

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property Hanover Court Apartments
historic name same
other names/site number _____

2. Location
street & number 2620 Highland Avenue not for publication N/A
city, town Birmingham vicinity N/A
state Alabama code AL county Jefferson code 073 zip code 35205

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Signature] 3-16-88
Signature of certifying official Date
Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) _____

Amy Schlosel 4/20/88

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Multiple dwelling

Domestic/Multiple dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Tudor Revival - early 20th Century

foundation brickwalls brickstoneroof asphaltother limestone trim

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Hanover Court Apartments are a three-story structure of red brick in an H shape; the twelve apartments occupy the sides of the H, and a narrow connecting section houses the central stairs. The handsome entry with its Tudor arch and multi-paned transom is reached by a series of ascending steps between the apartment wings. The name "Barnett" (the builder) is carved in stone over the arch.

Limestone trims the building, with stone sills, a course running around the first-floor level, quoining on the front four corners and at the stairwell window surrounds, stone-capped parapet roofline, and decorative insets in the parapet including a quatrefoil in the central section over the doorway. There are front balconies with iron railings, supported by brick piers with stone trim; the rear apartments have similar balconies at the side of the building. The sides of the building also contain two three-sided window bays, forming turret-like projections. There is a simple molded cornice below the parapet. The windows are six-over-one double-hung sash.

The interior of this building has undergone minor alteration over the years-- notably some paneling and stair carpeting in the hallways-- but still retains most of its original appearance. The floors are hardwood, the walls and ceilings plaster; there is much use of timber structural and decorative work in the apartments, such as square support columns, heavy moldings and ceiling beams. The stairwell floor is tiled. There is a wooden balustrade and railing, decorated under the rail by panels with cut-out quatrefoils echoing the stone one on the exterior.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1915-16

Significant Dates

1915-16

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Barnett, James Mercer (builder)

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

CRITERION C: ARCHITECTURE

The Hanover Court Apartment building is a well-preserved example of a kind of residential development that strongly affected the look and pattern of Birmingham's historic Five Points South and Highland Avenue districts. The Tudor Revival was a popular style of building in the second two decades of this century, and in Birmingham it coincided with a period of expanding residential choices, particularly the popularity of generously-proportioned apartments in place of houses in fashionable districts. The Hanover Court is one of the most substantial of several mid-size apartment buildings in Five Points South and along Highland Avenue; it occupies a prominent corner in a section of Highland Avenue characterized by a successful juxtaposition of residential types-- single-family houses with apartments of various ages and sizes. This particular building is distinguished by its substantial proportions, decorative stone detailing, and, inside, large apartments built around curved central corridors.

There are several apartment buildings comparable to Hanover Court in English style and age, although none reflects quite the castle-like appearance of Hanover Court. Tudor Revival examples are the Dian Apartments in Five Points South (1914) and the 1920s-vintage Avalon farther east on Highland Avenue, both of which are gabled and more rambling in footprint. Directly behind the Hanover Court on Hanover Circle is the 1924 Claridge, a 10-story apartment with classical detailing that represents a period in the '20s when large luxury apartments (or residential hotels) with common rooms on the ground floor were built in the City-- three along Highland Avenue.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Birmingham Historical Society, Southside-Highlands Report, 1981

Birmingham Historical Society Journal, "Town Within a City," by Ann Burckhart.

Highland Avenue/Rhodes Park nomination to the National Register

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested given June 2, 1987
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings
Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering
Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

B'ham Public Library Archives
Birmingham Historical Society

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than an acre

UTM References

A 16 519910 3707000
 Zone Easting Northing

C

B
 Zone Easting Northing

D

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

East half of lot 9, block 894, Birmingham
(see attached Jefferson County Tax Assessor's map)

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

This lot is as originally surveyed and the boundaries are traditionally associated with this property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By Linda Nelson, Historic Preservationist

name/title _____
 organization Operation New Birmingham date February 13, 1988
 street & number 2027 First Avenue North telephone (205) 254-2105
 city or town Birmingham state Alabama zip code 35203

HANOVER COURT APARTMENTS
2620 Highland Avenue
Birmingham, Alabama 35205



Source: Jefferson County Tax Map
Scale: 1" = 100'

