

APR 4 1986  
**HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM**

State of Washington  
 Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation  
 111 W. 21st Ave. KL-11  
 Olympia, WA 98504  
 (206) 753-5010

**IDENTIFICATION SECTION**

Site No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Site Name: Historic Engine House No. 13  
           Common N.A.  
 Field Recorder: Mark L. Brack  
 Date Recorded: July 13, 1985  
 Owner's Name: City of Tacoma  
 Street: 747 Market Street  
 City/Town: Tacoma  
 County: Pierce  
 Zip Code: 98402

**LOCATION SECTION**

Street Number: 3825 North 25th Street  
 City/Town: Tacoma Zip Code: 98406  
 County: Pierce Twp. N/A Range: \_\_\_\_\_ Sect: \_\_\_\_\_ % Sect: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tax No./Parcel No.: 747501-376-0  
 UTM References: Zone 10 Easting 538770 Northing 5235130  
Tacoma North, Washington

Acreeage: less than one  
 Legal Boundary Description: Second School Land Addition, Block 42, Item 12.

Status:

National Register	<input type="checkbox"/>
State Register	<input type="checkbox"/>
Survey/Inventory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Determined Eligible	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (NHL, HABS, HAER) Indicate	<input type="checkbox"/>

Classification Date:

District	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Site	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Building	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	previously surveyed
Structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>1980</u>
Object	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

Photography Neg. No.: 1-Roll 1, Neg. #15  
 (Roll No. + Frame No.) 2-Roll 3, Neg. #6  
 View: 1-South and north elevations, facing NE; 2-Interior: Apparatus floor  
 Date: August 1985

**DESCRIPTION SECTION**

**Materials & Features/Structural Types:**

<b>Roof Material:</b>		<b>Roof Type:</b>	
Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Asbestos/Asphalt Shingle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Flat	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monitor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gambrel	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal (specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>		

<b>Foundation:</b>	
Hip	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pyramid	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sawtooth	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Block	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poured	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Brick	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Style/Form: (Check one or more of the following)**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Pioneer/Homestead	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dutch Colonial	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Greek Revival	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spanish Colonial	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gothic Revival	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Revival	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Italianate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bungalow	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Second Empire	<input type="checkbox"/>	Craftsman	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stick/Eastlake	<input type="checkbox"/>	American Foursquare/ Classic Box	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Queen Anne	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prairie Style	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Shingle Style	<input type="checkbox"/>	Art Deco/Moderne	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Richardsonian Romanesque	<input type="checkbox"/>	Commercial Vernacular	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chicago School/ Sullivanesque	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vernacular	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beau Arts Classicism	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify) <u>Eclectic</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Princess Anne	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Neo-Colonial	<input type="checkbox"/>		

**Cladding (Exterior Wall Surfaces):**

Log	<input type="checkbox"/>
Horizontal Wood Siding	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asbestos/Asphalt Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brick Masonry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Stone Masonry	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stucco	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Terra Cotta	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Carrara Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vinyl/Aluminum Siding	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Height/No. of Stories:**

One	<input type="checkbox"/>
One and one-half	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Two	<input type="checkbox"/>
Two and one-half	<input type="checkbox"/>
Three	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Integrity:** (include detailed description in 'Additional Description' section)

Additions to house plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changes to windows	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changes to roof shape	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changes to interior plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Intact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Slight	<input type="checkbox"/>
Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Excessive	<input type="checkbox"/>

# NARRATIVE SECTION

Areas of Significance/Study Unit Themes: (check one or more of the following)

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture  | <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Military                         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Architecture</u> /Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Education                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Politics/ <u>Government</u> /Law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts   | <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment/Recreation        | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce   | <input type="checkbox"/> Ethnic Heritage (specify) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Science & Engineering            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications   | <input type="checkbox"/> Health/Medicine                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Movements/Organizations   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Planning/Development                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing/Industry          | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                   |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____            |

Statement of Significance: (Reference names, dates, events, areas of significance/study unit themes)

Date of Construction: 1911 (Period of significance: 1911-1935)

Architect/Builder: Plans by the City Engineer's Office; Department of Public Works, Contractor

Historical Significance: Engine House No. 13 is significant for its association with the development of Tacoma's neighborhoods and the growth of the city's vital municipal services. The building is also an important example of early twentieth century fire station design. The construction of Engine House No. 13 was authorized by City Ordinance No. 4521 on August 11, 1911. The residential and commercial zones surrounding No. 13 were largely developed in the first two decades of the century. The station possesses a distinctly domestic scale that seeks to harmonize with its residential neighbors. The blocky mass of the building, together with its flared gable roof, wide eaves and knee braces imitate the form of Craftsman style "chalets" that were a popular residential type in Tacoma at this time. No. 13 was the last station of this type erected in the city. The Progressive Movement and an economic "boom" helped to create political conditions that led most voters to believe that local government should play an expanded and active role in providing for the health, safety and welfare of its citizenry. In 1911, the municipal government was the single largest builder in the city, spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on such projects as roads, bridges and powerplants. Engine House No. 13 exemplifies the great expansion of municipal services during this period, and it continues to reflect the important legacy of the Tacoma Fire Department.

Additional Description of Physical Appearance & Significant Architectural Features: Fire Station No. 13 is located in Tacoma's Proctor neighborhood, adjacent (Architectural significance; can include interior & site features; address integrity to its small commercial district. Most buildings in the area are one or one issues specifically) and one-half stories in height and were built in the early twentieth century. However, many homes also date from the 1920's, 30's and post-World War II periods. Large supermarkets near the station are also later additions. Station No. 13 combines materials and stylistic motifs in a manner that is typical of the eclectic architectural trends of this period. The station was erected over a large daylight basement, which is used as a storage facility. The building's red brick walls are laid in a stretcher bond. On the second floor the walls are finished with a smooth coat of stucco. The main(south) facade is articulated with two large apparatus doors on the ground floor. Above these doors are banded casement windows with transoms. A carved stone belt course forms sills beneath the second floor windows, as does a rock-faced belt course on the first floor. Windows on the north facade are double-hung, 1/1, wood sash. Windows on other elevations are hinged and casement sash. The middle third of the west facade's wall projects slightly to accommodate a stairway. Other exterior details include: a small Palladian-motif window on the gable ends, a wide eave with sloping soffit and knee braces, decorative recessed panels beneath the belt course on the first floor, and a small cross-gable on the north end of the west facade. The interior is (cont'd)

Major Bibliographic References: (Include books, periodicals, manuscripts, newspapers, legal documents, maps, photos, oral sources, etc.)

Tacoma City Ordinance No. 4521, August 6, 1911 (available at the City Clerk's Office)

Tacoma Daily Ledger, July 9, 1911, p.34; July 16, 1911, p.32; December 31, 1911, p.19.

Tacoma Fire Department Annual Report, 1911 (available at Northwest Room, Tacoma Public Library)

Tacoma Fire Department Records (901 South Fawcett, Tacoma, Washington)

(cont'd)

# HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

State of Washington  
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation  
111 W. 21st Ave. KL-11  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(206) 753-5010

Site No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Site Name:

Historic  
Common

Engine House No. 13

N.A.

**Additional Photographs:** (include roll no. & frame no.; date; & view)

## Description (cont'd)

largely intact; however, the dormitory space has been divided into two separate rooms. Original elements include: two brass sliding poles, staircases with newels and balusters, wooden door and window surrounds, an elaborate pressed-metal ceiling on the ground floor, and closet/lockers in the dormitory. Alterations include: the replacement of the original apparatus doors and transoms, the removal of leaded glass transoms above the windows on the second floor, and the removal of the original hose tower on the west side of the roof.

## Bib. References (cont'd)

Talbot, Clyde and Decker, Ralph, 100 Years of Firefighting in the City of Destiny, Tacoma: Pyro Press, 1981.  
Historic photographs in the files of the Northwest Room, Tacoma Public Library.