

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	EVR.34
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Everett Armory
<b>Common Name:</b>	Connolly, Edward G. Center
<b>Address:</b>	90 Chelsea St
<b>City/Town:</b>	Everett
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	Everett;
<b>Local No:</b>	
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	1902
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	English Revival;
<b>Architect(s):</b>	King, Charles; McFarland, Colby and McFarland;
<b>Use(s):</b>	Armory; Bowling Alley; Community Center;
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture; Community Planning; Military; Recreation;
<b>Area(s):</b>	
<b>Designation(s):</b>	
<b>Building Materials:</b>	Roof: Asphalt Shingle; Synthetic Other; Wall: Brick; Copper; Granite; Iron; Metal, Undetermined; Stone, Cut; Wood;
<b>Demolished</b>	No



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

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# FORM B – BUILDING

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

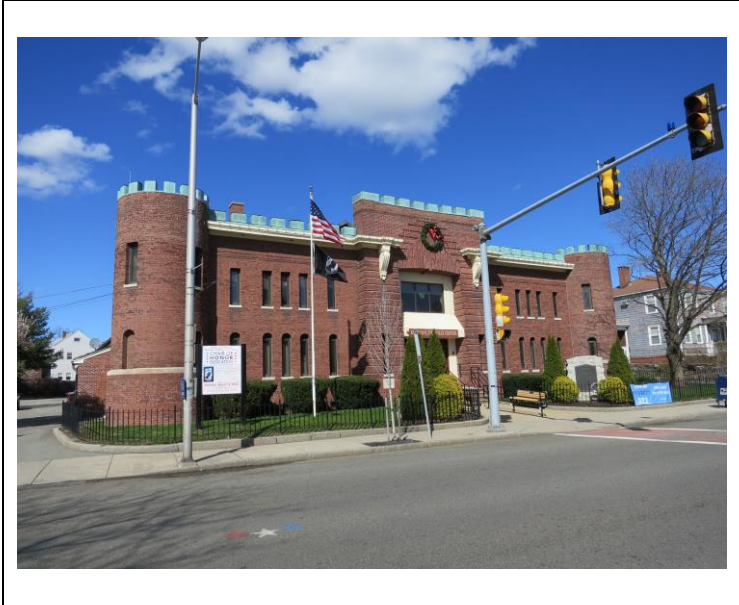
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

L0-01-000033	Boston North		EVR.34 EVR.922 EVR.923
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**Town/City:** Everett

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*):

## Photograph



**Address:** 90 Chelsea Street

**Historic Name:** Everett Armory

**Uses:** Present: senior center

Original: armory

**Date of Construction:** 1902

**Source:** facade

**Style/Form:** English Revival

**Architect/Builder:** McFarland, Colby & McFarland

## Exterior Material:

Foundation: not visible

Wall/Trim: brick, granite

Roof: copper, rubber, asphalt shingles

## Locus Map (north at top)



## Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

World War I Memorial (EVR.922)

World War II/Korean War Memorial (EVR.923)

## Major Alterations (*with dates*):

c.1970+-renovation for senior center including new windows, alt. to entrance, wrapping crenellation in copper, removal of arch in parapet

**Condition:** good

**Moved:** no  yes  **Date:**

**Acreage:** 0.671 acre

**Setting:** mixed urban residential

**Recorded by:** Lisa Mausolf

**Organization:** City of Everett

**Date** (*month / year*): January 2018

**RECEIVED**

**NOV 13 2018**

**MASS. HIST. COMM.**

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

EVERETT

90 CHELSEA STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

	EVR.34 EVR.922
	EVR.923

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

The former Everett armory is an imposing brick building designed in the English Revival style and displaying medieval-inspired detailing including crenellation (wrapped in copper), round corner towers, and narrow window openings to evoke the sense of a building that could defend itself from attack. Mixed with these features are Colonial Revival details including a bold metal entablature supported by large console brackets. Originally a low metal arch spanned from one console to the other. The center bay containing the entrance has a battered wall with brick quoining and is capped by a crenellated parapet. All of the original windows were replaced c.1970 including those over the renovated entrance which contains glass and aluminum doors. To the left of the entrance is a stone with raised letters reading "1902".

Extending behind the main administrative block is a single-story brick drill hall capped by an asphalt-shingled gable roof. Projecting brick piers with granite capstones order the side elevations into nine equal bays. None of the fenestration is original.

In front of the building there is a small area of lawn and plantings, outlined by an iron fence on granite curbing. Rising from the lawn to the west of the entrance is a World War I Memorial (EVR.922) consisting of a rock-faced granite tablet on a granite base with a bronze plaque topped by an eagle and including the names of 42 Everett men who made the supreme sacrifice in the war. The memorial was dedicated in October 1921 and originally stood at Parlin Memorial Library Park. On the opposite side of the entrance is another stone memorial dedicated to those who served in World War II and the Korean War (EVR.923). This rock-faced granite tablet also has a bronze plaque topped by an eagle and reads "Dedicated to God, and Erected in Memory of Those Men and Women Who Served in the United States Armed Forces During World War II and Korean War 1962".

Inside the lobby of the building there are two additional bronze plaques mounted on the wall. One tablet, installed in 1921, commemorates the erection of the building in 1902 by the City of Everett for Company B, 8<sup>th</sup> Mass. Infantry. The other lists those from St. Joseph's Parish who served in World War II. Below the plaque is a wooden pew from St. Joseph's Church (not extant). The church stood on Bucknam Street and was demolished in 2004.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

In 1900 Everett organized its first militia company and the armory was built, as required by law, to provide a location for military training of the local volunteer militia. The land for the armory was acquired from Arthur Whittier in June 1902 (Book 2974, Page 502). Construction of the armory required the removal of the house which had been built on the site by Samuel Drown in 1836. On November 1, 1902 the cornerstone was laid in a ceremony performed by Charles T. Gallagher, Grand Master of Massachusetts Free Masons and assisted by Mayor Charles Bruce. The contents of the cornerstone were described in the *Boston Globe* on November 2, 1902. The architects of the building were McFarland, Colby & McFarland. The builder was Charles King.

This was the home of Company B, 8<sup>th</sup> Regiment Infantry, Massachusetts Volunteer Militia. In its early years the company provided assistance after the Chelsea Fire of 1908 and during the Lawrence Mills labor strike of 1912. The Armory building was taken over by the State in 1910 and was completely renovated for use by the company. New weathered oak floors were installed in the company and officers' rooms on the ground floor and a maple floor was laid in the drill hall. The basement which had initially extended only under the front portion of the building was extended the length of the building and a rifle range and two bowling alleys were installed in the new basement.

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

EVERETT

90 CHELSEA STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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The building was used for military activities through the Vietnam War era but was also the site for various community functions including banquets, exhibitions and social events including military balls. The City of Everett received the building from the National Guard in the 1970s and it received additional renovations in 1989. In October 2006 the building was renamed the Edward G. Connolly Center in honor of longtime state representative and former mayor, Edward G. Connolly (1928-2006).

The armory was designed by the Boston architectural firm of McFarland, Colby & McFarland which consisted of C. (Clarence) Thayer McFarland (1866-1923), his brother Robert Dunlap McFarland (1869-1929) and Herbert Warren Colby (1866-1934). The earliest known commission by the McFarland Brothers was Glendale Baptist Church at 701 Broadway in Everett in 1894. McFarland & Colby, later designed the Adams Armory (ADA.5) in 1914. McFarland & Colby also designed alterations to the Grace Episcopal Church in Everett in 1914. Late in his career, C.T. McFarland worked with A.W. Laurie in a partnership (McFarland & Laurie) that designed buildings in Brookline, Worcester and Malden.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

*Boston Globe*, October 24, 1921.

*City of Everett Welcome Home Celebration, July 4, 5, 6, 1919*

*Daily Boston Globe*, Nov. 2, 1902; Nov. 20, 1912.

Massachusetts Department of Public Safety Division of Inspection Records, Massachusetts Archives, Boston.

Massachusetts Historical Commission. MACRIS database.

Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, MA

Sanborn Insurance Map, 1950.

Withey, Henry F. and Elsie Rathburn Withey. *Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased)*. Los Angeles:

Hennessey & Ingalls, Inc., 1970.

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**McFARLAND, COLBY & McFARLAND**

**Architects**

C. Thayer McFarland  
Herbert Warren Colby  
R. D. McFarland

2A BEACON STREET, BOSTON

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1903 Architectural Annual

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

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Photo 2 – view looking NW with former drill shed to rear

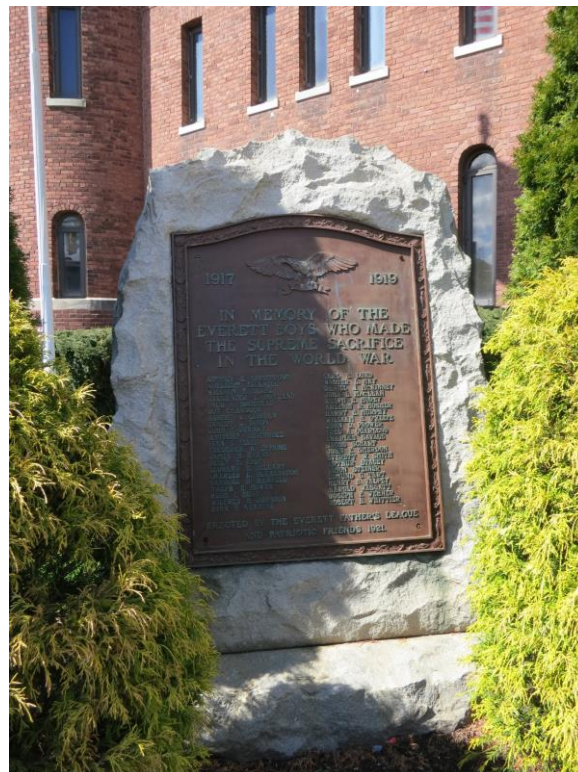


Photo 3 - World War I Memorial (EVR.922) to west of façade entry

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

EVERETT

90 CHELSEA STREET

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	EVR.923



Photo 4 - World War II/Korean War Memorial (EVR.923), to east of façade entry (looking NE)



Photo 5 – Cornerstone on facade

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

EVERETT

90 CHELSEA STREET

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Area(s) Form No.

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	EVR.923



Photo 6 - 1921 Bronze Plaque erected by City of Everett in front lobby

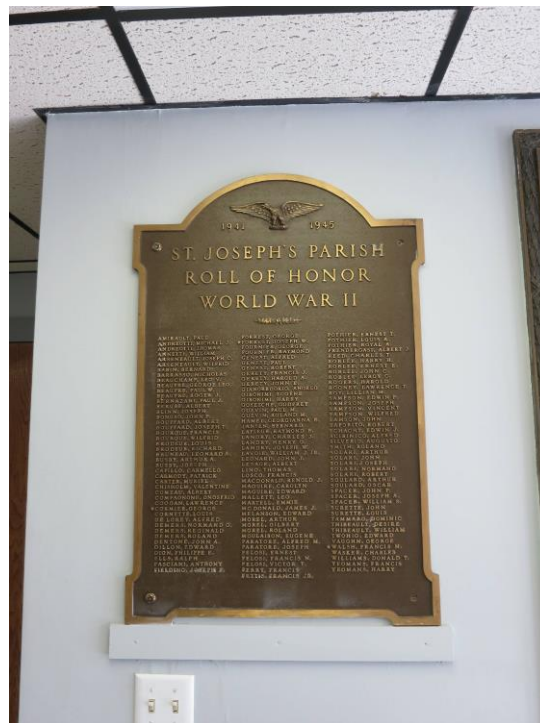


Photo 7 – St. Joseph's Parish, Roll of Honor, WWII, in front lobby

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

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Area(s) Form No.

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Photo 8 - World War II Roll of Honor and Pew from St. Joseph's Church  
In front lobby, below Roll of Honor

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

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220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s)	Form No.
	EVR.34
	EVR.922
	EVR.923

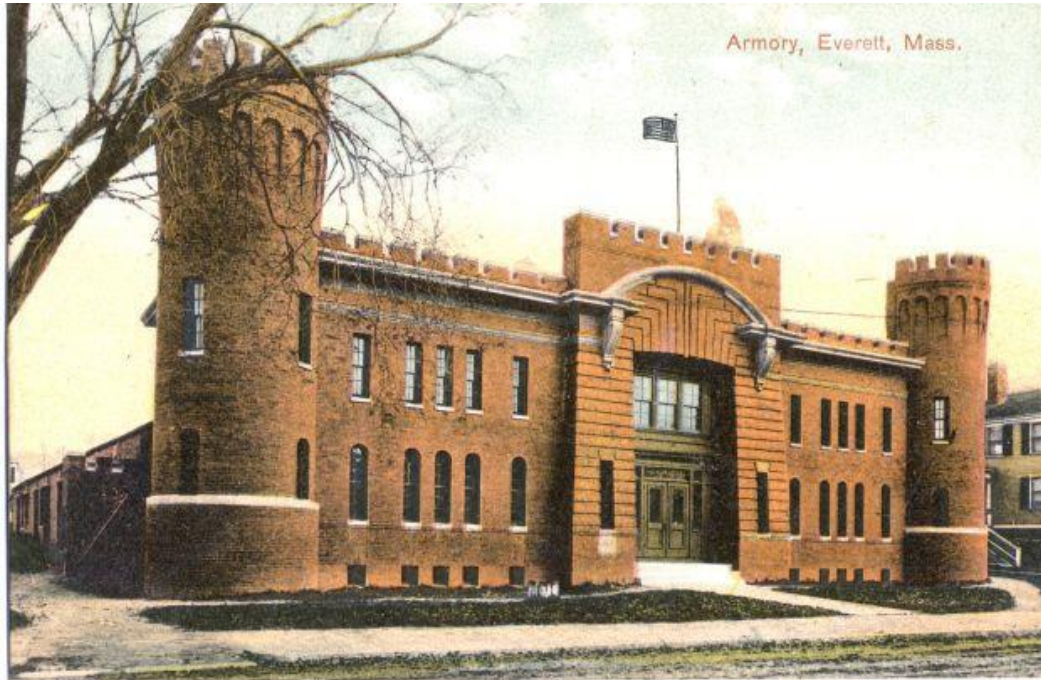


Figure 1 - c.1910 Postcard

Source: Parlin Library

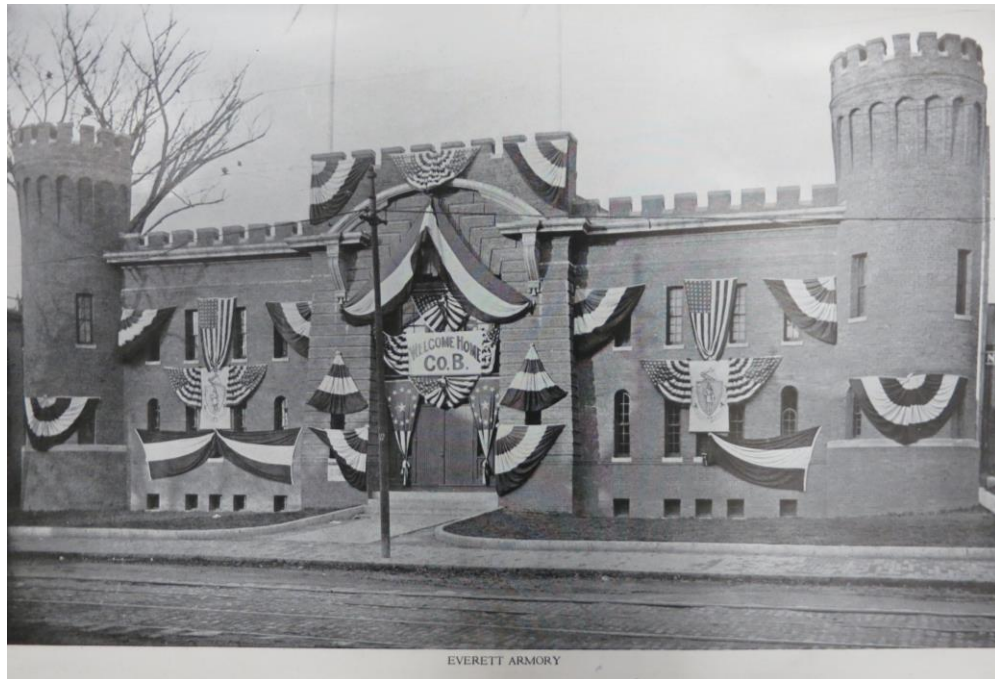


Figure 2 - Everett Armory, 1919

Source: *City of Everett Welcome Home Celebration, July 4,5,6, 1919*

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

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	EVR.34
	EVR.922
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**National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form**

Check all that apply:

- Individually eligible       Eligible **only** in a historic district
- Contributing to a potential historic district       Potential historic district

Criteria:     **A**     **B**     **C**     **D**

Criteria Considerations:     **A**     **B**     **C**     **D**     **E**     **F**     **G**

Statement of Significance by           Lisa Mausolf          

*The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.*

The Everett Armory is eligible for listing in the National Register on the local level under Criterion A, Military/Social History, and Criterion C, Architecture. Under Criterion A, is it significant for its associations with Everett's long history of military service. Constructed in 1902, this was the home of Company B, 8<sup>th</sup> Regiment Infantry, Massachusetts Volunteer Militia. The Armory building was taken over by the State in 1910 and was completely renovated for use by the company. The building was used for military activities through the Vietnam War era but was also the site for various community functions including banquets, exhibitions and social events including military balls. Under Criterion C, the building is a good example of a pre-World War I armory and reflects the eclectic architectural modes of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, combining medieval inspired English Revival and Colonial Revival details. It is notable as the work of Boston architects McFarland, Colby & McFarland. Despite alterations for use as a community center, the building appears to retain sufficient integrity for listing on the National Register. The period of significance spans from 1902 to 1968, based on National Register guidelines for a 50-year cut-off for historic significance.

P. EVERETT

EUR.34

FORM B - BUILDING

AREA	FORM NO.
	34

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

Neg.#X-15



Everett

Address Chelsea Street

Historic Name Armory

Present Senior center

Original armory

DESCRIPTION:

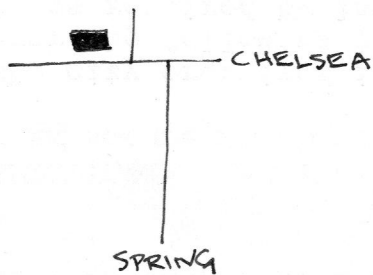
Year 1902

Source facade

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.

↑  
N



Style \_\_\_\_\_

Architect McFarland, Corey & McFarland

Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_

Major alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

aluminum sash and doors

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage 1.000

Setting mixed residential and com-

mercial; setting compromised by

metal bus shelters on sidewalk

Recorded by Elizabeth Durfee Hengen

Organization Preservation Consultant  
City of Everett

Date January, 1983

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

Easily recognizable as an armory by its castle-like appearance. The building consists of a broad front section with round corner towers, and a deep gabled section behind. The entrance is defined by a rectangular parapet and expansive entrance capped by a transom. Overscaled iron brackets are found at the cornice and the building is capped with metal crenellations.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

In 1900 the city organized its first militia company, praised by the mayor the following year for its efficiency. The armory was built, as required by law, to provide a spot for military training of the local volunteer militia.

Among the company's recognized accomplishments were their assistance in the Chelsea Fire (1908), the Lawrence Mills labor strike (1912) and World War I.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Annual town reports, 1901-02

Hogan, Julia R. "City of Everett", Everett Centennial, 1970