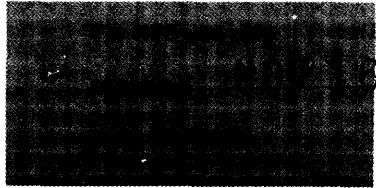


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



1982

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Fire Station No. 9

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 1728 South 8th Street N/A not for publication

city, town Terre Haute N/A vicinity of congressional district

state Indiana code 018 county Vigo code 167

3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name City of Terre Haute

street & number 17 Harding Avenue

city, town Terre Haute N/A vicinity of state Indiana 47802

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Vigo County Courthouse

street & number 3rd and Wabash Avenue

city, town Terre Haute state Indiana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? \_\_\_ yes  no

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town state

## 7. Description

**Condition**  
 excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**  
 unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**  
 original site  
 moved date N/A

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Fire Station #9 is a two-story brick building located on the south side of Terre Haute, Indiana. It was erected in 1906 by the municipal authorities to provide additional fire protection to this part of the city, and was one of ten such fire stations ultimately constructed during the first decade of the 20th century. This building remained in use as a fire station until June, 1980.

The building is situated on a triangular plot of land defined by three thoroughfares. It is rectangular in plan, with a flat roof surrounded by a limestone-capped parapet wall. The main facade faces west and is constructed of yellow brick; all other exterior walls are of common red brick. Except for the main facade, exterior detailing of the structure is confined to the use of plain limestone sills and lintels at each window opening.

The main facade of the building is more ornate, and features more decorative limestone detailing. The ground floor area of this facade is devoted to the various door and window openings required in a building of this type. A large recessed area stretches across the northern three-quarters of this ground floor facade and contains the two large doors which give access to the equipment bay. The walls flanking this recess are treated as pilasters, with limestone bases and capitals. The remaining portion of this ground floor facade contains a narrow, double-hung window and a single entry door. Another pilaster is located next to this door at the extreme south end of the structure; together, these three pilasters support a plain wide frieze which stretches across the entire front of the building. The frieze is decorated with molding and dentils and is surmounted by a cyma-reversa cornice with returns.

The second floor of the main facade is divided into five bays, with identical, two-over-two, double-hung windows in each bay. The pilasters employed on the ground continue up through the second floor to the parapet, thus separating the southernmost window from the other four, but this does not affect the regular spacing of the window openings. Over these windows is a cornice with modillions and a cyma-reversa molding, and above the cornice is the limestone-capped parapet.

The interior of the building retains many of the features originally installed in 1906. The equipment bay, which occupies most of the ground floor, still contains the stalls, feed boxes, and hay manger used when the fire equipment was horse-drawn. The second floor, reached by means of a staircase at the extreme south end of the building, still houses the Captain's office, dormitory, hayloft, and equipment repair shop.

The City of Terre Haute has made the building available to the Retired Policemen and Firemen's Association, which operates a museum in the structure. This organization also is doing some restoration work to the building, and will soon be replacing the overhead doors leading to the equipment bay with period doors salvaged from a similar fire station which was recently demolished.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Fire fighting
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1906 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Fire Station #9 is significant for its role in the development of the south side of Terre Haute, and for the fact that it is the city's most intact example of a fire station designed to house horse-drawn equipment.

Built in 1906, this structure was the ninth of ten fire stations ultimately erected to protect the expanding city around the turn of the century. This station was constructed on land donated by Mrs. Mary Cordes, who platted much of Terre Haute's south side. Since, at that time, fire equipment was not yet motorized, the ten stations each contained horse stalls, haylofts, and other furnishings designed to help care for the fire horses. Station #9 was unique among these ten fire stations in that it also housed a woodworking shop, in which repairs were made on the equipment and tools of the entire city fire department.

In the early 1920's, the city motorized its fire department, thus eliminating the need for horses. Fire Station #9 continued in use for almost 60 years with motorized equipment, but the original furnishings, including the hay manger, horse stalls, and feed boxes, were never removed. The city eventually constructed new facilities and demolished all but two of its older structures. One station (#10) has been substantially altered and is currently being used to service fire department vehicles. The other, Station #9, has been made available to the Retired Policemen and Firemen's Association, which has installed period fire-fighting equipment and operates the structure as a museum.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Champion, Thomas. History of the Terre Haute Fire Department, 1855-1975. Inter-Collegiate Press, Shawnee Mission, Kansas. 1975

Records of the City of Terre Haute, Indiana.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Terre Haute

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A 

1	6	4	6	5	1	2	0	4	3	6	6	3	0	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 32 and 33 of the Coordes Subdivision, City of Terre Haute.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tom E. Champion, President

organization Retired Policemen  
and Firemen Association

date March 17, 1980

street & number 1728 S. 8th Street

telephone 812/235-9865

city or town Terre Haute

state Indiana

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*J. M. Redman*

title Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

date 10-29-82

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the  
National Register

date 12/16/82

*J. Nelson Byer*  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration