FINAL

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

unexposed

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Description

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The Plymouth Fire Station is a painted brick structure, facing west on Center Street in the heart of downtown Plymouth. The building stands two stories high, with a 59-foot bell tower on its southwest corner. The ground level of the main facade has a round-arched pedestrian entrance and large overhead door on the main building, and another pedestrian entrance in the bell tower. The bell tower entrance has a four-light window directly above the door.

The second story of the main facade has three four-over-four windows in the main building, with rounded corners on the heads. Heads and sills are of brick. An identical window is located in the bell tower.

Above the center window is a stone that reads "Engine House, 1875." The main building is topped by a parapet on the facade, with tile coping. On the bell tower is a circular opening, now filled in by a blank panel. The tower is capped with a square open pavilion, formed by square columns supporting a bracketed cornice.

The south side of the building has three bays, with windows like those on the front. A one-story addition obscures the ground floor. The north side has openings only on the rear portion, and also has a one-story addition the full length, with an overhead door.

Changes to the exterior include the overhead door, which replaced two smaller arched openings, as well as the two one-story additions. Also, the parapet was changed from a simple rectangle to a stepped wall.

Inside, the first floor originally consisted of one large room in which the fire fighting equipment was kept. The floor was designed with grooves in it to provide traction for the horses as they raced to answer an alarm. The upper story of the new building had two rooms, one for the use of the fire department, and the other used as a city council chamber and Mayor's office.

## 8. Significance

prehistoric 1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899 1900-	archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture architecture art commerce communications	conservation conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement	literature military music philosophy politics/government	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater
Specific dates	1875	Builder/Architect Rob	ert McCance and W.P.	Firefighting

## Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Plymouth Fire Station is historically significant as the city's only fire station from its construction in 1875 until a new station was built in 1980.

The building was constructed by contractors Robert McCance and W. P. Beaton in late 1875, for a cost of \$4,200. Possession of the building was taken by the city on February 21, 1876, and the dedication was marked with a grand ball. In its early years, the building also served as the town hall, with offices for the fire department and the mayor.

The building is significant to the community as one of the oldest in the town, and for its continuous use as the only fire station in Plymouth for 105 years. The building presently houses the City's ambulance service.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References McDonald, Daniel, History of Marshall County, Indiana: 1836-1880. Chicago: Kingman Brother 1881.

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ty or town	Plymouth	state Indiana
2. Sta	te Historic Preservation	on Officer Certification
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Chief of Registration

