

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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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 location or by entering the information requested. If any 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 LOVELAND STATE ARMORY

other names / site number CALVARY APOSTOLIC CHURCH: 5LR6834

2. Location

street & number 201 S. LINCOLN AVE. N/A not for publication

city or town LOVELAND N/A vicinity

state COLORADO code CO county LARIMER code 069 zip code 80537

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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.)

Georgiana Cortez 2/16/01
Signature of certifying official Date

Colorado Historical Society, Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. ([] See continuation sheet.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register
- See continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain):

Edson A. Beall 4/12/01
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

LOVELAND STATE ARMORY
Name of Property

LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	1	0
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure		
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		
			buildings
			sites
			structures
			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 / arms storage

DEFENSE / military facility

RECREATION AND CULTURE / auditorium

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION / religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS /

Late Gothic Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls BRICK

roof ASPHALT

other CONCRETE

Narrative Description

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

LOVELAND STATE ARMORY
Name of Property

LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more locations 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

MILITARY

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1926 - 1950

Significant Dates

1926

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "X" in all locations 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 a 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

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

FRAZIER, SIDNEY G.

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:

DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARY
LOVELAND REPORTER HERALD

LOVELAND STATE ARMORY
Name of Property

LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>13</u>	<u>493810</u>	<u>4470960</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
						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 RON SLADEK, PRESIDENT

organization TATANKA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATES, INC. date 1 SEPTEMBER 2000

street & number P.O. BOX 1909 telephone 970 / 229-9704

city or town FORT COLLINS state CO zip code 80522

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 CALVARY APOSTOLIC CHURCH

street and number 201 S. LINCOLN AVE. telephone 970 / 635-0965

city or town LOVELAND state CO zip code 80537

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.

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Property LOVELAND STATE ARMORY

LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

The 1926 Loveland State Armory occupies a slightly more than half-acre site located on the west side of S. Lincoln Ave. (U.S. Highway 287), just south of the downtown commercial district. Dominating the property is a raised two-story 7,752 square foot brick building originally constructed to serve as a Colorado National Guard armory. The structure faces toward the east onto Lincoln Ave. and is symmetrical in design. While the building occupies the southern third of the site, the northern area is characterized by a gravel parking lot. This empty area formerly contained the City of Loveland public swimming pool, which is now filled and located entirely below grade. Landscaping is limited to three small areas of grass in front of the building along Lincoln Ave., along with concrete sidewalks and short stairways that flank the main entry stair and connect to the sidewalk along the street. The property is surrounded by old motor courts to the north and east, houses and apartments to the northeast, southeast and south, and by commercial buildings to the west.

In plan a simple rectangular structure, the Loveland State Armory measures 112' from east to west and 57' from north to south, and is set back into the southwest corner of the site with the main entrance at a distance of 30' from the curb. The eastern fifth of the Armory, measuring 24' x 57', faces onto the street and is two stories in height. This portion of the building originally contained the Guard unit's administrative offices, a cloak room, and meeting and recreation rooms. The western length of the structure, measuring 88' x 57', is slightly lower at the roof line but actually contains just one story. This area of the building formerly contained the drill hall and a stage. The basement runs the entire length of the building, and was originally separated into storage rooms, showers, a boiler room and a firing range.

The raised, garden-level basement increases the overall height of the building as the heavy concrete foundation walls rise six feet above grade around the structure's entire perimeter. This physical and visual base of the building is finished on the exterior with brick facing laid in running bond coursing. The uppermost 1' of the facing on the foundation is composed of a band of soldiers, above which is a band of angled rowlocks that serve as a water table. The remainder of the exterior is finished with variegated red brick laid in common bond coursing, along with ornamental brickwork found on the three exterior walls of the eastern two-story portion of the building. All of the windows are metal framed. For the most part, those in the basement consist of one awning surrounded by five fixed lights and those on the upper two floors consist of two central awnings surrounded by ten fixed lights.

The roof above the eastern two-story section is flat and the western portion of the building has a gabled roof, underneath which is extensive trusswork that supports a vaulted ceiling inside the drill hall. Brick parapets are present on the eastern and western ends of the building. The

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parapet on the east elevation, which is battlemented, wraps around the corners of the building and continues for a short distance along the north and south elevations. On the west elevation, the parapet is sloped to follow the gabled roof, terminating in a flat that projects slightly upward at the peak. The gabled portion of the roof is finished flush with the walls along the north and south sides of the structure. A plain squared brick chimney projects a short distance above the roof line at the northwest corner.

The building currently houses the Calvary Apostolic Church, which purchased the site in 1993 and has since then engaged in interior remodeling to prepare the building for congregational use. This recent remodeling has left some of the historic interior features intact, and the entire exterior of the building retains its original appearance. In general, the Loveland State Armory is in good condition and exhibits an excellent degree of historic integrity through its location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

EAST (PRIMARY) ELEVATION

The east elevation of the Loveland State Armory faces onto S. Lincoln Ave. Strictly symmetrical, this elevation contains the main entrance and exhibits numerous ornamental elements that define the building's historic use as an early 20th century Colorado National Guard armory.

As described in detail above, the lower portion of the elevation, approximately six feet in height above grade, consists of a raised basement that forms the physical and visual base of the building. Four windows are present on this level, two on each side of the main entry stairs (one is currently boarded closed). At the northeast corner of the building is a cornerstone, incised with the following words:

ERECTED 1926
BY THE
MILITARY BOARD
STATE OF COLORADO
CLARENCE J. MORLEY - GOVERNOR
CAPT. SIDNEY G. FRAZIER - ARCHITECT
LAID BY THE
M.W. GRAND LODGE A.F. & A. M. OF COLORADO
NOVEMBER 22, A.D. 1926
A.L. 5926

The front entrance, centered on the main floor, is accessed via twin concrete sidewalks from the street and another from the parking lot. These sidewalks converge in front of the building at a

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Property LOVELAND STATE ARMORY

LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO

main stairway that initially rises six concrete steps from the north and south to meet at a concrete landing. A single flight of concrete stairs then rises seven more steps toward the west to a landing in front of the main entry doors. The lower double stairway and landing are supported on the east by a running bond brick wall with concrete capping. Flanking the upper portion of the stairway and the west sides of the lower stairways are low brick walls with concrete capping that serves as handrails. The edge of each stair tread is protected with a curved metal guard. Below and to the north of the main stairway is a flight of six concrete stairs with a metal handrail that drops below grade to a basement entrance. Facing toward the north, this entrance contains a single vertical plank door with four lights, old hardware and a metal kickplate.

The front entrance to the building contains a set of three vertical plank doors, each with four lights, metal strapwork hinges and old metal handles. Above and to the sides of the doors are carved limestone surrounds that together form a central frontispiece that highlights the main entry. Centered above the doors and their limestone lintel is a lunette carved with the seal of the State of Colorado, along with the words "State Armory." The doors and lunette are overhung by a heavy segmental limestone arch. Capping the entry frontispiece is a carved limestone arcaded corbel table, flat panels with blank disks, and a short band of limestone blocks.

Flanking the main entry doors and limestone frontispiece are two narrow polygonal brick towers, which rise from ground level to several feet above the roof line, terminating in brick battlements capped with angled concrete coping. A projecting carved limestone band runs horizontally around each tower and along the wall between the two towers at the roof line. Rising up each tower in staggered locations are five narrow firing slits. An ornamental lamp is mounted on the front of each tower at the level of the main door lintel. At the second floor level between the towers is a single metal frame window with limestone sill, lintel and tabbed surrounds. Above the window are three decorative checkerboard or diaper work squares formed by the alternation of recessed and projecting brick headers. On either side of the central towers, the brick walls are punctuated by a single pair of metal frame windows on each of the first and second floors, all of them with limestone sills, lintels and tabbed surrounds. Above these windows at the roof line is an arcaded brick corbel table, a band of alternating recessed and projecting brick stretchers, and the crenelated parapet crest, which is finished with angled brick soldiers.

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Property LOVELAND STATE ARMORY

LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO

WEST (REAR) ELEVATION

The west elevation of the Loveland State Armory overlooks a narrow fenced area that is partially paved with a concrete sidewalk. Set into the sidewalk is a manhole from which ash was removed from the boiler room below. Mounted to the wall directly above the manhole is a swinging metal block and tackle bracket. Also on the wall a few feet to the south is a small metal door that provided access to the coal chute.

Two building entrances are present on the west elevation. A solid wood door located just north of center enters the building at grade level, providing direct access to interior stairways that rise to the former drill hall and drop into the basement boiler room. The second doorway is found near the southwest corner of the building and consists of a pair of short old wood doors, each with wood panels below and four wired glass lights above, along with their original metal hardware. These doors provide access to an interior concrete ramp that slopes downward into a basement storage room. This entrance appears to have been previously used to bring military equipment, primarily small cannon, in and out of the building.

Two windows are located on the first floor, one each near the northwest and southwest corners of the building. Directly above the window near the southwest corner is a rough wood door set into what appears to be a former window space. An exterior metal ladder attached to the brick wall adjacent to this window provides roof access. Other than these items, the west elevation is characterized by an unbroken expanse of brick.

NORTH (SIDE) ELEVATION

The north elevation of the Loveland State Armory overlooks the adjacent gravel parking lot on the site. Two historic entrances are present on this elevation, however neither is currently in use. A former oversized door space, similar to the double door in the west elevation, is found at the basement level just west of the eastern two-story portion of the building. This doorway was removed at an unknown time and is currently closed. A ramp formerly located outside of the building's foundation at this location has been filled with dirt. It is apparent that, located on the north side of the building, this doorway is likely to have resulted in drainage problems, allowing stormwater and snowmelt to infiltrate the basement.

An old vertical wood plank door with metal strapwork, four small fixed lights and old hardware is found near the northwest corner of the building. The base of this door is suspended six feet above grade with no access from the ground. Entering near the stage area of the building, the door serves no practical purpose at this time and has been fixed inoperable.

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Nine metal frame windows are found in the basement level of the north elevation. All of these have metal lintel plates and angled brick sailor sills. The eastern two-story section of the building contains one metal frame window on each of the first and second floors, with concrete sills and metal lintel plates. The main floor level of the western portion of the building contains five metal frame windows with metal lintel plates and angled brick sailor sills. A couple of the basement level windows have been boarded shut.

Ornamental features found on the north elevation include elements of the decorative brickwork that wrap around from the front of the building, including the arcaded corbel table, brick banding and castellated parapet. The only feature that runs the entire length of the north elevation is the brick banding that caps the basement level at approximately six feet above grade. Separating the tall eastern two-story section from the slightly shorter western portion of the building is a single brick pilaster that rises from grade to a height of more than one foot above the parapet wall, terminating in brick crenelation with concrete coping. The western length of the north elevation is more simply ornamented with four evenly-spaced brick wall buttresses that rise from grade to a height just short of the roof line, terminating in angled headers.

SOUTH (SIDE) ELEVATION

The south elevation of the Loveland State Armory overlooks a narrow fenced area that contains nothing more than landscaping gravel. No entrances are present on this elevation. Five metal frame windows are found in the basement level, all of them with metal lintel plates and angled brick sailor sills. Two of these windows are secured with heavy metal bars. The eastern two-story section of the building contains one metal frame window on the first floor and two on the second floor, all with concrete sills and metal lintel plates. One of the windows on the second floor is slightly different from all the others found on the building, with a single four-light awning surrounded by eight fixed lights. The main floor level of the western drill hall portion of the building contains five metal frame windows with metal lintel plates and angled brick sailor sills.

As on the north elevation, ornamental features found on the south elevation include elements of the decorative brickwork that wrap around from the front of the building. Again, the only one of these that runs the length of the building is the brick banding that caps the basement level at approximately six feet above grade. The south elevation of the eastern two-story portion of the building includes the same arcaded brick corbel table, brick banding and crenelation that highlight the parapet. Separating the tall eastern two-story section from the shorter western portion is a single brick pilaster that rises from grade to a height of at least one foot above the

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parapet, terminating in brick crenelation with concrete coping. The western section of the building is ornamented with four evenly-spaced brick wall buttresses that rise from grade to a height just short of the roof line, terminating in angled headers.

INTERIOR FEATURES

The interior of the Loveland State Armory exhibits a number of original finishes. The basement, with its heavy concrete foundation and interior walls, is divided into several rooms, most of which have been remodeled for church use. Still in its original condition is the shooting range, a long narrow room located along the south side of the basement. The far wall, at the southwest corner of the building, is covered with several layers of thick wood planks, behind which is a heavy metal bullet-stopping plate. Another historic feature in the basement is the concrete ramp and store room at the rear of the building that housed equipment used during military training. The boiler room at the northwest corner of the building contains the original boiler, which is no longer in use.

The first floor has been largely remodeled for church use, with the eastern end used for offices and the former drill hall in the western portion of the building now used as a church sanctuary. In addition to the main entry doors, an original vaulted ceiling and glazed brick walls are found in the entry hall and intersecting hallways. The sanctuary still exhibits the earlier drill hall's high vaulted ceiling, glazed brick walls and a glazed brick proscenium arch with inset decorative tiles surrounding the original stage, which is located at the western end of the hall.

The second floor in the eastern portion of the building is largely original, although in somewhat deteriorated condition. Access to the upper floor is gained through a glazed brick archway located at the end of the north interior hallway. The wooden stairway includes a turned wood handrail and a wood balustrade at the second floor level. The balustrade consists of squared balusters and a squared newel post, along with a carved handrail.

The second floor still exhibits its original wood flooring, plaster walls and ceilings, wood trim and chair rails, wood panel doors, and small polygonal closets inside the front towers. The paint is peeling from the walls and the plaster ceiling has been damaged by water infiltration. On the west wall of the central room is a band of windows that formerly overlooked the drill hall. This band consists of three nine-light wood frame windows set in wood surrounds. These windows are opened by lowering them directly down into the wall. Although in good condition, they no longer provide a view into the drill hall or sanctuary below.

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Property LOVELAND STATE ARMORY

LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Loveland State Armory is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A for its association with the military history of Colorado and its place in the development of Loveland. In many locations throughout the United States, armories were constructed to train troops in the art of warfare. Often, during the late 1800s and early 1900s, they were used to suppress riots, worker strikes and other disturbances, as well as to assert government control during local, state or national emergencies. During the early 1920s, community boosters in Loveland spearheaded a successful effort to establish a National Guard unit in the town primarily as an economy-building and patriotic measure, and then proceeded to lobby for the construction of an armory. Constructed in 1926, the Loveland State Armory served for thirty-five years as the headquarters and training facility for local units of the National Guard in this small Colorado agricultural community. This effort underscores the growth and evolution of Loveland from a late-1800s pioneer farming village to an early 20th-century agricultural and commercial center, eager to boost the local economy and take its place in the military preparedness of the state and nation. During World War II, local men who trained in the Loveland Armory were sent overseas, where they served in field artillery units against the Japanese. Today the building houses a church and continues to stand as a prominent historic landmark, evocative of the historic participation of Loveland residents in the military operations of the state and nation.

The Loveland State Armory is also eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C for embodying the distinctive characteristics of a type and period of construction, and for its association with the body of work of architect Sidney G. Frazier. The Late Gothic Revival structure exhibits architectural ornamentation that features a carved limestone frontispiece framing the vertical plank main entry doors, a pair of polygonal brick towers with staggered firing slits and battlements, an arcaded brick corbel table, brick buttresses and a crenelated parapet crest. Together with the raised height of the building and grand entry staircase, these characteristics define a structure that is imposing and clearly gives the appearance of a military fortification. The Loveland State Armory is one of only two such buildings constructed in Colorado from identical plans prepared by Greeley architect Sidney G. Frazier (the other, located in the town of Burlington, was listed in the National Register in 1984). This building is one of about twenty pre-World War II armories found in the state, and was among the last to be constructed during this period.

The Loveland State Armory's period of significance begins in 1926 when the structure was erected, and ends in 1950 at the fifty year mark as it continued to be occupied for the same purpose into the post-WWII era.

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Property LOVELAND STATE ARMORY

LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The town of Loveland, located on the plains of southeastern Larimer County, was platted in 1877 and incorporated in 1881 along the newly-laid tracks of the Colorado Central Railroad's route from Denver to Cheyenne. Along with a depot, numerous commercial buildings, residences, churches, schools, theaters, hotels and mills were erected over the next few decades as the community grew quickly into the thriving center of the surrounding agricultural region. The local economy was also spurred by the opening of nearby stone quarries in the late 1800s and the construction of a large sugar plant on the east side of the town in 1901. An added attraction to Loveland's residential and commercial features in the late 19th and early 20th centuries was its location near the entrance to the Big Thompson Canyon. As a prominent northern Colorado rail stop, enhanced by the development of the automobile and a network of roads, Loveland became the primary launching point for tourists headed into the mountains, many of them destined for Estes Park thirty-two miles to the west. These elements, specifically commerce, agriculture and tourism, converged to make Loveland a growing town with a solid future.

Concurrent with the birth of Loveland, the nascent Colorado National Guard emerged as militia companies were organized in the mining camps and fledgling towns of the territory. By the late 1870s, these companies were formally mustered into state service in units such as the 1st Colorado Infantry Volunteer Militia, the Chaffee Light Artillery and the 117th Squadron Cavalry. Between 1898 and 1917, troops enlisted in these units participated in the Spanish-American War, the Mexican border clashes with Pancho Villa and his raiders, and strike-breaking efforts in the mining towns of southern and central Colorado. Loveland also supported a sixty-member Guard unit known as Company G, First Infantry Regiment around the turn of the 20th century. However, following its involvement in strike breaking activities in Colorado, the unit was mustered out in July of 1905. Throughout the 1900s and 1910s, the federal government began to invest more in the National Guard, turning it into a reserve force for the Army rather than allowing it to continue as a collection of state militias limited to addressing domestic problems.

Following World War I, the National Defense Act of 1920 reorganized the Army, splitting it into three separate branches that included that Regular Army, the National Guard and the Reserves. Of these, the National Guard was to be manned by enlisted personnel in numbers proportional to the population of the state in which they were located. While the federal government provided equipment, supplies and funding for training, the states were held responsible for the construction and maintenance of armories erected for local Guard units. Early the following year, the Colorado General Assembly approved the appropriation of funds for the construction of armories in communities that raised National Guard units. To obtain an armory, the community was required to petition the Governor and the State Military Board for approval.

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By the early 1920s, Loveland's population had reached 7,000 and the town's leaders identified a need for a sizable building that could be made available for various community uses without raising taxes. A promising answer to this problem was to establish a National Guard unit in the town, which would before long draw attention to the need for an armory to be constructed with state funds. The Loveland Civic Association (predecessor to the Chamber of Commerce) spearheaded the effort, and in early April 1923 received notice that they were authorized to begin recruiting for what would become Troop C of the 117th Separate Squadron Cavalry. Eager to establish the unit, the Civic Association put out the word that "anyone between the ages of 18 to 45 years, of good moral character and physical fitness" could enlist. With a minimum of 50 men enlisted, the unit could be mustered in and elect its officers in time to participate in the upcoming summer encampment.

With recruitment going well (thirty men had enrolled in the previous few days), Adjutant General Paul P. Newlon visited Loveland on 5 April 1923 to speak with the town's business leaders at a meeting of the Loveland Civic Association. Clearly, the organization saw the establishment of a National Guard unit in Loveland as not only an issue of civic pride, but also one of obtaining a needed public facility and boosting the payroll of area citizens and businesses. In its excitement over the possibility of mustering in a Loveland troop, the *Loveland Reporter-Herald* focused upon "the large broadcasting radio set which will be a splendid advertising stunt for the city and the polo team which will be organized." Although Adjutant General Newlon had evidently mentioned these side benefits for the community when speaking to the Civic Association, they appear to have never materialized. In trying to quickly fill the roster with fifty recruits, the Civic Association highlighted the minimal 1.5 hour per week commitment and the two week "vacation" the enlisted men would soon receive during the summer encampment at the rifle range near Golden.

On Wednesday, 19 April 1923, the 57 men who enlisted in Troop C were mustered in at the local American Legion post. The first order of business for the new unit was to elect officers. Those elected were Clyde P. Henderson, captain, Howard E. Reed, 1st Lieutenant, and Larry Pray, 2nd Lieutenant. The state informed the unit that it would have a cap of 96 men and would be required to recruit an additional eight more than its current number within the following six months. Major Mueller of the Regular Army visited Loveland early the following week, and on April 25 the unit was given federal recognition. To provide space for the unit to meet and train, the government signed a lease with the local American Legion post for use of their hall two nights a week. The city provided Troop C with space at the fairgrounds for a drill field and stables there for horses. National Guard authorities in Denver announced that they would soon be providing funds for the construction of armories in Loveland and Longmont.

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In the spring of 1926, a group representing the Loveland Chamber of Commerce (led by president Reid Williams) and the officers of Troop C paid a visit to the State Military Board in Denver, which was chaired by Governor Clarence J. Morley. After hearing their request for a new armory in the town, the board agreed that a building was justified. Proving true to its word, the State Military Board authorized the construction of an armory in Loveland. Plans for the building were prepared by Sidney G. Frazier, a Greeley architect who was serving at the time as a captain in the Colorado National Guard. Making efficient use of his plans, the Guard constructed an identical armory the same year in the small town of Burlington on the far east-central plains of Colorado. These two buildings are the only National Guard structures known to have been erected from Frazier's plans.

SIDNEY GEORGE FRAZIER was born in Denver in 1889 and entered the field of architecture in 1909 as a draftsman for the prominent firm of Baeresson Brothers after attending architecture school at Columbia University. Later that year he moved to the firm of William Ellsworth Fisher and Brother, where he worked for the next eight years. Occasionally loaned to the firm of Roeschlaub & Son, Frazier worked on the designs for the 1912 Meeker High School in Greeley, improvements to the Centennial High School in Pueblo, and the Isis Theater in Denver. In 1917 he opened his own architectural practice in Casper, Wyoming and although the office prospered, Frazier's career was interrupted when he was drafted to serve with the 109th Engineers during World War I. Following the war, he enlisted as a captain in the Colorado National Guard.

Continuing with his career as an architect, Frazier first became superintendent of construction on the Auditorium Building in Pueblo for architect William Stickney. After receiving his Colorado architect's license in 1919, Frazier opened his own office in Greeley, where he practiced for the next four decades. During his long career, Sidney Frazier designed a number of notable buildings, including the Ault High School (1921), Pierce High School (1923), Greeley High School Gymnasium (1925), Burlington State Armory (1926), St. Peter's School in Greeley (1926), St. Joseph's School in Denver (1926), Greeley Tribune Building (1928), Eaton Town Hall (1928), Greeley Junior High School (1938), Arlington Grade School (1941), Greeley Baptist Temple (1945), and Weld County Public Hospital (1949). In addition, he prepared plans for the Fort Lupton High School and the Greeley Osteopathic Memorial Hospital. In 1949, Frazier designed the Veterinary Hospital at Colorado A & M in Fort Collins (now Colorado State University). In all, he was responsible for the design of forty-five schools as well as a number of churches and public buildings in northern Colorado, in addition to serving as associate architect on the Colorado State Capitol Annex (1939) in Denver. During World War II, Frazier was instrumental in designing the Remington Arms Ordnance Plant in Salt Lake City and the Atomic Bomb Plant in Richland, Washington.

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In the summer of 1926, a parcel of land just south of the downtown commercial district and adjacent to the new city swimming pool was acquired for the purpose of erecting a new armory for Loveland. To comply with state requirements, the property had to be handed over with a clear deed prior to the start of construction. To accomplish this, the Chamber of Commerce purchased the site for \$800, paying \$200 at closing and financing the balance even though the purchase had not been anticipated and accounted for in their annual budget. Determined to assist the Chamber, the American Legion post in Loveland voted unanimously to do whatever it could to wipe out this debt. On 28 September 1926, the Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion handed the Chamber of Commerce a check for \$200 to offset a large part of the \$600 debt that remained. Less than one month later, the Chamber announced that the remaining financing for the land was soon to be paid off with the continuing help of the American Legion and the Ladies Auxiliary.

A request for bids was issued by the State Military Board during the summer of 1926. On September 17 of that year, the construction contract was awarded to A. Danielson & Son of Denver, the same firm that over the previous few years had constructed the Rialto Theater and the new High School in Loveland, both of which remain landmark properties in the town today. Construction began in late September 1926, when ground was broken to prepare the foundation. In mid-October, the Chamber of Commerce announced that plans were being prepared for the laying of a cornerstone at the site on Armistice Day, November 11, however the ceremony was delayed by inclement weather.

The long-awaited and worked for cornerstone laying finally took place on 22 November 1926, with a ceremony led by the Grand Officers of the Masons of Colorado. Symbolic of the great significance the Armory held in the community, all of the businesses in Loveland closed for the one-hour ceremony and every citizen of the town was urged to attend. Starting that afternoon at the Masonic Temple on 4th St., a large crowd that included Masons, members of the ex-servicemen's Brown Derby Club and American Legion, members of Troop C and civilians marched the several blocks to the site of the new building. Once there, the crowd listened to songs performed by the Masonic Lodge Quartet. Prior to setting the granite cornerstone, the Masonic Lodge placed a copper box into a niche behind it that contained mementos of 1920s Loveland. Among the items included in the box was a copy of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the Colorado Masons for 1925-26, rosters and bylaws of the Grand Lodge and Troop C, copies of the local newspapers, a roster of the Chamber of Commerce and Loveland officials, a 1920 Lincoln penny and several photographs of Loveland street scenes and buildings.

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Throughout its development, the *Reporter-Herald* placed almost every bit of progress on the project on page one, and described the building in 1926 as "an imposing structure and a most valuable addition to our city." The basement was designed to contain a recreation room, library, athletic room, locker room, supply room, firing range and showers. On the main floor were to be offices, a cloak room, a stage and a large drill hall. The second floor in the front of the building was to contain supply and recreation rooms.

By January of 1927, the building, estimated to cost \$50,000, was nearing completion. According to the *Reporter-Herald*, a new material known as Celotex was installed on the ceiling of the drill hall. Celebrated as the "greatest improvement of the last few years in the building trade," Celotex was hailed for having the remarkable characteristics of both preventing heat loss and absorbing noise to improve the acoustics in the large hall. It was estimated that the cost of heating the building would be reduced by as much as one-third due to the installation of this product.

Dedication of the completed building took place at a ceremony held there on the night of 28 April 1927. In that day's issue, the *Reporter-Herald* described the building in glowing terms:

"The new structure. . . is believed to be the best and most up-to-date building of its kind in the west. Everything necessary for the training, equipping, and housing of a peace, or wartime troop of cavalry is in the building. There are support rooms efficiently arranged, handy saddle racks, club rooms, rest rooms, rifle range 60 feet long, a great drill room beautifully decorated and with acoustic perfection, company offices, caretakers apartment, ladies rest rooms, check rooms and many other conveniences."

The dedication ceremony included speeches and entertainment by local talent. C.D. Bromley, a Boulder attorney and World War I veteran was the featured speaker. Following the program, the public was invited to inspect the building with the uniformed members of Troop C acting as tour guides. Following the tours, the citizens of Loveland were encouraged to join in a dance held in the drill hall.

In basic form similar to numerous of the castellated armories erected throughout the country between the 1870s and 1930s, although on a scale appropriate to the size of Loveland, the State Armory gives the passerby the impression of a fortified bastion, symbolic of the place of the military in American society. However, with its many windows and grand entry stairway, the building is also clearly designed less as a fortress than for welcome public use, a change in armory design that occurred after around 1910. Typical of most post-Civil War armories in the United States, the Loveland Armory is arranged in a rectangular plan with a two-story "head

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house," or administrative section in the front, behind which is the tall one-story drill hall. The battlements and other elements of medieval architecture are present on the building primarily for ornamental effect rather than to serve as elements of intimidation as on earlier armories.

While used for military drills during the day, the Loveland State Armory immediately became the city's community center as the largest public recreation and entertainment facility available in the town. The building hosted dances, festivals, plays, concerts and community events in the evenings and on weekends until a dedicated community building was erected by the city ten years later. So eager was the public to use the building that the first event held there, a play and concert, took place just a few days after the dedication. The local American Legion Post and the Brown Derby Club also met regularly in the building until they were able to find more adequate permanent homes.

On 21 November 1927, Troop C was called out for duty along with other units to suppress disturbances in the mining districts and at other locations in Boulder and Weld counties. Troop C was commanded during the late 1920s and early 1930s by Captain William F. Hunn, with the assistance of 1st Lieutenant Howard E. Reed and 2nd Lieutenant Edward M. Specht. During the Depression years, many unemployed and underemployed young men from the Loveland area supplemented their meager incomes with wages paid for National Guard duty. Guard activities nationwide helped desperate families during those trying years and particularly impacted the socioeconomic development of small towns such as Loveland.

By the early 1930s, modernization of the armed forces resulted in the conversion of cavalry units to motorized field artillery regiments. Officers and enlisted men who were equine enthusiasts resisted the change initially, but were required to comply with the shift from horse-drawn to motorized equipment. On 1 August 1933, the 168th Field Artillery (Horse Drawn) and the 117th Squadron Cavalry were disbanded and then recombined to form the 168th Field Artillery Regiment (Truck Drawn), which utilized 175mm motorized artillery guns. As a result of this reorganization, the Loveland unit was redesignated Battery F, Second Battalion, 168th Field Artillery and the armory building continued to be used for training, weapons storage and National Guard offices.

Guard troops from Loveland served in World War II, when they were inducted by executive order into federal service on 24 February 1941 as the Second Battalion, 168th Field Artillery Regiment, 75th Field Artillery Brigade. This brigade was attached to the Seventh Army Corps under the Second Army. In March 1943, the War Department ordered the disbanding of all artillery regiments and the 168th Field Artillery was terminated. The Second Battalion, which included the Guard troops from Loveland, became the 983rd Field Artillery Battalion, operating 155mm guns.

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Throughout their eleven months of active service, the Loveland National Guard members participated in four campaigns and three primary water landings in the Pacific. During this time they were involved in the firing of over 40,000 rounds of artillery ammunition against the Japanese, with approximately 150 men in the battalion individually decorated for their valor in battle.

Following the war, Colorado accepted a new allotment of National Guard troops, establishing units in more than twenty cities throughout the state. Recruits were offered a full day's Regular Army pay for a commitment of just two hours per week at the armories, along with two weeks of field training during the summer months with what the Guard advertised as "top-notch, combat-tested instructors." According to the Colorado National Guard Headquarters in Denver, a town that in 1946 supported a single, full-strength rifle company benefited annually from a payroll of \$48,036 and the cost-free use of expensive military equipment to handle local disasters and emergencies. Encouraging potential recruits to join, headquarters argued that

"Our Uncle Sam has no chip on his shoulder, but if there should ever be another Pearl Harbor, it is the Guardsman that is prepared. It is the peacetime Guardsman that becomes the wartime leader, for he is the man who is trained, skilled and physically and mentally conditioned for that leadership."

Daily pay for armory drills during the late 1940s ranged from \$2.50 to \$5.50, depending upon rank. Together with summer field training, this translated to an annual pay range of between \$157.50 and \$346.50, although flight personnel, long-term personnel and married men were eligible for higher amounts.

In early 1947, the Loveland unit of the National Guard was reactivated as the Cannon Company of the 157th Infantry Regimental Combat Team, headquartered in Denver but operating out of the State Armory in Loveland. A rectangular one-story annex to the armory was constructed to the west of the main building around this time. Although this structure is still present, it is now located on an adjacent parcel and used as an auto repair shop. Before long, the state began to invest in new National Guard facilities designed to fit the motorized requirements of modern armies. As a result, many of the nation's historic armory buildings were abandoned to uncertain fates over the past fifty years. Lasting somewhat longer than many others, the Loveland State Armory continued to be used for its original purpose through 1960, when the National Guard finally vacated the building.

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In 1961, the State Armory building was used as a storage facility by Hewlett Packard, a high-tech company that had just moved to Loveland and was constructing a manufacturing plant down the street. The building then took on a new life during the 1960s and 1970s as the administrative offices of the Thompson School District R2-J. Acquired by the City of Loveland when the school district moved out, the building fell into serious disrepair during the late 1980s and early 1990s, and a severely leaking roof caused significant interior damage. Finally, in May 1993 the property was purchased by the Calvary Apostolic Church. A dedicated crew of volunteers led by Pastor Daniel Johnson has since then stabilized the building and remodeled the interior for congregational use while consciously maintaining the integrity of the historic exterior. Saved from the brink of disaster, the building has found new life and is in the process of being rehabilitated to last for many decades to come.

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Reporter-Herald (Loveland, CO)

- "Armory Cornerstone To Be Laid Monday." 20 November 1926, p. 1.
- "Armory Opens About April First." 9 March 1927, p. 1.
- "City accepts offer on old Armory Building." 22 April 1927, p. 1.
- "Construction Has Started Today of Loveland's New Armory." 20 September 1926, p. 1.
- "Cornerstone For Armory May Be Laid Armistice Day." 20 October 1926, p. 1.
- "Cornerstone of New Armory is Laid Today." 22 November 1926, p. 2.
- "Legion and Auxiliary to Back Armory Project." 29 September 1926, p. 1.
- "Loveland Troop of Cavalry is Now Reality." 19 April 1923, p. 1.
- "Loveland Will Have Cavalry Troop Soon." 6 April 1923, p. 1.
- "M.W.A. To Give Play In The New Armory." 5 May 1927, p. 1.
- "New Armory Cornerstone To Be Laid Monday." 15 November 1926, p. 1.
- "New Armory Dedicated With Ceremonies Tonight." 28 April 1927, p. 1.
- "New Armory Nears Completion." 1 January 1927, p. 1.
- "New Armory Will Be Ready For Troop Soon." 4 February 1927, p. 1.
- "Old Guard Armory becomes home to 'Lord's army.'" 13 May 1995, p. A-10.
- "Plans offered for Loveland armory." 1992 (clipping, no date), p. 1.
- "Renewed Use: Historic buildings given new purpose." 27 February 2000, p. B-1
- "Troop C, 117th Cavalry Will Be Mustered In Wednesday Evening." 17 April 1923, p. 1.
- "Troop Six' 117th Cavalry for Loveland." 2 April 1923, p. 1.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property is limited to the southern 75' of Lot 1, Jefferson Place Subdivision, City of Loveland, Larimer County, Colorado.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property includes, and is limited to, the land and improvements within the boundaries described above, otherwise defined as the 1926 Loveland State Armory and a small portion of the immediately surrounding grounds. These boundaries were selected due to the fact that the State Armory building itself is the historically important feature on the site, and the adjacent gravel parking lot to the north was not related to the history and use of the armory. The suggested boundaries therefore include only those features important to the setting and historic integrity of the Loveland State Armory.

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PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information applies to all photographs submitted with this registration form:

Name of property: Loveland State Armory
City, county and state: Loveland, Larimer County, Colorado
Photographer: Ron Sladek
Date of photograph: 10 August 2000
Location of negative: Tatanka Historical Associates Inc.
P.O. Box 1909
Fort Collins, CO 80522

- Photograph 1: View of the east (primary) elevation of the Loveland State Armory. View to the west.
- Photograph 2: View of the main entrance bay in the east elevation of the Loveland State Armory. View to the west.
- Photograph 3: View of the cornerstone on the northeast corner of the Loveland State Armory. View to the west.
- Photograph 4: View of the east and north (side) elevations of the Loveland State Armory. View to the southwest.
- Photograph 5: View of the north elevation of the Loveland State Armory. View to the east.
- Photograph 6: View of the southeast corner of the State Armory. View to the west.
- Photograph 7: View of the south (side) elevation of the Loveland State Armory. View to the east.
- Photograph 8: View of the northwest corner and west (rear) elevation of the Loveland State Armory. View to the south.
- Photograph 9: View of the double doors in the west elevation of the Loveland State Armory. View to the northeast.
- Photograph 10: View of the east basement entry under the main entry staircase. View to the east.

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- Photograph 11: View of the concrete ramp and rear double doors in the equipment room at the west end of the basement.
- Photograph 12: View of the main entry hall in the east end of the main floor. View to the east.
- Photograph 13: View of the sanctuary/former drill hall in the western area of the building. View to the west.
- Photograph 14: View of the arched entrance to the stairway to the second floor. View to the east.
- Photograph 15: View of the main room on the second floor. View to the north.
- Photograph 16: View of the main room on the second floor. View to the southwest.

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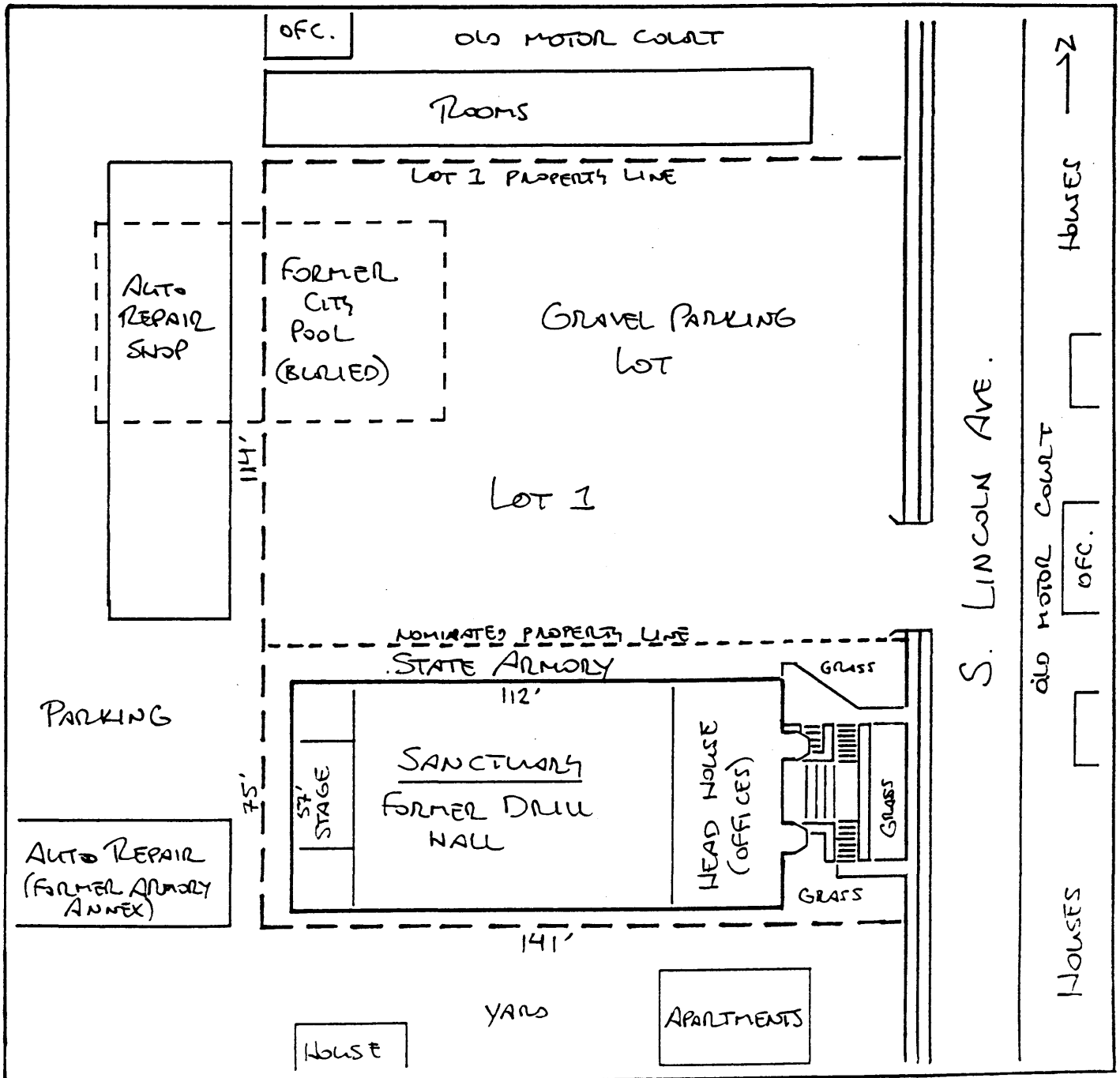
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LOVELAND STATE ARMORY

(NOT TO SCALE)



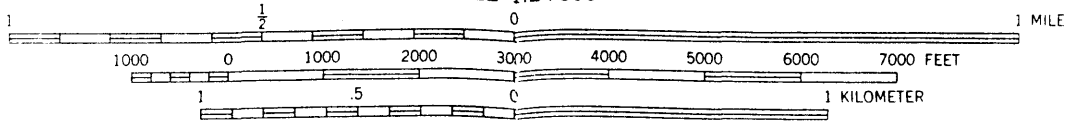
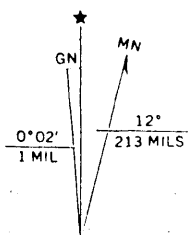
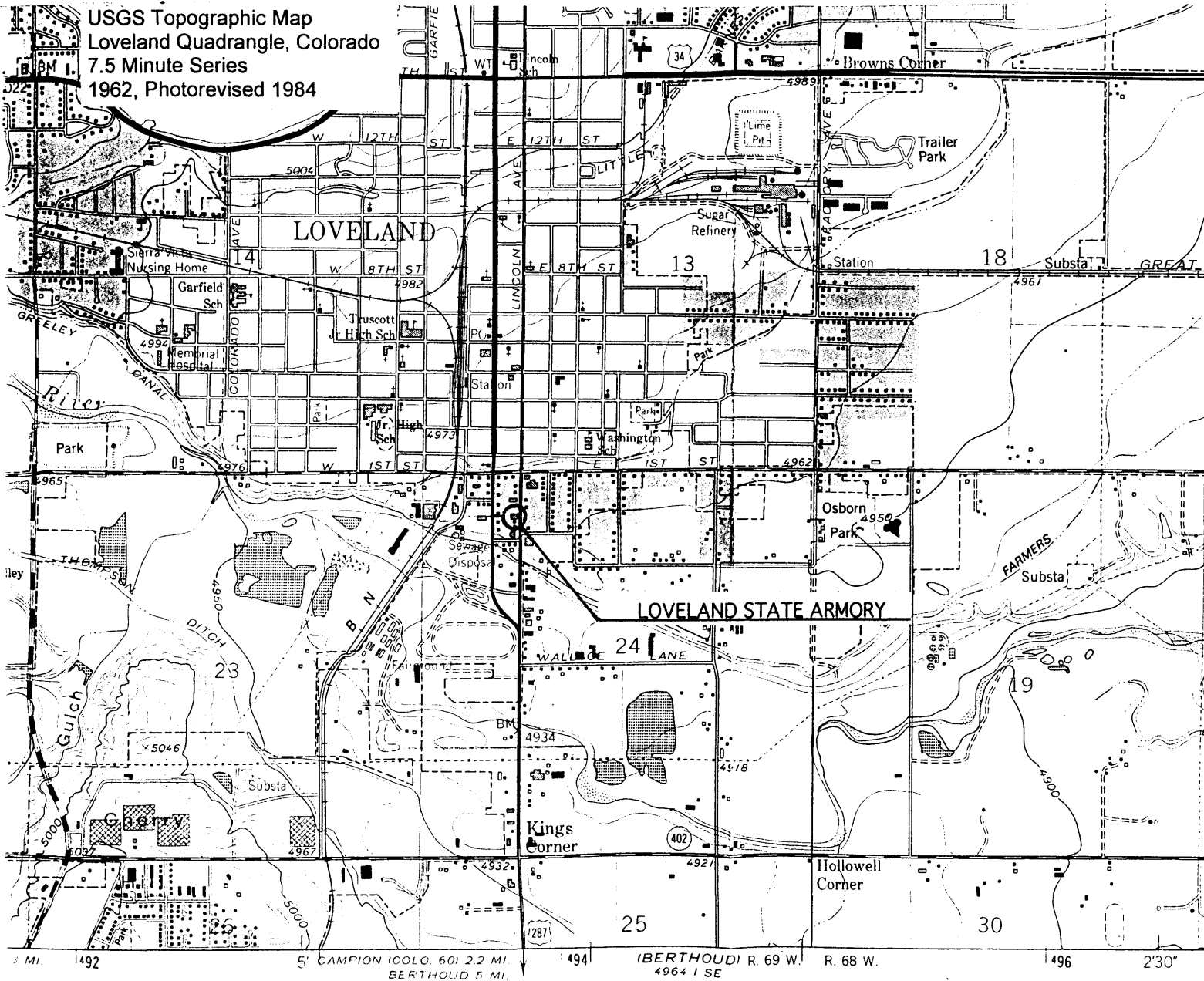
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CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929