

## Hoover Fire Station #2

Photography Courtesy of Dungan & Nequette Architects



*In this dusk view of Hoover Fire Station #2, the glow from the second floor commons can be seen through the large arched window with the wing to the right housing support spaces.*

By Philip Morris



Like the civic landmark fire station they designed for Mt Laurel, the new Hoover Fire Station #2 by Dungan & Nequette Architects of Birmingham has become a gateway feature on the way to The Preserve, a neo-traditional neighborhood in the western part of Hoover.

In contrast to Mt Laurel's arts & crafts in native sandstone, the Hoover station is clad in red brick with cast-stone trim and uses the classical language that dominates The Preserve's residential areas. A tower anchors the prominent corner while a large arched window on the dominant gable opens the commons area on the second floor to light and views. The three truck bays on the side have flattened arches with deep reveals.

Interiors are utilitarian and durable with accommodations for nine firefighters per shift, allowing the budget to be focused on the public exposures. The structure has 8,246 square feet and was completed in 2007 at a cost of \$205 per square foot. Landscape architects were Holcombe, Norton & Partners, and the general contractor was Craft & Associates.



*This black-and-white photo emphasizes the cast-stone detailing. The arch lettering reads "City of Hoover Fire Department."*



*Behind the three truck bays' scarlet doors, the interiors are utilitarian, allowing the budget to cover details like the richly expressed arches.*



*The limestone-colored precast trim contrasts with the mixed-matrix red masonry.*