

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

Engine House No. 3

AND/OR COMMON

Station No. 3

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

226 West Washington Blvd.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Fort Wayne

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Four

STATE

Indiana

VICINITY OF

CODE
18

COUNTY
Allen

CODE
003

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

City of Fort Wayne, Board of Public Works

STREET & NUMBER

1 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Fort Wayne

VICINITY OF

STATE
Indiana

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the Recorder of Allen County, Indiana

STREET & NUMBER

1 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Fort Wayne

STATE
Indiana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

NAME OF PROPERTY Engine House No. 3 STATE Indiana

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below. PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WHEN THE NOMINATION IS RESUBMITTED.

7 Description: _____

8 Statement of Significance: If architecture is checked as nominated area of significance a statement clearly defining this significance must be made. Present statement does not explain architectural importance, it merely provides a history of the structure - in adequate justification for architecture.

9 Bibliography: _____

10 Geographical Data -- Acreage: _____

UTM Reference(s): _____

Verbal Boundary Description: _____

12 Certification: _____

Photographic Coverage: _____

Map Coverage: _____

Other: _____

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to BRADLEY FRANDSEN
on the National Register staff, telephone (202) 343-6401

Thank you for your attention to the above items.

Paul L...
Chief, Branch of Registration

Date: 1-17-75

Property Engine House No. 3
State Indiana Working Number 9.19.78.4103

TECHNICAL

Photos 3
Maps 1

No architectural statement of significance!

CONTROL

OK 9.26.78

HISTORIAN

*Return
E. Frenson
11.20.78*

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

*Return -
Franklin
11.21.78*

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____ Send-back _____ Entered _____
Federal Register Entry _____ Re-submit _____

INT:2106-74

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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

Engine House No. 3 is a two story, rectangular, red brick building of Romanesque architecture designed to be a fire station. It consists of two attached units with three vertical divisions. The brick is masonry bond with interior wooden joists, and the exterior brickwork has a gingerbread effect at the end of the south roof. The building has fifty exterior windows, all in good condition, ten of which are boarded up. The six exterior doors, also in good condition, are located two on the east side, three on the north side, and one on the south side. The main entrance is on the south side, and only one other door is in use. Four large, electrical overhead bay doors, in excellent working order, flank the main entrance two on a side. The building has three chimneys in fair condition, only one of which is presently in use. The main (south) elevation is twelve bays wide along the second story. The central and far east bays are towers. The first story is divided into four sections, the towers and the two sets of two arched bay doors. The west and east elevations are six bays long. The west elevation is a straight wall, while the east elevation is an irregular wall with randomly placed windows.

The interior of the building has three stairways in poor condition. Interior wall coverings are tongue and groove, plaster and paneling. All of these are in good condition. The first floor is concrete, and the second floor is hardwood tongue and groove. Both are in excellent condition. The first floor is divided into two large bays at the front for storage of fire fighting equipment. Smaller enclosed rooms are located in a row to the rear of the bays. The second floor consists of two large rooms, one of which was used as a dormatory, and a two room hay loft. Two pole holes are found in the floor of the dormatory.

The east section of the building is the original section built in 1893. In 1907, the west section was built with a bell tower over the main entrance which has since been removed. The rear section of the building was added on at an unknown later date. This section is badly deteriorated.

The building is located in a crime free downtown district where it is primarily surrounded by small and large businesses. The east end of the property is a small paved roadway which leads to a small paved parking lot at the north-east corner of the property.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 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 1893

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Miller/Wing & Mahurin

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Engine House No. 3 was built in 1893 as the Third Ward immediate fire protection. This was the first planned expansion of an enlarged fire department to serve a rapidly growing city. Five more ward engine houses were built in the next six years with two using the Engine House No. 3 plans. The old third ward contained the west edge of the center city and a large portion of the city's best residential neighborhood.

The Central Fire Station (No. 1's) architects were John F. Wing and M.S. Mahurin, and as part of disagreement over compensation in which the city council wanted more for their money, the plans for Engine House No. 3 were produced. Two pieces of fire apparatus, plus horses and men, were assigned to the new building. One of these was the "chemical" engine for smaller fires not requiring the larger steam fire engine.

In 1907, the rapid growth of the city dictated more facilities and Engine House No. 3 was more than doubled in size. No new equipment was bought, and on the night of May 3, 1908, the chemical engine was called by phone, instead of fire box alarm, to the Aveline Hotel for a "small" fire. Eleven people died in this worst loss of life fire in Fort Wayne when No. 3's men discovered the small fire to be a general alarm holocaust. In 1908, as a result of the Aveline fire, Engine House No. 3 was not only the largest fire station but also the best equipped with four major pieces of apparatus.

In 1912, the department began experiments with motorized apparatus with an auto-chemical truck at No. 3's. A white auto-chemical was purchased late that year and assigned to No. 3's. In 1919, a gasoline engine powered pumper replaced the steamer, and a gasoline engine tractor was put on the ladder truck. Horses were eliminated, and the two central fire houses were completely motorized.

No. 3 has always been a very large and active fire house and often the "trial" station for new equipment and methods. During the forties and fifties, it was the central point for iron lung repair and distribution. The old Central Station was closed in 1970 and replaced by a new Central Station in 1972. During this interim, No. 3 became the Headquarters Station filled with all operations, men and equipment formerly housed in two large fire stations.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Statement of Significance (Cont.)

Part of the plan for the new Central Station was the replacing of No. 3. On July 20, 1972, the last pumper company moved out and seventy-eight years of hard use ended. The building was briefly used by a service organization, was nearly razed for a parking lot in 1974, and leased for twenty years to the Fort Wayne Firefighters Museum, Inc. in 1975. It is now planned to use the entire facility for a regional fire service historical museum and education unit.

Division of Historic Preservation
Indiana State Museum
202 N. Alabama Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

July 19, 1979

Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Sir:

Please find enclosed a revised National Register nomination for Engine House No. 3 in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

You will notice that, in addition to submitting a statement of the architectural significance, we have also checked another area of significance, "Firefighting."

We hope that this will satisfy all requirements, and that the nomination will not be further delayed.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Gantz
Assistant to the
State Historic Preservation Officer

RAG:NJL:mjw

Encl.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3 of 3

Statement of Significance (Cont.)

Submitted 20 July 1979

The significance of Engine House #3 lies not only in its role as an important firefighting facility for over 75 years of Fort Wayne's history, but also in its architecture.

Architects for the building were Wing and Mahurin, a prominent Fort Wayne firm responsible for several public buildings throughout the state. Champions of the Richardsonian Romanesque style, they included among their credits the Starke County Courthouse and the Hancock County Courthouse, both constructed after the 1893 Engine House #3. Fort Wayne's City Hall (National Register 1973) was also designed by the firm and completed in 1893. Pre-dating these by one year was Wing and Mahurin's Central Fire Station, commissioned by the city to house the company protecting the central business district. The design for Engine House #3 was apparently the result of a dispute between the architects and the city over the Central Fire Station contract. Soon after Engine House #3 was constructed, the same design was used two more times, on Engine Houses #4 and #6.

Although a less bold statement of the Richardsonian Romanesque than other public buildings designed by the firm, Engine House #3's design clearly reflects Wing and Mahurin's preference for the style. The 1907 addition to the building, although not adhering strictly to the design of the earlier structure, did repeat many of its elements. The building today stands much as it appeared in 1907, with the exception of modern doors and the removal of the 1907 bell tower.

The demolition in recent years of the Central Fire Station and Engine House #6, and the substantial alteration of Engine House #4, leaves Engine House #3 as the only surviving example of Wing and Mahurin's Fort Wayne engine houses. This, together with its leading role in the history of Fort Wayne's firefighting system, makes Engine House #3 a landmark worthy of preservation.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

B.J. Griswold, History of Fort Wayne and Allen County, (Chicago: Robert O. Law Co., 1917) Volume 1, only.
Journal of the Common Council-City of Fort Wayne, (Fort Wayne: City of Fort Wayne, 1885-1889, two volumes)
Annual Report-City of Fort Wayne--1896, 1897, 1898, 1901, 1902, 1913, 1914, (Fort Wayne: City of Fort Wayne)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	6
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6	56	1	1	0
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45	4	8	7	0
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 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

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 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

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D

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot #465 and east one-half of Lot #466, Hanna's Addition to the City of Fort Wayne, as recorded in Plat Book O, page 16, in the Office of the Recorder of Allen County, Indiana.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE George K. Bradley, President

Tracy N. Long, Curator Richard A. Kearnes, Architectual Designer

ORGANIZATION

Fort Wayne Firefighters Museum, Inc.

DATE

3-6-78

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 404

TELEPHONE

219/424-2451

CITY OR TOWN

Fort Wayne

STATE

Indiana

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

[Handwritten Signature] Sept 11 1965

TITLE Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

MAILED

JANUARY 1981

GISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

is to certify that the 

Engine House No. 3

was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on
July 27, 1979 by the United States Department of
the Interior in cooperation with the Indiana Department of
Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation.


Director, Division of Historic Preservation
Director, Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State Historic Preservation Officer

