

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received APR 19 1985  
date entered MAY 16 1985

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

1. Name

historic Longmont Fire Department

and/or common Longmont Fire Department

2. Location

street & number 667 Fourth Avenue n/a not for publication

city, town Longmont n/a vicinity of

state Colorado code 08 county Boulder code 013

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input 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	n/a in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	n/a being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name City of Longmont

street & number Civic Center Complex (3rd & Kimbark)

city, town Longmont n/a vicinity of state Colorado 80501

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Boulder County Recorder

street & number 13th and Spruce

city, town Boulder state Colorado

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Colorado Inventory of Historic Sites has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date April, 1977  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Colorado Historical Society, OAHP

city, town Denver state Colorado 80203

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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

Located in Longmont's downtown commercial district, the city's historic firehouse is a two-story, rectangular, pink brick building, forming the dominant structure on its corner site next to small, one-story commercial buildings to the east. With the exception of the loss of the bell tower the building is not dramatically altered since its construction in 1907. It reflects a relatively plain 20th century Commercial Style building with faint reference to the Colonial Revival. The most prominent feature, as might be expected is the 25' wide vehicular door on the front wall. There is a similar size opening on the west side near the rear of the building. The original pairs of swinging doors on the front and west walls have been replaced. The north wall has an overhead door surmounted by a transom. The door opening on the west has been lowered and wood panels span the opening below. Both doorways have a projecting brick surround with a boxed wood cornice above. There are wheel guards set into the brick on either side of both doorways. A pedestrian door with a tall transom is located near the front of the west side.

The roof is flat with a brick parapet and a boxed cornice across the front and along the west side. On the second story of the front there are four, rectangular, one-over-one, double hung wood sash windows and rock faced stone sills. The windows of the second floor on the west side are similar and are arranged in groups of three with two small square windows between. Near the rear there is a single rectangular window which replaced a doorway used to load hay into the second floor by means of a block and tackle on a projecting beam which still remains in place. Immediately below the cornice on the front of the building is a rectangular corbelled brick panel which contains the words, "FIRE DEP'T" on white background. A long brick panel is repeated on the west side, divided into four sections, each of which contains two small rectangular openings for ventilation,

At the south rear of the building, there is a chimney built into the southwest corner and an exterior stairway of wood. Two basement windows on the west side have been bricked in and the entire base of the building has been stuccoed up to the former height of those windows.

The building now functions as office space for local community service groups.

## 8. Significance

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

**Specific dates** 1907-1935 **Builder/Architect** Builder: E.C. Cauble; Architect: B.C. Viney

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Longmont Firehouse is significant as the home of Longmont's first paid fire department who rendered an extremely important service to the community at this location from 1907 to 1971.

Longmont had only been in existence for about five years when a disastrous fire destroyed most of the frame buildings in the 300 block of Main Street. Following the fire, the businessmen of the town realized a better equipped volunteer fire company was needed, but there were no funds for the purpose. Local banker Walter A. Buckingham, a partner in the Emerson and Buckingham Bank, offered to organize and finance a fire company including the mechanical equipment for more effective fire fighting and uniforms for sixteen volunteers. His offer was contingent on the town providing a building to house the fire company. The town donated the building which resulted in the establishment of the Walter A. Buckingham Hook and Ladder Company. A second volunteer group, the Longmont Hose Company Number 1, was founded in 1883 and a third, W.A. Tiffany Hose Company, in 1897.

Fire fighting companies of the period not only provided the community with a needed service but were also important in the cultural life of the town. The regular meetings of the fire companies and social functions like the "Firemen's Masquerade Ball" held once a year, brought the town people together for social activities.<sup>1</sup> Members of the volunteer companies were held in high regard by the communities, and there was a waiting list to join.

The first paid fire department in Longmont was formed in 1907 when the firehouse on Fourth Avenue was constructed. The building is on the site of an earlier structure which contained a firehouse, school and town hall. The first equipment housed in this building was the horse drawn ladder wagon and the horses, Maggie and Jiggs. Later "Old Ironsides", the first motorized pumper in northern Colorado, was located in the building.

The firehouse continued in use for the next sixty-four years. In the mid-1970s the building was leased to the Longmont Jaycees and was remodeled as a community center. It now contains offices for local community service organizations.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>B.L. Boyles, The St. Vrain Valley (Longmont: Times-Call Publishing Co, 1976) p. 85.

<sup>2</sup>Vera Gehlert, Longmont's Architectural Heritage (Longmont: P.M. Brown, 1976) p. 15; Longmont Colorado Inventory Form, Colorado Historic Preservation Office.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

State Inventory Form, Landmark Designation Commission, Ruth Ann Pennock 1977  
Architectural Analysis Report, Steve Gunn Architect, February, 1977.  
Longmont Ledger & Daily Times-Call microfilm records, Longmont Public Library.  
Boyles, B.L. The St. Vrain Valley. Longmont: Times-Call Publishing Co., 1976.  
Gehlert, Vera. Longmont's Architectural Heritage. Longmont: P.M. Brown, 1976.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property .04

Quadrangle name Longmont Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	3	4	9	1	2	4	10	4	14	4	15	9	14	10
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

The west twenty-five feet of Lots 1 through 3 inclusive, in Block 63, City of Longmont, County of Boulder, State of Colorado  
T2N, R69W, S3

### 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 Glenn V. Sherwood, Chairman & Barbara Norgren

organization Landmark Designation Commission  
Preservation Consultant

date 12/18/84

street & number Civic Center Complex  
7453 E. Jefferson Drive

telephone (303) 776-6050 X201  
(303) 771-0124

city or town Longmont  
Denver

state Colorado 80501  
Colorado 80237

## 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

*Barbara Sudler*

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 4-15-85

### For NPS use only

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

Entered in the  
National Register

date 5-16-85

*James Selous Byers*  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

Longmont Fire Dept., Boulder County, CO

CONTINUATION SHEET

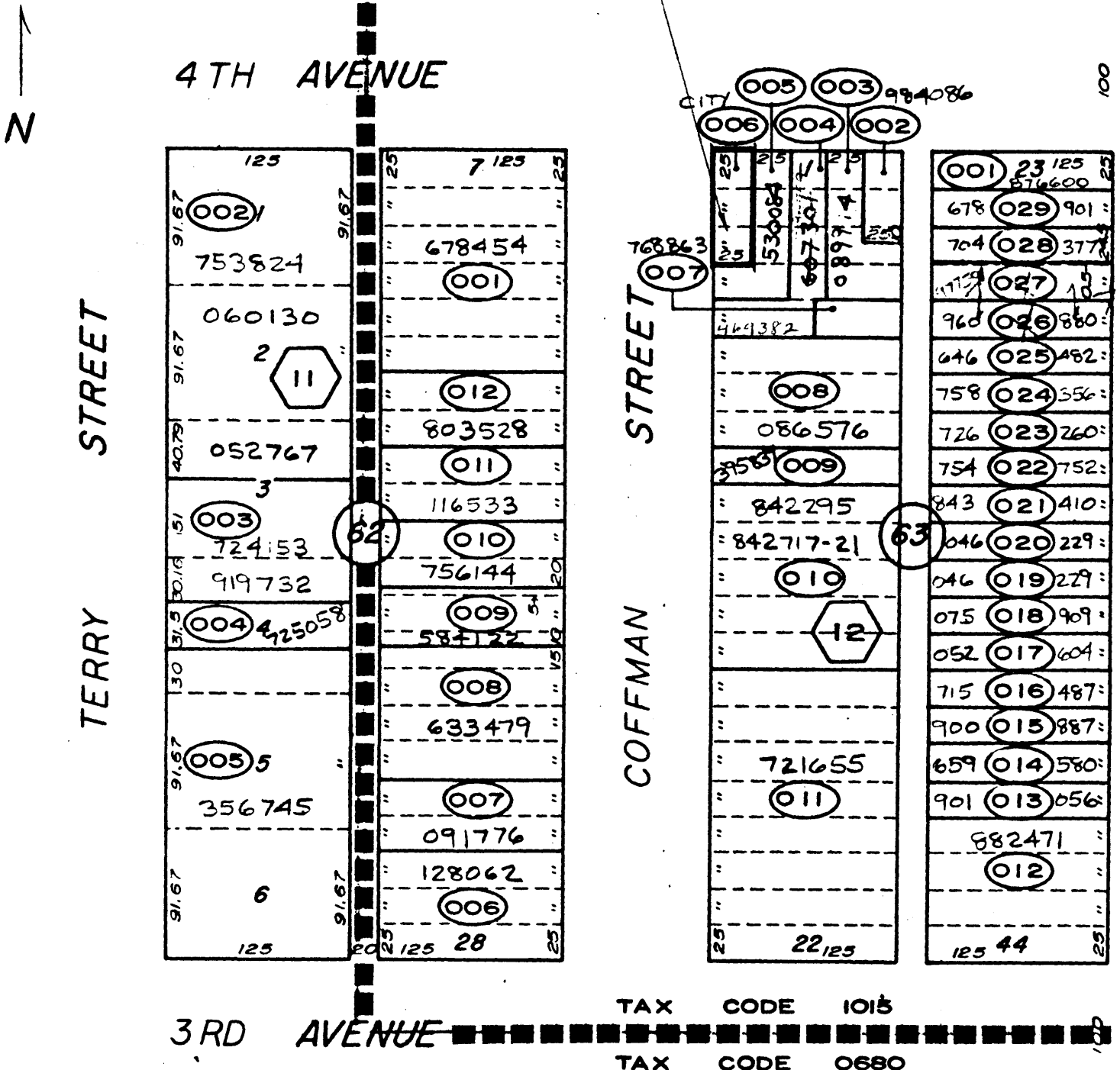
ITEM NUMBER

10

PAGE

2

FIRE HOUSE LOT-25'x75'



TAX CODE 1015

TAX CODE 0680



Longmont Fire Department  
Boulder County, Colorado

Photographer/Date: Unknown  
Negatives: photograph courtesy of Longmont Pioneer Museum  
Longmont, Colorado

Camera Direction: Camera pointed southeast

Photo No: 1