

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 Fireboat Station
Common Fire Station No. 18
Field Recorder: Mark L. Brack
Date Recorded: July 15, 1985
Owner's Name: City of Tacoma
Street: 747 Market Street
City/Town: Tacoma
County: Pierce
Zip Code: 98402

LOCATION SECTION

Street Number: 302 East 11th Street
City/Town: Tacoma Zip Code: 98421
County: Pierce Twp. N/A Range: - Sect: - % Sect: -
Tax No./Parcel No.: No parcel number
UTM References: Zone 10 Easting 543070 Northing 5233380
Tacoma North Washington

Acreeage: less than one
Verbal boundary description: see continuation sheet

Status:

National Register	<input type="checkbox"/>
State Register	<input type="checkbox"/>
Survey/Inventory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Determined Eligible	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (NHL, HABS, HAER) Indicate	<input type="checkbox"/>

Classification Date:

District	<input type="checkbox"/>	previously	_____
Site	<input type="checkbox"/>	surveyed	<u>1981</u>
Building	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		_____
Structure	<input type="checkbox"/>		_____
Object	<input type="checkbox"/>		_____

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography Neg. No.: Roll 2, Neg. #12
(Roll No. + Frame No.)
View: north and west elevations, facing SE
Date: August 1985

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Materials & Features/Structural Types:

Roof Material:

Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/>	Roof Type:	Gable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Asbestos/Asphalt Shingle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Flat	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slate	<input type="checkbox"/>		Monitor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tar	<input type="checkbox"/>		Gambrel	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal (specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>		Shed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Foundation:

Hip	<input type="checkbox"/>	Log	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pyramid	<input type="checkbox"/>	Post & Pier	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sawtooth	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Concrete	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Block	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Poured	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Brick	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other (specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

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

Cladding (Exterior Wall Surfaces):

Log	<input type="checkbox"/>
Horizontal Wood Siding	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asbestos/Asphalt Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brick Masonry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Stone Masonry	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stucco	<input type="checkbox"/>
Terra Cotta	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carrara Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vinyl/Aluminum Siding	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

Height/No. of Stories:

One	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
One and one-half	<input type="checkbox"/>
Two	<input type="checkbox"/>
Two and one-half	<input type="checkbox"/>
Three	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Additions to house plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changes to windows	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changes to roof shape	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changes to interior plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Historical Significance: The Fireboat Station is significant for its association with the development of Tacoma's port/industrial district and the growth of the city's vital municipal services. The station is also an important local example of innovations in fire station design that followed the motorization of firefighting equipment. The growth of the city and the general economic prosperity which preceded the Depression prompted voters to approve a bond issue in 1928 which included funds for four new fire stations, the fire alarm station and the fireboat. Terrible fires were a common occurrence along the city's waterfront, and for many years firefighting on the water was carried out by converted tugboats. The 1928 bond issue allowed the fire department to purchase a modern fireboat whose capabilities far exceeded those of its predecessors. The Fireboat Station and a boat slip (since replaced) were constructed to serve the new fireboat, which was placed in service in 1929. This station and its fireboat were responsible for answering most of the rescue and fire alarms in the city's expanding port zone. The fireboat was listed on the National Register in 1983. The Fireboat Station is the smallest station in the city, and it features the same Craftsman/Tudor detailing of Nos. 10 and 14. The domestic scale of these stations is also repeated; thus, the Fireboat Station can be classified as a "bungalow"-type station. Like Station No. 15, its picturesque quality is very

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Additional Description of Physical Appearance & Significant Architectural Features:

(Architectural significance; can include interior & site features; address integrity issues specifically)

The Fireboat Station is located in Tacoma's port/industrial area, which is characterized by warehouses, factories and undeveloped land. The City Waterway is immediately west of the station, and the 11th Street Bridge, which connects downtown Tacoma with the port area, rises to the south. The building is constructed of reinforced concrete, with a veneer of red brick laid in a stretcher bond. Headers are used for lintels, sills and a belt course. The most elaborate elevation of this Craftsman-influenced station is the west gable end facing the water. Projecting from the main wall plane is a small gabled wing with a recessed porch on one corner. Other details of this wing include: a band of three, double-hung 6/1 sash; exposed purlins; and a half-timbered motif beneath the gable. The most prominent element of the station's design is the hose tower at the southwest corner of the building. Finished in stucco, the tower features a pyramidal roof and a half-timbered design beneath the louvered vents. A metal double door has replaced the original doors of the hose tower. Other exterior details include: exposed rafter tails and purlins, double-hung 6/1 and 3/1 wood sash, and a small rounded-arch vent at the attic level of the gable end. The interior retains several original features, including: baseboards, door and window

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

Tacoma Daily Ledger, December 28, 1928, p.12.

Tacoma Fire Department Annual Report, 1929 (available at Northwest Room, Tacoma Public Library)

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.

Original 1928 blueprints (available at the City of Tacoma, Public Works Department, Building Division)

HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

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(206) 753-5010

Site No.: _____

Site Name:

Historic
Common

Fireboat Station

Fire Station No. 18

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

Significance (cont'd)

different from the utilitarian industrial character of the surrounding area. The Fireboat Station exemplifies the growth of the city and its services, and it continues to reflect the important legacy of the Tacoma Fire Department.

Description (cont'd)

surrounds, wainscoting, and varnished plywood lockers. The original Craftsman-style furniture of the dining nook has been partially altered. The present fireboat is berthed to the west of the station at a dock that has replaced the one originally erected with the station. A small concrete block storage building is located to the east of the station. This building was constructed at a later date and does not contribute to the significance of the fire station.

Verbal Boundary Description (cont'd)

Starting at a point which is the intersection of the east shore of the City Waterway and north edge of the 11th Street Bridge; thence proceed in an easterly direction 130 feet along said bridge; thence proceed in a northerly direction 90 feet to the edge of the 11th Street right-of-way. Thence proceed in a westerly direction along said right-of-way to the eastern shore of the City Waterway, thence proceed in a southerly direction along said shoreline to the 11th Street Bridge, the point of origin.