

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

HISTORIC NAME: Engine Co. ^{No.} #3
LOCATION: 201 Jefferson St.

COMMON NAME: same
BLOCK/LOT 40/1

MUNICIPALITY: Hoboken
USGS QUAD:

COUNTY: Hudson
UTM REFERENCES:

OWNER/ADDRESS: City of Hoboken, N.J. 07030

Zone/Easting/Northing

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1915

Source of Date: plaque

Architect: Fagan & Briscoe

Builder: unknown

Style: Italian Villa

Form/Plan Type: square

Number of Stories: 3, with tower

Foundation: rusticated limestone

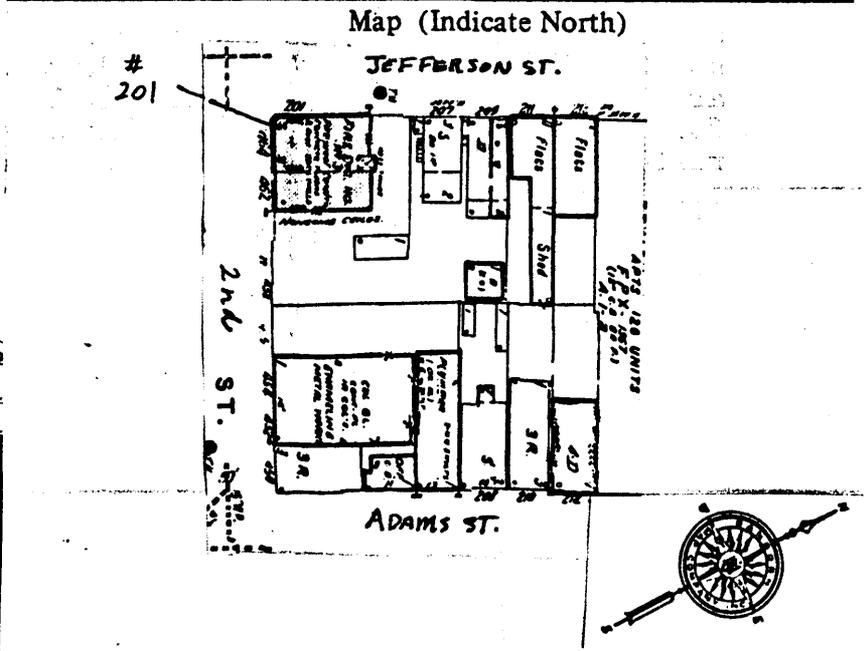
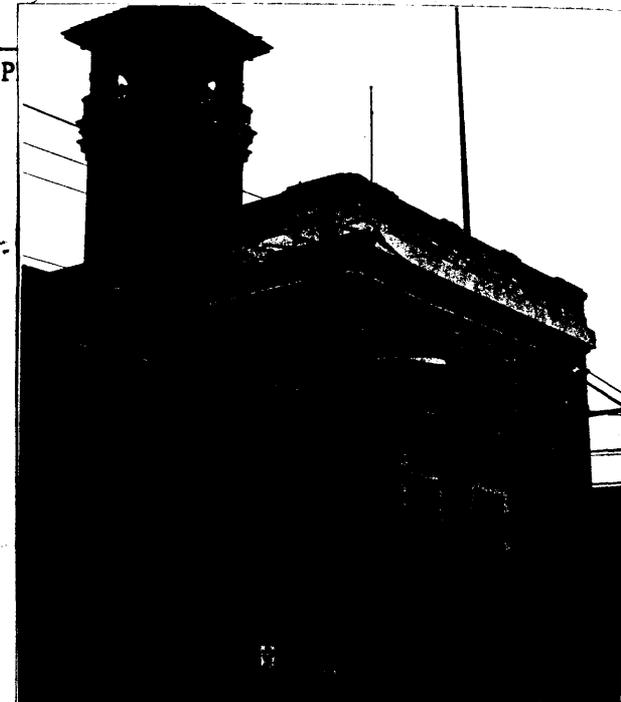
Exterior Wall Fabric: rusticated limestone, high basement; yellow stretcher bond

Fenestration: 3 bays with paired windows on each principal facade

Roof/Chimneys: flat roof, with Italianate tower and Spanish tile roof

Additional Architectural Description: Rusticated limestone basement with segmentally-arched engine door apertures. A limestone balcony with stone balustrade runs the width of the principal facades, and is supported by pronounced stone brackets. Limestone coping and bands courses accentuate the roofline. Decorative brick medallions are set into the spandrel panels between the second and third floors. The fire tower has a terra cotta roof, and is suggestive of a bellvedere with its balustraded balcony and modillion cornice. The building has sustained several major changes in the recent past; among them are: window apertures of the second floor have been bricked in to create smaller openings; the balustrade and entire cornice of the building have been removed.

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Building is located on the northeast corner of Jefferson and 2nd Sts., and is a free-standing structure.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban Suburban Scattered Buildings
Open Space Woodland Residential Agricultural Village
Industrial Downtown Commercial Highway Commercial Other

SIGNIFICANCE:

The scale and detailing of this firehouse, the most "modern" that the city possesses, distinguish it from the other firehouses constructed to date. It is the only firehouse in the Italian Villa style in Hoboken, and presents a rare example of this style in this primarily 19th century city. As a free-standing corner structure, it once was a commanding and impressive public building, from an architectural standpoint. Its architectural prominence has been severely compromised by the removal of major facade elements, and by the alterations to the window apertures.

ORIGINAL USE: firehouse PRESENT USE: same
PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Poor
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes Possible No Part of District
THREATS TO SITE: Roads Development Zoning Deterioration
No Threat Other insensitive alterations

COMMENTS. This firehouse represents an important link to the fire-fighting history of the city, as the last of the grand firehouses to serve the southwestern zone. Alterations have severely compromised its architectural integrity. The finding of National Register eligibility for the structure would allow for the possibility of its future restoration, and would enhance the proposed Thematic Nomination of Hoboken's firehouses.

REFERENCES:

RECORDED BY: Patricia Florio
ORGANIZATION:

DATE: February, 1983