United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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

1. Name

historic Fire Station No. 4

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number 1000 South Miami Avenue

city, town Miami N/A—vicinity of

state Florida code 12 county Dade code 025

3. Classification

Category

Ownership X public

X building(s)

structure

type

object

Public Acquisition

Accessible

N/A

Category

Ownership

X public

private

both

Type

site

object

Public Acquisition

in process

being considered

N/A

Status

occupied

unoccupied

work in progress

yes: restricted

no

Present Use

agriculture

commercial

educational

entertainment

government

industrial

military

other: Vacant

museum

city, town Miami N/A—vicinity of

state Florida

4. Owner of Property

name City of Miami

street & number 3500 Pan American Drive

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dade County Courthouse

street & number 73 W. Flagler Street

city, town Miami state Florida

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Dade County Historic Survey

has this property been determined eligible? X yes __ no

date 1978

federal state county local

depository for survey records Metro-Dade Community and Economic Development

state Florida

(See Continuation Sheet)
City of Miami Planning Heritage Conservation Program (Local) 1983
City of Miami Planning Department
Miami, Florida
Fire Station No. 4 is a two-story Mediterranean Revival style structure located within Miami's rapidly developing Brickell area. This U-shaped building, featuring a central block with symmetrical wings, is faced with textured stucco and is topped with a hipped roof covered with Mission tiles. The building is entered through an arched porch and is decorated with quoins, a deeply molded cornice, and iron balconets. A newer one story addition to the north facade houses two service bays. This lateral addition and other alterations to the fire station do not compromise the basic integrity of the building, but serve as extensions of the original public service function of the structure.

Located on the southwest corner of S.W. 10 Street and South Miami Avenue, Fire Station No. 4 is a detached building which fronts directly on the street. Originally constructed as a fire station, the building is symmetrical in composition and features a central block with flanking wings. The building contains five bays across the original east (front) facade and seven bays across the north facade. Of concrete block construction, the building is finished with walls of rough stucco. Fire Station No. 4 is topped with a low pitched hipped roof with deep overhanging eaves and is covered with Mission tiles.

A one story arched porch, supported by square piers and pilasters with impost molding, is located in the center three bays of the east facade. A shield-shaped cartouche embellishes each spandrel, and the porch is topped with a balustrade. The main entrance is located in the central bay and features a wood and glass panel door with a screen door in front. The entrance is flanked by a single window on each side.

When the building was originally constructed, a round-arched garage door was located in each wing on the east facade. In 1956, these garage doors were altered. The north door was slightly enlarged and changed from a round arch to a rectangular opening to accommodate larger fire trucks. It is topped with a plain lintel. The south door was blocked down, filled-in with glass block, and also topped with a plain lintel.

The building's original south windows were wood frame double hung sash with twelve-over-twelve lights and plain cement sills. Many of these windows remain on the side facades, although those on the front have been replaced with metal awning windows. The second story windows in each wing on the east facade feature decorative balconets. The wrought iron railings are embellished with a fleur-de-lis design in the center and are supported by bracketed concrete floors.

The fire station is decorated with quoins on both corners of each wing and with a deep channel molded cornice under the eaves.

In 1956, a large one-story, one-bay garage was added to the north facade of the building. This addition was enlarged to include a second bay in 1968. The addition is topped with a flat parapet roof, and the ends of the building are decorated with quoins. Although the addition is large in scale, it respects the architectural integrity of the main building.

Other minor changes to the fire station include the alteration of some window openings on the south (rear) facade of the building and a small one-story kitchen addition, also on the rear.

Fire Station No. 4 is approached by a concrete driveway, and the lot is enclosed on the sides and rear by a chain link fence. The rear of the lot is unpaved and is used for parking. The building is currently boarded up, and the interior is not accessible.
8. Significance

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Specific dates 1922  
Builder/Architect H. Hastings Mundy

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Fire Station No. 4 is significant as a reflection of architectural tastes and urban growth in Miami during the early 1920s. The building is an excellent example of the application of Mediterranean Revival design, materials, and decoration to a small scale utilitarian structure and is particularly noteworthy for its arcaded porch, balconies, and decorative details. The construction of Fire Station No. 4 in 1922-1923 reflects the City's response to the growing demand for City services resulting from Miami's rapid growth during the 1920s. The oldest and most outstanding remaining fire station within the City, the building is also one of the few pre-1926 era public buildings to survive in Miami.

Although Miami's Fire Department had its beginnings in 1899 with a force of five volunteers, the first fire station was not built until 1907. Additional stations were added in 1922 and the City expanded, and Fire Station No. 4 was completed in 1923. This building was the first of several stations constructed during the boom years of the 1920s as the City responded to the increasing demand for City services. Fire Station No. 4, however, is the oldest of these early stations to survive. Although the building was enlarged at two different times during its history, it was finally abandoned by the Fire Department in 1980.

Fire Station No. 4 is an excellent example of Mediterranean Revival style architecture, and the application of this style to a fire station attests to its broad local popularity. Although this building is one of several city fire stations constructed with Mediterranean details, it is the most outstanding of the remaining stations.

Fire Station No. 4 was designed by H. Hastings Mundy, a prominent local architect who was responsible for numerous public buildings in South Florida. Mundy also designed Trinity Episcopal Cathedral (National Register), Coconut Grove Elementary School, Dade County Agricultural School (Miami Edison), Robert E. Lee Junior High School, and the Old Homestead City Hall.

although Fire Station No. 4 has been added to and altered at several points during its 61-year history, these changes have not compromised the building's historic or architectural integrity. The majority of changes were made to prolong the building's public service function, and, as such, they reflect the evolution of a fire station from the early to late twentieth century.

Fire Station No. 4 is significant both historically and architecturally within the context of the City as a whole, but is particularly significant within its own neighborhood. Located near the new Brickell Metrorail station, the building sits in the middle of an area planned for major high intensity development. The scale and character of the neighborhood will soon be obliterated as planned highrise buildings are completed. The City of Miami Planning Department is encouraging the City to lease the Fire Station to a developer who will adapt the building to a restaurant, utilizing the 25 percent Investment Tax Credit. The adaptive reuse of the fire station would lend an important character and human scale to the area once it is developed with massive new structures. Fire Station No. 4 could be one of the few historic structures in the Brickell area to escape redevelopment.

Footnotes

1 Larry White, Miami Fire Department 1899-1980, 1980, pp. 5-11.

2 Metropolitan Dade County, From Wilderness to Metropolis, 1982, p. Appendix II.
9. Major Bibliographical References

(See Continuation Sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property: Less than 1

Quadrange name: Miami

UTM References

A
Zone Easting Northing
17 830 860

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

The northern 100 feet of Lots 1, 2 and 3 of Block 74 of the Plat of Miami (A.L. Knowton) south, as recorded in Plat Book B, page 41. This property includes all significant historic resources associated with Fire Station No. 4.

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

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11. Form Prepared By

Name/title: Sarah Eaton/Michael Zimny, Historic Sites Specialist

Organization: Division of Archives, History & Rec. Mgmt.
Date: August 24, 1983

Telephone: (904) 487-2333

City or town: Tallahassee
State: Florida

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.

Signature of State Historic Preservation Officer: George W. Percy, State Historic Preservation Officer
Date: 8/22/83

For NPS use only:
- I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
- Keeper of the National Register: date
- Chief of Registration: date

22
City of Miami, Florida. "Alterations and Additions to Fire Station No. 4." Plans on file in City of Miami Public Works Department, Miami, Florida, October 1956.

Dade County, Florida. Community and Economic Development. Historic Preservation Division, Dade County Historic Survey, Site Inventory File for 1000 S. Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida.


FIRE STATION NO. 4
1000 SOUTH MIAMI AVENUE

location

site plan