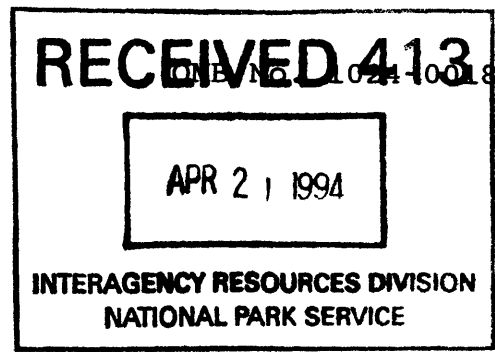


NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



1. Name of Property

historic name Pawhuska Armory

other names/site number Pawhuska National Guard Armory

2. Location

street & number 823 E. 8th Street not for publication N/A
city or town Pawhuska vicinity N/A
state Oklahoma code OK county Osage code 113
zip code 74056

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

=====

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 nationally statewide X locally. (N/A See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Blake Wade April 4, 1994
Signature of certifying official Date

Oklahoma Historical Society, SHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

=====

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====

4. National Park Service Certification

=====

I, hereby certify that this property is: Entered in the National Register

✓ entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain): _____

Edson H. Beall 5/20/94
Signature of Keeper Date
 for 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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DEFENSE Sub: arms storage

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DEFENSE Sub: arms storage

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Works Progress Administration

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

roof ASPHALT

walls STONE/sandstone

other _____

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

=====
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 a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ECONOMICS
MILITARY
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance 1935-1937

Significant Dates 1937

=====
8. Statement of Significance (Continued)
=====

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Nolen, Bryan W., Supervising Architect,
Works Progress Administration

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====
9. Major Bibliographical References
=====

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

_____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

_____ previously listed in the National Register

_____ previously determined eligible by the National Register

_____ designated a National Historic Landmark

_____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

_____ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

State Historic Preservation Office

_____ Other State agency

_____ Federal agency

_____ Local government

_____ University

_____ Other

Name of repository: N/A

=====
10. Geographical Data
=====

Acreage of Property less than 2 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>14</u>	<u>738820</u>	<u>4060910</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

N/A See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Dr. Mary Jane Warde

organization Oklahoma SHPO date February 28, 1993

street & number 2806 W. 18th telephone (405) 377-0412

city or town Stillwater state OK zip code 74074

=====
Additional Documentation
=====

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage
or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

=====
Property Owner
=====

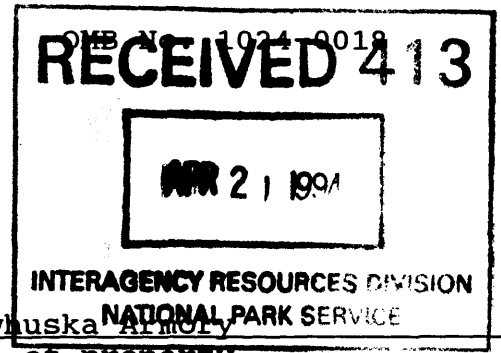
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name State of Oklahoma/Oklahoma Military Department
street & number 3501 Military Circle, NE telephone (405) 425-8000
city or town Oklahoma City state OK zip code 73111
=====

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 9



Pawhuska Armory
 name of property
Osage County, Oklahoma
 county and State

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SUMMARY:

The Pawhuska Armory (Pawhuska National Guard Armory) is a single-story, rectangular sandstone building (125' x 140') built by the Works Progress Administration between 1935 and 1937. It stands on the northwest corner of East Eighth Street and Ruble Avenue. To the north and east are residential areas, to the south is uncultivated land surrounding a vacant business building, and to the west is a city park. The armory building consists of two main sections. To the north is a barrel-roofed drill hall paralleling East Eighth Street and opening on to Ruble Avenue. Centered on it is a smaller flat-roofed administrative section, facing East Eighth Street. The roofs are rolled asphalt. The walls are rusticated, generally coursed sandstone topped by a concrete coping. The use of native stone and the castellated facade mark it as an excellent example of WPA architecture in Oklahoma. The vertical lines and projecting features suggest an Art Deco influence.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION:

The Pawhuska Armory, consisting of two main sections, is shaped in a broad T. The axis of the drill hall, on the north, parallels East Eighth Street. The narrower administrative section, on the south, is centered on the drill hall and faces onto East Eighth Street. Both the barrel roof of the drill hall and the flat roof of the administrative section are rolled asphalt. Exterior walls of the building are rusticated, generally coursed buff sandstone with some larger stones randomly inserted. A simple concrete coping tops the wall. Heavy metal gutters provide drainage from the roof. Broad pediment-shaped pilasters extend above the roofline to define each corner of the building. Elongated steel-framed transoms and hopper windows with center pivot sections, set over stone sills, contribute to the vertical lines of the building. The vertical decorative features of the building demonstrates an Art Deco influence. The use of native stone and the castellated facade mark the Pawhuska Armory as a prime example of WPA architecture in Oklahoma.

The public entrance to the Pawhuska Armory is located on the south elevation of the administrative section and opens onto East Eighth Street. It is set in a complex portal that is centered on this elevation and extends above the flat roof. The portal has a pediment-shaped parapet between small square piers. Shorter pedimented pilasters flank the entrance. Near the top of each pilaster are three parallel vertical indentations, or embrasures, creating a triple-line motif repeated elsewhere on the building. Single vertical indentations are centered in each of these pilasters at the level of the entrance. On the right pilaster is mounted a diamond-shaped wooden plaque with the yellow-on-red "Thunderbird" emblem of the 45th Infantry Division. A single modern metal door is set beneath a segmented arch. Flanking the portal are groups of four windows. Each group includes paired three-over-five windows between single

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Pawhuska Armory
name of property
Osage County, Oklahoma
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EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION (continued)

two-over-five windows. At each end of the south elevation are slightly pedimented pilasters with the triple-line motif. Here the lines of the motif are lengthened to nearly half the height of the pilaster to give them greater importance. Along the roofline between the portal and pilasters on this elevation of the administrative section is a series of shorter decorative vertical indentations, or embrasures, that echo the triple-line motif. Inserted into the pilaster on the southwest corner is a dedication plaque contributed by the American Legion. It notes WPA Administrator General W. S. Key, Oklahoma National Guard Adjutant General Charles F. Barrett, Architect Major Bryan Nolen, Mayor Charles Bacon, and Superintendent Roy Beacroft. In the pilaster on the southeast corner is a WPA dedication plaque dated 1936. Set back from the primary facade of the administrative section on this elevation are the protruding ends of the longer drill hall. The width of these protrusions are covered by broad pedimented pilasters decorated with the triple line motif on their outer facades.

The west elevation of the Pawhuska Armory reveals the division of the building into two main sections. The right, or administrative section contains two three-over-five hopper windows. In the angle formed by this section and the protruding west end of the drill hall is a low, flat, concrete-topped extension. This is the roof of the basement rifle range located under the drill hall stage. On the west elevation of the drill hall, the concrete coping follows the curving line of the barrel roof. There is a single three-over-five window at the far right. At the right corner of the drill hall is a pedimented pilaster. The left corner has a mock pedimented pilaster. Each extends above the roofline.

The north elevation of the Pawhuska Armory is the length of the drill hall. At either end are the mock pedimented pilasters extending above the roofline. Centered on this elevation are paired single entrances. Each contains the original wooden door beneath vertical three-over-four transoms. To the right of the doors are two pairs of three-over-six windows. There is a single three-over-six window at the extreme right. To the left of the doors are two pairs of three-over-six windows. Windows and transoms on this elevation extend to the same height.

On the east elevation of the Pawhuska Armory the east end of the drill hall and the set-back east end of the administrative section provide access from Ruble Avenue. At either corner of the drill hall are pedimented pilasters decorated with the triple line motif. Between the pilasters the concrete coping follows the curving line of the barrel roof. Centered on this elevation of the drill hall is a metal overhead door. To the right are three three-over-six windows. To the left of the overhead door is a single door with a vertical three-over-

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Pawhuska Armory
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EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION (continued)

four transom. Two three-over-six windows are to the left of the single door. All windows and the transom extend to the same height. To the left of the drill hall in the set-back east elevation of the administrative section are two three-over-five windows. To the left of the windows are two wooden overhead doors. At the southeast corner of the administrative section is a wide, pedimented-shaped pilaster extending above the roofline.

INTERIOR DESCRIPTION:

The administrative section of the Pawhuska Armory is bisected by a north-south central corridor. Interior walls are stone and brick. The floor is concrete. The original ceilings are high. Original doors are wooden slats set diagonally in plank frames. On either side of the hallway are offices, classrooms, restrooms, storage rooms, and garages. The small arms vault is still in place. At the west end of the drill hall is a stage flanked by pilasters similar to those on the exterior of the building. Exposed concrete stairs lead down to the rifle range in the basement. The steel roof framing is exposed and walls are natural stone. The drill hall floor is new concrete over the original concrete bed. The rifle range has a concrete floor and extends well beyond the south wall of the drill hall. It has observers' boxes set into the east wall at the north end.

ALTERATIONS:

Most alterations to the Pawhuska Armory are interior. The main corridor of the administrative section has been paneled in particle board. A dropped acoustical ceiling and fluorescent light fixtures have been added in the corridor and in some rooms. Most interior walls in this section of the building have been painted to reduce dust and flaking from the stone. The wooden floor of the drill hall was removed and four inches of new concrete poured over the original bed. The northeast corner of the drill hall has been partitioned to create kitchen and dining space for Guard functions.

Exterior alterations are less obvious. The drill hall roof was repaired in 1976, and new tar was applied in 1983. The building was sandblasted in 1987, but the stone does not appear to have been affected adversely. A modern single metal door set between wooden panels has replaced the original double wooden door at the main entrance on East Eighth Street. The overhead door aperture to the drill hall on Ruble Avenue was enlarged to accommodate artillery pieces, but the enlargement is not obvious. A new metal door now fills that opening. Some window panes have been painted. None of the alterations to the Pawhuska Armory impeach its architectural or historic integrity.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Pawhuska Armory
name of property
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SUMMARY:

The Pawhuska Armory (Pawhuska National Guard Armory) is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A because of its association with the Works Progress Administration and the Oklahoma National Guard. The aim of the WPA was to combat the effects of the Great Depression by employing jobless people on local relief rolls in public works projects. These projects stimulated the local economy by providing wages to previously destitute people. The use of native stone or other locally produced materials also increased local finances, as well as reduced project costs and created distinctive buildings. The Pawhuska Armory exemplified the program in Osage County. On completion it became the headquarters of the local National Guard unit, which has now occupied the building for more than fifty-five years. The Pawhuska Armory is also eligible for the National Register under Criterion C. The castellated style showing an Art Deco influence and use of native stone adapted for unskilled labor make it an excellent example of WPA architecture in Oklahoma.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

The Pawhuska Armory, constructed between 1935 and 1937, was a product of the Works Progress Administration, created under the New Deal programs of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The goal of the WPA was to combat the effects of the Great Depression by subsidizing public works projects. These projects drew labor from the relief rolls to reduce record levels of unemployment. Materials produced locally were used in order to stimulate the economy and reduce costs. The WPA program, created in June 1935, ended in June 1943 with the return of full employment during World War II. The program spent a total of \$10.75 billion, with \$185 million allocated to Oklahoma projects. Typical WPA projects in Oklahoma at the county and town level included roadwork, bridges, dams, malaria control, sanitation and water system improvements, schools, post offices, and public buildings. The WPA stipulated that projects had to meet three basic criteria to qualify: the project had to have local sponsorship; draw labor from local relief rolls; and, the outcome had to be a permanent, useful addition to the community. The Pawhuska Armory fulfilled all these requirements.¹

Armory projects in Oklahoma easily met the requirement of usefulness and permanency. Oklahoma National Guard units never had permanent headquarters. Most rented make-shift facilities at a total cost to the state of about \$50,000 annually. Additionally, security at these facilities was often a problem, leaving arms and equipment liable to theft. Pawhuska's thirty-seven man unit, the 120th Veterinary Company, 120th Medical Regiment, was unusual in that it had an armory but the facility was inadequate for proper training.

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Pawhuska Armory
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HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

In 1935, Pawhuska needed a public works project such as an armory. Founded in 1872, the town was the site of the Osage Indian Agency and the seat of Osage County after statehood. The discovery of oil beneath prime grazing land at the turn-of-the-century made the Osage people the richest Native Americans in the world. Euro-Americans shared in the prosperity based on oil, natural gas, cattle, poultry, and small grain. Although the Osage area suffered less than the rest of Oklahoma in the 1930s, declines in oil and commodity prices combined with drought and a grasshopper infestation to produce hard times. In June 1935, when the WPA was created, 1,619 heads of families or single people were on relief rolls, a total of 14 percent of the county population.² Construction of an armory would ease their hardship. Mayor Charles Bacon and City Manager Lee Houston quickly applied for a WPA armory. By early September, the city of Pawhuska demonstrated its commitment to the project by deeding a parcel of the city park to the state for a building site and by leasing part of the Ed P. Souligny acreage north of town for a quarry, thus meeting the requirement of community sponsorship.³

Construction of the Pawhuska Armory began in early October 1935 with 43 men at work quarrying the stone to be used on the project. By early November, 10 more were clearing the site for actual construction. Work stopped briefly in late November while state and federal WPA officials haggled over allocation of funds, but protests by the governor, second Congressional district representative, and Mayor Bacon helped reinstate the Pawhuska project.⁴ Work continued under the supervision of foreman Roy Beacroft through 1936 in spite of extreme winter cold and excessive summer heat. On October 25 the Pawhuska American Legion Post sponsored the official laying of the cornerstone.⁵ While skilled masons did the stonework, unskilled laborers did the rest. This included laying 148,000 small pine blocks which were cut cross-grain, sanded, inlaid in tar, and varnished to form the drill hall floor. Such labor-intensive work, organized in two shifts and limited to four working days per week, 130 hours per month, per laborer, took the maximum number of men off the relief rolls, meeting a WPA objective. The guaranteed wage of \$23 per month gave the men back the ability to provide for themselves and their families. An estimated 90,000 man-hours was invested in the construction of the Pawhuska Armory by its completion in 1937. The dedication ceremony on May 24 was cause for an enthusiastic community celebration, attended by a number of state WPA dignitaries, including Oklahoma National Guard Major Bryan W. Nolen, the armory's architect.⁶

The Pawhuska Armory, built at a cost of \$60,000, provided excellent facilities for the local Guard unit. The entire structure measured 125' by 140'. The administrative section facing East Eighth Street contained offices, a classroom,

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HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

25' by 30' locker room, showers, an arms vault, and a garage for six trucks. The drill hall, designed to double as a community center and public meeting hall, was 78' by 109'. At the west end was a 12' wide and 78' long stage. Footlights and floodlights illuminated stage and floor. Beneath the stage was a basement rifle range, 12' by 102', for indoor small arms practice. The size and style of the building made it a major addition to Pawhuska.

Even before the dedication the building had begun to serve the community as a site for dances and as a convention center for the American Legion. Shortly after the dedication, the drill hall also housed a tent factory.⁷

The National Guard unit that received the Pawhuska Armory as its headquarters dated back to the reorganization of the Oklahoma National Guard into the 45th Infantry ("Thunderbird") Division in 1923. This was the second unit stationed in Pawhuska. The first, a company in the 160th Field Artillery, transferred to nearby Hominy, Oklahoma. The second unit, organized by Dr. Harold F. Ketchum who served as captain until 1938, was the 120th Veterinary Company, 120th Medical Regiment. Motorization of the Oklahoma National Guard in the 1930s ended the need for a veterinary unit. From 1935 to 1937 the Pawhuska company functioned as an ambulance unit. Then in June 1938, the unit was converted to Company B, 120th Medical Regiment, a collecting company with the responsibility of retrieving battlefield casualties from the front lines and evacuating them to field hospitals. Enlistment increased from thirty-seven to sixty men. The Oklahoma National Guard mobilized in 1940 as the United States prepared to enter World War II. The "Thunderbird" Division served with distinction in the European Theater from the invasion of Sicily and Italy through the surrender of Germany in 1945, a total of 511 actual combat days. The armory continues to serve as the headquarters of Detachment 2, Company C, 1st Battalion, 279th Infantry of the Oklahoma National Guard.⁸

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

The Pawhuska Armory is an excellent example of a WPA armory in Oklahoma. It is a one-unit armory, typical of those designed by WPA architect and Oklahoma Guardsman Major Bryan W. Nolen. Nolen's standardized designs for one-unit, two-unit, and four-unit armories were flexible enough for construction by unskilled labor and for variable local conditions. Use of native stone, as was the case for thirty-three of Oklahoma's fifty-one WPA armories constructed prior to mid-1937, kept construction costs down while labor-intensive quarrying, dressing, and laying of stone employed as many men from the relief rolls as possible. Thus, the construction of the Pawhuska Armory met the practical goals of the WPA. At the same time, the castellated features and Art Deco influence evident in the verticality of the piers, portal, and windows reflect

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Pawhuska Armory
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ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

the WPA's emphasis on art and craftsmanship. Together these characteristics mark the Pawhuska Armory structurally and stylistically as a prime example of the WPA armory in Oklahoma.

The period of significance for the Pawhuska Armory is 1935 to 1937. Construction began in 1935 and ended with its dedication in 1937. The building immediately became an integral part of the Pawhuska community.

During fifty-five years of continuous occupation by the Oklahoma National Guard, the Pawhuska Armory has undergone relatively little exterior alteration. The building retains a high degree of its historic and architectural integrity.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Pawhuska Armory
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NOTES

¹U. S. Works Progress Administration, Oklahoma, Final Report of Activities and Accomplishments, (n.p., 1943), 1-5; The Wagoner (Oklahoma) Tribune, 19 November 1935.

²Accomplishments: Works Progress Administration for Oklahoma, July 1, 1935-March 1, 1937 (Oklahoma City: Works Progress Administration, 1937), 38, 40 The Daily Journal-Capital, Pawhuska, Oklahoma, 6 October, 1935, 23 May 1937; Terry P. Wilson, The Underground Reservation: Osage Oil (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1985), 18, 34-35; The Indian Journal, Eufaula, Oklahoma, 20 June 1935.

³The Osage County News, Pawhuska, Oklahoma, 20 August 1935; The Daily Journal-Capital, Pawhuska, Oklahoma, 9 July, 29 August, 3 October 1935.

⁴The Daily Journal-Capital, Pawhuska, Oklahoma, 21 October, 8 November, 14 November, 15 November, 1935.

⁵The Osage County News, Pawhuska, Oklahoma, 22 November 1935, 21 February, 10 July, 16 October 1936.

⁶The Daily Journal-Capital, Pawhuska, Oklahoma, 23 May, 25 May 1937; The Konawa (Oklahoma) Leader, 27 February 1936; The Sulphur (Oklahoma) Times-Democrat, 11 July 1935.

⁷The Daily Journal-Capital, Pawhuska, Oklahoma, 16 May, 23 May 1937; interview with Sergeant First Class Earl Smith, Pawhuska, Oklahoma, January 28, 1993.

⁸The Daily Journal-Capital, Pawhuska, Oklahoma, 23 May 1937; National Guard of the United States, State of Oklahoma, Historical Annual, 1938 (Baton Rouge, Louisiana: Army & Navy Publishing Company, 1938), 282; Kenny A. Franks, Citizen Soldiers: Oklahoma's National Guard (Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1984), 20, 23-37, 42, 48, 49, 51, 62-114; interview with Sergeant First Class Earl Smith, Pawhuska, Oklahoma, January 28, 1993.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 17

Pawhuska Armory
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- The Daily-Journal Capital (Pawhuska, Oklahoma). July 1935 through May 1937.
- Franks, Kenny A. Citizen Soldiers: Oklahoma's National Guard. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1984.
- The Indian Journal (Eufaula, Oklahoma). June 1935.
- The Konawa (Oklahoma) Leader. February 1936.
- National Guard of the United States, State of Oklahoma. Historical Annual, 1938. Baton Rouge: Army & Navy Publishing Company, 1938.
- The Osage County News (Pawhuska, Oklahoma). August 1935 through May 1937.
- Smith, Earl, Sergeant First Class. Interview. Pawhuska, Oklahoma, January 28, 1993.
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 18

Pawhuska Armory
name of property
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=====
Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 20-24, Block 47, Prudom Addition.

Boundary Justification

This is the property's boundary lines as legally recorded in the County Clerk's Office, Osage County Courthouse, Pawhuska, Oklahoma. The boundaries described above have been historically associated with the nominated property.