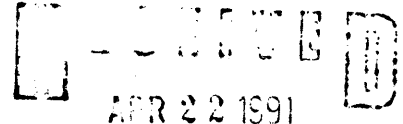


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

historic name Central Fire Station
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 801 Crockett Street N/A not for publication
city, town Shreveport N/A vicinity
state Louisiana code LA county Caddo code 017 zip code 71101

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</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>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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.
Leslie P. Tassin April 17, 1991
Signature of certifying official Leslie P. Tassin, LA SHPO, Dept of Culture, Recreation and Tourism Date
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. entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet. 5/28/91
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain:) _____
Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/Fire Station

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/Fire Station

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Italian Renaissance

Beaux Arts

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls stucco

roof tile; tar

other terra cotta

glazed brick

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Central Fire Station stands on a busy corner of downtown Shreveport. An example of the mixing of stylistic elements which was popular during the early twentieth century eclectic period in architecture, the station is most influenced by the Italian Renaissance and Beaux Arts styles. The two story, stucco over brick building was erected in 1922. Despite changes to the exterior and interior, the structure retains its National Register eligibility.

Because of its prominent corner location, the Central Fire Station has two highly articulated elevations and is meant to be viewed at a three-quarter angle. Features of the Italian Renaissance style found on the structure include:

- 1) rectangular massing defined by a spreading roof which resembles the hipped roof of an Italian Renaissance palace. This roof consists of a flat, tarred middle section surrounded by a pitched, green tile skirting roof.
- 2) a series of square and rectangular shaped bas relief panels surrounded by bands of green glazed bricks. The rectangular panels depict griffins and urns, while the square panels display shields.
- 3) overhanging eaves supported by an elaborate entablature. The entablature's architrave strip and frieze consist of bands of green glazed bricks separated by a molding strip. The entablature's cornice is articulated in two stages. Its lower stage is composed of a band of egg and dart molding. The upper stage consists of large elaborately cast modillions which alternate with sunburst ovals.

Beaux Arts features present on the exterior include a watertable composed of green glazed bricks surmounted by a cast concrete band and a series of prominent cartouches mounted at the entablature level along the main facade and on the building's corners.

Other important decorative features found on the building include:

- 1) unusual segmental arch shaped arcades containing recessed windows and doors. Some of the arches are one story in height, while others are two stories tall.

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Central Fire Station, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, LA

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- 2) owl sculptures punctuating the roofline at each corner, and
- 3) the use of glazed bricks on one engine room interior wall.

The Central Fire Station's interior was totally remodeled (and the original floorplan changed) in 1971. In addition to the large engine room, the first floor now contains administrative offices. The second floor houses additional administrative offices as well as dormitory, dining, and recreational spaces for on-duty firemen.

The following changes were made to the Central Fire Station's exterior in 1971:

- 1) The original five bays providing access to the engine room were widened and reduced to four in number, and the pillars between the bays were either reduced in size or replaced. This change was necessary to accommodate today's large modern pieces of fire fighting equipment.
- 2) Most of the building's original mullioned windows were removed and replaced by modern windows consisting of very large panes of glass. On one elevation the large openings were almost totally covered over, leaving only small glazed portions to admit light to the interior.
- 3) A large sign supported by brackets was built over a series of rectangular bas relief panels on the engine room facade.

Despite these changes, the Central Fire Station is still a striking architectural landmark. The alteration of the engine room's entrance bays was done with some sensitivity to the original design. As a result, the new, larger bays mimic the segmental arches found elsewhere on the building. Because the modern windows within these arches are recessed like the ones they replaced, the visual rhythm of the arcades is unchanged. In addition, the hidden bas relief panels remain undamaged beneath the modern sign. The structure's massing and flamboyant combination of eclectic decorative elements also remain intact, and the monumental building still dominates the immediate vicinity. The Central Fire Station is truly a premier example of Shreveport's early twentieth century eclectic architecture and is a significant landmark within the city's Central Business District. For these reasons, it is a prime candidate for National Register listing.

Contributing Element

A hose drying tower which stands near one corner of the fire station is being listed as a contributing element to this nomination. It was built at the

CONTINUED

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same time as the main building. Five stories in height, the stucco over brick structure is distinguished by 1) a first floor which resembles a watertable on the exterior, 2) an elaborately articulated door surround, 3) windows displaying lintels of different classical design on each level, and 4) a denticulated cornice.

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 N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
architecture

Period of Significance
1922

Significant Dates
1922

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Architect: Clarence W. King
Contractor: W. H. Werner

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

The Central Fire Station is locally significant in the area of architecture because it is one of the landmark buildings which contribute to the distinctive architectural character of Shreveport's Central Business District.

Until fairly recently Shreveport was Louisiana's second largest city. Its Central Business District is still regarded as second only to New Orleans in terms of its architectural quality. One of the factors contributing to the district's visual character is its significant collection of buildings reflecting the influence of the early twentieth century eclectic movement in architecture. Of the approximately 500 downtown buildings which appear to be at least 50 years old, only eighteen or so are truly grand, free-standing, monumental, and highly styled architectural gems. Of these, approximately a dozen display elements of eclectic revival styling. The Central Fire Station's flamboyant design and monumental mass make it one of these eclectic gems. Contributing to the flamboyance of the design are the structure's overhanging eaves, green tile skirting roof, distinctive entablature, oversized cartouches, and the unusual segmental arch arcades which impart a visual energy to the fenestration.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Thomson, Bailey, ed. Historic Shreveport: A Guide. Shreveport, LA: Shreveport Journal, 1980.

Historic photograph of Central Fire Station. LSU-Shreveport Archives.

- Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
 - 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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than an acre

UTM References

A

1	5
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4	2	9	4	8	0
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3	5	9	6	8	6	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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 Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property occupies Lots 20, 21 and 22, Block 1, W. R. Carter Subdivision, City of Shreveport.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Boundary lines follow property lines of parcel of land occupied by the fire station.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff
 organization Division of Historic Preservation date February 1991
 street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone (504) 342-8160
 city or town Baton Rouge state Louisiana zip code 70804

Owner: City of Shreveport
 P. O. Box 31109
 Shreveport, LA 71130