

647

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

1. Name of Property

historic name Southside Historic District

other names/site number Lakeview, Seventh Avenue South, Bear Mash

2. Location

street & number 2800 University Blvd; parts of 4th - 7th Ave. So. and 22nd - 32nd St. So not for publication N/A
city or town Birmingham vicinity N/A
state Alabama code AL county Jefferson code 073 zip code 35233

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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] Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Signature of certifying official

5/24/05
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 commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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] Signature of the Keeper
Edson H. Beall Date of Action
7/6/05

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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5. Classification

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Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply.)	Category of Property (Check only one box.)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>90</u>	<u>28</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-state	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>90</u>	<u>28</u> Total

Number of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
3

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6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Commerce/Trade</u>	Sub: <u>Specialty Store</u>
<u>Religion</u>	<u>Religious Facility</u>
<u>Education</u>	<u>School</u>
<u>Domestic</u>	<u>Single Dwelling</u>
	<u>Multiple Dwelling</u>
<u>Industry/Processing/Extraction</u>	<u>Industrial Storage</u>
<u>Health Care</u>	<u>Medical business/office</u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Commerce/Trade</u>	Sub: <u>Specialty Store</u>
<u>Education</u>	<u>School</u>
<u>Religion</u>	<u>Church</u>
<u>Domestic</u>	<u>Multiple Dwelling</u>
<u>Industry/Processing/Extraction</u>	<u>Industrial Storage</u>

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian: Queen Anne
Gothic
Renaissance Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK
roof APHALT
walls BRICK
STUCCO
WOOD: weatherboard
Other STONE: limestone

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition on continuation sheet/s.)

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8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

- Architecture
- Commerce
- Social History

Period of Significance c. 1890s - 1954

Significant Dates N/A

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder McCauley, Charles H.; Miller, Martin, & Lewis; Rayfield, Wallace A.; Wheelock, Charles and Harry; Stewart, Robert (contractor); Day and Sachs, contractors; Banks, M.C., contractor; Webb, Del E. Construction Co.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS) N/A

- 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
- Name of repository
Birmingham Public Library

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property 100

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	518760	3707700	4	16	520120 3708260
2	16	519540	3708460	5	16	519810 3707740
3	16	520000	3708260	6	16	518870 3707520

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Pamela Sterne King, Historic Preservationist & Christy Anderson (AHC Reviewer)

organization Operation New Birmingham date 6-6-04

street & number 505 20th Street North telephone 205-324-8797

city or town Birmingham state Alabama zip code 35203

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Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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Property Owner

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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Multiple

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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Section 2 Page 1

Name of Property: Southside Historic District
County and State: Jefferson County, Alabama

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Addresses

University Boulevard (Clairmont Avenue)
2800

4th Avenue South
2720, 2721, 2725, No # (Inv. # 5), 2801

5th Avenue South
2309, 2327, 2410, 2420, No # (Corner 24th St. Street), No # (Inv. # 11), 2425, 2721, 2800, 2801, 2809, 2821, 2824, 2923

6th Avenue South
2215, No # (Inv. # 20), 2206, 2222, 2233, 2300, 2301, 2315, 2317, 2330, 2401, 2428, 2501, 2515, 2516, 2609, 2800 – 2800 ½, 2801, 2803 - 05, 2817, 2820, No # (Corner 29th St. Street), 2900, 2912, 2920, 2928, 3000, 3015, 3022, 3017-25, 3027, 3200

7th Avenue South
2208, 2300, 2302, 2316-18, 2320, 2330, 2400, 2408, 2415, 2423-31, 2424, 2500, 2501, 2503, 2505-07, 2509, 2627-29, 2630, 2701, 2705, 2717, 2800, 2801-07, 2808, 2811, 2826, 2830, 2916, 2930, 3028, 3100, 3117

22nd Street South
517, No # (Inventory # 80), 610-612, 617

23rd Street South
521, No # (Inventory # 84), 608, 615

24th Street South
600/614, No # (Inventory # 87),

25th Street South
417, 600, 617

27th Place South
700

27th Street South
600, 604, 616, 620

28th Street South
700 – 710 1/2, 416

29th Street South
409-415, 616, 620, 704, 712, 714, 720-728, 725, 731, 732, 744,

30th Street South
611

32nd Street South
518, 521-523, 528-530, 606

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Section 7 Page 2

Name of Property: Southside Historic District
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Section 7, Architectural Classification (cont):

Late 19th And 20th Century Revivals:

- Beaux Arts
- Colonial Revival
- Classical Revival
- Tudor Revival
- Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival
- Bungalow/Craftsman
- Moderne
- International Style
- Art Deco

Late 19th and 20th Century American Movements:
Modern Movement:

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Southside Historic District is located just south of Birmingham's primary financial districts and the Automotive Historic District, and north of some of its most important residential and commercial neighborhoods including Five Points South, Highland Avenue, and Forest Park. The District includes 121 resources, 93 of which are contributing and 28 of which are non-contributing. Three contributing resources are previously listed on the National Register of Historic Places: Lakeview School, a Classical Revival style building constructed in 1901 and enlarged with side wings in 1909 (Inv. # 1), the 1927 Tudor Revival style Exclusive Furniture Store (Inv. # 109), and the 1927 Manchester Terrace (Inv. # 112). One resource remains from c. 1890 and is one of six extant contributing houses (Inv. # 113). Four buildings were constructed from 1901 – 1909 including Lakeview School, the 1902-1904 Third Presbyterian Church (Inv. # 89), the 1902 Huston Cracker Co. (Inv. # 105), and the Harris Transfer Company, which was built in 1907-08, and more than doubled in 1916 (Inv. # 88). There are also four from c. 1910 including two houses (Inv. #s 101, 115) and two free standing commercial or combination store/residence (Inv. # 37, 99). Seven commercial buildings were built c. 1920-1925 (Inv. #s 20, 24, 48, 56, 72, 76, 78), and three were constructed during the 1930s (Inv. # 53, 66. The remaining commercial buildings were built from c. 1926-1930, and c. 1940s-1954.

The District is flat and includes sidewalks throughout. The western boundary is 22nd Street North, the eastern edge is 32nd Street, the southern boundary is University Boulevard (also known as Clairmont Avenue), and the northern boundary is 4th Avenue South. In the eastern portion, between 27th and 32nd Streets, whites built houses beginning c. 1890s (Inv. # 113), and by the late 1920s, they had built a number of residences, Lakeview School and several stores. To whites, this neighborhood was known as Lakeview. Immediately adjacent to these homes, stores, and a school, blacks built several churches including one designed by Wallace A. Rayfield (Inv. #s 85, 117, 118 – designed by Rayfield). According to one history of Birmingham's black community, African Americans referred to this same area – as well as other black communities in Southside -- as Bear Mash ("The Other Side"). Extant resources in Bear Mash include the three 1920s churches, one residence on 27th Street, (Inv. # 101), one residence on 4th Avenue (Inv. # 3), and one c. 1928 black owned café (Inv. # 4). It also includes three Italian grocery stores built to serve African American customers including one on 4th Avenue (Inv. # 6) built c. 1928, one built c. 1926 several blocks west (Inv. # 95), and one on 6th Avenue (Inv. # 37) built c. 1910.

In addition to the Lakeview or Bear Mash neighborhoods, Southside's commercial district developed mainly after 1926 when the City introduced zoning to city planning and completely zoned the area for commercial and light industrial use. From then until 1954, the District dramatically transformed from a predominantly residential neighborhood into an important localized commercial neighborhood. As the same time, it began to thrive as a regional commercial, automobile, and light industrial center. Beginning in c. 1926, one and two story commercial blocks and free standing commercial buildings were built to

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house a variety of neighborhood stores, groceries, garages, cafes, and a pharmacy. Many concentrated along 7th Avenue (Inv. # 57, 61, 64, 66, 72, 75, 76, 78, 79, 80) from 22nd Street down to 29th Street in Lakeview, on what had become the District's spine. Similar buildings were built along adjacent streets including garages (Inv. # 5, 22, 45, 86, 90, 92, 94), one or two story free standing buildings (Inv. # 4, 24, 41, 42), one story commercial blocks (Inv. #s 38, 39, 48, 121), and an outstanding mixed use resource with a one story commercial portion on the street side and a two story apartment building on the rear (Inv. # 112). Biviano's Grocery, one of the District's three Italian groceries (Inv. # 95), was also built in 1926 on 25th Street. Nearby on 4th Avenue, an African American owned café was built c. 1928 (Inv. # 4), as was Schilleci's Italian grocery (Inv. # 6).

In the 1930s, only one additional commercial block was built (Inv. # 67). One gas station was constructed, moreover, in the eastern part of 6th Avenue (Inv. # 53), as well Mrs. Sarah Newman's Grocery, the only female-owned business in the District (Inv. # 42). During the 1940s, additional one story commercial blocks were built for markets, cafes, or laundries (Inv. #s 68, 69, 70), along with two additional freestanding buildings (Inv. # 9, 72, 84). One two bay garage was also constructed (Inv. # 93), and three free standing small restaurants or drive-ins were built c 1949 in Lakeview (Inv. #s 75, 79, 80). Additional one story commercial blocks or freestanding buildings were built for markets and stores from 1950-1954 (Inv. #s 27, 59, 83, 121) as well as the c. 1950 Barber's Creamery on 7th Avenue (Inv. # 61). A single bay garage was built on 23rd Street c. 1954 (Inv. # 90), and an additional diner was constructed c. 1950 in Lakeview (Inv. # 108).

While Southside thrived as a localized commercial neighborhood, it also became a hub for individual and business customers around the region who came to buy automobiles or automotive products, furniture, home decorating goods, industrial or construction products, or crackers. In c. 1902, the American Bakeries Company (Inv. # 105) built its first Cracker Division covering a full city block where it was the largest structure in the District. Five years later, however, the Harris Transfer Company built a large four story warehouse at the corner of 6th Avenue South and 22nd Street, and in 1916, it built a massive five story addition (Inv. # 88). By the late 1920s, several other big companies built in the District including a bottling company (Inv. # 7), Cleveland Manufacturing Company (Inv. # 8), and the Domestic Laundry and Warehouse (Inv. #s 11, 12, 13) on 5th Avenue. On fashionable 7th Avenue, the Colby Decorating Company (Inv. # 60), and the Exclusive Furniture store (Inv. # 109 - NRHP) both built large architect-designed buildings. No large-scale buildings were built in the 1930s, but during the 1940s and early 1950s, many additional automobile showrooms or companies, and industrial supply businesses were built. Included were the Bonds Brothers Supply Company (Inv. # 10), Automatic Sprinkler Corporation of America (Inv. # 17), Hinkle Supply Company (Inv. # 19), Brannon Motor Electric Company (Inv. # 50), Land Tile and Marble Co. (Inv. # 51), and several large automobile showrooms (Inv. # 23, 31, 34, 55, and 62, Steel City Oldsmobile). In addition, the Richardson Construction Co. built a substantial building on the eastern edge of 29th Street in Lakeview (Inv. # 84), and the Mac Wates Fuel Company built its Colonial Revival style office building on 5th Avenue (Inv. # 18).

Between 1947-1949, two African American churches, and a large African American school, were rebuilt or refaced where previous like buildings had stood. Several houses were also constructed in the vicinity for African Americans. Included are the 4th Avenue Baptist Church on 4th Avenue (Inv. #2) and New Liberty Baptist Church, now East End Baptist Church, on 6th Avenue (Inv. # 36), which also held Civil Rights organizational meetings during the late 1950s-1960s. Less than one block south of the 4th Avenue Baptist Church, Davis School, a large African American School, was built in 1949 replacing the earlier 30th Street School (Inv. # 106). Near the churches, two houses occupied by African Americans from c. 1910s, c. 1925 - present, remain in the District (Inv. # 3, 101).

Archaeological Component

Although there has been no systematic archaeological survey of the area, it is likely that there are subsurface remains.

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INVENTORY

University Boulevard (Clairmont Avenue)

1. Lakeview Elementary School/ now Martin Advertising. 2800 University Boulevard. (1901, 1909; c. 1950s; c. 1988)
Gym added in c. 1950s.
The original portion of the building was built in 1901. It is a two story Classical Revival style brick school with 12:12 double hung wood windows, flat roof, single bay recessed entrance bay, brick foundation, simple cornice with modillions, and a wide decorative brick panel beneath the roof line. Brick end wings were completed in 1909 which retained the Classical Revival style cornice, modillions, and with identical windows. C. 1950s a one-story brick gymnasium with a flat roof was built on the property, and c. 1988 the entire school/gymnasium were renovated by the Martin Advertising Company.

Designed by Charles and Harry Wheelock, Lakeview remains the second oldest standing school in Birmingham.
(NRHP)

4th Avenue South

2. 4th Avenue Baptist Church/ now Living Word Baptist Church. 2720 4th Avenue South. (1948; c. 1970s).
One story, with a basement in the rear, free standing church with a parapet front roof, and side towers with battlements and rock pilasters at the corners each with a shed concrete cap. The front was refaced c. 1960s with stone, and there is concrete block on the sides, a slightly recessed central entrance with a concrete lintel, c. 1970s 2:2 double hung aluminum windows, and a c. 1960s large round window with a decorative stone surround in the central front gable. There is also a concrete foundation, and stone cheek walls and retaining wall at the front of the building.
3. Duplex. 2721 4th Avenue South. (c. 1925).
One story weatherboard bungalow style duplex with a front gable containing a decorative wood vent with a cornice. There are two central entrances one with an original wood and glass door and transom and the other with an original wood and screen door. There are c. 1960s 2:2 double hung aluminum windows throughout, a full front porch with six square honey brick columns, brick foundation, and a concrete front cheek walls and retaining wall. Zollie Montgomery, and various other members of this African American family lived in one or both units of this duplex from at least 1928 – 1954.
4. Twenty-eighth Street Casino Restaurant/ now Skidmore Signs. 2725 4th Avenue South. (c.1928; c. 1960 addition).
One story, one bay, free standing brick veneer commercial building with a one story c. 1960s brick addition on the west side. There is a central entrance framed by brick pilasters, but the storefronts are boarded up. There are also projecting end brick pilasters, decorative brick above the storefront, around the entrance, and along the base of the building. There is a flat roof with terra cotta coping on the side, partial wood shingle shed roof on the front façade just below the roofline, and a concrete foundation.
5. Garage. NW corner 4th Avenue and 29th Street So. (c. 1940).
One story brick garage with a flat roof, two garage bays with a central entrance in between, casement windows, and a concrete foundation.

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6. Schilleci Grocery/ now Plant Odyssey Nursery. 2801 4th Avenue South. (c. 1928).

One story, one bay, free standing honey brick veneer commercial building with a flat roof, and limestone coping at the front roof line. There is a central entrance with a divided wood transom above, and it is flanked by two wood storefronts with divided wood transoms. There are three brick chimney, end 3.4s height pilasters with decorative limestone caps; and there is a single decorative brown brick band below the roofline, above the storefront, and as an outline of a front sign panel. Schilleci Grocery occupied this building until 1938, when Salamone Grocery moved into it.

5th Avenue South

7. Phoenix Supply Company and Pepsi Bottling Co./ now Ted's Garage. 2309 5th Avenue South. (c. late 1920s; c. 1960s; c. 2003).

One story freestanding brick building with a c. 1960s rear addition with a pitched roof and central garage bay, and a small front addition. There is a flat roof with limestone coping on the front, terra cotta coping on the sides, central projecting pediment, original metal gutters as well as c. 1960s downspouts, metal casement windows on the rear addition, c. 1960s fixed metal windows elsewhere, and brick sills throughout. There is also a concrete foundation. The building was renovated in 2003 for antique car repair and display, and private party accommodations.

8. Cleveland Manufacturing/ now National Salvage. 2327-2331 5th Avenue south. (c. 1929; c. 1980s).

One story brick warehouse and garage with decorative brick and limestone details on the front façade, and activated flat roof with limestone coping on the front and terra cotta coping on the sides, and a concrete block foundation. There is one front garage bay in the center of the building adjacent to the entrance, one rear garage bay, and four garage bays on the west side of the building. There are original metal gutters and downspouts, metal casement windows, original iron "burglar" bars throughout, and a concrete foundation. The left bay has c. 1980s fixed aluminum windows. Cleveland Manufacturing painted and lacquered automobiles, as well as upholstered them, and made automobile tops.

9. Dixie Awning Co. / now 5th Avenue Antiques. 2410 5th Avenue South. (c. 1940; c. 1970s).

Two story, five bay free standing brick veneer warehouse with a flat roof and a central projecting parapet. There is a very decorative limestone and brick band along the roofline, pilasters separating the five storefronts that were bricked in c. 1970s, and a concrete foundation.

10. Bonds Brothers Supply Co. 2420 5th Avenue South. (c. 1952 - 1954)

Two story free standing brick, with concrete block on the sides, building with a projecting parapet with terra cotta coping, a loading dock and secondary entrance facing 25th Street, and a central loading bay on the 5th Avenue side with c. 1980s fixed aluminum glass windows. There are metal casement windows, and a concrete foundation. Bonds Brothers was one of the largest producers of railroad ties in the country, according to the Manufacturer's Record. They also made switch tiles, mine ties and poles.

11. Brinkskelle Rudolph Day & Sachs (later Day & Sachs)/ now vacant. Corner 5th Avenue South and 24th Street. (1922; c. 1940s; c. 1960s-70s).

Two story brick warehouse with multiple bays and a c. 1940s one story rear addition. There is a flat roof with a projecting parapet and decorative limestone coping which is repeated on the additions, one garage bay on one side and three on in the rear. There are also original metal gutters, partial cast iron downspouts, c. 1980s 1:1 and 2:2 double hung aluminum windows with original brick headers and concrete sills throughout, decorative brick diamond insets, and a concrete foundation. Three entrances on the 5th Avenue side were bricked in c. 1960s-70s. By 1954, Domestic Cleaners occupied the building as well as the two adjacent buildings (Inv. #s 11,12).

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12. Commercial Building/ now vacant. No # 5th Avenue South. (c. 1920s)
Two story, one bay, brick warehouse with a flat roof with brick coping, and end brick pilasters. First floor windows have metal casement windows along the front with cast iron headers with decorative iron medallions, and concrete sills; second floor windows are c. 1980s 1:1 double hung aluminum with concrete sills and headers. There is also a concrete foundation. During the 1930s, two barbers shops owned and operated by African Americans, apparently one for men and one for women, occupied this building. By 1954, the building was one of three occupied by Domestic Laundry (also Inv. #s 11, 13)
 13. Commercial Building/ now Cabinetscapes. 2425 5th Avenue South. (c.1920s; c. 1940s; c. 1960s).
Two story three bay yellow brick free standing warehouse with a c. 1960s rear addition and loading dock. There is a flat roof with brick coping, pilasters separating the front bays with decorative triangular brick caps, brick cornice with corbelling, metal casement windows on the 1st floor with cast iron headers with iron medallions and concrete sills, and c. 1980s 1:1 double hung aluminum windows on the 2nd floor with concrete headers and sills. There is also one c. 1940s storefront and two c. 1980s aluminum and glass storefronts, and a concrete foundation. By 1954, this was one of three buildings occupied by Domestic Laundry (also Inv. #s 11,12)
 14. Stegall Sheet Metal Inc. 2800 5th Avenue South. (c. 1970s).
One story freestanding warehouse with aluminum siding, flat roof, aluminum windows, and a concrete foundation.
(NC)
 15. Yarbrough Companies. 2809 5th Avenue South. (c. 1960s).
One story brick and concrete block building with a flat roof, four rectangular fixed aluminum windows on the front façade, and a concrete foundation. (NC)
 16. Dulux Paints. 2821 5th Avenue South. (c. 1980).
One story brick and aluminum building with a flat roof, fixed aluminum windows, and a concrete foundation. (NC)
 17. Automatic Sprinkler Corporation of America/ now Stegall Metal Inc. 2824 5th Avenue South. (c. 1940; c.1950; c. 1970s).
One story, with two additions (c. 1950 one story brick and c. 1970s one story brick and stucco), free standing brick veneer building with a flat roof, decorative brick coping, off center entrance, c. 1970s aluminum and glass storefront, c. 1970s stucco addition, and decorative brick border on the sides. The c. 1940 portion and c. 1970s addition has a decorative copper awning,
 18. Mac Wates Fuel Co./ now Alabama Graphics. 2801 5th Avenue. (c. 1940).
Two story, with three one story additions including two c. late 1950s and one c. 1980s, brick commercial building with Colonial Revival influences. There is a side gable roof, with a low pitch on the additions, clipped eaves, brick quoins, and a ½ moon wood vent on the side façade. There is a squared central entrance on the 5th Avenue side with Colonial Revival influences including a wood surround, wood cornice and transom. There are also 2:2 double hung metal windows and a brick foundation. The Mac Wates Fuel Company was a coal company, according to City Directories.
Architect: Possibly designed by Miller, Martin, and Lewis.
 19. Hinkle Supply Company/ now Osment Supply. 2923 5th Avenue South. (c. 1950).
One story brick veneer office and warehouse with a flat roof, and a two-story wing on the right end with a flat roof and limestone coping. The office portion has 6:6 double hung wood windows with concrete lintels and sills, concrete foundation, and a right end single bay entrance with a decorative bronze awning.

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6th Avenue South

20. Pryor Motor Car Co./ now William J. Freeman and Alabama Typewriter. 2206 6th Avenue South. (c. 1920s; c. 1960s).
Two story two bay free standing glazed brick building with a parapet roof, brick soldier course above the 2nd floor windows, vertical brick corbelling between the bays and on the right end of the building. Storefronts are c. 1960s aluminum and glass; 2nd floor windows along the right bay have been filled with concrete block, and the remaining are boarded up. There are limestone lintels and sills on the front, and brick lintels and sills on the side windows, and there is a brick foundation. This building was for a general storage use.
21. Nelson Brantley Auto Glass Company/ now Nelson Glass Company. 2215 6th Avenue South. (c. 1949; c. 1970s).
One story free standing commercial building clad with c. 1970s multiple paned fixed aluminum and glass panels. There is a flat roof, three storefronts all clad in c. 1970s glass panels, two-story concrete block rear bay with side metal casement windows, and a concrete block foundation. This building was built for an auto glass company. (NC)
22. Watkins Garage. 6th Avenue South. (c. late 1920s; c. 1960s).
One-story three bay brick free standing building with a parapet flat roof with elaborate limestone crenellation. The left bay contains an arched storefront which has been boarded up, and there is a two bay garage on the right side with a c. 1960s roll-up door. There is a very decorative limestone flat cornice, and flat columns on the front façade, and a brick foundation.
23. Ernest Woods Pontiac Company/ now Watkins Auto Body, Inc. 2222 6th Avenue South. (c. 1950).
One story free standing commercial corner building with International style influences including a cantilevered front façade/storefront on the both primary facades. There is also a flat roof and concrete foundation. In 1954, Shaver Pontiac occupied this building.
24. Hill Grocery Store/ now Backstage Flowers and Gift. 2233 6th Avenue South. (c. 1925; c. 1960s).
One story freestanding honey brick building with an angled corner entrance, and a flat roof that is stepped on the sides and has limestone coping. There are two storefronts on 23rd Street, and four bays on the 6th Avenue side with a decorative diamond shaped metal vent above each bay. Each side bay is separated by decorative brick projecting pilasters above which is a decorative limestone "spear," and there are pairs of limestone insets above the entrance bays. The foundation is brick and all storefronts were renovated c. 1960s with aluminum and glass. There have been a series of restaurants and other small businesses, including the Godwin Radio Company (1949) located in this building. Southside Grill, an African American café, may have occupied this building c. 1920s-30s. In 1954, Godwin Radio Company occupied it.
25. Shaver Pontiac Used Car Lot/ now RC Motors Car Lot Office. 2300 6th Avenue South. (c.1949).
Car lot with a free standing building with wide overhanging eaves, a flat roof, and metal casement windows. There is also a freestanding c. 1980s corrugated metal building on the property. Contractors: Day & Richardson
26. Custom Auto Vinyl Top. 2301 6th Avenue South. (c. late 1940s).
One story free standing brick commercial building with a two-story stucco portion facing 24th Street. There is a flat roof, concrete coping, two bay rear garage, and corner entrance. There are original metal gutter and downspouts, and metal vent grates above the storefront and around the corner entrance bay. The garage windows are operable 6:6:6 metal with concrete sills which flank the garage bays, and the storefronts were renovated c. 1960s with a slight metal cantilever. By 1954, the Glidden Paint Company occupied this building.

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27. University IT Credit Corporation/ now Labor Ready. 2315 6th Avenue South. (c. 1952; c. 1970s).
One story brick building, with limestone on the bottom one-third of the side walls, and a flat roof. There is c. 1970s partial aluminum siding on the side walls, a front entrance with limestone surround and decorative brickwork, metal casement windows with limestone sills and burglar bars. There is also a concrete foundation.
28. Commercial Building and Warehouse/ Triumph Auto Glass. 2317 6th Avenue South. (c. 1924; c. 1970s).
One story, three bay, brick building with a flat roof with a central projecting parapet, limestone coping along the front roofline and terra cotta coping on the sides. There is 1946 rear garage bay, decorative limestone triangle insets, brick pilasters separating the front bays, c. 1970s aluminum and glass storefronts with limestone sills, and a concrete foundation. Some windows have been bricked in. In 1946, the Kraft Cheese Corporation built a \$100,000 addition and located its business here. By 1949, however, the St. Regis Paper Company had moved here. Contractor for addition: Del E. Webb Construction Co. of Chicago.
29. Swiss Dry Cleaning Company/ now Courtney's Restaurant. 2330 6th Avenue South. (c. 1949; c. 1970s).
One story brick and concrete block building, with a two-story rear bay, with a flat roof, metal casement windows, and concrete block foundation. C. 1970 a large front bay was added, for use as a restaurant, with synthetic siding, mansard roof, and aluminum and glass storefronts. (NC)
30. Southtrust Bank. 2401 6th Avenue South. (c. 1960s).
Two story marble and limestone free standing bank with a flat roof, drive-thru window on the 6th Avenue side, fixed aluminum and tinted glass windows throughout, and a concrete foundation. (NC)

This was the site of the Nehi Bottling Company until it was razed c. 1960s.
31. Liberty Motors/ now Bresco. 2428 6th Avenue South. (1954).
One story commercial building with International style influences including a cantilevered aluminum and glass front/storefront. There is a flat roof with an overhanging eave, concrete foundation, double garage bay, and a two-story concrete block rear wing with metal casement windows.
32. Mack International Truck Company/ now vacant. 2501 6th Avenue South. (c. 1920s).
One story dark red brick building with multiple bays on both the 25th Street and 6th Avenue sides, and elaborate stepped parapet with limestone coping, decorative metal vents above the showroom, and a concrete foundation. By 1954, Liberty Motors occupied this building as well as several others in the area.
33. Liberty Motors Company/ now Lancaster Equipment. 2515 6th Avenue South. (c. late 1920s; c. 1970s-80s).
One story freestanding brick building with a stepped parapet, decorative limestone above each of the two storefronts which are separated by brick pilasters, and an off-center entrance. There are original decorative gutters, and downspouts built into the wall, and wood vents above each storefront, c. 1970s - 80s aluminum and glass storefronts with brick sills throughout, and a concrete foundation.
34. Miles Harry Motor Company (repairs)/ now SCS Service Construction Supply Company. 2516 6th Avenue South. (1949; c. 1970s).
One story freestanding brick veneer Art Moderne style building. There is a flat roof with limestone coping on the front and terra cotta on the sides, and a c. 1970s one story rear addition faced with aluminum siding. There are two storefronts each with metal loading areas and one also with a garage, fixed metal windows, some boarded up windows with brick sills, and a concrete foundation. By 1954, the Mall Tool Company occupied this property.

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35. ACME Muffler. 2316 6th Avenue South. (c. late 1960s - early 1970s).
One story double bay concrete block garage with a flat roof, aluminum windows, and concrete block foundation. (NC)
36. New Liberty Baptist Church/ now East End Baptist Church. 2609 6th Avenue South. (1947).
One story brick veneer African American church with a central bay flanked by a side tower bay. There is a hipped roof on each bay, one brick chimney, an arched brick central entrance with double wood doors, 2:2 double hung wood windows with brick sills on the first floor and stained glass on the second, small 1:1 double hung windows on the rear, and a triple arched front entrance alcove with double wood doors. There is also a concrete foundation. This is one of two churches in the district known to have held mass meetings in support of the Civil Rights movement, and is being nominated individually for its Civil Rights associations.
37. Fiorella Store and Residence/ now vacant. 2800-2800 1/2 6th Avenue. (c. 1910)
One story free standing painted brick commercial building with two bays, brick coping, brick corbelling, and c. 1960s 1:1 double hung aluminum windows. The right bay may have been built for a residential use with an arched entrance, and open front porch with 3/4 length brick columns, brick wall, and brick tile floor. The left bay has a traditional storefront with a central entrance which is boarded up. The roof has caved in on this building and it is deteriorating. By the late 1920s, the Gulf Refining Company occupied the store, and Georgia Brown, an African American woman, occupied the residence. During the 1930s, Fiorella Grocery occupied the store and Pat Fiorella lived in the residence. Two African Americans also occupied the residence sometime in the late 1930s. This building is vacant and deteriorating.
38. Antonio Manistz Restaurant/ now Rosegate Designs, Inc. 2801 6th Avenue South (c. 1928; c. 1980s).
One story one part brick veneer commercial block with two bays on the 28th Street side, and two on the 6th Avenue side. There is a flat roof with crenellated stone coping, c. 1980s aluminum and glass storefronts with original wood transoms throughout, decorative stone diamond insets above storefronts, and a concrete foundation. This was built for an automotive sales and service use. This building contained several restaurants between c. late 1920s and 1950. By 1954, Vulcan Materials Products occupied the building.
39. Commercial Building and Birmingham Broadway Series. 2803 - 2805 6th Avenue South. (c. 1920s; c. 1970).
One story one-part brick veneer commercial block, with a c. 1970 synthetic stucco addition. There is a flat roof, and a central entrance (which was covered with weatherboard c. 1970) flanked by wood storefronts. There are divided wood transoms above the storefronts, decorative brick, end pilasters with decorative stone diamond insets, and a concrete foundation. By 1938, the Bretnall Living Room Furniture Company had moved into this building.
40. ECCO. 2817 6th Avenue South. (c. 1980).
One story brick building with a flat roof, fixed rectangular aluminum windows on the front façade, side entrance, and a concrete foundation. (NC)
41. J. F. Day Company. 2820 6th Avenue South. (c. 1926; 1949).
One story freestanding brick veneer Beaux Arts commercial building, with a 1949 two-story rear warehouse with casement windows. There are eight bays, gables at the projecting end bays, a flat roof with central projecting arch, and partial front shed roof with slate shingles. There is also decorative brick above the storefront, 3:3 windows, two storefronts one with an original wood door and the other that was altered c. 1970s as a garage. The Birmingham Linen Supply Company moved to this store in 1949 at which time noted local architects, Miller, Martin & Lewis renovated the building and designed the two story warehouse bay. In the mid-1950s, the Mack Truck Corporation occupied the space.

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42. Mrs. Sarah Newman Grocery/ now Billie's Tavern. Corner 6th Avenue and 29th Street. (c. late 1930s).
One story free standing painted brick gas station with a flat roof, decorative brick pilasters, a wood and glass storefront facing the 6th Avenue side, and a concrete foundation. By 1954, La Dame Laundry/Cleaners had moved into this store.
43. MIS. 2900 6th Avenue South. (c. 1980).
One story aluminum building with a flat roof, aluminum windows, and a concrete foundation. (NC)
44. Plant Odyssey. 2912 6th Avenue South. (c. 1980).
One story aluminum and concrete block building with a flat roof, very high pitched front gabled bay faced with rock, fixed aluminum storefront, concrete foundation, and a series of three aluminum plant nursery open sheds in the rear. (NC)
45. Garage/Store. 2920 6th Avenue South. (c. 1940s).
One story brick garage and store with a flat roof and concrete foundation. There is one garage bay on the right side, and a store bay on the left with a fixed wood storefront with a brick sill. There is also a central entrance.
46. Haymaker Electric. 2928 6th Avenue South. (c. 1980s).
One story building faced with synthetic stucco. There is a flat roof, concrete foundation, fixed aluminum windows, and a warehouse in the rear with aluminum siding. (NC)
47. DSR. NE corner 6th Avenue and 30th Street. (c. 1960s).
One story brick building with a flat roof, concrete foundation, and fixed aluminum windows. (NC)
48. W. P. Pickard Grocery. 3000 6th Avenue South. (c. 1925-1928).
One story freestanding brick commercial building with a flat roof and some c. 1960s permastone above the storefront. There is a aluminum and glass storefront, very unusual decorative brickwork in a "puzzle-like" pattern, and a c. 1990s rear concrete block warehouse addition with fixed aluminum windows.
49. Rozar's Auto Supply. 3015 6th Avenue South. (c. 1960).
One story free standing brick office building with a flat roof and an aluminum and glass storefront. (NC)
50. Brannon Electric Motor Company, Inc. 3022 6th Avenue South. (c. 1952).
One story freestanding brick veneer building with International style influences. There is a flat roof, metal casement windows throughout, and a concrete foundation.
51. Lane Tile and Marble Co./ now Allrite Janitorial. 3017-3025 6th Avenue South. (1940; c. 1970s).
One story, two bay Tudor Revival style brick commercial building with a gable on hip slate roof with two front gables each including a wood vent. There are decorative wood brackets along the roof line, exposed side fire walls, and five storefronts including one original wood and one original metal on the right side, and three c.1970s aluminum and glass storefronts on the left side. There is also a concrete foundation.
52. Commercial Building. 3027 6th Avenue South. (c. 1954; c. 1970s).
One story freestanding brick building with a flat roof, central entrance flanked by storefronts with concrete sills. There are also original 1:1 fixed metal windows, c. 1970s aluminum awning, and a concrete foundation.

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53. Woodward's Service Station/ now Tire Engineers Too. 3200 6th Avenue South. (c. 1930s; c. 1990s).
One story brick and stucco gas station with a hip roof, two brick chimneys, metal casement windows, concrete foundation, and rear garage bay. The front hipped open service bay was enclosed c. 1990s with glass, but the original structure remains completely visible.

7th Avenue South

54. American Discount Company. 2208 7th Avenue South. (1954; c. 1980s).
One story free standing painted brick office building with a rear garage bay that is set back from the 7th Avenue side, and a parapet front roof. There are metal casement windows on the garage bay, a c. 1980s aluminum and glass storefront on the office portion, and a poured concrete foundation. This was originally used by an automobile sales and service company.
55. Dexter-Becks Motor Co. (later Liberty Motors Gas Station and Sales Building)/ now vacant. 2300 7th Avenue South. (1949; c. 1957; c. 1960s).
One story International style freestanding tan cut stone building, with a one-story rear garage. There is a flat roof throughout, single cantilevered corner bay entrance on the 7th Avenue side, and a double cantilevered corner bay on the 23rd Street side. There is a cut stone foundation, c. 1960s aluminum and glass storefronts, and a c. 1960s metal canopy above the entire storefront. Originally built as a gas station and sales building, it was converted into an International style showroom c. 1957 for Liberty Motor Company, very consistent with other International style showrooms in the District.
56. Lambert Service Company and Filling Station. 2302 7th Avenue South. (c. 1920s; c. 1960s).
One story one part brown brick veneer commercial block. There are three bays, flat roof with a central projecting parapet, band of honey brick below the roofline, and a limestone soldier course above the storefronts which were bricked in c. 1960s. There is also a concrete foundation.
This was built for a automobile and bus sales and service business.
57. General Motors Acceptance Corporation/ now Commercial Building. 2316-2318 7th Avenue South. (c. 1950; c. 1970s).
One story free standing brick veneer commercial building with a flat roof with a central projecting parapet, concrete foundation, central recessed entrance with a brick header, limestone surround and glass block sidelights, which is flanked by aluminum and glass storefronts. There are also c. 1970s 2:2 fixed aluminum windows, and one original metal downspout.
58. Commercial Building. 2320 7th Avenue South. (c. 1954; c. 1970s).
One story freestanding brick veneer commercial building with a recessed entrance with Classical Revival influenced limestone cornice and braces. There is c. 1970s synthetic stucco on the front facade, flat parapet roof with limestone coping, recessed front entrance with limestone surround with Art Deco influences, c. 1970s aluminum storefronts with limestone sills, and a concrete foundation. (NC)
59. Redmont Market and Morris Dewey & Co. Grocery/ now Christopher House Antiques. 2330 7th Avenue South. (c. 1949; c. 1960s; c. 1980s).
One story free standing brick veneer commercial building with a flat parapet roof, end brick pilasters, brick pilasters at front entrance, c. 1980s front aluminum and glass storefronts, and c. 1960s ceramic tile above the front entrance. There are five original bays along the 23rd Street side each with a projecting brick pilaster with a limestone cap between each bay, and stucco walls. Two of these bays retain a multiple paned wood transom.

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60. Colby Decorating Company/ now Peck and Hills Antiques. 2400 7th Avenue South. (1927).
Two story free standing stucco Spanish Revival style commercial building with a hip tile roof, recessed front entrance with scrolled half columns, arched windows openings with metal casement windows throughout, faux balconies along the second floor, and a concrete foundation. In 1954, Peck and Hills Furniture moved into this property. This is one of the best articulated buildings in the District, and was designed by Charles H. McCauley.
 61. Sunshine Cleaners/ now Antiques and Gardens. 2408 7th Avenue South. (c. 1940).
One story free standing cut stone Art Deco style commercial building with a parapet flat roof. There is a central squared entrance flanked by flat columns with Classical capitals, and a series of three circles carved into the stone above the entrance. The entrance is flanked by three storefront windows. By 1950, Barber's Creamery occupied the building.
 62. Steel City Oldsmobile/ now Jim Burke Jaguar and Isuzu Subaru. 2415 7th Avenue South. (1949; c. 1980s).
One story free standing cut stone and brick veneer Art Deco style commercial building with a parapet flat roof, left bay front entrance, and concrete block foundation. The left (east) side bay has been refaced on the front with c. 1980s cut stone and a projecting gable construction made of synthetic stucco. The side walls facing the drive though bay remain intact.
 63. Swann Laundry/ now Event Conference Center and Likis Audio. 2423-2431 7th Avenue South. (1927).
One story freestanding brick veneer commercial building with Spanish Revival influences. There are five bays along 7th Avenue including two end storefronts with very well articulated Spanish Revival influences including arched parapets with limestone details and limestone sills, and decorative limestone insets, and there is a concrete foundation. In 1940, the A. H. Cather Publishing Co. had moved into the building; and in 1949, the Southern Antique Mart located here.
 64. Redmont Motor Co./ now Hanna Antiques. 2424 7th Avenue South. (c. late 1920s).
One story cut stone Beaux Arts style free standing commercial building with four bays along the front with multiple paned fixed wood windows, and a central entrance flanked by flat fluted columns. Above the storefronts is a stone soldier course containing Greek keys. There is a hip slate roof, a row of stone dentils, series of stone urns along the roof line, and a series of lions head cartouches below the roofline, arched wood windows storefront windows throughout, and a stone foundation. By 1938, W. F. Green Motors had moved into this building, and by 1950, Liberty Motors occupied it. By 1954, the Try-Me Bottling Company moved in.
 65. Nabors Electric. 2500 7th Avenue South. (c. 1940s, 1980).
One story free standing commercial building with stucco on the sides, and c. 1980 wood on the front façade. There is a flat roof, c. 1980 fixed aluminum windows on the front, and a concrete foundation. (NC)
 66. Gibbs Doster Drug Company/ now Sonic Graphic Shop. 2501 7th Avenue South. (c. 1935; c. 1980s).
One story brick veneer commercial building with a flat parapet roof with a crenellated roofline at the corners, c. 1980s aluminum and glass storefronts, and decorative limestone diamonds and inverted triangles at the roofline. In the late 1930s, the Birmingham Motors Motorcycles Company had moved into this space, and by 1954, Barber's Milk Company had moved in.
 67. Commercial Building. 2503 7th Avenue South/ (c. 1940s).
One story Art Deco style limestone commercial block with a flat roof, fluted end pilasters, four bays, c. 1970s aluminum and glass storefronts, and a concrete foundation.

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68. Lakeview Super Market and Mayfield Cleaners/ now TLC Grooming and Bruce Printing. 2505 - 2507 7th Avenue South. (c. 1949).
One story free standing stucco and concrete block building with a flat parapet roof, three bays separated by brick pilasters, geometric limestone details, fixed wood windows on the right side, and a brick foundation.
69. R & C Baking Co./ now Commercial Building. 2509 7th Avenue South. (c. 1940)
One story free standing painted brick veneer building with an arched parapet flat roof, decorative brick work, central entrance that is slightly projecting with decorative arched gable, original metal gutters and down spouts, and c. 1970s aluminum and glass storefront. There are metal casement windows on the sides, low level exterior brick planter wall, and a concrete foundation. By 1954, the Iron Art Lawn Furniture Company had moved in to this building.
70. Massey Decorating Co./ now Race 2 Lounge. 2627 - 2629 7th Avenue South. (c.1940)
One story, two bay, commercial building with a flat roof, four storefronts including three original wood ones that have been enclosed with brick. There is decorative brick above the storefronts, and a concrete foundation.
71. House/ now Battery Warehouse. 2630 7th Avenue South (c. 1940s; c. 1980).
One story hipped roof house that was refaced with corrugated metal c. 1980. There are original metal casement windows on the sides, a tan brick chimney, and a c. 1980 aluminum warehouse in the rear. (NC)
72. Dainty Maid Bakery and Delicatessen. 2701 7th Avenue South. (c. 1925).
One story one part brick veneer commercial block with a flat roof. There is a decorative brick band across the roofline with geometric brickwork beneath, angled corner entrance, wood storefronts, and a concrete foundation. In 1949, the Dainty Maid Food Shop and Grocery located here.
73. Oil Heating Corporation/ now T. C.'s. 2705 7th Avenue South. (c. late 1920s).
One story one part brick veneer commercial block with bays and a flat roof that is stepped on the sides. The two central entrances are recessed, flanked with wood storefronts, and the two end entrances are not recessed but are flanked with wood storefronts, and there are limestone lintels throughout. There are limestone diamond insets above the entrances, and a series of square limestone insets below the roofline, decorative brick along the front roofline, and a concrete foundation. In the late 1930s, the Birmingham Aquarium Company was located here.
74. Office Building. 2717 7th Avenue South. (c. 1960).
Two and one half story building, with two stories on the sides, free standing brick veneer and c. 1960s aluminum siding (on the top portion) building with a flat roof. There are eight c. 1960s aluminum and glass storefronts, concrete foundation, and an exterior planter/wall. (NC)
75. Chicken In the Rough Drive-in Restaurant/ now Uncut Flowers. 2800 7th Avenue South. (c. 1949; c. 1960s).
One story concrete block free standing building with a flat roof. There is a massive concrete block side chimney; a c. 1960s recessed front entrance, concrete block foundation, and four metal Quonset style greenhouses.
76. Reid/s Pharmacy/ now Oasis and Los Angeles Cafe. 2801-2807 7th Avenue South. (c. 1925).
One story one part brick veneer commercial block with a flat parapet roof. There are two storefronts the left one with a central entrance, original metal storefronts and metal operable transom; and the right one with an off-center c. 1970s aluminum and glass storefront, and three metal vents. There is decorative brickwork above the storefronts, and 3:3 fixed wood windows on the sides. By 1938, the Standard Coffee Company had located here, and in 1949, the American Painting and Decorating Company and the Peerless Gas and Appliance Company located here.

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77. Norton's Florist. 2808 7th Avenue South. (c. 1960s; c. 1980s).
One story freestanding brick veneer commercial building with a flat roof. The front of the building was remodeled c. 1980s with a central entrance flanked by aluminum and glass storefront and stucco above, and there is a wood shed. (NC)
78. Heating Service Company Contractors/ now Sol y Luna. 2811 7th Avenue South. (c. 1926-1928)
One story one part brick veneer commercial block with a flat roof with terra cotta coping. There is a tin smoke stack, two wood storefronts with fixed wood transoms, decorative sign panel, and decorative brick corners. There are also 3:3 double hung wood windows on the sides with lintels and sills, and a concrete foundation. In 1938, the heating service moved in after the building had sat vacant for some time.
79. Billy's Dog House/ now Southside Café. 2826 7th Avenue. (1949).
One story freestanding brick veneer, stucco, and molded concrete block (on rear) commercial building with a flat roof. There are 2:2 double hung windows with brick lintels and sills on the sides, a central entrance flanked by two wood storefronts on the front, and a concrete foundation.
80. Eli's Barbeque/ now 729 Club. 2830 7th Avenue South. (1949).
One story free standing brick and molded concrete block commercial building with a flat roof. There is a central front entrance with two wood storefronts with molded concrete block sills and lintels; the left side bay is extended to form an ell. Side windows are boarded up and have concrete sills, and there is a front attached exterior concrete block planter/wall.
81. Card House/ now Alabama Scientific Co., Inc. 2916 7th Avenue South. (c. late 1920s; c. 1970s).
One story bungalow with c. 1970s wood shingles, a front gable, front porch that was enclosed c. 1970s, 1:1 double hung windows on the sides, and a brick foundation. The front windows are boarded up. (NC)
82. Petras House/ now Realty Office. 2918 7th Avenue South. (c. late 1920s; c. 1960).
One story Craftsman style bungalow with front gable, c. 1960 aluminum siding, brick chimney, and sidelights at the entrance. In c. 1960 the porch was enclosed with a wall and windows.
83. Essex. 3028 7th Avenue South. (c. 1952).
One story freestanding brick veneer building with a flat roof, right bay entrance, and a concrete foundation. There is a two-story rear bay, metal casement windows, and a right bay office with an original flat wood awning.
84. Richardson Construction Co./ now Stanley Jones. 3100 7th Avenue South. (1954; c. 1970s)
One and one and one half story (on 32nd Street side) free standing brick warehouse with a parapet flat roof, and c. 1970s synthetic stucco on the front façade. There are three garage bays, c. 1970s aluminum and glass storefronts with limestone lintels and sills, and a concrete foundation.
85. Southside Church of God. 3117 7th Avenue South. (c. 1920s; 1960s).
One story African American vernacular church with c. 1960s weatherboard siding, double front gable, fixed wood windows with c. 1960s stained glass. This church is still in use.

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22nd Street South

86. Brammer Paint and Body Shop/ now vacant. 517 – 19 22nd Street South. (c. 1925; c. 1960s).
One story two bay brick commercial block with two garage bays and a front parapet roof with two projecting gables, two end clay pots on the front, terra cotta coping on the sides, and a decorative limestone "spearhead" at the corner of the roof. Each bay has a central entrance, the left one flanked by an original metal storefront and transom, and the right one includes a c. 1960s garage bay. Above both storefronts is Romanesque influenced limestone *bas relief*. In 1949, the McCormack Brothers Motor Company located here.
87. Auto Glass and Auto Tops. 22nd Street South. (c. late 1940s; c. 1960s).
One story free standing painted brick, with c. 1960s aluminum siding on the front, garage/office building with a flat roof and two metal downspouts. There is a concrete block foundation, original rear metal casement windows, and a c. 1960s aluminum and glass storefront. (NC)
88. Harris Transfer Company Warehouse. 610-612 22nd Street South. (c. 1907-08; 1916; c. 1960s).
Four story brick warehouse with a flat roof with brick corbelling at the corner of 22nd Street and 6th Avenue side. There is an off center main arched opening flanked by two secondary arched entrances with wood doors along the 22nd Street façade; there is also an identical secondary entrance on the 6th Street side. There is a brick foundation, and 2:2 as well as 4:2 double hung wood windows on the 1st floor, and mostly c. 1960s 1:1 double hung aluminum windows with arched headers and sills on the 2nd Floor. There is also an original metal alarm box on the 6th Street façade, as well as three arched garaged loading openings with original beaded board double wood doors in a herringbone pattern.
- 1916 Addition: Five story brick warehouse with a basement facing 22nd Street. It has an off center main entrance on 22nd Street with a Classical Revival influenced gabled pediment including dentils, cornice, flat columns with limestone caps and base, and an original door with transom. There is a decorative parapet roof, 2:2 double hung wood windows with limestone sills, wood windows at the basement, brick foundation, decorative limestone insets and cornice, and a brick soldier course.
89. Third Presbyterian Church (Brother Bryan Church). 617 22nd Street South. (1902-04; c. 1954).
One story Victorian Gothic style brick church with pyramidal roof, and cross gables with a terra cotta pointed arch. There are two entrance towers that are not identical: the north tower is two story and has a very steep hip roof and entrance with a pointed arch, and the south tower is three story with a double wood arch with a pointed terra cotta arch above the entrance and a panel of three slatted wood vents each with a pointed arch at the top of the tower. There are wood windows with stained glass throughout, and in the center of both the 22nd Street and 6th Avenue facades is a large very decorative wood window with stained glass, and a brick foundation. This building was constructed over a two year period so that the congregation could pay in cash as it became available. It was the home church of Reverend John Bryan, known as Brother Bryan, from 1902 until his death in 1941. C. 1954, a two-story brick education addition, with a flat roof and 2:2 wood windows, was constructed at the building's north end.

23rd Street South

90. Watkins Garage. 521 23rd Street South. (c. 1954).
One story brick, with concrete block on the sides, free standing garage with a front single bay garage and a rear single bay garage. There is a flat roof with concrete coping, large iron bollards in the shape of a bullet at the corners, metal casement windows throughout with brick headers and concrete sills, and a concrete foundation.

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91. LeJoy. 608 23rd Street South. (c. 1954; c. 1960s).
One story freestanding brick building with a flat roof, concrete foundation, and metal casement windows along the sides. The front was refaced c. 1960s, ½ with brick and ½ cut stone, and with aluminum and glass storefronts. There is also an off center entrance.

24th Street South

92. Garage. No # 24th Street. (c. late 1940s; c. 1970s-80s).
One story, two bay, brick garage with a flat roof, decorative parapet, limestone coping on the front and terra cotta coping on the sides. The storefront has been partially boarded up and has two bays separated by a brick pilaster; one contains an entrance bay, and the other was renovated c. 1970s – 80s for a garage with metal roll-up doors. There are original metal gutters, c. 1960s downspouts, brick sills and lintels at the storefront, and two decorative vents remain above the storefronts.
93. American Saw Mill Machy Company and Chapin's. 600 - 614 24th Street. (1946; c. 1970s).
One story painted brick building with two bays, a flat roof with a decorative parapet and limestone coping, two decorative limestone vents above the storefronts, and original metal gutters with c. 1960s downspouts. The two front bay storefronts are divided by a brick pilaster, and there are brick sills, and metal "burglar" bars. In c. 1970s, a garage addition was built facing 6th Avenue now occupied by Chapin's.
94. Steel City Oldsmobile Garage. 617 24th Street. (c. late 1940s).
One story brick veneer two bay garage with one original wood and glass roll up door, flat roof, metal casement windows, and a concrete foundation.

25th Street South

95. J. Biviano Grocery Store/ now Sculpture Signs. 417 25th Street South. (1926; c. late 1950s).
Two story, with a c. 1950s one story addition, free standing yellow brick building, with stucco walls and terra cotta coping on the sides, and a flat roof with partial front gable. The front façade has four decorative symmetrical pilasters with concrete coping, and there are four chimneys including three rounded brick and one stucco, end entrance with four-pane transom above and c. 1960s permastone above entrance. The first floor storefront was modernized c. 1960s-70s with permastone and one bay has been boarded up. The second story contains a central wrought iron balcony with French style double doors and a c. 1940s metal awning, and there is a limestone nameplate above the balcony containing the name of the building. The first side walls contain two original single pane wood windows, the second floor side facade contains three 1:1 double hung wood windows, and the second floor front façade contains 4:1 and 1:1 double hung wood windows. There are limestone square insets over the second floor front windows, and there is a concrete foundation. Biviano's occupied this store until at least the mid-1950s.
96. Foreign Car Body Shop. 600 25th Street. (c. late 1940s; c. 1970s).
One story free standing brick garage with a flat roof with limestone coping, a c. 1970s aluminum and glass storefront at the corner of 25th Street and 6th Avenue with limestone sills, and opaque casement windows throughout with brick sills separated by brick pilasters. There are two garage bays on the 25th Street side with c. 1970s metal roll up doors, a rear garage bay, and a concrete foundation.
97. Nabors Radiator Electric. 617 25th Street South. (c. late 1920s).
One story free standing brick veneer and concrete block garage with a flat roof which is stepped on the sides, terra cotta coping, and elaborate metal cornice. One storefront is filled with concrete block.

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27th Place South

98. Lamar and Associates. 700 27th Place South. (possibly c. 1920; c. 1980s).
One story building, likely a residential structure, with a hipped roof. It was completely remodeled c. 1980s with a brick façade and double hung wood windows, and there is a concrete foundation. (NC)

27th Street South

99. East End Drug Co./ now Artomotive. 600 27th Street South. (c.1910; c. 1980s).
Two story free standing brick veneer building with a corner entrance, flat roof, one brick chimney, 1:1 double hung wood windows and c. 1980s fixed metal windows on the sides all with brick sills, and a concrete foundation. In c. 1938, the William Meshad Grocery occupied this building.
100. Commercial/Office Building. 604 27th Street South. (c. 1950; c. 1980).
Two story free standing building that was completely refaced c. 1980 with synthetic stucco, and a Modern style aluminum and glass storefront. There is also a flat roof and a concrete foundation. (NC)
101. Strawbridge House. 616 27th Street. South. (c. 1910).
One and one half story Victorian era hipped roof cottage that was refaced with c. 1980s aluminum siding. There is a full front porch with round wood columns (in pairs at the porch entrance) on brick porch piers, and a decorative brick porch wall. There are also two plaster over brick chimneys, two front gables with fish scale shingles in one gable and beaded board in the 2nd one with also has a decorative central decorative wood vent with dentils. This house was occupied by the Strawbridge family, an African American family, for several decades.
102. Cabbage and Kings. 620 27th Street South. (c. 1990).
Two story free standing residential style building with vinyl siding, tin gable roof, fixed aluminum windows, and a concrete foundation. (NC)

28th Street South

103. Lakeview Apartments. 700 – 710 ½ 28th Street South. (c. 1938).
Two story with basement brick veneer and concrete (at the basement) apartment building with a flat roof, wood cornice, 1:1 double hung wood windows with arched lintels on the sides, and decorative brick work. There is a full front porch with a fixed wood awning with a decorative pressed tin ceiling and round steel posts, and there is an exterior concrete wall. The left portion of the building has been demolished probably in the last ten years with a remnant of the wall remaining. This is one of two historic apartment buildings in the district.
104. Loretta Goodwin Gallery. 605 28th Street South. (c. 1950; c. 1980s).
Two story concrete block warehouse/garage, built c. 1950s with a flat roof and casement windows that only remains visible from the north side of the building. The front one story bay was added c. 1980s and obscures much of the original building. This portion has synthetic stucco, aluminum storefronts, and a front gable. (NC)
105. American Bakeries Company - Huston Cracker Plant/ now ABSCO. 416 28th Street. (1902; c. 1960s).
Four story freestanding brick building with a rear loading dock on the 28th Street side and a flat roof. There are a series of 14 arched windows on each floor divided by brick pilasters with c. 1960s aluminum windows, c. 1960s permastone along the first floor façade, a central entrance with c. 1960s awning on the 28th Street side, and a concrete foundation. A concrete block warehouse was also built on the west side c. 1960s. This building housed the Huston Cracker Plant, the only cracker plant of the American Bakeries Company, for approximately 60 years.

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29th Street South

106. W. C. Davis School/ now Birmingham Board of Education offices and Davis Center. 409-415 29th Street South. (c.1949).
Two story free standing brick veneer African American school. There is a flat roof, one exterior brick chimney, 3:3 double hung wood windows with a limestone belt course above and below the windows. There is also a central slightly extended limestone entrance bay on both the 29th Street and 4th Avenue sides, with a projecting parapet, double doors with a limestone transom and header, and a brick foundation.
107. Absco. 616 29th Street South. (c. 1980).
One story freestanding building with a flat roof, synthetic stucco façade, fixed aluminum storefronts, central entrance, and a concrete foundation. (NC)
108. Bill's Diner/ now Chaos. 620 29th Street. (c. 1950; c. 1970s).
One story free standing brick veneer and concrete block (on the rear) commercial building with a flat roof with a c. 1970s front tin slope. There is a central entrance flanked by c. 1970s aluminum and glass storefronts, and there is a neon sign on the storefront.
109. Exclusive Furniture Store Building and Avon Theatre. Corner 7th Avenue and 29th Street South. (1926).
Two story brick veneer and stucco Tudor Revival style corner building. There are wood storefronts along both the 7th Avenue and 29th Street facades, and there is a single bay arched recessed entrance on 29th Street. There are also multiple gables with stucco and wood cross boards, double hung wood windows with stone sills, and a brick foundation. A theatre was built in the southeast portion of the building. (NRHP)
Designed by Charles H. McCauley.
110. House/ now Mid-South Building. 712 29th Street South. (c. 1920; c. 1980s; c. 2000).
Two-story brick veneer and c. 1980s weatherboard Foursquare house with a c. 2000 metal hip roof, and the full front porch was enclosed c. 1980s with weatherboard and two fixed wood windows. There are 8:1 double hung wood windows with limestone sills throughout, decorative brick diamond insets along the second floor, and a brick foundation. Built for white families, this house remained a single-family residence at least until 1961. (NC)
111. House/ now Susan Williams Reeves, Attorney. 714 29th Street South. (c. 1920s; c. 1980s).
One story, with a ½ story added c. 1980s, Craftsman style bungalow with a cross gable roof and c. 1980s vinyl siding. The full front porch was enclosed c. 1980s with a vinyl-clad wall, but with the original rubble stone tapered porch columns remaining visible. There are also rubble stone cheek walls and foundation, and c. 1980s fixed very long wood windows throughout. Built for white families, this house remained a single-family residence at least until 1961. (NC)
112. Manchester Terrace. 720-728 29th Street South. (1927).
Two story freestanding commercial/apartment building complex including a one story Spanish Revival style commercial portion immediately facing 29th Street with a two story rear Tudor Revival style apartment building immediately behind it. The commercial portion is stucco with a flat roof with a terra cotta overhanging fascia, with two detached bays that are separated by a wide sidewalk and walkway into the apartment portion. Each bay has two entrances flanked by a large fixed wood window with a fanlight with very decorative scrolled plaster columns, and a central window with a fanlight. The apartment portion is U-shaped with a hip roof with triple front gables with Tudor style wood cross boards, and 6:1 double hung wood windows. (NRHP)

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113. House/now Jaycee's Haunted House. 732 29th Street South. (c. 1890).
Two story brick veneer and stucco front Queen Anne house with a hip roof with triple front gables including decorative wood shingles. There is a full front porch with a flat roof and four wide rectangular columns with limestone caps, and a left front angled projecting bay. There is also an original first floor entrance door with a fanlight, 2:2 double hung wood windows on the front with the remaining windows having been boarded up. According to the Southside-Highlands Survey, this house is probably one of the oldest in the south side of Birmingham.
114. Romeo House/ now Lakeview Bistro. 725 29th Street South. (c. 1925).
One story weatherboard and rubble stone (on porch and foundation) Craftsman style bungalow with a cross gable roof with multiple front gables with decorative terra cotta roof elements. There are three painted rubble stone chimneys, a partial width front porch with two massive rubble stone columns and wall, rubble stone cheek walls, rubble stone foundation on the front with brick at the rear, decorative wood insets, and a decorative wood faux fanlight above the left front window. There are also 3:1 double hung wood windows, French style wood windows, and two central entrances with the left one being an original wood and glass door and the right being a wood French style door. The Romeo family still lived here until at least 1961.
115. Stiles House/ now Lakeview Oyster House. 731 29th Street South. (c. 1910).
Two story weatherboard and stucco Foursquare house with a hip roof, and front porch with a hip roof and two massive decorative end brick columns. There are 1:1 double hung wood windows, sidelights and transom, and a brick foundation. This house was used as a residence until at least 1961.
116. A & P Food Store/ now Architect Form. 744 29th Street South. (c. late 1920s; c. 1970s).
One story freestanding brick veneer commercial building with a flat roof. There are two entrances each with a decorative flat limestone gable and surround, c. 1970s aluminum and glass storefronts with a continuous very decorative limestone header containing geometric designs, and a concrete foundation.

30th Street South

117. Bethlehem Baptist Church. 611 30th Street South. (1924; c. 1940s; c. 1960s).
One story weatherboard church that was refaced with aluminum c. 1960s. There is a central gable flanked by towers, c. 1940s rear addition, two brick chimneys, exposed rafter tails, brick pier foundation, and c. 1960s 1:1 double hung and fixed aluminum windows.

32nd Street South

118. Thirty-Second Street Baptist Church/ now vacant. 518 32nd Street. (1924).
Three story free standing stucco over brick African American church with two end towers, central gable, one brick chimney, metal casement windows with limestone sills, steps flanking front entrance, and a concrete foundation. This church has been home to several independent Baptist Churches including First Independent Sunrise Spiritual Baptist Church, and Independent Baptist Church. It was one of at least two churches in the district known to have held mass meetings during the Civil Rights era.
Designed by prominent African American architect, Wallace A. Rayfield.
119. Commercial Building. 521-523 32nd Street South. (c. 1960s).
One story, one bay building with a c. 1960s front stone façade, square stone insets above the c. 1970s aluminum and glass storefront. There is also a flat roof. (NC)

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120. Meyers Grocery and Collins Restaurant/ now Team Athletic. 528 - 530 32nd Street South. (c. 1920s).
One story free standing brick veneer with two bays, c. 1960s cut stone on the front façade, brick corbelling along the 5th Avenue façade, parapet flat roof, concrete foundation, c. 1960s aluminum and glass storefronts, metal downspouts, and a concrete foundation.
121. Electric Motor Service Inc. / now Steri Pac. 606 32nd Street South. (1952 - 1954; c.1970s).
One story free standing brick commercial building with a flat roof with terra cotta tile coping. There is a brick belt course, metal operable windows with limestone sills, limestone cornice and soldier courses, and central entrance flanked by c. 1970s storefronts.

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Statement of Significance

Criterion A, Commerce

The Southside Historic District is significant under Criterion A, Commerce, for its documentation 1902 - 1954 of one of Birmingham's most diverse mixed-use commercial, automotive, and light industrial areas. With a wide variety of specialty neighborhood-based stores and services, it catered to residents who lived either in the District or adjacent to it. At the same time, larger commercial, automotive, and industrial businesses built in Southside, providing it with a much broader economic base.

Until the mid-1920s, Southside was primarily a residential neighborhood with only a sprinkling of businesses scattered throughout the district. One building remains from 1902, the four story American Bakeries Company's Huston Cracker Company which sold throughout the Southeast and beyond (Inv. # 105). Five years later, the Harris Transfer Warehouse was constructed, and c. 1916, this four-story building was more than doubled (Inv. # 88). Two neighborhood based small buildings remain from c. 1910, including a one story combination residence/ Italian grocery store (Inv. # 37), and a c.1910 two story drug company (Inv. # 99). Six small freestanding commercial buildings also remain from the early to mid-1920s including the Pryor Motor Co. parts department (Inv. # 20), one grocery store (Inv. #s 24), the Dainty Maid Bakery and Delicatessen (Inv. # 72), and two pharmacies (Inv. #s 66, 76).

In 1926, Birmingham introduced zoning into city planning. As a result, 100% of the area was zoned by the City of Birmingham for commercial and light industrial use, and by the end of the decade, only a handful of houses remained. Of the District's 82 commercial buildings, 73 were built between 1926 and 1954. Small, neighborhood based businesses from this period include six grocery stores and markets (Inv. # 120, 116, 6, 109, 59, 68), one c. 1930s grocery that was the only female-owned business in the District (Inv. # 42), one c. 1920 gas/filling station (Inv. # 56) and one c. 1930s gas station (Inv. # 53), a c. 1930s pharmacy (Inv. # 66), several one story commercial blocks (Inv. # 11-13), cleaners (Inv. # 61, 63, and 29 - now NC), three small garages (Inv. #s 22, 45, 90), one c. 1928 black-owned café (Inv. # 4) and an additional c. 1920s restaurant (Inv. # 38), and three c. late 1940s - 1950 small restaurants (Inv. #s 75, the District's only drive-through, 79, 80).

Larger, more regional, businesses also built in Southside during from c. 1920s - 1954. Included were the Cleveland Supply Co (Inv. # 8), Phenix Supply Co. (Inv. # 7), Mack International Truck Company (Inv. # 32), Colby Decorating Company (Inv. # 60), Exclusive Furniture Company (Inv. # 109), and several automobile showrooms including two built c. 1920s, the Redmont Motor Company (Inv. # 64) and Liberty Motors (Inv. # 33), and five more constructed during the 1940s (Inv. #s 23, 31, 34, 55, and 62, Steel City Oldsmobile). During the 1940s-1954, a number of regionally important businesses including Bonds Brothers Supply Co. (Inv. # 10), Dixie Awning Co. (Inv. # 9), Mac Wates Fuel Co. (Inv. # 18), Automatic Sprinkler Corporation of America (Inv. # 17), Hinkle Supply Co. (Inv. # 19), Lane Tile and Marble Co. (Inv. # 51), American Saw Mill Machy Co. (Inv. # 93), and Richardson Construction Co. (Inv. # 84)

Criterion A, Social History

The Southside Historic District is significant under Criterion A, Social History, for its documentation of a racially, ethnically, and economically mixed Birmingham neighborhood (c. 1890s - 1954). Prior to passage of the City's 1926 Zoning Plan, a loose informal residential pattern developed in Southside where whites and blacks lived on blocks and streets that were *physically* integrated. In 1926, however, the City zoned the entire city. Residential areas that were to remain residential were strictly segregated by race. Other residential areas, like Southside, were zoned for new commercial and light industrial use so that, from 1926 - 1960s, most low income housing was razed. The District provides excellent documentation of this physical shift where, prior to 1926, white middle class residences, businesses, churches, and schools, were constructed immediately adjacent to, or within blocks of, African American residences, churches, and schools. After 1926, no new residences were built, and no new churches or schools were built for whites. However, many commercial or light industrial structures were constructed, and several African American churches or schools were reconstructed or refaced. Included in

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the District is one white school (Inv. # 1) built 1901, 1909, one black school (Inv. # 105) built in 1949, one white church built 1902-1904 (Inv. # 89), and five black churches built during the 1920s (Inv. #s 85, 117, 118) or rebuilt c. 1947-1949 (Inv. #s 2, 36). In addition, two houses were built for African Americans c. 1910s -1920s and are currently occupied as such (Inv. # 3, 101), and five houses were built for middle class whites, c. 1890, c. 1910, mid-1920s, and were occupied as such until the 1960s (Inv. #s 82, 100, 113, 114, 15). Interestingly too, this pattern is extant primarily in the area that whites referred to as Lakeview, but that blacks referred to as Bear Mash.

Until 1926, stores and businesses were scattered throughout the District (Inv. #s 37, 105, 76, 48, 72, 78, 24). After it was zoned for commercial use, Southside transitioned from a residential neighborhood into a predominantly business district. All but four extant commercial buildings, including one c. 1928 black-owned café (Inv. # 4), were owned by whites. The other three were Italian owned groceries which document a typical pattern throughout Birmingham where Italian-owned groceries located in African American neighborhoods. Fiorella's Grocery was built c. 1910 on 6th Avenue with an apartment adjoining the store where its owner resided (Inv. # 37); Biviano's, a two story building with Renaissance Revival influences and a second floor apartment where Joe Biviano and his wife lived, was built in 1926 on 28th Street and 5th Avenue (Inv. # 95); and Schilleci's was built c. 1928 on 4th Avenue South (Inv. # 6). Both Biviano's and Schilleci's groceries remained Italian stores until at least 1954, while Fiorella's was no longer a grocery after the late 1930s.

This racial and ethnic pattern remained until after 1954, when dozens and dozens of residential resources, adjacent to the District, were torn down. By the late 1960s, most had been demolished, and new stores, warehouses, banks, garages, or parking lots took their place. In addition, during the same decade, many blacks in Birmingham and throughout the South, actively supported the Civil Rights Movement. Most of these supporters participated in organizational meetings often held in the many churches in the City. Two of these were the 32nd Street Baptist Church (Inv. # 118) and East End Baptist Church (Inv. # 36) both of which remain extant in the Southside Historic District.

Criterion C, Architecture

The Southside Historic District is significant for its excellent examples of vernacular, some well-articulated, commercial, industrial, religious, residential, and educational architecture from c. 1890s – 1954. Four structures were designed by important white and African American architects including Harry and Charles Wheelock who designed the 1901, 1909 Classical Revival Lakeview School (Inv. # 1 - NRHP), Charles H. McCauley who designed the outstanding Spanish Revival style Colby Decorating Co. (Inv. # 60) and the Tudor Revival style Exclusive Furniture Company (Inv. # 109 - NRHP) in 1927, and African American Wallace A. Rayfield, who designed the 1924 32nd Street Baptist Church (Inv. # 118). There is also one additional Spanish Revival style building, the 1928 Swann Laundry (Inv. # 63), two outstanding examples of Beaux Art architecture (Inv. #s 41, 64), one c. 1940s Tudor Revival style building (Inv. # 51), and a c. late 1940s Colonial Revival office building constructed by the Mac Wates Fuel Co. and possibly designed by Miller, Martin, and Lewis (Inv. # 18). There are also a number of one story one part commercial parts (Inv. #s 11, 12, 13), free standing c. 1910 – 1920s commercial buildings (Inv. #s 6, 24, 37, 42, 78, 99), a c. 1930s gas station (Inv. # 53), and two large brick four and five story buildings including a 1902 bakery (Inv. # 105), and c. 1907-08, 1916 Harris Transfer Company Warehouse (Inv. # 88). The District has several important late 1940s commercial styles including one International style car showroom (Inv. # 32), one Art Moderne style car showroom (Inv. # 34), and one Art Deco style showroom (Inv. # 62). There are also several additional small Art Deco commercial blocks on 7th Avenue (Inv. #s 61).

The District also has one Victorian Gothic style church (Inv. # 89), three modest single story wood or concrete block African American churches with a gable front (Inv. #s 2, 85, 117), and one small brick African American church with end towers (Inv. # 36). There is also one large stucco over brick African American church designed by Wallace A. Rayfield (Inv. # 118), and a

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block-wide two story brick African American school built in 1949 (Inv. # 106). The District contains two apartment buildings, one built in 1927 in a Tudor Revival style with a Spanish Revival style commercial portion at the street level (Inv. # 112 – NRHP), and one built c. 1938 (Inv. # 103). Residential structures include one well articulated stucco Queen Anne house (Inv. # 113), one c. 1910 American Four-Square house (Inv. # 115), one fine Craftsman bungalow with rubble stone features (Inv. # 114), a bungalow style duplex (Inv. # 3), and a hipped roof Victorian era cottage (Inv. # 101).

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Southside Historic District developed c. 1890 – 1954, initially as a white middle class and working class African American neighborhood c. 1890, 1901-1909, c. 1910, c. 1920-1925. By then, there were many houses for whites in the Lakeview area, known to blacks as Bear Mash, as well as a Classical Revival School (Inv. # 1), a Gothic Revival Church (Inv. # 78), and several stores. Blacks also built in adjacent lots and blocks, and by the 1920s there were one-story Victorian-era duplexes, and hipped roof houses two of which remain (Inv. #s 3, 101), and three African American churches (Inv. #s 85, 117, 118). In 1926, a city zoning ordinance zoned the entire area for commercial and light industrial use. After that, no new houses, churches, or schools were built for the white community, but dozens of new commercial, automotive, or light industrial buildings were constructed throughout the district including one black owned café (Inv. # 4) and three Italian groceries (Inv. #s 37, 6, 95). In addition, two African American churches were rebuilt from 1947-1949 (Inv. #s 2, 36) and a large school was constructed for blacks on a site that had previously held a smaller school (Inv. # 106). Two African American churches, moreover, became active as meeting places for protests and marches during the Civil Rights Movement (Inv. #s 36, 118). Between c. 1955-1965, what remained of homes in the blocks adjacent to the District – almost all of which by then were occupied by African Americans – was demolished for new warehouses, banks, stores, and parking lots.

The oldest extant portion of the Southside Historic District is Lakeview, between 27th and 32nd Street and Clairmont Avenue and 6th Avenue. It was named by the Elyton Land Company for Chicago's fashionable neighborhood of the same name, and in 1885, the company built Lakeview Park just outside the District where ball games and summer festivals took place (Atkins, Valley in the Hills). By the late 1890s, Lakeview included a large lake, pavilion with a dance hall and vaudeville house, hotel (Satterfield, p. 127), St. Vincent's Catholic Hospital (now one of the largest and most prestigious hospitals in Birmingham), and middle class houses (Weeks, Birmingham: A Postcard Tour). Only one house remains from this period, a large two-story stucco Queen Anne residence on 29th Street that has, for the last fifteen years, been used annually by the Jaycees for its Halloween Haunted House (Inv. # 113).

In addition, due to the City's dramatic growth during the 1880s, the Birmingham Board of Education planned to build three new schools including one in Lakeview. Plans for Lakeview School were interrupted by the Panic of 1893, and did not resume until c. 1900. Due to budget constraints, the school, planned for white students in grades one through seven, had to be constructed in two phases. Designed by locally prominent architects, Charles and Harry Wheelock, the first phase was completed in 1901 for grades one through four. It included four classrooms, an office, two basement playrooms, manual training rooms and a home economics room. By 1909, the second phase finished and included the fifth, sixth, and seventh grades (Ibid) (Inv. # 1).

In 1902, at the opposite end of the District, white Presbyterians built the Third Presbyterian Church. At the corner of 7th Avenue (then known as Avenue G) and 22nd Street (now a major one-way thoroughfare out of the City), the congregation began its first phase of construction. Like the Board of Education, the congregation was constrained by a budget and decided not to build until they had cash in hand. By the end of the year, only the basement had been completed, and it was another two years before the relatively large nicely articulated Victorian Gothic style church was finished (Inv. # 89).

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Organized in 1886, the church had been led, since 1889, by Reverend John Bryan. Known as Brother Bryan throughout Birmingham, Reverend Bryan had become famous by the turn of the century for his work with the City's poor. As part of this effort, he ministered to Birmingham's significant population of prostitutes most of whom lived near the city's mills and mines and were desperately poor. Some worked for madams, of course, including Blanche Barnard who, by the early 1900s had built a fine brothel in the "Red Light District" on 1st Avenue South (now part of the Automotive District, NRHP). Brother Bryan and Madam Barnard developed a friendship partly, at least, because of Bryan's eventually successful efforts to convert her to Christianity (Sterne, Prostitution in Birmingham). Brother Bryan led his Southside congregation until his death in 1941 (Satterfield).

The same year the church began construction, the American Bakeries Company opened its first cracker plant on Birmingham's Southside (Inv. # 105). In 1891, the Huston Biscuit Company was founded by Heman Malchow and William Fisch (The Age-Herald, 12-3-03; Birmingham, September 1930). By 1902, the company had been purchased by local mercantile entrepreneurs (The Age-Herald, 12-3-03), and was comprised of three plants including the Huston Cracker Plant. Within a few years, R. C. Thompson had taken over the company, and throughout the 1910s and early 1920s, he struggled to make it a success. In 1923, J. T. Sparrow joined the company, and by 1927, he was appointed manager of the Huston Plant (Birmingham, p. 4).

The plant's most important product was the Fairy Soda Cracker which it shipped from the east coast to Texas and north to Illinois. According to a 1930 article in Birmingham magazine, the "crackers manufactured are made by the most modern machinery available and packed in the approved sanitary wax-wrapped cartons." "These crackers," it continued, "have been improved upon from time to time and compare favorably with any crackers made in this country." All products, it said, were examined and "passed upon" by the company's laboratory consisting of a chemical engineer, five "graduate chemists, and a number of assistants" (Ibid, pp. 4-5). Business was good, and by 1930, American Bakeries owned nineteen plants "all of them in the South" and all stocks owned by "Southern men." Eighteen of the plants made bread and "corresponding products," while the only one interested in manufacturing crackers and "penny cakes" was in Birmingham. General offices were in Atlanta then apparently because its state-of-the-art Testing Laboratory where all products were tested before being used. Branch offices were located throughout the Southeast including Birmingham; Jacksonville and Orlando, Florida; Chattanooga and Knoxville, Tennessee; Rome and Macon, Georgia; Wilmington, Winston-Salem, High Point, and Fayetteville, North Carolina; Florence and Anderson, South Carolina; and New Orleans, Louisiana (Ibid, p. 4).

In 1930, the company installed \$25,000 of new equipment in the Southside cracker plant. According to one report, that improvement "made it possible for Birmingham and the South to have the best kind of iced bakery products the year round." By then, its best sellers were Marshmallow Pies and Hinky Dinks (Ibid, p. 10).

Five years after the cracker company's building was constructed in Southside, the Harris Transfer Company, a company with customers throughout the region, built a huge warehouse on 22nd Street. Located just north of the Third Presbyterian Church, it forms the western boundary of the District (Inv. # 78). In 1916, the building was more than doubled which may have led a 1929 edition of the Birmingham magazine to refer to it as "Birmingham's first exclusive storage warehouse for household goods." According to the article, the "company's activities are extensive and cover a wide territory." "Its services include household goods removal either local or, as local agents for the Allied Van Lines, Inc., long distance; expert packing and crating of furniture for shipment; the storing of household goods under the most modern conditions, separate fireproof compartments for each customer, special rooms for pianos, special rug room, separate compartment for upholstered living room." It also, it wrote, offered "heavy hauling for commercial or industrial clients" including machinery up to thirty tons in weight (Birmingham, September 1929).

By the early 1900s, when the cracker company and the Harris Transfer Company built, the Southside Historic District had become defined by Lakeview in the eastern portion, Third Presbyterian Church at the western edge, and a dense neighborhood for working class whites and blacks in between. One house built for Lakeview's middle class remains, an

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American Four Square residence, on 29th Street (Inv. # 115), as does the East End Drug Company (Inv. # 99). Two lots down is the c. 1910 one and one half story house with Victorian era milled trim, which has continually been occupied by African Americans (Inv. # 101, The Strawbridge House). Further down 6th Avenue, is an unusual one story combination store and residence. Fiorella Grocery, an Italian-owned store, occupied the building for more than twenty years, and Pat Fiorella lived in the residence during the early 1930s. By 1938, the grocery business and Mr. Fiorella were gone, and two African Americans lived there (Inv. # 37) (City Directories, 1916, 1930, 1938).

According to "The Other Side: The Story of Birmingham's Black Community (funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities)," the city experienced a fantastic increase in its African American population during the late 1880s – 1890s. Tied to the explosion of jobs for rural post Civil War blacks, poor whites, and European immigrants, it said, "The Southside," had become, by the 1920s, the "largest concentration of blacks in one neighborhood." It was, moreover, a status it retained through the 1960s ("The Other Side: The Story of Birmingham's Black Community"). According to the booklet's author, in 1870, Birmingham's black population was 2,506, but by 1880, it had doubled. In the 1890s, moreover, it jumped "six fold," and for decades after that, the county's African population grew by between fifty and seventy-five percent. According to the study, and 1920 City Directories, blacks referred to their Southside neighborhood as Bear Mash, where they often lived side by side with whites. Some blocks were dominated by one or the other race, while on other blocks, whites lived on one side of the street with blacks on the other. Still other blocks revealed that there was little or no pattern with blacks and white residences haphazardly mixed and interspersed with white and black churches (City Directories, 1920).

By 1925, four new commercial buildings had been built on 6th Avenue south of Bear Mash and west of Lakeview. Included is Pryor Motor Car Company at the corner of 22nd Street, W. P. Pickard Grocery Store at the corner of 30th Street, Reid's Pharmacy in Lakeview (Inv. # 76), Hill Grocery on 6th Avenue just east of 22nd Street (Inv. # 24), and A & P Grocery on 29th Street in Lakeview (Inv. # 116). Just north on Avenue G (7th Avenue), the Dainty Maid Bakery and Delicatessen was constructed (Inv/ # 72). Two Craftsman bungalows were built in Lakeview including one with nice rubble stone features (Inv. # 114); three others were built there in the area but are now non-contributing because of substantial renovations. One new duplex was built on 4th Avenue in Bear Mash, a nice Craftsman style building with a row of four large square brick columns across the front porch (Inv. # 3).

One year later, in 1926, the City of Birmingham passed a comprehensive zoning ordinance to strictly segregate neighborhoods all over the City both by race and by use. According to the accompanying map, 100% of Southside Historic District was zoned for commercial or light industrial use. Within the next five years, most of the area's "cheap frame cottages, "as one newspaper put it, had been razed, Avenue G had been renamed 7th Avenue, and Southside had recast itself into a commercial neighborhood "of distinction" (The Dixie Manufacturer, 1-25-27). No new houses have been built since then. Several African American churches were, however, rebuilt during the 1930s and 1940s, and in 1949, Davis School, an African American school, was constructed (Inv.# 106).

The new commercial zoning for Southside may have been widely anticipated by Birmingham's real estate and business sectors. As early as April of 1926, the Age-Herald reported that, "Real estate activity along Avenue G continues practically unabated . . ." Sales for the area, it reported, were "believed to have established new records, even in the face of the well-known 'boom', which marked the Southside a year ago." "Real estate men," it continued in close touch with the general market and the trend of activity declare the Southside activity, the center of which evolves about Avenue G (7th Avenue), is due to a large extent to the fact that a new shopping center [is] following the residential development in that section of the city, a logical and not unusual move." The article attributed some of the bustle to settlement of "Birmingham's long drawn underpass wrangle" and additional viaduct activity. Avenue F (6th Avenue), it observed, was also experiencing significant development.

By May, the Birmingham Age-Herald wrote excitedly about the two new buildings underway on Avenue G which it said marked the "beginning of a new shopping district in the heart of Southside's residence section." Two stores had recently

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broken ground, both of them corner buildings designed by noted local architect Charles H. McCauley, and both were going to house upscale furniture or home decorating items. Both were finished within several months time. The Exclusive Furniture Store (NRHP) was built by M. C. Banks at the corner of 29th Street and 7th Avenue in Lakeview (Inv. # 99). A beautiful two story Tudor Revival style building, it was massive in scale, large enough to contain thirty show rooms "each of which," according to the newspaper, "will be furnished as would be a room in a house" (Age Herald, 5-23-26).

Five blocks west, wealthy Birmingham industrialist, George Crawford Johnson, built the Colby Decorating Company, a two-story Spanish Revival style structure (Inv. # 60). Day and Sachs contractors, who located in Southside several years later on 5th Avenue (Inv. # 10), built the \$100,000 building. "The treatment of the building," according to the Age-Herald, provides for the patio found in all truly Spanish houses, with exterior of buff stucco with Spanish tile roof and many ornamental iron balconies and grills" (Ibid). Upon its opening, the Birmingham magazine hailed the company for adding "metropolitan atmosphere to [the] city." In its November 1926 issue, it wrote confidently, "If any evidence was necessary to prove that Birmingham is rapidly taking her place among the truly metropolitan cities of the country, a very convincing one has been furnished by the recent opening of the very artistic new home of The Colby Decorating Company . . ." Continuing, it said, "Competent judges, who are familiar with the establishments of all the leading decorators in this country say that there are only three other American cities that have buildings devoted to this line of business that compare in beauty of exterior and artistically designed interior . . ." While the reader never learned from the article the names of the "other cities," a full-page photo spread highlighted homes furnished and decorated by the Colby company, which gave Birmingham, it said, "national repute." (Birmingham, November 1926, pp. 4-5).

"Work on the new store buildings," the Age-Herald wrote, "is having a direct influence" on the "demand for both residence and commercial properties" in Southside. "[C]lose in apartments and stores" were in heavy demand," it quoted Charles P. Marks of the prominent Jemison Real Estate Company as having said. According to Marks, the paper reported, "Many firms now located in downtown streets have sought advice from Jemison and company concerning the advisability of opening branch stores or main headquarters in the newly developed business district." Marks commented too that, by the end of the year, he expected there to be additional Southside growth (Age-Herald, 5-23-26).

One block north, in Bear Mash, Boviano's Grocery opened its two story yellow brick store with a second story central wrought balcony and a limestone nameplate above it containing the name of the building (Inv. # 95). According to "The Other Side: The Story of Birmingham's Black Community," Italian-owned groceries historically located in the city's African American communities, a pattern documented in Southside since the 1910s when Fiorella's Grocery located on 6th Avenue (Inv. # 37). A Master's Thesis written in 1969 also documents the importance of Italians in Birmingham's grocery industry, and of Italian groceries in black communities. According to Theresa Aguglia Beavers, Italians ran groceries in Birmingham's African American communities until the late 1960s, at which time, they began to leave "Negro neighborhoods." Many, she noted were also leaving the business altogether heading, instead, for "white collar jobs and professional careers." Others stayed, though, including A. J. Virciglio of Western Supermarkets, Joe and Angelo Bruno of Bruno's, D. C. Stignani of Liberty Supermarkets, and John Simonetti of Simonetti Wholesale Distributors (Beavers, "The Italians of the Birmingham District," pp. 97-98). All, but the Liberty stores, remain very active in Birmingham.

In addition to making his living in Southside's Bear Mash area, Jake Biviano and his family lived in the groceries' second floor apartment (City Directories). According to Frank Joseph Fede's 1994 book entitled Italians in the Deep South: Their Impact on Birmingham and the American Heritage, Biviano was especially active in promoting Italian culture and education in the city. He was active in Italian language classes, and was elected president of the U.S.P.P Italian Society in the 1920s. According to Fede, the organization enjoyed over 400 members and was one of the oldest Italian organizations in Alabama (Fede, pp.94, 156. 250). Biviano remained in his Southside store at least until the mid-1950s (City Directory, 1954). A block away, Joe Schilleci, another prominent Birmingham Italian name in the 1920s, also built in Bear Mash (Inv. # 6). By 1938, Schilleci's had gone, and Salamone Italian-owned grocery had replaced it.

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In the eastern portion of the District, in blocks immediately adjacent to the area whites called Lakeview, African Americans built three churches. Two were one-story frame buildings with gable fronts, the Southside Church of God (Inv # 85) and the Bethlehem Baptist Church (Inv. # 117). The other was the 32nd Street Baptist Church (Inv. # 118), a large stucco over brick structure that was built in 1924, and designed by prominent African American architect Wallace A. Rayfield. Rayfield designed many black churches in the city including the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church. It also became one of two churches in the District recognized as an important venue during the Civil Rights Movement.

By 1928, a healthy mix of neighborhood stores, and larger more regional stores, began to dominate the Southside Historic District. Located directly across the street from Schillecti's Grocery (Inv. # 6), the 28th Street Casino Restaurant became a mainstay of the Bear Mash neighborhood, and remains the only black-owned café in the District. Like Biviano's, the café remained in Southside until the mid-1950s (Inv. # 4). Outside the African American area, the Phoenix Supply Company (Inv. #7), Cleveland Manufacturing Company (Inv. # 8), and three adjacent buildings in the 2400 block were built (Inv. # 11-13) one of which housed the Brinkskelle Rudolph Day & Sachs (later Day and Sachs contractors) (Inv. # 11). On 6th Avenue, a number of additional buildings were constructed including a garage (Inv. # 22), a large one story commercial building and garage (Inv. # 28), Mack International Truck Company (Inv. # 32), Antonio Manistz Restaurant (Inv. # 38), and a fabulous Beaux Art building in the 2800 block (Inv. # 41). A variety of new buildings were also constructed on fashionable 7th Avenue including Swann Laundry (Inv. # 63), Redmont Motor Company, an outstanding one story limestone Beaux Arts structure (Inv. # 64), and Oil Heating Corporation (Inv. # 73). On adjacent avenues, three additional garages were built (Inv. #s 87, 92, 94). Further east, in Lakeview, an A & P Food Store (Inv. # 116), was built on 29th Street near Lakeview School (Inv. # 1).

In 1927, at the opposite end of the District, in the Lakeview area, the mixed-use Manchester Terrace building was constructed (NRHP - Inv. # 112). Its design included a quaint one story, four bay, Spanish Revival commercial portion along 29th Street, with a two-story Tudor Revival style apartment building behind it. It remains only one of two apartment complexes in the District. The other is the two story Lakeview Apartments completed c. 1938 (Inv. # 93).

In October 1928, according to the Birmingham News, commercial property owners along 7th Avenue, from 20th Street to 29th Street in Lakeview, petitioned to widen the street, install streetlights, and build sidewalks. The report anticipated a positive response from the City Commission, and cited the dramatic transformation of the area in recent years. "Seventh Avenue, South," it wrote, "has been transformed from a residence to a business thoroughfare in the last few years, and along the nine-block stretch from Twentieth Street to Twenty-Ninth Street, there are not more than 20 dwellings, whereas five years ago there were no more than half a dozen stores." "With all the commercial buildings that have been constructed along the nine blocks since the business trend in that direction began five years ago there are no vacancies" (Birmingham News, 10-28-28).

Of course, within little more than a year's time, the economy had crashed, and vacancies became all too common throughout the country. A search of the Birmingham City Directories reveals that many Southside businesses left c. 1929-mid 1930s, but by 1938, new businesses had arrived and most buildings were again occupied. Among new businesses were the Birmingham Nehi Bottling Company (Inv. # 7), Kraft Cheese Corporation (Inv. # 28), Birmingham Linen Supply Company (Inv. # 41), and Brammer Paint and Body (Inv. # 86). In addition, W. F. Motors replaced Redmont Motor Co. (Inv. # 64), Standard Coffee Company replaced Reid's Pharmacy in Lakeview (Inv. # 76), and Birmingham Aquarium replaced the Oil Heating Corporation in Lakeview (Inv. # 73).

Besides the arrival of these new businesses to Southside, three small new commercial buildings were built during the 1930s. Included was the Sarah Newman Grocery, a small freestanding store on the edge of Lakeview (Inv. # 42), Woodward's Service Station in Lakeview (Inv. # 53), and Gibbs Doster Drug Store where, in 1938, Birmingham Motors Motorcycles, replaced the pharmacy (Inv. # 66). The two story Lakeview Apartments was also built in Lakeview (Inv. # 103).

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Twenty-six new commercial, automotive, or light industrial buildings were constructed in Southside during the 1940s, many of which were large businesses with wide markets. Included were several super markets on 7th Avenue including the Redmont Market (Inv. # 59) and Lakeview Super Market (Inv. # 68), three garages on 23rd and 24th Streets (Inv. #s 92, 94, 96), and one warehouse (Inv. # 17). Four relatively large decorating or supply companies also built in the District including Lane Tile and Marble Co. which built an beautiful Tudor Revival style building for its industrial equipment business(Inv. #51), Albert Bluttman Floor Covering (Inv. # 69), Dixie Awning Company (Inv. # 9), and Massey Decorating Company (Inv.#57). The American Saw Mill Machy Co. also built on 24th Street, and Nelson Brantley constructed a automobile glass company which is still in business on 6th Avenue (now NC). The District's only Colonial Revival style building was also constructed by the Mac Wates Fuel Company (Inv. # 18). Miller, Martin & Lewis, a prestigious Birmingham architectural firm, who had designed other structures for this coal company, probably designed the building (unpublished records on the work of Miller, Martin & Lewis). In addition to these new buildings, several businesses moved into Southside during the 1940s including the Pepsi Bottling Company which replaced the Nehi Bottling Company on 5th Avenue (Inv. # 7).

Three important car dealerships built prominent buildings in the District during the late 1940s on 6th and 7th Avenues. Included is the Art Moderne style Miles Harry Motor Company (Inv. # 34), Dexter-Becks Motor Company which was renovated in an International style c. 1957 for Liberty Motors Company (Inv. # 55), and the impressive Art Deco style Steel City Oldsmobile Company which is still in use as a car dealership (Inv. # 62). In addition, the District's only used car lot and office was built on 6th Avenue (Inv. # 25) and remains in use as such.

On 7th Avenue, clustered in Lakeview, three small neighborhood restaurants were constructed including Chicken in the Rough which included a drive-through (Inv. # 75). Nearby were Billy's Hot Dogs (Inv. # 79), and Eli's Barbeque (Inv. # 80). Chicken in the Rough has since become a flower shop, but the other two remain small restaurants.

North of 7th Avenue, two African American churches and a large school were constructed during 1947-1949. The 4th Avenue Baptist Church (Inv. # 2) had worshipped in at least one earlier church building on this site since c. 1910. New Liberty Baptist Church built a nice brick church with end towers on 6th Avenue in 1947. It later became East End Baptist Church and was one of two churches in the District known to have held Civil Rights organization meetings in the late 1950s-60s and has been included in the Civil Rights Multiple Resource Nomination (Inv. # 36). In addition, Davis School was built for African Americans in 1949 (Inv. # 106). A two-story brick building with simple limestone details, the building covered the entire block between 4th and 5th Avenues on 29th Street, and was one of the last segregated schools built in Birmingham.

Between 1950 and 1954, more than a dozen businesses constructed buildings throughout Southside. Three were built on 5th Avenue including the nice two story brick Bonds Brothers Supply Co. (Inv. # 10), and two c. 1950 large free standing industrial-related buildings, the Automatic Sprinkler Corporation of America (Inv. # 17) and Hinkle Supply Company (Inv. # 19). Two new car dealerships built on 6th Avenue including the International style 1954 Liberty Motors Co. (Inv. # 31), and Ernest Woods Pontiac (Inv. # 23), which became Shaver Pontiac in 1954. Brannon Electric Motor Co. also built on the east end of 6th Avenue (Inv. # 50). Nearby, Electric Motor Service, Inc. built on 32nd Street (Inv. # 121), while seven blocks west, the University IT Credit Corporation brick a free standing brick building (Inv. # 27).

Four important new businesses built on the western end of 7th Avenue. The American Discount Finance Co. (Inv. # 54) built a large concrete block building adjacent to the Third Presbyterian Church (Inv. # 89). Sunshine Cleaners built a one-story limestone Art Deco structure, Swiss Dry Cleaning Company built on 6th Avenue (Inv. # 29 – now NC), and General Motors Acceptance Corporation built a one-story building (Inv. # 57). One additional freestanding commercial building was also built (Inv. # 52). Further east, in Lakeview, Bill's Diner built the area's fourth small freestanding diner (Inv. # 108). The Richardson Construction Co. also built a large building in Lakeview facing 32nd Street (Inv. # 84)

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Besides these c. 1950-1954 buildings, dozens of new businesses located in already existing buildings in the same period. Included were Glidden Paint Company (Inv. # 26), St. Regis Paper (Inv. # 28), Liberty Motors which occupied at least four buildings (Inv. #s 31-33), Mall Tool Company (Inv. # 34), Vulcan Materials Products in Lakeview (Inv. # 38), La Dame Laundry/Cleaners (Inv. # 42), Peck and Hills in the Colby Decorating Building (Inv. # 60), Try-Me Bottling Co. in the Redmont Motors Co. building (Inv. # 64), Barber Milk Co. in the Gibbs Doster Pharmacy (Inv. # 66), Iron Art Lawn Furniture (Inv. # 69), American Paint and Decorating Co. in the Reid's Pharmacy Building (Inv. # 76), and Domestic Laundry which occupied three buildings on 5th Avenue (Inv. #s 11-13).

For virtually every new building constructed in Southside during its last fifteen of development (1940-1954), one, two, or more c. 1900s-1920s shotgun houses or simple wood duplexes were destroyed. As late as 1950, according to the Sanborn Fire Insurance map, the District contained many such houses overwhelmingly, by then, occupied by African Americans. Within a decade, however, few were left.

At the same time, hundreds of other mostly African American families lived west of 22nd Street in an area soon to be replaced by the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Beginning in c. 1946, in an intriguing tale of stealth, ambition, and risk, the University of Alabama Medical College put together a plan to bring millions of dollars of federal aid to the city to construct a world-class university. The scheme was fraught with uncertainty at best, according to historian Christopher MacGregor Scribner's 2002 book Renewing Birmingham. A too simple summary of Scribner's account is that the College's plan to pull unprecedented amounts of federal dollars into Birmingham would automatically set off many of the so-called Big Mules industrialists who had historically fought ferociously to keep the federal government – and its increasingly anti-segregation laws – away from the City. By the same token, the school's plan was to use the federal money to clear away blocks of residential neighborhoods in Southside, west of 22nd Street, to build its complex. When news of that broke in Birmingham, they knew, African Americans, whose houses would be destroyed, would have to be relocated. Virtually every African-American zoned neighborhood, as well as white working class neighborhoods, were experiencing an intense housing shortage after World War II. Expatriated Southside blacks, in essence, would have nowhere to go. Nowhere, that is, except white neighborhoods or newly built federal housing projects (Scribner, Renewing Birmingham).

Ambitious university builders seemed to face unbeatable odds, but eventually the job was done. From the mid-1950s to mid-1960s all but a few scattered frame houses were torn down west of 22nd Street, and the University of Alabama at Birmingham (referred to later as the "University that Ate Birmingham") was on its way to staggering success. In the process, segregation collapsed due to the strong legal strings attached to the use of federal monies requiring compliance with the 14th Amendment, and other c. 1950s-60s Civil Rights laws prohibiting racial discrimination. (Ibid)

In addition to this once-in-a-blue-moon chance for Birmingham to shift its economy from industrial to service using the federal government's purse, an independent Civil Rights movement foisted Birmingham to national fame. By the late 1950s, the city's economy struggled to find its way out of an imploding industrial base, with poor blacks and whites taking the brunt of financial dislocation. Coupled with Birmingham's history of rigid social segregation, the city smoldered with racial tension. By the late 1950s and 1960s, its large black population began to organize to pursue its economic and social rights and to challenge the South's most fierce police-backed segregationist system. Churches all over Birmingham's black communities became meeting houses for organized protest. Included is the 32nd Street Church (Inv. # 118) and East Side Baptist Church (Inv. # 36).

By the mid 1960s, new and renewed federal legislation had forced down institutional segregation in the South. By then, too, most blacks who still lived in the blocks adjacent to the District were leaving, their houses torn down to make way for new banks, stores, and light industrial businesses. Since then, the Southside Historic District has remained generally healthy economically. Five of the six historic churches remain active; the largest church, 32nd Street Baptist congregation did not

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stay in the area, but its 1924 building remains. The Third Presbyterian Church is still strong in Southside, while Lakeview School, built in 1901, was empty by the 1970s. By the early 1980s, however, Martin Advertising had bought it, renovated it with historic tax credits, and remains there today. Davis School, moreover, built in 1949 for black students, now functions as the Davis Learning Center.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Southside Historic District is shown on the accompanying map entitled "Southside Historic District," drawn to scale 2004.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the Southside Historic District has been drawn to include as many contiguous contributing resources as possible and to exclude as many non-contiguous buildings. West of the 22nd Street boundary is the University of Alabama at Birmingham campus and other c. 1960s-present construction, and north of the District is c. 1960s-1970s commercial or light industrial buildings.

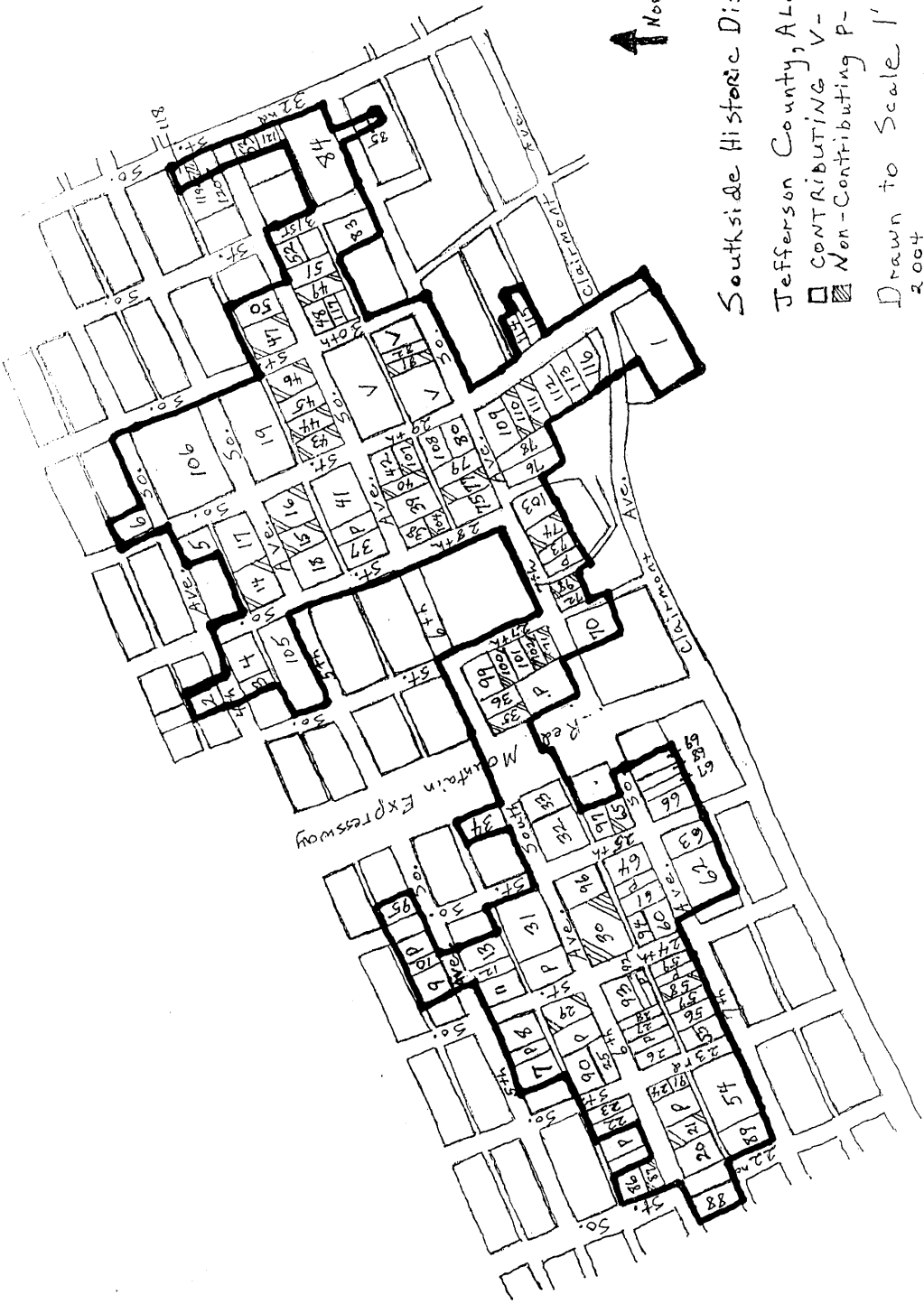
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Photographs

1. Lakeview School, 2800 University Boulevard. View of façade facing South
2. Schilleci Grocery, 2801 4th Avenue South. View of front facing North
3. 5th Avenue Streetscape. View facing East
4. Mac Wates Fuel Co. 2801 5th Avenue South. View facing South
5. 6th Avenue Streetscape showing Watkins Garage and Watkins Auto Body at center left of photo 200 block 6th Avenue South. View looking east
6. Hill Grocery Store/now Backstage Florist 2233 6th Avenue South. View facing SW
7. Miles Harry Motor Company (now SCS) 2516 6th Avenue South. View facing NE
8. New Liberty Baptist Church 2609 6th Avenue South. View facing SW
9. J. F. Day Company 2820 6th Avenue South. View facing North
10. Woodward's Service Station. 3200 6th Avenue South. View facing SW
11. 7th Avenue South Streetscape (2300-2400 block). View facing East
12. 7th Avenue South Streetscape (2400 block). View facing East
13. Colby Decorating Company/now Peck & Hills 2400 7th Avenue South. View facing NE
14. Redmont Motor Co. 2424 7th Avenue South, view facing NE
15. Harris Transfer Co. 610-612 2nd Street South. View facing SW
16. 22nd Street South Streetscape showing Third Presbyterian Church at left center. View facing South
17. Exclusive Furniture Store. Corner 7th Avenue and 29th Street. View facing SE
18. Manchester Terrace 720-728 29th Street South. View facing West
19. 29th Street Streetscape View facing South
20. 32nd Street Baptist Church View facing North
21. Lakeview Apartments 700-710 ½ 28th Street South. View facing West
22. Antonio Maniszt Restaurant/ now Rosegate Designs 2801 6th Avenue South. View facing South
23. American Bakeries Company/now Absco 416 28th Street South. View facing NW
24. 24th Street South Streetscape View facing SW
25. Lane Tile and Marble Co./now Allrite Janitorial 3017-3025 6th Avenue South View facing SW
26. Chicken In the Rough Drive-in Restaurant/now Uncut Flowers 2800 7th Avenue South. View facing NW
27. Oil Heating Corp./ now T. C. 2705 7th Avenue South View facing North
28. Dainty Maid Bakery and Delicatessen 2701 7th Avenue South. View facing NE
29. 4th Avenue South Streetscape showing 28th Street Casino Restaurant and Duplex View facing SW
30. 4th Avenue South Streetscape showing W. C. Davis School View facing SE



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□ CONTRIBUTING V - Vacant

▨ Non-Contributing P - Parking

Drawn to Scale 1" = 300'

2004