

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

HISTORIC NAME: Firemen's Monument
LOCATION: Church Square Park

COMMON NAME: same
BLOCK/LOT

MUNICIPALITY: Hoboken

COUNTY: Hudson

USGS QUAD:

UTM REFERENCES:

OWNER/ADDRESS:

Zone/Easting/Northing

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1891

Source of Date: pls. see references

Architect:

Builder: J.W. Fiske, N.Y., N.Y.

Style:

Form/Plan Type:

Number of Stories:

Foundation: limestone

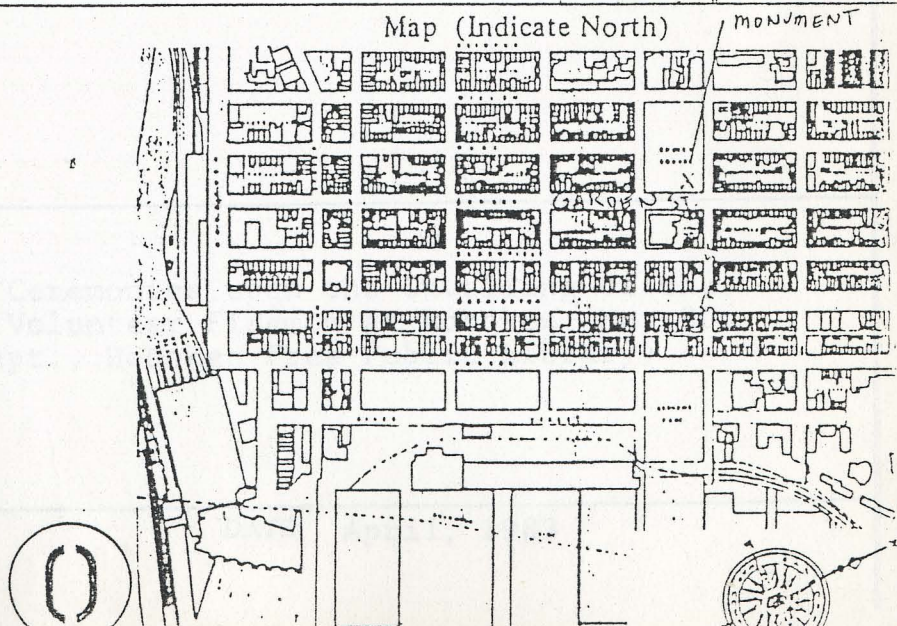
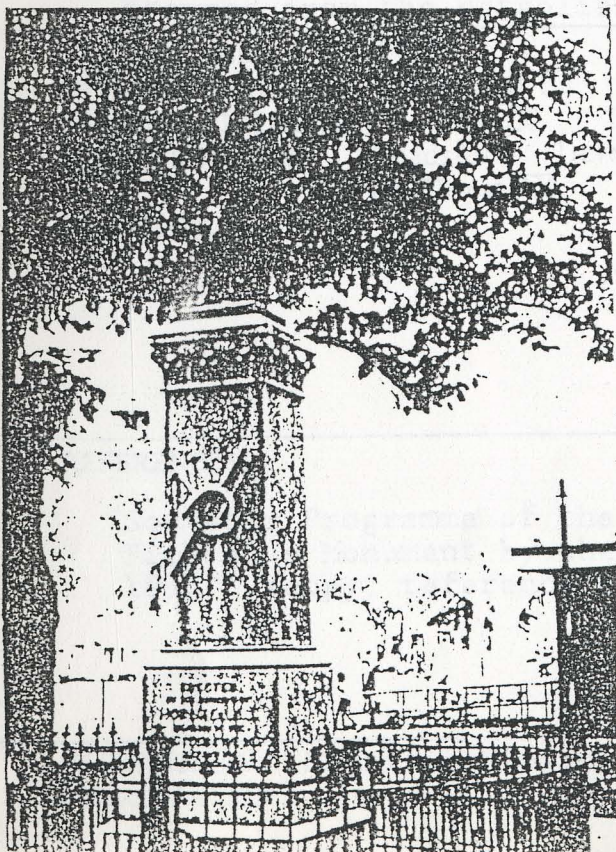
Exterior Wall Fabric:

Fenestration:

Roof/Chimneys:

Additional Architectural Description:

This life-sized figure of a fireman in full uniform is holding a lantern in one hand and a small child in his other arm.



SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

monument is placed at the southwest corner of Church Square Park, near the corner of 5th St. and Garden St.

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

Park

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Firemen's Monument was erected to honor the Volunteer Fire Department by the citizens of Hoboken. It was dedicated on May 30, 1891. In June of 1891, the paid fire department was established. On "Decoration Day," May 30th, a silver trowel was used to lay the cornerstone of the monument. Badge No. 222 and the names of members, written on parchment, were ordered placed in a box under the cornerstone. The bronze statue was cast by J.W. Fiske, the New York manufacturer of ornamental iron, bronze and zinc. An advertisement appearing in the souvenir programme for the Decoration Day event pictured a drinking fountain, upon which a version of the Firemen's Monument was placed. The advertisement states that "The Fireman shown on this Drinking Fountain is the same as the one furnished the Fire Department of the City of Hoboken, N.J. Special inducements offered to cities contemplating erecting Firemen's or Soldiers' Monuments in either Standard Bronze or Zinc." The convention of creating such monuments stemmed from the establishment of paid departments through the 1890's.

ORIGINAL USE: monument

PRESENT USE:

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.

REFERENCES:

"Souvenir Programme of the Ceremonies upon the Unveiling of the Firemen's Monument by the Volunteer Firemen at Hoboken, May 30, 1891" (copy, reference dept., Hoboken Free Public Library)

RECORDED BY: Patricia Florio
ORGANIZATION: ---

DATE: April, 1983