

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries complete applicable sections)

STATE: Massachusetts
COUNTY: Hampden
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Armory Square

AND/OR HISTORIC: Springfield Armory (Armory Square)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: State, Federal, Pearl and Byers Streets

CITY OR TOWN: Springfield CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Second

STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025 COUNTY: Hampden CODE: 013

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: (See continuation sheet)
City of Springfield, Office of the Mayor

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Springfield STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 01103 025

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Hampden County Registry of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Springfield STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: "Springfield Armory: Evaluation under Provision of the Historic Preservation Act of 1966" (special study)

DATE OF SURVEY: August 1967 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service

STREET AND NUMBER: Department of the Interior

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE: 20240 011

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Massachusetts
COUNTY: Hampden
ENTRY NUMBER:
DATE:

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Massachusetts	
COUNTY	
Hampden	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

4. Owner of Property: (1)

Armory Square

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Board of Regional Community Colleges
141 Milk Street
Boston 02109 Massachusetts 025

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Armory Square, bounded by State, Federal, Pearl and Byers Streets, is one of several units which comprised the full Springfield Armory complex in Springfield, Massachusetts. The others are Federal Square, located directly across Federal Street from Armory Square and with it known as the Hill Shops; the Water Shops, located a mile southwest of the Hill Shops at the intersection of Walnut Street with Mill River; and the Railhead Area, located on Page Boulevard one and three-quarters miles northeast of the Hill Shops.

Armory Square occupies a fifty-four acre hilltop site overlooking the original area of Springfield and several blocks northeast of the present City's central business district. The complex is notable for the spacious surroundings allotted to its buildings. Of the nearly thirty structures located here, half surround the 8.75 acre parade ground. Buildings 1 and 13, at the western end of the parade, overlook the approximately thirteen acres of sloping open land which constitutes the western portion of the Square. With three exceptions, the consistent scale and the restrained, functional style of the structures in Armory Square and the uniform use of sturdy brick construction, white trim and slate roofing create a cohesive district in which the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

The three intrusions noted above are one original Armory structure, Building 20, which has been altered for use by Springfield Technical Community College, and two new structures, the Humanities and Physical Science Buildings, recently constructed by the College (see accompanying sketch map). Building 20, an L-shaped structure at the northeast corner of Armory Square (intersection of Federal and Pearl Streets), has been raised two stories in height and remodeled in a contemporary style. The negative effect of the building on the Square is minimized by its location; set on sloping ground at a lower elevation than adjacent buildings and thus screened by them, it is fully visible only from a position outside the Square on Federal or Pearl Street.

A more serious intrusion is created by the Humanities and Physical Science Buildings, which face the parade ground on its north side (on the site of two original Armory buildings and a portion of a third). Three and six stories in height respectively, they are designed in a style most closely related to brutalism and conform to adjacent buildings only in the use of brick for their construction material. Though screened somewhat by mature trees on the parade ground, these buildings are still visible from most points in Armory Square. Despite the presence of these intrusive structures, however, Armory Square retains its essential character as the administrative center of a major military installation which experienced its greatest growth during the first half of the nineteenth century.

Descriptions of major elements in the Armory Square complex follow; their locations are indicated on the accompanying sketch map.

(Continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Hampden	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

7. Description: (1)

Armory Square

Building 1, the Commanding Officer's Quarters, was constructed in 1845-46. An excellent example of the Greek Revival style, it is a two-story brick house, fifty by forty-four feet in size, with a fifty-two by twenty-seven foot service ell parallel with the three-bay entrance facade. The hipped roof of the main block is broken by paired interior chimneys and surmounted by a brick cupola supported on the interior partitions, also of brick. Around 1870, the original distyle Doric entrance porch, west porch and ell porch were removed and the present cast-iron porches built; at the same time the wooden balustrade surrounding the roof was replaced with an iron snow rail. The rectangular transom of the main entrance was altered to an elliptical fanlight and the sidelights and the fanlight fitted with leaded glass about 1900.

Building 5 & 6, double officers' quarters in the Second Empire style, was built in 1870. The main block, brick with slate roof, is three stories in height; a one-story service ell extends to the rear. A wide balustraded porch with copper roof spans the three-bay entrance facade.

Building 10, a two-story Greek Revival structure with a three-bay pedimented front facade and gabled slate roof, was erected in 1833; a two-story service ell with wooden porches on its north side extends to the rear. Notable features of the building, which served as a hospital and later as officers' quarters, are the one-story Ionic entrance portico and the carved ball trim under the eaves. Building 7, built in 1833, and Buildings 8 and 9, built in 1836, are basically similar in style to Building 10 but altered somewhat by porches and other additions dating from the late nineteenth century.

Building 11, the West Arsenal, is the oldest extant building at the Armory; constructed in 1807-08, it was used as an arsenal, a barracks, and, after World War II, as the Officers' Club. The rectangular building, one hundred by thirty-four feet, was originally two stories in height; a third story was added during the Civil War. Two-foot-thick brick walls support a gabled slate roof; windows have stone lintels and trim. The one-story porches on the front and rear elevations are later additions not inharmonious with the original construction. A modern addition, eleven by fifteen feet, extends from the southwest end of the building.

Building 12 was built in 1880 as a guard house and later served as officers' quarters. A one-story brick building with slate roof, it has stepped gable ends with ornamental brick-work, and a small entrance porch. Although built late, the building is compatible with the general architectural character of the complex.

Building 13, the Main Arsenal, was begun in 1847 and completed three years later. Probably the best known of the Armory buildings, it appears on the official seal of the City of Springfield, adopted two years after the Arsenal was completed. The imposing scale of the building dominates the western end

(Continued)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Hampden	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

7. Description: (2)

Armory Square

of the parade; one hundred, ninety-nine by sixty-nine feet, it has a massive twenty-four by thirty foot tower facing the parade and a twelve by sixty-nine foot pedimented pavilion on the west elevation. The tower rises two full stories above the slate hipped roof and carries three clock faces; the fourth appears in the pediment of the pavilion. The two-and-a-half foot thick brick walls are articulated by first floor piers and, above a string course, two-story pilasters. A notable interior feature is the visually unsupported wooden staircase which spirals one hundred, thirty-one risers to the uppermost chamber of the tower. The only significant exterior alterations to the building have been the addition of a fire escape and two cement loading docks and the removal of a wooden tetrastyle Doric portico from the west pavilion.

Building 14, the Middle Arsenal, was constructed in 1830; it is three stories in height with two-foot-thick brick walls supporting a gabled slate roof. On the north facade, a one-story distyle Doric portico covers the main entrance. Two cement loading docks with suspended metal canopies have been added to the south facade and an iron fire escape to the western end. Interior support for the building is provided by two rows of granite posts set eight-and-one-half feet on center in the basement and by cast-iron posts similarly positioned on the upper floors.

Building 15, the East Arsenal, when constructed in 1824 was two stories in height and fifteen bays long; it was later raised a story and, in 1941, eighteen bays were added to its western end. The brick walls of the older section are two feet thick, those of the new one foot; both sections are covered by a gabled slate roof above a brick cornice with "dog-tooth" corbelling.

Building 16 is comprised of three separate historic buildings: the Administration Building (1819) and the flanking North and South Shops (both 1824). During the Civil War, the three buildings were joined and a third story added to each; a five-story square tower was added to the west facade of the Administration Building and the five-columned Doric portico was installed on the east facade. As in the case of Building 15, the design of the various sections is carefully unified. In 1918, Building 16 was extended at its southern end and linked with Building 15, forming a single L-shaped entity.

Building 19, combined stables and barracks built in 1863, is perhaps the finest remaining example of an American cavalry caserne. A two-story structure with gabled slate roof, it is impressive for its fine brick construction and its great length, seven hundred, sixty-four feet. The long walls are broken on the first floor by wide segmental-arched openings with louvers and on the second by casement windows. Stalls were located on the first floor above a crypt into which they could be cleaned; barracks were located on the second floor.

(Continued)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Hampden	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

7. Description (3)

The tree-dotted Parade, essentially defined by construction in Armory Square during the first third of the nineteenth century, covers approximately 8.75 acres. In addition to its historical significance as the heart of the Square, the Parade provides an appropriate setting for and reinforces the visual linkage of the surrounding buildings. Although the north side of the Parade has been disrupted by the Physical Science and Humanities Buildings discussed above, its former line and character are evident in Buildings 2 and 3 and in the remaining front portion of Building 27 (part of which was demolished to allow construction of the Physical Science Building). Buildings 2 and 3, constructed as officers' family housing, are brick, two-and-one-half stories high, with gabled roofs and one-story wooden porches; both appear to date from the second half of the nineteenth century and have been altered by the addition of garages. Their presence at the northwest corner of the Parade also reduces the impact of the Physical Science and Humanities Buildings on historic Buildings 1 and 13. Building 27, the oldest portion of which dates from 1863, stands at the northeast corner of the Parade. Like other original Armory buildings it is brick with a slate roof, but, unlike others of its size, has not been raised to three stories.

The iron fence surrounding Armory Square was erected between 1847 and 1861. Above a low sandstone base, halberd-headed posts some nine feet high support base and top rails into which palings are inserted. Two forms of palings, round with spear heads and slightly lobed with pike heads, alternate. The gates, supported on square sandstone posts, are more intricately patterned; here, oval center sections surrounded by lacy ironwork are superimposed on the vertical palings. The main gate is located on Federal Street almost opposite the porticoed entrance to Building 16.

Boundary

Beginning at the intersection of the midlines of State and Federal Streets; thence northwesterly by the midline of Federal Street, 1,270 feet more or less, to its intersection with the midline of Pearl Street; thence southwesterly by the midline of Pearl Street, in two sections of 1,250 and 745 feet more or less, to its intersection with the midline of Byers Street; thence southeasterly by the midline of Byers Street, 1,345 feet more or less to its intersection with the midline of State Street; thence northeasterly by the midline of State Street, in two sections of 985 and 515 feet more or less, to the point of beginning.

Note: in contrast to the other buildings discussed above, the Physical Science and Humanities Buildings constructed by Springfield Technical Community College do not contribute to the national significance of the landmark district.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1794; 1778-1968

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

When the Springfield Armory was formally established as a Federal arsenal by an act of Congress in 1794, it already had achieved an important place in American military and industrial history. During the American Revolution, the Armory was the site of important ordnance manufacturing and storage facilities, serving as a supply depot for the entire northeastern theatre of war. The Armory was also the site of the abortive attack by Captain Daniel Shays and his followers in the Massachusetts uprising of 1786-87 known as "Shays' Rebellion." Shays and his small force of disgruntled farmers attempted to raid the arsenal on January 25, 1787, but were repulsed by the defending garrison. This event, which generated increased public support for the creation of a stronger national government that could help curb such uprisings, contributed indirectly to the establishment of the Federal Constitution.

During the early nineteenth century, Springfield Armory played an important role in the development of the principle of interchangeability of parts, an essential concept in the modern assembly line techniques of American industry. In 1822, Thomas Blanchard, an Armory workman, devised a machine for turning gun stocks; though conceived for that specific purpose, his machine proved a forerunner of subsequently perfected machinery for making other standardized gun parts.

Together with the Harpers Ferry Armory, Springfield Armory supplied all the military small arms manufactured by the United States Government for nearly seventy years. With the destruction of the Harpers Ferry installation at the outbreak of the Civil War, Springfield became the sole such supplier, a distinction it held until 1904, when the Rock Island Arsenal began the small-scale manufacture of rifles. Throughout the military history of the United States the Springfield weapons have played a major role and have achieved a justified reputation for quality, accuracy, and dependability. In its last years as an active military post, the Armory served as the United States Army's principal research and development center and pilot manufactory for small arms. When phased out as a military installation in 1967-68, the Springfield Armory was the Federal Government's oldest manufacturing arsenal.

(Continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Hampden	
FDR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. Statement of Significance: (1)

Armory Square

Of the extant properties associated with the Springfield Armory (see physical description), the oldest and most significant are concentrated in Armory Square, the fifty-four acre area bounded by State, Federal, Pearl, and Byers Streets. Here are located the administration building, quarters for the commanding officer and the remaining officer complement, and a number of other buildings ranging in date from 1807 through World War II. Despite some recent construction, Armory Square retains its essential character as the administrative center of a major military installation which saw its greatest growth during the first half of the nineteenth century.

Since 1968, the major portion of Armory Square, some thirty-six acres owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, has been occupied by Springfield Technical Community College. Of the remaining eighteen acres, owned by the City of Springfield, five are leased to a non-profit foundation, the Springfield Armory Museum, Inc. Housed in the Main Arsenal, the Museum exhibits the Benton Small Arms Collection, begun at the Armory about 1871 and one of the more significant such collections in the world.

The Springfield Armory Museum and the immediate grounds are open to the public throughout the year from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Sundays and holidays (except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day); an admission fee is charged at the museum. Visitors are requested to enter through the main gate, on Federal Street, and may be asked to identify themselves to the guard on duty.

Historical Background

In September, 1776, Colonel Henry Knox, then commanding a Continental artillery regiment within the defenses of New York City, suggested to the Continental Congress the establishment of "one or more capital laboratories" for manufacture of guns and ordnance stores. In December of that year, Knox was promoted to brigadier general, named Chief of Artillery, and assigned the job of setting up such laboratories at York, Pennsylvania, and Hartford, Connecticut. After inspection of the potential sites, Knox selected Springfield over Hartford as the "best place in all the four New England States for a laboratory, cannon foundry, etc," located on the Connecticut River for a power source, but far enough upstream for safety from attack by heavy war vessels.

In 1777, buildings were rented in the town of Springfield. The first product of the new laboratory was paper cartridges. During the year the Continental Army at Boston sent all its extra powder to Springfield for storage and ammunition production. Arms also were sent there for storage at an early date. Springfield thus became a military supply depot of major importance, a distributing point for ordnance needs throughout the northeastern theatre of the Revolutionary War.

(Continued)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Hampden	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. Statement of Significance: (2)

Armory Square

Expansion of the Armory's physical facilities soon became necessary; the site selected was a militia training field on a hilltop just outside the town. In 1778, a magazine, barracks and accommodations for operation of the laboratory were erected, the first structures on the site of the present Armory Square.

When Shays' Rebellion erupted in western Massachusetts during 1786-87, Springfield Armory became the site of its climactic event. For several months, debt-ridden and disgruntled farmers had roamed Massachusetts, preventing the county courts from sitting and rendering judgements for debt. In late 1786, Shays and his followers gathered for an assault on the depot at Springfield where arms, ammunition, and other military supplies were stored. They attacked on January 25, 1786, but were repulsed by the defending garrison under Major General William Shepard; the rebel morale was so shattered that the outbreak soon collapsed. Public reaction to the Rebellion, particularly among large-scale property owners in eastern Massachusetts, resulted in increased support for the creation of a stronger national government that could control such uprisings and contributed to the movement which established the Federal Constitution.

The formal creation of the Springfield Armory came with an act of Congress in 1794, which authorized the establishment of two arsenals and magazines, one to be located in the South. For these, President Washington selected Harpers Ferry and Springfield. It was not until 1801, however, that the United States actually acquired the title to the land on which its Armory at Springfield was located. On August 24 of that year, the Government received title to 30.5 acres, the heart of the present Armory Square, at a cost of \$509.

With the deterioration of relations between the United States and Great Britain that heralded the approach of the War of 1812, construction at Springfield Armory was accelerated. The first heavy outlay of funds for this purpose occurred in the years 1807-11. Because of several costly fires among the existing wooden structures in preceding years, brick was chosen as the material for future buildings. The only building surviving from this period, the oldest extant in the entire Armory complex, is the West Arsenal (Building 11). Completed in 1807 on the south side of the present parade ground, it was used for storing and packing arms.

On June 1, 1815, Lt. Col. Roswell Lee became Superintendent of the Springfield Armory. During his eighteen-year tenure, ended by his death on August 25, 1833, the parade area of Armory Square assumed much of its present-day appearance. One of Lee's first accomplishments was the construction of the administration building, conceived in 1815 and completed four years later. In 1824, the North and South Shops were erected flanking the administration building; during the Civil War, they were connected with it to form the present Building 16.

(Continued)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Massachusetts	
COUNTY	
Hampden	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. Statement of Significance : (3) Armory Square

A second storehouse, known as the East Arsenal (Building 15), was also built during 1824. Located just south of the South Shop, its long east-west axis was aligned with that of the earlier West Arsenal. These buildings outlined two sides of the parade ground while the Superintendent's residence, built some years before approximately 1,000 feet west of the administration building, and several frame quarters, aligned with and 600 feet north of the arsenals, completed the quadrangle.

In 1830 a third storehouse was built between the earlier ones and, logically enough, was known as the Middle Arsenal (Building 14). New gun racks designed by William Wade of the Army Ordnance Office were first installed here. It was these racks, rising tier on tier, that thirteen years later inspired poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow to describe, in "The Arsenal at Springfield," how

. . . from floor to ceiling,
Like a huge organ, rise the burnished arms. . .

With Lee's death in 1833, the Springfield Armory entered a period of eight years of comparative stagnation, which ended in 1841 with the appointment of Major James W. Ripley as Commanding Officer. During this period several brick quarters were built, four of which have survived (Buildings 7, 8, 9 and 10).

Though Ripley's thirteen-year tenure at Springfield is most vividly remembered for the violent controversies it aroused, the period witnessed significant progress in the physical development of the Armory. The old Superintendent's residence was razed in 1843 and during 1845-46 Ripley constructed a palatial new residence (Building 1) at an unprecedented cost of \$24,900. On the site of the old Superintendent's residence, crowning the west end of the parade, Ripley built the imposing bulk of the Main Arsenal (Building 13). Begun in the 1847 fiscal year, the Main Arsenal was completed three years later at a cost of \$86,066.

Another important project Ripley undertook was the permanent fencing of the Armory Square tract. In August, 1847, he leased a sandstone quarry to provide stone for foundations and posts. Approval of patterns for the iron pickets, to be cast by Cyrus Alger and Company of Boston, was delayed until May, 1852. By the end of the 1853 fiscal year, the State Street side of Armory Square had been fenced. Economic considerations postponed further work until 1855, when the project was resumed under Ripley's successor, James S. Whitney. Whitney awarded the ironwork contract to the Ames Manufacturing Company of Chicopee, which completed the Federal Street portion of the fence by mid-1856. Byers Street was done during the 1860 fiscal year and the project was completed during the first year of the Civil War with the fencing of the Pearl Street side of Armory Square.

(Continued)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Massachusetts	
COUNTY	
Hampden	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. Statement of Significance: (4)

Armory Square

When the Harpers Ferry Armory was destroyed at the outbreak of the Civil War, Springfield Armory became the Federal Government's sole supplier of military small arms, a distinction it held until 1904 when the Rock Island Arsenal began to manufacture rifles on a small scale. Several buildings were added to the Armory Square complex during this period. The oldest portion of Building 27 dates from 1863. Building 19, also constructed in 1863, housed stables on its first floor and barracks on its second; impressive for its unusual length--58 bays; 764 feet--it is perhaps the best extant example of an American cavalry caserne. Building 5 & 6, a double officers' quarters, was built in 1870; its Second Empire design is the only departure from the restrained, functional architecture which characterizes Armory Square. Erected in 1880 as a guard house, Building 12 later served as officers' quarters.

Springfield Armory remained active during the current century and, until phased out as a military installation in 1967-68, was the United States Army's principal research and development center and pilot manufactory for small arms.

Since 1968, Armory Square has been owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the City of Springfield in parcels of approximately thirty-six and eighteen acres respectively. The state-owned portion of the complex, including the parade ground and the majority of the Armory buildings, is now occupied by Springfield Technical Community College. Of the property acquired by the City, some thirteen acres, consisting of open land at the western end of the complex, are held by the Springfield School Department and currently used as a recreation area. The remaining five acres, on which are located the Commanding Officer's Quarters and the Main Arsenal, have been leased to a non-profit foundation, the Springfield Armory Museum, Inc.

Housed in the Main Arsenal, the Museum exhibits the Benton Small Arms Collection of some 10,000 items, representing not only the history and products of the Springfield Armory but a fairly accurate history of the entire American small arms industry, with many foreign military weapons included as well. The collection originated with Col. J. G. Benton, commanding officer of the Armory from 1868 to 1881; as a result of his interest, the initial museum was started about 1871. Its greatest impetus in the early years came in 1876, when Benton applied for and received a collection of some 700 arms that had been exhibited at the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia. Though a destructive fire in 1931 caused extensive damage and destroyed some irreplaceable items, the collection today is one of the more significant to be found anywhere in the world.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Army Ordnance (Springfield Armory Number), IX, No. 49 (July-August, 1928)
Gluckman, Arcadi. United States Martial Pistols and Revolvers (Buffalo, 1939).
United States Muskets, Rifles and Carbines (Buffalo, 1948).
Springfield Armory, Springfield, Massachusetts: The Nation's Oldest Manufacturing Arsenal, Established 1794 (Ordnance Corps, U. S. Army, n.p., n.d.).
 Taylor, Robert J. Western Massachusetts in the Revolution (Providence, 1954).
 Whittlesey, Derwent S. "The Springfield Armory: A Dissertation..." (University of Chicago, 1920).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
U.T.M.				Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	18/699560/4664370	0	0	0	0	0
NE	18/700060/4664760	0	0	0	0	0
SE	18/700280/4664380	0	0	0	0	0
SW	18/699900/4664070	0	0	0	0	0

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **54 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Polly M. Rettig, Historian, Landmark Review Project; original form prepared by Charles E. Shedd, Staff Historian, 11/4/59

ORGANIZATION: Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service DATE: 12/2/74

STREET AND NUMBER: 1100 L Street NW.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE: 011

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

As the designated State Liaison 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 National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: N/A

National Historic Landmark

Title: _____

Date: _____

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

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

Landmark Designated: 12/19/60 date

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Conelius Davis 12-12-60 date

Chief, Div. & Arch. Surveys

ATTEST: _____

Boundary Examined: 12/2/74 date

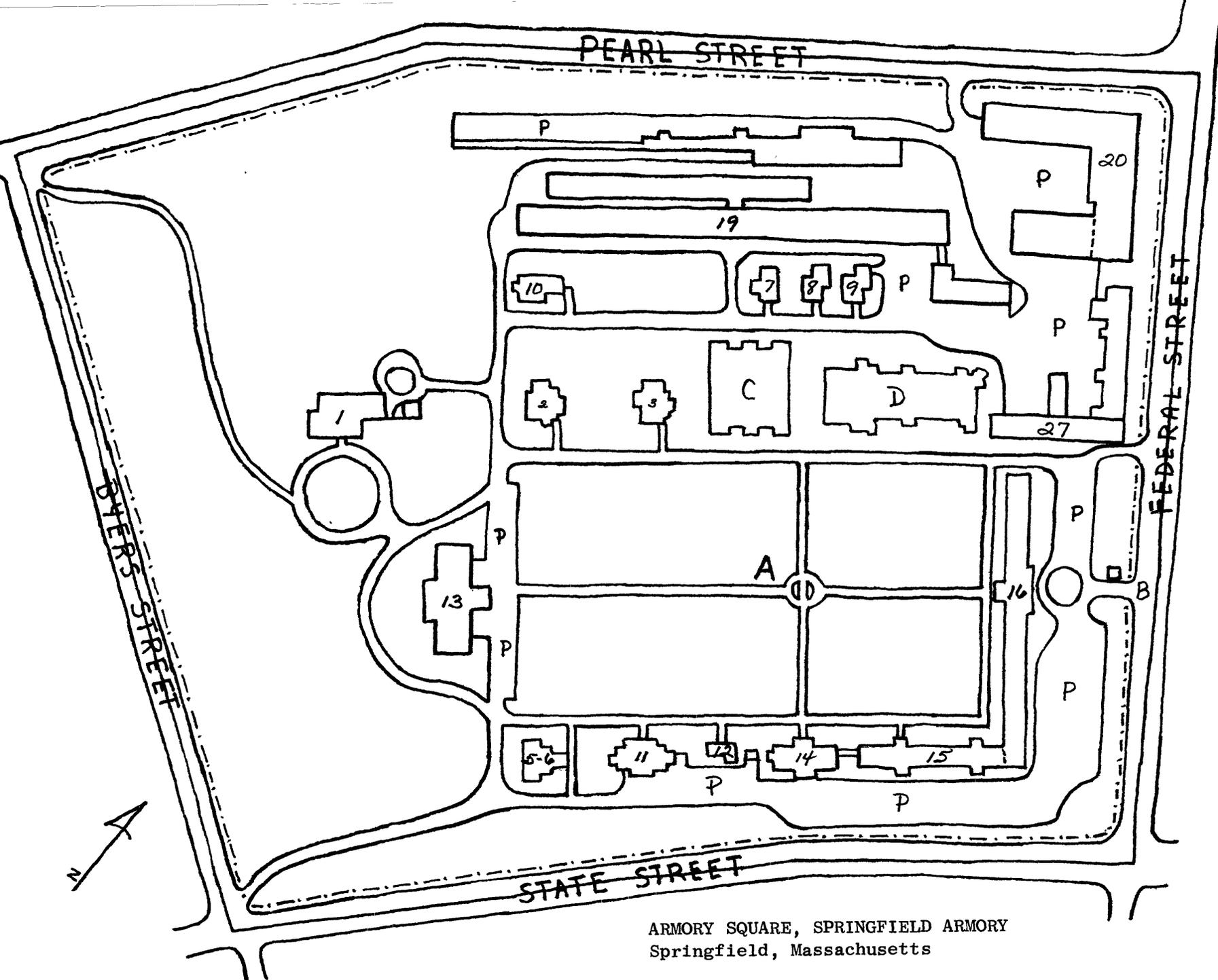
John A. G. ... Acting Director, OAHPS

Keeper of The National Register

Date: _____

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



ARMORY SQUARE, SPRINGFIELD ARMORY
 Springfield, Massachusetts

sketch map - legend attached

