

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

APR 4 1986

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Site No.: _____
Site Name: Historic Fire Station No. 14
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 4701 N. 41 Street
City/Town Tacoma Zip Code 98407
County Pierce Range N/A Sect - % Sect -
Tax No./Parcel No. 286525-017-0
UTM References Zone 10 Easting 537890 Northing 5236860
Tacoma North, Wa.

Acreeage: less than one

Legal boundary description: Howard Carr's Third Addition, Block 4, lots 1 and 2, plus 20 feet of vacated street, less Gove Street.

Status:

National Register
State Register
Survey/Inventory
Determined Eligible
Other (NHL, HABS, HAER) Indicate

Classification

Date:

District
Site
Building
Structure
Object
previously surveyed
1980

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography Neg. No.: Roll 1, Neg. #17

(Roll No. + Frame No.)

View: south and east elevations, facing northwest

Date: August 1985

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Materials & Features/Structural Types:

Roof Material:

Wood Shingle
Asbestos/Asphalt Shingle
Slate
Tar
Metal (specify) _____
Other (specify) _____

Roof Type:

Gable
Flat
Monitor
Gambrel
Shed

Hip
Pyramid
Sawtooth
Other (specify) clipped gable

Foundation:

Log
Post & Pier
Stone
Concrete
Brick
Other (specify) _____

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

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

Cladding (Exterior Wall Surfaces):

Log
Horizontal Wood Siding
Rustic/Novelty
Clapboard
Wood Shingle
Split Shakes
Re-sawn
Machine Shingle

Height/No. of Stories:

One
One and one-half
Two
Two and one-half
Three
Other (specify) _____

Asbestos/Asphalt Shingle
Brick Masonry
Stone Masonry
Stucco
Terra Cotta
Carrara Glass
Vinyl/Aluminum Siding
Other (specify) _____

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

Additions to house plan _____
Changes to windows _____
Changes to roof shape _____
Changes to interior plan _____
Other (specify) _____

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

NARRATIVE SECTION

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

Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architecture/Landscape Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Politics/Government/Law	<input checked="" 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) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Date of Construction: 1928 - 1929 (Period of significance: 1928 - 1935)
 Architect/Builder: Morton J. Nicholson, Architect - Martin H. Marker, Contractor
 Historical Significance:

Fire Station No. 14 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 local example of the innovations in fire station design which followed the motorization of firefighting equipment. Stations 10 and 14 are virtually identical and are excellent examples of what Zurier calls "bungalow" type fire stations. Mostly one story in height, these "bungalow" stations were distinctly domestic in scale and detailing, complementing the character of their modest, suburban neighborhoods. The growth of the city and the general economic prosperity that preceded the Depression prompted voters to approve a bond issue in 1928 that included funds for four new fire stations, the fire alarm center and the fireboat. The fire stations were only a small part of this bond issue, which dramatically expanded many other municipal operations. All of these new stations were opened in 1929 and were located in districts whose growth demanded additional fire protection. The introduction of motorized equipment allowed stations to be reduced in height to one story, as firemen no longer required separation from the horses. This permitted swifter deployment of firefighters and also enabled the stations to more closely resemble their bungalow neighbors. The Craftsman/Tudor detailing of Station No. 14 is continued in the detached garage, which was erected prior to 1932. The garage contributes to the significance of the station by virtue of its similar architectural style, and it also

Additional Description of Physical Appearance & Significant Architectural Features:
 (Architectural significance; can include interior & site features; address integrity issues specifically)

Fire Station No. 14 is located in a residential neighborhood composed primarily of one-story frame houses. Most of the homes were built in the early twentieth century; however, many buildings post-dating World War II are scattered throughout the area. The scale and detailing of Station No. 14 is reflective of the Craftsman style of domestic architecture. Erected over a large daylight basement, the building displays asymmetrically arranged elevations under a large clipped gable roof. Projecting from the south facade is a large gabled wing for the apparatus room. A cross-gable is also found on the north facade. The main entrance to the residential sections of the station is under a small porch on the east facade. This porch has brick and wood piers, a concrete stoop and a shed roof. The walls of the station have a veneer of grey, yellow, orange and red textured brick. The various colors are grouped together in discrete irregular patches, creating a picturesque pattern on the wall surface. Most windows in the building are double-hung wood sash with brick lintels and sills. The headers used for the sills are extended to create a belt course around the building. The station's roof is articulated with exposed rafter tails and carved purlins and bargeboards on the gable ends. A small hose tower rises above the north side of

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

- Tacoma Daily Ledger, December 28, 1929, p.12
- Tacoma Fire Department Annual Report, 1929, (available at Northwest Room, Tacoma Public Library)
- Tacoma Fire Department Records (901 South Fawcett Avenue, Tacoma, Washington)
- Tacoma News Tribune, March 14, 1928, p. 1
- Talbot, Clyde and Decker, Ralph, 100 Years of Firefighting in the City of Destiny, Tacoma, Pyro Press, 1981

HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

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Site No.: _____

Site Name:

Historic
Common

Fire Station No. 14

NA

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

Significance (cont'd)

reflects the increased importance of the private automobile in American society. Fire Station No. 14 exemplifies the growth of the city and its municipal services, and it continues to reflect the important legacy of the Tacoma Fire Department.

Description (cont'd)

roof and is detailed with louvered vents and a pyramidal roof. The most notable alteration to the structure occurred with the recent expansion of the apparatus room, Its cross gable was extended in order to house larger firetrucks. The original segmentally-arched wooden doors were replaced with a flat-arch roll-up door, but the alteration was remarkably sensitive, recreating the gable end's half-timbered motif and roof detailing. Similarly textured brick was used to finish the walls in the same pattern as the original. Only slight variations in the hue of the brick distinguish the old and the new elements. The interior of the building is very well preserved. Original features include: plywood lockers, varnished plate and chair rails, varnished door and window surrounds, a tiled bathroom, and a dining nook with built-in Craftsman style furniture. There is a garage immediately north of No. 14 that was erected shortly after the fire station. The garage imitates the style of the station, including its various roof details and the half-timbered motif beneath the gable ends. The garage contributes to the historical significance of the property.

Bib. References (cont'd)

Zurier, Rebecca. The American Firehouse. An Architectural and Social History. New York: Abbeville Press, 1982
Original 1928 blueprints (available at the City of Tacoma's Building Division)