

1554

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Fire Station #3 other names/site number

2. Location

street & number 2210 Highland Avenue city, town Birmingham state Alabama code AL county Jefferson code 073 zip code 35205

3. Classification

Table with 3 columns: Ownership of Property, Category of Property, and Number of Resources within Property. Includes checkboxes for private/public ownership and building/site/structure/object categories.

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic Fire Stations of Birmingham, Alabama, 1906-1929 Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register NA

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 Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office) Date 9-13-90

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. Signature of commenting or other official Date

5. 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 Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Government/Fire Station

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Government/Fire Station

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Beaux Arts

foundation Brick

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other Stone-Limestone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Fire Station #3 is a two-story, red brick, rectangular-shaped building with a low pitched hip roof. The building was designed in c.1927 in the Beaux Arts style by prominent local architects, Warren, Knight, and Davis. The main facade of the building is divided into four bays with the single entrance door in the left bay and three garage door openings occupying the remaining bays. The pronounced arched doorway is surrounded by a highly decorative pedimented portico. The original door is intact; above it is a bracketed, balconied window. The three garage door openings are surrounded by massive sculptured trim. Above each garage opening is a set of three windows with massive stone lentils and bracketed window box sills. A massive stone cartouche adorns the east side, as well as a gate-like brick wall decorated with stone scroll.

The rear of the building is a simple commercial style constructed of staggering heights. It is reflective of the basic utilitarian public building.

INTERIOR:

The interior has plaster walls and ceiling, wood floors in the residential area, brick tile flooring in the garage.

INTEGRITY:

Fire Station #3 remains virtually intact both on its exterior as well as the interior. The only alteration to the building has occurred in the second floor interior. In c. 1960 the second floor ceiling was dropped with acoustical tiles, and a modern kitchen and bathroom were installed. The building still functions as a neighborhood fire house.

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)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Community Development/Planning

c. 1927

c. 1927

Architecture

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Significant Person

NA

Architect/Builder

Warren, Knight, Davis, and Company

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

CRITERION C: ARCHITECTURE

Built in 1927, Fire Station #3 is the only example of a Beaux Arts-influenced fire station in Birmingham, and is one of the most highly ornate remaining. As the work of architects Warren, Knight, and Davis, its Beaux Arts style is a fine example of the quality architecture that came to define the upper middle-class neighborhood it was built to serve and continues to serve. It is architecturally one of the most reflective of the social economics of the neighborhood, in this case the affluent Highland Suburbs. Typical of other suburban stations of the 1920s, Fire House #3 bespeaks the quiet suburban ambience that sought to shield its urban utilitarian usage from its public. In addition, to its usage as a fire house, it served as its Captain's and his family's residence, this double-usage being typical of historic fire stations. Its location giving easy access to a major transportation artery is also typical.

CRITERION A: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

Fire Station #3 is also significant as an excellent example of community development of the Five Points South and Highland Avenue neighborhoods. The fire station was situated prominently along its most southern edge, and Fire Station #22 was built along the northern edge.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 1/8 acre

UTM References

A

1	6
---	---

5	1	9	4	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	7	0	6	7	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

D

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

South 1/2 Lots 11-14 Block 753, Birmingham
See boundary outline on accompanying map.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire city lot that has historically been associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Pamela Sterne King/Historical Preservationist; Steven Kay/AHC Reviewer
organization Five Points South Apartment Improvement Program date May 22, 1990
street & number 1407 - 16th Avenue South telephone 205 939-0470
city or town Birmingham state Alabama zip code 35205

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 1

Atkins, Leah. Valley in the Hills.

Birmingham City Directories.

Birmingham Fire Department Annual Report.

Birmingham Fire Department Scrap Books 1916-1917. City of Birmingham Public Library Archives.

Birmingham Post Herald.

Brownell, Blaine. The Urban Ethos in the South. 1920-1920. Louisiana State University Press. 1975.

Burkhardt, Ann. Town Within a City: The Five Points South Neighborhood. 1880-1932. Birmingham Historical Society. 1982.

Fogelson, Richard E. Planning the Capitalist City. Princeton University Press. 1986.

Interview with Captain Vildeville, Birmingham Fire Department. January 1990.

Larsen, Lawrence H. The Rise of the Urban South. University Press of Kentucky. 1985.

Manning, Warren H. The City Plan of Birmingham. Published by Subscription. Birmingham, AL. 1919

Satterfield, Carolyn. Historic Sites of Jefferson County. Jefferson County Historical Commission. 1979.

Southside-Highlands Report. Birmingham Historical Society. 1981.

The Birmingham Age-Herald.

The Birmingham News.

White, Marjorie Longenecker. The Birmingham District: An Industrial History and Guide. Birmingham Historical Society. 1981.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Fire Station #3

Section number ~~photos~~ Page 1

1. Fire Station #3
Birmingham, Alabama
Pamela King
3/90
Birmingham-P. King
View of facade facing NE.
#1.
2. Fire Station #3
Birmingham, Alabama
Pamela King
3/90
Birmingham - P. King
View of front detail facing NE.
#2.
3. Fire Station #3
Birmingham, Alabama
Pamela King
3/90
Birmingham - P. King
View of 1st floor garage area, fire pole facing NW.
#3
4. Fire Station #3
Birmingham, Alabama
Pamela King
3/90
Birmingham - P. King
View of 2nd floor residential area, fire poles facing NW.
#4.

Fire Station #3
2210 Highland Avenue
Birmingham, Alabama

Scale: 1" = 200'
Source: City of Birmingham
Dept. of Engineering
Planimetric Map

