

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Minnesota
COUNTY: St. Louis
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE MAY 12 1975

1. NAME

COMMON:
Fire Department Number One

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Fire Department Number One

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
N.W. corner of First Avenue East and Third Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Duluth

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
8th

STATE: Minnesota CODE: 22 COUNTY: St. Louis CODE: 137

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ Comments: _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Duluth Public Schools Independent School District #709

STREET AND NUMBER:
226 First Avenue East

CITY OR TOWN:
Duluth

STATE: Minnesota CODE: 22

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
St. Louis County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
5th Avenue West at First Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Duluth

STATE: Minnesota CODE: 22

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Statewide Historic Sites Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1974 Federal State County

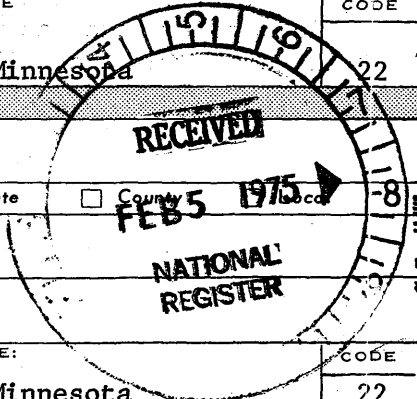
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Minnesota Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY OR TOWN:
St. Paul

STATE: Minnesota CODE: 22

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Minnesota
COUNTY: St. Louis
ENTRY NUMBER: _____
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

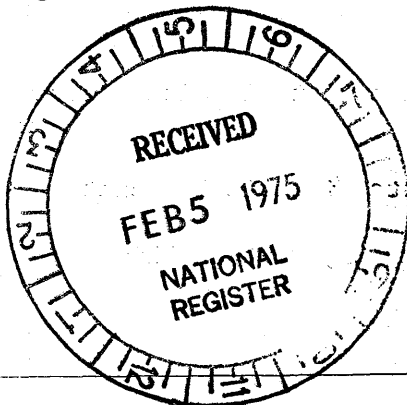
Fire Department Number One is situated at the northwest corner of First Avenue East and Third Street in Duluth, Minnesota; Block One, East Third Street, Duluth proper, First Division.

The fire hall was designed by noted Duluth architects Oliver G. Traphagen and Francis W. Fitzpatrick. The structure was erected by the City of Duluth in 1889 in a modified Romanesque style. The two and one half story red brick and sandstone building measures fifty feet long by ninety feet wide with walls extending thirty feet high.

The Third Street facade and the First Avenue East side elevation door and window openings are uniform and balanced. All window and door openings are Romanesque style arches, except for the three attic windows on the front facade. On this facade the voussoir arches are composed of sandstone on the first floor and brick on the second. Sculptured capitals on the pilasters are located on the first floor (see photographic detail of the entrance). On the second floor is a loggia with a projecting elliptical balcony and wrought iron railing. The triangular portions above the second floor loggia have sculptured panels depicting crossed fire horns. A corbelled brick cornice is surmounted by a brick parapet finishing the top of the building and the central bay of the front facade projects slightly outward from the front elevation. The First Avenue East, south side elevation, contains two stories of brick voussoir arches with deeply recessed windows. Terracotta banding is visible on the second floor. Above the central bay is a curvilinear pediment with a sculptured date stone bearing the date 1889 A.D. The north and west sides of the fire hall are of no distinctive architectural styles. [In 1960, a second floor wooden causeway was built between the fire hall and the adjacent building to the north.]

The round arched observation deck with wrought iron balastrade, surmounted by an ogee dome, capped by a flag pole was removed from the fire hall and the sixteen foot chimney was lowered.

The interior of the structure is finished in pine and maple woods and the original double staircase remains in the building. All original equipment related to the fire department has been removed including the four brass fireman's poles. The circular holes of the shoots are still visible in the first floor ceiling, but have been boarded over on the second floor. Original door moldings and wainscoting still remain in the building.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

*W. Schenk
10/27/77*

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1899

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Institution -</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | <u>fire protection</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | <u>services</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Fire Department Number One is significant as an historic and architectural representative of an early institution which figured prominently into the history of the village and later the City of Duluth.

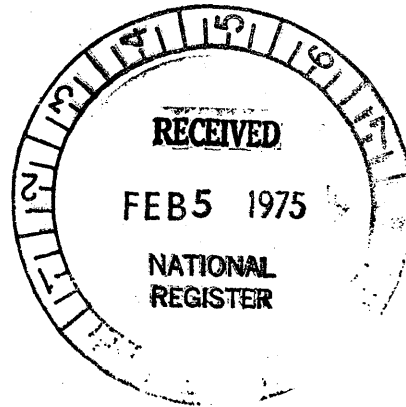
The volunteer fire unit was organized during the fall of 1870 to protect the village of Duluth. In the 1880s this organization developed into a part-paid fire department. During the latter part of 1889, this part-paid unit evolved into the city's present full-paid fire department. It was at this time that Fire Department Number One was constructed from the architectural designs of Traphagen and Fitzpatrick. In 1890 two additional fire stations were constructed bringing the number to four stations available to protect the City of Duluth. The fire department had a total of 61 men who manned two steam fire engines, three chemical engines, two hook and ladder trucks, three hose wagons, other miscellaneous equipment, and twenty-four horses in active service that responded to the 118 alarms in 1890.

The fire hall was the first brick structure erected by the city fire department and it remained the pride of the department until the new headquarters at Sixth Avenue West was constructed. After the city erected the new headquarters, Fire Department Number One was converted to a public works facility. In 1950 the Board of Education, present owners, took it over for use as a maintenance shop.

Fire Department Number One represents the period of transition of Duluth's fire protection agency from a volunteer fire unit to the present full-paid fire fighting department and is an architectural representative of the fire halls of Duluth which stood in the last decade of the nineteenth century.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

When?



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Bibliograph for Fire Department Number One.
1. City of Duluth - Building Inspector's Permits. Block One, East Third Street, Duluth Proper First Division.
 2. City of Duluth - Department of Research and Planning. Legacy of Duluth - Architectural Book; Duluth: 1974
 3. Duluth News Tribune. 3/31/1929; 7/29/56, Cosmopolitan Section, Page four; 3/29/62 : St. Louis County Historical Society.
 4. Ostman, John L., Fire Department History. Speech delivered November 21, 1961: St. Louis County Historical Society.

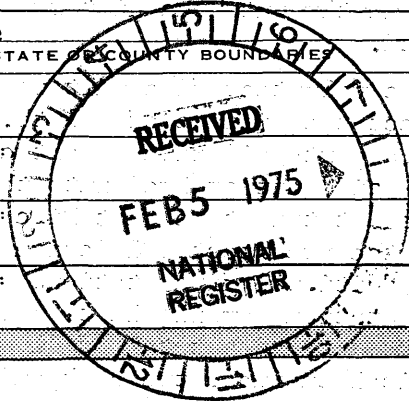
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "	46	°	47	°	25	"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "	92	°	06	°	00	"	
SE	° ' "	° ' "							
SW	° ' "	° ' "							

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/2 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
John J. Hackett, Survey Specialist

ORGANIZATION: **Minnesota Historical Society** DATE: **Dec. 18, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY OR TOWN: **Saint Paul** STATE: **Minnesota** CODE: **22**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: *Russell W. Fridley*
Russell W. Fridley

Title: State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: Jan. 30, 1975

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connally
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 5/12/75

ATTEST:
Ronald M. Greenberg
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 5/19/75

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper *Melony Lynn*
1/19/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

**Note: These changes apply to
Fire Department Number One in
St. Louis County, Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 75002089

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: St. Louis

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC): Fire House No. 1

CITY:

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS:

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

**Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer**

JUN 17 1988
Date