

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JUL 30 1986
date entered 8-28-86

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Bottega Favorita

and or common

2. Location

street & number 2240-2244 Highland Avenue NA not for publication

city, town Birmingham NA vicinity of congressional district 6

state Alabama code 01 county Jefferson code 073

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	NA	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Temple Tutwiler, III

street & number 305 20th Street North

city, town Birmingham NA vicinity of state Alabama

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Jefferson County Courthouse

street & number 716 21st Street North

city, town Birmingham state Alabama

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Southside-Highlands Survey X
title Alabama Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no
 1981 X
date 1970-present federal state county local

depository for survey records Birmingham Historical Society
Alabama Historical Commission

city, town Birmingham
Montgomery **state** Alabama

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Bottega Favorita is a two-story ashlar, Italian Renaissance Revival, commercial structure situated on a landscaped lot on the slope of Red Mountain along the eastern edge of one of Birmingham's early 20th-century, prestigious residential neighborhoods. The overall structural form, massing and building materials reflect historic associations with the Italian Renaissance, but the architectural detailing is typical of the popular 1920s trend toward the precision streamlined appearance of the modern machine age.

Noteworthy architectural features are the Mediterranean tiled, hipped roof with a small, center pediment, low-relief corner quoining, the metal framed second floor windows, the arcaded first floor wooden framed windows and entries across the symmetrical facade, a narrow nonacademic entablature between the first and second floors and the one-story, flat roofed portico over the central entry supported by ashlar Corinthian columns. At the back of the original building is a c 1930s one-story brick addition spanning the width of the entire rear facade.

The interior is an unusual combination of both commercial (first floor) and residential (second floor) space. The shop on the left side of the first floor of the building is the best preserved, early 20th century, commercial interior still existing in Birmingham. It features solid mahogany glass bow-front display cases and mahogany partitioned dressing rooms (formerly used by original women's dress shop customers). An original mezzanine is still in place at the back of the shop. The interior of the shop on the right side of the first floor has been heavily altered but does retain all of its original wooden framed entry and display windows across the front. The second floor is a private apartment with access by way of the center front double leaf door. An original staircase in the center hall just inside these doors leads to the apartment above. Also intact in the front hall is a small original open elevator with perforated metal sides.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1926 **Builder/Architect** Warren, Knight and Davis

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Criterion C, Architecture:

The Bottega Favorita (1926) is an excellent example of that early 20th century academic phase of the Italian Renaissance Revival style that incorporates historic architectural style and form with modern streamlined detail. It is a very rare commercial example in Alabama of this particular version of the Italian Renaissance Revival. Also unusual is that the building functions as both a commercial and a residential property. Designed by Warren, Knight and Davis, one of Birmingham's most prestigious architectural firms, the Bottega Favorita represents one example of some of their best work. Also significant is one exceptionally fine space on the building's interior which represents Birmingham's best remaining, high fashion, commercial interior design from the period.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Birmingham Historical Society, Southside-Highlands Report: Architectural and Historical Resources, 1981.

Burkhardt, Ann M. "Town Within a City: The Five Points South Neighborhood 1880-1930," Journal of the Birmingham Historical Society, November, 1982.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Birmingham North

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	6	5	1	9	5	0	0	3	7	0	6	6	6	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

NE 100 ft Lot 2 Blk 749. Lot size 100' x 100'.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state NA code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tom Dolan, Architectural Historian

organization Alabama Historical Commission

date 5/86

street & number 725 Monroe Street

telephone 205 261-3184

city or town Montgomery

state Alabama

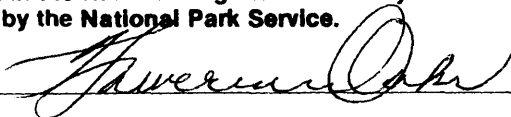
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

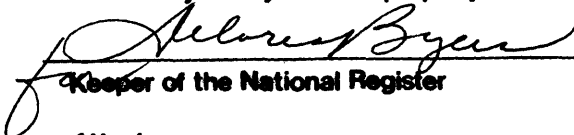


title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 7/23/86

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register



date

8/28/86

Keeper of the National Register

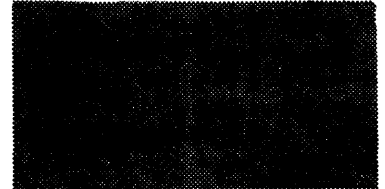
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 1

Historical Summary:

The Bottega Favorita Building was financed by wealthy coal and iron broker, Herbert Tutwiler in 1926. Mr. Tutwiler commissioned Birmingham's most prestigious architectural firm, Warren, Knight and Davis, to design the sophisticated Italian Renaissance Revival building situated between the then fashionable Highland Plaza apartments and the Baptist Hospital (now demolished).

The first floor was designed for commercial use with a woman's dress shop, Gus Mayer Co., Ltd., and Charlotte Black Florists as the first tenants. The second floor was originally used for nurse's dormitories by the neighboring Baptist Hospital. At a later date, the second floor was converted into a private apartment. The building today continues to function as both a residential and commercial structure.