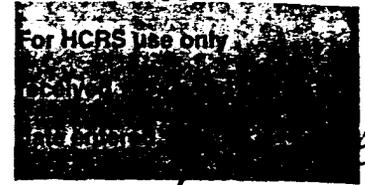


K-451



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

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

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Chestertown Armory

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Quaker Neck Road N/A not for publication

city, town Chestertown N/A vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland code 24 county Kent code 029

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military
			<input 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:

4. Owner of Property

name State of Maryland Military Department Contact: Col. Raymond Clift
728-3388 x244

street & number 231 West Hoffman Street

city, town Baltimore N/A vicinity of state Maryland 21201

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kent County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Chestertown state Maryland 21620

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust
Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1980 federal state county local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>N/A</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Chestertown Armory is located on the southeast edge of Chestertown in an area of mixed agricultural and medium heavy industrial uses. The brick structure is two stories tall with full basement, and emulates a medieval fortification. Attached to the rear of the 2-story main block is a narrower one-story drill hall. A modern one-story brick garage has been added at the rear of the drill hall. Very nearly the entire building has been coated with white paint; details of original brick work and trim are thereby largely obliterated.

The front (Quaker Neck Road) facade, oriented to the north is composed of two, two-bay wide sections which flank a central entranceway itself flanked by two-story towers. The side sections contain two basement windows, 4/3 casement under 4/4 casement under 4/2 panels on the first floor and 4 pane horizontal strips on the second floor. Single strip buttresses run between the windows the entire height of the side sections.

At the center of the front facade, two-story towers project slightly from the front wall plane containing 2/4 casement windows at basement level, 2/4 casement under 2/2 panel at first floor, 2/4 casement under 2 pane horizontal strip at second floor. Centered at the top of the towers are small square stone panels.

The entry is composed of double doors recessed 3-4 feet under an unpainted stone segmental arch. At second floor level 4/4 casement windows under a 4 pane horizontal strip are flanked by 2/4 casement windows under 2 pane horizontal strips. The windows are surmounted by a second segmental arch, also unpainted, projecting 1-2 feet in front of the arch over the door. A band of painted stone molding crosses the center and the center top ends slightly above the roofline of the flanking towers. A small square stone panel is centered just under the roofline of the center section.

A long asphalt topped ramp with stuccoed side walls leads from the street to the front doors.

The west side of the central block contains two windows in the southwest corner, 4/3 casement under 4 pane horizontal strips. At first floor level are two windows, also in the southwest corner, 4/4 casement under under 3/2 stationary panels. At third floor level are three windows, one per bay, 4/4 casement under 4 pane horizontal strips. Four strip buttresses, two bracketing the ends of the center block side and two between the three bays, run from water table to roof.

The east side of the center block is identical to the west side except that the basement level retains all 3 windows, and the first floor has two windows, one rear and one toward the facade. Two windows at first floor level occur in the rear and forward bays.

The rear one story drill hall over full basement is seven bays long punctuated by strip buttresses. Basement windows occur two per bay, 5/2 stationary panels with stone sills and tops under the line of stone molding corresponding to that of the water table on the front block. At first floor level are two windows per bay, 3/5 stationary panels with flat brick arches and brick sills. In the second to last bay metal stairs give access to first floor doors. The east and west sides of the drill hall are identical.

The rear wall of the drill hall reveals a lightly pitched gable roof. A one story brick garage and fenced motor compound seal the rear from the road.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1946	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1931 **Builder/Architect** unknown

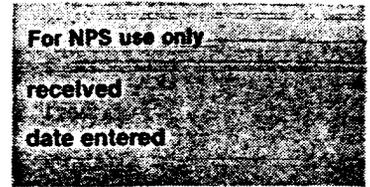
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criteria: A, C
 Exceptions: none
 Significance Evaluated: state

The Chestertown, Maryland Armory is primarily significant for its association with the reorganization and expansion of the National Guard system in the twentieth century. It derives additional significance from its role as a social center for its community, a function it has served continuously since its construction date. Architecturally, the building embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type, including a T shaped plan with a two-story front "head house" section and a one-story perpendicular "drill hall" extending to the rear; its facade is detailed to recall Medieval fortifications, with towers flanking the central entrance and strip buttresses. The Chestertown Armory was built in 1931 for Company G, 115th Battalion of the 29th Division of the Maryland National Guard. As part of the 29th Division, the 115th shares honors bestowed upon the group at the close of World War II, among them distinguished unit citations and the French Croix de Guerre with Palm. Various community groups rent the Armory hall for dances and cotillions, local hospital benefits, and other social functions, and the Friends of the Library hold annual trade shows there.

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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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



Chestertown Armory

Continuation sheet Kent County, Maryland

Item number

10

Page

1

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Verbal Boundary Description:

In Kent County...on the east side of the state road leading from Chestertown into Quaker Neck:

BEGINNING FOR THE SAME on the east side of the aforesaid state road at a point 40 feet southerly from the intersection of the property of the Red "C" Oil Company and other property of the said Thomas W. Spranklin and running from thence by and with the east side of said road, south 22 degrees and 58 minutes west, 360 feet; thence south 26 degrees and 39 minutes east, 767 feet and 4 inches to Chester River; thence by and with the waters of Chester River north 70 degrees and 4 minutes east, 40 feet; thence north 19 degrees and 56 minutes 210 feet; thence north 22 degrees and 58 minutes east, 170 feet to the lands of the said Thomas W. Spranklin, which lands are being retained by the said Thomas W. Spranklin as a drive-way; thence north 19 degrees and 56 minutes west, 688 feet and 3 inches to the aforesaid beginning point and containing 3½ acres of land, more or less.

Boundary Justification:

The nominated property comprises the total parcel historically associated with the resource.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Interview with Sgt. Thomas Pinder, Chestertown Armory.
Vertical files, Kent County Library, Chestertown.
Cutcher, Jack, Capt. History of the 2nd Battalion, 175th Infantry, 5th Regiment, Maryland.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approximately 3½ acres.Quadrangle name Chestertown, MarylandQuadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	<u>18</u>	<u>407830</u>	<u>4339640</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 1

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

state	N/A	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susanne Moore, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Maryland Historical Trust date 1980; revised 7/85

street & number 21 State Circle telephone (301) 269-2438

city or town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

 8-14-85

title

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

date

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



ROCK HALL 11 MI.
FAIRLEE 27 MI.

4341

12'30"

4340

LANFORD 14 MI.

4339

5762 11 NW
(ROCK HALL)

K-451
CHESTERTOWN
ARMORY

KENT COUNTY,
MARYLAND

8-407830-4339640

MARYLAND NATIONAL
GL RD ARMORIES
THEMATIC GROUP

QUEEN ANNES CO
K-451



Chestertown Armory K-451
Kent County, Maryland
photo: Susanne Moore
neg loc: Md Hist Trust, Annapolis, Md
July 1980
North elevation
1/2



Chestertown Armory K-451
Kent County, Maryland
photo: Susanne Moore
neg loc: Md Hist Trust, Annapolis, Md
July 1980
Southeast corner
2/2