

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received MAR 3 1982

date entered APR 1 1982

1. Name

historic Armory Block

and/or common Tri-S Building (current)

2. Location

street & number 39-45 Park Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Adams

N/A vicinity of

congressional district First

state Massachusetts

code 025

county Berkshire

code 003

3. Classification

Category

☐ district
☒ building(s)
☐ structure
☐ site
☐ object

Ownership

☐ public
☒ private
☐ both
Public Acquisition
☐ in process
☐ being considered

Status

☒ occupied
☐ unoccupied
☐ work in progress
Accessible
☒ yes: restricted
☐ yes: unrestricted
☐ no

Present Use

☐ agriculture
☒ commercial
☐ educational
☐ entertainment
☐ government
☐ industrial
☐ military
☐ museum
☐ park
☐ private residence
☐ religious
☐ scientific
☐ transportation
☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Tri-S Realty Company, Richard Shea, Trustee

street & number 45 Park Street

city, town Adams

N/A vicinity of

state Massachusetts 01220

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Berkshire County North Registry of Deeds

street & number 65 Park Street

city, town Adams

state Massachusetts 01220

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Inventory of the Historic Assets
of the Commonwealth

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date January 1979

☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town Boston

state Massachusetts 02108

7. Description

ADAMS: Armory Block, 36-45 Park Street

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Armory Block is located on the east side of Park Street south of School Street in Adams Center. The building is a three-story brick structure with an "L" shaped floorplan, part of which extends behind the neighboring Adams Center Firehouse (#47 Park Street). The building's facade (west elevation) and westernmost bay of its north and south elevations are faced with yellow brick laid up in stretcher bond, while all other elevations are of red brick laid up in six rows of stretchers to one row of alternating stretchers and headers.

The facade (west elevation) is asymmetrically arranged, consisting at the first story of an entry located south of center, a wide (double) store front north of the entry and a narrower storefront south of the entry. Trimmings at the first story are made of dressed granite, including the arched surround of the entry and a continuous cornice above the storefronts. Although present storefronts are replacements faced with corrugated aluminum and plastic panels, they appear merely to conceal original cast-iron posts. The facade's upper two stories are identical in their fenestration, although windows of the third story are taller than those of the second, reflecting the presence of an auditorium. Dividing the upper floors into two unequal recessed wall panels is a slightly projecting bay which rises directly above the entry. South of the bay at each story is a group of three windows with intersecting arched heads; in the central bay at each story is a pair of windows with intersecting arched heads; north of the bay at each story are two sets of paired windows. Each window has 1/1 sash with a semi-circular transom set in brick surround; each window sill is part of a continuous course of yellow terra cotta; each window head is made up of radiating brick voussoirs finished with a moulded terra cotta archivolt which rises up from decorated springer blocks. Above the third story is an ornate yellow terra cotta cornice which consists of frieze of grape vines rendered in a running dog pattern, a dentil course, an acanthus modillions. Above the cornice is a parapet.

The south elevation is only one foot distant from a neighboring structure and is mostly blank. Its westernmost bay contains the same decorative details as the facade. Elsewhere windows openings are asymmetrically placed.

The rear (east) elevation is 3 1/2 stories high and is asymmetrically arranged. All window openings have granite sills and undecorated arched heads made up of two rows of headers. At its basement are eight window openings (some blocked) which originally contained 9-pane lights. Alternating with these openings are three wood-frame bulkheads. Most first story windows are short, containing 2/2 sash with rectangular 2-pane transoms except in the northernmost and next-to-southernmost bays where small windows set out of story alignment reflect interior stairways.

The north elevation is attached to a neighboring structure at its east and is concealed by (but not attached to) the Adams Central Firehouse at its west end. In between two bays face the court which is formed by the building's "L" plan and the neighboring firehouse. Windows in this court are asymmetrically placed and are of the same type as at the second and third stories of the block's east elevation. On the west elevation of the building's "L", facing this court, is a loading bay which contains double wood doors and a small one-story brick addition (ca. 1930-40).

Alterations to the Armory Block are relatively minor, consisting of the encasing of original store fronts in modern materials, the blocking of some transoms, and some minor changes of fenestration at the building's rear (east) elevation. In its major architectural features, the Armory Block remains essentially intact.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400-1499	☐ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500-1599	☐ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☐ 1600-1699	☒ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☒ social/
☐ 1700-1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☒ 1800-1899	☐ commerce	☐ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☐ 1900-	☐ communications	☐ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates 1894-95 Builder/Architect UNKNOWN

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Armory Block possesses integrity of location, design, materials, and setting, as well as historical associations with several local organizations which originally occupied the Block. Thus the building meets criteria B and C of the National Register of Historic Places. Built in 1894-1895 by Arthur Daniels, a prominent local businessman, the Armory Block was the largest commercial block of its period in Adams; in addition, the building's ornate Renaissance Revival style trim, particularly its terra cotta ornament and dressed granite entryway, mark it as the town's most finely finished commercial building. As further evidence of its high architectural quality, the block is built of fire proof masonry and steel construction. Upon completion, the Armory Block was occupied by the town library and post office (first story) and office at the second story. The third story contains a hall (66' x 100') which originally served as the armory for the military company, M.V.M. of Adams of which the building's owner Arthur Daniels, was an active member. In addition to his development of this block, Daniels's involvement in local businesses including serving as the treasurer and managing superintendent of the L.L. Born Paper (Manufacturing) Company; the organizer of the Adams Marble Company, and a director of both the Adams Gas Light Company and the Adams Co-operative Bank. Daniels was also active in civic organizations as a director of the Adams Fire District and a member of various fraternal societies, including the G.A.R.

Remaining essentially unaltered, the Armory Block preserves associations of ownership, original use, and design which are characteristics of the highest level of commercial development in Adams during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Biographical Review: Berkshire County, Vo. XXXI, Boston Biographical Review Publishing Co, 1899, pp. 85-86.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .47 acres

Quadrangle name Windsor, MA

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	8
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6	5	4	1	4	0
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4	7	2	0	3	6	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property includes the "L" shaped lot on which the structure stands; the exact bounds of this lot are described in the Berkshire County North Registry of Deeds, Record Book 593, page 1.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Candace Jenkins, Registration Director with Brian Pfeiffer, ACT for Massachusetts

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date January 1981

street & number 294 Washington Street telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston state Massachusetts 02108

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Peter L. Weslowski

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission

date 2/17/82

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 4/1/82

Delores Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service 82004944

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

Property: Armory Block
State, County: MA, Berkshire
Federal Agency: _____Working No. 3/3/82-603Fed. Reg. Date: 2.1.83Date Due: 4/1/82 - 4/17/82Action: ☒ ACCEPT 4/1/82☐ RETURN _____☐ REJECT _____photos 1maps 1☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appealEntered in the
National RegisterSubstantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom. / Criteria _____

Reviewer _____

Discipline _____

Date _____

☐ see continuation sheetNomination returned for: ☐ technical corrections cited below
☐ substantive reasons discussed below1. Name2. Location3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
☒ Public Acquisition		☐ Accessible	

4. Owner of Property5. Location of Legal Description6. Representation in Existing Surveyshas this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ altered	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- _____ summary paragraph
- _____ completeness
- _____ clarity
- _____ applicable criteria
- _____ justification of areas checked
- _____ relating significance to the resource
- _____ context
- _____ relationship of integrity to significance
- _____ justification of exception
- _____ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

USGS References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

Title _____ date _____

13. Other

- _____ Maps
- _____ Photographs
- _____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



Armory Block
Adams
Berkshire County
Massachusetts

Photo Credit: Brian Pfeiffer
Negative Filed: ACT for Massachusetts
Identification: West Elevation
Date: July 1980

MAR 3 1982

Armory Block
Adams, MA
UTM Reference
18/654140/ 4720360

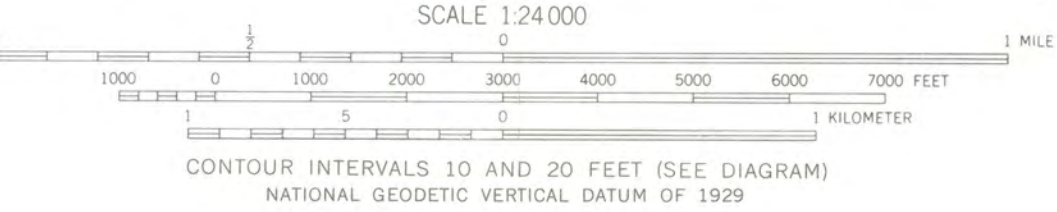
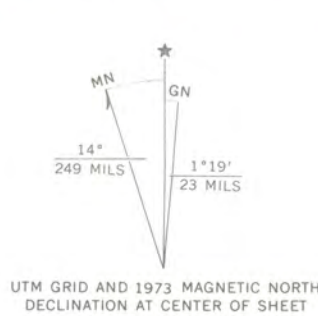
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

WINDSOR QUADRANGLE
MASSACHUSETTS-BERKSHIRE CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1942. Topography by planetable surveys 1943 and 1944
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1972. Field checked 1973
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

WINDSOR, MASS.
N4230-W7300/7.5

1973
AMS 6369 II SE-SERIES V814



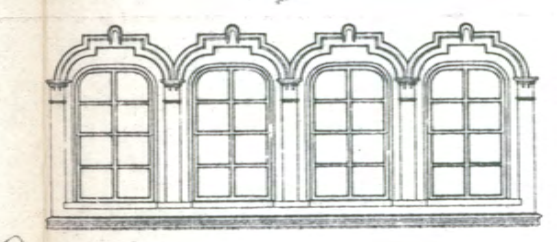


Armory Block
Adams, MA
Scale: 1 inch = 100 feet
MAR 3 1982

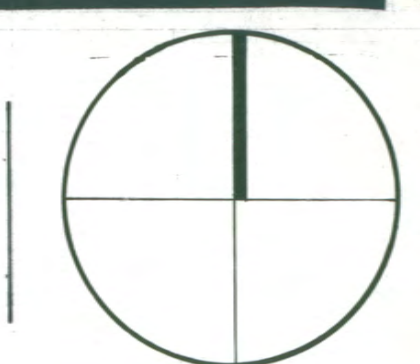
ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Note:
This drawing is a composite of information
from several sources; it does not represent
official or legal boundaries. Information
presented on this drawing is for illustration
only.

Prepared for:
Architectural Conservation Trust
(ACT) For Massachusetts



Vision
The Center for
Environmental Design
and Education
678 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts
Telephone 617-491-3763





**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

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

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

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

February 17, 1982

Ms. Carol Shull
Acting Keeper
National Register Division
National Park Service
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following National Register nomination forms:

Adams: Armory Block (local)
Adams: Barrett Block (local)
Adams: Berkshire Mill #1 (local - DOE 6/81)
Adams: Jones Block (local)
Adams: Mausert Block (local)
Adams: Pittsfield & North Adams Passenger Station and Baggage and
Express House (local)
Adams: Simmons Block (local)
Lawrence: American Woolen Mill Housing District (local)
Melrose: Town Center Historic District (local)
Milton: Belcher-Rowe House (local)
Needham: Davis-Mills House (local)
Needham: Joshua Lewis House (local)
Needham: Townsend House (local)
Peabody: Nathaniel Felton Houses (local)
Stockbridge: Glendale Power Station (local)
Stockbridge: Wheatleigh (state)
Webster: Main Street Historic District (local-DOE)
Westfield: Octagon House (local)
Weymouth: Old South Union Church (local)

All were voted eligible by the State Review Board at their meeting on 2/10/82 and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Comments by owners and other interested parties are attached. Owners and chief elected officials were notified of pending Review Board consideration on December 23, 1981.

Sincerely,

Candace Jenkins

Candace Jenkins
Registration Director

MAR 3 1982

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered APRIL 1, 1982

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mausert Block	Adams Berkshire County
<u>Armory Block</u>	Adams Berkshire County
Simmons Block	Adams Berkshire County
Octagon House	Westfield Hampden County

Notified

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Honorable Paul E. Tsongas
Honorable Silvio O. Conte

Mid-Atlantic Regional Office, NPS
North Atlantic Regional Office, NPS

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