

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 21 1977
DATE ENTERED	JAN 9 1978

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
James Geddes Engine Company No. 6
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
629 Second Avenue South

CITY, TOWN
Nashville

STATE
Tennessee

VICINITY OF
Fifth

COUNTY
Davidson

CODE
47

CODE
37

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: vacant

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mr. and Mrs. Don Shaw
STREET & NUMBER
27 Washington Park

CITY, TOWN
Nashville

VICINITY OF

STATE
Tennessee

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Register's Office
STREET & NUMBER
Davidson County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN
Nashville

STATE
Tennessee

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Historical and Architectural Survey

DATE
January 1977

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Tennessee Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN
Nashville

STATE
Tennessee

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The James Geddes Engine Company No. 6 is a two-story, rectangular, red brick building, trimmed with stone, metal, and terra-cotta. Architectural decoration is concentrated on the Second Avenue facade. The rear and side walls are brick, pierced by simple windows and topped by modest decorative brickwork.

At the center of the Second Avenue facade are large wooden doors which swung outward to permit entry and exit of fire equipment. The doors are set under a stone arch carved with the name of the fire hall. Above the arch are three windows which project from the plane of the wall. The projecting section rises to a Dutch gable and is supported by stone consoles. Decorative terra-cotta panels are set between the three large windows and three smaller windows which pierce the gable.

At the left side of the facade, a square projection with a pyramidal roof and a door at its base serves as a vestibule for the pedestrian entrance. On the right side of the facade is a circular tower which has lost its fire bell and conical roof. It retains, however, the pole which the firemen slid down when answering an alarm. The decorative bands at various levels of the facade are stone while the cornice and the trim atop the Dutch gable are both of pressed metal.

The interior of the building is simple and functional. The ground floor is a single large room which housed the fire equipment. The second floor is divided into three rooms a large dormitory and two smaller rooms. Woodwork and finish is of a simple variety typical of utilitarian buildings of the period. After some years of neglect the fire hall has recently been sold. Its new owners are planning a careful exterior cleaning and conversion of the interior into a residence.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1884-85

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The James Geddes Engine Company No. 6 is the only fire hall which remains of the several built in Nashville during the latter half of the nineteenth century and the last built to house horse-drawn fire equipment. Its exuberant Victorian facade is one of the few remaining examples of the architecturally distinctive Rutledge Hill neighborhood of the late 1800s. The Rutledge Hill area of South Nashville was once an area of elaborate residences and was the home of several significant educational institutions, including the forerunners of Vanderbilt University and George Peabody College.

James Geddes, for whom the fire hall was named, came to the United States from Scotland in 1851 after receiving a degree in civil engineering. He was hired by the infant Louisville and Nashville Railroad in 1851 as a leveler. He rose through the ranks, holding a number of increasingly important positions as the railroad grew. In 1901 he was honored as the first L & N employee to serve for fifty years and was promoted to the position of assistant to the general manager which he held until his death in 1914.

The fire hall's significance lies in its association with James Geddes, a railroad pioneer and prominent Nashvillian, in its architectural merit, and in its being one of a few survivors of Victorian Rutledge Hill and Nashville's sole surviving Victorian fire hall.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Graham, Eleanor (ed.), Nashville: A Short History and Selected Buildings, Nashville, 1974.
- "James Geddes--First Fifty-year Man," The Louisville and Nashville Employees Magazine, March 1931, pp. 8-9.
- Waller, William (ed.), Nashville in the 1890s. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, 1970.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 1/4
 UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>1,6</u>	<u>5,2,0</u>	<u>6,3,0</u>	<u>4,0</u>	<u>0,0</u>	<u>8,9,0</u>	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				
C							D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property nominated is a rectangular lot 60' x 150', bounded on the northeast by Second Avenue, South (60' side).

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David H. Paine

ORGANIZATION

Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson Co. Historical Comm.

DATE

March 1977

STREET & NUMBER

215 Stahlman Building

TELEPHONE

(615) 259-5027

CITY OR TOWN

Nashville

STATE

Tennessee

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Herbert L. Hays

TITLE

Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

7/18/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Wm. Stuetgen

DATE

1.9.78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Chick Adams

DATE

1.6.78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER