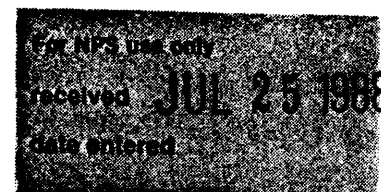


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## CHEROKEE ARMORY

LOCATION: Second and Kansas Streets, Cherokee, Oklahoma 040, Alfalfa County 003

CLASSIFICATION: building; public; public acquisition--N/A; occupied; unrestricted; present use--military

OWNER: Oklahoma Military Department, 3501 Military Circle, N.E., Oklahoma City, OK 73111

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Alfalfa County Courthouse, Cherokee, OK 73728

DESCRIPTION: excellent condition; unaltered; original site

The Cherokee Armory is a rectangular (141' x 126') structure constructed of red brick. The central portion is two stories, while segments on either side are single storied. The roof is flat with parapets of concrete molding. Four garage doors in archways on the north side flank a recessed entryway under a brick archway. Elongated metal casement windows with concrete sills are singly spaced on both first and second stories. Stepped pilsters crowned with white stone moldings decorate the walls.

SIGNIFICANCE: 1936; builder/architect: unknown

The Cherokee Armory is an exceptional resource for the local community. Architecturally, as a WPA building it is unique in its use of brick construction materials, contrasting with armories in the state other than those in the northwest which were generally built of native stone. Locally it is outstanding for its extensive use of concrete moldings at the roofline and atop pilasters. The use of the building by the Oklahoma National Guard for the past 50 years underscores its significance. These units of the guard have prepared themselves for military action in World War II and Korea and for civil defense and disaster relief. In other ways the structure has also contributed to an improved quality of life in Cherokee. Construction of the armory poured wages from some 64,000 man-hours of labor into the local economy during a critical portion of the depression, materially improving the community's quality of life. Those same wages also enabled the laborers on the project, many of whom were agriculturalists driven to destitution by the drought, to provide for their own families and to tide themselves over the economic slump until better times returned.

## GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

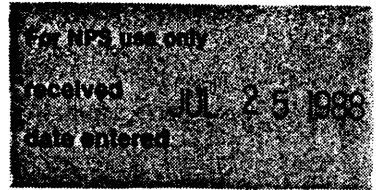
Quadrangle: Cherokee North, Okla.  
1:24,000/7.5 min.

UTM: 14-557510-4067830

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lots 19 through 24, Block 26, Cherokee original.

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PICTURE REFERENCE: 1-a; 1-b

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 88001359-83001371      Date Listed      9/8/88

Various		OK
<u>Property Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>

WPA Public Buildings, Recreational Facilities and Water Quality  
Improvements in Northwestern Oklahoma, 1935-1943 TR  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*Carolee Shue*

Signature of the Keeper

*9-8-88*

Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

All of the individual resources included with this multiple property nomination can each be counted as one contributing building with the following exceptions: Medford Bathhouse and Swimming Pool (one contributing building and one contributing structure), Buffalo City Park Pavilion (one contributing structure), Blaine Stadium and Fieldhouse (one contributing building, one contributing structure), and Woodward Crystal Beach Park (one contributing building, two contributing structures). This is consistent with the total multiple property resource count of 12 contributing buildings and 5 contributing structures listed in the nomination cover form. This information was confirmed with Melvena Heisch, Oklahoma Deputy SHPO, during a 9/8/88 telephone conversation.

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DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)