

QUARTERS 48, ROOM 12
FORT MYER, VIRGINIA 22211-1212

May 31, 2000

SUBJECT: National Guard Armory, Pine Bluff, Arkansas

C.H. Slater
State Historic Preservation Officer
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
323 Center Street, Suite 1500
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-2606

Madam:

I have the honor to submit the following Determination of Eligibility for the former National Guard Armory at Pine Bluff.

Respectfully,



Todd Alex Johnson
Captain
Corps of Engineers

Enclosures

Copies Furnished:

Curator, Arkansas National Guard Museum

INFO COPY

DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR A BUILDING

1. Historic Name: National Guard Armory
2. Address: 623 West 2nd Avenue
Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601-4101
3. Owner: Arkansas River Education Services Cooperative
912 West 6th Street
Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601-4033
4. Nominator: Captain T.A. Johnson
Quarters 48, Room 12
Fort Myer, Virginia 22211-1212
5. Does Nominator Have Owner's Permission? Yes
6. Construction Date: 1931
7. Craftsmen: Kyle, Durward F., Architect
Quinn & Quinn, Contractors
8. Alterations:
 - a. Exterior: There have been virtually no alterations to the National Guard Armory and it is in good condition. At some point, however, a window on the eastern elevation was altered for use as a side door.
 - b. Interior: Unknown
9. Significant features:

Its T-plan consists of a head house, or administrative wing, attached to a drill hall. The head house forms the cross arm of the T. The castellated parapet, four rows of recessed brick that emphasize the front door and decorative buttresses along the walls provide the only relief from the south, east, and west elevations.
10. Are there similar houses in your neighborhood? No

11. Number, Type, and Location of Outbuildings: N/A

12. History of Property:

The National Guard Armory was the first permanent building to be constructed in Jefferson County for the sole use and benefit of a local militia company. The property on which it sits was donated to the Arkansas National Guard through the patriotism of John J. and Mary Holland Craig.

Seeking a means of arms and equipment storage requiring fewer rental contracts, the Arkansas General Assembly first appropriated funds for an armory building program in 1926. To a lesser extent, the program continues today.

On January 14, 1974, the armory was inactivated and all property sold to Ten-Ark, Inc., for \$25,101.00.

13. Bibliography:

Report of the Adjutant General's Department; State of Arkansas;
January 1, 1925-December 31, 1926

Report of the Adjutant General; State of Arkansas;
January 11, 1929-December 31, 1930

14. Legal Property Descriptions

Block 37, Lots 5, 6, 7, & 8, Speedex Unit Property Assessment
Record, 1959-1983, Jefferson County, Arkansas

15. Reference Number: Bldg-1998



