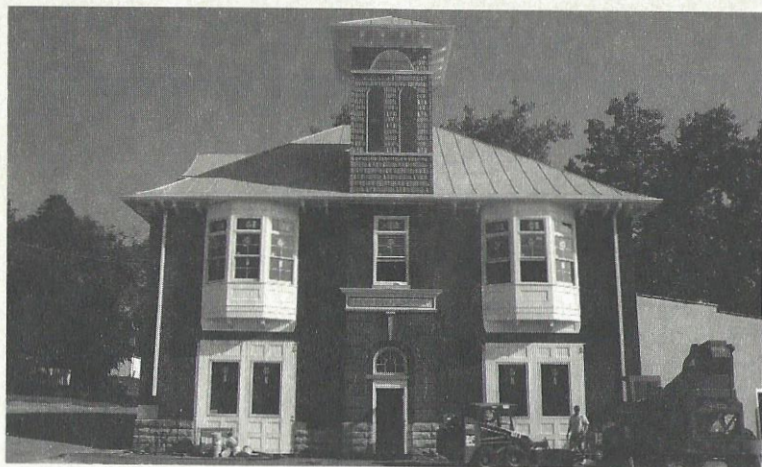




401 Delaware Street

Commercial Queen Anne Style • 1898 • John Batschy Architect
C. H. Dieker and Son Contractors • Firehouse #4

Firehouse #4 was built in 1898 on the city's lot on the triangle at Fourth and Ohio Streets. Between \$3000 and \$3500 was appropriated for the building of the firehouse that would replace the one that was no longer safe and not owned by the city. The Board of Commissioners at that time that made this decision was Mayor John A. Steinback, Chief George J. Schlag, Anton Binkert, William E. Mills and John A. Berlin. John Batschy was the architect who designed the commercial Queen Anne style structure.

It was also decided to build a fountain for the horse teams that frequented that area then known as the factory district. Along with that fountain there was also to be a water fountain for humans and a life-size figure of a helmeted fireman carrying a lantern in one hand and bearing a child on his other arm. The lantern was to have electric in it to light the fountain at night. The fountain was to have been located at the rear of the building, or at the apex of the triangle at the intersection of Delaware and Ohio Streets. New York artist J.W. Fiske was commissioned to make the statue. It is unknown if the fountain or statue were ever completed.

The second floor of the building was the living and sleeping apartments of the company. There were five beds and six lockers. There was a bathroom attached and other conveniences for the comfort of the men.

The firehouse was closed in 1939 due to a change in districts made necessary by the closing of several outlying stations. This action was due to an economy program put into effect because of the firemen's minimum wage law.

Early in 2008 the owners of Craig Industries purchased the building and contacted various agencies for photos of the original building which they planned to use as their corporate headquarters. The decision was made to restore the exterior of the building to as close to its original appearance as possible, complete with the tower. The main floor will house the bookkeeping department. The second floor will be the executive offices and the tower will be the IS department. Quincy Preserves is proud to assist in this renovation through its Façade Program which is funded in part with monies made on the House Tours.

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS
OCTOBER 18, 2008