

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property

County and State

Section number _____ Page _____

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 100004695

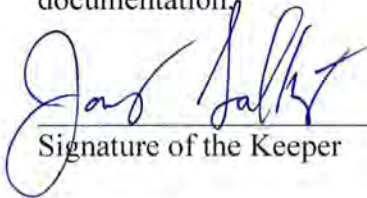
Date Listed: 11/27/2019

Property Name: Barksdale Mounted Police Station

County: Shelby

State: TN

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



Signature of the Keeper

11.27.2019
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 10: Coordinates

The Lat/Long Coordinates are hereby changed to:

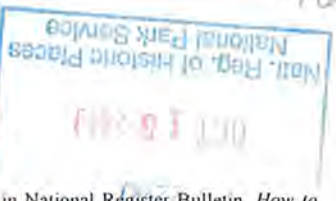
1. 35.134108 / -89.999517
2. 35.134111 / -89.999511
3. 35.133919 / -89.999444
4. 35.133897 / -89.998875

The Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

4695



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Barksdale Mounted Police Station
Other names/site number _____
Name of related multiple property listing N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & Number: 189 South Barksdale Street
City or town: Memphis State: TN County: Shelby
Not For Publication: Vicinity: Zip: 38104

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Christine Starr 10/18/2011
Signature of certifying official/Title: Date
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of Commenting Official: Date

Title: State of Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

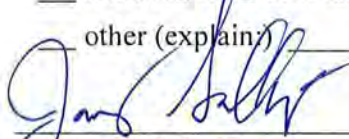
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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain) _____


 Signature of the Keeper

11.27.2019
 Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT: police station

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Classical Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, stone, wood

Narrative Description

The Barksdale Mounted Police Station Building, located at 189 South Barksdale, is a two-story, irregular-plan, frame building with common bond masonry veneer and a full basement, constructed in 1910 with design by an unknown architect. The building faces South Barksdale on the east, an alley on the north, and is a block south and east of the Central Gardens Historic district (N.R. Listed, 09/09/1982). The building represents a muted civic interpretation of the Classical Revival style designed to fit in with its residential neighbors. Located on a 100' x 206', fenced, flat lot with asphalt parking on the south and rear of the property, it is modestly landscaped with wrought iron fencing and a stone water fountain on the front. The two-story front section measures 22.4' X 60.2' and the one-story rear ell is 106.6' by 33', and the one-story, c. 1912 addition on the south side is 24' x 50.8'.

The five-bay, Classical Revival style façade (east elevation) displays a granite spandrel course, a copper cornice and is topped by a flat, built-up roof surrounded by a peaked parapet wall topped by granite coping and has a cast concrete shield in the middle. There is a masonry chimney one either end of roof. The water table is granite and there is a brick belt course between the first and second levels. The fenestration is four, single, double-hung, 1/1 wood windows on both the ground and second floors which is separated by a central

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entrance. The second-floor windows have granite sills, and granite blocks at the bottom corners of the windows.

Pilasters flank the decorative full-height arched central entrance with cantons at the ends of the façade. They are topped by a small cornice with an inset decoration at the bottom. In between the pilasters, the elaborated center section has a triple row brick arch with keystone above the four-part, arched, second story window. Below the window is a marble name plaque inscribed with raised bold font BARKSDALE MOUNTED POLICE STATION and below inscribed COMMISSION GOVERNMENT with the names of the vice mayr, chief, and three commissioners flanking a plain shield, dated 1910 with E.H. CRUMP MAYOR in larger font below. The original entrance is double-leaf, 1-light, 2-panel wood and glass doors flanked by half-side lights with 1/1 double hung wood windows. The door surround is granite with incised, Ionic piers on the area adjacent to the side lights. The open porch is brick with a low brick wall surround and two short piers topped with cast concrete caps denoting the entrance. Original porch lights with wrought iron brackets and a frosted glass globe are located on either side of the main entrance. A brick walk extends to street.

The north elevation has nineteen windows. The easternmost are two, double-hung, 1/1 wood windows on both stories of the two-story front section. The fenestration continues with eight, single and one pair, long and short windows with rounded brick lintels and granite sills. These windows retain their metal bars reflecting this area's use as jail cells. Beyond that the remaining nine windows are short, singles with rounded brick lintels and granite sills reflecting the use of the remainder of the rear as stables for the police horses. All of these windows are boarded except one with a single light in a wood frame. The asphalt shingle, gable roof rear ell has two, asphalt shingle, hipped roof dormers sided with wooden shingles and metal vents immediately behind the two-story section. Copper gutters continue on this elevation as well.

The west rear elevation displays a cornice and the cornice returns are the copper gutter. An original, 4-part, single-leaf, curved top, wood door has a curved, three-brick header voissiors. A boarded, curved top window is located above the door and retains a metal pulley used for hoisting hay and has a less pronounced three-brick header voissiors.

The south side elevation also has two, double-hung, 1/1 wood windows on both stories of the two-story front section. Directly behind that is a one-story, flat roof with copper cornice added in 1912 as a motorcycle garage. There are six bays, five are double-hung, wood windows with wooden bulkheads and curved, two-row footer voissiors. The entry is a boarded door with a 5-light sidelight on the left side. A copper belt course is located above the windows. The west side of the addition has three double-hung, wood windows, two long and one short, with wooden bulkheads and curved, three-row footer voissiors. The remainder of the south side elevation has five bays, two overhead doors one of which has a metal replacement door and the westernmost is boarded and three, short boarded windows with curved, two-row footer voissiors. There is evidence of flashing on this elevation that indicates a shed covering for this part of the building.

Interior

The two-story front section of the interior is a single room with two original fireplaces, one on the south wall and one on the west wall. The fireplaces are cast metal with replicas of badges adorning them. The hardwood floor is covered with carpet. The original stairwell is on the southwest wall and retains its original hardwood turned balusters, handrail and block newel post.

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The remainder of two-story area has been renovated over time. The upper floor has been divided into two rooms with original fireplaces and hardwood floor. The rear area has been sheet rocked and carpeted to provide office space. The rest of upper area is open frame with metal files and wire enclosed areas for record keeping. It overlooks the former stable area through a wire and wood frame wall.

The former jail cells are accessed by a door on the left of the fireplace on the western wall. This area has been reused over time but still has the wall partitions from the cells and has metal radiators on the ceiling which provided heat. This area was later used as a kitchen as well. There is a single large tile bath on the south across the hall from the cells and a storage room.

The one-story south side addition originally added in 1912 for motorcycle maintenance has been reconfigured over time into offices but still maintains a large storage area. The former horse stalls area has concrete floors and a high vaulted ceiling. It was reused over time and resembles the gym that it was converted into c. 1960.

The loss of some interior features is due to changes of use and extended vacancy. Side and back openings have been boarded over to protect against vandalism, but the front section still retains most of its lights. The one hundred and ten-year-old Barksdale Mounted Police Station Building exterior is in good condition and retains integrity of setting, location, design, workmanship, materials, and feeling which combine to convey the significance of this unique resource.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
 (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

Areas of Significance
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Politics/Government

Period of Significance

1911-1917

Significant Dates
n/a

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

N/A

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Barksdale Mounted Police Station in Memphis, Tennessee is significant for individual listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of Government as an example of a municipal police station where horses were kept as policing vehicles during the period from 1911-1917. The property’s history is closely aligned with national trends in early suburban policing, as well as the political machine legacy of Memphis’ most famed mayor, Edward “Boss” Crump. Though he initiated the method of policing later than his Tennessee counterparts in Knoxville and Chattanooga, Crump’s mounted police unit continues to successfully patrol the streets of Memphis today.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Policing Early Memphis

Memphis, Tennessee was founded by speculators John Overton, James Winchester, and future president Andrew Jackson on land purchased from the Chickasaw Nation in 1819. Sited on the fourth and southernmost of the Chickasaw Bluffs, Memphis was incorporated in 1826 and soon became a center of trade and commerce along the Mississippi River.

In the beginning, Memphis could best be described as a rough and tumble river town, as it “became a stopping place for the flatboats making their way downstream on the Mississippi, and the flatboatmen, while providing an economic boon for the village, brought with them their reputation for violence, crudeness and independence. The combination of the wilderness, the river traffic and the Indians made life in the earliest Memphis suitable only for hardy souls.”¹

The first lawman of Memphis was John J. Balch. Elected Town Constable in 1827, Balch patrolled the young town on foot as a “one-man police department”.² He was soon appointed Deputy Sheriff of Shelby County, and later served seven years as both Shelby County Sheriff and Shelby County Tax Collector. It wasn’t until the corporate limits of Memphis were extended in 1832 that the word “police” was used in the Tennessee legislature, explaining the need for “conferring of powers for the regulation of the police, or well ordering the good behavior of individuals”.³ The rowdy, young river town required a night watch of two men. In 1840, with a population of 1,799, an ordinance established the Captain of the Night Guard, and thus the first supervisor of the Memphis police force. Despite constant turnover, the night watch system served Memphis until it was elevated to city status in 1848.⁴

The new City of Memphis restructured and expanded the police force, creating an Office of City Marshal to replace the Town Constable, and constructing the first police station: a 12 by 20 foot brick calaboose at the corner of Main Street and Market Street for \$185. As the city grew, so did the police force. Memphis was

¹ Perre Magness, *A History of Idlewild Presbyterian Church 1890-2015* (Memphis: Idlewild Presbyterian Church, 2015), 13.

² Eddie M. Ashmore, *The History of the Memphis Police Department* (Memphis: Police Department Printing, 2001), 20.

³ Ibid, 20.

⁴ Ibid, 20-21.

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divided into districts patrolled by twenty-one men, including the Town Marshal. Day Police and Night Police patrolled the city in pairs and on foot. By 1857, the City Marshal became the Chief of Police.⁵

The police force changed and grew dramatically during the Civil War. Enlisted patrolmen were replaced by older men not subject to military duty, and the department was controlled by the Vigilance Committee. Memphis fell to the Union on June 6, 1862, but the police were ordered to continue their patrol as usual, and forces were increased to 100 men.

In 1864, Union General C.C. Washburn replaced much of the local force with Union loyalists. Civilian control was restored a year later, but the reconstituted force was a tense and distrusting team. In the early days of Reconstruction, both the City of Memphis and its police force were ticking time bombs.⁶ What became known as the Memphis Massacre that left 46 blacks and two whites dead, and dozens of black churches, schools, and homes burned to the ground, began as a fight between black soldiers from nearby Fort Pickering and white, Irish Memphis police officers in May of 1866. The violence upended the city, but pushed Congress to strengthen Federal Reconstruction efforts, as well as pass the 14th Amendment guaranteeing citizenship to former slaves.⁷

After the war, the city was divided into two districts, an upper district north of Monroe, and a lower district south of Monroe, with headquarters on Adams Street and at Causey (Third Street) and Linden. By 1872, the Memphis Police Department employed one chief, two captains, four sergeants, three detectives, and sixty patrolmen. Patrolmen walked their beats while captains and sergeants rode horses.

The Memphis Police Department remained on duty during the three Yellow Fever epidemics that struck Memphis in the 1870s. In 1873, 50 out of the 55-man force came down with the fever, killing ten. Twelve policemen died in the summer of 1878, and two more in the summer of 1879.⁸ Over the course of the decade, yellow fever killed 8,000 Memphians and over half the population fled the city, intensifying Memphis' already grim financial situation. By the end of the epidemics, the police department had lost 40% of its strength, and Memphis had lost its City Charter, becoming a taxing district of the state until 1893.⁹ While the Yellow Fever epidemics of the 1870s were arguably Memphis' darkest days, there were some positive outcomes, including major sanitation reforms and the integration of the police force. While still susceptible to the disease, Memphis' African American community fared much better than their white neighbors. Many more white Memphians died or fled during the epidemics, and the racial makeup of the city changed drastically.

⁵ Ashmore, *Memphis Police*, 21.

⁶ Ibid, 22.

⁷ Bobby L. Lovett, "Memphis Race Riot of 1866," *Tennessee Encyclopedia* (Nashville: Tennessee Historical Society, 2017), <http://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entries/memphis-race-riot-of-1866/> (accessed May 16, 2019).

⁸ Ashmore, *Memphis Police*, 23.

⁹ Christopher Caplinger, "Yellow Fever Epidemics," *Tennessee Encyclopedia* (Nashville: Tennessee Historical Society, 2018), <http://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entries/yellow-fever-epidemics/> (accessed May 16, 2019).

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“Contrary to the prevailing trend in other southern cities where blacks disappeared from police forces soon after Reconstruction ended,” the Memphis Police Department began hiring black officers, starting with Officer Rufus H. McCain in 1878.¹⁰ By the end of the same year, 14 more black officers were hired, and soon the “number of black policemen were increased to a level proportionate with the black population of the city”.¹¹ The policemen retained their posts until segregation was reinstated in 1895.

By the early 1890s, the city of Memphis had largely rebounded from the epidemics, and financial prosperity had finally returned. The growing city annexed many of its suburbs in 1899, giving Memphis “a square shape defined by the parkway system, quadrupling its size and changing its axis from north-south to east-west. The population grew with a giant leap to 102,000 in 1900. Memphis was truly a city now. The rough and ready river town still showed through in political fights, in the number of taverns, and in some crowded slums, but there were many neighborhoods of neat houses and several commercial districts.”¹²

The Memphis Police Department grew with its city, expanding to include the Chief, two captains, three sergeants, six detectives, fifty-four regular patrolmen, and nine mounted policemen.¹³

Idlewild and the East End

Before the major annexation in 1899, the eastern city limit was Dunlap Street, at the edge of the City Hospital grounds, now Health Sciences Park. Beyond that, the area consisted of undeveloped farmland commonly known as the East End. The rural character of this area began to change in the mid-1880s with the expansion of trolley lines running north, south, and east from downtown. The East End line was completed in 1887, “taking merrymakers from town to the new East End Amusement Park, out Madison near Cooper, or to the racetracks at Montgomery Park (today’s Fairgrounds).”¹⁴

By 1895, more than 70 miles of interurban track had been laid for the electrified cars.¹⁵ The effect of the trolley line on suburbanization of the East End area in the 1890s was similar to the effect that interstate-quality highways caused in the suburbanization of major American cities in the 1950s and beyond. The difference, of course, was that in the era before the automobile, development tended to occur within an easy walking distance from the streetcar line.

The once-rural communities of Madison Heights and Idlewild quickly developed along the East End streetcar route. “People wanted to live near the convenience of the car lines, and land developers advertised the many benefits of new subdivisions,” for instance: “The East End Land Syndicate advertised ‘residence sites being covered with handsome dwellings settled upon by the very best sort of people.’ The first sale of

¹⁰ Caplinger, “Yellow Fever.”

¹¹ Ashmore, *Memphis Police*, 24.

¹² Magness, *Idlewild*, 16.

¹³ Ashmore, *Memphis Police*, 25.

¹⁴ Magness, *Idlewild*, 21.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

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lots in the Idlewild subdivision began in September 1890. On September 12, 1895, Idlewild was incorporated as a town,” and by 1899, it was part of the City of Memphis.¹⁶

Mayor Edward “Boss” Crump

In 1910, newly-elected mayor, Edward Hull Crump (1874-1954) moved his family into a stylish new home on Peabody Avenue in the former Idlewild area. The two-story Colonial Revival home, now known as the E.H. Crump House, was individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979 (12/16/79). Born in Holly Springs, Mississippi in 1874, Crump was the son of a planter and former Confederate officer who died during the yellow fever epidemics. After growing up in poverty, the ambitious teenager moved to Memphis in 1893 to seek a better life. He started out as a bookkeeper before marrying Bessie Byrd McLean, the daughter of a wealthy merchant, and began his ascent in business and politics.¹⁷

The charismatic Crump served as a delegate to the Shelby County Democratic Convention in 1901, and to the Tennessee Democratic State Convention the following year. In 1905, he was elected to the Memphis Board of Public Works before becoming a member of the powerful Board of Fire and Police Commissioners in 1907.

Elected Mayor of Memphis in 1909, Crump became the first mayor to serve under Memphis’ new commission form of government, a system that he and other Progressive politicians of the era lobbied hard to establish.¹⁸ Under a commission government, voters elect individual commissioners, as well as the mayor, to a small governing board. Each commissioner is responsible for one specific aspect of government, such as fire, public works, health, finance, or police.¹⁹

Under Mayor Crump, the city officially made the switch in January of 1910, and Civil Service was introduced later that year. For the first time, policemen were selected based on civil service certificates, without regard to political affiliations, and the force grew to 185 officers.²⁰

Inspired by his time serving as Commissioner of Fire and Police, Crump campaigned on building the best fire and police departments in the country. He quickly followed through on his promises with the construction of Fire Station No. 1 the Barksdale Mounted Police Station in in 1910, and the large Central Police Station in 1911. Located side by side on Adams Avenue in Downtown Memphis, the innovative, Neo-Classical Fire Station No. 1 and Central Police Station buildings were listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a part of the Adams Avenue Historic District in 1980 (11/25/80).

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ David Tucker, “Edward Hull “Boss” Crump,” *Tennessee Encyclopedia* (Nashville: Tennessee Historical Society, 2017), <http://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entries/edward-hull-and-crump/> (accessed May 16, 2019).

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ National League of Cities, “Cities 101 – Forms of Local Government,” December 13, 2016, <https://www.nlc.org/resource/cities-101-forms-of-local-government> (accessed May 16, 2019).

²⁰ Ashmore, *Memphis Police*, 27.

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In addition to the impressive government buildings downtown, Crump also built the smaller Classical Revival style Barksdale Mounted Police Station early in his tenure as mayor. Located at 189 Barksdale Street, and only two blocks from the Crumps' new home, it was the first suburban police station in the city.

Barksdale Mounted Police Station

"E.H. Crump, Mayor" is prominently etched above the front door of the Barksdale Mounted Police Station, along with the names of Vice Mayor J.A. Riechman, Police Chief W.C. Davis, and Commissioners George C. Love, E.R. Parham, and Thomas Dies. Notably, the names are crowned by the phrase "Commission Government," the new system that was proudly implemented by Crump earlier that same year. According to an article published in Memphis' Commercial Appeal the morning after it opened on April 4, 1911: "The new \$16,000 sub-police station, at Barksdale Street and Union Avenue, built for mounted men, was formally opened yesterday, when sixteen men, under Sgt. Walter Lee, swung into their new saddles and began riding over the large area of suburban territory lying on the eastern border of the city. The formalities of opening the new station were looked after by J.A. Riechman, police commissioner, who has shown a great interest in the plan for better police protection for the outlying wards. Mr. Riechman was pleased with the start and says that the men will be down to regular work within the next few days. The next few days will be spent by the men in riding over and familiarizing themselves with the beats and boundaries."²¹

Barksdale's mounted officers worked twelve-hour shifts, with ten of the sixteen men on night duty with Sgt. Lee, and six on duty during the day. The state-of-the-art station was equipped with four jail cells and modern telephones, but the mounted men were to "report directly to the central police station from their beats while on duty".²²

The valuable, purebred steeds cost between \$450 and \$4,000 each, and were housed in the rear stable. A hayloft with a second story loading window stored feed in wooden grain bins above. Beloved by their officers, many horses were named after prominent city leaders. Names like J.A. Riechman, Fred Orgill, Bright Goodbar, and The Mayor (E.H. Crump) were inscribed on nameplates hung above their stalls.²³

The mounted police were drilled daily by riding master Patrolman H. Morrison, a former member of the U.S. Calvary.²⁴ An emergency horseman proficient in lassoing was also assigned to Barksdale. The horsemanship of the first mounted unit received national recognition six months after its organization and was invited to compete against riders of the world in New York City, but the offer was turned down.

The mounted patrolmen took pride in both their work and their mounts. As one original Barksdale patrolmen reflected in a newspaper interview in 1932: "The beat of the horse's hooves on the street at night was music to the ears of the residents. They knew the 'Night Riders' were on vigil. And if the crooks heard them, they

²¹ "Mounted Policemen Are Riding Suburbs," *Memphis Commercial Appeal*, April 5, 1911.

²² Ibid.

²³ Larue Gilleland, "A Colorful Era Bows to Progress," *Memphis Commercial Appeal*, July 28, 1957.

²⁴ Ashmore, *Memphis Police*, 28.

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ran off. Our horses know as much about policing as we did. Trained to jump, accustomed to firearms, they could take any trail. I could watch my horse's ears and tell when someone was afoot at night. No officer rode another's mount, if the horse was sick, the rider was off duty too."

History of Mounted Police

A mounted patrol made perfect sense for the rapidly expanding city. Horses easily traversed the sprawling, more exclusive residential areas in Memphis' early suburbs, where the Memphis elite, Mayor Crump included, were settling in droves. The Barksdale Mounted Police patrolled five wards, serving mainly as a preventative force in the newly annexed neighborhoods bounded on the west by Bellevue Boulevard, on the north by North Parkway, on the south by the Southern Railway (Norfolk-Southern), and by the city limits to the east, which was East Parkway at the time.²⁵

While the first horse to be used in police work remains unknown, it is likely that the concept of a mounted police force grew from Europe's early cavalries and other military precedents. London Bow Street Chief Magistrate Sir John Fielding proposed the establishment of a mounted unit of two pairs of riders and horses to patrol the Bow Street Runners in 1758. By 1763, "the size of the unit had increased to eight. The mission of the mounted unit was crime prevention and criminal apprehension along the roadways leading to London... By 1805, a more permanent and larger Bow Street Horse Patrol was created with over 50 men and animals, and their duties had expanded to 'patrolling main roads up to 20 miles distant of London.'"²⁶ By the 1840s, the mounted unit had become an integral part of the London Metropolitan Police, as horses were increasingly used for crowd control- a job that the unit maintains to this day.²⁷

Nearly every police department in the United States employed horses in their police work at one time or another. Early mounted units include the famed Texas Rangers, which were organized during the 1835 Texas Revolution as an auxiliary military unit that patrolled the frontier. Many municipal police departments followed the English model of mounted units, with the New York Police Department being the first. Established in 1871, "the NYPD mounted unit's primary purpose was to regulate traffic and pursue speeders and reckless drivers. Mounted units followed in San Francisco in 1874 and in Boston in 1883."²⁸

In addition to Memphis' Barksdale unit, mounted patrols were used historically in at least two other major Tennessee municipalities. The older city of Knoxville tried out mounted patrols in the late 1890s, but ultimately deemed the method too costly. According to the Knoxville Fire and Police Yearbook of 1900: "The city patrolmen are all on foot. Several years ago, the board of public works determined to experiment with mounted policemen. Two handsome horses were purchased at the city's expense, and patrolmen were assigned to mounted duty. They managed to patrol considerable territory, but it was finally deemed more

²⁵ Ashmore, *Memphis Police*, 28.

²⁶ David H. McElreath, Daniel Adrian Doss, Carl J. Jensen III, Michael Wigginton Jr., Ralph Kennedy, Kenneth R. Winter, Robert E. Mongue, Janice Bounds, J. Michelle Estis-Sumerel, *Introduction to Law Enforcement* (Boca Raton: CRC Press, 2013), 248.

²⁷ *Ibid*, 249.

²⁸ *Ibid*.

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expedient and beneficial to put the cost of the horses into salaries for one or more policemen. This was done, and since then the mounted police idea has never been attempted here.”²⁹

It is also possible that Crump sought to emulate John T. Mosely, Chattanooga’s Chief of Police from 1905 to 1909, who started the department’s first mounted patrol unit. Mosely procured specialized horses and hired six additional patrolmen for the unit, with three mounted officers assigned to each shift. It was found to be a highly successful method of policing and the unit remained active until the late 1980s. Chattanooga’s mounted patrol was reactivated in 2008 by Sheriff Jim Hammond, and currently employs eight mounted horses specially trained to provide service in remote areas around the city.³⁰

Changing Technology, Methods & Politics

While mounted police units were finding success in Chattanooga and Memphis, developments in transportation technology brought changes to the Barksdale station almost as soon as it opened. In 1908, the old Central Police Station had implemented a bicycle squad for added mobility, and soon hired two motorcyclists to use their personal vehicles for traffic enforcement. By 1911, the department purchased its first two motorcycles and stationed the developing division at Barksdale, necessitating an addition on the building. Replacing horse-drawn wagons, two motorized patrol wagons were acquired in 1912.³¹

Times were changing in other ways as well. While Crump ran an efficient city government and continued to develop his unstoppable political machine, he also refused to enforce Tennessee’s newly adopted prohibition law. In response, “Governor Ben Hooper pushed an ouster law in 1915 which provided the judicial method for removal of public officials from office who refused to enforce state laws.”³² Crump was re-elected in 1916, then resigned his office just ahead of court action. Despite the setback, he quickly regained the public’s trust and continued his position as a powerful political boss outside of city government, influencing statewide elections until his death in 1954.³³

In 1918, the Barksdale Station was closed for seven months due to World War I. The crestfallen officers watched as their horses were auctioned off for \$80 a head, briefly ending Memphis’ mounted patrol era. When the station re-opened, the crestfallen “mounties” careened forth on bicycles. The officers found the bicycles undignified and dangerous, and they were soon replaced with Model-T Fords, along with the horse-drawn buggies that supervisors used to oversee foot patrols.³⁴ The stables were moved to Washington

²⁹ Knox County, Tennessee Directories, “Knoxville Police Department,” http://knoxcotn.org/old_site/directories/1900knoxvillefire/1900policedept.htm#horseback (accessed May 16, 2019).

³⁰ Hamilton County Sherriff’s Office, “Mounted Patrol Division,” http://www.hcsheriff.gov/uniform_services/horse_patrol.php (accessed May 16, 2019).

³¹ Ashmore, *Memphis Police*, 28.

³² Tucker, “Crump.”

³³ *Ibid.*

³⁴ Gilleland, “Colorful Era.”

Barksdale Mounted Police Station

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Avenue where ten remaining horses were used for crowd control, parking enforcement, and tracking down any errant livestock.³⁵

The Great Depression hit both the city and its police department hard. In 1932, with 102 homicides that year, Memphis was named “The Murder Capital of the World.”³⁶ In 1933, as an economy move, the Barksdale Station was shuttered for two years, and finally reorganized and reopened in 1935.³⁷ In an article published in the *Commercial Appeal* on August 19, 1935, Commissioner Cliff Davis announced that five important police services would be handled at the reopened station: “First, the station will continue to house the radio broadcasting equipment upstairs. Second, a detail of detectives will work out of the station day and night, serving the entire suburban area. Third, a squad of motorcycle officers will be quartered there. A man arrested in the eastern part of town will be taken to Barksdale instead of downtown. This will mean a saving, since it is more than three and a half miles from the central station to Barksdale. Fourth, after the first of the year, persons who find it more convenient can buy dog licenses and driver’s licenses at the Barksdale station. [And] fifth, the building will have an instruction room for officers.”

Nationally, the “use of horses had given way to automobiles, and the number of mounted units began to decline. Police cars could carry more supplies, equipment, and arms while offering protection to officers from the elements. By the start of World War II, the number of police mounted units in the United States had dropped to about 40.”³⁸

During World War II, the Memphis police force was diminished. The department ramped back up in 1948 when police officers gained civil service status and were required to attend a two-week training school. This classwork was held on the second floor of the Barksdale Station, and the ground floor stable was converted to a gym for two hours of physical training.³⁹

By the 1950s, the department had outgrown its station, and there was no room to expand for parking or other investments. In July of 1958, after nearly half a century on Barksdale, the substation was relocated to the new Claude A. Armour Fire and Police Training and Communications Center on Flicker Street near the Fairgrounds. At the time of its closing, nearly two-thirds of Memphis was patrolled by 100 officers in radio-equipped squad cars operating out of Barksdale.⁴⁰ The remaining officers transferred to Flicker Street, the last five horses were sold at auction, and the stable on Washington Avenue closed, again briefly ending Memphis’ era of mounted patrol.⁴¹

³⁵ Ashmore, *Memphis Police*, 28.

³⁶ *Ibid*, 30.

³⁷ Gilleland, “Colorful Era.”

³⁸ McElreath, *Introduction*, 249.

³⁹ Ashmore, *Memphis Police*, 33.

⁴⁰ Gilleland, “Colorful Era.”

⁴¹ Ashmore, *Memphis Police*, 33.

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The newly vacant Barksdale Mounted Police Station building was given to the Memphis Park Commission who leased it to the newly formed Memphis Boys Club. In 1962, under the guidance and financial support of The Phoenix Club, the Barksdale Boys Club became the organization’s first branch and welcomed 120 young Memphians through its doors. The Boys Club continued to grow and replaced the Barksdale Branch with the Ira Samleson Jr. Branch in 1979.⁴²

The now empty building was used for record storage until being put up for sale by the City of Memphis in 2018. It was sold to new owners who propose to rehabilitate it using Tennessee’s Investment Tax Credit (ITC) program.

Legacy of the Barksdale Mounted Police Station

The Barksdale Mounted Police Station stands as a reminder of the era when cunning, well-trained steeds and their riders were a very effective police department vehicle in Memphis, Tennessee. Despite their replacement by bicycles, motorcycles, and squad cars in the early 20th century, police forces all over the world employ mounted units today. In the United States, mounted units made a comeback during the social turmoil of the 1960s and 1970s as “the requirements of effective crowd control methods and high visibility police presence brought renewed interest in and the creation of police mounted units across the nation. Experience showed that mounted units could provide law enforcement with a positive method of crime control and reduction.”⁴³ The Memphis Police Department reinstated a mounted patrol unit in 1982. A garage at Fourth and Jefferson was converted to a barn, and horses have been used for crowd control, routine patrol of downtown, and parades ever since.⁴⁴

The Barksdale Station also reflects how the Memphis Police Department handled the city’s rapid suburban expansion, quickly setting up a modern outpost after the trolley lines paved the way for Memphis’ elite to move east. Furthermore, Boss Crump’s early pride for and support of the Memphis Police Department will also live on in the Barksdale Station. His name and preferred Commission Government style is a permanent part of both the façade and its continued legacy of introducing mounted policing to the City of Memphis. Though he introduced it later than his Tennessee counterparts in Knoxville and Chattanooga, Crump’s mounted police unit continues to successfully patrol the “rough and tumble” streets of his city today.

⁴² Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Memphis, “History of BGCM,” <http://www.bgcm.org/about/bgcm-history/> (accessed May 16, 2019).

⁴³ McElreath, *Introduction*, 249.

⁴⁴ Ashmore, *Memphis Police*, 43.

Barksdale Mounted Police Station
Name of Property

Shelby, Tennessee
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9. Major Bibliographic References

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Barksdale Mounted Police Station
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Previous documentation on file (NPS):		Primary location of additional data:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested) Part 1 signed 04/09/19	<input type="checkbox"/>	State Historic Preservation Office
<input type="checkbox"/>	previously listed in the National Register	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other State agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	previously determined eligible by the National Register	<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	designated a National Historic Landmark	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local government
<input type="checkbox"/>	recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #	<input type="checkbox"/>	University
<input type="checkbox"/>	recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other
<input type="checkbox"/>	recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #	Name of repository:	
Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):			

Barksdale Mounted Police Station
Name of Property

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .47 **USGS Quadrangle** TN-Northeast Memphis

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 35 08'02.79"N | Longitude: 89 59'58.26"W |
| 2. Latitude: 35 08'02.80"N | Longitude: 89 59'58.24"W |
| 3. Latitude: 35 08'02.11"N | Longitude: 89 59'58.00"W |
| 4. Latitude: 35 08'02.03"N | Longitude: 89 59'55.95"W |

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the building are an alley on the north, Second Barksdale Street on the east, and the west and the southern boundaries are the property line. It is parcel number 016051 00006 found on Shelby County Tax Map 139C.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Barksdale Mounted Police Station Building include only the property lines historically related to the development of the building and defined by the City of Memphis Property Assessor.

Barksdale Mounted Police Station
 Name of Property

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11. Form Prepared By

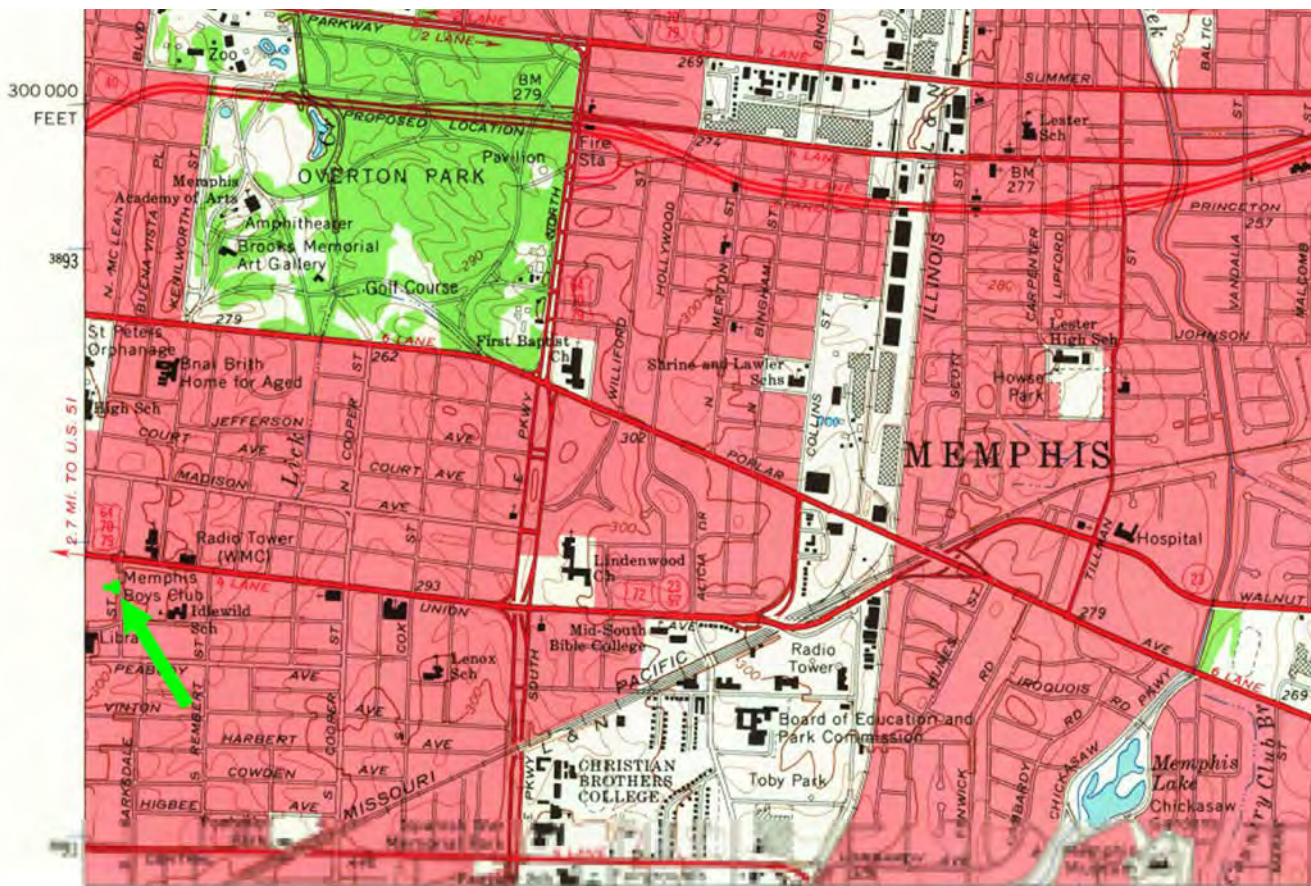
Name Judith Johnson & Margo Payne, architectural historians

Organization J. Johnson & Associates

Street & Number 158 Windover Road, #6 Date 5/10/2019

City or Town Memphis Telephone 901-603-0054

E-mail Judithjohnson73@gmail.com State TN Zip Code 38111



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, USACGS, and JCSG
 Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
 photographs taken 1953. Field checked 1965.
 Reduction projection: 1927 North American datum
 1:50,000 feet and based on Tennessee coordinate system
 1000-foot contour interval
 Contour 15, shown in blue
 Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
 generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unclassified.
 Red dots indicate areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

SCALE 1:50,000
 CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
 DATUM: N. AMERICAN 1927
 THIS MAP COMPLETES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20542
 AND TENNESSEE DIVISION OF GEOLOGY, NASHVILLE, TENN. 37219
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

**189 Barksdale Ave.
 Memphis, TN**



Barksdale Mounted Police Station
Name of Property

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Indicated

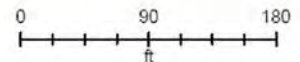
189 Barksdale, Memphis, TN



**MELVIN BURGESS, ASSESSOR
SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE**

DISCLAIMER: THIS MAP IS FOR PROPERTY ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY. IT IS NOT CONCLUSIVE AS TO LOCATION OF PROPERTY OR LEGAL OWNERSHIP AND THEREFORE, SHOULD NOT BE RELIED UPON AS A REPRESENTATION OF ANY PROPERTY FOR ANY PURPOSE.

MAP DATE: February 4, 2019



Aerial Parcel Map with National Register Property Indicated

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Barksdale Mounted Police Station

Shelby, Tennessee

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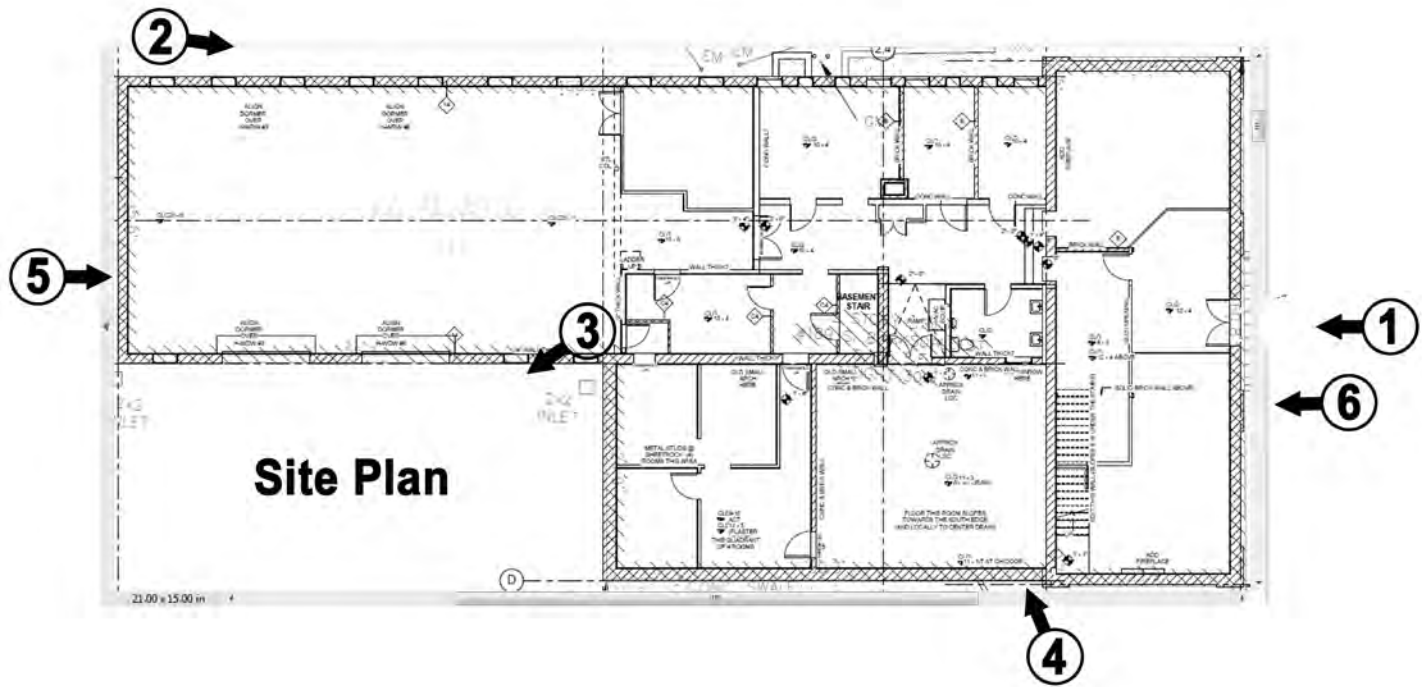
Photo Log

Name of Property: Barksdale Mounted Police Station
City or Vicinity: Memphis
County: Shelby **State:** Tennessee
Photographer: Judith Johnson
Date Photographed: February, 2019
Number of Photographs: 17

- Photo 1. East façade facing Barksdale Street. Photographer facing west.
- Photo 2. North side elevation. Photographer facing southeast.
- Photo 3. South side elevation. Photographer looking southwest from roof.
- Photo 4. South side elevation detail of front section and side addition. Photographer facing north.
- Photo 5. Rear west elevation. Photographer facing east.
- Photo 6. Detail of light fixture on façade.
- Photo 7. Interior view of first floor of front section. Photographer facing northwest.
- Photo 8. Detail of fireplace mantel.
- Photo 9. Interior view of first floor of front section. Photographer facing south.
- Photo 10. Interior view of stairwell looking down from second floor.
- Photo 11. Interior view of second floor of front section. Photographer facing southeast.
- Photo 12. Interior view of second floor of front section. Photographer facing northeast.
- Photo 13. Interior view of former jail cell on ground floor. Photographer facing north.
- Photo 14. Interior view of bathroom on ground floor. Photographer facing south.
- Photo 15. Interior view of south elevation addition. Photographer facing north.
- Photo 16. Interior view of south elevation addition. Photographer facing south.
- Photo 17. Interior view of former stable area. Photographer facing west.

Barksdale Mounted Police Station
Name of Property

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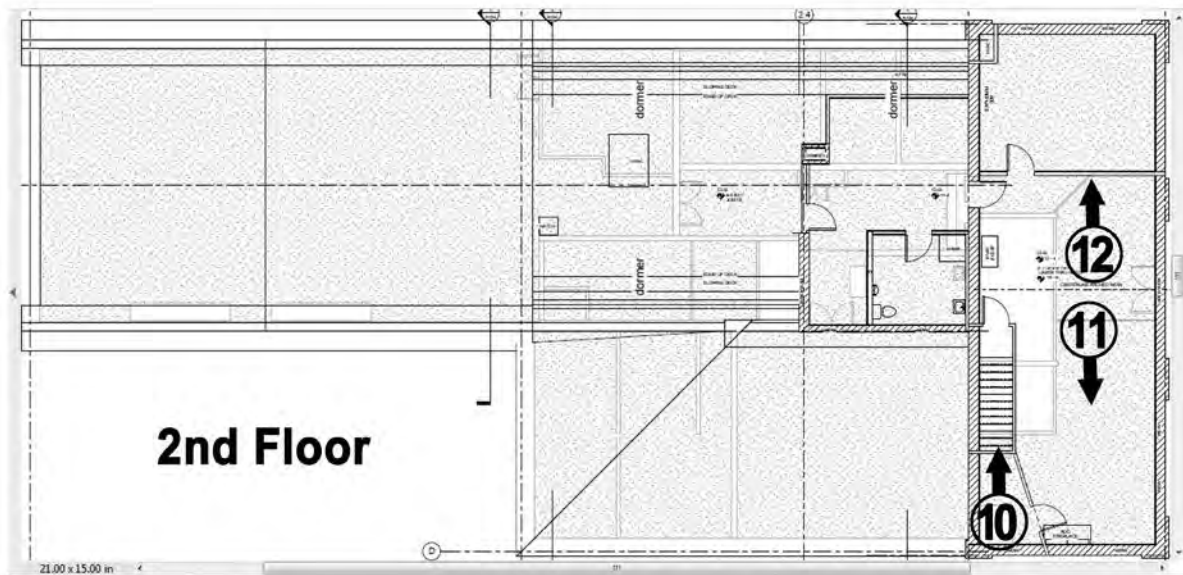
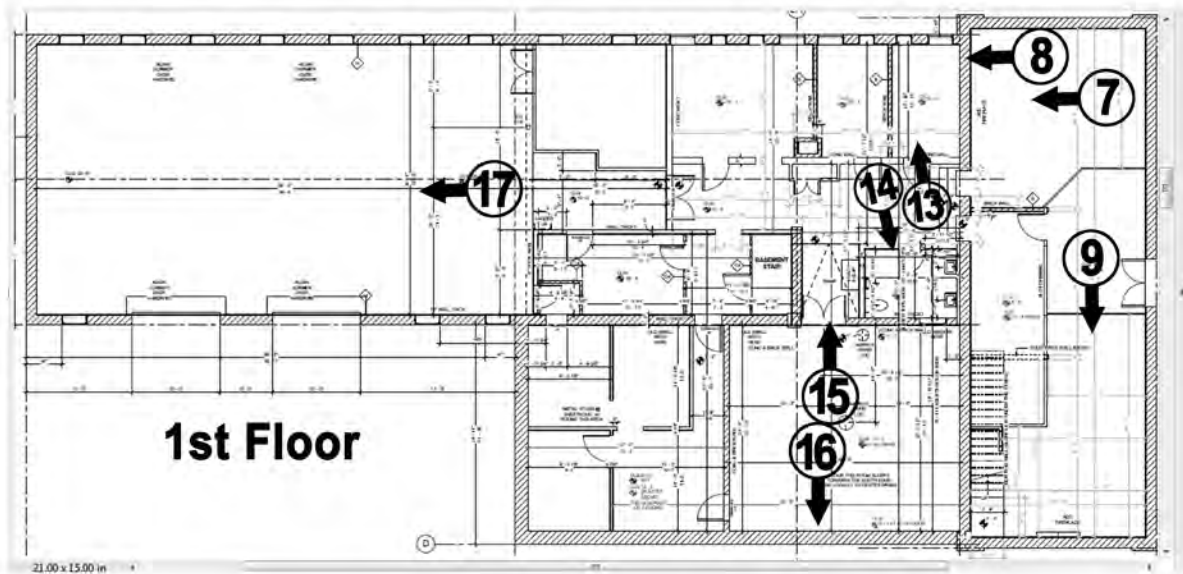


Site Plan with photo locations keyed to plan



Barksdale Mounted Police Station
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First and Second Floor Plans with photo locations keyed to plan



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Shelby, Tennessee
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Image 2. Postcard of the Barksdale Mounted Police Station, ca.1915
Postcard published by S.H Kress & Co., Accessed Jul 21, 2019,
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/51992558@N00/11069279376>

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Image 1. Barksdale Mounted Police Station c. 1930, Memphis and Shelby County Board of Adjustment Collection, Accessed Jul 21, 2019, <https://memphislibrary.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p13039dc/id/528/>

Property Owner:

(This information will not be submitted to the National Park Service, but will remain on file at the Tennessee Historical Commission)

Name Barksdale, LLC (Eric Clauson & John Planchon)

Street &

Number 1437 Central Avenue Ste. 1200

Telephone 901-722-3595

City or Town Memphis

State/Zip TN, 38104



BARNSDALE MOUNTED POLICE STATION

111

111





















EXIT













UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Barksdale Mounted Police Station

Multiple Name: _____

State & County: TENNESSEE, Shelby

Date Received: 10/15/2019 Date of Pending List: 11/12/2019 Date of 16th Day: 11/27/2019 Date of 45th Day: 11/29/2019 Date of Weekly List: _____

Reference number: SG100004695

Nominator: SHPO

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 11/27/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: Directly associated with the expansion of government services in the first quarter of the 20th century as Memphis continued to grow out, away from the river. The building, with its integrated stable, was alter converted to other uses, but is recognizable for its historic use.

Recommendation/ Criteria: Accept / A

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : **Yes**

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
2941 LEBANON PIKE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37214
OFFICE: (615) 532-1550
E-mail: Claudette.Stager@tn.gov
(615) 770-1089



October 7, 2019

Ms. Joy Beasley
Keeper of the National Register
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228
Washington, DC 20240

National Register Nomination

- *Barksdale Mounted Police Station, Shelby County, Tennessee*

Dear Ms. Beasley:

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct nomination for listing of the *Barksdale Mounted Police Station* to the National Register of Historic Places. We received CLG comments in support of the *Barksdale Mounted Police Station* nomination.

If you have any questions or if more information is needed, please contact Holly Barnett at (615) 770-1098 or Holly.M.Barnett@tn.gov.

Sincerely,

Claudette Stager
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

CS:hb
Enclosures(2)