

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED JUN 13 1975
DATE ENTERED JUL 30 1975

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Engine House No. 9

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

611 N. Pine Street

—NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Tacoma

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

#6 - Honorable Floyd V. Hicks

STATE

Washington

— VICINITY OF

CODE
53

COUNTY
Pierce

CODE
053

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

J. Winston Anderson, Robert J. Lane

STREET & NUMBER

c/o 611 N. Pine Street

CITY, TOWN

Tacoma

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Washington

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the County Assessor

STREET & NUMBER

930 Tacoma Avenue S.

CITY, TOWN

Tacoma

STATE

Washington

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Engine House No. 9 is a large two story brick structure with a simple, low pitched hip roof. It is one of the few unaltered early stations surviving in Tacoma.

The Pine Street or west facade is architecturally the most varied. Two large equipment doors, offset to the south, penetrate the ground floor and immediately to the north of the doorways, a three-faceted bay window rises to the second floor. Another bay window extends from the second floor above the south equipment door and a single rectangular window is placed centrally between the two bay windows. Above this central second floor window is a masonry panel with the words "Engine House No. 9" incised into it. The tall and rectangular windows are double hung. The remaining facades are unadorned and only segmented arch window openings give variety to the brick walls.

The roof, with a dormer on the west and east, is now covered with a composition material although it was originally finished with shingles. The boxed cornice is simple and supported by ornamental brackets on the west facade above a low relief corbel trace.

The exterior of the building is largely unaltered; perhaps the most noticeable addition is the large number of tie rod plates on all sides of the structure. Second floor windows on the south side have been blocked and a frame structure reaching to the second floor hayloft in the rear has been removed. There apparently was no manure cellar.

Some modification has been made in the driveway area. Modern garage type doors have replaced the original double folding doors and the cobblestoned driveway has been paved over. A wooden picket fence and low brick planter now separate the station from the sidewalk.

Alterations in the interior largely have come from its adaptive reuse as a restaurant and tavern. The office space has been converted for use as a kitchen and the stable area now serves as a bar. Double pairs of stable doors for each piece of equipment still remain although the original flooring has been covered with hardwood. A brass fire pole from the dormitory area above to the ground floor still is in place near the door.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1907

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in 1907 during a period of expansion in the city, Engine House No. 9 remains as the oldest surviving unaltered fire station in Tacoma. It served as battalion headquarters for North Tacoma until 1965.

When first occupied in 1908, the station boasted a three-horse, 650 gallon per minute Sylsby steamer and a two-horse wagon. By 1915, the Sylsby had been replaced by a 750 gallon per minute Amoskeg drawn by the team of Nip, Dick and Joe. The last horse drawn pumper at the station was a big 950 gallon per minute Metropolitan, replaced in 1919 by a motorized American - La France engine. The first blaze the truck responded to was a grass fire.

By 1965, new quarters to replace Engine House No. 9 had been built. On April 29 of that year, a major earthquake struck the area and at all fire stations, the equipment was rushed outside in case the doors might jam during the shake. Because of continuing tremors, the firefighters at Engine House No. 9 decided by nightfall to leave the older building and retire to the new station.

Abandoned and neglected, the station became the victim of the elements and vandals. By 1971, there were gaping holes in the roof and standing water on all three floors. The city offered the property for sale only if the building were torn down. The present owner of the structure purchased the property and managed to secure the building's future. Many months of hard labor followed and when the building opened in the fall of 1973 as a restaurant and tavern, it was the city's first historic building to be restored and put to a commercial use by private enterprise.

Engine House No. 9 is significant not only as an excellent example of a small urban fire station but also serves to demonstrate the viability of reusing old structures for new purposes.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hunt, Herbert. History of Tacoma, volumes I and II, S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., Chicago, Illinois: 1916.

Stevenson, Jim. Seattle Firehouses, 1972.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	0
5	3
9	9
4	0

5	2
3	3
5	7
0	

B

C

D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David M. Hansen (Based on information supplied by Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Happy)

ORGANIZATION

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 1128

TELEPHONE

(206) 753-4117

CITY OR TOWN

Olympia

STATE

Washington

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Charles H. Odegard

TITLE

Executive Director - Charles H. Odegard

DATE

June 9, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

R. R. Montgomery
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

7/30/75

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

JUL 29 1975

Records of Tacoma Fire Department as published in Engine House No. 9 brochure,
compiled by Win Anderson and Bob Lane, 1973.

