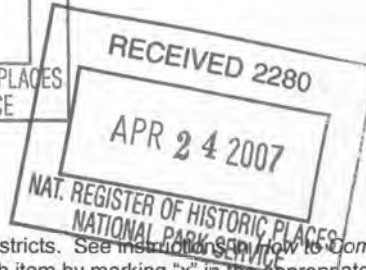


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



536

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions on how to complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name (Old) Engine Company 26

other names Chemical Company 3; Engine Company 26; Langdon Firehouse

2. Location

street & number 2715 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, N.E.  not for publication

city or town Washington, D.C.  vicinity

state District of Columbia code DC county \_\_\_\_\_ code 001 zip code 20001

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments).

David Maloney DAVID MALONEY, ACTING SHPO 4-20-2007  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

DC HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.
  - See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.
  - See continuation sheet.
- Determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Patrick Andrus

8/8/2007

Old Engine Company 26  
Name of Property

Washington, D.C.  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

- Private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

Firehouses in Washington, D.C.

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/Firehouse

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/Tudor Revival

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone  
walls Brick; stucco; and wood half-timbering

roof Slate  
other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Old Engine Company 26

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 7 Page 1

## Description Summary:

Old Engine Company 26 is a 2-1/2-story, freestanding Tudor Revival-style building located at the height of a hill on 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, N.E. in the Langdon neighborhood in Washington, D.C. Domestic in form, the firehouse is characterized by its distinctive half-timbering, its varied use of materials, including brick, wood, stone and stucco, and its projecting window bays and dormers. The building is set upon a low brick and stone foundation and is covered with a steeply pitched gable roof with one end gable forming the principal elevation. The firehouse was constructed in 1908 to the designs of Alfred B. Mullett & Sons, prominent local architects.

## General Description:

### Exterior:

The west (front) elevation of old Engine Company 26, facing 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, N.E. is located in the building's gable end, formed by its steeply pitched gable roof. The façade is divided into two bays, defined on the first story by the two-segmental arched apparatus doors (now filled in) flanking a narrow slit-window on-center of the façade, and at the attic level by the building's distinctive half-timbering and a pair of windows on-center with diamond-paned double-hung sash. The second story of the building features a polygonal oriel window with four single 6/6 windows on the four canted wall surfaces. The first story of this front elevation is clad in brick with a rusticated stone foundation and smooth stone used ornamentally in the central keystone and end stones of the arched openings and in the sill of the central window.

A wood stringcourse and contrasting materials (brick on the first story and stucco on the second story) separate the two principal levels.

The north and south side elevations extend seven unequal bays deep with a brick chimney located towards the front end of the building and a projecting gable, with half-timbering in the gable end, towards the rear. The chimney projects slightly from the wall surface, then protrudes through the roofline displaying a corbelled stack. The first story of the side elevations are laid in brick and feature windows with segmental arched surrounds, with those in the front bays ornamented with stone keystones and end blocks.

The steeply pitched roof, clad with slate, has a central ventilator designed as a picturesque cupola atop the ridgeline. A garden enclosed by a two-foot-high wall has been constructed in front of the building's apparatus doors to de-emphasize the former and now obsolete entry to the building.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Old Engine Company 26

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Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

---

County and State

Section 7 Page 2

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The building, used in recent years as a church, now sits vacant and is partially boarded up. Although still intact and still maintaining its integrity, the building is in a fragile state, due principally to its unoccupied state.

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- B** Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

**Area of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Community Planning and Development

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1908-1940

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1908

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

A.B. Mullett & Sons

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

**Previous documentation on files (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Old Engine Company 26

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 8 Page 3

### Summary Statement of Significance:

The context for firehouses is described in the National Register Multiple Property Listing: *Firehouses in Washington, D.C.* Old Engine Company 26 was constructed in 1908 as Chemical Company 3 for the District of Columbia's professional firefighting force during the second period of firehouse construction known as the "Eclectic" period. During this period, between the 1890s and World War I, the Municipal Architect and a variety of private firms produced a large number of high-quality buildings in a variety of styles as an expression of civic pride, with careful consideration of their contexts and as a testament to the importance of the Fire Department. Old Engine Company 26, designed by prominent architects A.B. Mullett & Co. is designed in one of the earliest academic expressions of the Tudor Revival style in Washington. The building meets Criteria A and C for listing in the National Register with Architecture as the Area of Significance.

The Period of Significance for Old Engine Company 26 extends from 1908 when the firehouse was constructed until 1940 when Engine Company 26 moved out of the building and the building was converted into a church.

### Resource History and Historic Context:

Originally named Chemical Company 3, this firehouse was built in 1908 as a result of a petition by the Northeastern Citizens' Suburban Association for better fire protection service for the new houses in the Langdon neighborhood in northeast Washington, D.C. Because the firehouse's service area was generally beyond the city's hydrant system, the station received a chemical company (i.e. apparatus that carried tanks of chemical fire suppressant<sup>1</sup>). Shortly after its construction, in 1913, the station was renamed to accommodate Engine Company 26.

Engine Company 26 remained in the building for 27 years. However, in 1940, a year after major restructuring at the fire department, Engine Company 26 moved in with Truck Company 15 at 1340 Rhode Island Avenue, N.E., bringing the Engine Company 26 name with it. The city then proposed to adapt the "old" Engine Company 26 firehouse for use as a library, while the Rhode Island Avenue Citizens' Association pushed for its use as a community center. Instead, the city sold the building to a church and for several decades the building was occupied by the New Memorial Temple of Christ Apostolic Faith, Inc. The front apparatus doors were filled in and the large, apparatus room was converted into a sanctuary. In 2006, the building was purchased by the current owner, AAP Properties, LLC. Known today as Old Engine Company 26 in order to differentiate it from the still operating Engine Company 26, the building sits vacant and in fragile condition.

<sup>1</sup> *The Washington Post*, December 21 and July 31, 1908.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 4

Old Engine Company 26

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Designed by the local firm of A.B. Mullett and Sons, one of the city's most prominent architectural firms, Engine Company 26 is among the most whimsical of Washington's "Eclectic" firehouses. The fact that this was a suburban area in 1908 strongly influenced the building's unique Tudor Revival-style design. It is the most domestic of D.C.'s firehouses, essentially a half-timbered 16<sup>th</sup> century manor house with obvious modifications for accommodating fire equipment. Nonetheless, at three stories and a sizeable footprint, it was undoubtedly the most imposing building in the neighborhood. Its very conspicuous presence likely encouraged further development in the neighborhood of principally frame residences by allaying fears of devastating fires.

Alfred B. Mullett served as Supervising Architect of the Treasury from 1866 until he opened his own office in 1874. In the 1880s his sons, Thomas and Frederick, joined their father's firm, despite their lack of formal architectural training. After Alfred's death in 1890, the sons continued the firm, designing row houses, apartment buildings, hotels, banks, office buildings and other commercial structures.<sup>2</sup> After his brother's death in 1924, Thomas had an active career designing several hotels and many private residences. He was the recognized authority on D.C. building regulations.

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<sup>2</sup> Antoinette J. Lee, "Alfred B. Mullett (1834-1890)," *A Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Maine*, Vol. 2, No. 2, Maine Historic Preservation Commission, 1975.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Old Engine Company 26

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 9 Page 5

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Old Engine Company 26

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 9 Page 6

Washington Star Archives, Washingtoniana Collection, Martin Luther King, Jr. Library

Withey, Henry R. and Elsie Rathburn. Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased). Los Angeles: Hennessey and Ingalls, Inc., 1970.

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Old Engine Company 26  
Name of Property

Washington, D.C.  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 5,000 square feet

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

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See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sally Berk, Architectural Historian; Kim Williams (edited, 2007), Architectural Historian  
Organization The Capitol Fire Museum date June 2001  
street & number 2214 Wyoming Avenue, NW telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Washington, D.C. state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code 20008

## Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

- X A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
X A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

- X Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

#### Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

## Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name AAP Properties, LLC  
street & number 1160 Varnum Street, NE #208 telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Washington, D.C. state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code 20017-2103

**Paperwork Reduction Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et. seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Old Engine Company 26

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 10 Page 7

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## Verbal Boundary Description:

Engine Company 26 at 2715 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, NE occupies Lot 809 in Square 4253 in the District of Columbia.

## Boundary Justification:

Engine Company 26 has been associated with Lot 809 since construction of the firehouse on the site in 1908.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Old Engine Company 26

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

### PHOTOGRAPHS

*The following information is common to all photographs:*

Engine Company 26  
2715 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, NE  
Washington, D.C.  
Kim Williams, photographer  
March 2007  
DC Historic Preservation Office (DC HPO)

- 1) View looking northeast showing west (front) and north (side) elevations  
1/4
- 2) View looking northeast showing west (front) and south (side) elevation  
2/4
- 3) View looking east showing west (front) elevation  
3/4
- 4) View looking northeast showing south elevation  
4/4

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

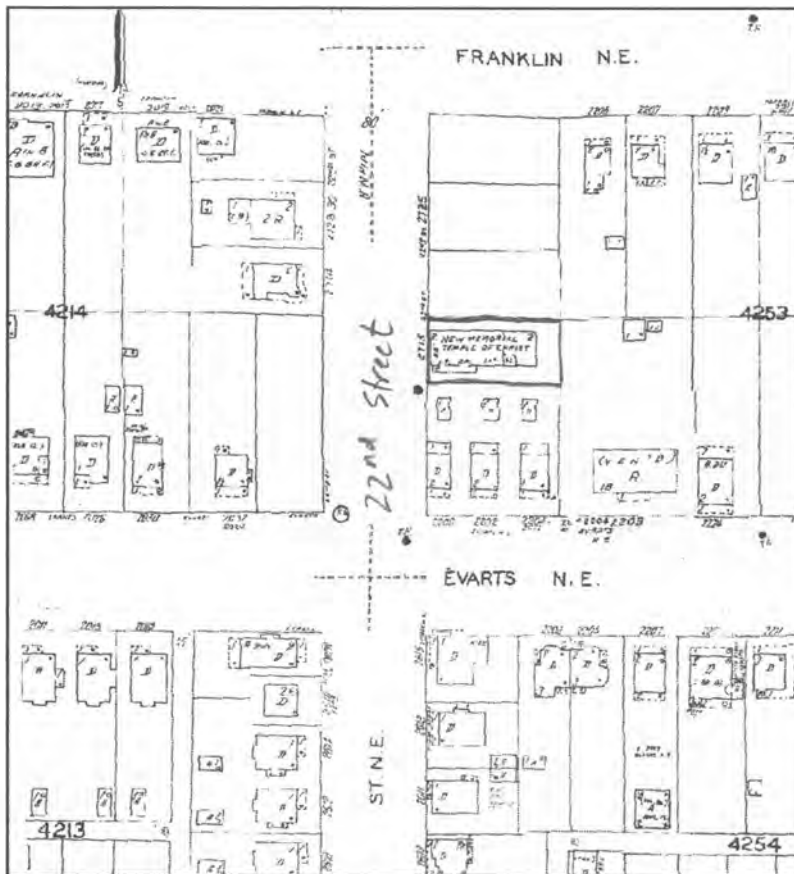
Old Engine Company 26

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

## SITE MAP



Engine Company 26  
2715 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, NE  
Washington, D.C.  
(From Sanborn Map, 1991)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Old Engine Company 26  
Name of Property

Washington, D.C.  
County and State

## HISTORIC PHOTOS



Historic Photo of (Old) Engine Company 26 (circa 1908)  
(From the Collection of Jackson Gearhart)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Engine Company 26, (Old)  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Firehouses in Washington DC MPS  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, District of Columbia

DATE RECEIVED: 4/24/07 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/14/07  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/29/07 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/07/07  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 07000536

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 6/6/07 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*See attached Return Sheet for detailed comment.*

RECOM./CRITERIA Return

REVIEWER Patricia Andrus DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE 6/6/07

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Evaluation/Return Sheet

Property Name: (Old) Engine Company 26  
State: District of Columbia  
Reference Number: 07000536  
Multiple Property Name: Firehouses in Washington DC MPS

#### Reasons for Return:

The nomination is being returned for clarification of information regarding the current ownership and function of the building. In Section 5 of the nomination form (Classification) under Ownership of Property, the category "Public-local" is checked, while in Section 10 of the form under Property Owner, the name AAP Properties, LLC is listed. Please clarify who owns the property and correct the appropriate section of the form. In Section Six of the form under "Current Functions," the category "Government/Firehouse" is entered, while in Section 7, page 2 of the form it is noted that the building is vacant. Please clarify the current function of the building and fix the form as appropriate.

Patrick Andrus, Historian  
National Register of Historic Places

6/6/2007



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY Engine Company 26, (Old)  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Firehouses in Washington DC MPS  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, District of Columbia

DATE RECEIVED: 7/03/07 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/16/07  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 07000536

DETAILED EVALUATION:

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 8/8/07 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

On resubmission, the SHPO has clarified that the building is privately owned and currently vacant.

Historically & architecturally significant early 20th century firehouse.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A/c

REVIEWER Patrick Andrews

DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 8/8/2007

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



Chemical Company 3  
2715 22nd Street, NE

Washington, DC

Kim Williams

3/2007

DC HPO

View looking southeast showing west (front) and north (side)  
elevations

1/4



Chemical Company 3  
2715 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, NE  
Washington, DC  
Kim Williams

3/2007

DC HPO

View looking northeast showing west (front) and south (side)  
elevations

2/4



Chemical Company 3  
2715 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, NE  
Washington, DC

Kim Williams

3/2007

View looking east showing west (front)  
elevation

3/4





Chemical Company 3  
2715 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, NE

Washington, DC

Kim Williams

3/2007

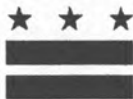
View looking northeast showing south  
elevation

4/4

Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500979

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Patrick Andrus  
**FROM:** Kim Williams  
**DATE:** July 2, 2007  
**SUBJECT:** (Old) Engine Company 26  
Reference #07000536

Please find enclosed a revised nomination form addressing the issues outlined on the National Register Return Sheet (#07000536) dated 6/6/2007. As clarified on the revised nomination, the former firehouse building is now privately owned and currently sits vacant.