# K-451

# **Chestertown Armory**

### **Architectural Survey File**

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reversechronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

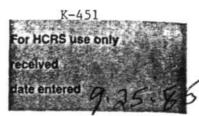
Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the "vertical files" at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

### Last Updated: 02-07-2013

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

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



P

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms Type all entries-complete applicable sections

# Name

historic

Chestertown Armory

street & number	Quaker Neo	k Road				N/A	not for pub	lication
street & number	QUARET NET	K KOAU						ncation
city, town	Chestertow	m	N/A_vic	inity of	congressional	district .	First	
state	Maryland	code	24	county	Kent		code	029
3. Class	ificatio	n						
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street & number	231 West 1	Hoffman S	treet					
town	Baltimore		N/A_vic	inity of		state	Maryland	21201
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### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

8. Sign	ificance .aryla	and National Guard	Armorie. Thematic G	roup K451
Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 X 1900–1946	Areas of Significance_( archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X_architecture art commerce communications		ing landscape architec law literature X_ military music	ture religion _ science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater t transportation other (specify

Specific dates 1931

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

unknown

**Builder/Architect** 

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

NPS Form 10-900-a MARYLAND NATIOL G (3-62)	JARD ARMORIES THEMATIC GROU		OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84
United States Department of National Park Service	the Interior		K-451 For NPS use only
National Register of Inventory-Nominat		5	received date entered
Chestertown Armory Continuation sheet Kent County, Mary		10	Page 1

### GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

### Verbal Boundary Description:

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

BEGINNING FOR THE SAME on the east side of the aforesaid state road at a point 40 feet southerly from the intersection of the property of the Red "C" Oil Company and other property of the said Thomas W. Spranklin and running from thence by and with the east side of said road, south 22 degrees and 58 minutes west, 360 feet; thence south 26 degrees and 39 minutes east, 767 feet and 4 inches to Chester River; thence by and with the waters of Chester River north 70 degrees and 4 minutes east, 40 feet; thence north 19 degrees and 56 minutes 210 feet; thence north 22 degrees and 58 minutes east, 170 feet to the lands of the said Thomas W. Spranklin, which lands are being retained by the said Thomas W. Spranklin as a drive-way; thence north 19 degrees and 56 minutes to the aforesaid beginning point and containing  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres of land, more or less.

### Boundary Justification:

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

# 9. Major Bibliog phical References

K-451

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

Interview	w with	Sgt. 1	Thomas Pin	der, C	hest	ertown Armo	ry.			
Vertical	files	, Kent	County Li	brary,	Che	stertown.				
Cutcher,	Jack,	Capt.	History	of the	2nd	Battalion,	175th	Infantry;	5th	Regiment
Mary	yland.									

# **10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_approximately 31/2 acres.

Quadrangle name <u>Chestertown</u>, Maryland UTM References

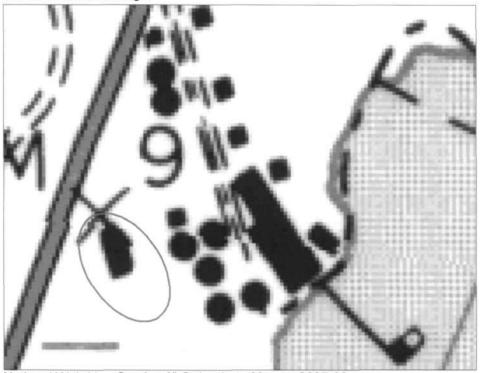
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Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 1

List all states a	nd counties for properties ove	erlapping state	or county b	oundaries
state N/A	code	county		code
state	code	county		code
11. Form	n Prepared By			
name/title	Susanne Moore, Histori	ic Sites Surv	veyor	r
organization	Maryland Historical Tr	rust	date 198	0; revised 7/85
street & number	21 State Circle		telephone	(301) 269-2438
city or town	Annapolis		state	Maryland 21401
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K-451 Chestertown Armory 509 S. Cross Street Chestertown Quadrangle



National Web Map Service 6" Orthophoto Map, c. 2007-08



K-451 CHESTERTOWN ARMORY Chestertown Public ( Restricted)

The Chestertown Armory is a two story with full basement structure that emulates a medieval fortification. The building is located southeast of the town of Chestertown in an area of mixed agricultural and industrial uses.

The Armory was built for Company G, 115th Battalion of the 29th Division of the Maryland National Guard. Various community groups rent the Armory hall for dances, and local hospitals and the Friends of the Library stage benefits and annual trade shows there.

1931

# INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

HISTORIC				
HISTORIC	Chestertown Armory			
AND/OR COMMON	Greece cown manor			
LOCATION	N			
STREET & NUMBER				
	Quaker Neck Road (HD	789)	CONGRESSIONAL DISTRI	JUC 7/71
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STATE	Chestertown	VICINITY OF	COUNTY	
SIAL	Maryland		Kent	
CLASSIFIC				
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENTUSE
DISTRICT	X_PUBLIC	XOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X_BUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDEN
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	XYES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	_INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
		NO	X_MILITARY	OTHER
OWNER O		Description		
NAME State Cont	of Maryland, Military act: Col. Raymond Clif . Hoffman Street		Telephone #: 728	-3388 x 244
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# 7 DESCRIPTION

P-451

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK (	DNE
EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	UNALTERED	X_ORIGINAL	SITE
GOOD	RUINS	X_ALTERED	MOVED	DATE
X_FAIR	UNEXPOSED			

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGN	IFICANCE		k	2-451
PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	X_ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	XMILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
_1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
_1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
X-1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	_INDUSTRY _INVENTION	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1931	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT	

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Chestertown Armory was built in 1931 for Company G, 115th Batallion of the 29th Division of the Maryland National Guard. As part of the 29th Division, the 115th shares in the honors bestowed upon the group at the close of World War II, among them distinguished unit citations and the French Croix de Guerre with Palm.

Various community groups rent the Armory hall for dances and cotillions, local hospital benefits, and other social functions, and the Friends of the Library hold annual trade shows there.

RECOMMENDATION: Continued use of the Chestertown Armory as a National Guard installation with selected community activities.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# **10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_\_ 4 ACRES

Quadrangle name: Chestertown

Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

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

STATE

COUNTY

COUNTY

STATE

Ikm

# II FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Susan Moore, Historic Sites Surveyor	DATE
Maryland Historical Trust	July, 1980
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
21 State Circle	(301) 269-2438
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Annapolis	Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust The Shaw House, 21 State Circle Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (301) 267-1438 K-451 Chestertown Armory Kent County Description

Continuation Sheet #1

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

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

### CHAIN OF TITLE

K-451 Chestertown Armory Chestertown, Maryland

RAS6/248 3/14/1931 Deed

From Thomas W. Spranklin and Sarah E. Spranklin, his wife, to the State of Maryland (Military Department).

Consideration: \$3,500 in fee simple.

K-451 Chestertown Armory Kent County Geographical Data

Continuation Sheet #2

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

In Kent County...on the East side of the State Road leading from Chestertown into Quaker Neck:

BEGINNING FOR THE SAME on the East side of the aforesaid State Road at a point 40 feet Southerly from the intersection of the property of The Red "C" Oil Company and other property of the said Thomas W. Spranklin and running from thence by and with the East side of said road, South 22 degrees and 58 Minutes West, 360 feet; thence South 26 degrees and 39 Minutes East, 767 feet and 4 inches to Chester River; thence by and with the waters of Chester River North 70 degrees and 4 Minutes East, 40 feet; thence North 19 degrees and 56 Minutes West 210 feet; thence North 22 degrees and 58 Minutes East, 170 feet to the lands of the said Thomas W. Spranklin, which lands are being retained by the said Thomas W. Spranklin as a drive-way; thence North 19 degrees and 56 Minutes West, 688 feet and 3 inches to the aforesaid beginning point and containing  $3\frac{1}{2}$  Acres of land, more or less.

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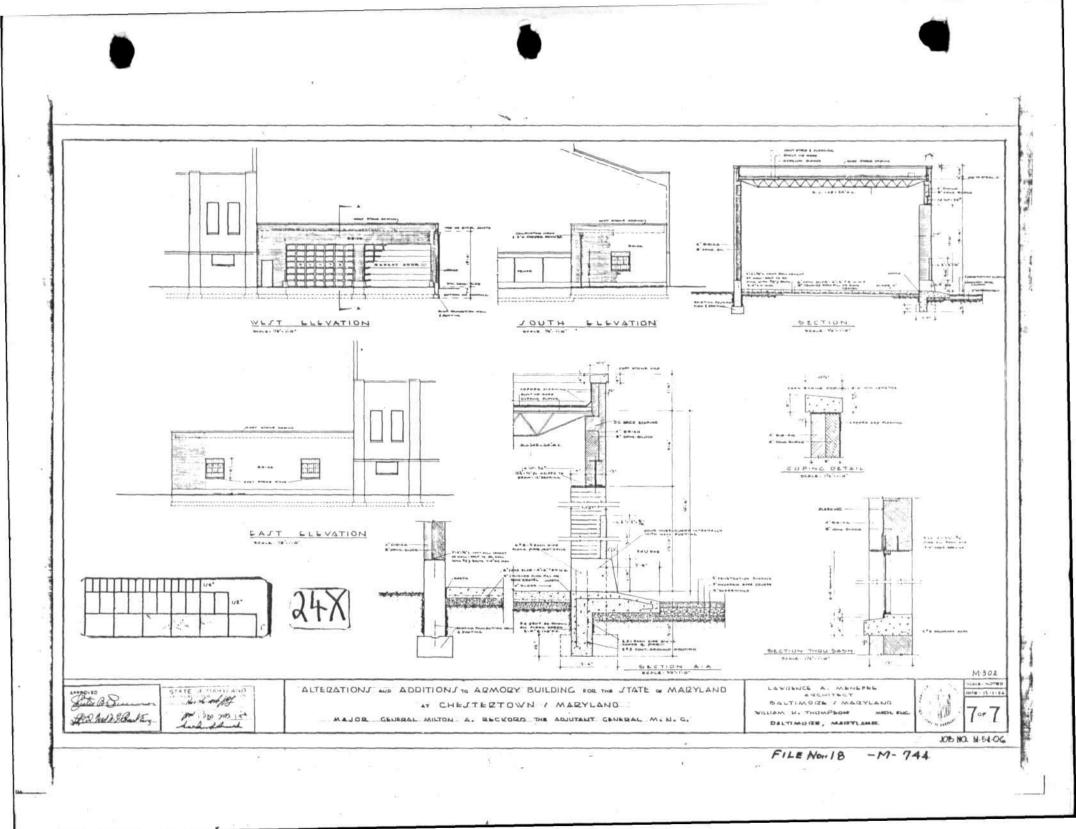
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CHESTERTOWN ARMORY K-451 Reduction from original on file at Md Dept of General SErvices

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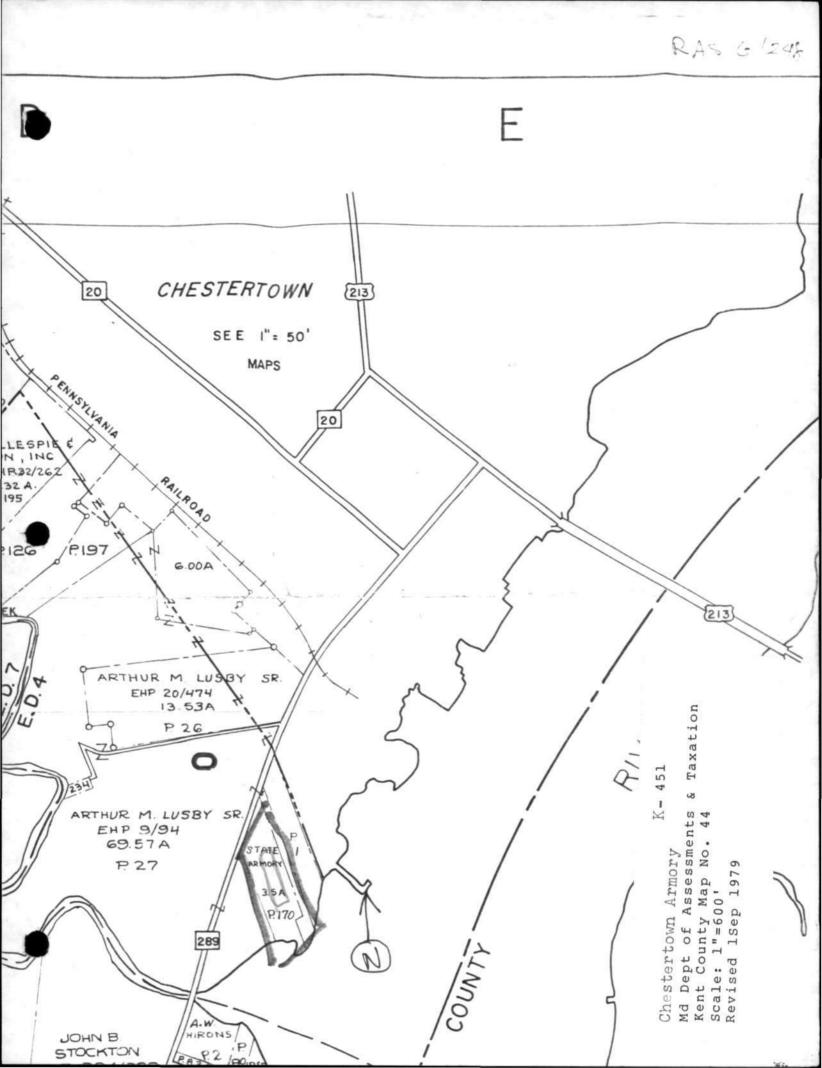
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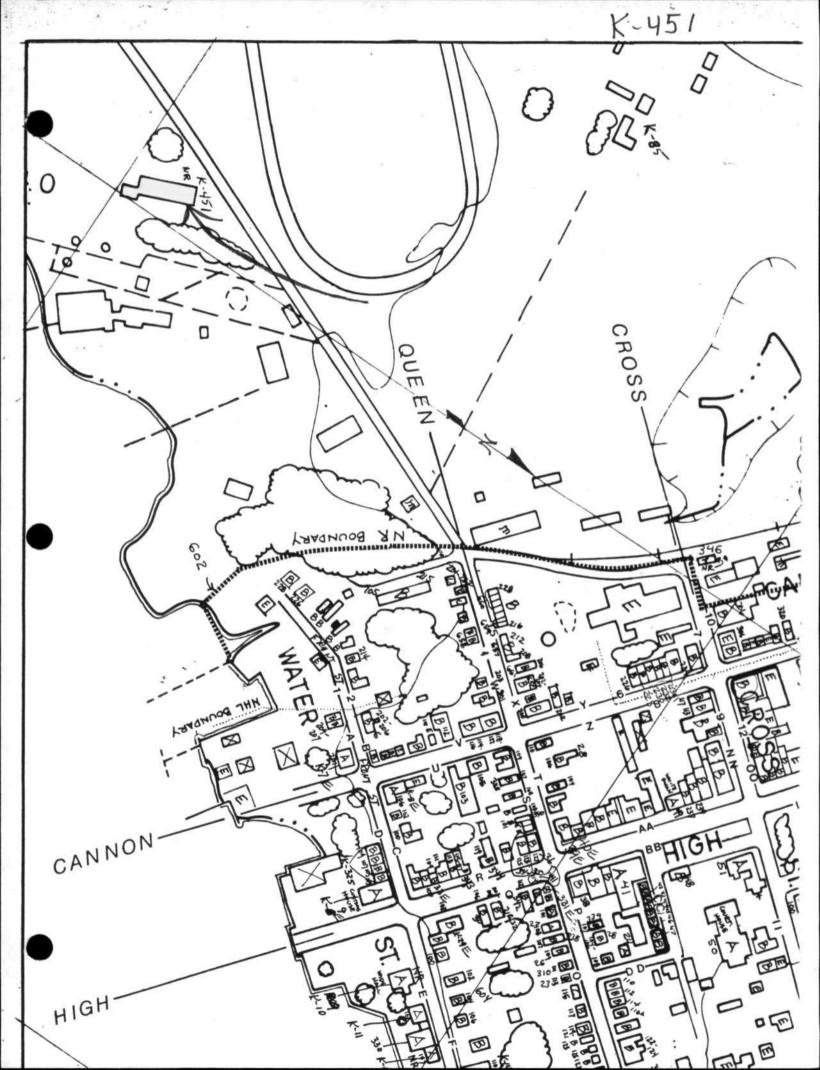
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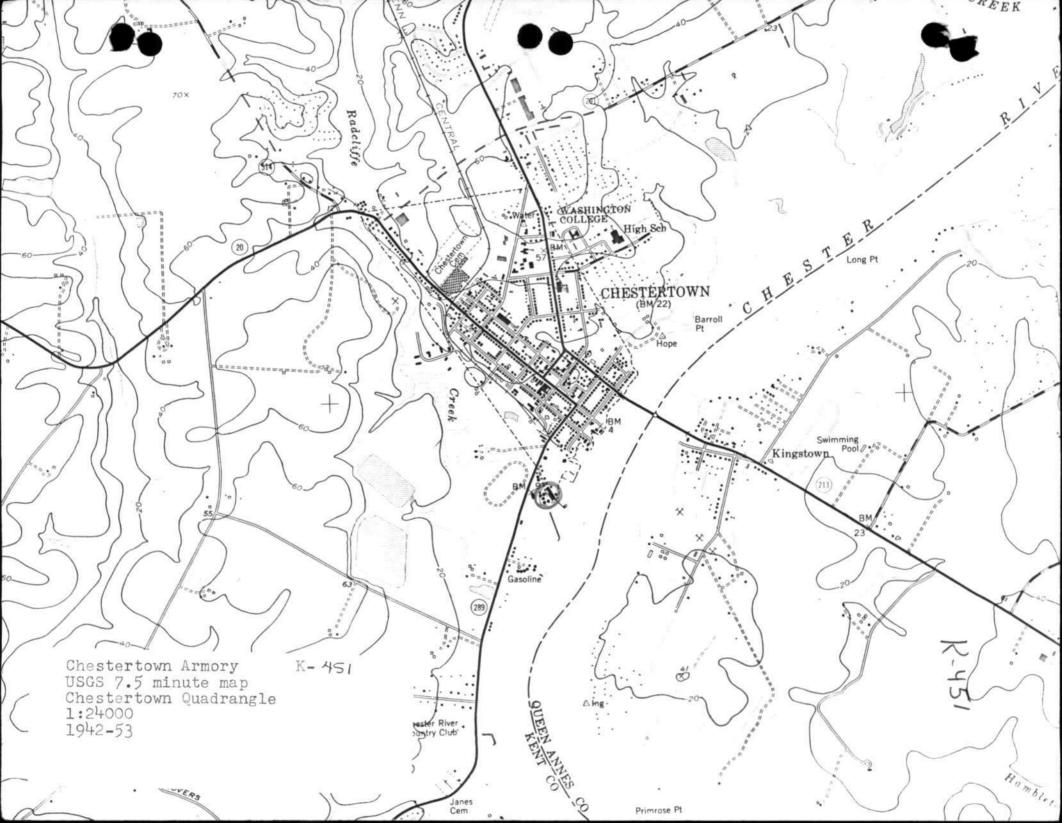
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CHESTERTOWN ARMORY K-451 Reduction from original on file at Md Dept of General Services

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



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