

Northern Liberty Hose Company No. 4
(The Snappers)
714 New Market Street
Philadelphia
Philadelphia County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-1785

HABS
PA,
51-PHILA,
530-

PHOTOGRAPH
HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HABS
PA,
51-PHILA,
535.

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE	COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY
PENNSYLVANIA	PHILADELPHIA	PHILADELPHIA
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME)		HABS NO.
NORTHERN LIBERTY HOSE COMPANY No. 4		PA-1785
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
The Snappers		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES)		
714 New Market Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
1846		
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE)		
An interesting example of an urban volunteer firehouse of the 1840s. The organization was one of the representative hose companies of its period. Later, it functioned as a general fire company, known as Philadelphia Fire Department, Engine Company No. 21. The firehouse was demolished in 1969.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS)		
Brick. Brick bearing structural system with timber floor construction.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE)		
Measured approx. 20' (two-bay front) X 55'; three stories.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE		
Originally, a large portion of the front first floor was occupied by an apparatus doorway. A column was later placed in the middle of the doorway, thus making the entrance smaller. This is visible in the HABS photo. Another column and corner pilasters were original. The doorway was embellished with tops containing carved wooden figures surrounded by a floral background.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
Certain old photos of the firehouse are available at the Pennsylvania Historical Society, 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, Pa. Newspaper article. <u>Public Ledger</u> . March 31, 1907.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.)		
Webster, Richard. <u>Philadelphia Preserved</u> . Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1976. Historic American Buildings Survey worksheets for this building, by John Milner and John G. Waite, July 23, 1964		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION	DATE	
Susan McCown, Historic American Buildings Survey	May 10, 1984	