

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received JUN 11 1986

date entered

JUL 10 1986

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic SANTA ANA FIRE STATION HEADQUARTERS NO. 1

and/or common SANTA ANA FIRE STATION HEADQUARTERS NO. 1

2. Location

street & number 1322 North Sycamore Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Santa Ana

N/A vicinity of

state California

code 06

county Orange

code 059

3. Classification

Category

- district
- building(s)
- structure
- site
- object

Ownership

- public
 - private
 - both
- Public Acquisition**
- in process
 - being considered

Status

- occupied
 - unoccupied
 - work in progress
- Accessible**
- yes: restricted
 - yes: unrestricted
 - no

Present Use

- agriculture
- commercial
- educational
- entertainment
- government
- industrial
- military
- museum
- park
- private residence
- religious
- scientific
- transportation
- other: Office

4. Owner of Property

name Santa Ana Fire House Limited

street & number 330 Primrose Road, Suite 202

city, town Burlingame

N/A vicinity of

California state 94010

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Orange County Hall of Records

street & number 630 N. Broadway

city, town Santa Ana

California state 92701

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Santa Ana Historic Survey

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979

federal state county local

depository for survey records State Office of Historic Preservation

city, town Sacramento

California state 95811

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Fire Station Headquarters No. 1 building is a superior example of the Spanish Colonial Revival style of architecture as used in civic buildings in Santa Ana. Constructed in 1929, the building is one of the few remaining examples of the work which prominent local architect, Frederick Eley completed for the city. The wide console-shaped balcony, red-tiled gabled roof, square tower, shed-style arcade, and arched doors all contribute to the graceful Spanish Colonial atmosphere generated by the building. Few changes have been made to the front (east) and side (north and south) facades since the building was constructed 56 years ago. Much of the first floor interior is intact. Approximately 45 feet square, the fire station features a wide, low-pitched gabled roof, a wrap-around balcony with a console type base, and heavy square pillars across the front arcade. A tall, square, tile-roofed tower crowns the northwest (rear) corner. A pair of recessed entrances with heavy Spanish-style doors and an arched recessed entrance to the office section all face Sycamore Street. A wooden port cochere on the south side once sheltered the fire chief's vehicle. The building has been rehabilitated according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and will be in use as office space. A compatible modern addition has been built at the rear, replacing a non-historic 1950s addition. The fire station appears from the front as it did during its many years of use as the headquarters for Santa Ana's innovative fire department.

Roof:

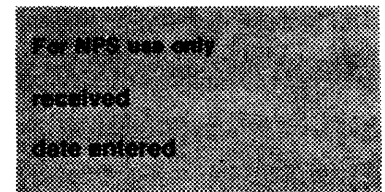
Red clay tiles cover the T-shaped gabled roof. Medium-pitched gables, facing front (east) and rear (west) are linked to a long gabled roof with a north-facing gable. Carved beam ends at the peak and sides accent the front gable. Exposed rafter ends along the eaves are covered with rain gutters. A single-story shed-style roof, clad in red tile, runs across the northern part of the front facade and shelters the two recessed bays containing the large entry doors. The rear of the roof is flat and supports the tower in the northwest corner. This tower was constructed for the purpose of drying hoses. A pair of large, arched louvered vents faces each direction below the prominent tile-clad hipped roof. The tower entrance leading from the flat roof to the interior hose drying apparatus has been stuccoed over.

Front Facade:

The front facade embodies many of the characteristics that give the Spanish Colonial Revival style strength and grace. The heavy stucco and two-story high rectangular mass are imposing. The heavy red tile roof texture is repeated on the first floor shed-style arcade. A row of five matching double-hung, wood-sash windows look out from the second story, above the arcade roof. Another pair of matching double-hung windows is centered under the second story gable and look out onto the console-style, wrap-around balcony. The balcony is edged with a stucco rim. The underside of the balcony curves gracefully downward to form an arched opening for the first floor office entrance. Recessed approximately six feet inside the opening is the office door. It is flanked by a pair of matching windows and topped by a three-sectioned transom. Below the shed-style arcade, with its heavy, square columns, are the two recessed entrances for the fire

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engines. Two pairs of heavy wooden doors feature three rows of windows at the top and two rows of recessed panels below. The heavy metal hardware used to open the doors is still in place. Recessed in the north end of the front facade is a small walk-in door which leads to the stairs to the second floor. Metal conductors and downspouts form a part of the decorative scheme. The only change in the front facade is the disappearance of the letters which read "Engine Company No. 1". The building will be painted a light color, more in keeping with the original scheme, during the rehabilitation process.

South Facade:

The console balcony continues from the southeast corner, one-third of the way along the south facade and has a single-panel door at the west end. Four recessed, double-hung windows are placed along the second story. A large wooden port cochere projects from the front (east) half of the building. The port cochere is original, and was once supported by square wooden posts. The posts were removed and heavy chains, attached to the rafter ends of the second story roof, were added several years ago. A single door, with a large pane of glass in the center and a transom above, leads from the port cochere into the office section of the building. A recessed, 15-light window and a small casement window are located on the west end of the south facade.

North Facade:

The north side of the building has no projections, but has a small recessed area on the second floor, next to the tower. A section of the stuccoed wall extends upward to form the north side of the tower in the northwest corner. The north gable, fringed with red tile, is centered with a round, recessed, louvered vent. Because of the proximity of the adjacent building, the two small windows on the ground floor have been covered over, with only their sills visible.

West Facade:

The rear facade received a single-story stucco addition in the 1950s and this addition has been removed as part of the rehabilitation. This facade is on a single plane, with the wall continuing upward to form the west wall of the northwest tower. Three recessed, double-hung windows and one casement window are located along the second floor facade. A tall, 15-light window located in the south end of this facade has been removed to allow for the installation of an exterior staircase. A large drive-through door and a small walk-in door were obliterated when the 1950s addition was added. The new 1985 addition attaches to the building in this same location. The new addition, more in keeping with the style of the main structure, and having a more pleasing architectural character, covers approximately 85% of the rear wall. This is accomplished because the stairway and landing cover the first floor only and the second floor covers only half of the rear facade.

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Interior:

Much of the interior of the first floor remains intact. The large engine room, located in the center, has been cleared of the extra walls added near the rear in the 1950s. Restrooms will be added to the ell on the north side. The original bookcase and woodwork along the east half of the north wall will be retained and restored. The original staircase along the north side of the building is separated from the main room by this wall. The staircase will be retained, cleaned, and painted. The office section on the south side originally contained offices in front and the chief's quarters in the back. Through the years the back half of this section was altered and realtered. The section will be made into offices with as many of the original walls as possible remaining. All of the original exterior doors and windows will remain, except for one window on the back (west) side of this section.

The second floor, once a large recreation and sleeping room, was made into offices in the 1950s. These rooms will be retained, cleaned, painted, and wide woodwork installed. A large bathroom/locker room was in a deteriorated condition and has been removed. An original alcove, located in the north wall of the front office, will be retained.

The Santa Ana Fire Station Headquarters No. 1 is worthy of preservation as one of the few remaining fire station headquarters buildings in Orange County. Its Spanish Colonial architecture, unique character, and substantial integrity are reminders of the part this building has played in the history of Santa Ana.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Public Safety
<input type="checkbox"/> invention				

Specific dates Constructed 1929 **Builder/Architect** Frederick Eley

Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

Santa Ana Fire Station Headquarters No. 1 possesses the characteristics which make it a good representative of a significant part of the city's history: public safety. Built in 1929, the two-story stucco-clad Spanish Colonial Revival building retains most of its integrity and is illustrative of the extensive list of public buildings designed by prominent local architect, Frederick Eley. The massive doors, arcade, large engine room, and hose tower evoke memories of the typical fire station as it appeared during the 1920s, 30s, and 40s. The two fire chiefs who ran the Santa Ana Fire Department from this building were important to Santa Ana history, and together served 85 years providing fire protection service to the community. One of the few remaining pre-1950 fire station headquarters in Orange County, this building reflects the extreme importance of the fire department and its leadership in the community. Because of its integrity of design, feeling and association with an exciting and adventuresome activity, this building forms a colorful picture of Santa Ana's past history. The front and the side facades of this building have received only a few minor alterations, and it will be rehabilitated according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

Frederick Eley designed over 75 buildings in the Orange County area and made his headquarters in Santa Ana from 1911 to 1937. Many of these were residences, but 22 were schools and public buildings. After the Long Beach earthquake of 1933, many of these schools were demolished. Some were still in use as storage or for administration offices until the Sylmar quake in the early 70s. Since that time all but two of the school buildings and this fire station have been destroyed, leaving only a small representation of the work of Santa Ana's most prolific early architect. This building is built in the Spanish Colonial Revival style, as were most of the schools Mr. Eley designed. Although he designed some Craftsman Bungalows and Period Revival homes and buildings, it is for the Spanish Colonial Revival style that he is best known.

Santa Ana's fire department was set up in 1881, five years before the city incorporated. In 1883 the first fire department building was located on the west side of Sycamore between Third and Fourth Streets; it housed horse-drawn equipment and was staffed by volunteers. By the time the department moved into its new headquarters at 310 North Sycamore, in the late 1880s, the volunteers were paid \$2.00 per fire and \$1.00 per false alarm. In 1910 a new station was built across the street at 307 North Sycamore. A new brick station replaced that one in 1921 and was located on Sycamore at Third. All of these fire station sites are now gone and a huge modern parking structure fills the entire block from Third to the alley behind Fourth, obliterating Sycamore Street at that point.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Interview with Chief Montgomery of Santa Ana Fire Department 1985
History of Orange County Fire Departments, Orange County Firefighter's Assn. 1983
City of Santa Ana promotional booklet: Decade of Development 1959

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 0.12 acre

Quadrangle name Orange

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	1	4	1	9	6	0	0	3	7	3	5	2	9	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property runs 96 feet west from Sycamore Street, turns right to go 55.2 feet north (parallel to Sycamore St.), turns right to go east 96 feet to the street, and turns right again to run along the west side of Sycamore for 55.2 feet. (continued)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county N/A code

state N/A code county N/A code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Diann Marsh

organization N/A

date February 15, 1985

street & number 321 N. Philadelphia

telephone (714) 520-4033

city or town Anaheim

state CA 92805

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Kathryn Guattieri

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 6/24/86

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

7-10-86

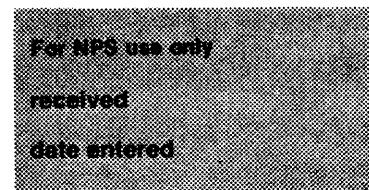
for *Allores Byers*
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Chief of Registration

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As the city continued its growth and expansion, Fire Station Headquarters No. 1 was moved to 1322 Sycamore in 1929. This building served as headquarters and contained the chief's office and the Fire Prevention Bureau. At that time, there were 12 paid firemen, a chief, an assistant chief, and 33 volunteers. Two companies were housed in the new station, along with a 1924 Seagrave pumper, a 1922 Mack hook-and-ladder truck, and a 1923 Reo squad and salvage vehicle. In May of 1933 the department installed a complex alarm system. As the city grew, so did the responsibilities of the fire department.

John Luxembourger and John Garthe were the two most prominent chiefs who served in this building. John Luxembourger was appointed chief on July 27, 1918, and was the first full-time fire chief (receiving \$100 a month). His tenure with the fire department lasted for 40 years and he retired in 1946. Under his direction, this building was built and the department grew from four (in 1918) to 40 paid fire fighters in order to keep pace with the rapidly developing County Seat. After his retirement John Garthe was elected chief. He served the City of Santa Ana for 45 years, starting in March of 1925, when he became a volunteer fireman. Within two years he had become a full-time paid fireman, and in 1937, assistant chief. He was chief from July 15, 1948 until 1970 when he retired to go into Santa Ana politics. He was elected to the Santa Ana City Council and eventually became Mayor of the city. He was known for elevating the Santa Ana Fire Department's standards and equipment from Class 7 to Class 3, an important service to the people of Santa Ana.

Most cities in Orange County have demolished their old fire station headquarters. Anaheim, Fullerton, Orange, San Juan Capistrano and others have no old fire stations still standing. Westminster, Irvine, Buena Park, Stanton, Villa Park, and others did not have their own fire systems until the 1950s. They were previously served by the County Fire Department, which also has no old stations. Santa Ana had four auxillary stations built in the 1920s and 1930s and one of these remains on South Cypress. It has been altered and serves as a senior citizen's center. Garden Grove has moved a single-story 20 x 20 stucco building, used as its first fire station, to its heritage park. Brea had room for a fire truck in its old City Hall building, now a museum. The beach cities have a few stations built in the 1930s. This building, located at 1322 North Sycamore in Santa Ana, is the largest, most intact pre-1950s fire station in Orange County and retains its integrity, atmosphere, and spirit of representation of Santa Ana's important fire safety system.

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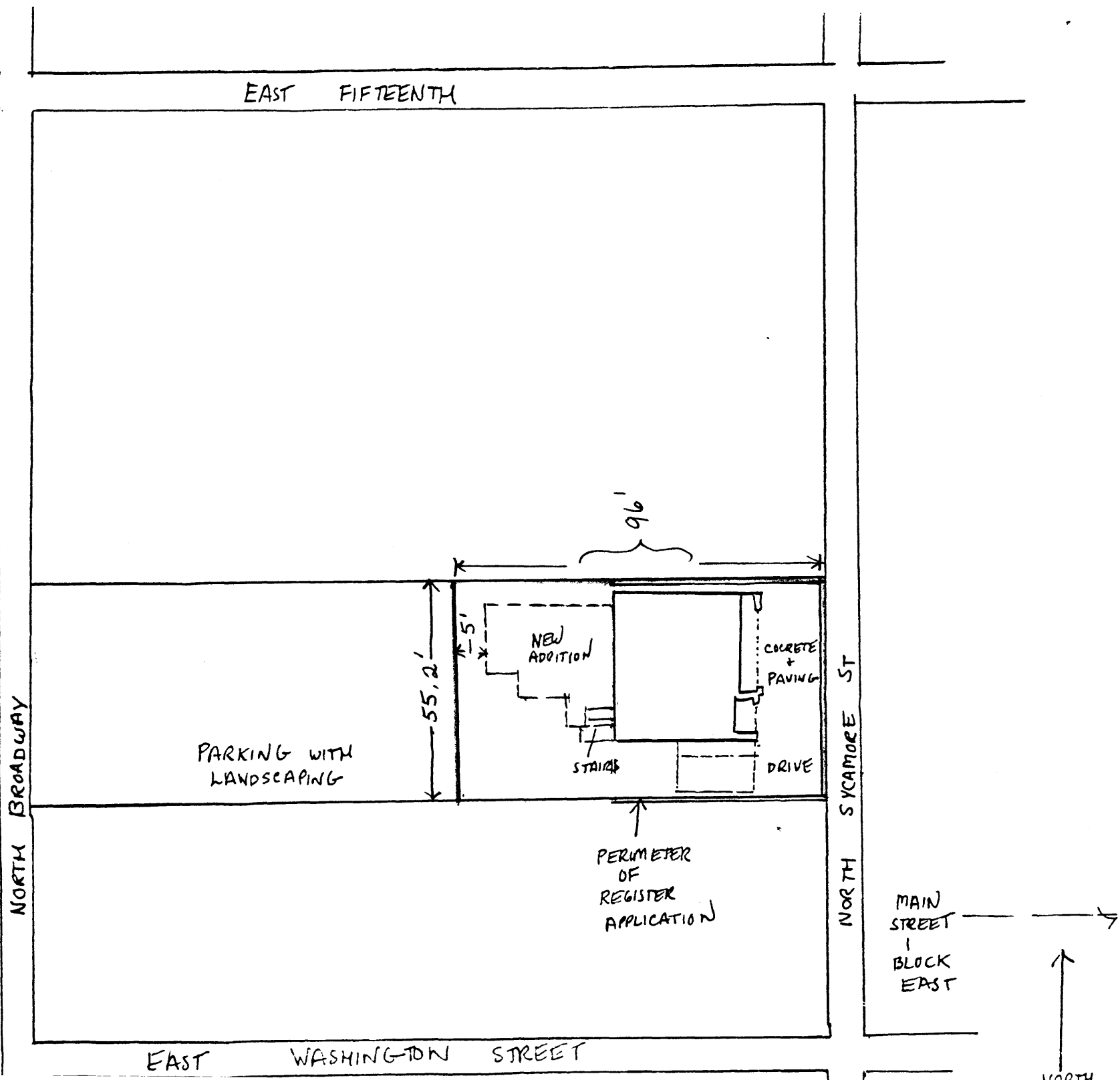
Boundary Justification: Boundary was drawn to include side yards and front yard of building, as these are not to be substantially altered, and provide a good view of the original building. The line is drawn at the rear to include the rear addition. The boundaries include the building and its addition on the front 96' of the historic lot, and exclude the new parking lot at the rear.

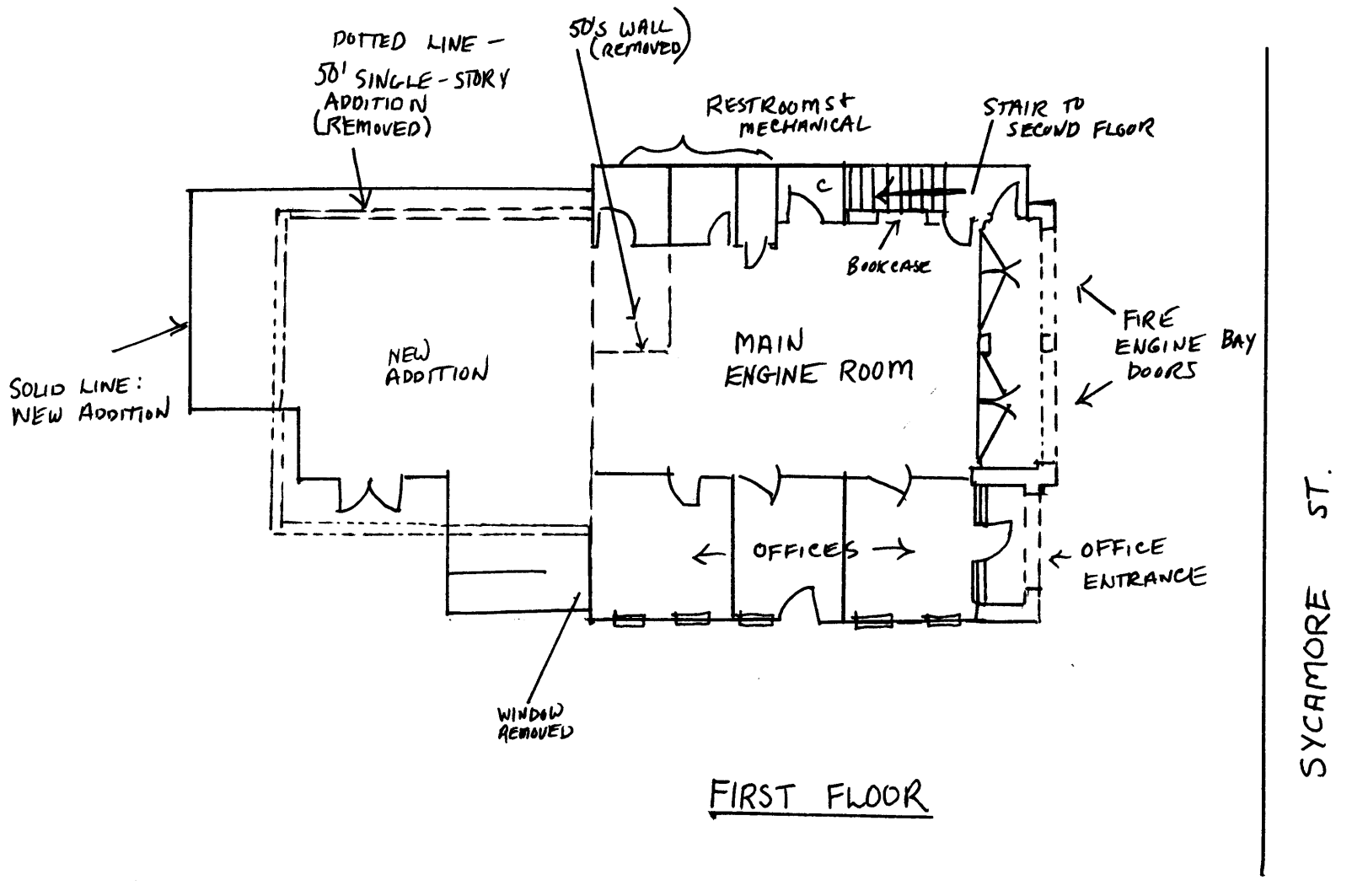
Nominated property occupies the western 96' of Parcel 005-163-09.

A-3490H

SANTA ANA FIRE STATION HEADQUARTERS NO. 1
1322 N. Sycamore Orange County
Santa, Ana, CA

The adjusted boundary of the property includes the new addition plus 5 feet.
It measures 96' from east to west and 55.2 ft. from south to north.

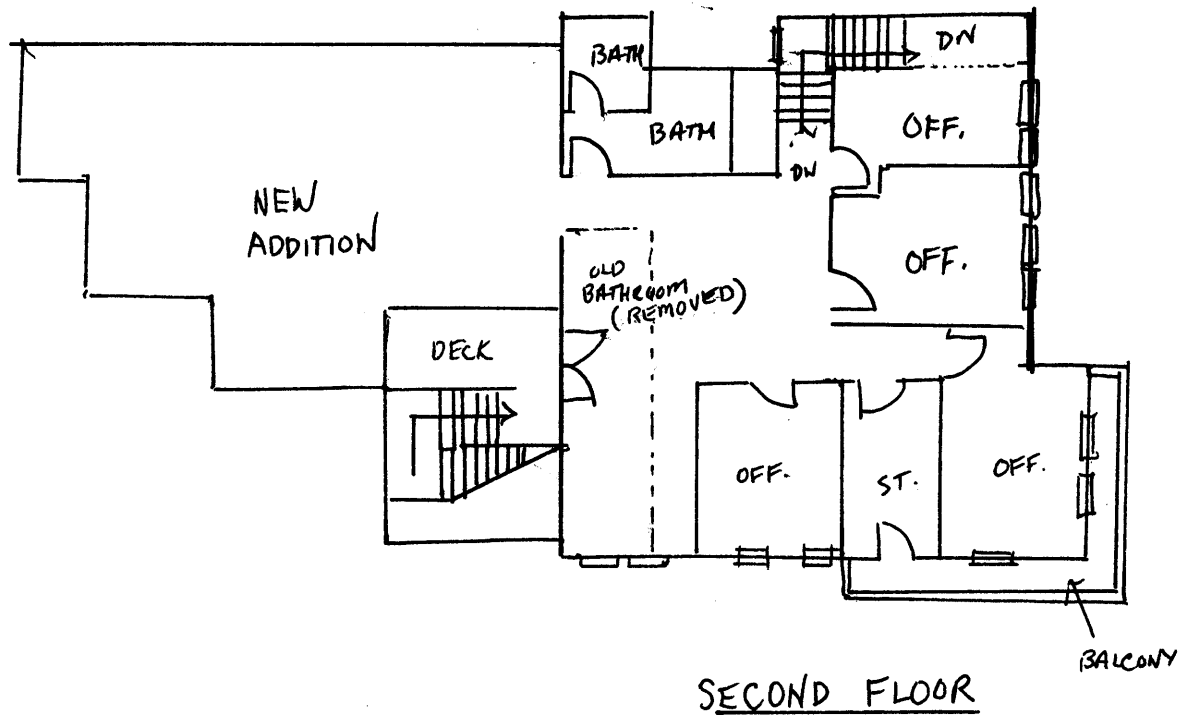




SANTA ANA FIRE STATION HEADQUARTERS NO. 1
 1322 North Sycamore St. Orange County
 Santa Ana, CA 92701

FIRST FLOOR INTERIOR PLAN





SANTA ANA FIRE STATION HEADQUARTERS NO. 1
 1322 N. Sycamore St. Orange County
 Santa Ana, CA 92701

SECOND FLOOR PLAN

