

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

No.

Fire Station #1

AND/OR COMMON

Fire Station #1

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1326 Tremont *Pl.*

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Denver

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

VICINITY OF

STATE

Colorado

CODE

08

COUNTY

Denver

CODE

031

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

City and County of Denver

STREET & NUMBER

1460 Cherokee

CITY, TOWN

Denver

VICINITY OF

STATE

Colorado

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

City and County of Denver, Assessment Division

STREET & NUMBER

1445 Cleveland Place

CITY, TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Colorado Inventory of Historic Sites (16/01/0293)

DATE

Ongoing

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Colorado Historical Society, 1300 Broadway

CITY, TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado 80203

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located at 1326 Tremont Place in Denver, Fire Station #1 is a single, semi-detached structure rectangular in shape with a flat roof. The building is two stories high, and the exterior walls are of brick with some trim. The main or northwest facade is symmetrical with two large bays at the street level for the fire engines and three bays in the second story. This second floor facade is divided into its three bays by pilasters that extend upward from a stringcourse to a decorative cornice. The pilasters have a simple base and capital, while the cornice is supported by brackets along the soffit and decorated with dentils along the lower edge of the frieze. In the center is a recessed balcony which is defined by a round arch of double pilasters with a balustrade between. On each side of the arch are small rectangular windows. Each of the outer panels of the facade contains a large rectangular window. The lintels of the windows are stylized and there are rectangular round openings centered above them.

Originally, the interior space in the front two-thirds of the first floor was for the fire wagons and horse stalls. The rear part was used as a washroom for the wagons. In the center of the first floor is a wooden stairway that leads to a second floor dormitory. The rear quarter of the second floor was a hay loft and once had two large door openings into the rear with heavy beams extending for bringing hay up to the loft. There were also tack closets and lavatories, but in 1932 they were replaced by a kitchen and dining area. The horse stalls on the first floor were removed at the same time to make way for the larger motorized fire trucks. New footings were also added in the basement to support the heavier equipment. On the sides of the structure some of the original brick has been covered with stucco to reduce maintenance costs.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1909 - present

BUILDER/ARCHITECT G. W. Huntington & Co.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of Fire Station #1 lies in its association with the Denver Fire Department and the great value of the Department to the City of Denver. Secondly, the structure is significant for its architectural features which reflect the institutional type of design of the early 20th century.

The first volunteer fire company in Denver was organized in the spring of 1866, a considerable time after a bad fire in April 1863 had destroyed much of the new and growing city and after a subsequent fire had convinced everyone of the need for a fire company. The Fire Department was run on a volunteer basis until 1881 when there were seven fire companies around the city. As funds became available over the next few years, all became paid companies. By the turn of the century, the city had a fire fighting force of fifteen companies which consisted of about 200 men, sixty-four horses, and twenty-five fire wagons.

Engine Company #1, organized in 1881, was originally stationed at 1534 Lawrence St., but the growth of the Fire Department paralleled the rapid pace of Denver. In April 1909 the city purchased the two lots on Tremont Place from Mary J. Waters for \$10,500 and employed the architectural firm of G. W. Huntington & Company to design a new fire house. Huntington was an architect who specialized in private residences, but he also did public structures on occasion. This structure was completed in 1909, and the Engine Company #1 moved in on October the fourth. The two-story brick building was designed to accommodate fire engines and horses. Although the city purchased its first motorized fire truck in 1909, it was not until 1924 under the direction of Chief Terence Owens that the Fire Department became completely motorized. And in 1934 the Station was altered to accommodate larger, motorized fire trucks. In 1974, after sixty-five years of continuous service from this structure, Engine Company #1 moved into new headquarters on West Colfax Avenue, but four years later in 1978, the old engine house was given a new life as a Fire Department Museum to housing the many records and artifacts of the Denver Fire Department.

From an architectural perspective, the Fire Station represents a typical institutional structure in early twentieth century Denver. The size and detailing were characteristic of such utilitarian buildings of this period. And thus the Fire Station reflects the characteristics of a bygone era.

