

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Fire Station #10
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 4120 - 2nd Avenue South NA not for publication
city, town Birmingham NA vicinity
state Alabama code AL county Jefferson code 073 zip code 35205

3. Classification

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

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic Fire Stations of Birmingham, Alabama, 1906-1929
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register NA

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of certifying official [Signature] Date 9-13-90
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.
Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register. 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:)

Entered in the
National Register

[Signature] 10/25/90

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Government/Fire Station

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Government/Fire Station

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Spanish Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Stucco

Stone

roof Asphalt

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Built in c.1926-1927, Fire Station #10 was built as a one-story, irregular-shaped building with the garage and meeting room at the front and the residential area to the rear. The building has strong Spanish Revival influences: an oversized arched window overlooking the lawn framed by cut stone detail; three half loggia which suggests entrances to a courtyard (one at the front entrance area, and one at each front corner); and two window boxes capped with tile. A massive oversized chimney remains and is capped with tile. A small chimney remains over the primary front arched window.

The main body of the fire station has a low pitched hipped roof. There is a front gabled roof over the projecting meeting hall, and a shed roof over the garage area. Most of the original tiled roof has been replaced with shingles. A horizontal tile seam remains along the rear of the building; and a vertical seam extends back from the front arched window.

The original arched garage openings remain but the original doors have been replaced with modern aluminum doors. Only one window remains along the west facade; it is adorned with an ornate iron balcony. The east facade has five remaining windows along the second floor; one has been closed in. All of the windows have been replaced with aluminum framed windows.

A landscaped lawn adorns the front facade along the sidewalk that extends from the understated arched front entrance door around to the east side facade. A small flag pole sits immediately outside the primary front window.

INTERIOR:

The interior has undergone extensive modernization, including dropped ceilings, vinyl flooring and sheetrock walls. The front conference area retains original massive wood and steel beams.

INTEGRITY:

Although the building has undergone insensitive modernization, particularly resurfacing the entire front facade with stucco-like material; replacing all wood windows with aluminum windows; removing the original garage doors; and the construction of a modern garage area and residential wing to the east of the original structure, the station retains its fire house character and Spanish style as well as its original use.

See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1926-1927

Significant Dates

c. 1926-27

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Significant Person

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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

CRITERION C: ARCHITECTURE

Built in c. 1926-1927, Fire Station #10 is a good example of the 1920s suburban fire station. Like others in Birmingham it has strong Spanish Revival influences and reflects a decided suburban residential atmosphere. In fact, in 1928 Fire Station #10 won first place in the city's annual fire house landscape contest for its front and back lawns and its beautiful Spanish flower boxes.

Built after the construction of much of Avondale's main commercial strip, the fire station sits one-half block off the commercial center and seeks to reflect a residential rather than the earlier commercial construction phase. This fire house type is very typical of suburban construction in the 1920s. One of the smallest historic fire stations, it is unusually quaint with the suggestion of Spanish courtyards, location on a quieter secondary street, and the unpronounced residential quarters which are overshadowed by the one-story front facade. Fire Station #10 is the only historic fire house that does not occupy a corner lot, run parallel to an alley, or open onto a major thoroughfare.

In spite of its rather extensive modernization, it is significant as a historic Birmingham fire station because of its age, type, architectural style, and historic context. It remains in use as a fire station.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 1/16 acre

UTM References

A

1	6	5	2	0	9	8	0	3	7	0	9	3	3	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

West 1/2 Lot 6 plus East 1/2 Lot 7, Block 4, Avondale

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire city lot that has historically been associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Pamela Sterne King/Historic Preservationist; Steven Kay/AHC Reviewer
 organization Five Points South Apartment Improvement Program date May 22, 1990
 street & number 1407 - 16th Avenue South telephone 205 939-0470
 city or town Birmingham state Alabama zip code 35205

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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- Atkins, Leah. Valley in the Hills.
Birmingham City Directories.
Birmingham Fire Department Annual Report.
Birmingham Fire Department Scrap Books 1916-1917. City of Birmingham Public Library Archives.
Birmingham Post Herald.
Brownell, Blaine. The Urban Ethos in the South. 1920-1920. Louisiana State University Press. 1975.
Burkhardt, Ann. Town Within a City: The Five Points South Neighborhood. 1880-1932. Birmingham Historical Society. 1982.
Fogelson, Richard E. Planning the Capitalist City. Princeton University Press. 1986.
Interview with Captain Vildeville, Birmingham Fire Department. January 1990.
Larsen, Lawrence H. The Rise of the Urban South. University Press of Kentucky. 1985.
Manning, Warren H. The City Plan of Birmingham. Published by Subscription. Birmingham, AL. 1919
Satterfield, Carolyn. Historic Sites of Jefferson County. Jefferson County Historical Commission. 1979.
Southside-Highlands Report. Birmingham Historical Society. 1981.
The Birmingham Age-Herald.
The Birmingham News.
White, Marjorie Longenecker. The Birmingham District: An Industrial History and Guide. Birmingham Historical Society. 1981.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Fire Station #10

Section number Photos Page 1

1. Fire Station #10
Birmingham, Alabama
Pamela King
3/90
Birmingham-P. King
View of facade facing NE.
#1

2. Fire Station #10
Birmingham, Alabama
Pamela King
3/90
Birmingham-P. King
View of meeting room facing NE.
#2.

3. Fire Station #10
Birmingham, Alabama
Pamela King
3/90
Birmingham-P. King
View of residential area facing.
#3.

Fire Station #10
4120 2nd Avenue South
Birmingham, Alabama

Scale: 1" = 200'
Source: City of Birmingham
Dept. of Engineering
Planimetric Map

