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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL
REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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 1908 Clovis City Hall and Fire Station
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 308 Pile St. N/A not for publication
city, town Clovis N/A vicinity
state New Mexico code NM county Curry code NM 009 zip code 88101

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	_____ objects
			<u>0</u> Total

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

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Ann W. Hill Site Historic Preservation Officer 5-28-87
Signature of certifying official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

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

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Carol O'Sullivan 7-16-87
 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 of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Government- City Hall and Fire Station

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Commerce/Trade- Business

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & early 20th Century
American Movements: Commercial
Style

foundation Other: Unknown
walls Brick
roof Asphaltic Built-Up Roofing
other Concrete Sills

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The first Clovis City Hall and Fire Station is a rectangular but asymmetrically composed, two-story, flat-roofed building located one block east of the city's main commercial street. Its facade is primarily of red brick with accents of blonde brick. The modest detailing expresses the utilitarian character of its use. Many of the building's windows have been boarded up and the apparatus room doors have been changed to wood storefront windows with transoms, however the alterations do not destroy the building's architectural integrity because all of the original openings are recognizable and the building's mass is unaltered (see continuation sheets).

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

1908 Clovis City Hall and Fire Station- Description Continuation

Section number 7 Page 1

The 1908 Clovis City Hall and Fire Station is a two-story, rectangular plan, flat-roofed Brick Commercial Style building. The east-facing main facade sits mid-block on a secondary artery of the city's central business district; the siting is utilitarian rather than ceremonial as is common with many public buildings. The building is bounded by alleys at the rear and one side, and it shares a first floor common wall at the remaining side.

The facades of the building are of red brick in running bonds contrasted by a two-course blonde brick parapet cap and blonde brick segmental arch doors and windows. The unadorned first floor facade is punctuated by asymmetrically located windows and doors for humans and horse drawn fire vehicles. The second floor facade is divided into four bays of different widths by five brick pilasters. These bays are inset from the first floor facade by several inches and each is punctured by windows. The southern bay has tandem one-over-one double hung wood windows with concrete slip sills; the other bays have single one-over-one double hung wood windows. Each bay is capped with horizontal brick corbelling interrupted by the pilasters which project two courses above the straight parapet. All of the restrained detailing is executed in brick.

The building's facade remains intact except for minor alterations. The one-over-one double hung windows were boarded up in the last ten years, but exist intact behind the boards. The largest modification occurred in the early 1930's when the wood vehicle doors were replaced with a brick kick panel topped with wood-framed storefront glazing and transoms to change the carriage rooms to offices. This modification was handled with sensitivity to the character of the building. Portions of the brick have been painted.

The north two-thirds of the first floor was originally used as the apparatus room of the fire station. The south one-fourth was used as office area. The remaining area between is occupied by an off center stair case to the second floor. The upper floor housed offices.

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)

Politics/Government
Architecture

Period of Significance

1908-1929

Significant Dates

1908

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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

The City of Clovis City Hall and Fire Station is significant as the first governmental building built in Clovis. Built in 1908, it housed the governmental and fire protection functions for a booming community which did not exist prior to 1906, but which was to eclipse the other communities in the area to become the largest community and the county seat by 1910. The building was built to serve and protect the booming community which had been devastated by fire in 1908. Its fire-proof construction is evidence of the change from frame to masonry construction which occurred in Clovis as a result of this fire. Its utilitarian and unadorned use of the Brick Commercial Style expresses a functional response to the need for municipal services and an adaptation of an imported architectural style to a place that had no prior architectural tradition (see continuation sheet).

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Clovis City Directory. High Plains Historical Society. 1932, 1936, 1938, 1941.

McAlavay, Don, and Harold Kilmer. Curry County, New Mexico. Dallas: Taylor Publishing Co., 1978.

McAlavay, Don. High Plains History of East-Central New Mexico. n.c.: High Plains Historical Press, 1980.

Sanborn Map Company. Sanborn Insurance Maps of Clovis, New Mexico. 1909, 1912, 1919, 1929, 1951, 1962.

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 # _____

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 Under one acre.

UTM References

A 13 665110 3807890
 Zone Easting Northing

C _____

B _____
 Zone Easting Northing

D _____

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

City of Clovis, N.M. Original Townsite Block 50 Lot 22

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 Gregory T. Hicks, President

organization Gregory T. Hicks and Associates, P.C. date February 25, 1987

street & number 112 Second St. S.W. telephone (505) 243-7492

city or town Albuquerque state New Mexico zip code 87102

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

1908 Clovis City Hall and Fire Station- Significance Continuation

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Founded in 1906 and designated a divisional headquarters of the Santa Fe Railroad, Clovis grew rapidly to a population of 3,255 by 1910. It's growth was based on railroad jobs and it's position as a commercial center for a rich ranching and farming industry. As a result of it's designation as the eastern division point for the Belen Cut-Off, Riley's Switch, a railroad switching station with a few frame buildings and a handful of people, boomed becoming a tent city and then a settlement of frame structures. In 1908 a fire devastated the city and it was rebuilt with masonry to prevent a reoccurrence. It was incorporated as a town in 1908 and within a year it was declared a city. Within another year after a bitter battle with the older surrounding communities, it was named as the seat of the newly created Curry County. This rapid development engendered the city with the nicknames, "The Magic City of the Plains" and "The Gateway to New Mexico".

In 1908 with a booming population in need of municipal services and fire protection, the first City Hall and Fire Station was constructed. The building was located one block from Main Street on a secondary street to avoid wasting valuable commercial property on a non-commercial use. It was situated mid-block rather than at a corner which was more valuable commercially. Although this was the first governmental building in the city, it was seen as secondary in importance to commercial ventures, a necessity rather than a priority.

The building served as the Clovis City Hall and Fire Station until 1929 when a larger and grander facility was erected at a different and more prominent site. This building was sold to private interests and served several different commercial uses. In 1929 it was used for auto repair, in the 1930's and 1940's it was used as a hotel. Within the last ten years it was a boot shop and now it is used for offices.

The 1908 City Hall and Fire Station is significant as the first governmental building in Clovis. It represents a response to the need for municipal services by a growing population. Architecturally, its modest detailing and siting clearly shows its place in the evolution of the city as a necessity in a booming community driven by commercial interests. Its imported Decorative Brick Commercial styling shows the influence of the railroad on a community with no architectural legacy. As a structure, its fire-proof brick masonry construction is evidence of the change in building materials due to the 1908 fire which devastated the city. The construction of a fire station further enlightens us to the concern Clovisites had about the potential for another fire at that time.