

# ARMORY NOT TO RISE AGAIN; AVILLA SAVED CHINA HOUSE

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Duncan McPherson of the Fair Building association and one of the principal owners of the Armory building which was destroyed by fire Thursday night, said today that under no circumstances would the building be reconstructed.

"The property has been a loss to the owners since the day it was built," said Mr. McPherson. "I believe that the Armory will be greatly missed in this town."

The cause of the fire still remains undetermined. Assistant Chief Lewis of the fire department has no theories to offer except that a carelessly thrown lighted cigarette could easily have smoldered for some time before starting a good sized blaze.

One of the unrecorded feats of a volunteer fire fighter who was mainly responsible for saving the Chinese wash house about 100 feet southerly from the burning building Thursday night, should be written down. It was Vincent (Monk) Avilla, who sat astride the ridgepole of the wash house in the face of the recurring fusillades of shell fire from the armory magazines and with a garden hose cooled off the building and saved it from catching fire from the shower of sparks that continuously fell. The Chinese occupants were scared foolish and had deserted the structure, believing it fated. Avilla is an ex-service man.