Available For Restoration

The Historic Lumberton Municipal Building

112 N. Elm Street, Lumberton
Robeson County

A dignified assemblage of classical elements, the former Lumberton Municipal Building (Old City Hall and Fire Station) was built in 1917 during a period of economic expansion in this important 19th century trading center. Situated on a prominent corner in downtown Lumberton, the Lumberton Municipal Building is just a block-and-a-half from the Lumber River and Riverwalk, across the street from a new performance pavilion and site of downtown arts events, and near the History Museum and historic Carolina Civic Center.

The building is a two-story brick veneered edifice with an ornately designed Palladian front entrance on one side and two garage bay openings for firetrucks providing a sense of symmetry. The double-leaf front door with fanlight is flanked by sidelights and Corinthian pilasters supporting an entablature and open pediment. An elaborate historic iron light fixture remains above the fire truck bays. Windows on the first floor along the street include single and tripartite arched openings of nine-over-one sash topped by keystones. Second floor, flat-arched windows are nine-over-nine sash with keystones. The first and second floors are divided by a stuccoed string course. Other exterior features include cornice modillions, a hipped slate roof crowned by a wood balustrade surrounding a classical octagonal cupola, and the old siren is still there. Interior features include four interior chimneys, an attractive pressed metal ceiling in the entrance conference rooms, a wood staircase with balustrade, wood and tile floors, and chamfered posts separating the garage bays.

An early postcard shows the original smaller, domestic-scale building as five-bays wide and five-bays deep along with the original light fixture over the bays (still present although without the globe). In the late 1940s, the Lumberton Municipal Building was expanded into its current size with a rear addition that seamlessly maintained the original stately details and proportions. A basement with room for mechanical systems and public restrooms was also added. The building served as city offices, the library and fire station until the 1970s. It was then rented out to various non-profits. Some renovations were initiated in recent years including wiring, suspended ceilings (that can easily be removed), some ductwork, and the replacement of original wood windows. Fortunately, several of the historic windows were kept on-site including the beautiful fanlight over the main entrance. The interior is divided into large and small spaces including several bathrooms (floor plans are available). The fireman’s pole is long gone, but the opening remains.

The Lumberton Municipal Building is in fair structural condition. It has incurred damage from roof leaks, most notably through failed flashing around the roof balustrade. A condition report from Century Slate Roofing Co. is available for review. It will require restoration and repair of the roof balustrade and cupola, all new mechanical systems (electrical, plumbing, HVAC), restoration carpentry of woodwork, some floor repair, and interior and exterior rehabilitation as needed for its proposed use. The Lumberton Municipal Building is zoned B-1 allowing for commercial purposes that include retail, office, second floor loft apartments, etc. The Lumberton Municipal Building is a contributing structure in the Lumberton Commercial National Register Historic District and is thereby eligible for tax credits.

Price: $27,500
Square Feet: 6,660
Lot Size: 0.15 acre
Zoning: B-1

Ideal Adaptive Reuse Opportunity!

For more information or to make an appointment to see the former Lumberton Municipal Building, please contact:
Cathleen Turner, Regional Director • 919-401-8540 • cturner@presnc.org

JOIN US! For more information about Preservation NC and other endangered properties visit www.PreservationNC.org.
Financial Incentives: The (former) Lumberton Municipal Building is a contributing structure in the Lumberton Commercial Historic District and is eligible for Historic Preservation Tax Credits. In North Carolina both state and federal income tax credits are available for the certified rehabilitation of historic structures. For the rehabilitation of income-producing certified historic structures, a 20% federal income tax credit and a tier based state income tax credit are available. For the rehabilitation of owner-occupied homes, certified historic structures (non-income producing properties) a 15% state tax credit is available for rehabilitation expenses up to $150,000. The new state tax credit will take effect on January 1, 2016. For more information on Historic Preservation Tax Credits, please contact the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office at 919-807-6570 or at www.hpo.ncdcr.gov.

Directions: From Raleigh: Take I-40 approximately 26 miles and merge onto I-95 at Exit 328A. Follow I-95 for approximately 61 miles. Take Exit 20 onto NC 211 toward NC 41/Lumberton/Red Springs. Turn left onto N Roberts Ave and go 1 mile. Turn right onto Fayetteville Rd. and go 0.5 mile. Continue on N. Pine St. another mile then turn right onto E. 2nd St. and left on N. Elm St. Building is on your left on the corner of E. 2nd and N. Elm Streets.

From Fayetteville: Lumberton is less than 35 miles on US 301 South or I-95 South.

From Charlotte: Take I-74 E for approximately 114 miles. Take exit 209B to merge onto I-95 N/US-301 N for 4 miles. Take exit 17 for NC 72/NC 711 toward Lumberton/Pembroke. Turn right on Caton Rd. Continue on W. 5th St. and turn right on W. 2nd St. Turn right on N. Elm St.

Area Information: The county seat of Robeson County, Lumberton is located on the Lumber River in the coastal plains region of North Carolina. The Lumber River was designated as a National Wild and Scenic River and, along with its cultural resources, is considered one of the most highly prized recreation sites in North Carolina. Activities include canoeing and boating, fishing, hunting, picnicking, camping, nature study, swimming, biking, jogging, crafts, and fossil and artifact hunting. Lumberton has grown tremendously since its creation in 1787 with 21,542 living within the city limits as of the 2010 survey. Lumberton was an All-America City in 1970 and 1995. For more information, visit www.ci.lumberton.nc.us, www.lumberton-nc.com, and/or http://co.robeson.nc.us.

Preservation North Carolina is a statewide, private, non-profit membership organization that protects and promotes the architectural heritage of North Carolina. Through its Endangered Properties Program it acquires and sells endangered historic buildings. Preservation North Carolina sells all properties with protective covenants and a rehabilitation agreement to ensure that the historic buildings will be renovated and that they will be protected from demolition and unsympathetic changes in the years to come. For samples of these legal documents visit www.presnc.org/get-help/easements-covenants.

For general information or to join Preservation NC:

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