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**Statement of Significance for Fire Station # 9
649 Delmar
San Antonio, Texas**

This fire station located at 649 Delmar was built in 1914 at a cost of \$17,581.92 of fireproof construction with brick and reinforced concrete in a two-part commercial block form. At the time of its construction it was one of the most modern and ornamental firehouses in San Antonio. The station was originally known as the South Heights Fire Station.

Its design embodies the eclecticism of the early 20th century and combines a number of stylistic influences, including Mission Revival, Prairie, and subtle detailing borrowing from the Art Nouveau and Arts and Crafts movements. It is similar to other revivalist style fire stations in San Antonio and is an exact replica of Fire Station #10, located on the Westside at 1107 Culebra (originally known as the West End Station). Both stations were designed by City Building Inspector Emmett T. Jackson. According to a 1914 newspaper article, a police substation was to be designed with both stations. This was likely the small one-story projection on the east side of the building. Fire Station #9 was restored in 2000 at which time a new addition was constructed and replacement windows installed.¹

Fire stations became more prevalent in San Antonio as local laws regarding fire prevention were codified. Between 1870 and 1930 numerous fire stations were built within the original 36-square mile boundary of the city. Many of these fire stations still exist and are in active use as fire stations, including station #9.²

Fire Station #9 meets the following criteria for local historic landmark designation:

Its value as a visible or archaeological reminder of the cultural heritage of the community, or national event [35-607(b)1] as a significant early 20th century fire station reflecting San Antonio's history of fire fighting and its continued operation as a functioning fire station;

Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, type, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials [35-607(b)5] as a significant example of an early 20th century fire station reflecting Mission Revival, Prairie, and Arts and Crafts/Art Nouveau influences

Its historical, architectural or cultural character as a particularly fine or unique example of a utilitarian structure, including, but not limited to, bridges, acequias, gas stations, transportation shelters, or other commercial structures [35-607(b)6] as an early 20th century fire station;

Its unique location or singular physical characteristics that make it an established or familiar visual feature [35-607(b)7] its prominent corner location within an established residential neighborhood;

¹ "San Antonio, Texas Historic Fire Stations" by Gloria Lamoureux.

² Ibid.

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Its historical, architectural, or cultural integrity of location, design, materials, and workmanship [35-607(b)8];

It is distinctive in character, interest or value; strongly exemplifies the cultural, economic, social, ethnic or historical heritage of San Antonio, Texas or the United States [35-607(b)11];

It is an important example of a particular architectural type or specimen [35-607(b)12];