

OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

HISTORIC NAME: Engine Co. # 5
LOCATION: 412 Grand St.

COMMON NAME: same
BLOCK/LOT 61/17

MUNICIPALITY: Hoboken

COUNTY: Hudson

USGS QUAD:

UTM REFERENCES:

OWNER/ADDRESS: Edward A. Forman
362 N. Woodland St.
Englewood, N.J. 07631

Zone/Easting/Northing

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1898

Source of Date: city financial records
(please see references)

Architect: Fall & Maxon

Builder: Timothy Foley, mason

Style: Francis I

Form/Plan Type: rectangular

Number of Stories: 3

Foundation: brick

Exterior Wall Fabric: tan brick, stretcher bond

Fenestration: all are rectangular 1 over 1: 1 window on 1st fl. to rt. of engine door; 3 windows on the 2nd fl. centered over door; 2 windows

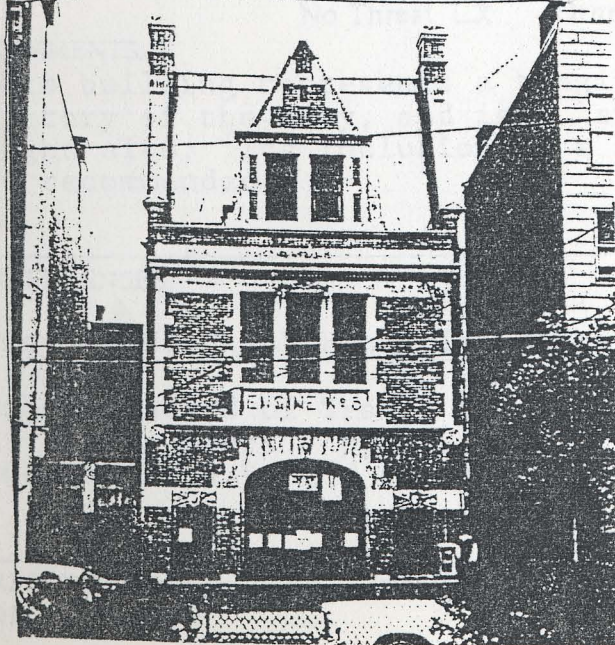
Roof/Chimneys: mansard, copper, with chimneys on north & south walls centered over these in 3rd fl. dormer

Additional Architectural Description:

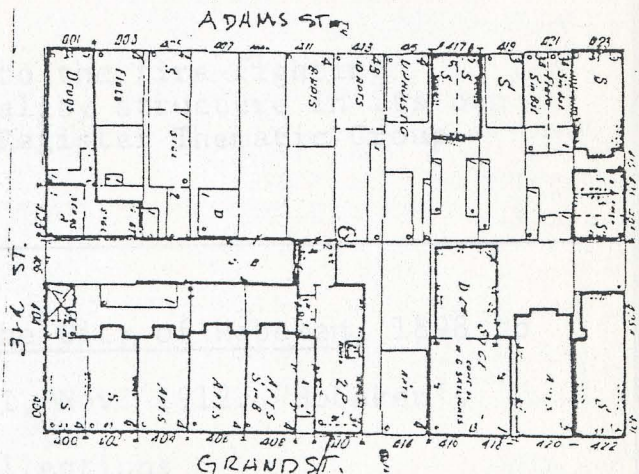
This free-standing firehouse is set apart from the neighboring four-storey brick rowhouses by its style, scale and materials. The centrally-located fire engine door is set in an elliptical arch, set off by a decorative keystone. The door is flanked by equally-sized door to the south and a window to the north. The rectangular lintels of each feature cast-stone shields. A limestone band runs horizontally across the facade between the first and second stories, and terminates in a foliate design. A denticulated band in limestone forms a cornice above the second storey level, and the vertically-ribbed copper mansard roof is flanked by parapets with ornamented chimneys. The dormer is capped by a triangular pediment also set off by quoining. The alleys flanking the building retain their original iron gates and ornamental arches.

PHOTO

Negative File No.



Map (Indicate North)



#412



SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

The firehouse is on a lot which is wider than conventional ones in the city. It is in a mid-block location, and is flush with the building line. The alleys which flank the firehouse lead to a rear extension, originally used to quarantine horses.

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

SIGNIFICANCE:

The building constructed for Engine Co. #5 represented a return to classically-derived symmetry in the design of Hoboken firehouses, as well as an introduction to the Francis I Style on a public building in the city. The firehouse was designed by the local firm, Fall & Maxon (Charles Fall had designed the firehouse at 501 Observer Highway in 1892), and captures a residential character with its mansard roof, dormer windows, and ornamented chimneys. Its second floor was largely devoted to the provision of dormitory space, a feature lacking in earlier firehouses. As an example of this revival style, it is quite noteworthy, as it heralded its popularity, which reached its height in the years before W.W. I. in Hoboken. The quality of craftsmanship and design, as well as the degree of intactness, contribute to its importance as a Hoboken firehouse.

ORIGINAL USE: firehouse

PRESENT USE: residence

PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent ☐ Good ☒ Fair ☐ Poor ☐
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes ☒ Possible ☐ No ☐ Part of District ☐
THREATS TO SITE: Roads ☐ Development ☐ Zoning ☐ Deterioration ☐
No Threat ☒ Other ☐

COMMENTS.

This building represents a tangible link to the fire-fighting history of the city, and is a landmark-quality structure in its own right also. Its inclusion in a National Register Thematic Group is recommended.

REFERENCES:

City of Hoboken, Financial Statement of the City of Hoboken, 1898 to 1899.
Hoboken Board of Trade, Bulletin, Vol. III, Nov. 1912, "Hoboken's Firefighters," pp. 91-95.
Hoboken Fire Dept., scrapbooks & photo collections

RECORDED BY: Patricia Florio
ORGANIZATION: ---

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