southeast entrance. Looking northwest. (Taken by SHPO staff, February 2011)
- 5 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0005.tif)
Exterior View: Detail of east wing facade, with windows and metal spandrels. Looking northwest.
- 6 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0006.tif)
Exterior View: East facade, showing arched roof and east entrance. Looking northwest. (Taken by SHPO staff, February 2011).
- 7 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0007.tif)
Exterior View: Detail of east entrance and portion of east facade. Looking southwest. (Taken by SHPO staff, February 2011).
- 8 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0008.tif)
Exterior View: Rear facade, showing northeast entrance. Looking south. (Taken by SHPO staff, February 2011).
- 9 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0009.tif)
Exterior View: Rear facade, showing small, rear addition. Looking southeast. (Taken by SHPO staff, February 2011).
- 10 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0010.tif)
Exterior View: Portion of west facade showing truck entrance. Looking east.
- 11 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0011.tif)
Exterior View: East facade, showing bricked-in southwest entrance, and east wing. Looking north.
- 12 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0012.tif)
Exterior View: Lean-to additions housing outdoor display areas. Looking northwest.

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

- 13 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0013.tif)
Interior View: Entrance lobby with Art Deco painted ceiling.
- 14 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0014.tif)
Interior View: Detail of door type present in the lobby.
- 15 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0015.tif)
Interior View: View of drill hall, stage, and arched roof.
- 16 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0016.tif)
Interior View: View of arched roof and stage from mezzanine level.
- 17 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0017.tif)
Interior View: Northern end of hallway on west side of drill hall.
- 18 of 18. (OR_KlamathCounty_KlamathCoArmoryandAuditorium_0018.tif)
Interior View: Example of typical meeting room.

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

name Klamath County, Attn: Bill Adams, Planning Director

street & number 305 Main Street

telephone (541) 883-5000

city or town Klamath Falls

state Oregon zip code 97601

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. 460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 1

LIST OF FIGURES

1. General location map of Klamath Falls showing location of Klamath County Armory and Auditorium at 1451 Main Street, Klamath Falls (Courtesy of Google Maps).
2. Tax lot map #38 09 28CC, showing nominated boundaries, tax lot 11500.
3. Current site plan, Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
4. Current first floor plan, Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
5. Current second floor plan, Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
6. Historic first floor plan, Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
7. Historic second floor plan, Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
8. Historic front facade elevation drawing, Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
9. Historic photograph of construction, March 13, 1935 (courtesy Klamath County Museum).
10. Historic photograph of construction, March 29, 1935 (courtesy Klamath County Museum).
11. Historic photograph of construction, May 15, 1935 (courtesy Klamath County Museum).
12. Historic photograph of construction, May 15, 1935 (courtesy Klamath County Museum).
13. Historic photograph of construction, June 1, 1935 (courtesy Klamath County Museum).
14. "Preparations Complete for Armistice Day Celebration," *Evening Herald*, November 10, 1935, article.
15. July-August 1943 edition of *On Guard!*, showing mass formation of Company B, 1st Regiment and Company C, 19th Battalion in front of the Klamath County Armory.
16. Sample of events held in the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium during the 1940s.
17. Historic schedule of events and rental fees for January and February 1955 held at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
18. February 23, 1940 advertisement for Duke Ellington playing at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
19. December 23, 1940 advertisement for the Charity Milk Ball held at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
20. December 27, 1940 advertisement for the Ice Frolics held at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
21. July 5, 1941 advertisement for wrestling matches held at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
22. December 26, 1947 advertisement for Georgie Kaye playing at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
23. May 9, 1948 advertisement for Tex Williams playing at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
24. June 3, 1948 advertisement for the Polack Bros. Circus at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
25. March 13, 1952 photo of Elks women's crab feed held at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
26. January 22, 1957 advertisement for B.B. King playing at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
27. June 3, 1960 advertisement for "Fats" Domino playing at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.
28. August 20, 1969 advertisement for a "Rock 'N Roll Dance" held at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

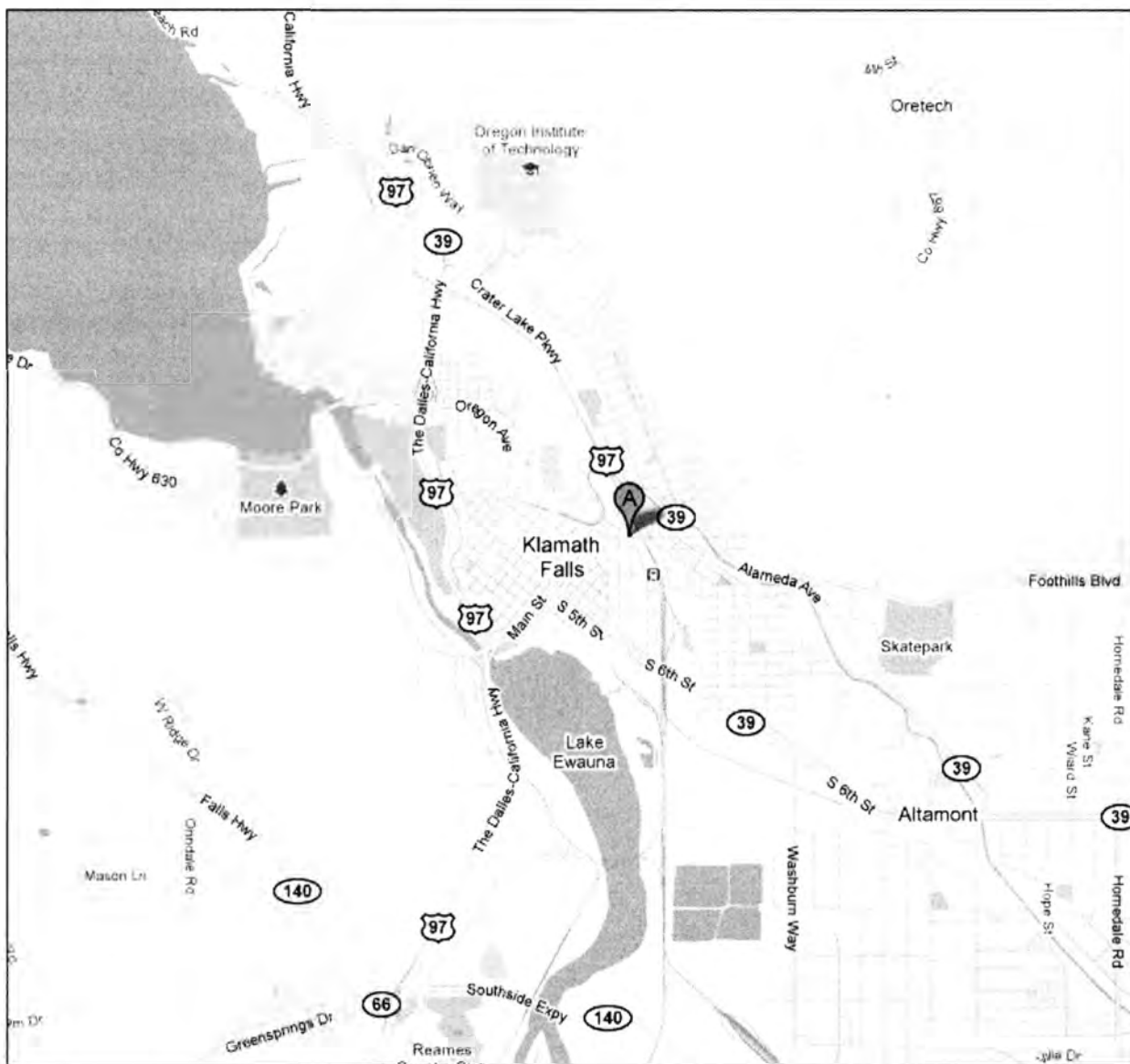
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 2

Figure 1. General location map of Klamath Falls showing location of Klamath County Armory and Auditorium at 1451 Main Street, Klamath Falls (Courtesy of Google Maps).



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

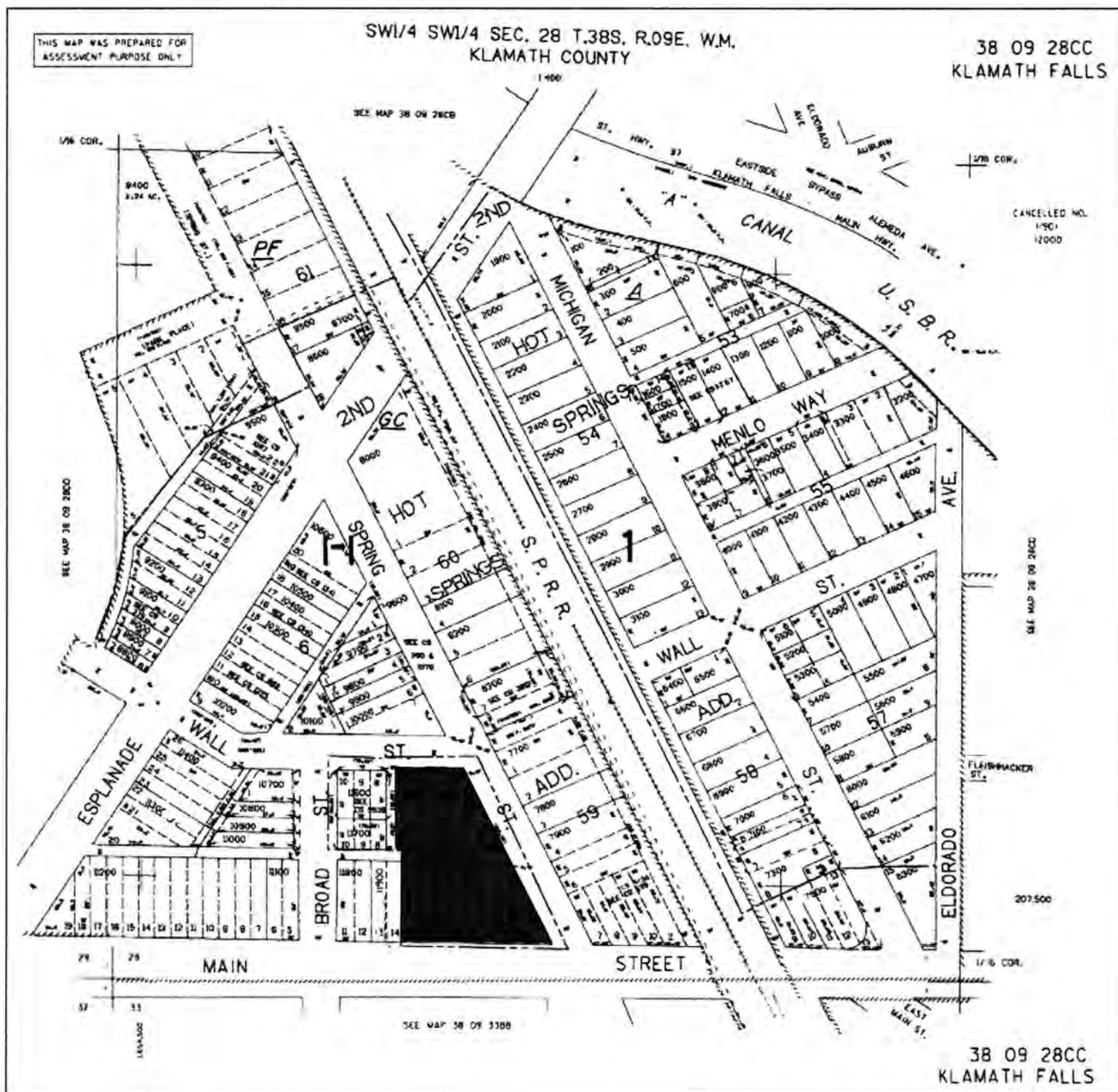
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 3

Figure 2. Tax lot map #38 09 28CC, showing nominated boundaries (shaded), tax lot 11500.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

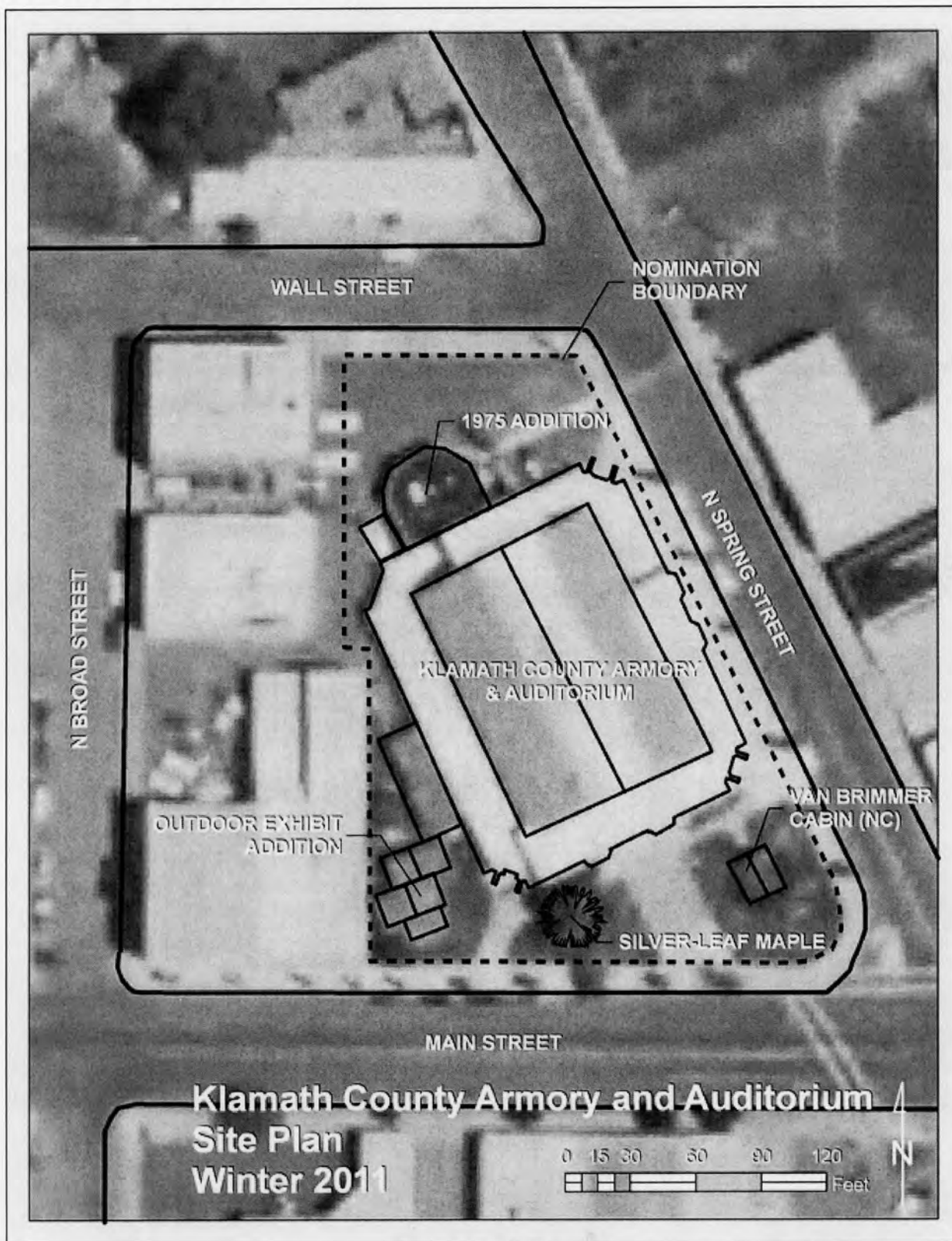
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 4

Figure 3. Current site plan, Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

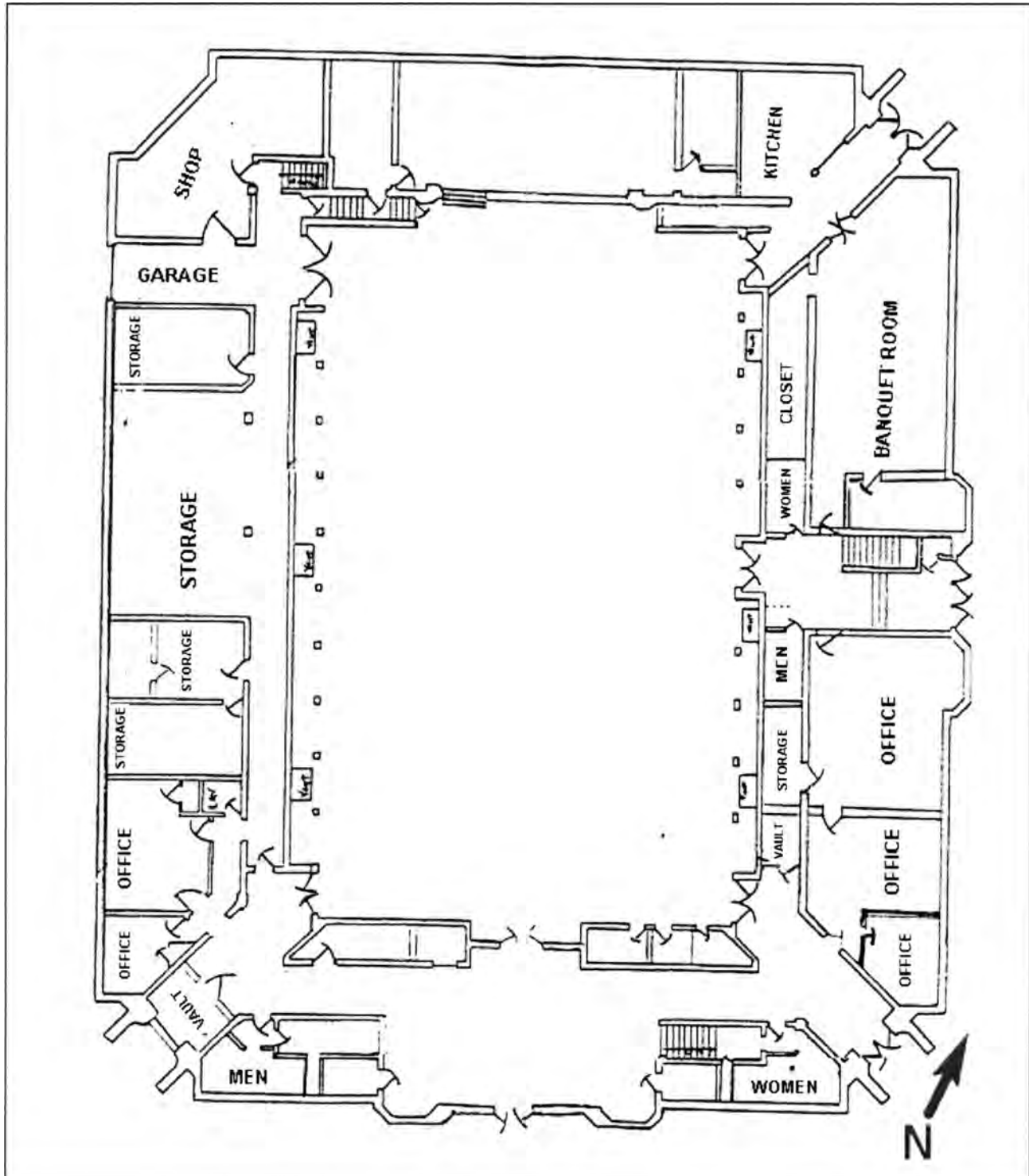
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 5

Figure 4. Current first floor plan, Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

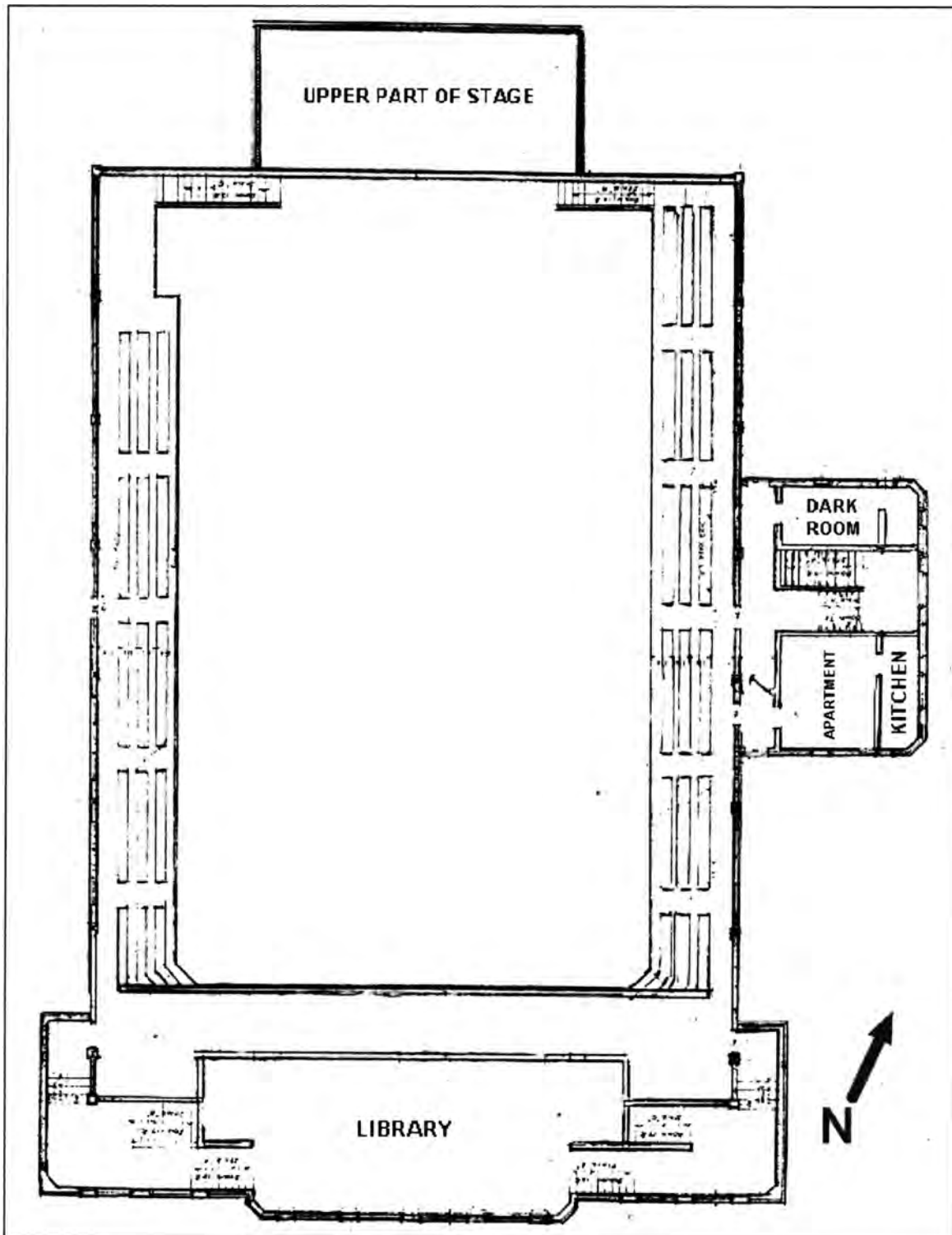
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 6

Figure 5. Current second floor plan, Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

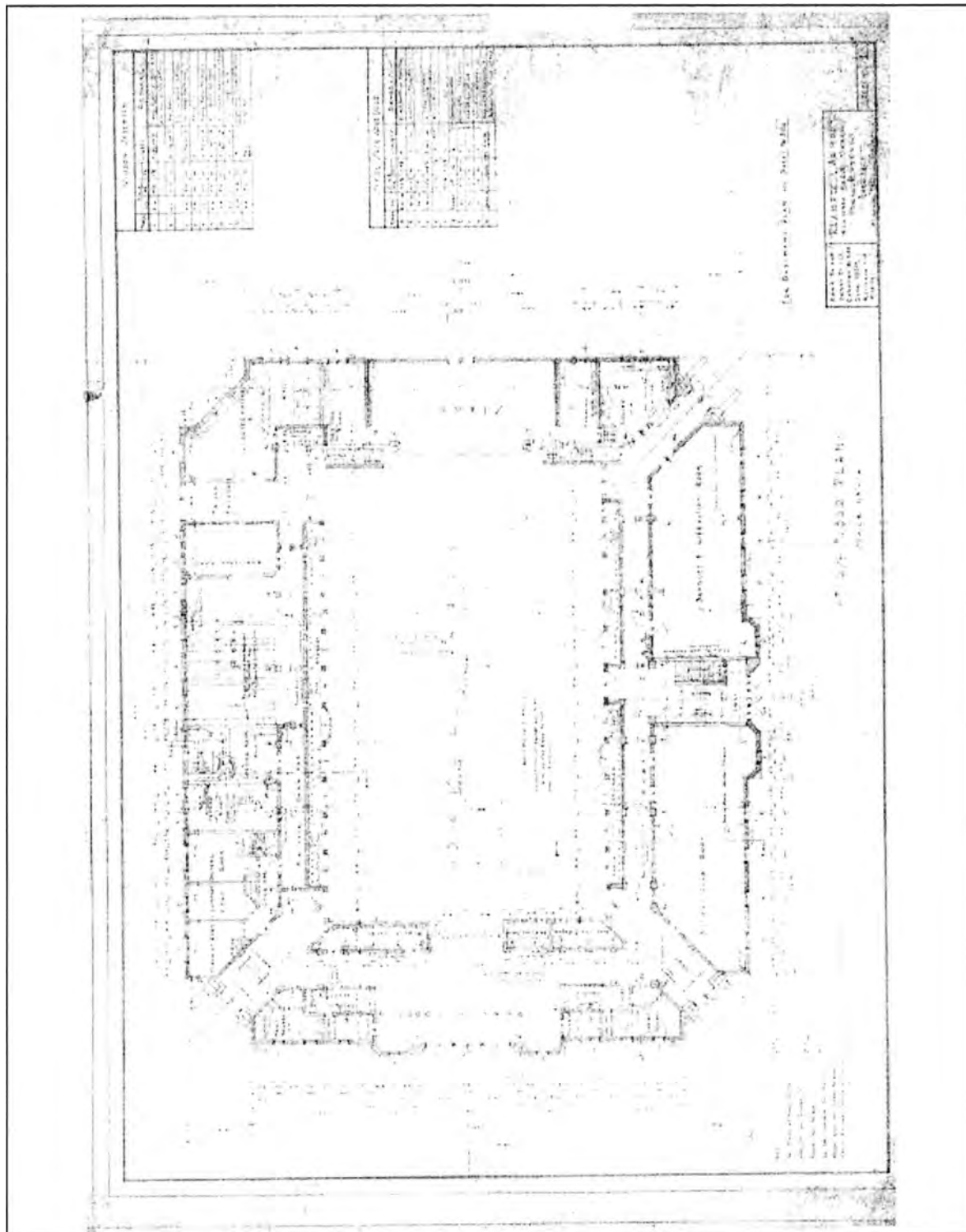
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 7

Figure 6. Historic first floor plan, Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

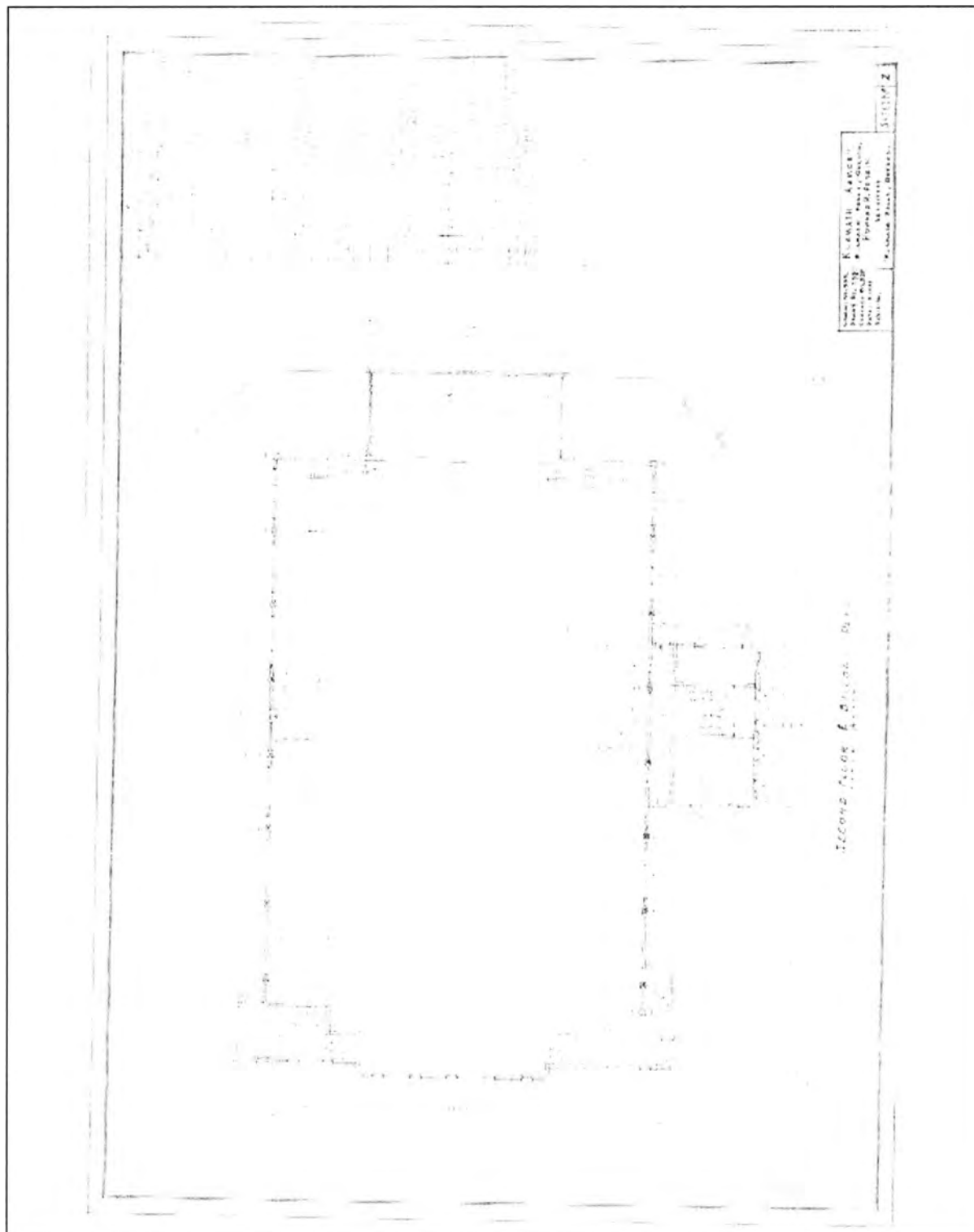
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 8

Figure 7. Historic second floor plan, Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

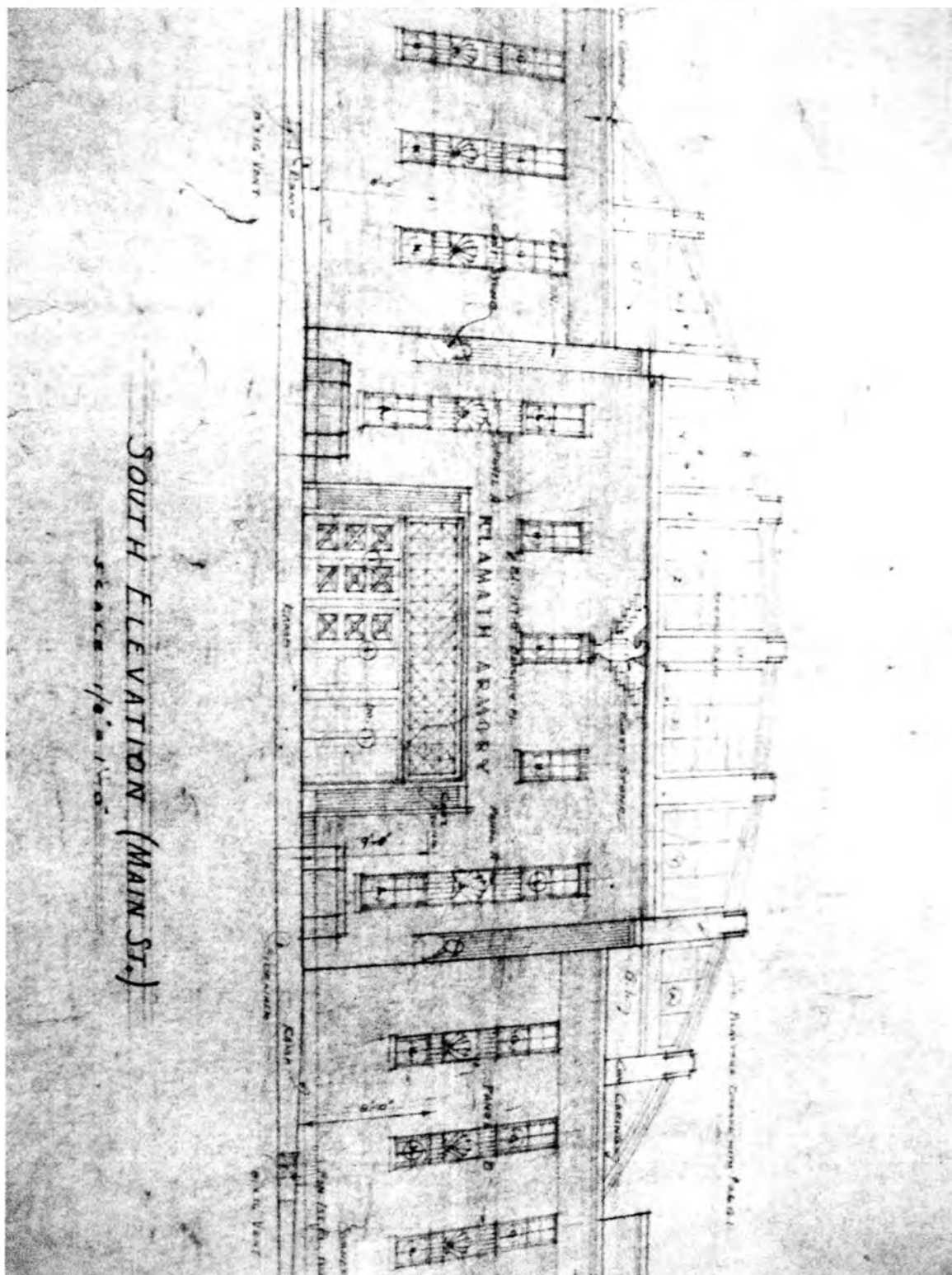
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 9

Figure 8. Historic front facade elevation drawing, Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 10

Figure 9. Historic photograph of construction, March 13, 1935 (courtesy Klamath County Museum).

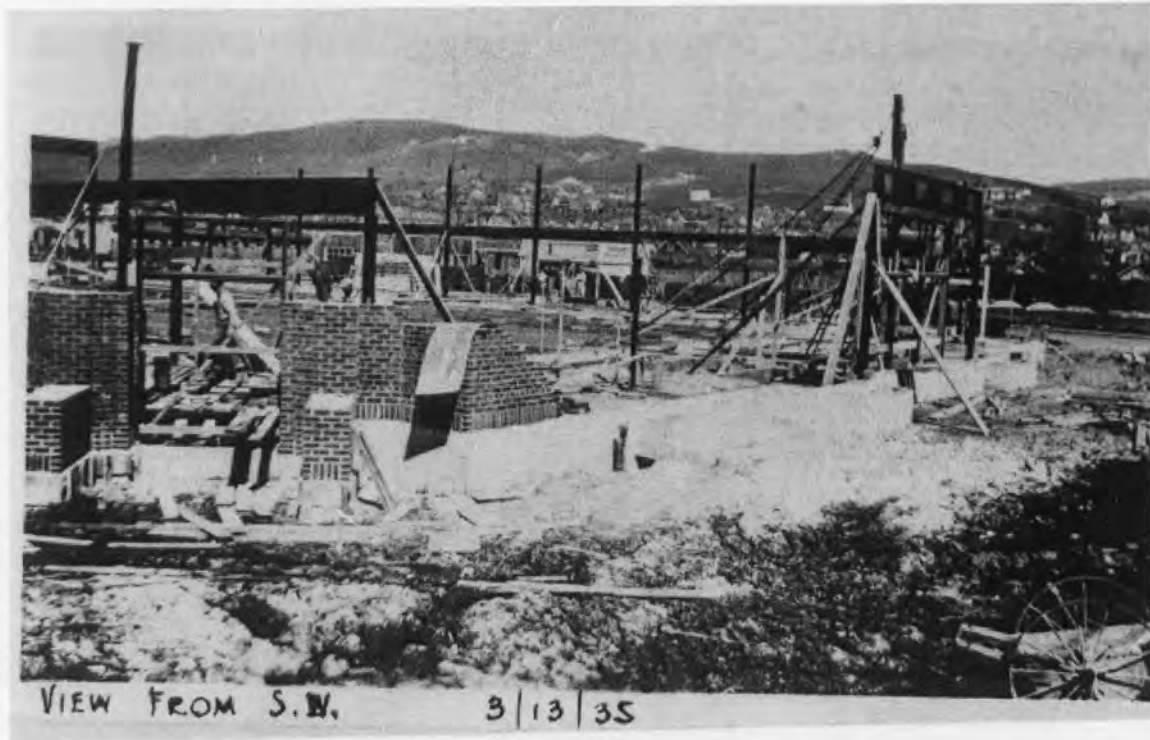


Figure 10. Historic photograph of construction, March 29, 1935 (courtesy Klamath County Museum).



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 11

Figure 11. Historic photograph of construction, May 15, 1935 (courtesy Klamath County Museum).

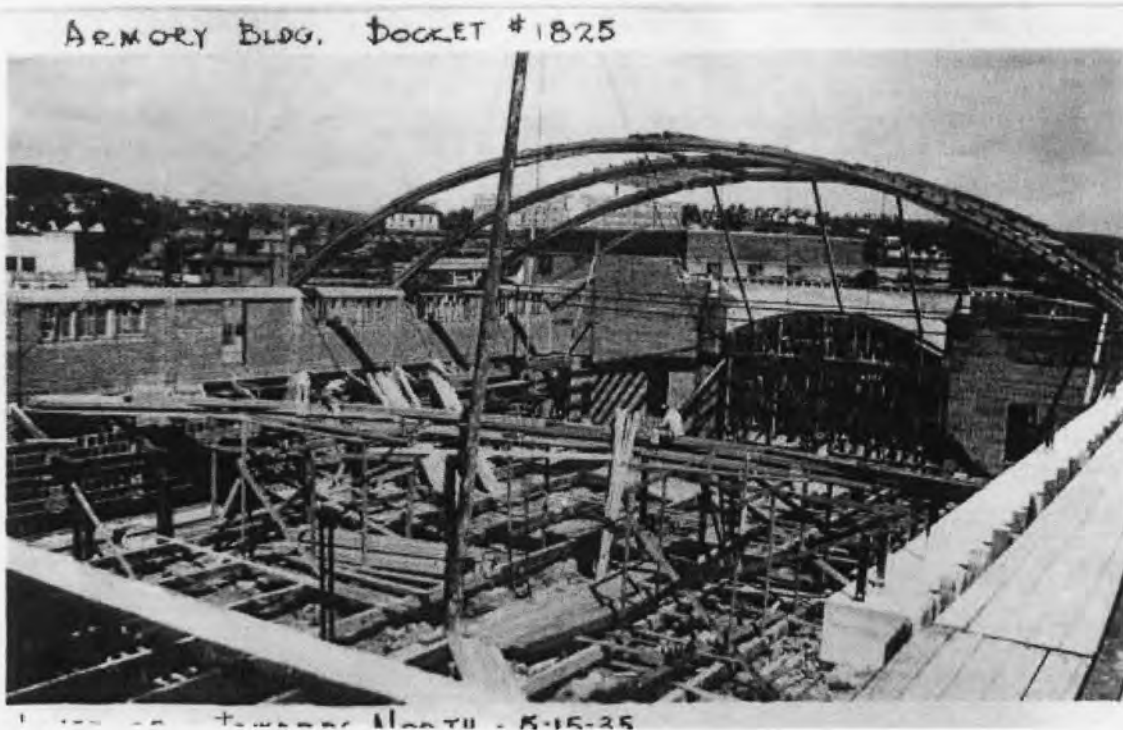
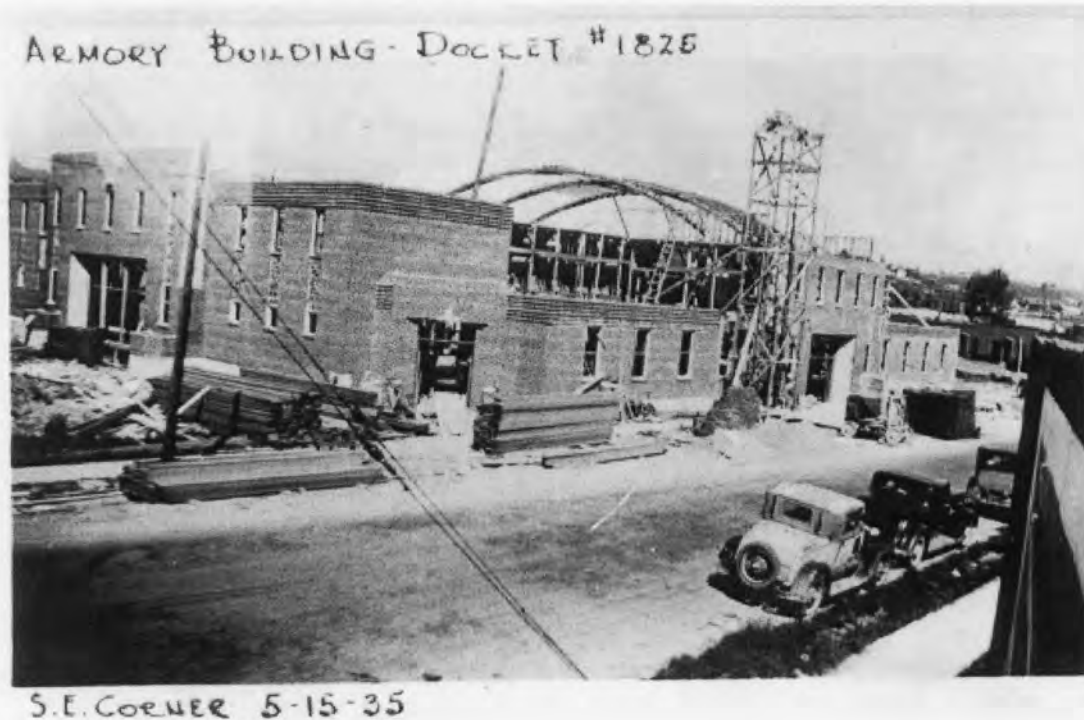


Figure 12. Historic photograph of construction, May 15, 1935 (courtesy Klamath County Museum).



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 12

Figure 13. Historic photograph of construction, June 1, 1935 (courtesy Klamath County Museum).



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium
Name of Property
Klamath Co., Oregon
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 13

Figure 14. "Preparations Complete for Armistice Day Celebration," *Evening Herald*, November 10, 1935, article.

Preparations Complete for Armistice Day Celebration

Preparations are complete for the most elaborate Armistice Day celebration held in Klamath Falls for years.

State officials, head officers of the Oregon National Guard, and many others will come to this city this week-end for the observance program which will take place throughout the day Monday. Dedication of the Klamath armory adds to the importance of the occasion.

Armory Event Set

The Allied Veterans' council has been busy for weeks planning the Armistice observance. The armory committee and representatives of the national guard have developed the armory dedication program.

Monday will be a "closed day" in Klamath Falls, with all public offices and most private business establishments closed.

Here is the day's program:

6:00 a. m.—Reveille, Sunrise Salute by National Guard.

7:30 a. m.—40 et 8 Breakfast, Willard hotel.

10:00 a. m.—Military Parade. The line of march of parade will be from Legion Hall at 4th and Klamath down Klamath to 2nd turn there

toward Main, down Main to New Armory where the parade will pass in review before the reviewing stand where all distinguished guests will be assembled. Turn at Spring and disband in rear of Armory.

10:30 a. m.—The Armistice Day exercises conducted by the Allied Veterans' Council will follow as soon as parade is ended.

The program is as follows:

Star Spangled Banner—Klamath Falls Municipal Band.

Advance of Massed Colors.

Invocation—Rev. Fred Hornshuh.

Selection — American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps.

Address of Welcome—Geo. W. Ford, representing Mayor Mahoney.

Armistice Address—Hon. Earl Snell, secretary of state.

Benediction—Rev. Fred Hornshuh.

12:00 noon—Dedication of Klamath Armory. The dedication of the New Klamath Armory will bring most of the higher officers of the Oregon Na-

(Continued on Page Nine)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

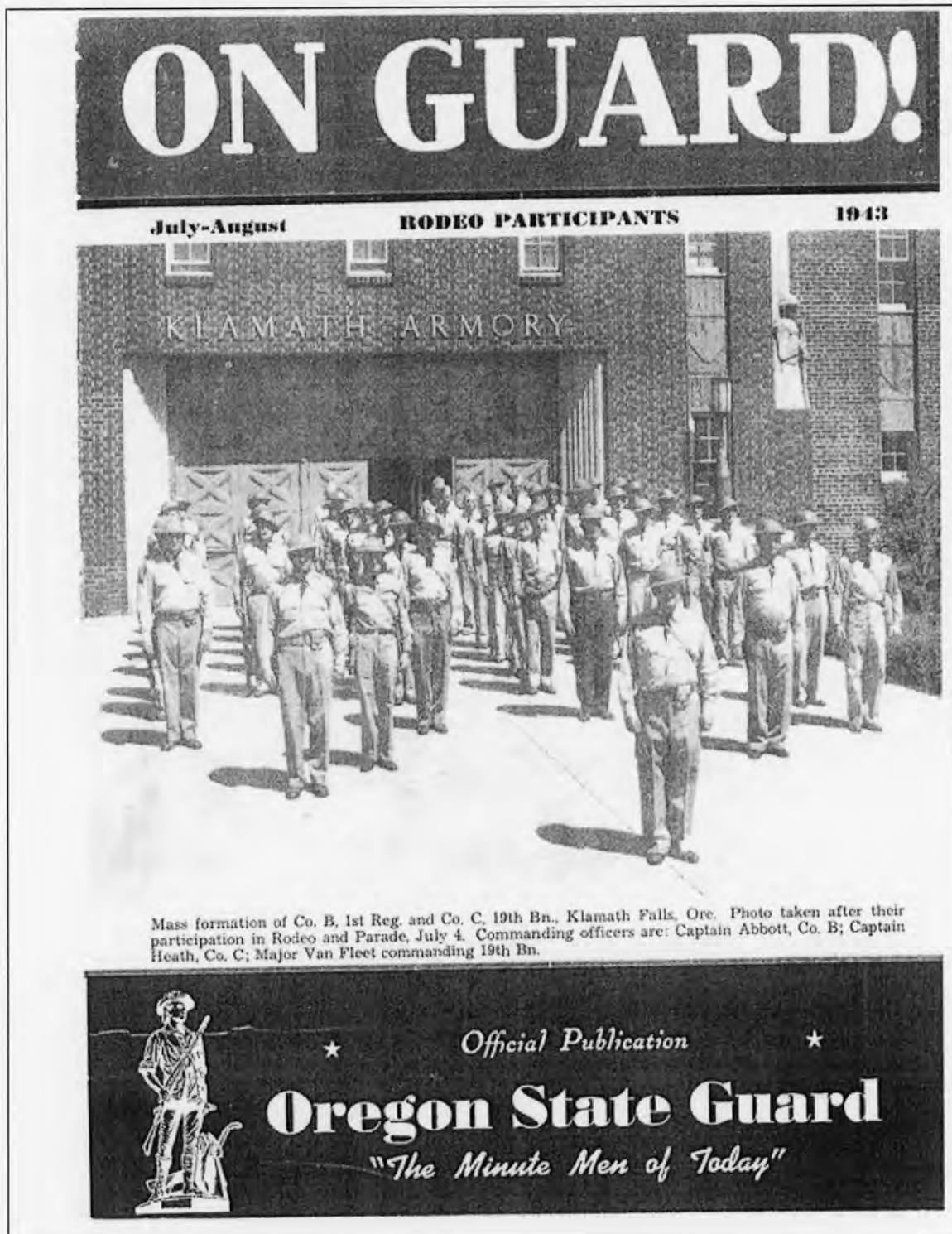
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 14

Figure 15. July-August 1943 edition of *On Guard!*, showing mass formation of Company B, 1st Regiment and Company C, 19th Battalion in front of the Klamath County Armory.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 15

Figure 16. Sample of events held in the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium during the 1940s.

Events of the 40's at the Armory	
Wrestling - - Friday nights	
Shrine Circus	
Duke Ellington Band	March 3, 1940
Fats Waller	July 8, 1940
Gene Krupa & Orchestra	September 10, 1940
Paul Whitman & "	September 30, 1940
Jan Garber & Orchestra	December 17, 1940
Herb Miller (Glen's brother)	May 12, 1943
Frankie Masters Orchestra	August 7, 1943
Bob Wills & His Texas Playboys	July 19, 1945
Ray Herbeck & Orchestra	August 29, 1943
Jimmy James	August 7, 1946
Charlie Barnett	March 2, 1947
Earl Hines	April 10, 1947
Hank Thompson	
Etc.	

Figure 17. Historic schedule of events and rental fees for January and February 1955 held at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.

1955			
Klamath Armory Rentals			
Jan. 1	Hol.	\$55	Baldy Evans dance
15	Sat	20	March of Dimes dance
20	Thurs	150	Tokatee Lions Auto show
21	Fri		
22	Sat		
23	Sund.		
29	Sat	20	March of Dimes dance
Feb. 5	Sat	50	Lillard wrestling
12	Sat	50	Lillard wrestling
19	Sat	55	Shrine Crab feed
23	Wed	40	Lillard wrestling
24	Thurs	45	Camp Fire Girls

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

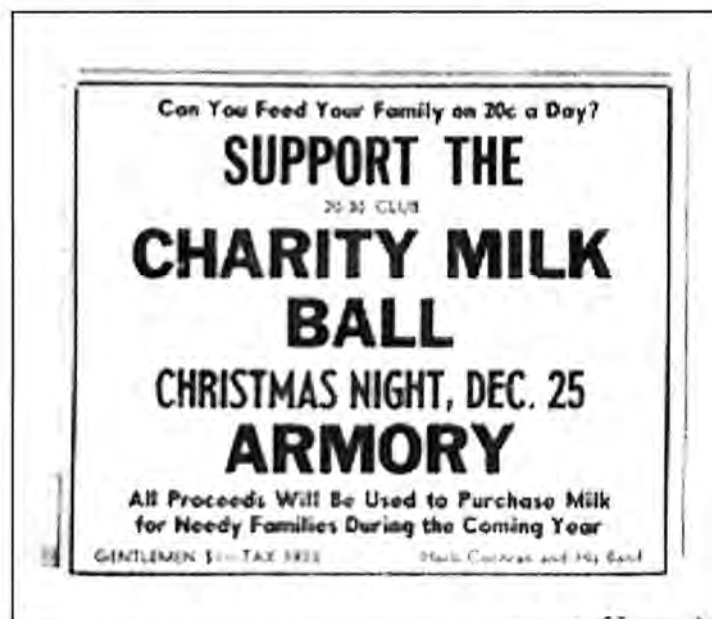
Klamath County Armory and Auditorium
Name of Property
Klamath Co., Oregon
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 16

Figure 18. February 23, 1940 advertisement for Duke Ellington playing at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.



Figure 19. December 23, 1940 advertisement for the Charity Milk Ball held at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

N/A

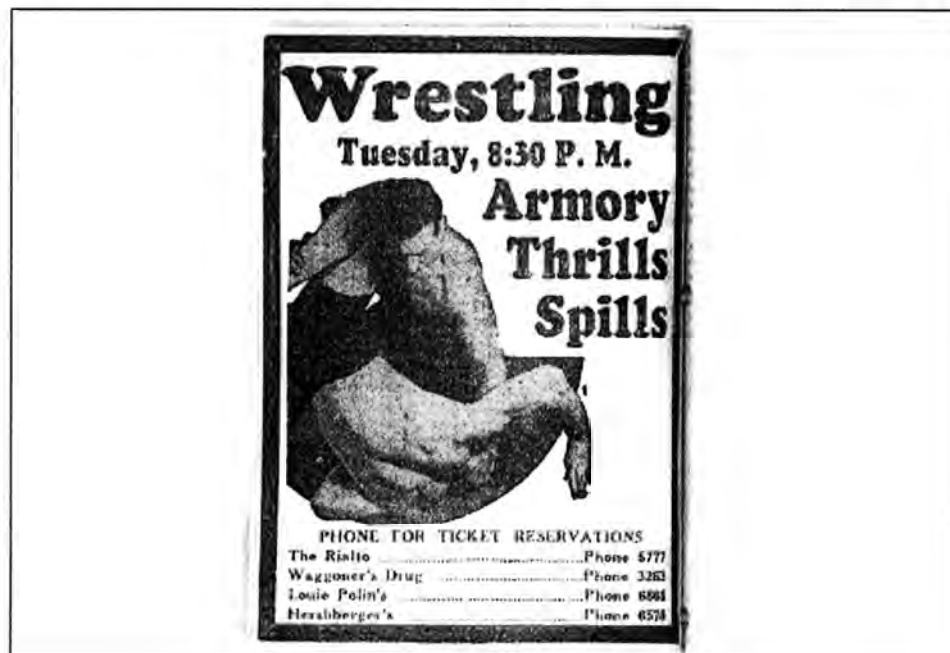
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 17

Figure 20. December 27, 1940 advertisement for the Ice Frolics held at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.



Figure 21. July 5, 1941 advertisement for wrestling matches held at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet


Klamath County Armory and Auditorium
Name of Property
Klamath Co., Oregon
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 18

Figure 22. December 26, 1947 advertisement for Georgie Kaye playing at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.



Figure 23. May 9, 1948 advertisement for Tex Williams playing at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.



Tonight ARMORY

Capital Records' Star, Whose Record of "Smoke! Smoke! Smoke!" Became the Nation's No. 1 Record for 1947.

TEX WILLIAMS

In Person With His Entire
WESTERN CARAVAN

Featuring

Those Comics, Deuce Spriggins and Smoky Rodgers; The Original Yodeling Fiddles: Steel Guitarist, Joaquin Murphy: Smilin' Johnny Weise and a Host of Others.

DANCING 9 'TIL 1 — DOORS OPEN 8:30
ADULTS \$1.50 — CHILDREN UNDER 12, 74¢
TICKETS ON SALE AT DERRY'S MUSIC CO.
BROADCAST 9:30 - 10:00 over KFLW

Tex Williams Hit Records Of The Past Year:

- "Smoke! Smoke! Smoke!"
- "Smoke! Smoke! Smoke!"
- "Happy Birthday, Texas"
- "There's That I Love About the West"
- "Smoking, Folks"
- "Tell a Woman"
- "Smugglers"
- "Stay In Town Again, Folks"
- "The West Is Just the Way"

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium

Name of Property

Klamath Co., Oregon

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 19

Figure 24. June 3, 1948 advertisement for the Polack Bros. Circus at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.

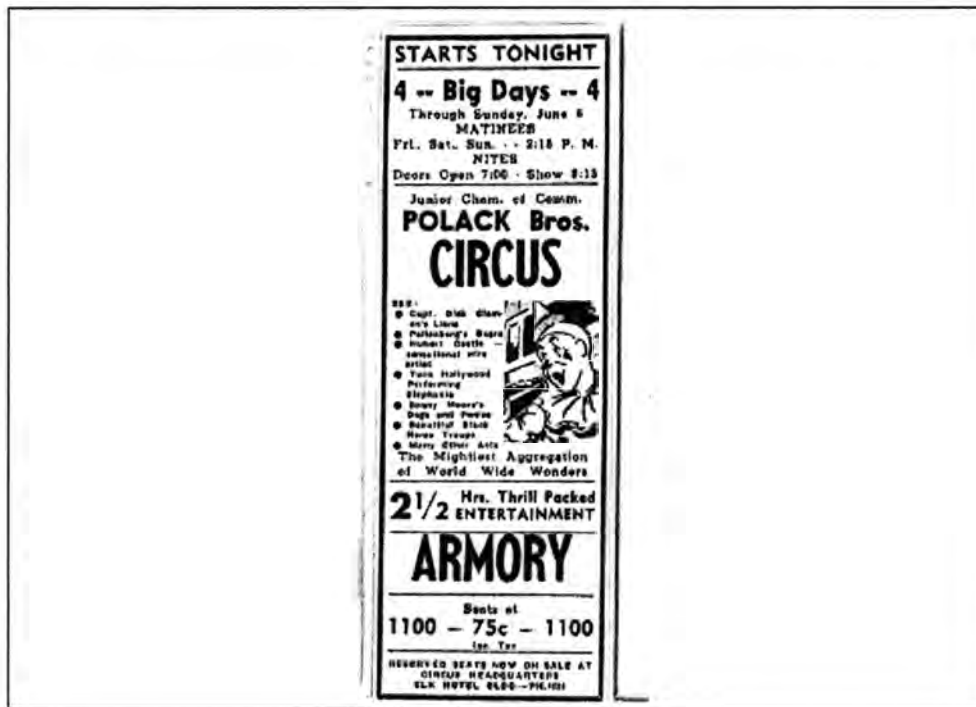


Figure 25. March 13, 1952 photo of Elks women's crab feed held at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium
Name of Property
Klamath Co., Oregon
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 20

Figure 26. January 22, 1957 advertisement for B.B. King playing at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.

"BALDY" EVANS PROUDLY PRESENTS

"THE BLUES BOY"

B. B.

KING

and his recording
ORCHESTRA

"ON MY WORD OF HONOR" "SWEET LITTLE ANGEL"
"WOKE UP THIS MORNING" "YOU UPSET ME BABY"
and featuring

ELMORE "THE VOICE" MORRIS

ARMORY
WED., JAN. 30

Advance tickets now on sale at
DERBY'S MUSIC CO.

The advance sale is limited to 500 tickets at \$1.50.
The price at the armory box office will be \$2.00.
(Prices include tax).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Klamath County Armory and Auditorium
Name of Property
Klamath Co., Oregon
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documents Page 21

Figure 27. June 3, 1960 advertisement for "Fats" Domino playing at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.

Is. W. H. Merrill.

Audrey JoAnn Millap (honors society), Mary Ruth Minor, Lewis C. Morehead, Betty Louise Merrill, Galvin Mayrick Nelson, Ronald Ernest North, Mary Janet Oakley, Alfred C. Officer, Patricia Sue Osborn, Jerry L. Parkinson, Clinton E. Perry, Hollis Ross Pierce, Cinda Lee Pollard, William Lee Richardson, Elaine Marie Robins, Julie Ann Robins, Margaret O'Connor Ryckardt, Jean Marlene Soubert (honors society), Jerry H. Sawyer, Ursel Schlemmer, James Lee Schuler and Edward Nelson Sipp.

Sandra Kay Smith (honors society), Gerald Ray Steward, Lawrence C. Stewart, Elizabeth Gayle Toot (honors society), William Jay Thomas, Michael Stanley Tooke (honors society), John Burton Unery, Andrew Lee Vandergraw, Helen Katherine Wallis, Welthy Ann Warner, Charla Lee Waterhouse, Sandra Kay Watts (honors society), Jennie Gay Mulkey Welch, Robert Lee Welch Jr. (honors society), Larissa Ann Yates and Michael T. Yates.

Underettes for baccalaureate are Norma Dodson, Alice Elie, Kay Cox, Marilyn Cook, Mary Herbinson and Nancy Galloway. For commencement they are Nancy Hansen, Joan Murphy, Sharon Hanson, Mary Henderson, Barbara Osborn and Ellen Shultz.

DANCE
featuring IN PERSON
"THE FABULOUS"
"FATS" DOMINO

and his GREAT ORCHESTRA

Klamath Falls AUDITORIUM
MON. JUNE 6
\$2.50 Per Person —
Dancing 9:1

COMING - JUNE 11
JIMMY CLANTON

\$10 TO \$20 TRADE-IN

129⁸

Figure 28. August 20, 1969 advertisement for a "Rock 'N Roll Dance" held at the Klamath County Armory and Auditorium.

ROCK 'N ROLL DANCE
featuring - IN PERSON
JOHNNY CARROLL

Wanna Breakout Records
"Sandstone Dull"
"The Spring" "Sugar"
"Lost Without You"

ALSO
THE
SPINNERS

Wanna Breakout Records
"Little Girl" "Big May"

KLAMATH FALLS
AUDITORIUM
SAT., NOV. 28
Admission before 9 - \$5.25
After 9 - \$1.50
DANCING 9 'TIL 1
Coming Sat., Dec. 12
JERRY LEE LEWIS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Klamath County Armory & Auditorium

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: OREGON, Klamath

DATE RECEIVED: 4/08/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/25/11
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/10/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/24/11
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000295

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: Y
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

1 ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 5/18/11 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Art Deco armory. POS 1935-1969.
Area of Sign: Architecture, Entertainment/Rec.
military & social history
very popular gathering place for community.
local level of significance.*

RECOM./CRITERIA ARC

REVIEWER [Signature]

DISCIPLINE [Signature]

TELEPHONE

DATE 5/18/11

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



1 of 18 Klamath Co Armory & Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545 19/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0001_01

Cara Kaser <19> 03/31/11



KLAMATH COUNTY MUSEUM

2 of 18 Klamath Co. Armory + Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545 20/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0002_02

Cara Kaser (20) 03/31/11



3 of 18 Klamath Co. Armory & Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545 21/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0003_02

Cara Kaser <21> 03/31/11



4 of 18 Klamath Co. Armory & Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545 22/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0004_02

Cara Kaser <22> 03/31/11



5 of 18 Klamath Co. Armory & Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545 23/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0005_02

Cara Kaser <23> 03/31/11



6 of 18 Klamath Co. Armory & Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545 24/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0006_02

Cara Kaser (24) 03/31/11



7 of 18 Klamath Co. Armory & Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545 25/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0007_02

Cara Kaser <25> 03/31/11



8 of 18 Klamath Co. Armory & Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545_26/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0008_02

Cara Kaser <26> 03/31/11



9 of 18 Klamath Co. Armory & Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545 27/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0009_02

Cara Kaser <27> 03/31/11



10 of 18 Klamath Co. Armory & Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545 28/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0010_02

Cara Kaser <28> 03/31/11



11 of 18 Klamath Co. Armory & Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545 29/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0011_02

Cara Kaser <29> 03/31/11



12 of 18 Klamath Co. Armory & Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545 30/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0012_03

Cara Kaser <30> 03/31/11



13 of 18 Klamath Co. Armory & Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545 31/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0013_03

Cara Kaser <31> 03/31/11



14 of 18 Klamath Armory & Auditorium

Klamath Co., OR

1703545 14/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0014_03

Cara Kaser (32) 03/31/11



15 of 18 Klamath Co. Armory & Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545 15/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0015_03

Cara Kaser <33> 03/31/11



16 of 18 Klamath Co. Armory & Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545 16/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0016_03

Cara Kaser <34> 03/31/11



17 of 18 Klamath Co. Armory & Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545 17/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0017_03

Cara Kaser <35> 03/31/11



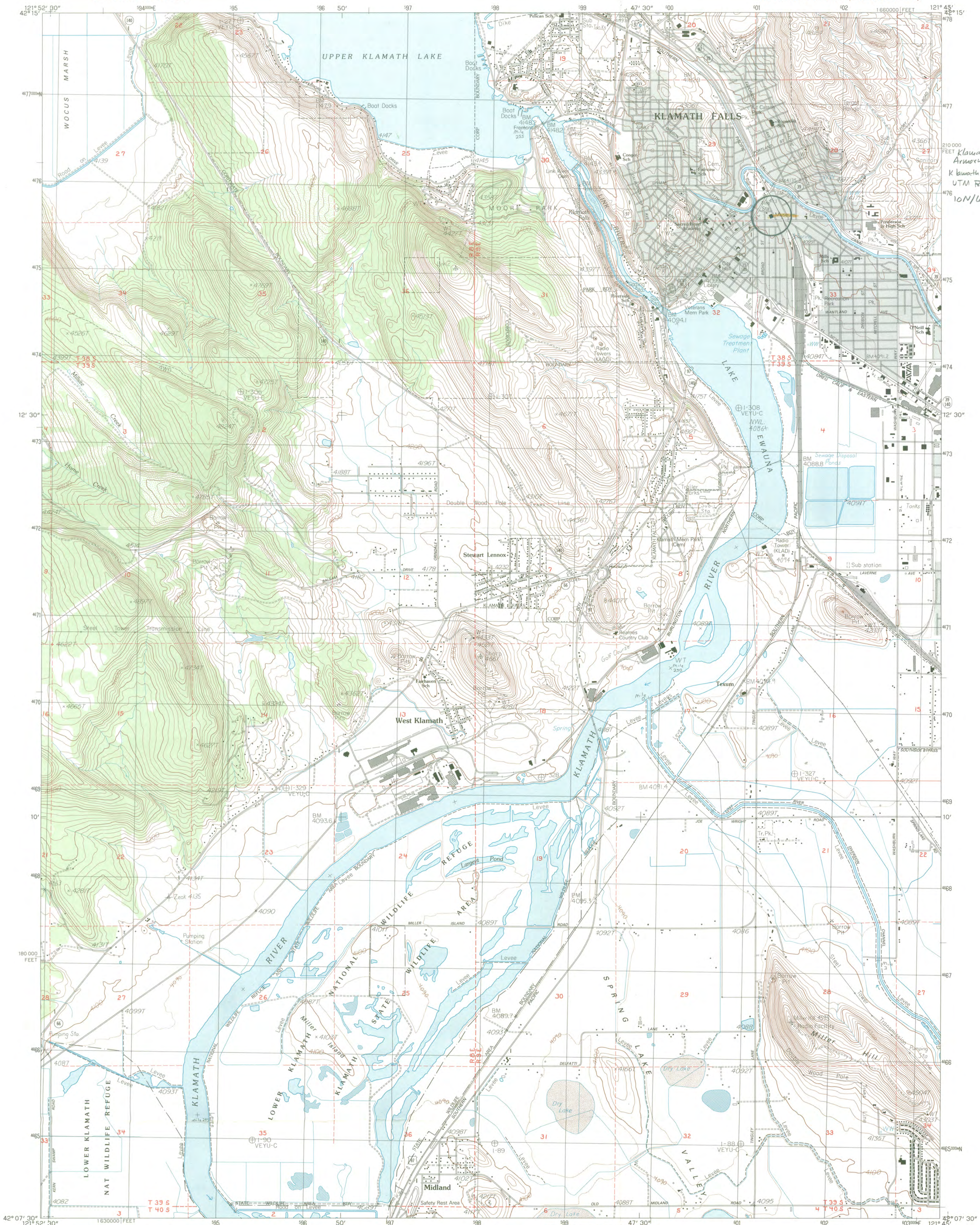
18 of 18 Klamath Co. Armory & Auditorium Klamath Co., OR

1703545 36/36 OR_KlamathCounty_0018_03

Cara Kaser <36> 03/31/11

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

KLAMATH FALLS QUADRANGLE
OREGON—KLAMATH CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Klamath County
Armory & Auditorium
Klamath Falls, Klamath Co., OR
UTM Reference:
10N/601203/4675702

PRODUCED BY THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
CONTROL BY USGS, NOS/NOAA
COMPILED FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN 1980
FIELD CHECKED 1982. MAP EDITED 1985
PROJECTION LAMBERT CONFORMAL CONIC
GRID: 1000-METER UNIVERSAL TRANSVERSE MERCATOR ZONE 10
10,000-FOOT STATE GRID TICS OREGON, SOUTH ZONE
UTM GRID DECLINATION 1980 EAST
1980 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION 18° EAST
VERTICAL DATUM NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
HORIZONTAL DATUM 1927 NORTH AMERICAN DATUM
To place on the predicted North American Datum of 1983,
move the projection lines as shown by dashed corner ticks
(19 meters north / 93 meters east)
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of any
Federal and State Reservations shown on this map
Gray tint indicates area in which selected buildings are shown

PROVISIONAL MAP
Produced from original
manuscript drawings. Infor-
mation shown as of date of
field check.



SCALE 1:24 000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
SUPPLEMENTARY CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 FOOT
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST FOOT
To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808
To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

1	2	3	1 Howard Bay
4	5	2 Whittier Reservoir	
6	7	3 Keno	
		4 Alamogordo	
		5 Hamaker Mtn.	
		6 Worden	
		7 Lost River	

ROAD LEGEND
Improved Road
Unimproved Road
Trail
Interstate Route U.S. Route State Route

KLAMATH FALLS, OREG.
PROVISIONAL EDITION 1985

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

42121-BF-024



Klamath County Museum

Anthropology, History, Geology and Wildlife of the Klamath Basin

January 6, 2011

Cara Kaser
State Historic Preservation Office
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
725 Summer Street NE, Suite C
Salem, OR 97301-1266

Dear Ms Kaser,

Klamath County welcomes consideration of the 1935 Armory building in Klamath Falls for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The building, now owned by Klamath County to house the community's local history museum, continues to serve as a prominent landmark in downtown Klamath Falls.

Earlier this week I discussed this matter with the Board of County Commissioners, and by consensus they approved the nomination.

We who work in the Armory/Museum building every day, and who frequently receive visits from local residents who have vivid memories of many events that have been held here, can attest to the building's rich and colorful history that continues to add new chapters every year.

Sincerely,

Todd Kepple
Manager
Klamath County Museum

January 6, 2011

RE: Endorsement of the Historic Place Nomination

Ms. Cara Kaser, National Register and Survey Coordinator

The Klamath County Museum Advisory Board, at its monthly meeting on Tuesday January 4, 2011 voted unanimously to endorse the nomination of the County Armory and Auditorium building for consideration of designation to the National Register for Historic Places. Please include our endorsement in your file. Should you have any need for additional information, please contact me at 541 882-3265.

Rich Touslee, Chair
Klamath County Museum
Advisory Board

Members:

Nancy Brace
Melinda Hopper
Dr Marcus Peterson
Dr Mark Clark
Bill Johnson
Cody Bowman
Rex Turner
Michele Biri

Cara Kaser - FW: Historic Presentation

From: Judith Hassen
To: Cara Kaser
Date: 1/16/2011 3:32 PM
Subject: FW: Historic Presentation

> To: judithhassen@hotmail.com
> From: s4chun@charter.net
> Subject: Historic Presentation
> Date: Sat, 15 Jan 2011 14:19:16 -0800
>
>
> The board of the Klamath County Historical Society wishes to endorse
> the naming of the Armory, to the National Register of Historic Places.
>
>
> Susan Fortune, Co-President
> Klamath County Historical Society



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Parks and Recreation Department

State Historic Preservation Office

725 Summer St NE, Ste C

Salem, OR 97301-1266

(503) 986-0671

Fax (503) 986-0793

www.oregonheritage.org



April 1, 2011



Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
USDOI National Park Service - Cultural Resources
1201 "Eye" Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: National Register Nomination

Dear Ms. Shull:

At the recommendation of the Oregon State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation, I hereby nominate the following historic property to the National Register of Historic Places:

KLAMATH COUNTY ARMORY & AUDITORIUM

1451 MAIN ST

KLAMATH FALLS, KLAMATH COUNTY

We appreciate your consideration of this nomination. If questions arise, please contact Cara Kaser, National Register & Survey Coordinator, at (503) 986-0784.

Sincerely,

Roger Roper
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Encl.