

Engine Company No. 8/Tri-Township Fire Station has been home to many firefighters over the years. It was built in 1910 to house Engine Company #8. In 1939, the Tri-township Firefighters moved in. Today, Coni Triplett and Judy Ernst make excellent use of the old building for their specialty shop, Forever Green, an example of adaptive reuse of an historic structure.

The building's exterior is orange soft brick with brick pilasters and bracketry in the front. The front of the building has a parapet with a limestone cap. The front door has an arched transom. Note the huge half hinges on the fire truck door and the original hay loft door on the north side of the building. Windows are four over four with segmental arches and the building has built in gutters and masonry ties. The back green door where the original horse stable was located is original to the building.

The building's interior has undergone changes over the years, but the tin ceilings and crowns covering the structural beams remain on both floors. The oak staircase in the back is original but was moved. The bead board and picture molding is original, also. Patching in the ceilings shows where the two fire poles were located when the firehouse was built.

The firehouse once had a pot bellied stove in the center of the main room. The florescent lights are from the old Quincy Notre Dame High School on 8th Street. When the building was new, the firefighters slept in the rear north room, which had a dirt floor. Other floors were cement squares like those seen in the middle rear room. The current workroom was the original kitchen.

The rear upstairs area was the hayloft when the building was new. Also on the second floor is the former evidence room and evidence box. Former Quincy College students who lived there at one time painted the murals that remain, though covered with drywall.

Wood used on the second floor is yellow pine, white pine and cypress. Triplett and Ernst did some redecorating before opening their shop. They painted the plaster walls Opera Red and whitewashed the new concrete floor. Note the brick they left exposed on the north wall.



519 South 18th Street



Year Built: 1910

Name of House: Engine Company No. 8/
Tri-Township Firehouse

Architect: unknown

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS
OCTOBER 20, 2001