

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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Illinois National Guard Armory

other names/site number The Armory

2. Location

street & number 605 N. Main St. not for publication

city or town Rockford vicinity

state Illinois code IL county Winnebago code 201 zip code 61103

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of 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 official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

- 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): _____

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
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Defense/ armory
Recreation & Culture/ civic auditorium

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

vacant

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Modern Movement/ Art Deco
Neo-Gothic

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete
walls brick
roof asphalt
other limestone

Narrative Description

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

see 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.)

- Property is:
- 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Military
- Architecture

Period of Significance

1937-1950

Significant Dates

January 14, 1937

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Bradley & Bradley, architect
Sjostrom & sons, builder

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(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:

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 1.5 Ac

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	Zone	Easting	Northing

3	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	Zone	Easting	Northing

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 Sylvia Doyle

organization N/A date 2-3-2000

street & number 6152 Eddie Rd. telephone (815) 963-1962

city or town Winnebago state IL zip code 61088

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name O.I.C.

street & number 605 N. Main St. telephone _____

city or town Rockford state IL zip code 61103

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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

The Rockford Armory

Winnebago County, IL

Description

The Rockford National Guard Armory is a large two-story building located on North Main Street near the northwest edge of the downtown area and a short distance from the west bank of the Rock River. Since its construction in 1936, it has been used as both the local National Guard Headquarters (until 1993) and as the primary civic auditorium (until 1983 when a larger Metro Center was built in central downtown). The Armory was a focal point of community life, serving as a venue for a wide range of social, recreational, and political activities for the citizens of Rockford and the surrounding counties. It was built during the Depression era as part of the Work Progress Administration (WPA) and Public Works Administration (PWA) federal relief effort.

The Armory is an example of the Art Deco style of architecture that became popular for modern buildings since the 1920's. Art Deco was regarded as the epitome of innovation appealing to the urban style. The Armory's classic Art Deco ornamentation also incorporates a unique neo-Gothic influence and was highly praised in local newspaper articles (1937) as "a magnificent symbol of the city's pride" and "the finest armory outside of Chicago". Today the Armory has essentially the same exterior appearance as on the day of the grand opening dedication ceremony, January 14, 1937. Minor changes to the interior and exterior have not negatively affected the historic integrity. All the doors, windows, exterior lighting including the cast bronze and white glass lanterns by the front entrance are original. (Minor exceptions are the replacement of two overhead service doors and one light over the handicapped entrance.)

The basic rectangular shape (246 feet by 183 feet) of the building consists of the drill hall/auditorium (180 feet by 120 feet) surrounded by ancillary spaces. The foundation is concrete and the exterior walls are concrete poured in place over structural steel. Mat face brick worked in a vertical pattern of dark charcoal gray bays alternating with light tan columns and pilasters form an integral part of the symmetry on all sides. Two hundred fifty steel-sashed windows are incorporated into the design with outset and recessed brickwork. Twenty-five tons of reinforcing steel, 225 tons of structural steel, and 2500 yards of concrete were used in the construction of the Armory. The steel-trussed vaulted roof is 44 feet at the peak over the drill hall. It is covered with built-up multi-ply asphalt. A fifteen foot radio tower antenna on the roof was used by the state police (in the 1950's) who had a communication substation in the Armory. They had a broadcast range of 50 miles from the top of the Armory.

While the underlying design and construction of the Armory was typical WPA genre and accomplished within the constraints of a necessarily limited budget in that era; the institutional appearance is relieved by extensive stonework, brickwork, and glass combinations. The armory is an outstanding architectural example of utilization of common, readily available materials to create a pleasing appearance in what might otherwise have been a starkly utilitarian structure.

The Art Deco influence is apparent in the bold geometric angles of the massive pylons that flank the main entrance doors on the front and both north and south sides. The striking front entrance facing N. Main St. has three sets of double steel doors with glass insets. All the doors are surrounded by buff-colored Bedford stonework machined in low relief with classic Art Deco designs which continue across the entire front facade. Twenty-five hundred cubic feet of limestone were used. The primary entrance doors are set within stylized peaked archways with ribbed vaulting and corner towers exhibiting the neo-Gothic influences incorporated within the Art Deco ornamentation.

The bays of fenestration are connected by a horizontal zig-zag spandrel forming a belt course between the hexagonal stone-capped pylons and buttresses. Above the center bay, ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARD is hand-chiseled into a single massive section of stone. Two sets of concrete steps lead up to the front entrance from the street level. Secondary entrances on the north and south sides are ornamented with the same Art Deco styled stonework on a smaller scale. On the north side, the double entry doors are set within a peaked archway which is flanked by stone-capped pylons. Concrete coping at the top of the 30-foot walls incorporates the same bold geometric angles of the stonework. North (double-entry doors) and south (overhead garage door) entrances are set at ground surface level to allow vehicles to be driven into the drill hall area. A ramp leads up to a smaller service entrance that provides access to the kitchen at the northeast end. Overhead doors set below grade level at the southeast end (off Indian Terrace) allow vehicles to drive down into the partial basement area below the stage. Other service entrances at the east end provide access to the utility and storage areas. All entry doors are steel and most retain the original cast bronze hardware. Some have vertical glass insets and entrances are lighted by bronze recessed fixtures.

The Rockford Armory shares many features in common with other WPA-era armories constructed to serve as both National Guard Headquarters and as civic auditoriums. Typically the drill hall/auditorium was surrounded by ancillary rooms and a balcony. The lobby off the front entrance is flanked by coat check rooms and restrooms. At the opposite end the large raised stage area is flanked by dressing rooms. Surrounding rooms were used for weapons storage, offices, classrooms, rest rooms, a radio room, kitchen, and janitorial closets, etc. The drill hall is floored with hard maple (over 30,000 board feet were used) and other interior woodwork is silver gray oak. Basement space was used for equipment storage, a rifle range (for marksmanship training), and boiler and utilities room. The balcony overlooking the drill hall could seat over 1000. The Armory was designed to be fireproof.

Over the years the area around the Armory has changed much more than the Armory itself. The site for the project was chosen in part because it was very close to the population center of the Rockford area in the early '30's. Large residences around the property were the homes of wealthy and prominent citizens who enjoyed a scenic view of the Rock River. Actual construction (which lasted throughout 1936) began in December 1935 with the demolition of a large home and the original Knights of Columbus Hall. The two parcels were purchased by the City for over \$30,000 and donated for the Armory project. Property to the north of the Armory later became a Sear's Department Store with a large parking lot (in the 1950's) and is now part of the Riverfront Museum Park. To the south is a large apartment building (Whitestone Apts.) and across the street a large bank and other commercial development which now dominate the area. Adjacent to the south side of the Armory, the Indian Terrace Historic District has preserved some of the remaining large homes built in earlier years. Formerly the city's streets were pleasantly shaded by American elms and Rockford was called "The Forest City", but all died from Dutch elm disease. The only green space around the Armory is a narrow grass lawn sloping down to the sidewalk along Main Street. Pine trees planted to the north and south front ends of the entrance now tower over the stone-capped corner pylons. Evergreen shrubbery has overgrown the area around the flagpole at the southwest corner of the property.

A recent landscape beautification project (November 1999) done by the Rockford Park District blocked off access to the service entrance, handicapped entrance, parking and driveway on the Armory's north side. Also on the north side, one of the multi-paned windows was replaced with a modernized, single-pane glass window. Other windows have been damaged by the use of window air-conditioners. Some have been boarded up with plywood, cardboard, or are broken and remain open to the elements. The cast bronze white glass light fixtures which grace the front entrance are intact (as of this writing) but several of the recessed bronze fixtures are missing. Overall, while the Armory may appear somewhat dilapidated, as it has now been vacant for over a year, the historic integrity (both interior and exterior) has remained remarkably intact over the last six decades of service to this community.

Criterion A

The Illinois National Guard Armory in Rockford meets Criterion A for its association with the military history of Rockford, as an important local armory. The period of significance is from 1937, the year the building was constructed, to 1950, the fifty-year cutoff for significance to the National Register of Historic Places. The Armory also meets Criterion C, as a locally significant example of Art Deco architecture with neo-Gothic design features.

Over the more than 65 years since the local project was first proposed, the history of the Armory has been interwoven into the fabric of this community. In keeping with the dual purpose of the original design, the military dedication ceremony (January 14, 1937) was followed by an open house reception with dancing to a popular local band, the Quin Bowen Orchestra and attended by over 1000 couples. The dedication was attended by Illinois Governor Henry Horner, National Guard officers, and many prominent local officials and citizens. For many years the Armory served as the primary civic center for Rockford and a wide area far beyond the city limits. By the 4th year after opening, over one million citizens had attended events at the Armory in addition to National Guard use.

Units of the National Guard which established their headquarters in the Armory that year included K Company, 129th Infantry, Headquarters Co. 129th Infantry, Company E and the 108th quartermaster regiment. When the National Guard was called up for active duty in WWII (inducted into the regular army) a volunteer militia was organized to manage the Armory as a headquarters. At the end of the war a reorganized Guard had three units of the 44th Infantry division headquartered at the Armory. They met twice a week for drills and classes for non-commissioned officers met once a week. Preparatory training for West Point candidates was offered. In addition to drilling and physical training, guardsmen were instructed in marksmanship, combat principles, and first aid. The 44th infantry division was

called up for active duty in Korea in November 1951. They returned in 1953 and since that time local guard units headquartered at the Armory have been called out to assist with natural disasters, such as floods and tornadoes, and civilian protests such as the student riots at the University of Illinois and Northwestern University during the Vietnam war era and the Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

Col. Horace E. Thornton (as the highest ranking local officer) was appointed as the first custodian for the Armory. His guardianship duties included scheduling, maintenance, staffing, and rentals on behalf of the "people of the state". He initiated the policy that "the Armory would be used in the best interests of the public and with the understanding that any organization using the Armory would donate 15% of their profits to charity". The Armory was not to be used for personal gain. Col. Thornton's role as both a civic and military leader was given special honor and recognition in the 1937 Souvenir of Dedication given out at the grand opening ceremony.

Honor to Whom Honor is Due

On behalf of the citizens
of this community we
wish to pay homage to

COL. HORACE E. THORNTON

Secretary of the Rockford
Chamber of Commerce,
whose farsighted vision
conceived the possibility
of this Armory, whose
untiring energy and pain-
taking labors aided so
materially in its location,
and whose civic loyalty
is so beautifully symbol-
ized in the erection of this
noble edifice we dedicate.

A copy of this booklet (the only one known) is in the National Guard Archives in Springfield. Col. Thornton eventually moved up in rank and served on the national level until he retired with the rank of Brigadier General. Later his son, Major John H. Thornton, was appointed as the 4th custodian to supervise the Armory. He served in the Philippines and South Pacific in 1944-45 and received the Bronze Star. In 1993 the National Guard moved to a new facility in Machesney Park.

Plans to site an Armory project got underway in 1934 when a group of community leaders organized an appeal to the governor. At that time the country was in the grip of an economic depression and the government tried to stem the downward spiral by providing work for the thousands of unemployed through public works projects. Across the country communities were clamoring for WPA and PWA projects to bring federal dollars to areas with high unemployment and many families on relief. In part to provide jobs, but also to be prepared in case of violent insurrection during a time of social unrest, armories were built in many population centers. Nationwide there had been food riots, race riots, and communist-socialist protests. Grim economic conditions led to the distress, despair, and anger of the times. Rockford had over 25% unemployment and there had been Communist demonstrations in the streets of downtown. So while community leaders were later congratulating themselves for their success, it may actually have been that Rockford would have gotten an armory whether they wanted one or not.

In a spirit of civic cooperation, businessmen with an ice cream company, a baking company, a banker, a judge, a newspaper editor, a car dealer, the mayor (Henry Bloom) and Col. Thornton (representing the Chamber of Commerce) all joined together to appeal to Governor Henry Homer to secure an armory project for the city. At the last minute after much wrangling and direct appeals to the governor, a site for the Armory project was chosen, purchased by the city, and deeded directly to the State Armory Board. A new armory would provide a modern up-to-date facility for National Guard troops and at the

same time lend itself to many civic purposes. Civilian use of the armories promoted public support for the National Guard and helped cover maintenance and upkeep expenses.

When armory construction was included in WPA projects, Illinois initiated its own Armory Board to promote funding and approve siting and design plans. Throughout the 1930's, 18 armories were built in the state. The plan devised in Illinois to finance and build armories was so successful that it was later adopted by many other states for their own armories and other public buildings.

Throughout the decades, many prominent figures and celebrities have appeared at the Armory, ranging from Eleanor Roosevelt (for war bonds), to Nixon and Kennedy (as candidates), Nat King Cole (polio benefit), Gene Autry (three times), the Woody Herman Orchestra (the Armory was locally renowned for its dance floor), Fleetwood Mac, Styx, and many other popular rock bands, musicians, and performers. The Armory also provided an important stage for many local aspiring musicians to display their talents (or lack thereof) to (usually) appreciative audiences. All shared interests which drew the citizens of the area together for an event had ready access to the Armory as a venue; boats, camping, cars, dogs, cats, circuses, ice skating, arts, crafts, sporting goods, electronics, antiques, basketball, volleyball, politics, religions, benefits, fundraising, Kiwanas Pancake Day, St. Patrick Day, Big Top Rummage sale, etc., etc. —all found a welcoming and affordable resource since 1937. The Armory's role in the social history of Northern Illinois is undeniable.

Just one example of the Armory's historic role as a focal point of community importance involves the polio epidemic which had families across the nation living in a constant state of very real fear that their children would be stricken with that dreaded disease. While many children and adults died of the disease, many more were left with serious permanent physical handicaps. During that era, Nat King Cole (then one of the biggest stars in the country) came to the Rockford Armory to perform at a polio benefit. As soon as a polio vaccine was invented in 1955, the Rockford Armory was used as the site for a massive regional vaccination effort. One Rockford resident who clearly recalled being taken down to the Armory to receive the injection was Howard Benson of Benson Stone.

Criterion C

The Illinois National Guard Armory on Rockford represents a significant local example of Art Deco style which emphasized vertical lines, bold geometric angles, and zig-zag designs. The Art Deco—neo-Gothic terminology applied to the Rockford Armory was originally (1935) referred to in our local paper as modern Gothic. Art Deco evolved from a 1925 art exposition in Paris and soon became widely popular in the architecture of urban centers throughout the 1930's and '40's. Aimed at the middle-class, Art Deco appealed to the urban style with a spirit of opulence and solidity that was considered the epitome of modern innovation. The Gothic style of architecture originated in France during the Middle Ages and became widely used across western Europe. Gothic is characterized by pointed arches (Gothic arch), ribbed vaults, flying buttresses, symmetrical systems of decorated fenestration, and corner towers. Many of these elements are synthesized into the Art Deco style of ornamentation on the Armory and are apparent in the uniquely recognizable front entrance facing N. Main Street. The Gothic spirit is achieved in the stylized peaked and ridged archways with entry doors separated by the stone-capped, buttressed pylons.

The architectural firm, Bradley and Bradley established in Rockford in 1886) is credited with the Rockford Armory's design and Harold B. Bradley was the chief supervising architect overseeing construction. The Bradley and Bradley firm has been well known for their work around the region for over a century and have to their credit hundreds of public, commercial, and private buildings. The wide range of their architectural designs include courthouses, fire and police stations, power plants, community centers, libraries, village halls, lodges and clubs (Moose, Shrine, Masonic, Vikings, Elks, V.F.W., Scouts, etc.), garages and oil stations, businesses, industrial buildings, banks, offices, and private homes.

Harold S. Bradley, principal supervising architect for the Armory, was also a professional engineer prominently known in that field for rigid frame designs. The American Institute of Steel Construction cited the Rockford Armory as an outstanding example of rigid frame construction and the American Institute of Architects presented the annual national award for innovation in design to Bradley & Bradley for their work on the Armory. The firm was also involved in several other PWA projects in northern Illinois. In recent years two other Bradley & Bradley buildings have been granted local landmark status—

1887 Garrison School

1105 North Court Street

1903 Memorial Hall

211 North Main Street

Sjostrom & Sons (established in Rockford, 1914) were the principal contractors responsible for the Armory's poured concrete and structural steel construction. Benson Stone (established in Rockford, 1930) placed the elaborate stonework façade using machined Bedford limestone. All three of these principal companies involved in the construction of the Armory throughout 1936 are still in business in Rockford today.

Other examples of variations in the Art Deco style can be found in the Rockford area, all very different from each other and from the Armory. The former Pioneer Life Insurance building at 127 N. Wyman and the former Jackson Piano Store at 330 N. Main St. are examples of early Art Deco from the late 1920's. The Pioneer building, originally the Rockford Morning Star newspaper office (1928), has been renovated and remodeled for law offices and loft apartments. The Art Deco ornamentation on Jackson Piano is done in glazed, colored terra cotta tiles. That building is now included in the massive, multi-million dollar Coronado Theater renovation project and will be part of the theater when completed. Both are a few blocks from the Armory and are part of downtown Rockford's

ongoing renewal efforts in the historic River District. Across the Rock River, the Register Star office building at 99 East State St. is an example of Art Deco architecture using a Bedford stone façade. Also known as the News Tower, the ziggurat shape achieved with setbacks accentuate the sense of upward verticality. The News Tower silhouette is as recognizable to Rockford citizens as the impressive front entrance of the Armory.

Legal Description

Parcel I. Part of the Northwest fractional quarter of Section 23 in Township 44 North, Range 1 East, of the third Principal Meridian, bounded to wit: Beginning in the middle of North Main Street in the City of Rockford at a point one (1) chain and 56.875 links Northerly recorded in Book S of Deeds, page 303, thence Southeasterly along the Northerly line to a point 329 feet southeasterly of the East line of Main Street, thence Northerly parallel with said easterly line of Main Street to the southerly line of premises recorded in Book 89 of Deeds, page 144, thence North 47 degrees West along the Southerly line and thence Southerly along the middle of Main Street, 1 chain and 56.875 links to the place of beginning, situated in the City of Rockford, County of Winnebago and State of Illinois.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Armory. It consists of two properties purchased by the City of Rockford specifically for the Armory project in 1935. The property lines have not been altered since that time.

The historically significant boundary for the Armory property would generally be considered to run along lines adjacent to the city right-of-ways. A sidewalk extends along the front (west side) of the Armory parallel to North Main Street which is now a one-way street with no street parking permitted. A low concrete wall marks the north boundary. On the east side of the property, a high earth berm covered with trees and brush separates the Armory from private residences along the Rock River. The area beside Dickerman Drive (originally an alley between Whitestone Apts. and the Armory) on the south side is very narrow and no parking is permitted along that wall of the Armory.

Bibliography

American Architecture Since 1780, Marcus Whiffen, MIT Press.

Architectural and Historical Survey of Selected Armories, Final Report; Illinois Department of Military Affairs; by Heritage Research, Ltd.; May 1999.

Armories File, Reference Desk, Rockford Public Library.

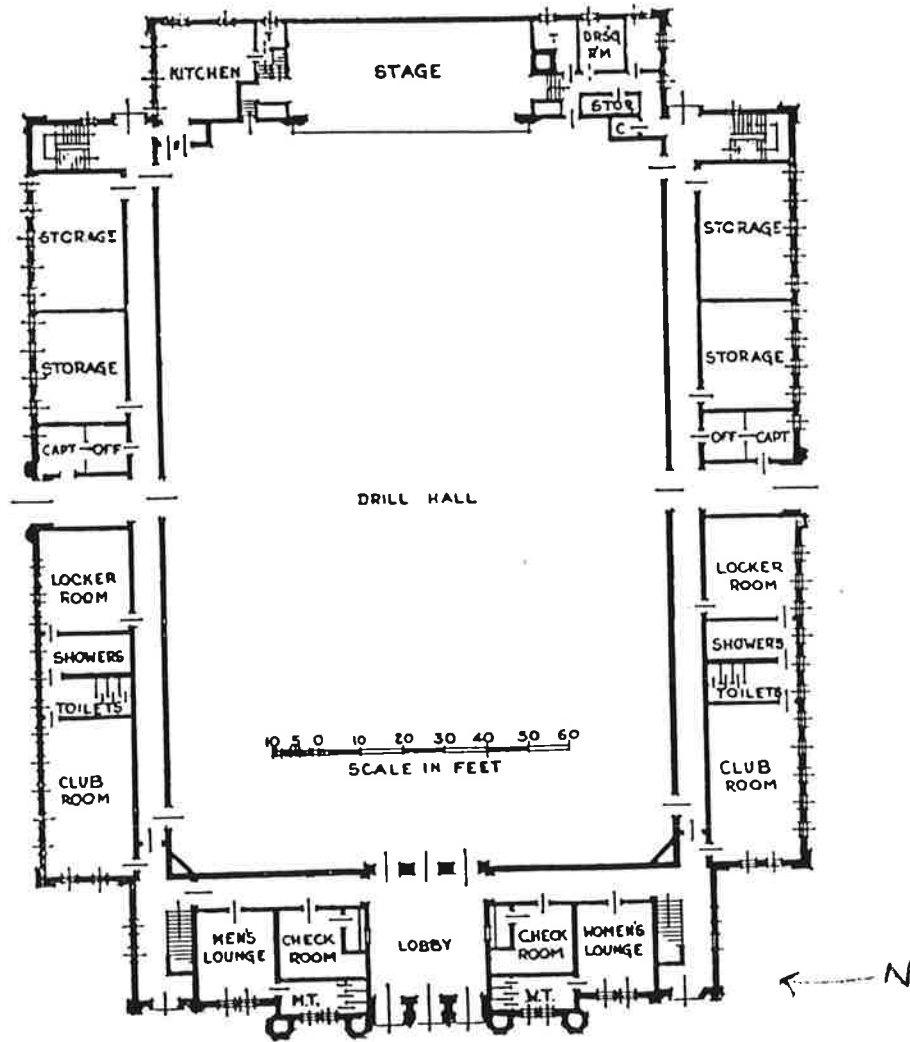
Public Buildings, Architecture Under the Public Works Administration 1933-39; Vol. 1, Richard G. Wilson.

Single Span Rigid Frames in Steel, American Institute of Steel Construction, Inc., 1948.

Souvenir of Dedication of Rockford Armory-January 14, 1937; Illinois National Guard Archives; Springfield, Illinois.

They Too, Cast Shadows; Northern Illinois Building Contractors; by Glen Turpoff. 1999.

Vecchio, Joe: Rockford, Illinois resident: Illinois National Guard-retired 1972.



Floor Plan of the Illinois National Guard Armory in Rockford. This floor plan is from Public Buildings: Architecture under the Public Works Administration 1933-39, Volume I.

Former Sears Parking Lot



--North Main Street--



--245 feet--

-Front Entrance-

--183 feet--

National Guard Armory

--Rock River--



-Dickerman-

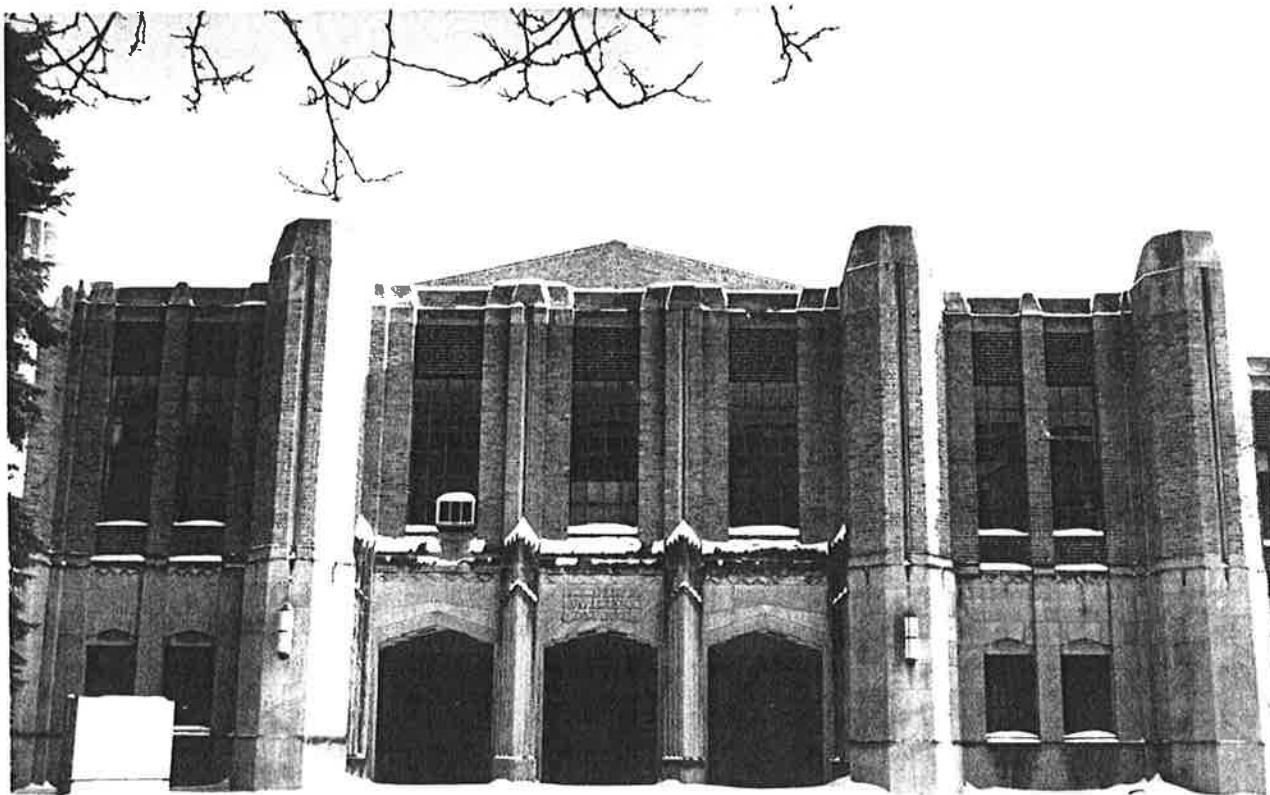
-Indian Terrace-

Site Plan

*Aerial
View
Looking
East*



*Front
Facade
Looking
Southeast*



Front facade
main level detail

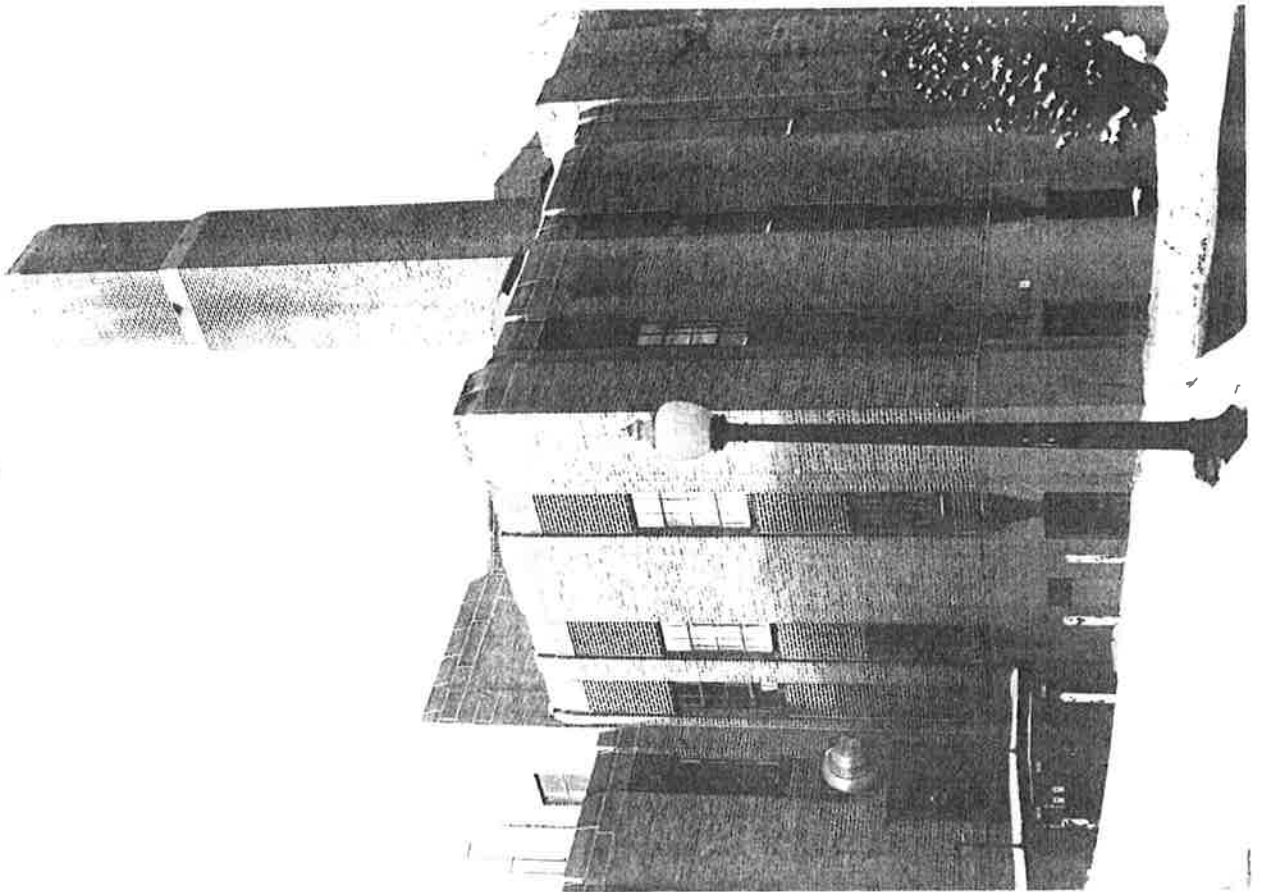


North corner
looking
south





*North-east
facade
looking
west*



*South
corner
looking
north*