

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUL 6 1979 SEP 7 1979  
DATE ENTEREDNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Lynn Armory

AND/OR COMMON

Lynn National Guard Armory

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER 36 South Common Street

CITY, TOWN

Lynn

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
Sixth

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE  
025COUNTY  
EssexCODE  
009**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 type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Edward F. King, Governor

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Massachusetts State House, Beacon Street

CITY, TOWN

Boston

VICINITY OF

STATE  
Massachusetts**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Essex County Registry of Deeds

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Essex County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Salem

STATE  
Massachusetts**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth #525

DATE

1978

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston

STATE  
Massachusetts

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

## CHECK ONE

## CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT

DETERIORATED

UNALTERED

ORIGINAL SITE

GOOD

RUINS

ALTERED

MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

FAIR

UNEXPOSED

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located on a level lot facing the Lynn Common, the Lynn Armory is a Romanesque Revival structure built of red brick with sandstone trimmings. The building is made up of a head house which has a drill shed attached to its rear (south) wall.

Head House: Containing the building's major facades (east, north & west), the Head House is rectangular in plan with rounded bays at each of its four corners. It rises from a plinth of rock-faced granite and is constructed of pressed brick which has been pointed with tinted mortar to emphasize the walls' appearance of solidity. The roof is nearly flat and is masked by a crenellated parapet on its east, north and west sides. Windows of the head house (except where otherwise noted) are made up of 1/1 sash, the top half of which is arched; the sash is set in brick surrounds with arched heads, and sandstone sills.

Head House - North Elevation: Facing South Common Street, the north elevation is nearly symmetrical, containing the building's major entry centered at the first story. The entry is set behind a wide arch with a sandstone architrave and has modern wooden doors (mid-20th c.) On either side of the entry, below grade level, are light wells which allow access to the cellar. Set on each of the entry at the first story is a single window. Second and third stories of the facade each contain three sets of paired windows. The third story windows are set in three blind arches. Framing the north elevation are two circular corner towers, 22' in diameter, each of which rises four stories to a crenellated parapet built out from the wall on a corbelled base. The northeast tower has evenly spaced windows at its first three stories and oculi at its fourth story; the northwest tower has similar fenestration, except where blocked by an attached stair tower and oriels which connect to the second story of the side tower. At the third story of the northwest tower is a carved sandstone plaque of the state seal of Massachusetts.

Head House - West Elevation: Facing an empty lot, the west elevation is framed by the structure's northwest corner tower and by a smaller rounded bay at the structure's southwest corner. The west elevation is symmetrical, consisting at both the first and second stories of a narrow center bay with one window per floor flanked on each side by a wider outer bay with two windows per floor. The second story windows are set in three blind arches which correspond in widths to the bays below. At the third story are three pairs of windows surmounted by corbelling which supports the parapet above. Fenestration of the small southwest corner bay is irregular consisting of one window at each story set in positions which spiral from the base of the bay to its top.

Head House - East Elevation: Facing a neighboring building (approx. 15' distant), the east elevation is a mirror image of the west elevation.

Head House - South Elevation: Undecorated, the south elevation is mostly covered by the drill shed. Near the southeast corner, a square-plan chimney rises along the exterior of the south elevation.

Drill Shed: Constructed of a porous red brick and centered on the rear wall of the head house, the drill shed is nearly as wide as the head house. The shed is approximately

(continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

FOR HCRS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 6 1979
DATE ENTERED	SEP 7 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

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140' long, divided into four bays on the exterior by buttresses; each bay contains two arched windows. The drill shed is enclosed by a steeply pitched slate roof and has a stepped gable at its south end. The south elevation of the drill shed has a small wing (with half-hip roof) at its first story. Above the wing are three arched windows which provide light for the shed's interior hall. Alterations to the drill shed are minor, consisting of the enlargement of two windows on the east wall, both of which have been converted to doors.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1893 ~~RUDOLPH~~ ARCHITECT Wheeler & Northend

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lynn Armory retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association. Built in 1893 to replace the Franklin Street Armory of 1888, the present Lynn Armory is among the best examples of Romanesque Revival architecture in the city. In addition, the Lynn Armory is one of several important Victorian public buildings located at the east end of the Common, all of which served to make this area the city's major institutional center. Included in this group are (or were) the Old Lynn City Hall (1867-1868 - demolished); St. Stephen's Memorial Church (1881 ) potential NR); and the Lynn Public Library (1898-1900 - potential NR).

Unlike the many Romanesque revival factories of Lynn's business district, most of which have Romanesque decorative details on their facades only, the Lynn Armory was designed to carry its decoration around three sides, leaving only the drill shed without Romanesque decorative details. In May of 1893, plans drawn by Wheeler Northend were accepted by the Commonwealth and construction began in summer of 1893. Currently in original condition, the building consists of a "head house" of approximately 68' (facade) by 86' (depth) to which a drill shed of 140' length is attached at the rear (south). At the time of the building's dedication, local newspapers boasted that it was among the "best arranged" armories in Massachusetts due to the efforts of "Commissioner Leighton" who oversaw construction and who allowed the local militia companies to work out the building program with the architects, rather than forcing the architects to work within more restrictive state plans for armory construction.

The Armory's architects, Wheeler & Northend, were a Lynn firm which formed around 1886 and dissolved around 1893, after which Holman K. Wheeler continued a private practice in Lynn and Northend moved elsewhere. The years of the firm's existence co-incided with a period of growth for Lynn as well as a period of building activity which followed the Fire of 1889 that destroyed the city's business district. During the rebuilding, Wheeler and Northend designed a large number of Romanesque Revival style blocks of which the New Item Building (1890 - demolished) was the best known. Elsewhere in Lynn the firm designed the Lynn High School (Romanesque Revival style - 1890 - demolished) and a number of small scale commercial blocks. The scale of the Armory and its prominent site marks its as the firm's most important surviving design.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

City of Lynn. Building Department. 1893 Building Permits  
 Lynn City Item. May 12, 1893, p. 7; June 8, 1894, p. 2.  
 Lynn Scrapbooks. (unpublished - at the Lynn Public Library) Vol. 32, p. 40;  
 Vol. 37, p. 8.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 17,256 sq. ft.

QUADRANGLE NAME Lynn QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>1,9</u>	<u>33,9</u>	<u>3,0,0</u>	<u>4,7</u>	<u>10,2</u>	<u>8,4</u>	<u>0</u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				
B							
C							
D							
E							
F							
G							
H							

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please refer to the attached assessor's map on which the boundaries are delineated.  
 Lot #31 of block #732.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE  
 Candace Jenkins, National Registrar Coordinator with

Brian Pfeiffer, Consultant  
 City of Lynn

ORGANIZATION  
 Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE  
 April, 1979

STREET & NUMBER  
 294 Washington Street

TELEPHONE  
 (617) 727-8470

CITY OR TOWN  
 Boston

STATE  
 Massachusetts

# 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

*Patricia H. Weslowski* 6/25/79

TITLE Executive Director, Mass. Historical Commission

DATE

### FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*John C. Skell*  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER  
 ATTEST: *Margaret Ouelly*  
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

9-7-79

DATE

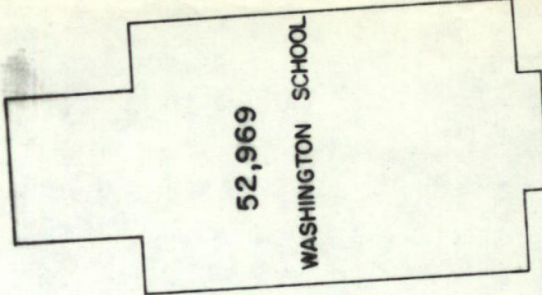
7/4/79

Parcel  
125,

taken from: Lynn Assessors' Maps  
Sheet #26

JUL 6 1979

CHUR



175

STREET

BOND ST.  
308.89  
383.49

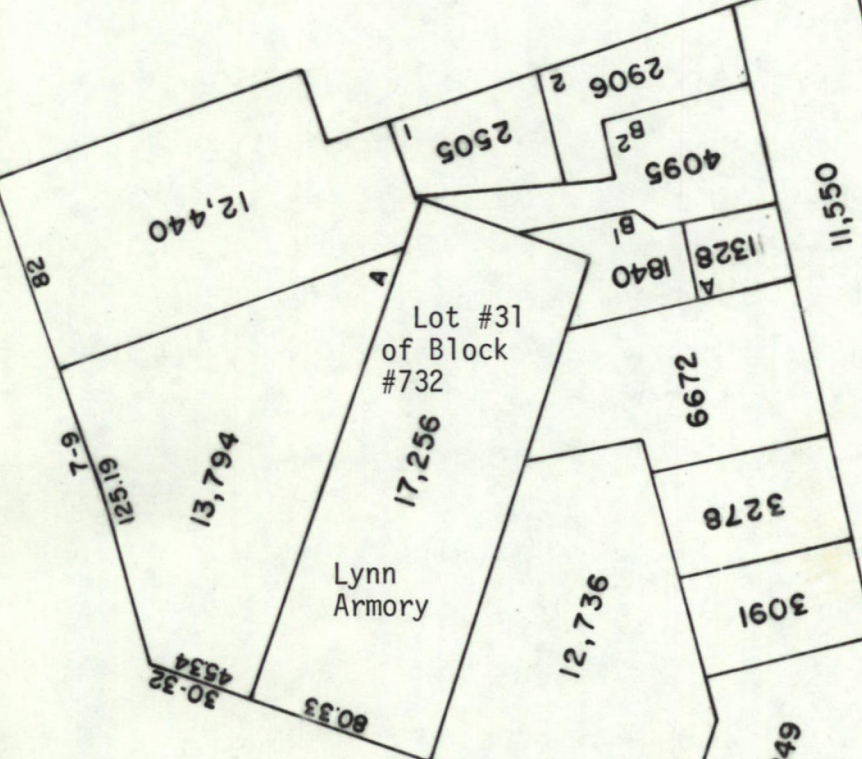
Parcel 2B  
75,702



Parcel 2C  
77,223

429.52

BLOSSOM



11,550

52,270

SOUTH COMMON STREET

PARK

245.59

221.63

145

SEP 7 1979

SEP 8 1979



Property

*Lynn Armory*

State

*Mass. (Essex)*

Working Number

*7.6.79.1629*

**TECHNICAL**

Photos   /  

Maps   /  

**CONTROL**

*pl*  
**OK 7.9.79**

**HISTORIAN**

*Accept &*  
*Oulov*  
*9/4/79*

The most important surviving design of a local firm, this red brick armory is one of the ~~most important~~ best examples of the Romanesque Revival style in Lynn. Its interior deviates from the restrictive state plans for armory construction because a Commissioner ~~has~~ permitted local militia companies to work with the architectural firm, Wheeler and Northend.

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

**ARCHEOLOGIST**

**OTHER**

**HAER**

Inventory       

Review       

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

*Accept*  
*Oulov*  
*9/5/79*

**BRANCH CHIEF**

**KEEPER**

National Register Write-up

10-2-79

Send-back       

Re-submit       

Entered

SEP 7 1979

Federal Register Entry



Lynn Armory  
Lynn, Mass.  
Brian Pfeiffer 1979  
147 Brattle St., Cambridge

Photo #1  
View facing southeast

SEP 7 1979

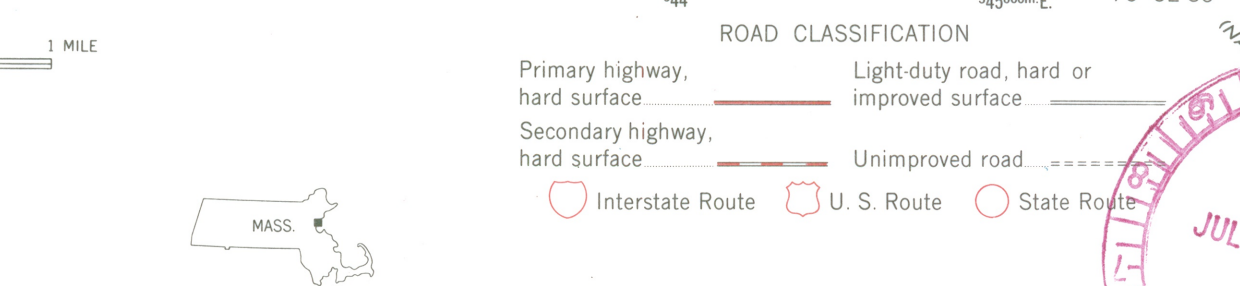
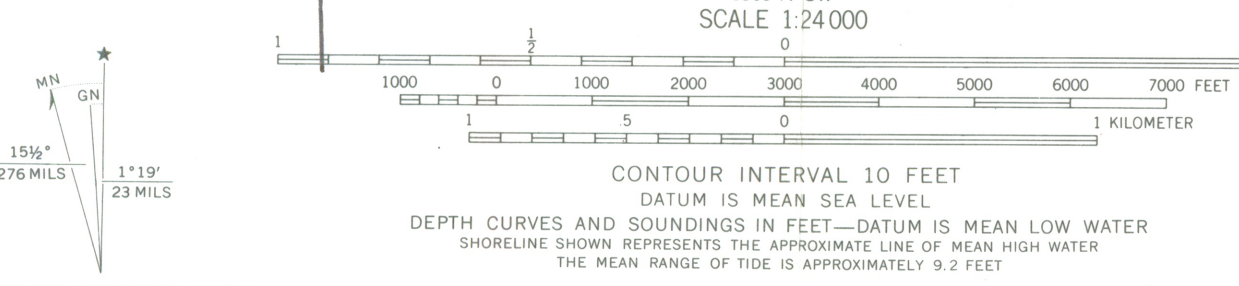
*Essex  
County*

JUL 6 1979



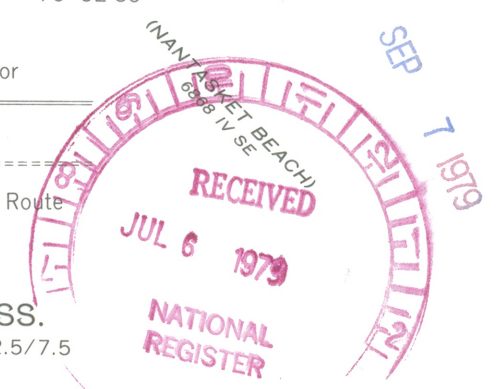
Lynn Armory  
Lynn, Mass.  
UTM REFERENCES:  
19/339300/4702840

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey  
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1939. Topography by planetable surveys 1943. Revised from  
aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970  
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts 240(1970), 246  
and 248 (1971). This information is not intended for navigational purposes  
Polycyclic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,  
mainland zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 19, shown in blue  
Boundaries in tidewater areas from information supplied by  
Massachusetts Department of Public Works  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

LYNN, MASS.  
N4222.5-W7052.5/7.5  
1970  
AMS 6868 IV NW-SERIES V814





**MASSACHUSETTS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street  
Boston, Massachusetts  
02108  
617-727-8470

**MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY**  
Secretary of State

June 25, 1979

Mr. Ronald Greenberg, Acting Chief  
Registration Branch  
OAHP, Heritage, Conservation &  
Recreation Service  
440 G Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20243



Dear Mr. Greenberg:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

- BOSTON - Arthur J. Lynn (Schooner)
- HANOVER - Stetson House
- LAWRENCE - Downtown Lawrence Historic District
- LYNN - Lynn Armory
- LYNN - St. Stephen's Church
- SOUTHBRIDGE - Center Village Historic District

All have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Sincerely,

*Christine Boulding*

Christine Boulding  
Survey Director

CB/leaf  
Encl:

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

MASSACHUSETTS

STATE

Date Entered SEP 7 1979

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Stetson House	Hanover Plymouth County
Centre Village Historic District	Southbridge Worcester County
St. Stephen's Memorial Church	Lynn Essex County
Lynn Armory	Lynn Essex County

Also Notified

Honorable Paul G. Tsongas

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy  
Honorable Gerry E. Studts  
Honorable Edward P. Boland  
Honorable Nicholas Mavroules

State Historic Preservation Officer  
Mrs. Patricia L. Weslowski  
Executive Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
294 Washington Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

NR Byers/bjr 9/12/79