

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in 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.

RECEIVED

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Villisca National Guard Armory

Other names/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

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### 2. Location

Street & number: 316 East Third Street

City or town: Villisca State: Iowa County: Montgomery

Not For Publication:  N/A

Vicinity:  N/A

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

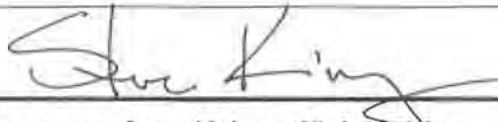
I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

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

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A \_\_\_ B X C \_\_\_ D

	1 APRIL 2015
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>State Historical Preservation Office of Iowa</u>	
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

Villisca National Guard Armory  
Name of Property

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**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:)

for Elson H. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

5-18-15  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object



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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE Victorian/

Romanesque

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Concrete, Brick, Asphalt

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

### Summary Paragraph

The Villisca National Guard Armory, completed in 1913, stands in a commercial setting on the north side of the central town square in the town of Villisca, Montgomery County, Iowa. The west side is flanked by a newer brick store front, and on the east side by a modern metal building. "The Armory is a two-story masonry building that measures approximately 61 feet wide by 122 feet deep built to the lot line. A 1954 addition was made to the northeast corner and extends onto the adjacent city lot" (Rogers 2000). The main building interior includes offices, bathrooms, an arms safe, and gymnasium on the first floor, classrooms and gym balcony on the second floor, and bathrooms, storage, and crawl space in the basement. The property condition varies from excellent (new roof and critical tuck pointing of the mortar joints) to poor (some interior walls and ceiling panels damaged due to water intrusion). The building has been altered since its construction; it's interior by lowering the first floor office ceilings and stairway partition, and exterior by removal of the front casetellations, door and window replacements.

### Narrative Description

The Villisca National Guard Armory is a two-story masonry building. "The front façade is a 6:1 American Bond load-bearing brick construction with the brick being a polychrome vitrified face brick. The sides and rear of the building were constructed with a softer brick of a lighter reddish-orange in color. The mortar on the front façade is a tinted red mortar to match the brick and has a coarse sand aggregate" (Rogers 2000).

"Originally, the roofline had a series of castellations around the sides and extending along the front façade (see Figures 2 and 3). These castellations were made of brick but have since been removed" (Rogers 2000).

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### **Narrative Description (Continued)**

“The façade is distinguished by a recessed central entry marked by a corbelled brick archway with precast concrete lintel and accent details. The lintel has a raised name-plate of “19 Co. F 55 I.N.C. 2,” with the letters now highlighted in black. Another painted sign over the doorway reads “DT 1. CO. A/1<sup>st</sup> BN. 168<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY,” with the symbol of the so-called Red Bull Division. A single window is directly above the recessed entryway on the second floor. The entryway is also flanked by symmetrically-placed tripled sets of windows across the second and first floor façade” (Rogers 2000).

The original windows of the façade were primarily double-hung wood framed windows. Except for the first floor windows west of the entry, the current windows are double-hung metal frame with an interesting 2/3 pane pattern using only horizontal muntins. West of the entry, the first window has a gridded bar pattern; the second window has a half-sized vinyl frame, while the third window has been completely bricked in. The lintels are corbelled bricks, while the sills are precast concrete. The windows are all replacements dating from the 1950s-1960s (See Figure 4), with the latest installed in 2000.

The exterior west, east, and north walls of the original building are primarily brick construction. The west wall abuts a smaller brick commercial building and has two small metal framed windows at the north end of the second floor. The east wall abuts a smaller metal commercial building and has two full metal framed windows for one of the second floor classrooms, and three small metal framed windows at the balcony level. The north wall has two very large windows, a pedestrian fire door on the first floor, and two second floor fire doors with fire escape stairs coming down from them. The south, east, and north walls of the garage are primarily textured tile brick construction, with one large window on the south wall, three large windows on the north wall, and two smaller windows, a pedestrian door, and a large overhead door on the east wall.

“The front doors are also metal replacement doors added in 1949. Concrete steps lead up to the front door. These steps are also replacements of the original concrete steps and landing” (Rogers 2000).

“The interior of the armory has two floors and a partial basement. The first floor has a central hall flanked by offices and storage space to either side in the south half of the building. The north half is a large hall used primarily as a gymnasium that is open to the second floor ceiling. That ceiling is covered with the original pressed tin ceiling. Three walls of the gymnasium have a balcony level on the second floor that looks out over the gym. The balcony is lined with benches. The balcony is supported by square wooden columns. Wainscot lines the hall on the first floor and serves as a baluster around the balcony level. The second floor has three classrooms and a library in the south half, with the balcony level composing the north half of the building.” Emergency doors are located at the north end of the west and east sides of the balcony, and the northwest corner of the gym. The basement has bathrooms, a lounge, and a rifle range (also used to repair jeeps during the 1950’s) that was converted into a locker room, and then used for storage. “To the west side of the former rifle range is an unexcavated area of the basement level that likely helped soundproof the rifle range” (Rogers 2000). The garage can be entered through interior doors in the northeast corner of the first floor gym or basement

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### **Narrative Description (Continued)**

storage room. It consists of one large room with a stairway to the Armory gym, ramp to the basement, and has one exterior vehicle and pedestrian door each on the east side.

“In 1949 some improvements were made to the Armory building including the replacement of the front doors and the concrete steps and landing. Additions to the building have included a vehicle storage garage for the armory added to the northeast corner in 1954 and built of textured tile brick walls and a concrete block foundation.” A modern building abuts the southeast corner of the armory. An older commercial building abuts the west side of the armory. But they are not associated with the armory building (Southern Exposures Tourism 1997:30; Rogers 2000).

The overall architectural design of the building show some lingering influence from the Late Victorian Romanesque Revival style, as noted by the round-arched central entry and the use of corbelled brick to raise design details out from the façade (McAlester and McAlester 1998).

The loss of the castellations and the replacement of the front façade windows have had an impact on the overall integrity of the exterior of the armory building, but the building still retains a fortress-like quality despite these changes. “The interior retains good integrity, particularly in the gymnasium where the original features are largely intact. Overall, while impacted, the historic integrity is still sufficient to be considered eligible for its architectural significance because the overall plan and design of the front façade remains intact, particularly the round-arched recessed entryway and fenestration” (Rogers 2000).

The Villisca National Guard Armory, along with its 1954 garage addition, retains its integrity from the period of significance identified for this property, 1913 – 1964. Aspects of integrity and how the Villisca National Guard Armory meet the integrity required for the National Register listing are discussed below:

- **Location:** The Villisca National Guard Armory occupies its original location on the north side of the city square in the town of Villisca in Montgomery County. The main building and related addition included in the nomination have not been physically moved.
- **Design:** Despite removal of the castellations on the front roofline in the mid-1950's and the front window replacements dating from the 1950s-1960s (see Figure 4), the Villisca National Guard Armory retains sufficient integrity. This evaluation is made primarily on the fact the building included in the nomination retains its original form, floor plan, interior arrangements, and its original form.
- **Setting:** The setting of the Villisca National Guard Armory retains most of its original integrity. While many of the other buildings around the city square have changed through the years, the Villisca National Guard Armory remains the primary building there. The Villisca National Guard Armory is very distinctive as the largest two-story brick building with a central entry and offices facing the city square.
- **Materials:** The materials originally used for construction of the Villisca National Guard Armory remain intact with some exceptions. The original brick, mortar, and poured concrete foundation remain intact as do the original interior wood floors, and interior basement concrete floors. The gymnasium with its balcony and ceiling remain mostly as they were originally built with the exception being water damage on the north end. The stairways, first floor offices, second floor classrooms, and basement lounge are also mostly intact.

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- **Workmanship:** Integrity of workmanship is evident throughout the Villisca National Guard Armory. With a few minor exceptions, the masonry work of original concrete workers and brick layers remains visible. The building's structural system remains unaltered.

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**Narrative Description (Continued)**

- **Feeling:** The Villisca National Guard Armory continues to evoke an historic sense of the property's use. The building's prominence on the city square makes it hard to miss when venturing to the business center of town. Physical proximity of this property to the main events in the community helps to convey a sense of the property's historic use.
- **Association:** The Villisca National Guard Armory is well-known as having been part of the community's activities. Less is known by the community about its use for a wide range of events. National Register designation may help in re-establishing this relationship with the community.

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### 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.)

- 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.)

Military

Entertainment/Recreation

Architecture



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**Period of Significance**

1913-1964

**Significant Dates**

1913

1954

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Arbuckle, Less/

Kelly, W.A.

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

“The Villisca Armory was built in 1912-13 on the north side of the town square in Villisca, Iowa.” It is significant at the local level for its historical significance (Criterion A) and for its architectural significance (Criterion C). The integrity of the current building has been impacted by the loss of some architectural detail and the replacement of the front windows; however, it represents a good example of monumental public architecture in Villisca and a design that was influenced by the popular architectural styles of the day. “It retains sufficient integrity to impart a sense of time and place as well as its function as an armory.” (Rogers, 2000) While the use of this architectural style had started going out of use in other parts of the country some ten years earlier, it was also used by other Iowa Armories built in this period (Fogelson, 1989). It is historically significant because it was the oldest National Guard Armory in the State of Iowa in continuous use from 1913 until 2000, but also because it served as the primary community recreational and social center for the town of Villisca. “It has always hosted the Villisca High School basketball games, proms, and other dances in addition to local weddings, Saturday night dances, and the annual Fireman’s Ball.” It continued to serve many of these community functions when the Armory was transferred to the High School. “The building has also been used for school classrooms in addition to the National Guard functions as a training and drill center, equipment storage building, and the annual Military Ball. As a result, the Armory has

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served a vital function in the daily life of Villisca for 87 years and is an important fixture in the community.” (Rogers, 2000)

“The Villisca Armory was built primarily with funds raised by local residents. This fundraising effort was noted in the May 9, 1912, edition of *The Villisca Review*, with the actual excavation for the basement of the Armory begun in July of that same year (*The Villisca Review* July 11, 1912). That article noted that the basement was being excavated by Lou Pierce, with W.A. Kelly and Less Arbuckle “hard at work every day making the final draft of the plans for the building and getting them ready to be made into blueprints” (idid.). Unfortunately, subsequent articles about the Armory construction and its dedication failed to mention who the builder or contractor was for this project. The construction began in July 1912 and completed in May of 1913, although Company F held its first drill in the new building in March 1913 even though much of the finish work including the laying of the maple flooring in the gymnasium still needed to be done (*The Villisca Review* March 13 and May 1, 1913). The Armory was officially dedicated on May 15, 1913, with a large celebration attended by many including local and state dignitaries and high-ranking National Guard officers (*The Villisca Review* May 22, 1913). Therefore, while the date over the entryway of the Armory reads “1912”, the building was not actually completed and open for use until 1913” (Rogers, 2000).

“Prior to the construction of the present armory, the town of Villisca had had a military organization as far back as 1876, with the organization first known as Company B, which saw action in the Philippines during the Spanish-American War (Higgins 1976; Merritt 1906:313-314). The first armory building was located on Third Avenue and was built in 1880 (Merritt 1906: 314). The present armory had its start in the incorporation of The Co. F 55<sup>th</sup> Infantry Iowa National Guard Armory Company on May 31, 1912. The purpose of the incorporation was to purchase new land and build a new armory to replace the old building, which had been condemned. A lot was purchased and building funds were both raised and borrowed. As noted above, excavation for the basement began in July 1912, with the building finally completed and dedicated on May 15, 1913. The final cost of the building was around \$15,000 according to the local newspaper” (*The Villisca Review* May 1, 1913; Rogers, 2000). This stock company leased the armory to the state for some 40 years, with a final year-by-year lease paying \$2,490 annually to the corporation (Jacobsen, 2009:28).

“During World Wars I and II, Villisca’s Company F as part of the 168<sup>th</sup> Infantry of the 34<sup>th</sup> Division sent many young men off to war. During World War II many of the company were either killed or captured during the infamous battle at Kasserine Pass in North Africa. An annual supper to honor those former Prisoners of War has been held at the Villisca Armory since 1948 (Artlip and McKenzie 1996:65). Company F was specifically part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the 168<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the 34<sup>th</sup> Division. Iowa State Highway 34 has been dedicated to the memory of the 34<sup>th</sup> Division, a.k.a. the “Red Bull Division”. In its final years, the Villisca Company was the Headquarters Company Detachment 1 of the Iowa National Guard (Rogers, 2000).

“The Iowa Army National Guard maintained 45 armories in 44 communities in 2000 and of the approximately 135 buildings that were built as armories from 1874-2004, 87 still stand, 42 are still owned by the Guard, and the rest are in private ownership”. In 2000 there was none older than Villisca’s which was still owned by the Guard and only eight older than Villisca that were privately owned. “These buildings have strong ties to the history of the communities, as it was on the community to build the building” (Williams, 2008).

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Social and school events began almost from the beginning. Research in the local newspaper, the Villisca Review, shows Junior-Senior Prom, Graduation, and other school events have occurred on a regular basis in the Armory since 1914. In addition to school basketball games in the Armory, Villisca had its own basketball team that played there. A number of school plays were performed on a temporary stage setup at the north end of the gym. Interviewing a number of older Villisca residents has revealed the extent of social events that occurred in the Armory. During the 1950's, the Harlem Globe Trotters played there and local merchants sponsored cooking classes. It was also noted that the Armory was used for recruiting National Guard members only, at least since the end of World War II.

“Before federal funding assistance in construction of National Guard Armories became available, the Purchase Option Lease Program was initiated that consisted of completely State supported procurement with no Federal funding assistance. As part of the program, local non-profit corporations could acquire title to a site or existing building through a long-term mortgage and lease the facility to the Armory Board of the State of Iowa. The Purchase Option allowed the State through the Armory Board to purchase a facility upon expiration of the terms of the lease or upon payment of the outstanding mortgage (General Statement – Purchase Option Lease Program 1973). The Villisca National Guard Armory Corporation entered the Purchase Option Lease Program in 1953, with the State purchasing the facility in 1973” (Rogers, 2000). In April 2000, the ownership of the Villisca Armory was transferred to the Villisca Community School District. The building continued to be used for school purposes and functions until July 2013 but no longer served as an armory. In Nov 2012, the Villisca Community School District sold the armory at auction to the current owners.

The current owners intend to rehabilitate the Villisca National Guard Armory to be a multipurpose facility. Potential uses of this facility include a small business resource center, and space for various forms of recreation, retail, storage rental, large community events, and community historic artifact displays.

“The Villisca Armory is one of at least eleven extant armory buildings in the state dating from the early 1910s in construction. The others include the armories at Red Oak (built c.1910), Eagle Grove (1914), Sioux City (c.1910), Fairfield (1910), Washington (1913), Davenport (1911 and 1916), Cherokee (1911), Charles City (c.1910), and Knoxville (c.1910). A preliminary evaluation of these eleven buildings by Lance Foster of Iowa State University indicated that six were eligible or potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (Armory List provided by Mary Jones, Iowa Army National Guard, Camp Dodge). The Villisca Armory was listed among the eligible six, although it was noted that there was some dispute as to its eligibility.” What makes the Villisca Armory outstanding among this group is the fact that it was the oldest Armory building in continuous use since it was completed in 1913 until 2000. “It is also one of the few Armory buildings located directly on main town square. Furthermore, it has served as an integral part of the community's social, recreational and educational activities throughout its life-span. While it may not be the most outstanding architectural example of an armory building, it certainly still imparts a sense of its function and its importance in the community. As such, it is concluded that the Villisca Armory is eligible for the National Register primarily for its historical significance but also for its architectural significance” (Rogers, 2000).

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

- Artlip, Elaine, and Bettie McKenzie  
1996 *Good Times in Montgomery County, Iowa*. Iowa Sesquicentennial Red Oak Project.
- Fogelson, Robert M.  
1989 *America's Armories*. Harvard University Press
- Higgins, Andrea, compiler  
1976 *Villisca Memories 1853-1976*.
- Jacobsen, James E  
2009 *The Iowa National Guard, A Changing Partnership: Community Participation in the Guard, 1945-1968*
- McAlester, Virginia, and Lee McAlester  
1998 *A Field Guide to American Houses*. Alfred A. Knopf, New York.
- Merritt, W.W., Sr.  
1906 *A History of Montgomery County, Iowa*. The Express Publishing Company, Red Oak.
- Rogers, Leah D.  
2000 *Intensive Survey and Evaluation of the Villisca National Guard Armory (Inventory No. 69-00108) in the Town of Villisca, Montgomery County, Iowa*
- Southern Exposures Tourism  
1997 *National Guard Armory*, In *Southern Iowa Tour Guide*. Southern Exposures Tourism, Creston, Iowa.
- The Red Oak Express  
1999 *A Pictorial History of Montgomery County, Iowa*. The Red Oak Express
- Williams, Abbey  
2008 *Villisca National Guard Armory*. Class Paper for Iowa State U. ARCH 567 – Preservation, Restoration, and Rehabilitation

### Other Sources:

- The Villisca Review*, January 1912-June 1913. Microfilm copies, State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines.
- Unidentified newspaper article dating from June 24, 1954, and titled "Iowa Guard Spends Several Millions in Making Improvement". (Information compiled by Lance Foster, Iowa State University).
- General Statement-Purchase Option Lease Program dated 1973. Copy provided by Mary Jones, Environmental Specialist, Iowa Army National Guard, Camp Dodge, Johnston, Iowa.
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Villisca, Iowa; 1912, 1929, 1929+ (updated to at least 1954)
- List of Armories in State of Iowa. Compiled by Lance Foster and provided by Mary Jones, Environmental Specialist, Iowa Army National Guard, Camp Dodge, Johnston, Iowa.

### 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

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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: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** Less than 1

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |              |                 |                   |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 15N | Easting: 333549 | Northing: 4532823 |
| 2. Zone:     | Easting:        | Northing:         |

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3. Zone: Easting: Northing:  
4. Zone: Easting: Northing:

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

The boundary of the Villisca National Guard Armory is the north 38 feet of even width of lot 240 and all of lot 241 in the Town of Villisca, being a subdivision of a part of the east half of the southwest quarter of section 22, in township 71 north, of range 36 west.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes the city lots where the building is located.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: John McKean, President  
organization: Villisca Armory, LLC (Title owner of property; Joan McClelland, secretary)  
street & number: P.O. Box 63  
city or town: Villisca state: Iowa zip code: 50864  
e-mail mckeanj23@gmail.com  
telephone: 316/841-8273  
date: 11/07/13

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**Additional Documentation**

**Photo Log:**

Name of Property: Villisca National Guard Armory

City or Vicinity: Villisca

County: Montgomery State: Iowa

Photographer: John McKean

Date Photographed: See individual photographs.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera (Also see Figure 1):

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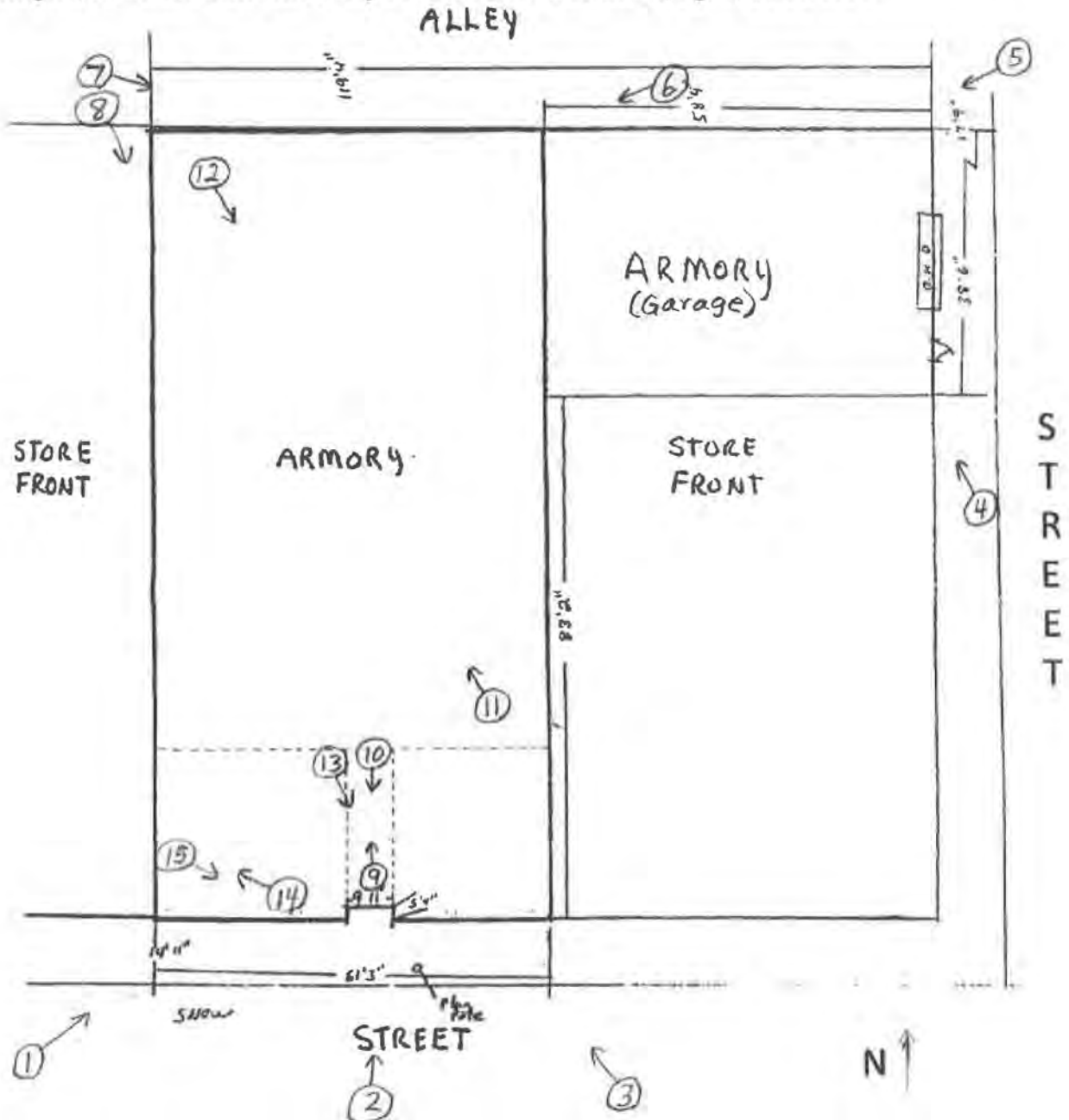
<b>Photo Name</b>	<b>Date Taken</b>	<b>Building Type, Age, and Other Notable Features</b>	<b>Facing Where</b>
Photo #1	05/03/2013	General view of Armory	NE
Photo #2	03/20/2013	Detail of façade of Armory	N
Photo #3	12/24/2013	General view of Armory showing corner lot	NNW
Photo #4	03/20/2013	Garage addition to Armory showing corner lot	NNW
Photo #5	"	Garage addition to Armory and rear of Armory (street view)	WSW
Photo #6	03/20/2013	Garage addition to Armory and rear of Armory (alley view)	WSW
Photo #7	03/31/2013	General view of rear of Armory	ESE
Photo #8	12/24/2013	General view of rear / west side of Armory	SES
Photo #9	12/09/2013	Interior First Floor hallway	N
Photo #10	"	Interior First Floor hallway	S
Photo #11	"	Interior of Gymnasium in Armory	NW
Photo #12	12/09/2013	Interior of gymnasium in Armory	SE
Photo #13	03/20/2013	Interior of Second Floor hallway	SE
Photo #14	12/09/2013	Interior of Second Floor SE Classroom	NW
Photo #15	"	Interior of Second Floor SE Classroom	SE

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**Figure 1: Photo Sketch Map (Not to Scale)**

Rogers, Leah: Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet, Pg. 6; 11/06/1996



**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 100 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, D.C.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Figure 2: Villisca National Guard Armory, 1920's (Provided by Mary Jones)

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Figure 3: Villisca National Guard Armory, 1930's (Source Unknown)

United States Department of the Interior  
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Figure 4: Villisca National Guard Armory, 1950's (Provided by Mary Jones)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

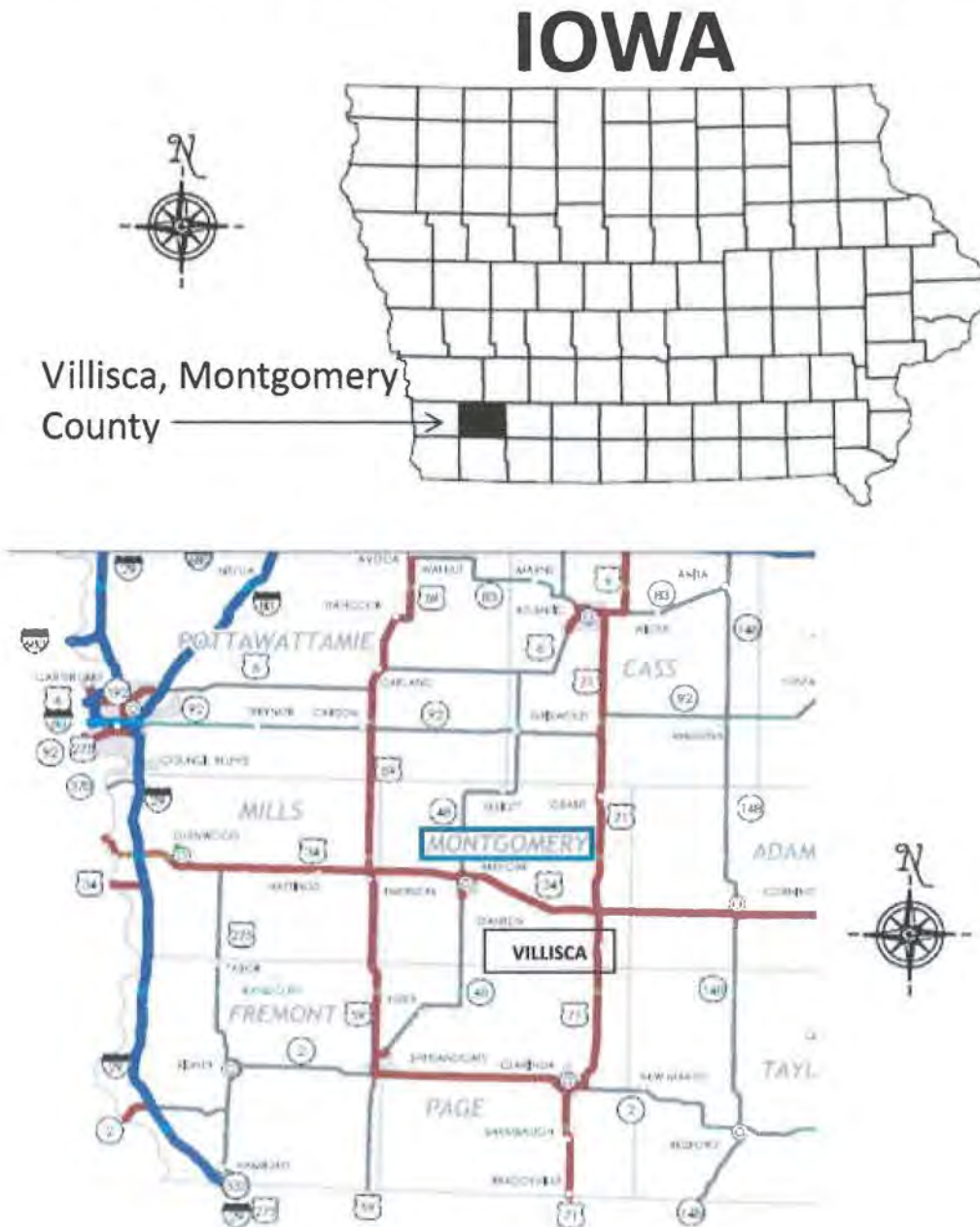
### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Villisca National Guard Armory
Name of Property
Montgomery, Iowa
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Embedded Images Page 20

### SKETCH MAPS

Figure 5: General Location of Villisca National Guard Armory  
Various Highway Maps, Iowa Department of Transportation; 2013 (Not to Scale)



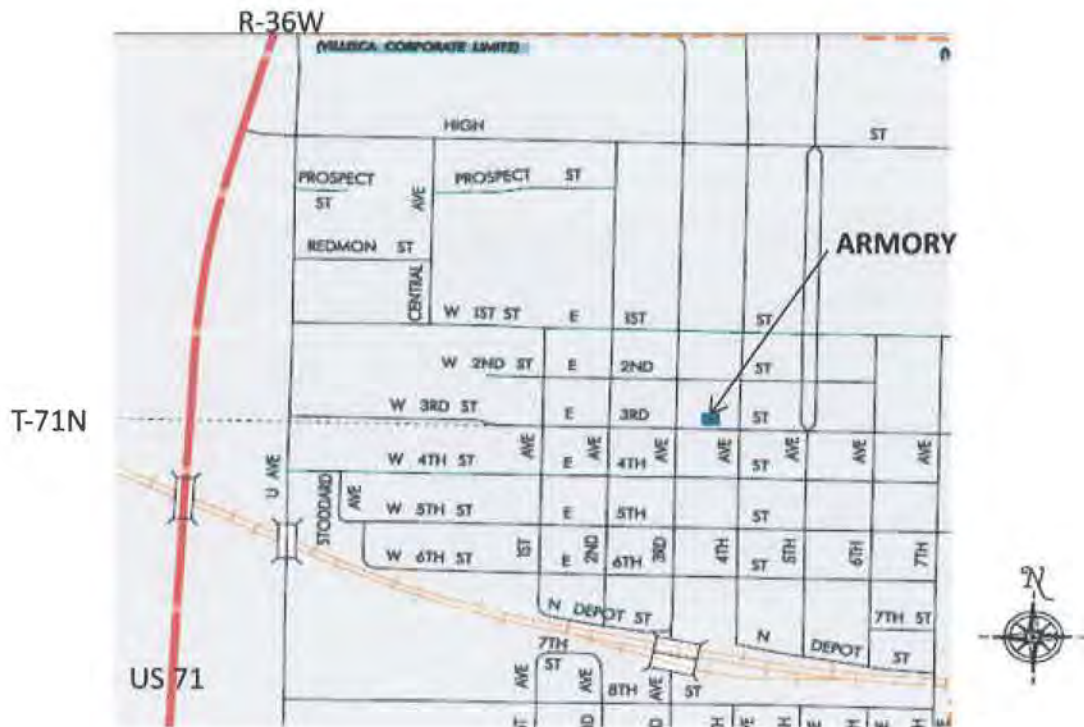
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National Park Service

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Figure 5: General Location of Villisca National Guard Armory (Continued)  
Various Highway/Street Maps, Iowa Department of Transportation; 2012-2013 (Not to Scale)



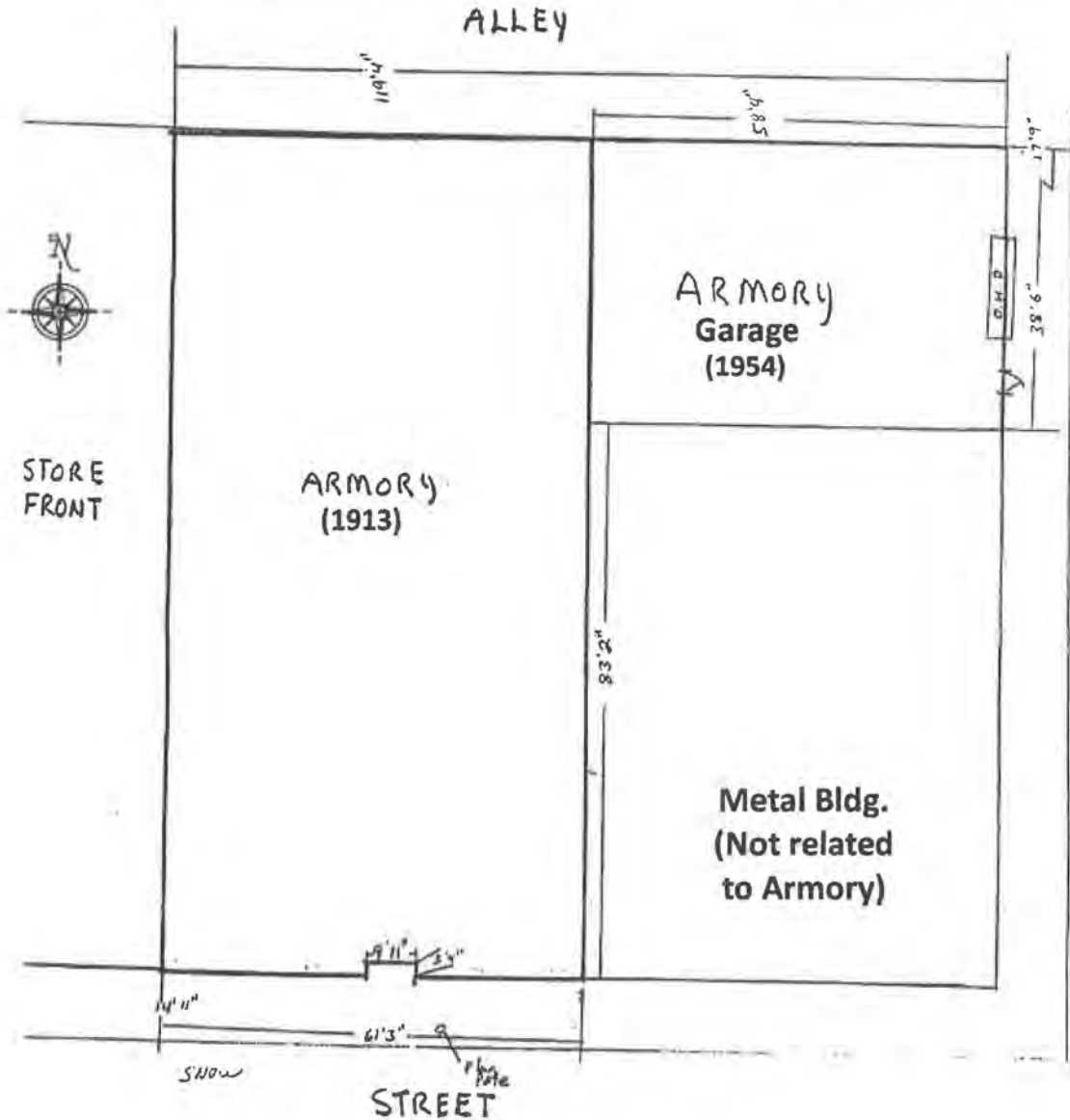
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Figure 6: Plan Map of the Villisca National Guard Armory Location (Not to Scale)  
Rogers, Leah: Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet, Pg. 6; 11/06/1996



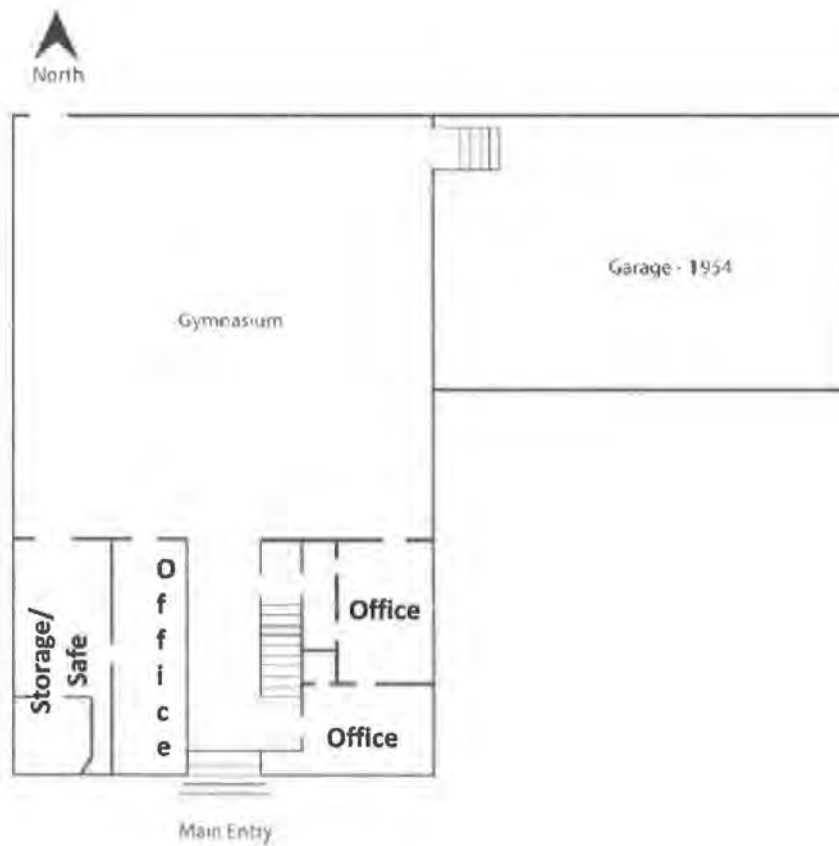
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Villisca National Guard Armory
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Figure 7: Plan Map of First Floor of Villisca National Guard Armory (Not to Scale)  
Williams, Abbey: ARCH 567 – Preservation, Restoration, and Rehabilitation, Pg. 23; 04/24/2008



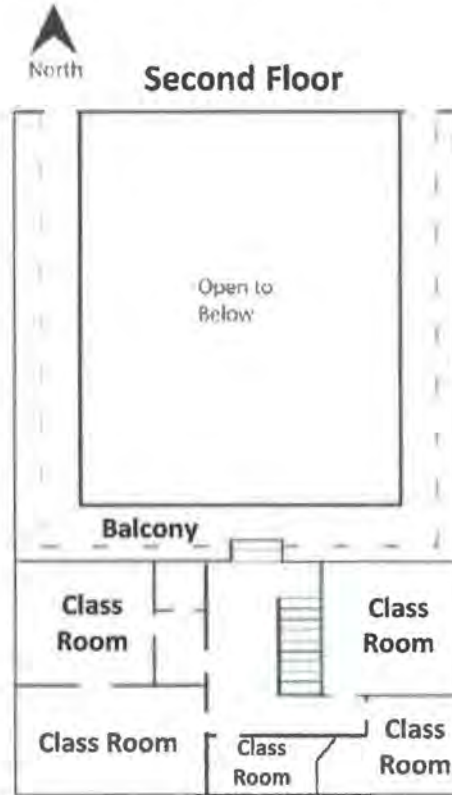
United States Department of the Interior  
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### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Villisca National Guard Armory
Name of Property
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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Figure 8: Plan Map of Second Floor of Villisca National Guard Armory (Not to Scale)  
Williams, Abbey: ARCH 567 – Preservation, Restoration, and Rehabilitation, Pg. 23; 04/24/2008





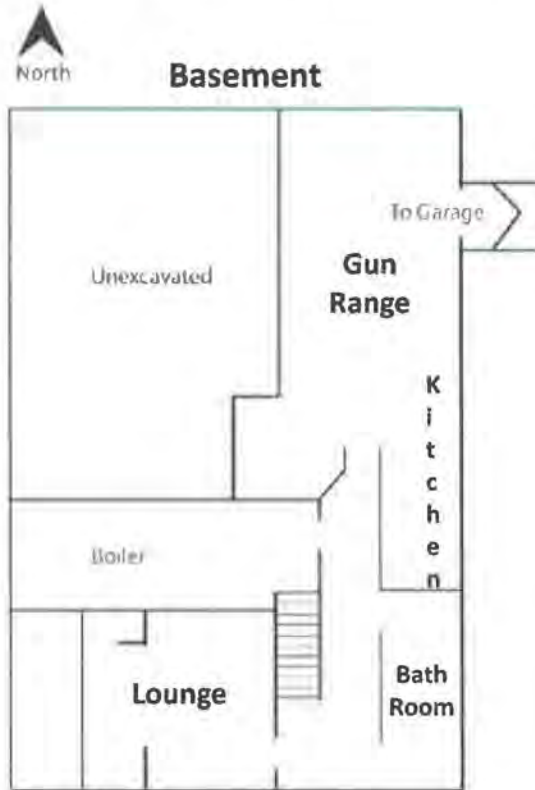
United States Department of the Interior  
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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Villisca National Guard Armory
Name of Property
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County and State
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Section number Embedded Images Page 25

Figure 9: Plan Map of Basement of Villisca National Guard Armory (Not to Scale)  
Williams, Abbey: ARCH 567 – Preservation, Restoration, and Rehabilitation, Pg. 23; 04/24/2008





ER AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE

19 CO. F 55, L.M.C. 121



19 CO. F 55, I.N.G. 12

 **DET 1, CO. "A"**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> BN. 168<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY** 



19 CO.F 55.I.N.C. 12

DET J. C.  
1st BN 168th IN







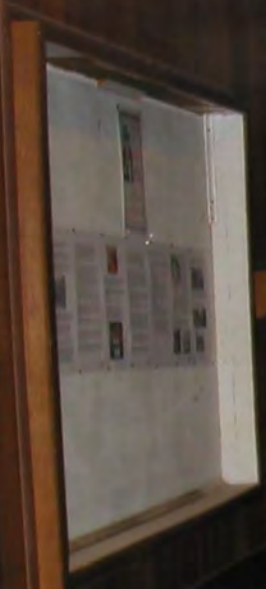








**BE ALL YOU CAN BE  
IN THE ARMORY!**





EXIT













UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Villisca National Guard Armory

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: IOWA, Montgomery

DATE RECEIVED: 4/03/15      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/24/15  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/11/15      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/19/15  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000227

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    5-18-15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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.

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

MARY COWNIE, DIRECTOR  
CHRIS KRAMER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR  
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR



IOWA  
ARTS  
COUNCIL

PRODUCE  
IOWA

STATE HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY OF IOWA

STATE HISTORICAL  
MUSEUM OF IOWA

STATE HISTORICAL  
LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

STATE  
HISTORIC  
SITES

STATE HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION  
OFFICE OF IOWA

IOWA  
HISTORICAL  
FOUNDATION

April 2, 2015

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief  
National Register and National Historic Landmarks  
1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Fl.  
Washington D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

The following National Register nomination(s) are enclosed for your review and listing if acceptable.

- Villisca National Guard Armory, 316 E. 3rd Street, Villisca, Montgomery County, Iowa

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Foster Hill".

Elizabeth Foster Hill  
National Register