

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Ogden Fire Station No. 2

Other names/site number: Bench Fire Station

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: 1585 25th Street

City or town: Ogden State: UT County: Weber

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A B X C D

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

Utah Division of State History/Office of Historic Preservation

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title :

**State or Federal agency/bureau
or Tribal Government**

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register
 determined eligible for the National Register
 determined not eligible for the National Register
 removed from the National Register
 other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:

Public – Local

Public – State

Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)

District

Site

Structure

Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT/Fire Station: Firehouse

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling: Residence

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: Period Revival,
Clipped Gable Cottage

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Constructed in 1928, Ogden's Fire Station No. 2 is a well-preserved (only minor alterations), brick, one-story, Clipped-Gable Period Revival style bungalow, with a long and tall one-story attached garage on its east end. The residence, which it has been since Ogden city sold the fire station in 1968, is situated with the broad façade and entrance oriented toward the street, with the gable end of the garage facing forward. Its mature landscaping includes several large Maple and Silver Birch trees and shrubs that surround the house. The Period Revival-Bungalow styling, overall scale, and setback of the firehouse was designed deliberately to fit in with the surrounding 1920s-era single-family residential neighborhood.

Narrative Description

Exterior

The 800 sq. ft. building is single-story in height, with a slightly taller garage/service bay to provide clearance for fire engines and apparatus. It has striated brick masonry that features a concrete foundation. On the main front (north) façade, concrete quoins and trim surround the

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large garage door. The garage door, which rolls-up to open, was replaced c. 2005, but was constructed to be similar in appearance to the multi-paneled original; however, the original used to be two doors that opened out and hinged on the sides. An original concrete marker engraved with "O.F.D. 2" is located on the brick wall above the 11-foot door. The stepped gable garage and entrance over the door have a steeply pitched roof at top. The clipped-gable roof was originally likely clad with clay red tiles (it is noted in early newspaper articles as being a dark red roof¹), it currently has asphalt composite shingles. The front (north-facing) façade windows are not original (replaced c. 2000), but are compatible vinyl single-hung windows with a 9-over-6 arrangement. It also has 3 symmetrically placed windows on the west elevation (vinyl sash replacements, two sliders and one single-hung); four windows on the large east elevation garage wall—including a historic era steel window (likely a 1941 replacement window, after the wall and windows on the east façade were destroyed by a wind storm); a large multi-pane window on the south elevation garage end; and one window (also a replacement) on the rear of the main house. An old (date unknown), though not original, dome-shaped canvas awning is above the front and back entrance doors.

Interior

Although the fire station was converted into a single-family dwelling in 1968, the interior has largely remained unaltered. In fact, for several years during the 1930s, Ogden City could not afford to operate the station so they rented it out to individuals as a residence. The building has two small bedrooms that used to house two shifts or platoons of firemen. One of the bedrooms is connected to the garage for quick and easy access. The largest room, the living room area, used to be the day room for firefighters. It also features a small kitchen and bathroom, which have been remodeled. There is a small basement which was used for the furnace and other utilities; it has since been renovated for use as a photography darkroom. The former garage and engine bay, which used to be exposed brick on the interior, has been plastered and is currently used as a photography studio, bicycle storage, and carpentry shop.

Setting

Ogden Fire Station No. 2 sits on almost ¼ of acre land high on Ogden's east bench. The building used to be on approximately ½ acre, but when Ogden City sold the fire station property in 1968 the southern half of the lot was auctioned off and a new house was built on that site. The property is rectangular shaped with several mature trees and shrubbery surrounding the building. A flag pole, located between the garage and main entrance, and two small non-contributing portable sheds (not being evaluated) located at the southwest corner of the lot have been added to the property, c. 1990.

¹ Ogden Standard Examiner, 27 October 1927.

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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.)

- 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 grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

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ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING
& DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

1928-1968

Significant Dates

1928

1941

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Architect: M. Charles Woods
Builder: Edward T. Saunders

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

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Ogden Fire Station No. 2, built in 1928, is a one-story brick clipped gable cottage, located on Ogden's east bench at 1585 25th Street. The building is locally significant under Criteria A and C. Under Criterion C in the building is significant in the area of Architecture for its residential design in a utilitarian building. The Fire Station was thoughtfully designed by Ogden City to blend in with the residential neighborhood and is an excellent example of a combination of bungalow and period revival designs, both styles were common in 1920s Ogden, and is expressed in a non-residential structure (public works/firehouse). Under Criterion A the building is significant in the area of Community Planning and Development and represents the city's growth and the development of firefighting services within Ogden City. It is also the oldest extant fire station building within Ogden City. The period of significance is from the time it was built by Ogden City in 1928 to the time it was auctioned out of city hands to private owners in 1968. The building retains excellent historic integrity, with some minor alterations to the exterior and interior.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion A Significance: Community Planning and Development

Ogden Fire Station No. 2 is significant as it represents and reflects a new period in the growth and development of Ogden City. As the city's residential district vastly expanded eastward, largely with new wood-frame homes (versus the old brick homes of Ogden's past), and as the old fire station system started to age, the plan to update the fire department city-wide program and to ultimately construct this building was a result. It was also a symbolic reflection of that new era of change and the cautious and sensitive approach taken by the City.

Discussion by the fire chief and city administration of a new fire station on the east end of the city had begun in 1916², the year the original Fire Station No. 2, located on the 800 block of 23rd Street (approximately 1.5 miles northwest of this location at 1585 25th Street)—which was “so needful in the days when horses alone pulled the wagons to the fires, but had become obsolete through the adoption of motor propelled vehicles”³—had gone out of service and was sold to a real estate firm to be redeveloped as a new apartment building. The other stations in Ogden at the time, which were built in the late-1800s, were located near the center of town at 25th Street and Washington Avenue (main fire station), and another station (station no. 3) farther north at 9th Street and Washington Avenue (today Washington Boulevard). So, the north and central parts of the city were adequately covered but a gap was apparent in the eastern sector of Ogden, where residential development was accelerating. The decision to locate the new station on the high east bench also had to do with the fact that the “fire truck can run down grade to the fires from such a location and so that runs can be made quickly to east, north, south, and west on streets already opened”.⁴

² Ogden Standard Examiner, 19 October 1924.

³ Salt Lake Telegram, 16 September 1916.

⁴ Ogden Standard Examiner, 30 July 1927.

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Although plans had been discussed for years, it wasn't until 1927 that a potential site for the station was seriously considered by the city.⁵ The site that was originally selected was located on ground adjoining Polk Elementary School (the school's address, 2615 Polk Avenue). It was selected because of its location on the east bench and because the city already jointly owned it (along with the Ogden Board of Education), saving them money in which "the additional amount can be used to erect a building of more beautiful architecture than originally contemplated."⁶ However, the school board and some residents in the area opposed the idea of establishing the fire station on the same property as the school, so the city sold their share of the property to the school district and used the money to purchase a new lot nearby.⁷ By September of 1927 the current site at 1585 25th Street had been selected. The land was purchased from realtors Blackburn & Barton for \$1,000, with construction to commence in the fall.⁸ Despite protest by some local residents, the Ogden City Commission and Mayor George E. Browning moved forward with construction.

In November of 1927, a contract was awarded to Edward T. Saunders of Ogden to construct the building. Out of 10 bidders Saunders came in with the lowest bid at \$4,288. He built the fire station based on plans drawn up by local architect M. Charles Woods.⁹ Ground was broken for the building in November of 1927 and was finished in the spring of 1928. The fire station necessitated the hiring of eight new fireman—the transfer for two officers from the current main station and the additional hire of six others. Two sets of four "platoons" were required to staff the new station.

Although the building was a priority for Mayor George E. Browning and the city administration in 1927, the election of that year changed things, with new Mayor Frank Francis being sworn in in 1928. Although the construction of the building was completed, Mayor Francis wanted to spend the money it would have cost to equip and staff the station, which approximated to be \$15,000 per year, on expanding the city's water distribution system.¹⁰ Mayor Francis considered the new fire station non-essential. However, due to protests of east bench citizens and the threat of insurance rate increases by the Pacific Board of Fire Underwriters, the mayor and city council decided to fund the station using money originally dedicated to building roads in the western part of the city to operate it.

Ogden Fire Station No. 2 functioned as originally planned until 1932, when the city budget was cut due to the reduction in taxes and spending as Ogden was thrust into the Great Depression; a reflection of how significantly Ogden City was affected by the economic malaise that had struck the nation. Mayor Ora Bundy in an Ogden tax committee meeting in December 1931, made the proclamation that "Fire Station No. 2 on east Twenty Fifth Street will not be manned or

⁵ Ogden Standard Examiner, 24 May 1927.

⁶ Ibid, 4 June 1927.

⁷ Ibid, 11 June 1927.

⁸ Ibid, 27 September 1927.

⁹ Ibid, 9 November 1927.

¹⁰ Ibid, 7 June 1927.

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equipped".¹¹ Thus began an eight year transformation of the fire station to a residential rental property. The station was rented out to various individuals during the 1930s, and for a while was the home to the Ogden Boys Hobby Club.

In 1940, for the first time in nearly a decade, the Ogden City Fire Department reported that they had accumulated a considerable surplus and Mayor Fred M. Abbot and Fire Chief O.A. Owens both supported the reopening of the bench fire station as a vital element in the city's fire protection system.¹² In February of 1941, shortly after reopening, the fire department hired a new crew of 6 men to house the station, purchased a new Mack International 750-gallon pumper fire truck for \$10,000, and installed a new heating system for the building.¹³ The future looked promising for the new station; however, on September 21 and 22 of 1941, a heavy east wind storm (not uncommon in Weber and Davis Counties) caused the east wall (garage end) to cave-in and the south wall to partially collapse. It took 6 months to repair and reopen from that storm. However, the station continued to operate without any major obstacles throughout the 1960s.

By the early 1960s, as demographics, population, and residential development continued to change in the post-war boom era in Ogden, so too did the need for fire protection services. Plans to eliminate this station and open up several new "modern" ones throughout the city were drawn up. By 1968, fire stations near 34th Street and Harrison Boulevard and 21st Street and Harrison Boulevard were completed (in addition to a new fire station in west Ogden, built in 1964), rendering the Ogden Fire Station No. 2 on Ogden's east bench surplus.¹⁴

The City auctioned the building to local resident Lynn Pitcher in 1968 and he used it as a residential rental property. The Pitcher family owned the property until 1994, when they sold it to Kelly C. Favero, who lived in the home. Favero later sold it to the current owner and resident, Larry Carr, in 2002.

Criterion C Significance: Architecture

Ogden Fire Station No. 2 is significant locally for its architecture as a good example of a Clipped Gable Cottage applied to a non-residential building, designed to be compatible with the local neighborhood consisting of Period Revival and Bungalow dwellings. No other fire station in Ogden's history, and relatively few in Utah¹⁵ were designed to blend in with residential architecture as this was.

From the early discussions of the proposed new station being built on the Ogden's east bench, Mayor George E. Browning and City Commissioner Harman Peery (later becoming Ogden City Mayor in 1934) declared that the architectural plans for the building must be "most suitable and

¹¹ Ibid, 16 December 1931.

¹² Ibid, 28 October 1940.

¹³ Ibid, 14 February 1941.

¹⁴ The two new 1968 fire stations were also constructed by Saunders Construction Co

¹⁵ One other similar fire station, historic Fire Station #8 in Salt Lake City, has been listed on the National Register (1983).

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of the best type of architecture”¹⁶ and that it “will not detract from the appearance of any neighborhood.”¹⁷ In attempt to appease homeowners in the neighborhood, Commissioner Peery also stated that an architect should be consulted to plan a building keeping with the beautiful residence district on the bench.”¹⁸ The sketch plans provided by Mayor Browning in a late October 1927 meeting (shortly before construction began) show a building of a “bungalow type, with a dark red roof and yellow brick front.”¹⁹ The architect selected by the mayor for the project was M. Charles Woods.

M. Charles Woods was a prominent Ogden architect who prior to designing this fire station had notably drawn plans for Roy School, Heber Scowcroft House, Roy LDS Meetinghouse, LDS Twelfth and Thirteenth Ward Meetinghouses, Weber High School, and Weber College Gymnasium. Edward T. Saunders and his construction firm, Saunders Construction Co., was hired to the construct the building. Mr. Saunders directed the construction of many large buildings and facilities throughout the Ogden area over the course of his career.

Retaining good integrity, the building is the oldest existing fire station in Ogden, and is unique in that it is one of very few public buildings of this popular residential style to have been constructed. The home has been featured multiple times as part of the local preservation non-profit Weber County Heritage Foundation’s historic homes tours, and a segment on HGTV’s television show Rezoned highlighted the building in a 2008 episode.

Clipped Gable Cottage

A cross between a bungalow and a period revival cottage, the primary distinguishing characteristic of this residential type are its clipped or jerkin head roof gables, which can be seen on the west elevation of this building (the main residence’s roof’s east end T’s up with the gabled garage). The clipped gable roof lends a touch of Colonial Revival style, while other ornamentation implies other common bungalow style influences, such as Arts & Crafts and Prairie School styles, which can be seen on the concrete ornamentation surrounding the garage door and the decorative roof eave moldings and frieze. An outgrowth of the bungalow style yet not quite a period cottage, this style of architecture was popular in Ogden and throughout Utah during the 1920s. And this building, although not originally used as a single dwelling, is a good example and an excellent fit within this residential neighborhood that was built up during the first half of the twentieth century.

¹⁶ Ibid, 15 October 1927.

¹⁷ Ibid, 4 October 1927.

¹⁸ Ibid, 15 October 1927.

¹⁹ Ibid, 19 October 1927.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

“Bench Fire Station Site Is Offered.” *Ogden Standard Examiner*, 25 May 1927.

Carter, Thomas and Peter Goss. *Utah's Historic Architecture, 1847-1940: A Guide*. Salt Lake City, UT: University of Utah Graduate School of Architecture and Utah State Historical Society, 1991.

“City Proceeds on Remodeling of Fire Station.” *Ogden Standard Examiner*, 18 February 1941, p.14.

“City Proposes to Reopen East Bench Fire Station.” *Ogden Standard Examiner*, 28 October 1940, p.12.

“Contract Let To Saunders.” *Ogden Standard Examiner*, 8 November 1927.

“Ground Broken For Fire Station.” *Ogden Standard Examiner*, 9 November 1927.

Larry Carr’s Ogden Fire Station. *Rezoned*. Season 5, Episode 4. HGTV, 2008.

“May Not Use Fire Station.” *Ogden Standard Examiner*, 7 June 1928, p.10.

“Protest Made On Fire House.” *Ogden Standard Examiner*, 8 June 1927.

R. L. Polk and Company. 1928—1968 City Directories: Ogden, Utah. Kansas, Missouri.

Roberts, Richard. *Ogden Junction City*. 1985. Windsor Publication Inc. Utah

Roper, Roger. *SLC Fire Station No. 8*. Washington, D.C.: National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, 1983.

Sadler, Richard and Roberts, Richard. *Weber County History*. Ogden, Utah. Weber County Commission, 2000.

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

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designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 41.220226 Longitude: 111.937564

2. Latitude: Longitude:

3. Latitude: Longitude:

4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone: Easting: Northing:

2. Zone: Easting: Northing:

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3. Zone:

Easting:

Northing:

4. Zone:

Easting :

Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

THE NORTH 76.19 FEET OF LOT 19 AND 20, BLOCK 15, NOB HILL ANNEX
ADDITION, OGDEN CITY, WEBER COUNTY, UTAH.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary is the historic and current parcel for the property.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Chris Hansen/Preservation Planner

organization: Utah SHPO

street & number: 300 South Rio Grande Street

city or town: Salt Lake City state: UT zip code: 84403

e-mail: clhansen@utah.gov

telephone: 801-245-7239

date: 7/23/2019

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

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Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Ogden Fire Station No. 2

City or Vicinity: Ogden

County: Weber

State: Utah

Photographer: Tom Szalay & Larry Carr

Date Photographed:

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

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Photograph 1
North elevation. Camera facing south.

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Photograph 2
East elevation. Camera facing northwest.



Photograph 3
South elevation. Camera facing northwest.



Photograph 4
North elevation of residence. Camera facing southwest.



Photograph 5
North & west elevations. Camera facing southeast.



Photograph 6

North elevation service bay parapet detail. Camera facing south.



Photograph 7
South and west elevations. Camera facing northeast.

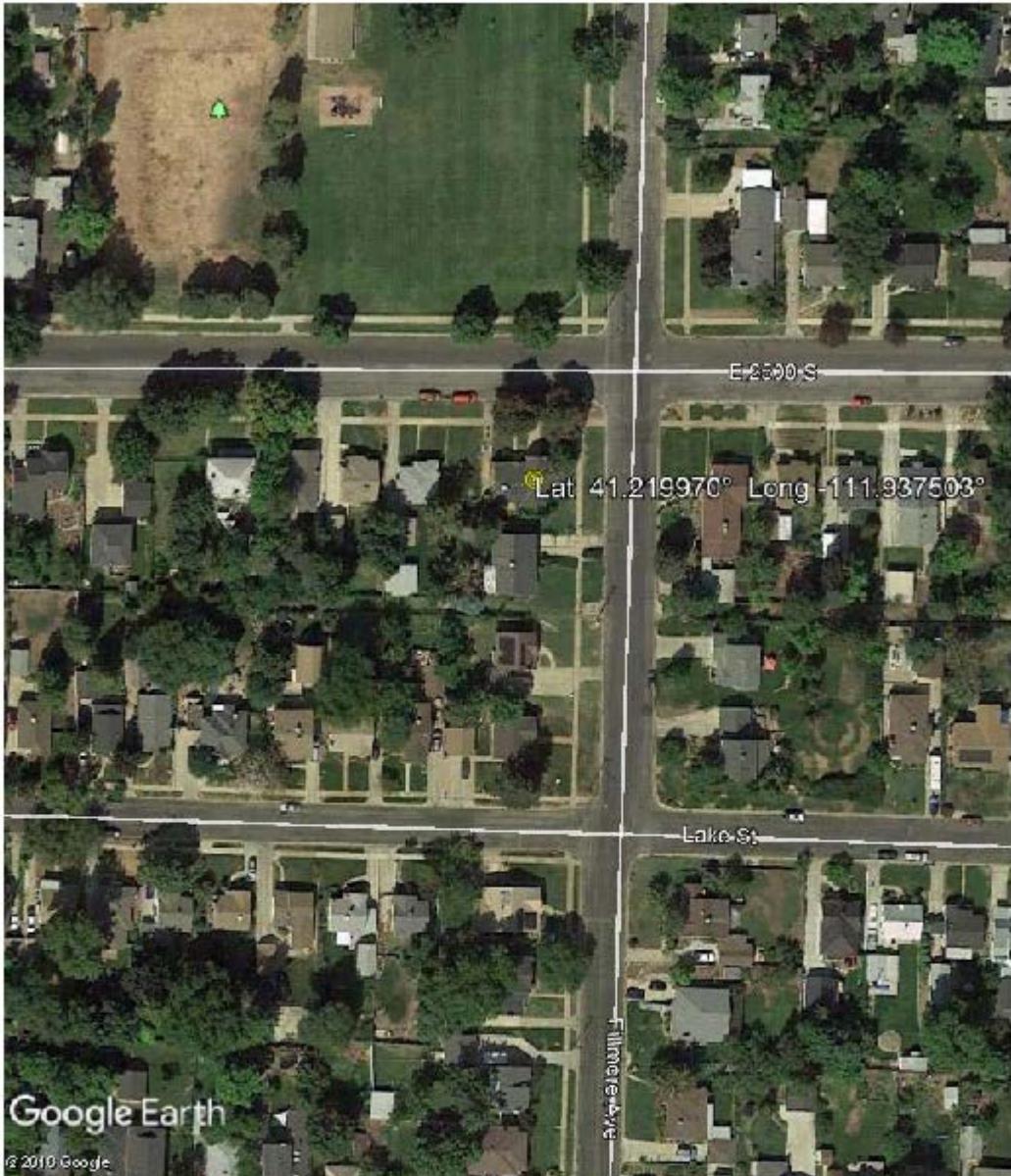


Photograph 8
Interior, service bay detail. Camera facing south.

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0 Feet 300 Feet



Ogden Fire Station No. 2

Ogden, Weber County, Utah

Latitude 41.219970° Longitude -111.937503°

Ogden Fire Station No. 2

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0 Feet 100 Feet



Ogden Fire Station No. 2

Ogden, Weber County, Utah

Latitude 41.219970° Longitude -111.937503°

Ogden Fire Station No. 2

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Property Owner information:

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

Name Larry Carr

Address 1585 25th Street

City or Town Ogden State UT Zip code 84401

Telephone/email carrtune3@gmail.com

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.