

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	AUG 4 1980
	NOV 7 1980
DATE ENTERED	

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Historic Firehouses of Louisville *Thematic Resources*

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER see continuation sheet

CITY, TOWN

Louisville

VICINITY OF

—NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3 and 4

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Jefferson

CODE

111

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

see continuation sheet

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Jefferson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

517 W. Jefferson Street

CITY, TOWN

Louisville

Kentucky

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Kentucky Survey of Historic Sites

DATE

1980

—FEDERAL STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Com. 104 Bridge Street

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

Kentucky

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Within Louisville seventeen firehouses of architectural and historical merit remain today. These structures are scattered throughout the neighborhoods of the city and their construction dates and styles reflect the general physical development of the city.

The earliest firehouses were taken over in 1858 by the city from the various volunteer fire departments. These and a number of other early firehouses built by the city were destroyed, primarily by Urban Renewal.

The oldest firehouse which remains is situated just east of downtown in Phoenix Hill. The structure was originally St. John's Church built in 1848 in the Greek Revival style. The two-story, brick building, with cast iron members on the first floor and a dentiled cornice and pediment, was converted to a firehouse by the city in 1869. (photo)

- 7 Three structures remain from the 1870s and 1880s. Steam Engine Co. #7 (1871, 821 S. 6th St.) is one block north of the Limerick National Register District (Nov., 1979). The residential neighborhood in the block of the firehouse is now virtually gone. The most striking feature of the two-story, red brick building is the second floor windows with over-sized voussoirs and rusticated quoins. An extended cornice with modillions and brackets caps the building (photo 2). Also
- 10 from the 1870s is Steam Engine Co.#10 (1873) located at 1419 E. Washington Street in the German-developed neighborhood of Butchertown (National Register, Aug., 1976). This two-story, brick structure has a rusticated stone arch and quoins on the ground floor. The second floor has a triple window grouping under a curved mansard-shaped hood. A stone balconet further accents the window. This building has been adaptively reused as a decorating store and remains a focal point in the neighborhood (photo 3). The Rogers Street Firehouse was constructed in 1883 in Irish Hill, a neighborhood of modest cottages. The two-story , brick structure has arched second floor windows above the first floor vehicle entries. The arched windows are set within two arched bands. A bold, metal extended cornice caps the building. (Photo 4).

3 The various modes of eclectic revivalism were exhibited in the broad range of firehouse styles of the 1890s. Hook and Ladder Co. #3 (Frankfort Ave. and Pope, 1890) and Steam Engine Co. #14 (1024 Logan,

?

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Historic Firehouses of
CONTINUATION SHEET Louisville ITEM NUMBER 2 PAGE 2

1. Hook and Ladder Co. #2 80001601
221 S. Hancock St. Louisville, Ky.
2. Steam Engine Co. # 7 80001601
821 S. 6th Louisville, Ky.
3. Steam Engine Co. #11 80001601
1122 Rogers Louisville, Ky.
4. Steam Engine Co. # 10 (Listed within Butchertown Historic District, 8/11/76)
1419 E. Washington 80001601 Louisville, Ky.
5. Hook and Ladder CO. #3 80001602
Frankfort and Pope Ave. ne corner Louisville, Ky.
6. Steam Engine Co. # 4 80001630
1024 Logan St. Louisville, Ky.
7. Hook and Ladder Co. # 4 (Listed within Russell Historic District, 5/17/80)
2301 Jefferson St. Louisville, Ky. 80001603
8. Steam Engine Co. # 2 --Old Headquarters (Listed on the National Register 9/76)
617-621 W. Jefferson St., Louisville, Ky. 80001625
9. Steam Engine Co. #3 80001604
802-4 E. Main Louisville, Ky.
10. Steam Engine CO. #4 80001497
1617 W. Main Street Louisville, Ky.
11. Steam Engine CO. # 20 80001606
1330 Bardstown Rd. Louisville, Ky. 1606
12. Steam Engine CO. # 18 80001601
2600 S, 4th St. Louisville, Ky.
13. Steam Engine Co. # 21 80001607
1761 Frankfort Ave. Louisville, Ky.
14. Steam Engine Co. #22 80001628
37th and Broadway Louisville, Ky.
15. Steam Engine Co. # 20 80001498
1735 Bardstown Rd. Louisville, Ky.

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Louisville, Kentucky

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PAGE 3

16. Hook and Ladder Co. #5 8000 2nd
1824 Garland Ave, Louisville, Kentucky
17. Fire Department Headquarters 8000 2nd
1135 W. Jefferson Street, Louisville, Kentucky

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Louisville

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Louisville Chemical Co. 601 E. Jefferson Louis., Ky. 40202
RE: 221-223 S. Hancock

Allen House INC. 1419 E. Washington St. Louisville, Ky. 40206
RE: 1419 E. Washington

Robert L. Lear 800 E. Main Louisville, Ky. 40202
RE: 800 E. Main Street

Ms. Fran Jasper- Shustia Designs, 1330 Bardstown Rd. Louisville, Ky. 40205
RE: 1330 Bardstown Rd.

City of Louisville 601 W. Jefferson St. Louisville, Ky. 40202
RE: 821 S. 6th, 1122 Rogers, nw cor Frankfort and Pope,
2301 W. Jefferson, 619 W. Jefferson, 2600 S. 4th,
1761 Frankfort Ave., 1824 Garland, 37th and Broadway,
1735 Bardstown Rd., 1135 W. Jefferson

Bellis, INC. 900 E. Kentucky Louisville, Ky. 40204
RE: 1024 Logan

Morris O. Paine % Mark Lueke 1603 Kentucky Home Life Bldg.
Louisville, Ky. 40202
RE: 1617 West Main Street

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Louisville Historic

CONTINUATION SHEET Firehouses ITEM NUMBER 6 PAGE 2

SITES PREVIOUSLY LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Steam Engine # 10, 1419 E. Washington,
Butchertown National Register District
August, 1976

Old Headquarters--Steam Engine Co. #2
617 - 621 W. Jefferson St.
City Hall Complex
National Register
Sept., 1976

Hook and Ladder Co. #4
2301 W. Jefferson St.
Russell Historic District
passed state Review Board May 10, 1980

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Historic Firehouses of
Louisville

CONTINUATION SHEET

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1890) both have delicate details of the Gothic Revival style, adapted to vernacular public buildings. Both stations, probably designed by the construction firm of John Grenier & Bro., employee stone banding, ogee arch motifs and naturalistic carvings. Hook and Ladder Co. # 4 (2301 W. Jefferson) also constructed in 1890 reflects the rich detailing of the architecture of the Russell neighborhood (pending National Register). This two-story, red brick structure is decorated with limestone, terra cotta and brick corbelling. A four- story tower with tourelles is Romanesque in influence. The most monumental firehouse of the 1890s is the Fire Department Headquarters at 617 W. Jefferson built in 1891 (National Register, Sept., 1976). Designed by the regionally prominent architectural firm of the McDonald Bros., this brick and sandstone structure reflects their use of the Richardsonian Romanesque style as used in the Kentucky National Bank (National Register, July, 1979) and the Norton's Warehouse at 620 W. Main Street (National Register, March, 1974). This building is currently being cleaned and the paint is being removed from the masonry. An ornately treated classical design was employed by the Louisville architectural firm of Curtin & Hutchings in the 1893, Steam Engine Co. # 3, with arched windows, pilasters and a decorative band of delicate garlands at the cornice. The John Doerhoefer Firehouse # 4 is an 1894 eclectic Victorian design with cast-iron columns on the first floor and an unusual use of a woven-patterned stone in the arched window lintels and at the cornice line between the tourelles. (photos 5-10).

The turn-of-the-century brought a greater restraint to the design of the firehouses and a greater interest in a simplified classical revival style. These firehouses also reflect the change in the architectural modes found in the numerous Louisville neighborhoods of the period. Engine House # 20, (1330 Bardstown Rd., 1900) and Engine House # 18 (2600 S. 4th St., 1904) are almost identical red, brick structures with pilasters articulating arched windows and a central pair of rectangular windows, a dentiled cornice is broken by a gabled gormer with the station number. Engine House #21 at 1761 Franke Avenue, reflects the classical influence of much of Crescent Hill's early classical and Colonial Revival architecture. Designed in 1907-08 by the local architectural firm of Thomas and Bohne, this red, brick building contains five double-hung windows on the second floor which are articulated by

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engaged Doric columns. The largest firehouse built in the first decade of the 20th century is Hook and Ladder Co. # 5 at 1824 Garland. This firehouse was built in 1910 by Louisville architect, John Bacon Hutchings. This 3-bay, red brick building has a central pediment, supported by pilasters, a heavy soffit with an extended cornice and parapet further embellish the roof line. Each bay contains two windows on the second floor with transoms and elaborate lintels of classical brackets and moldings. (Photos 11-14).

Two firehouses, Engine House #22 at 37th and Broadway and Engine House # 20 at 1735 Bardstown Road ,built in 1915 and 1917 respectively, are fine examples of small-scale public buildings constructed in the vernacular residential style popular at that period. These firehouses are more simple in their use of decorative details than earlier fire stations. Their roofs have deep overhanging eaves with wooden braces, a popular motif of bungalows. (Photo 15-16)

The current Fire Department Headquarters (1135 W. Jefferson) was constructed in 1936 as a WPA project. Designed by local architect, Brinton B. Davis, it is one of the few structures in the city in the Art Deco style. The building is sheathed in smooth limestone and is divided into six bays which step down in height from the two center bays. Fine bas-reliefs which decorate the door and window openings and the decorative band of brass with a blue field which embellishes the roof line are among the buildings most outstanding and unique features. (Photo 17)

(An additional firehouse was located at 34th and Main after the legal notices for the Review Board were sent and will be presented in the future.)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The city of Louisville retains seventeen firehouses of architectural merit which serve as important focal points of the neighborhoods in which they are located. The firehouses are also fine examples of the architectural development of the 19th and early 20th century. Several of the firehouses can be attributed to important local architects.

The early development of the Louisville Fire Department began with volunteer fire departments in different areas of the city and the total participation of the citizenry in bucket brigades. As the city grew and more sophisticated equipment became available, a need for a professional department was felt to bring down fire insurance rates and give greater protection to the growing commercial establishment and the substantial residential enclaves. The Louisville Fire Department was established in 1858. The volunteers and hand engines were replaced with a paid department and steam engines.

With the establishment of the Louisville Fire Department, many of the early firehouses of the volunteer companies were used. Some of these were replaced over the years and numerous new stations were built to serve the expanding areas of the city. The city developed a highly respected and effective department. The fire equipment was the latest available, from steam engines, chemical engines to hook and ladder trucks. This equipment not only played an important role in fire service but served as an object of pride with the different companies. The company name was taken after the name of the engine housed at that particular fire station, the engine was in turn named after a prominent local citizen, such as Mayor Henry Tyler or businessman, John Doerhoefer. The city also had an up-to-date system of alarm boxes, fire hydrants and cisterns. The most visible reminder of the development of the fire department is in the fine firehouses of which a large number are still in active use.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

American Institute of Architects, Louisville Exposition Catalog. 1912. (xerox copy at Landmarks Commission).
Caron Directory of the City of Louisville. Louisville:
 C.P. Caron, 1865-1940.

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 3.5 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME See continuation sheet QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See continuation sheet

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marty Hedgepeth Director of Research

ORGANIZATION

Louisville Landmarks Com.

DATE

May 11, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

727 W. Main Street

502-587-5501 TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Louisville

Kentucky

STATE

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE:

Donna C. Hopkins

TITLE

Acting State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

7-24-80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11/7/80

ATTEST:

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

10-30-80

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Seventeen firehouses of architectural and historic merit survive in the city running the gamut from Greek Revival to Art Deco in style. These firehouses were many times the focal point of the neighborhoods and were the most important public buildings constructed in the various areas of the city. The structures are generally reflective of the scale and architectural styles which predominate in the neighborhoods in which they were constructed. Many of the firehouses can be assigned to prominent local architectural firms, such as the McDonald Bros., John Bacon Hutchings, Curtin and Hutchings, Thomas and Bohne and Briton B. Davis. The firehouses also serve as physical reminders of the expanding role of municipal governments, in the types of services which were supplied to growing communities.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Louisville ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

"Cornerstone of Fire Department's new Headquarters to be laid today."
Louisville Courier-Journal. 14 November 1936

" Fire Department Dedication." Louisville Courier-Journal. 16 Aug. 1891.

Hedgepeth, Marty. " The Victorian to the Beaux Arts, A Study of
Four Louisville Architectural Firms". draft Masters Thesis,
University of Louisville, 1980.

Historical Sketch and Souvenir of the Louisville Fire Department.
Louisville: Louisville Fire Department, 1894.

Kentucky Historical Marker at St. John's Church on Market Street,
Louisville, Kentucky.

"Louisville Fire Department Headquarters in Use." Louisville
Courier-Journal. 25 July 1937.

" New Engine Houses." Louisville Courier Journal. 16 August 1891.

Webster, A.J. " Louisville in the Eighteen Fifties." Filson
Club Quarterly 4 (1930), pp. 132-135.