NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Campus Fire Station

other names/site number Fire Station Number 2

2. Location

street & number 600 W. University Avenue not for publication N/A
city or town Stillwater vicinity N/A
state Oklahoma code OK county Payne code 119 zip code 74078

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 X nationally ___ statewide ___ locally. (N/A See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Bob Blackburn 10-25-04
Signature of certifying official Date

Oklahoma Historical Society, SHPO
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 Beth Boland 12/7/04
___ See continuation sheet.
____ determined eligible for the _____ _____
National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
____ determined not eligible for the _____ _____
National Register
____ removed from the National Register _____ _____
____ other (explain): _____

_____ _____ _____
Signature of Keeper Date
of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

___ private
___ public-local
_X_ public-State
___ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

_X_ building(s)
___ district
___ site
___ structure
___ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	____	buildings
____	____	sites
____	____	structures
____	____	objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Sub:
GOVERNMENT	Fire Station
EDUCATION	Research Facility

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Sub:
GOVERNMENT	Fire Station
EDUCATION	Research Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY
REVIVALS: Georgian Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
roof STONE: slate
walls BRICK
other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

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

_X_ 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)

EDUCATION

Period of Significance 1938-1954

8. Statement of Significance (Continued)

Significant Dates 1938
1939

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder Wilbur, Philip A., Architect

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

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

Primary Location of Additional Data
___ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other
Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	14	674150	3998790	3			
2				4			

N/A See continuation sheet.

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.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. Mary Jane Warde, Historian & Jim Gabbert, Architectural Historian

organization Oklahoma Historical Society date July 31, 2004

street & number 2100 N. Lincoln Ave. telephone (405) 521-2491

city or town Oklahoma City state OK zip code 73106

Additional Documentation

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)

Property Owner

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

name Oklahoma State University Attention: President David Schmidley

street & number 107 Whitehurst telephone

city or town Stillwater state OK zip code 74078

name City of Stillwater Attention: Mayor Bud Lacy

street & number PO Box 1449 telephone

city or town Stillwater state OK zip code 74076

Summary

The Campus Fire Station is located at the southeast corner of the campus, at the intersection of University Avenue and Knoblock Street. Distinguished by its tall hose tower, this three- story, brick, Georgian Revival style building is oriented to the south. It is flanked by mature trees and expanses of pavement at front and rear. The Georgian Revival motif blends in with other campus architecture, reflecting the master plan adopted by the University in the 1930s. Prominent features of the exterior of the building include the distinct tower, the four prominent garage doors, and the series of pedimented dormers that pierce the roof's eave line. The interior of the building consists of the open fire station garage on the first floor with classrooms, offices, and sleeping quarters on the upper floors. There have been minor modifications to the exterior of the building, notably newer garage doors, and numerous small changes to the interior that have had more of a cumulative effect. Still, the overall historic integrity of the building is intact. The workmanship, feeling, association, materials, location, and setting are intact; while the interior design has been somewhat compromised on the upper floors, enough integrity remains for the building to describe its varied functions and significance.

Description

The Campus Fire Station is a red brick, Georgian Revival style building located at the intersection of Knoblock Street and University Avenue. Its primary elevation faces south, directly down Knoblock Street which jogs to the east of the building. The red brick, laid up in American bond, and the architectural style match most other contemporary buildings on campus. The footprint of the building is roughly square. The tower and a two-story wing are located on the north, or rear of the main core of the building. The core of the building has a hipped roof; the wing has a gabled roof, and the tower features a telescoping cupola with a conical roof.

The front façade of the Campus Fire Station is dominated by four oversize garage doors that access the interior parking bay. The doors themselves are new, of metal construction with eight windows placed in a four over four configuration. The openings feature segmental arch lintels with a soldier bond brick course topped by a rowlock course and anchored by a limestone keystone. (Photo 1)

A stone water table encircles the building at grade. A limestone belt is located above the garage openings. This belt course serves as the sill for the second floor windows. On the front façade, there are six windows, regularly spaced. The two outermost windows are centered directly above the outermost garage doors. The windows are 8/8, double hung, wood sash units. The lintels feature flat arches with oversized stone keystones. Centered among the windows is a large, ornamental stone plaque. The plaque reads: "MEN RESEMBLE GODS IN NOTHING SO MUCH AS IN DOING GOOD TO THEIR FELLOW CREATURES. – CICERO." The plaque is flanked by stylized scrolls and

capped with a full pediment. The arched pediment is supported by an entablature featuring triglyphs and metopes. (Photo 5)

A stone cornice featuring dentils is located just below the eave of the hipped roof. Piercing the eave line, but not the cornice, are five evenly spaced dormers. The dormers are gabled. A pediment is above each of the 8/8 windows. The windows are flanked by simple wooden pilasters. The side walls of the dormers are wide, wooden lap siding.

The east elevation of the main core of the building has an offset entry door at the south end. This entry door is wooden, with eight lights above two panels. A four light transom is above. The limestone surround features simple Doric pilasters supporting an unadorned cornice. Five window openings are regularly spaced along the balance of the first floor. These openings contain 16 panes, industrial steel sash. The water table serves as the sills for these windows, and the lintels match those on the second floor. There are six window openings on the second floor; these are identical to those on the front façade. There are four dormers on this façade. (Photo 2, 3)

The west elevation is similar to the east. It features the same configuration of dormers and six regularly spaced openings on the second floor. However, on the second floor, one of the windows, the third from the south, has been replaced with a fire door that leads to an external fire escape. The first floor, though, differs considerably from the east elevation. On the west elevation there are two offset entries. The northernmost has a new, solid slab steel fire door. The original door is in the southernmost entry. The entry surrounds are identical to that on the east elevation. Originally, there were four window openings evenly spaced between the two entries. Installation of the fire escape necessitated the enclosure of one window, the nearest to the south entry. The three others retain their original 16 light, industrial sash. (Photo 4)

The north, or rear elevation, has two appendages. These are a two-story wing, off center on the east side of the elevation, and the tower, which is centered. The north elevation of the main core has four dormers, two on each side of the tower. The cornice and belt course continue around until interrupted by the tower. (Photo 3, 4) West of the tower, on the second floor, are two 8/8 windows. On the first floor there is a single garage door opening, arched like the south façade.

The wing, offset off of the north elevation, is gabled. It features a Flemish gable with two oversized chimney stacks. A stone coping caps the parapet wall. Urns cap the corners near the eave. Centered in the gable is a circular opening. It is unclear whether it was originally a window or a vent. It has been covered in white-painted wood. The first floor of the wing's gable end features an elaborate entry flanked by 8 pane steel sash windows. (Photo 3) The entry has a newer, steel door. The limestone surround features an arched panel above the door. The panel and door are surrounded with a label mold. A broken pediment is located above the label mold and is supported with console brackets. (Photo 5)

The east side of the wing has five window openings. The two closest to the core of the building are 8/8 hung windows. The remaining three are 16 pane metal industrial sash. A cornice matching that of the main core is located below the eave. Copper scuppers and downspouts are located on the corners. The west side of the wing has only the three metal sash windows. The tower is nestled into the corner where the wing meets the main core.

The tower is the dominant feature of the Campus Fire Station. It rises seven stories in height, capped with a conical roof. The first four stories of the tower are square. There are pairs of openings spaced on the four floors of the west side of the tower. On the lower floor these are doors. The southernmost door is metal and has a simple transom under a segmental arch. The northern-most entry is boarded up and partially obscured with a basketball goal. Paired, segmental arch openings are on the second, third, and fourth floor. All but one of these openings is boarded up. One of the second floor openings has bars. The north side of the tower features single, steel entry doors centered on each of the first four floors. These are accessed by a steel fire escape. A single opening is located on the east wall, giving access to the roof of the gabled wing. (Photo 1,2,3,4)

Between the fourth and fifth floors, the square tower transitions into an octagon. At each of the canted corners, a flat limestone table coping supports a large stone urn. The octagonal part of the tower is two stories in height, but has only a single opening on each of the primary faces. The north, south, and west faces each have a round opening (now covered) with rowlock surrounds and four keystones. The east face of the tower has a large, round arch opening that would be two stories in height. Above these openings is a simple cornice, then a parapet capped with stone. An octagonal wooden structure, half the diameter of the main tower, telescopes up, making the seventh story. Mirroring the west side of the brick portion of the octagonal tower, the wooden tower has tall, round arched vent openings. The secondary faces of the octagon are simple raised panels. The corners are Doric pilasters. A plain cornice caps this section; a second, shorter section telescopes up from the main body above the cornice. All eight faces have raised panels and the whole is capped with a bell-cast conical roof.

Exterior Alterations

There have been limited changes to the exterior, mainly involving fenestration. The garage doors have all been replaced within the last 10 years. Openings in the tower have been covered in wood for safety reasons. The most permanent change is to the windows on the second and first floor of the west elevation. The installation of an external fire escape necessitated the conversion of one second floor window to a door and the removal and re-bricking of a first floor window. These changes are minor. Two entry doors have been replaced with steel, fire-rated doors. These are located on the west elevation and on the north elevation of the wing. Again, these are minor issues and do not detract from the overall integrity of the building.

Interior Description and Alterations

The first floor of the main core of the building is the location of the garage bays and the fire station office. The bulk of this floor is open space. The building is of steel and concrete frame. The support columns define the four parking bays. Each column, as well as the outside walls, has a glazed tile wainscot of a golden hue. The remaining walls, above the wainscot, have a smooth textured stucco surface. The floor is polished concrete. Stairs to the second floor are located near the rear (north) wall. The second floor and the third floor have seen extensive changes as the fire service school matured. Classroom configurations have been altered to accommodate new technologies and new program needs. The former dormitory space has been updated and utilized as study and classroom space. Some archaic aspects have been removed, including the old fire poles that gave access to the garage bays. Many of the changes have been made during the period of significance and in fact reflect the growing importance of the program. The building was designed primarily as an active fire station; it was the growth in size and importance of the educational program that necessitated the alterations to the interior. (Photo 8,9,10,11)

The tower has had little alteration. It is and was used primarily for training and for hose drying. The rear wing houses laboratories and has had minor changes. Dropped ceilings and improved HVAC are the most notable alterations.

Overall, the building retains excellent integrity of design, setting, location, feeling, association, workmanship, and materials. The minor changes to the building reflect its growing importance in the firefighting profession and fire protection education and do not impact the ability of the Campus Fire Station to convey its significance.

Summary

The Campus Fire Station at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. It is nationally significant because it was the site of pioneering educational initiatives that contributed to the professionalization of the American fire service in the 20th century. Activities associated with or housed within the building earned it the label "the West Point of the Fire Service." Erected in 1938-1939 with city and Public Works Administration funds, the building resulted from a unique collaboration by a city government – Sillwater, Oklahoma – and an institution of higher education – Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College (now Oklahoma State University). For sixty-five years it has been a working fire station while it provides classroom space and hands-on experience to students in the nation's first academic degree program for firefighters.

Historical Background

Stillwater ,Oklahoma, was founded on April 22, 1889, immediately after a land run into the Unassigned Lands in what was then Indian Territory. The following year, the Oklahoma Territorial Legislature provided for the establishment of Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College (OAMC), a land grant institution, in the new town. Located in newly created Oklahoma Territory, in today's north-central Oklahoma, Stillwater was an agricultural market town and county seat. OAMC added to its status and underpinned its economic foundation.[1]

Within the next few years, Stillwater citizens established basic public services, including a fire department in 1894. First-generation buildings in territorial towns, erected literally overnight, were usually of very flammable wood construction. About 1900, petroleum extraction and refining in numerous oil fields in the territory added yet another fire hazard to population centers. Most towns relied on volunteer companies and primitive equipment that had changed little in centuries. All firefighters, most of whom were volunteers, learned their skills the same way—through experience.[2]

In the late 1800s, American fire insurance companies, with a vested interest in improving fire protection, began sponsoring non-academic training of firefighters in order to cut their losses. Even so, as urbanization and industrialization expanded, fire insurance losses rose, peaking at $560 million in 1926. However, that year marked a

1 Oklahoma Territory was created in 1890 with the Unassigned Lands as the first component. E.B. Guthrey, "Early Days in Payne County," *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* 3 (March 1925): 75-76.

2 Everett E. Hudiberg, *Beside the Still-water: A Fire Protection Chronicle, 1885-1977* (Oklahoma City: Metro Press, 1977), 41-42.

change as wide-spread acceptance of the motorized apparatus, firefighter demand for better training, and support from the insurance industry set the stage for the professionalization of fire service.[3]

Oklahomans were in the forefront of the professionalization movement. They had organized the Oklahoma Territorial Fireman's Association in 1894 with support from the insurance industry. The association worked for firefighter pensions, labor regulation, and, by 1917, improved training. In 1926 the association added lectures on firefighting techniques to the program of their annual convention. Three years later their summer "Fire School" became a separate function. In 1931, Fire School attendees created a training manual, *Essentials of Firemanship*, an innovation which was endorsed by the state vocational system, the Oklahoma higher education system, and the national insurance industry. The mimeographed book addressed the need for instructional materials and was widely adopted in other states, moving Oklahoma firefighters into national leadership. In 1932, the Fire School, with the support of the association, transferred permanently to the OAMC Vocational Education Department.[4]

Among the leaders of the professionalization movement in Oklahoma was John Raymond "Ray" Pence, formerly a volunteer firefighter, now active in the national associations and in 1934 president of the state association. As the energetic chief of the Stillwater Fire Department (1931-1945), he initiated his own training program and established a strong working relationship with another builder and innovator, Henry G. Bennett, nationally recognized president of OAMC. Joining their efforts was William Fred Heisler, an OAMC teacher-trainer who worked with the Fire School attendees to produce training manuals based on new technology and the firefighters' experiences. The "Redbooks," so called because of their covers, soon became the standard training manuals adopted nationally. At the urging of Pence, Heisler, and others, OAMC went a step farther in 1937 with the support of President Bennett to establish the Department of Firemanship Training, the nation's first (and for many years only) academic degree program for firefighters.[5]

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3 Paul C. Ditzel, *Fire Engines, Fire Fighters: The Men, Equipment, and Machines, from Colonial Days to the Present* (New York: Crown Publishers, 1976), 94; Bob Considine, *Man Against Fire: Fire Insurance—Protection from Disaster* (Garden City, New York: Doubleday and Company, 1952), 20-22; interview of Everett E. Hudiburg by Mary Jane Warde, Stillwater, Oklahoma, September 11, 1981; Orin F. Nolting, *How Municipal Fire Defenses Affect Insurance Rates* (Chicago: International City Managers Association, 1939), 13.

4 Oklahoma State Firefighters Association, comp, *The First 40 Years: A History of the Early Day Fire Service in Oklahoma* (Oklahoma City: Oklahoma State Firefighters Association, n.d.) 3, 8, 9, 17, 23, 25, 40-42, 50-51, 53, 71, 75-78, 80-82, 85-88, 91, 93, 100, 103, 108-109, 112; Hudiburg, *Beside the Still-water*, 31-32, 42.

5 Mary Jane Warde, "Fifty Years of Fire Protection Training at Oklahoma State University," master's thesis, Oklahoma State University, 1981, 17-18.

Significance

The need for specialized classroom and laboratory space for the new Department of Firemanship Training coincided with a decision by the City of Stillwater in 1937 to build a second fire station. The population had risen to 12,000, and the OAMC campus was expanding, upgrading facilities, and constructing new buildings, largely funded through New Deal programs. The only fire station was downtown, more than a mile away from the campus. On September 27, 1937, Dean Philip S. Donnell of the OAMC Division of Engineering requested that the city commission build a new fire station on the campus in cooperation with the college. Chief Pence, at the commissioners' request, suggested the site be on a 200 x 135 foot easement on OAMC property at the northwest corner of Knoblock Street and College (later University) Avenue. The building, to be designed by the OAMC Department of Architecture, would serve as a city fire station as well as a laboratory for the Department of Firemanship Training. Pence further suggested that the new fire station and drill tower be constructed in stages with the needs of the fire department taking priority. Mayor Harry Jones quickly forwarded a petition incorporating Pence's recommendations to the State Board of Agriculture, then acting as regent for the college. Following the granting of the ninety-nine-year easement on January 15, 1938, the City of Stillwater and OAMC entered into a contract on April 6, 1938: The city would allocate $10,000 to begin construction and would equip, man, and supply materials, janitorial services, and water at no charge to the college. OAMC would complete construction of the proposed $60,000 facility, heat and landscape it, care for the grounds, and maintain rooms used for classes and laboratories at no charge to the city.[6]

By May 1938 construction had begun on the first two-story, two bay section. Philip A. Wilbur of the OAMC Department of Architecture designed the rectangular building, 77 x 82 feet and three stories in height, with a five-story drill tower topped by a steeple. The Georgian style of the building and construction materials—red brick with white trim—maintained compatibility with the other new buildings on campus. When completed, four large bays on the south elevation opened onto Knoblock Street. Until the remaining funds could be found, Chief Pence and the city firefighters provided common labor to cut costs, leaving abruptly whenever the fire alarm sounded. Masons, plumbers, and electricians did the specialized work. Fortunately, OAMC appropriated funds to match the city's investment and received the remainder from the Public Works Administration. The building, predicted to cost $60,000, was completed in late 1939, but its value was estimated at $100,000.[7]

Both city firefighters and the Department of Firemanship Training, now in its second year, moved into the new station even before its was completed. The first floor housed the fire trucks and equipment. The second floor, reached by a

6 Ibid., 28-30.

7 *Contract between Phillip A. Wilbur and the State Board of Agriculture*, October, 1938, Box 57, Henry G. Bennett Papers, Special Collections, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma; Philip Reed Rulon, *Oklahoma State Universit--Since 1890*, (Stillwater, Oklahoma: Oklahoma State University Press, 1975), 250; Hudiburg, *Beside the Still-water*, 54-55; *Stillwater (Oklahoma) Daily News*, November 5, 1939.

stairway at the rear of the bays, provided a dormitory for student and city firefighters. Forty beds—many provided by Oklahoma town fire departments—lockers, showers, and a nearby storage room for boots and gear filled much of the second floor. There were also a kitchen, dining area, recreation room, study area, and quarters for the chief, assistant chief, and overnight guests. A brass pole gave quick access to the truck bays below. The third floor accommodated classrooms, chemistry and physics laboratories, a drafting room, and a photography dark room, allowing students to complete experiments and assignments. At the rear of the building, a machine shop held tools for equipment maintenance and repair. Beyond it, the drill tower provided space for practice with ladders, ropes, and hoses. Constructed of fireproof materials throughout and equipped with three types of sprinkler systems, the building itself was a laboratory in fire protection and prevention.[8]

Representatives of more than fifty Oklahoma fire departments attended the dedication of the building on November 4, 1939. In the primary address, Colonel Clarence Goldsmith of the National Board of Fire Underwriters traced the development of fire protection training to the major step forward represented in this building. To date, according to Goldsmith, state and regional efforts at fire protection training had been able to cover only basic skills and information. The new program would allow more complete preparation for the firefighter's job and the opportunity for continuously upgrading training within the profession.[9]

In 1940 the Department of Firemanship Training granted certificates of completion to the first class in the two-year program. However, the entrance of the United States into World War II in 1941 caused severe attrition and provided new uses for the Campus Fire Station. The Armed Forces used OAMC extensively for specialized training classes. Soldiers and sailors flooded the campus, placing a strain on its dormitory and classroom facilities. Waves of military and naval personnel lived and slept in the Campus Fire Station dormitory, with Chief Pence and his firefighting force, supplemented by volunteers, working around them. Firefighter and temporary instructor Everett Hudiburg chronicled happenings in the Campus Fire Station, fire calls, breezy gossip, and discussion of national fire policy in *The Booster Line*, a newsletter for students now serving in the Armed Forces. By the end of the war, 150 copies followed American troops around the world, raising morale and maintaining ties with the Campus Fire Station and the academic program housed there.[10]

Chief Pence also used *The Booster Line* to publicize the OAMC academic program through his extensive connections in the national fire service and insurance industry. His friend Horatio Bond of the National Fire Protection Association dubbed the program "the West Point of the Fire Service." As editor of the national journal *Volunteer Fireman*, he

8 Major Jesse Townshend, "Fire Protection Careers," *A and M College Magazine* 26 (January 1954):10; Howard A. Floyd, "Campus Fire Station in War Time," *A and M College Magazine* 16 (February 1944):8.

9 *Stillwater (Oklahoma) Daily News*, November 5, 1939.

10 *The Booster Line* (Stillwater, Oklahoma), June 1, 1943; Hudiburg, *Beside the Still-water*, 60-62; Hudiburg interview, September 11, 1981.

included frequent articles about Pence, the program, and the Campus Fire Station. Bond even abandoned his Boston office for the quieter visitor's quarters in the Campus Fire Station to complete his wartime study of firebombing, fire storms, and the British fire service's attempts to combat them.[11]

Even though the war caused severe attrition among firemanship students, non-academic training continued. The Fire School still met on campus, and the building remained a center for training volunteer firefighters, civil defense workers, and industrial fire protection groups, including those from out-of-state. The production of the Redbooks continued and expanded. The first week of July each year firefighters converged on campus to evaluate and refine the drafts written by Fred Heisler. By 1945 the Redbooks had become the national standard. By 1953, an estimated half million copies were in use.[12]

Ray Pence's sudden death in January 1945 and the shortage of firemanship students during the war threatened to end the campus-city cooperation and the academic program at OAMC. However, Raymond J. Douglas, a science and mathematics teacher and a volunteer firefighter, was hired as the instructor for the academic program. His leadership kept it operating. In addition to teaching, he used the Campus Fire Station laboratories to conduct, with student participation and industrial support, research into fabricating flame retardant building materials, improving sprinkler systems, and preventing fires in industrial storage facilities. It soon became evident that few local fire departments wanted to hire college-educated firefighters. Fortunately, graduates of the academic program received better salaries and a warm welcome in related jobs in insurance, industrial, safety, and municipal fields. The curriculum was adjusted to meet job market demands, and the numbers of students, many from out of state, increased through the 1950s. The name of the academic program changed in 1957 to the Department of Fire Protection (later Fire Protection Technology) about the time OAMC became Oklahoma State University. Not until the 1960s did other states follow Oklahoma's lead in establishing academic programs in fire protection. Although the direction of the curriculum and the name of the program changed periodically, its graduates, who earned a bachelor's degree as of 1970, remained among the most highly recruited from Oklahoma State University.[13]

The Campus Fire Station contributed much to the success of the academic program through the joint occupation by the Stillwater Fire Department. Having the dormitory in the building meant students lived, studied, and worked in close proximity to their instructors, fire department supervisors, and members of the Stillwater Fire Department. Students were expected to learn about the equipment early in their first semester and were allowed to answer fire calls in their second semester. Each class was divided into four squads, with one on duty every fourth night. One alumnus remembered his pleasure at being allowed to handle the equipment. Even more, he appreciated being accepted as a

11 Warde, "Fifty Years of Fire Protection Training," 40-43.
12 Ibid., 50-55.
13 Ibid., 35, 58-62, 64-65, 69-70.

full-fledged member of the firefighter community while he was still an eighteen-year-old student. Those experiences created a strong bond among students. When they became alumni, they secured up-to-date equipment for the chronically under-funded academic program, supported it strongly, and recruited new students. They still remain firmly committed to preserving the Campus Fire Station.[14]

For sixty-five years the Campus Fire Station has been an integral part of Oklahoma State University and the infrastructure of the City of Stillwater, Oklahoma, while it continues to exert strong influence in the national volunteer and professional fire service. The specialized academic program housed in the building successfully combined advancing technological education with the day-to-day work of local fire protection and prevention. Some graduates became chiefs of large city fire departments, but more have been fire protection and safety consultants, fire protection and safety engineers, representatives of fire equipment companies, fire marshals, writers for fire protection professional journals, and professors in fire protection academic programs at institutions across the nation. The production of training materials for firefighters, nurtured from infancy if not born in the building, outgrew it and relocated to new facilities off-campus. Fire Protection Publications for the International Fire Service Training Association remained a leader in the field, marketing to twenty-nine countries by 1980.[15] Former Stillwater Fire Chief Everett Hudiburg, reflecting in 1980 on (then) more than four decades of Campus Fire Station history, concluded that the programs and activities housed in the building gave the fire service, whether local or national, "dignity, respect, and professionalism."[16]

Conclusion

The Campus Fire Station exhibits national significance for its sixty-five-year role in housing the nation's first academic program for firefighters. This pioneer program and associated initiatives such as the publication of the nation's first fire protection training manuals greatly influenced the professionalization of the fire service. The publications associated with the program have influenced fire protection services across the country and internationally.The Campus Fire Station exhibits a high degree of historic integrity and is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A.

14 Ibid., 37-38; interview of James Robertson by mail, by Mary Jane Warde, September 18, 1981.
15 Warde, "Fifty Years of fire Protection Training," 50-51, 89-90.
16 Ibid., 92, 97; interview of Harold Mace, by Mary Jane Warde, Stillwater, Oklahoma, September 29, 1981; Hudiberg interview, September 11, 1981.

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Henry G. Bennett Papers. Special Collections, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma.

Interviews:

Hudiburg, Everett E. Interview by Mary Jane Warde, Stillwater, Oklahoma, September 11, 1981.
Mace, Harold. Interview by Mary Jane Warde, Stillwater, Oklahoma, September 29, 1981.
Robertson, James. Mailed interview by Mary Jane Warde. September 18, 1981.

Periodicals:

The Booster Line. Stillwater, Oklahoma. 1943.

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Guthrey, E. Bee. "Early Days in Payne County." *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* 3 (March 1925):75-82.

Hudiburg, Everett E. *Beside the Still-water: A Fire Protection Chronicle, 1885-1977.* Oklahoma City: Metro Press, 1977.

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Warde, Mary Jane. "Fifty Years of Fire Protection Training at Oklahoma State University." Master's thesis, Oklahoma State University, 1981.

Verbal Boundary Description

A tract of land described by metes and bounds as follows: beginning at the southeast corner of the campus of the Oklahoma State university, same being the SE corner of the NW ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 14, Township 19 North, Range 2 east of the Indian Meridian, Payne County, State of Oklhoma; thence North along the east line of the campus 200 feet, thence West 135 feet, thence South 200 feet to the south line of said campus, thence East 135 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries reflect the land leased by the university to the City of Stillwater for the construction and maintenance of the Campus Fire Station.