

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

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historic name: Oil City Armory

other name/site number: N/A

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2. Location

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street & number: Corner of East 2nd Street and State Street

city/town: Oil City

not for publication: N/A
vicinity: N/A

state: PA county: Venango code: 121 zip code: 16301

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: public-state

Category of Property: building(s)

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </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: Pennsylvania

National Guard Armories

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification
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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. ___ See continuation sheet.

Brent D. Glass
Signature of certifying official

3/20/91
Date

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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5. National Park Service Certification
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I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- ___ 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): _____

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

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6. Function or Use
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Historic: Defense

Sub: Arms Storage

Current: Defense

Sub: Arms Storage

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7. Description
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Architectural Classification:

Late Victorian

Materials:

foundation stone

walls brick

roof slate

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

X See continuation sheet.

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8. Statement of Significance
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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: statewide

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): _____

Areas of Significance: Military
Architecture

Period of Significance: 1914-1939

Significant Dates: 1914

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Significant Person: N/A

Architect/Builder: Bailey, Emmett E. Company
Bouquir, L.O./Cossau Brothers

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

X See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

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 -- Specify Repository: _____.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property: .30

UTM References:

A	<u>17</u>	<u>607860</u>	<u>4586780</u>	B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	D	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description:

See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification:

The legal boundaries which are historically associated with the property. See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Joseph Burke, III/Christine Wilson -- Interns

Organization: PHMC -- BHP Date: 8/14/90

Street & Number: Box 1026 Telephone: (717) 783-8946

City or Town: Harrisburg State: PA Zip Code: 171018-1026

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7. Description.

Located on a flat corner lot within the City of Oil City, the Oil City Armory consists of a rectangular brick building composed of a tall, two story (with exposed basement) drill hall section, with shorter, two story (with exposed basement) administrative sections fronting the drill hall on the East Second Street and State Street elevations. A three story (including exposed, coursed ashlar basement), corner, polygonal office tower marks the juncture of the administrative sections at the corner of East Second and State Streets. A two story entrance bay is located immediately left of the tower on the East Second Street side. Built in 1914, the armory shows late Victorian architectural influences, including Gothic influenced window surrounds on the office tower. The armory has very good integrity.

Covering an area of approximately 7,900 square feet, the armory has a stone foundation. A hip roof covers the drill hall, while flat roofs cover the administrative sections. Exterior features of the armory include a corbeled brick parapet, double hung sash windows with stone sills and brick lintels, brick belt courses, and two brick chimneys.

The polygonal tower contains two sets of double windows on the coursed ashlar basement, separated by a decorative stone tablet containing a plaque. On the first and second stories, there are three sets of arched double windows with common, stone sills and segmental brick lintels.

The two-story entrance bay contains glass double doors and a transom sash under a wooden shed-roofed entrance hood. Three steps with brick sides lead from the doors down to the sidewalk, while paired windows appear on the second story above the entrance hood. To the left of the entrance bay, the administrative section is opened by six windows on the brick basement and five windows on the first story. Rising above the flat roof of the administrative section, the East Second Street wall of the drill hall is pierced by windows.

The administrative section fronting State Street to the right of the tower shows, at its center, a slightly-above-ground-level, double door entrance and transom under a wooden overhang. Immediately to the left of the entrance appear three windows, while three small casement windows appear to the right. Casement windows are also spaced along the brick basement. Rising above this administrative section, the State Street wall of the drill hall is also opened by windows.

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Oil City Armory

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In contrast, the elevation perpendicular to East Second Street has a solid brick first story wall, and a stone basement wall opened by two small casement windows and a left corner, ground-level, double door entrance. The elevation perpendicular to State Street is largely hidden from view by a neighboring building.

Measuring 70 x 72 feet, the drill hall has a wood floor and a roof that is supported by riveted, steel Pratt trusses with gusset plates. A balcony spans the East Second Street and State Street sides of the drill hall. The first floor of the front administrative sections includes a locker room, check room, toilet room, parlor, and offices. The basement of the administrative sections and the drill hall has a rifle range, billiard room, dining room, squad drill room, library, kitchen, and storage space.

Overall the armory retains very good integrity, even though the parapet crenels of the front, administrative sections were filled in, in 1960.

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8. Significance.

The Oil City Armory is significant under criteria A and C. It is a member of the State Armory Building Property type under the multiple property nomination: Pennsylvania National Guard Armories. It was built in 1914 for Company D, 112th Infantry of the Pennsylvania National Guard. The building was designed by the Emmett E. Baily Company of Oil City. Although unusual in exterior appearance and interior plan among nominated armories, the Oil City armory has interior spaces typical of Pennsylvania armories, including a drill hall, a rifle range, a kitchen, locker room, class room, storage space, and offices.

9. Bibliography.

See section H in Multiple Resource Nomination: Pennsylvania National Guard Armories.

10. Verbal Boundary Description.

See Venango County Deed Book, Volume 333, page 185.

OIL CITY ARMORY
OIL CITY QUAD
ZONE 17
607360 E
4586780 N

