

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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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 Downtown Birmingham Retail & Theatre Historic District
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Inclusive street numbers: see Continuation Sheet #1 not for publication
city, town Birmingham vicinity
state Alabama code AL county Jefferson code 073 zip code 35203

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>56</u>	<u>28</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	<u>8</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>56</u>	<u>36</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 5

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 of certifying official [Signature] Date 3-6-89
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): _____

[Signature] 5/5/89

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Department Stores

Commerce/Business

Commerce/Specialty Stores

Recreation & Culture/Theatres

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Business

Commerce/Specialty Stores

Recreation & Culture/Theatres

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Commercial Style, late 19th-early 20th c.

Chicago

Moderne

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation

walls brick

marble

roof asphalt

other terra cotta

stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Retail & Theatre District is comprised of parts or all of twelve blocks in downtown Birmingham, bounded on the south by Morris Avenue, on the west by steps of 16th, 17th and 18th Streets, on the north by the alley between Third and Fourth Avenues, and on the east by 20th Street. The 1700 block along Second Avenue North has been drawn out because it is now a public surface parking lot-- having once been covered with the same type and vintage of stores and theatres being surveyed for this nomination. This is the major property loss to the area, and it is too large a plot to be within the boundaries and empty.

The boundaries were drawn with an eye to taking in any contributing buildings that were contiguous, visually available, and justifiably part of the life of the district. The building types range from early-century warehouses to Art Moderne department stores, from modest Victorian masonry to Renaissance Revival motifs in terra cotta. There have been major disruptions, mostly in the form of parking facilities either decks or lots; this is a universal disruption of the urban scene in recent decades, and in Birmingham parking was the only spatial intrusion in attempts to modernize, since there was next to no new construction in the area after 1939. (Although it is significant that one contributing property, the National Birmingham Garages, 1928, #23, is an earlier and demonstrably more successful approach to the automobile problem.) Some modernizations have also rendered some buildings non-contributing.

On the east, the district dovetails with the already-listed Downtown Historic District, which includes several buildings (Farley Building, Rialto Theatre) that geographically should logically be part of the present nomination. The Birmingham Historical Society has long recommended the listing of the other buildings on the west side of 20th Street, but this had been held up because of some owner objection in the 1970s. Economic conditions being very different now, it is anticipated that these objections will no longer obtain.

Deterioration, neglect, economic decline, and occasional disruptions notwithstanding, the Retail & Theatre District contains some of the most distinguished and representative buildings and intact blocks in the City. Evidence of the theatrical history of the area is now largely gone with the marquees, the Alabama Theatre (1927, #72) being the single exception. Many of the structures remain, however, notably the 1912 Lyric (#66) and the 1907 Majestic Theatre (#69), and a number of small commercial buildings whose theatrical origins are all but forgotten. But there are blocks unbroken by parking lots and relatively free of radical modern face-lifts, such as the blocks on Second and Third Avenues between 18th and 20th Streets. These retail blocks retain much of the architectural character and uses that they historically had.

See continuation sheet

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Inclusive street numbers of Downtown Birmingham Retail & Theatre District:

1605-1916 First Avenue North

1631-1931 Second Avenue North

1709-1928 Third Avenue North

216-18 North 18th Street

111-219 North 19th Street

112-218 North 20th Street

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PROPERTIES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE RETAIL/THEATRE HISTORIC DISTRICT:

1. **1605 First Avenue North: Warehouse, c. 1913**
Four-story brick structure, parapet roofline with flattened gable; decorative brickwork in darker tones at both sides of facade. Original industrial metal-frame windows. Altered at street level.
2. **1607-09 First Avenue North: Warehouse, c. 1921**
Four-story brick with flat parapet roofline, three bays with metal industrial windows. Altered at street level.
3. **1611-13 First Avenue North: Warehouse, c. 1921**
Four-story brick with flattened-gable parapet roofline; two bays with industrial metal-frame windows. Half of street level obscured by a facing.
4. **1615-17 First Avenue North: Pizitz Warehouse, c. 1921**
Four-story brown brick with flattened-gable parapet roofline and prominent capped piers; three bays with metal-frame industrial windows. At ground level, three garage bays with fine recessed-course brickwork, carried over to one-story extension of the building to the east. Wood cornice with moldings below second-story windows.
5. **1625-27 First Avenue North: Commercial Building, c. 1891**
Two-story brick commercial structure now painted green, parapet roofline with cornice removed. Upstairs windows replaced, altered storefront.

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6. **1626-28 First Avenue North: Commercial Building, c. 1891**
Two-story commercial style brick building; parapet roofline with simple cornice; double-hung sash windows; rosettes on eye-beam; decorative brickwork directly below cornice; minimal storefront alteration.

7. **1631 First Avenue North: Birmingham Grain Warehouse, c. 1907**
Two-story commercial style brick building with double storefront; upper windows recessed under arched lintel. Upper cornice removed; lower wooden cornice above transoms. Unusual nine-over-nine original windows upstairs.

10. **1709 First Avenue North: Commercial Building, c. 1904**
Three-story commercial-style structure now painted buff and green; two storefronts, one heavily altered and one with intact original transom. Dentiled cornice; two bays of three double-hung windows upstairs.

11. **1710 First Avenue North: Doster-Northington Drug Co. Building, 1928**
Five-story commercial brick, completely faced in white terra cotta; stone-capped parapet roofline; ornate decorative panels between strong vertical piers. Five bays of three double-hung windows each, end bays accentuated by more elaborate parapet and heavier piers. Built as headquarters for the Doster-Northington Drug Co., it included an ice system for the laboratories. Its original handsome street-level windows and transoms have been completely covered by masonry panels. Known more recently as the 1710 Building, it is an oddly neglected local example of the commercial style in transition from 1920s elaborateness to suggestions of Art Deco.

12. **1711 First Avenue North: Dixie Cycle Shop, c. 1902**
Three-story brick commercial style in essentially original condition, except for modernized storefront. Parapet roofline with dentiled cornice, continuing that of 1709 to the west. Stone courses mark the floors; original double-hung sash windows with vertical mullions under arched heads.

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17. **1725 First Avenue North: Young & Vann Supply Co.,**
One-story commercial structure with parapet roofline, central entry and original transom, faced in smooth stone with Art Deco carved decoration. Originally a brick facade, it was probably refaced after Young & Vann purchased the property in 1922.
18. **1731 First Avenue North: Young & Vann Supply Co., 1888; 1893**
Built in two major segments for Anheuser-Busch: a three-story retail store and general office block, and a two-story warehouse attached along 18th Street. The style is Romanesque. Warehouse and office building are both constructed of brown brick with brownstone trim. Corners of the warehouse and three areas of the facade are accented with quoined brickwork. Parapet roofline with molded cornice below. Both segments complement each other beautifully. Designed by prominent architects Harry B. and Charles Wheelock. Young & Vann has occupied this site since 1910.
21. **1809-11 First Avenue North: Beck Candy Co., c. 1891**
Unique three-story brick commercial structure; facade is duplicated over what would normally be two storefronts but is actually one large warehouse structure, originally developed by B. F. Roden. The most elaborate brick warehouse with original detailing left in the City. Parapet roofline; corbeled brickwork along both spandrels; west half of the building has been renovated with inappropriate alterations, 1987-88; east half remains original.
22. **1814 First Avenue North: Shook & Fletcher Supply Co., 1880s**
Two-story commercial brick building, originally the Gault House, a saloon and boarding house. Notched parapet with dentiled cornice below. Georgian treatment of facade dates from 1966, adding pediment over door, shutters by upper windows, and small window panes. Home of offices of Shook & Fletcher from 1930s until 1986.
23. **1813-17 First Avenue North: National Birmingham Garages, 1928**
The City's first response to the traffic problem downtown, still in operation. Seven-level commercial structure of concrete with metal-frame industrial windows. The structural bay system gives great emphasis to verticality, but a wide horizontal band between the first and second stories gives emphasis to the street scale. An interesting but not jarring contrast in scale and style to Beck Candy Co. warehouse next door. Architects Warren, Knight & Davis.

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25. **1823 First Avenue North: Mayberry Building/Golbro Distributors, c. 1900**
Four-story commercial brick; parapet roofline; two bays of enframed window wall separated by central pier and with decorative spandrel panels between floors. Double-hung sash windows, altered storefront, glass and aluminum inserted in the original molded frame.
26. **1826 First Avenue North (NW corner, 1st & 19th St N.): Molton-Henley Block, c. 1915**
Two-story commercial retail/office structure of dark brick, stone-capped parapet roofline with dentiled cornice below, all decoration and trim in glazed white terra cotta, including framing of upstairs windows. Built on the site of O'Brien's Opera House out of the same bricks; designed by Harry Wheelock. In disrepair but with most original elements intact.
27. **1829 First Avenue North (SW corner, 1st & 19th St N.): Old Chamber of Commerce/Stallings Building, 1909.**
Six-story stacked vertical block structure of brown brick with terra cotta trim above the top row of flattened-arch windows, topped by a decorative terra cotta cornice. Engaged pilasters surround building on ground level, with more Classical columns on either side of doorway. Original transom; dentiled stringcourse marking second floor; decorative brickwork directly below cornice. Designed by William Leslie Welton; renovated 1985.
28. **1900 First Avenue North (NE corner, 1st & 19th St. N.): Saks Building, c. 1895, rebuilt after fire 1902.**
Three-story commercial style of red brick (now painted), with chamfered corner main entry. Now with a stone-capped parapet roofline with brick panels below, the building originally had a dentiled cornice, a balustrade, and, atop the corner angle, a gabled pediment. Stone courses mark the floors, with decorative insets between windows. Storefront windows are articulated by narrow engaged columns, contrasting with deep transoms. An enduring, handsome building on a prominent corner. Renovated 1984.

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29. **1908 First Avenue North: Withington Drugs, c. 1891.**
Two-story commercial style of brick, with decorative medallions alternating with panels along the spandrel line; parapet roofline with fine bracketed projecting cornice below, stone inlay panel below cornice. Rehabilitated 1988.
31. **1916 First Avenue North: Nearly New Shop, c. 1905.**
Three-story commercial style of glazed brick; parapet roofline with lozenge insets and blind arcade just below. Upper-story windows are double-hung sash in an enframed window wall, with decorative spandrel panels in between stories; ground-floor completely refaced; iron balconies removed.
32. **1631 Second Avenue North: Thomas Jefferson Hotel, 1929**
Nineteen-story hotel of brick, ornamented with molded terra cotta and Renaissance Revival motifs. First two floors cover entire quarter block; the upper portion is set back for its entire height. First and second floors faced entirely in terra cotta, with Classical ornamentation at the entrance and at cornice line. The next thirteen floors are buff-colored brick with terra cotta at the windows and corners. The topmost two floors are treated with Palazzo motifs that incorporate pilasters, supporting arches, and false balconies. Designed by respected local architect D.O. Whilldin; the last major downtown hotel built before the Depression.
33. **1706 Second Avenue North (NE corner, 2nd & 17th St.N.): Phoenix Building, 1926; 1950**
Five-story commercial block of brown brick trimmed in glazed terra cotta with a Gothic flavor in the design. Parapet roofline; sets of three jalousied windows set in bays topped by segmental arches, with terra cotta decoration in the spandrel panels. Originally designed by Harry Wheelock, the building was doubled in 1950 when Southern Bell signed a theretofore unprecedented 25-year lease. An identical addition designed by Charles H. McCauley with the central doorway making a concession to modernism in its finishing and lettering; the new half built on the site of the Jefferson Theatre.

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38. **1801 Second Avenue North: New Ideal Department Store, c. 1902.**
Three-story commercial brick structure, stone-capped parapet roofline with accompanying stone window sills. Small cornice marking second floor. Interesting brickwork in spandrels; stringcourse brickwork above third-story windows. Once the home of Sears, the building was remodeled in 1942 when New Ideal took it over, and the show windows were extended along 18th Street.
42. **1820 Second Avenue North: Adams Department Store/Calder's, 1927**
Five-story commercial brick structure faced in ornamental terra cotta. Heavy dentiled cornice with decorative colored terra cotta design below and along each spandrel. Storefront and interior gutted in fire in early 1980s. Designed by D.O. Whilldin.
43. **1821 Second Avenue North: Pizitz Department Store, 1923; 1926**
Built in two stages, an eight-story department store faced with ivory-colored terra cotta. First floor is of double height to accommodate mezzanine inside. Shop windows topped by a simple cornice; upper windows in trios are divided by simple panel piers; floors are marked by slightly recessed decorative spandrels. Top floor has a Palladian motif around each trio of windows. Designed by prominent local architect Harry B. Wheelock.
44. **1900 Second Avenue North: Peerless Saloon/Hardy Shoes, c. 1889**
Three-story commercial brick, distinguished by elaborate and varied brickwork, prominent pilasters and carefully detailed windows. A distinctive round window in the central bay is the major design element. The scar of a removed cornice and pediment leave a blank horizontal band at the top of the building; fire escape from third to second story still remains on facade. One of Gilreath Construction Co.'s Victorian buildings; remodeled at ground level in the '20s for retail. After 1930s the steeply-gabled pediment and beaded cornices were removed.
48. **1910-14 Second Avenue North: Old Kress Building, c. 1915**
Three-story commercial brick faced with extensively detailed glazed terra cotta and a heavy dentiled cornice of the same material. Original multi-paned transom and storefront now refaced and divided into three storefronts; original three-over-three sash windows remain upstairs.

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49. **1916 Second Avenue North: Peggy Hale/Diana Shop, c. 1891**
Two-story commercial structure of brick, completely refaced in masonite with modernist applied designs of a geometrical nature, an example of modest methods of updating storefronts in retail areas.
51. **1920 Second Avenue North: Old Woolworth's/Mangel's, c. 1891**
Three-story commercial brick faced in purple masonite surrounding a large metal-frame opaque window, forming a modernistic facade and storefront typical of the updated retail facilities of the late '30s and early '40s.
54. **1925 1/2 Second Avenue North: Pete's Famous Hot Dogs, before 1885**
A surviving example of the tiny infill spaces between larger buildings, often representing internal stairways; only five feet wide but surmounted by a substantial molded cornice, like a child in a big hat. Its neon sign, dating from the 1950s, has just been restored (1988).
55. **1928 Second Avenue North: Paramount/Parisian, 1887; 1939**
Three-story commercial structure, constructed of pressed brick and clad with white stone, incorporating simple columns and a geometric motif. Clean lines and simplicity make it a clearly modernistic building. Parisian, the original occupant after remodeling, is still the tenant. Originally the Roden Block; 1939 remodeling by Miller, Martin & Lewis.
56. **1931 Second Avenue North: Dude Saloon/Webb Building, c. 1871; 1915**
Three-story commercial brick with round-arched main entrance at corner. Completely refaced in stone in 1915, but part of the original structure remains underneath. Possibly Birmingham's oldest standing building.

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57. **1709 Third Avenue North: Commercial Building, 1902**
Two-story commercial structure with corbeled brick below parapet; stone course above second-story windows, now boarded up. Storefront filled in under original lintel molding; painted white with blue trim.
58. **1711 Third Avenue North: Sewing Machine Exchange, c. 1900**
Three-story commercial structure of brown brick; stone-capped parapet roofline, cornice removed; stone window sills. Stone course below second-story windows; metal-frame window replacements upstairs, framed by red brick detail. Original transom intact; storefront altered.
60. **1717 Third Avenue North: Braswell Furniture, c. 1891**
Three-story commercial brick with unusual elaborations: heavy cornice with large console brackets; limestone window headers with keystones; brick on facade laid with recessed coursework to resemble stone blocks; stone-capped parapet roofline; altered storefront, refaced with marble.
62. **1721 Third Avenue North: Seals Piano Co./A.A. Bonds Furniture, c. 1891**
Two-story commercial brick almost entirely intact except for being recently (1988) painted blue. Pressed metal cornice with brackets; decorative brick detail between cornice and one row of double-hung windows. Second cornice above storefront; original transom. Altered storefront in original frame. Also once the home of Green & Stein Furniture Company.
63. **1725 Third Avenue North: Commercial Building, c. 1891**
Two-story brick commercial structure, parapet roofline; decorative brickwork above second-story windows; stone window sills; metal transom; side door to upstairs; altered storefront.

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 10**66 & 67. 1800-06 Third Avenue North: Lyric Theatre and Office Building, 1912**

Brick theatre house (66) and adjoining six-story office building (67) with commercial street frontage-- the only such combination extant. The theatre building itself is plain except for a blind arcade at the top of the street facade. Original entrance to lobby located on Third Avenue and 18th Street beneath massive stone arches. Cornice and other detail have been removed from the commercial building, taking away visual interest from the structure. Built by Louis V. Clark for Vaudeville operator Jake Wells, the last surviving vaudeville house in the City. The theatre interior, damaged but not destroyed, is especially significant.

68. 1801-11 Third Avenue North: Goldstein's Furs, 1924

Two-story commercial building of light brown brick; first floor accommodates several storefronts, now extensively altered. Second floor retains its original design, a system of bays between piers containing three and four arcaded windows each, resting on a molded brick stringcourse. Parapet roofline with simple flat cornice resting on corbels. In 1940 a cold storage vault was installed upstairs, when the windows were covered. The structure contributes nicely to the context of the adjacent Alabama Theatre, and may have influenced its design.

69. 1808 Third Avenue North: Majestic Theatre/Haverty's Furniture, c. 1907

Three-story commercial brick structure with parapet roofline and small cornice over blind arcade. Original double-hung sash windows have been replaced by steel-frame bands, giving the building a squattier look. Decorative brickwork on spandrel separating windows; storefront altered; metal canopy. Originally the Majestic Theatre, it has long been a furniture store.

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70. **1812 Third Avenue North: Roberts & Son, c. 1897**
Four-story commercial brick building, the facade now painted white. It is constructed as a three-part facade, with a storefront (now radically altered), two stories with six flat-arched windows divided into two bays in a brick frame, and a top story of arcaded windows with simple capitals, beneath an overhanging cornice supported by modillion brackets. Spandrels are delineated by rectangular brick panels. A particularly fine example of late Victorian Commercial style.
71. **1816-18 Third Avenue North: Graves Building, c. 1912**
Four-story commercial building constructed of brick from Captain Graves' local brickyard. Stone-capped stepped parapet roofline; a panel of terra cotta inlays, sand and green in color, below the parapet, with continued detail dropping vertically between the fourth-floor windows; unglazed terra cotta panels in spandrels. Projecting piers separate trios of metal jalousied windows, creating four bays. Original cornice with knobbed brackets removed. Designed by prominent local architect Harry B. Wheelock, this is a substantial example of the early 20th-century commercial style.
72. **1817 Third Avenue North: Alabama Theatre, 1927**
Flamboyant movie palace of Moorish decoration, L-shaped and with its entrance on Third Avenue beneath a three-story recessed and arched window wall flanked by twisted terra cotta columns, surmounted by a fanciful pediment. The buff brick facade walls have lozenged patterning; spandrels between window rows are faced with elaborate terra cotta panels. The interior is equally if not more significant. \Architects Larson, Graven & Myer, Chicago. Individually listed on the National Register, 1979.
74. **SW corner, 19th St. & 3rd Ave. N.: Loveman, Joseph & Loeb, 1935**
A. Four-story Art Deco department store faced in white limestone; vertical emphasis in window bays, attenuated rectilinear iron ornament, massive caps at parapet over piers at entrances. Chamfered corner with clock, once a favorite meeting place in the City. Windows now painted over, a ruined masterpiece. \Architects D. & W. Lehman, Newark; Miller, Martin & Lewis.
B. Four-story commercial building added to Loveman's storefront in 1962. Entire structure listed on National Register, 1983.

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76. **1900 Third Avenue North: New Kress Building, 1937**
Five-story modernist department store faced in Alabama marble, a replica (except in height) of the 5th Avenue store in New York; architect Edward F. Sibbert. Smooth surface, rounded corner angle, horizontal emphasis of trios of metal-frame windows resting on continuous sills; specifically modernist style of sign and lettering. Individually listed on the National Register 1982.
78. **1911 Third Avenue North: New Williams, c. 1906; 1917; 1946**
Four-story brick commercial building with two bays of double-hung windows and a double storefront. Original structure mostly destroyed by fire; remodeled 1917 by Miller & Martin. Crenellated parapet; simple double cornice, the upper one bracketed; terra cotta panel ornament above upper windows; iron fire escape gives the appearance of balconies. A 5th Avenue-style 1946 storefront alteration is completely wrong for this building but provides the only extant example of this downtown.
79. **1914 Third Avenue North: Crittenden Building/Burger-Phillips, 1924**
Six-story commercial building faced with buff brick in geometric patterns and decorative spandrel panels; a central bay five windows across under a raised parapet; two flanking bays of two windows, all of which are metal-frame with jalousies. Originally designed by Harry Wheelock for Oster Brothers Furniture Co., it was occupied in 1933 by Burger-Phillips and the storefront remodeled by Taylor, Thompson & Smulski of Atlanta in association with Miller, Martin & Lewis. Individually listed on the National Register 1981.
85. **1924 Third Avenue North: Allen-Kessler Building, c. 1890; 1911**
An early four-story brick commercial building, badly damaged by fire in 1911 and refaced at that time with vibrant multi-patterned brickwork. Parapet roofline with simple projecting cornice; three levels of double-hung windows with rectangular terra cotta insets flanking the top row. Modernized '40s-style curved show window in storefront.

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86. **1928 Third Avenue North: Hood-Yeilding's/Blach's, c. 1890; 1935-36**
A. Four-story brick commercial department store, completely refaced with stucco and painted white. Parapet roofline; double-hung windows set among prominent piers. Remodeling done in 1935-36 by Warren, Knight & Davis made the building appear more modernistic, presaging the real thing when Kress appeared at the other end of the block in 1937.
- B. Three-story commercial building to the north of A., finished to be part of the Blach's property.
87. **216 North 18th Street: National Cafe, c. 1900**
Two-story brick commercial structure with stone-capped parapet roofline and bracketed metal cornice below. One frame of four double-hung windows; second cornice above transom line; storefront altered.
88. **218 North 18th Street: National Cafe, c. 1905**
Three-story commercial brick building with parapet roofline; decorative honeycomb brickwork appears above second- and third-story windows in rectangular patterns; double-hung windows; storefront altered.
89. **111 North 19th Street: Ideal Building, 1928**
Six-story commercial building with stone block on the ground level, faced with glazed white terra cotta in delicate ornamental patterns; top-floor window arcade, surmounted by blind arcade and simple cornice. Architect D.O. Whilidin. Individually listed on the National Register 1985.
90. **200 North 19th Street: Louis Saks Clothing Co./Newberry's, 1916**
Five-story commercial brick designed after the Chicago department stores, with chamfered corner main entrance and faced with buff-colored molded terra cotta. First four floors delineated by vertical piers treated as pilasters between recessed tripartite and quadripartite windows. Variants on the window patterns at fifth-floor level, separated from below by a belt course and surmounted by a simple cornice. Only remodeling has been the application of broad facing strips of blue metal, obscuring the transom. Underneath this, a particularly handsome structure. Architect John Miller of Miller, Martin & Lewis.

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92. **215 North 19th Street: Taylor Building/Three Sisters, 1890**
Three-story commercial structure of blue-painted brick, extensively decorated with terra cotta motifs. Parapet roofline with projecting cornice; triangular pediment located in center as basic design element-- one of a few surviving in the City. Top story has row of five arcaded windows, decorated above and below in foliate terra cotta. Engaged columns flank central window and appear to support the pediment, giving a slight Neoclassical flavor. Altered storefront; transom and second-story windows now covered by sign panel. An early building by Gilreath Construction Co.
93. **219 North 19th Street: Woolworth's, 1939**
Three-story commercial brick in the modernist Art Deco style, faced with beige terra cotta with a wide sign band above the transom and a chamfered corner entry. Windows are metal-frame in vertical pairs, separated by a decorative panel. Attenuated geometric markings are the sole treatment of the facing.
94. **112 North 20th Street: Birmingham Trust Old Main Office, 1922**
Neoclassical three-story banking house clad in shadow-white Alabama marble; center-bay vertical emphasis contrasts with horizontal repetition of marble pilasters; high central-arch entrance breaks the regularity. Foreshortened attic windows above dentiled cornice. Banking floor all marble under a skylight, surrounded by mezzanine. Architects Miller, Martin & Lewis.
95. **120 North 20th Street: Colorado Loan Co./Bon Ton Hatters, 1910**
Three-story commercial structure of brick with handsome Beaux Arts treatment; parapet roofline with brick finials; two floors of five double-hung windows in a framed window wall, divided by spandrel panels and resting on the storefront cornice. Projecting cornice on cartouches below parapet. Storefront now faced with permastone below its cornice. Possibly designed by William Weston.

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96. **212 North 20th Street: Iron Age Building, 1888**
Three-story brick commercial structure in the Victorian Italianate style, with its original cast iron front intact except at storefront level. Facade is divided into three window bays articulated by stacked one-story pilasters and columns. Windows are large double-hung sashes with overlights. Sill beneath third floor is treated as a light cornice with dentils and frieze; parapet roofline with heavy modillion cornice supported by console brackets. One of two cast-iron facades left in the City, now being restored (1988).
97. **214-18 North 20th Street: Bromberg Galleries, c. 1905**
Three-story commercial structure of brown brick; storefronts altered and transoms obscured, but above the building is intact. Double-hung windows (of unusual variable widths) with stone facings and decorative keystones on second story; continuous stone sill below third-story windows; projecting dentiled metal cornice with console brackets that also serve as downspouts. This uniform facade is actually two structures, one with two storefronts and one with one.

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PROPERTIES THAT DO NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE DOWNTOWN RETAIL/THEATRE DISTRICT:

8. 1700 First Avenue North: **Firestone, c. 1975**
Single-story brick auto service station and incorporated parking lot.
9. 1701 First Avenue North: **parking lot**
13. 1720 First Avenue North: **Commercial building**
Two-story commercial structure, facade refaced on upper level with sheet metal; storefront refaced in stone material; modern windows with dark-tinted glass, also in storefront.
14. 1715 First Avenue North: **parking lot**
15. 1722 First Avenue North: **parking lot**
16. 1723 First Avenue North: **Commercial building**
Four-story brick commercial building, entire facade rebricked with metal facing over windows on top two stories.
19. 1800 First Avenue North: **Pizitz parking deck**
20. 1801 First Avenue North: **parking lot**
24. 1818 First Avenue North: **Sokol Brothers Furniture Co.**
Three-story commercial brick building originally dating from 1910; facade now refaced on upper floors with maroon-painted brick; modern storefront.
30. 1914 First Avenue North: **parking lot**

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 17

- 34 & 35. 1716 Second Avenue North: Jefferson Home Furniture Co.**
Four-story brick commercial structure (34) faced in brown stucco with white brick panel in the center; brown tile along transom line. Also at this address is a three-story brick commercial building (35) with all original features either painted over or removed; transom covered.
- 36. 1720 Second Avenue North: parking lot**
- 37. 1800 Second Avenue North: Loveman's parking deck**
- 39. 1809 Second Avenue North: New Ideal Annex**
Three-story commercial structure completely refaced in masonite; metal along transom; altered storefront.
- 40. 1817 Second Avenue North: Pizitz Annex**
Three-story commercial structure, completely refaced and featureless.
- 41. 1818 Second Avenue North: Loveman's Annex**
Five-story brick commercial structure dating from c. 1898, originally a furniture store with an enframed window wall; now completely refaced with metal bands in spandrels and metal-frame windows.
- 45. 1902 Second Avenue North: Jack's Bargain Store**
Two-story brick commercial structure dating from c. 1890, once home of a theatre, then Grayson's Ice Cream Parlor. Now faced in sand-colored masonite; two original windows peep through the second-story facing.
- 46. 1908 Second Avenue North: Young's**
Three-story commercial brick structure, originally with stone-capped parapet and transomed casement windows, the home of Silver's 5 & 10. Facade now completely refaced in whitish masonite with vertical yellow strips.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 18

47. **SE corner, 2nd Avenue & 19th St. N.: SouthTrust parking lot**
Originally the site of the Terry Building, Rosenberger's Birmingham Trunk Factory.
50. **1918 Second Avenue North: Barrett Shoes (vacant)**
Two-story commercial structure (c. 1891) now completely refaced in masonite; altered storefront.
52. **1924 Second Avenue North: Caheen Bros./Parisian Annex**
Three-story commercial structure, c. 1891, originally Caheen Brothers store; refaced 1951 in stone with brown tile on storefront, altered windows.
53. **1925 Second Avenue North: SouthTrust Addition and Parking Deck**
Seven-story commercial banking house with adjacent parking deck; concrete with metal-frame windows; metal-frame ground level with tinted glass.
59. **1713-15 Third Avenue North: Delta Finance Co.**
One-story brick commercial structure, refaced entirely with corrugated metal and fake Carrara glass.
61. **1719 Third Avenue North:**

One-story brick commercial structure, entirely refaced with gray tiles; plaster storefront with wood framing, garishly painted.
64. **1727 Third Avenue North: London Jewelers**
Two-story commercial brick structure, c. 1891, now completely refaced in buff brick; windows replaced and cornice removed.

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 19

65. **SW corner, 3rd Avenue & 18th St. N.: Commercial Building**
Two-story brick commercial structure, originally with a corbeled brick cornice; entire commercial block now covered with stucco on second floor; storefronts in various stages of alteration, although with some original materials inside. Remodeled 1988.
73. **1824-26 Third Avenue North: Jay Holt/Happy Rents**
Two-story commercial structure of brick, top story faced in masonite block; two industrial-style rectangular windows in one casement with marble between them; storefront altered.
75. **1830 Third Avenue North: parking lot**
77. **1908-10 Third Avenue North: The Atrium**
Modern structure (1983) infill between Kress and Burger-Phillips; dark-tinted glass with steel frame; black metal sheeting along roof-line. Serves as atrium to modern office building behind, connected to the historic buildings on either side.
80. **1917 Third Avenue North: Odum, Bowers and White**
A three-story commercial building c. 1905, originally home of S.S. Kress; completely refaced in white stone by Odum, Bowers and White for a complete modernization. Storefront now radically altered. Although the '30s face material is still intact above ground level, the nature of later alterations (e.g., replacement of windows) leaves the building without character.
81. **1918 Third Avenue North: Jobe-Rose**
A complete refacing of a once-elegant Victorian building c. 1891. Originally a two-story brick commercial structure, now covered in sheet material with tile on the storefront.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 20

82. **1919 Third Avenue North: Weil Furs**
Four-story commercial brick structure refaced with a masonite panel in which are set two modern windows with glass block between, incorporated in one frame. Second and third stories covered by metal screen. A modernization of a modernization.
83. **1920 Third Avenue North: Steiner Bank**
Two-story brick commercial building from c. 1900, refaced 1963; top story covered by patterned white marble; very altered storefront.
84. **1921 Third Avenue North: Jeans Glory**
Four-story commercial brick structure, facade now covered in pink stucco; three modern windows in single frame of rectangular shape run vertically down the center of the facade; altered storefront.
91. **211 North 19th Street: Top Dollar Store**
Two-story commercial brick building from c. 1893, now completely refaced in masonite, including upper windows. Refaced once before with limestone, it was a former home of Silver's 5 & 10.

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)

Commerce

Entertainment/Recreation

Architecture

Period of Significance

1880-1941

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Various

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

Historical Background:

The history of Birmingham's growth and development has been written for the nominations of three other National Register Historic Districts in the downtown area; the present nomination represents the last segment of the old downtown and includes some of the most historically and architecturally significant properties remaining in the City. In order to make clear the distinction among the Districts and the significance of the Retail & Theatre District, a summary of the City's history and the emergence of the other Districts would seem to be the best method.

The railroad began the City and the smelting of iron ore sustained it. The 1880s saw the growth of goods and services to serve the railroad and the mines and mills, and to serve the population that came to operate them. The oldest section of the City is Morris Avenue, parallel to the railroad reservation, lined with wholesalers, mill and mine suppliers, livestock and blacksmiths, feed and grain suppliers, and general warehousing. This was our first historic district. In 1984 it was expanded to include First Avenue North, which represents a second generation of the same businesses interspersed with company offices and small wholesale and retail establishments, not to mention the ubiquitous saloons and boarding houses.

By the turn of the century Birmingham was making steel with locally-produced materials, and a period of boom years began. The Downtown Birmingham Historic District encompasses much of the physical production of this period; this ranges from late Victorian and early 20th-century mercantile buildings to major Chicago-style skyscrapers of great elegance and ornamentation. The great period of skyscraper-building was 1904-1913, when the mining and manufacturing companies such as Woodward Iron and Tennessee Coal & Iron, and financial institutions such as Jefferson County Savings Bank and the First National Bank, built their headquarters on prominent corners in what was becoming the Financial District. The Historic District known as "The Heaviest Corner on Earth"-- named with typical Birmingham self-congratulation-- is composed of four corner skyscrapers that maintain an architectural cityscape of a type long since destroyed in many other cities.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Downtown Historic Inventory of the Birmingham Historical Society, 1974
Downtown Birmingham: Architectural & Walking Tour Guide, Marjorie White, Birmingham Historical Society, 1980
Birmingham City Directories and other files from the Archives and Tutwiler Collection, Birmingham Public Library, especially the Phillips Atlas in the Archives

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register (5 buildings)
- 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:

Birmingham Historical Society

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property ⁺ 39 acres

UTM References

A 16 517900 3708400
Zone Easting Northing

B 16 518010 3708180
Zone Easting Northing

C 16 517940 3708000

D 16 517590 3707780

E. 16 517640 3708250

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See area boundary outlined on accompanying Tax Map

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

This District includes the last major area of unlisted historic building production in the downtown. It is contiguous and continuous with the Downtown Birmingham and Fourth Avenue North Historic Districts on the east and north respectively. The railroad is the natural southern boundary. The western boundary extends until the district historically and visually breaks.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

Steven M. Kay, Reviewer, Alabama Historical Commission

name/title Linda Nelson, Historic Preservationist; Melissa McAnnally, Research Assistant

organization Operation New Birmingham date November 16, 1988

street & number 2025 Third Avenue North telephone (205) 324-8797

city or town Birmingham state Alabama zip code 35203

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Statement of Significance, continued:

Other areas of the Downtown Birmingham Historic District encompass buildings of various uses, such as dry goods and furniture stores of increasing decorative elaboration; places of public accommodation and entertainment with fanciful ornamentation in terra cotta; and blocks of modest commercial establishments distinguished by some individual detail in their brickwork, window treatments, or cornices.

After the First World War the City got down to business again, and the 1920s were another period of great building energy; this began to slow down by 1928, however, and the history of many buildings is plagued with the difficulties of the coming Depression. But the '20s, while they flourished, saw the erection of many buildings of great originality and elaborate, even flamboyant, decoration, almost all of which major ones survive. Many of these are in the Downtown Historic District, most notably the Massey Building (1925) and the Club Florentine (1927).

The third Historic District in the City is the Fourth Avenue North Historic District, which is significant as the discrete area of black commercial activity and social life before desegregation came in the 1960s. This district, besides typical mercantile and commercial structures, contains some distinguished buildings of other uses, such as the Masonic Temple and the 1941 Carver Theatre.

Except for the westward extension of the Fourth Avenue North Historic District, 20th Street North marks the western boundary of the current historic area downtown. There are several related reasons for this. Twentieth Street was always the primary street for commercial development, from the L & N Station at the railroad to Capitol Park on the north. It became the focus of the great buildings of the corporate and financial institutions, and is still so to some extent. When the Terminal Station was built at 25th Street in 1907, the major hotels tended to follow the Fifth Avenue North route to and from it; this created more real estate activity on the east side of 20th Street. And now, in the times from the 1960s when great urban changes were taking place here as everywhere, the eastern segment of downtown managed to retain more of its activity than did the section to the west of 20th Street, which depended so heavily on retail and nighttime entertainment.

CRITERION A: Commerce/Trade

The area to the west of 20th Street has had a distinctive life of its own, and it retains the architectural (and some of the commercial) inheritance of this history. At one time, First Avenue North was the primary line of development, and it became the site of various uses: the earlier warehouse and wholesale uses, mill supplies and distributorships (one must remember the beer business, now disappeared, that clustered around this area), retail, and, closer to the 19th and 20th Street intersections, office and professional uses.

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

CRITERION A: Commerce/Trade (continued):

Nineteenth Street became the artery of the major retailers, while Second and Third Avenues between 18th and 19th Streets developed as a shopping and theatre district that was once called "Birmingham's Broadway." The smaller stores and specialty shops were distributed among the large department stores and theatres, changing locations as their fortunes waxed and waned. Struggling through the '30s and influenced by modernist designs, most of the storefronts were altered at least minimally, and several of them, most notably New Williams (Inv. #78), made an attempt to have a Fifth Avenue storefront imposed on a Victorian facade. The cumulative effect today of these modulations is interesting if not elegant, reflecting a commercial climate characterized by spurts of boom and bust and the City's sporadic success in attaining a "modern" atmosphere imposed on a deeply traditional economic and stylistic base.

This area in its period of significance was a dense amalgam of commercial activity, the streets busy all day with shoppers and at night with theatre-goers and entertainment-seekers. It was the largest and busiest retail district in the State. The area had such vitality, in fact, that the only significant building construction in the City during the Depression was at the corner of 19th Street and Third Avenue North, where S.S. Kress and Woolworth's built Art Moderne structures on two corners in defiance of conditions, and the local Loveman, Joseph & Loeb built an Art Deco palace to replace their burnt-down earlier store in 1935.

CRITERION A: Entertainment

Today it is hard to envision the variety and vitality of the theatres in downtown Birmingham during the years of this District's significance. There were theatres of every description and every degree of artistry. First came the legitimate playhouses such as O'Brien's Opera House (demolished 1915) and the Jefferson Theatre (demolished 1947), the latter host to the big road shows that often came to Birmingham. Then there were the Vaudeville houses: in Vaudeville's heyday Birmingham was on the main circuit and saw most of the big stars of the time, including Sophie Tucker and the Marx Brothers in their early years. Movies became increasingly popular after about 1915, and by the 1920s the big Vaudeville houses were showing movies too, for example the Pantages Theatre on 3rd Avenue and 17th Street (now demolished) and the Ritz on Second Avenue between 17th and 18th Streets across the street from the Jefferson. The Ritz survived to become the home of the Cinerama films of the 1950s and '60s; it was demolished with its entire block for a surface parking lot in the early 1980s. It is this empty block that has been drawn out of the present nominated District.

Old photographs from these decades show the streetscapes crowded with huge marquees, giant billboards advertising the shows, and moving lights on every fanciful

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3

CRITERION A: Entertainment, continued:

architectural detail. Not only were there large first-run movie houses like the Alabama and the Strand (the latter now demolished), but there were many smaller second- and third-run theatres lining the streets. All of this is gone now, except for the revived splendors of the Alabama Theatre. The Lyric, last of the Vaudeville houses, lies quietly mouldering within its plain walls. Many other theatres have been demolished or their facades radically reworked. However, several buildings originally theatres still are in commercial use, their marquees, signs and ticket booths replaced by modernized storefronts and more sedate signs. Of these the Majestic, long Haverty's Furniture (Inv. #69), and the Rialto (actually part of the existing Downtown Birmingham Historic District), now a clothing store, constitute the primary examples.

The symbol of the curtailment of the City's western expansion is the Thomas Jefferson Hotel (1929; Inv. #32). It is the only major hotel built in the anticipated path of western growth, and the Depression kept it from reaching its potential, as it did the potential of the entire district beyond the shopping and theatre streets. Birmingham was not to come alive again until the early 1960s.

CRITERION C: Architecture

The architecture of this Retail & Theatre District is representative of the styles and workmanship of six decades of local commercial building. It is distinguished for its inclusiveness and its examples of fine quality. Despite some serious losses, the district is a microcosm of American late 19th- and early 20th-century commercial building style, ranging from the Victorian Romanesque and Italianate through plain and fancy early-century Classicism, Chicago-style commercial blocks, and flamboyant applications of terra cotta, to the department store modernism of the 1930s. Finally, there is a hint of the 1940s Fifth Avenue modernist decor in a few of the storefronts.

This District's historic architecture is what is left of a period in Birmingham's development when the downtown was the magnet and the home for a bustling, varied, quintessentially urban way of life. There is growing appreciation today for the variety and quality of these buildings, and it is appropriate that they be added to the other historic areas of the City's downtown to make complete the recognition and maintenance of Birmingham's considerable architectural heritage.

The E $\frac{1}{2}$ of Lot 15, all of Lot 16, and Lot 17, except the east 39.33 feet, all in Block 97, according to the present plan and map of the City as laid off by the Elyton Land Company, the said real estate together forming a rectangle fronting 86.33 feet on the north side of First Avenue North between 17th and 18th Streets, and extending back of that uniform width 140 feet to an alley; and also part of the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of Lot 15 in said Block 97, described as follows: BEGIN at a point on the north line of First Avenue, 175.07 feet east of the east line of 17th Street; thence northerly along the center line dividing the east and west halves of said lot 15 to a point on the south line of a 20-foot alley running east and west through said block to a point which is 175.035 feet east of the east line of 17th Street; thence westerly along the southerly line of said alley .92 of a foot; thence southerly and in a straight line to a point on the northerly line of First Avenue, which point is .80 of a foot west of the point of beginning; thence easterly along the northerly line of First Avenue .80 of a foot to the point of beginning, it being the intention hereby to convey a strip of land .80 of a foot on the north side of First Avenue and .92 of a foot on the south side of said alley; being a strip of land now covered by that part of the brick wall lying west of the division line between the east and west halves of said Lot 15 in said Block 97, according to the present plan and survey of said City as made by the Elyton Land Company, and which survey is unavailable for recording.

United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number photo-
graphs Page 1

Information in items 2-5 is the same for all photographs listed.

1. 1st Ave. N. & 19th St. Intersection
Downtown Birmingham Retail & Theatre Historic District
2. Birmingham, Alabama, Jefferson County
3. Linda Nelson
4. July 1988
5. Operation New Birmingham
6. aerial view, camera facing SSE
7. Photo #1

1. Lyric Theatre 1801-06 3rd Ave.
Majestic Theatre 1808 3rd Ave.
Roberts & Son 1812 3rd Ave.
Graves Building 1816-18 3rd Ave.
Downtown Birmingham Retail & Theatre Historic District
6. Streetscape, camera facing East
7. Photo #2

1. Alabama Theatre
Goldstein Furs 1801-11 18th St.
Lyric Theatre 1801-06 18th St.
Downtown Birmingham Retail & Theatre Historic District
6. Streetscape, camera facing SSW
7. Photo #3

1. Young & Vann Supply Co.
1721 1st Ave. N.
Downtown Birmingham Retail & Theatre Historic District
6. 1731 1st Ave. N, camera facing East
7. Photo #4

1. Young & Vann Warehouse
Downtown Birmingham Retail & Theatre Historic District
6. 18th Street
camera facing East
7. Photo #5

1. 1709 1st Ave. North
Downtown Birmingham Retail & Theatre Historic District
6. camera facing NW, detail of storefront
7. Photo #6

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Downtown Birmingham Retail and Theatre Historic District
Jefferson County ALABAMA 89000315

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION APPROVED

Entered in the
National Register

Greg M. Fapstey 3/3/95

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service


NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page Downtown Birmingham Retail & Theatre Historic District
name of property
Jefferson County, Alabama
county and State

Correction of Physical Description for Inventory #74B (see enclosed continuation sheet)

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets, does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally, statewide, X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

 2/9/95
Signature of certifying official/Title 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 for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 21

Downtown Birmingham Retail & Theatre Historic District
name of property
Jefferson County, Alabama
county and State

The physical description for Inventory #74B (which appears on page 7.11) is corrected to read as follows:

- 74B. Seven-story commercial building with a reinforced concrete structural system. It was built as an annex in 1916 for the Loveman, Joseph and Loeb's department store that dated from 1890. A fire in 1934 destroyed the latter building and severely damaged the annex. The present Art Deco department store and this rehabilitated annex opened for business on March 20, 1935. Entire structure listed on National Register, 1983.

FEB 22 1995

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

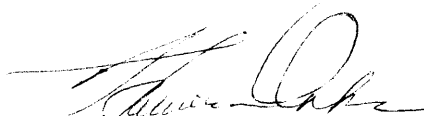
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section	<u>Map</u>	Page	<u>1</u>	<u>Downtown Birmingham Retail & Theatre Historic District</u>
				name of property
				<u>Jefferson County, Alabama</u>
				county and state

Calder's Building (Inventory #42) is a contributing element in the Downtown Birmingham Retail and Theatre District. It is listed as Contributing in Section 7 (p. 7) but mistakenly marked as Noncontributing on the district sketch map. See enclosed revised map.

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets, ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally, ___ statewide, X locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

	<u>2/9/95</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title	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 for additional comments.)

_____ Signature of certifying official/Title	_____ Date
---	---------------

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

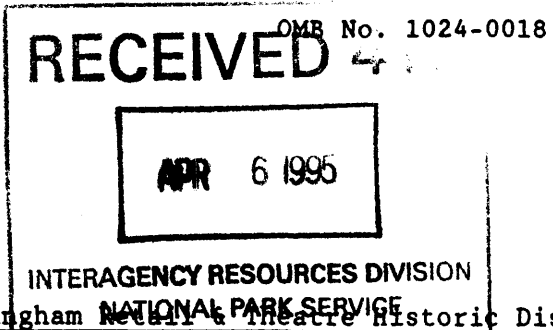
**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

Downtown Birmingham Retail and Theatre Historic District
Jefferson County ALABAMA 89000315

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION APPROVED

Gregory M. Lapley 5/5/95



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Map Page 1

Downtown Birmingham Retail & Theatre Historic District
name of property
Jefferson County, Alabama
county and State

The district sketch map is being revised to show Weil Furs, 1919 Third Avenue North (Inventory #82) as a Contributing resource in the Downtown Birmingham Retail & Theatre Historic District. Please see enclosed revised map.

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets, ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally, ___ statewide, X locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)



Signature of certifying official/Title

3/31/95

Date

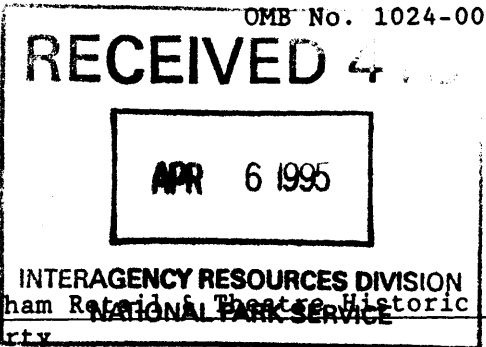
Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets, ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 5 & 7 Page N/A

Downtown Birmingham Retail and Theatre Historic District
name of property
Jefferson County, Alabama
county and state

- 5) The count for the Downtown Birmingham Retail and Theatre Historic District is being revised. Now the district consists of 57 Contributing resources and 35 Noncontributing resources. The sketch map will be corrected to reflect this change.
- 7) Weil Furs at 1919 Third Avenue, North (Inventory #82) is now considered to be a Contributing resource in the historic district. In 1989 when the nomination for the Downtown Birmingham Retail and Theatre Historic District was submitted, this building's front facade was partially clad in a metal screen. This screen has been removed, revealing the building's 1940s facade. Therefore, Weil Furs contributes to the integrity of the historic district in terms of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Please see the enclosed continuation sheet for a revised physical description of Weil Furs, 1919 Third Avenue North.

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets, ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally, ___ statewide, X locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)



Signature of certifying official/Title

3/31/95

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 for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 21 Downtown Birmingham Retail & Theatre Historic District
name of property
Jefferson County, Alabama
county and State

The physical description for Inventory 82 (which appears on page 7.20) is corrected to read as follows:

82. Weil Furs 1919 Third Avenue North Contributing
This is a four story, brick, commercial building that dates from the early 1920s. In the 1940s, its front facade was modernized by being refaced with stone and carrara glass. This was recently revealed when a c. 1960 metal screen was removed from the building. A large, marquee type sign that was also installed in the 1940s is still extant. The storefront consists of a centrally located, recessed entrance flanked by large, glass display areas. Above the storefront are two centrally located glass block panels, each flanked by steel frame windows. The front facade is also clad in carrara glass and stone. The rear elevation has window openings with segmental, brick arches. It is not known if the windows themselves are original.

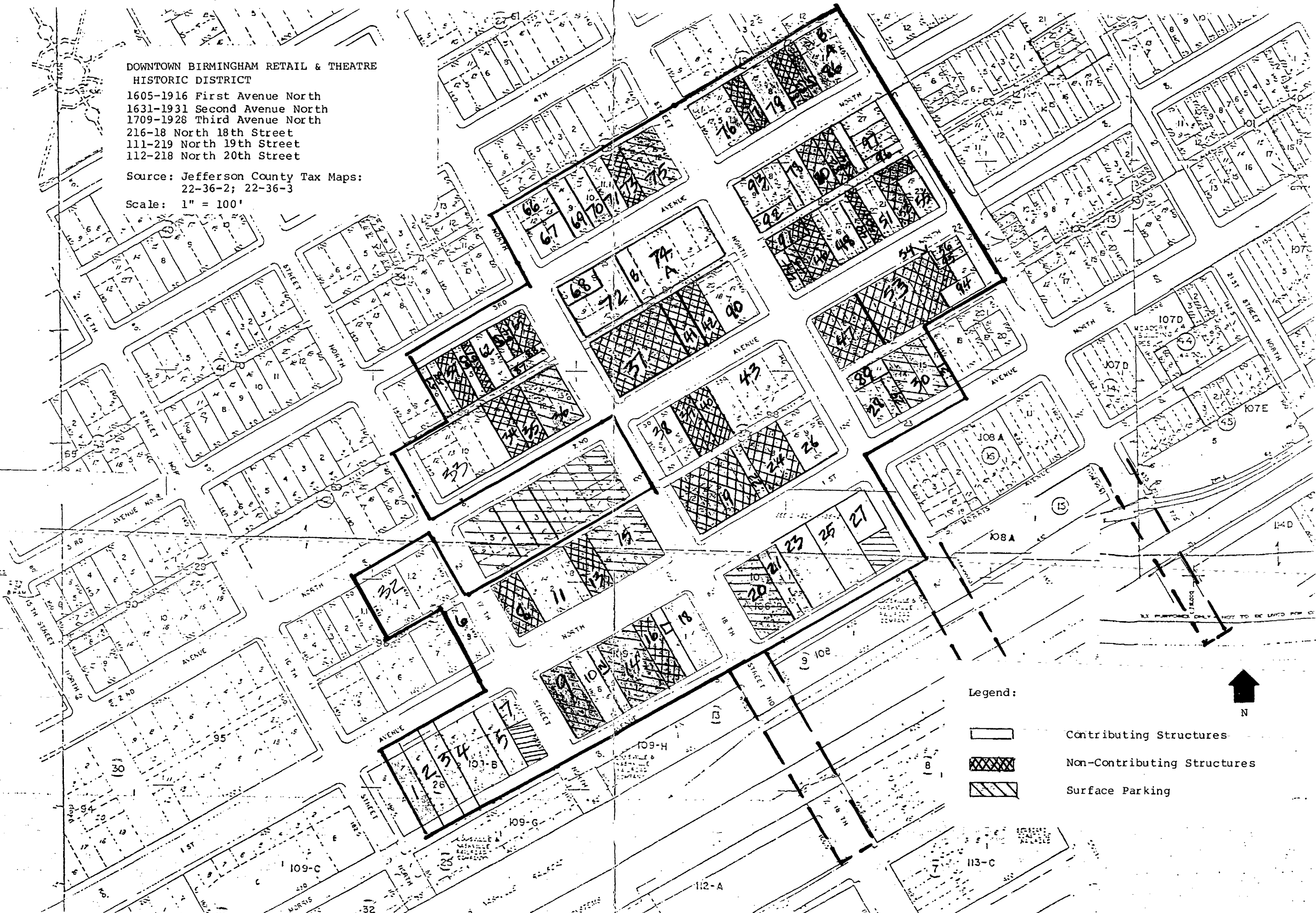
The interior floor plan is largely still intact. The original brass and steel handrail and marble stairs rise from the first floor up to the mezzanine and the second floor. Other extant, original elements include the mahogany veneer finish on the walls, a centered, three way mirror and a cold storage area.

DOWNTOWN BIRMINGHAM RETAIL & THEATRE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

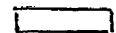


1605-1916 First Avenue North
1631-1931 Second Avenue North
1709-1928 Third Avenue North
216-18 North 18th Street
111-219 North 19th Street
112-218 North 20th Street

Source: Jefferson County Tax Maps:
22-36-2; 22-36-3

Scale: 1" = 100'



Legend:

-  Contributing Structures
-  Non-Contributing Structures
-  Surface Parking

