

MULTIPLE RESOURCES OF ANNISTON  
CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Historic name: Glen Addie Volunteer Hose Company Fire Hall      Owner: T. Edgar Rayfield and Marie T. Rayfield  
Common name: Glen Addie Fire Hall      2004 Leighton Avenue  
Address: 4th Street and Pine Avenue      Anniston, Alabama 36201  
Acreage: less than one acre      UTM: 16/607880/372620

Verbal Boundary: Lot number 7 and the north seven feet of lot number 8 in block 195 as shown on the Anniston City Land Company, situated on the south-west corner of the intersection of 4th Street and Pine Avenue.

Architectural Design: Early Richardsonian Romanesque

Date of Construction: 1885

Statement of Significance:

Criterion A - Social/Humanitarian:

The Glen Addie Volunteer Hose Company Fire Hall is significant as the first fire house built in Anniston and for its association with the Woodstock Iron Company's operative village of Glen Addie. The Glen Addie Fire Hall served as an important focus for neighborhood life in the operative village. The hall was the scene for gala community social events such as the annual Glen Addie Firemen's Ball and the annual Fireman's Day, both of which were events that the whole village of Glen Addie participated in and was able to express its civic pride.

Description:

This rectangular, two-story brick building is located on the southeast corner of 4th and Pine in what was the first residential district for Anniston Furnace Workers, Glen Addie. The building has a gable roof with its original pressed metal covering, Victorian brickwork detailing with corbelling at the cornice, and plain side elevation except for pilasters. The facade has a brick raked parapet that rises to a central flat projection. Below is a large arched doorway flanked by two arched openings, all three of which have been somewhat altered for square-headed doors and windows. Above the arched door is a triple arched window outlined by brick molding springing from a brick belt course that runs around the eaves at the top of the second-story windows. On the side, the arched first-floor windows have been bricked. An exterior stairway leads to the second floor.

On the interior, the original brick floor still has horses' names imbedded in the brick and a drain which was used when the building was washed down.

Originally the street level was even with the large central door, but the street level is now several feet lower, and sidewalk steps have been added. There is also a modern one-story addition attached to the east side of the building.

Historical Summary:

The Glen Addie Volunteer Hose Company Fire Hall was not only the fire protection for the largest operatives' neighborhood in town, but a social anchor for an area that took great pride in the volunteer firemen. Parades, competition, and parties were all centered around the hall. Around the turn of the century there were about two dozen volunteer members of the company, one paid man, and two horses.

By 1917, the city moved the fire station away from Glen Addie, and the building was acquired by the Rayfield family. It became in successive years a stage hall, grocery store, recreation center, a casket and funeral supply business, and finally the Salvation Army thrift store. It has now been vacant for several years.

Rough Sketch Map  
#5 Glen Addie Fire House  
Anniston, Alabama

