

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only	001	4	1933
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Continuation sheet 70

Item number 7

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NAME: Fire Station #4
LOCATION: 474 Broadway
OWNER: William E. Shepard
474 Broadway
Pawtucket, RI 02860

CONDITION: Good; altered; original site

DESCRIPTION:

Pawtucket's Queen Anne-styled Fire Station #4 is located on the southwesterly corner of Broadway and Carnation Street, in the heart of the late nineteenth-century neighborhood of Pleasant View. The main body of the station is a two-and-a-half-story, hip-roofed rectangle, with a central cross-gable on the Broadway facade, a square hose drying/bell tower in the northwestern corner, and a smaller chimney stack in the opposite southwestern corner. Matching single-story wings with gable-on-hipped roofs project from both of the long sides of the building; small, hip-roofed porches with arched openings are tucked into the re-entrant angles between the Broadway sides of these wings and the main body of the station.

The walls of the station are constructed of red brick, laid in a dusty pinkish mortar. Some carved sandstone trim is used and most window sills and lintels are of the same material. The building's most intricate exterior details--the name/date plaque in the front gable and the heavily foliate string course at the base of the corbelled main cornice--are executed in molded terra-cotta. All roofs are covered with dark gray slate. A semi-circular window is centered in the frontal gable; a related round-headed window on the building's northern side marks the position of the staircase. The only other round-headed window openings are found in the tower; the remaining window openings are flat-headed and are typically filled with two-over-one sash. A pair of modern garage doors now fill the two fire engine doorways in the front facade; pedestrian access is through the arched entry porches and into the low side wings. The only major alteration of the exterior (other than the insertion of the two modern garage doors) is the recent removal of the pyramidally roofed open belfry which originally crowned the hose-drying/bell tower.

The interior of the fire house has been heavily altered, the building having been converted from its original use to serve as office and meeting-room space for a variety of city agencies. Some original details, however, do still survive, including a rather ornate Queen Anne staircase and a variety of late-nineteenth century sunken-panelled doors.

(See Continuation Sheet #71)

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PERIOD: 1800-1899

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, Politics/Government

SPECIFIC DATE: 1890

BUILDER/ARCHITECT: Unknown

SIGNIFICANCE:

Pawtucket's Fire Station #4 is architecturally significant as a representative example of a late nineteenth-century, Queen Anne-style firehouse, particularly distinguished by its handsome corbeled cornices and molded terra-cotta trim. The building has historical significance as well, as a visible physical reminder of Pawtucket's maturation as a city in the last decades of the nineteenth century, a period when a multitude of city services (fire protection, public water supply and sewerage systems, etc.) were rapidly extended in the city's developing neighborhoods.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nominated property is Pawtucket Assessor's Plat 7B, lot 164, which includes the fire station and its immediate surroundings.

ACREAGE: less than one (10,000 square feet)

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

UTM: A 19 302820 4639680

(See Continuation Sheet #72)