

# MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION FORM B - BUILDING

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BLVD  
BOSTON, MA 02125

### Photograph

(3"x3" or 3-1/2"x5" black and white only) Label photo on back with town and property address. Record film roll and negative numbers here on the form. Staple photo to left side of form over this space. Attach additional photos to continuation sheets.

Roll	Negative(s)



### Sketch Map

Draw a map showing the building's location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings between inventoried building and nearest intersection or natural feature. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried building. Indicate

**Town** Provincetown  
**Place** (neighborhood or village)  
**Address** 514 COMMERCIAL ST  
**Building ID** 1026  
**Parcel No. (PID)** 15-1-067-0  
**Mapbase #** 15-1-067  
**Building Area** 708.887  
**Historic Name** Fire House Pumper #5 (Engine Co. 1)  
**Present Use** Residential  
**Original Use** Municipal - Fire house  
**Date of Construction** 1858  
**Source** Jennings, Maps and atlases  
**Style/Form** Italianate  
**Architect/Builder**  
**Exterior Material** Wood shingle  
**Foundation** Brick, poured concrete  
**Wall/Trim** wood  
**Roof** Front Gable  
**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures**

### Major Alterations (with dates)

Original garage doors replaced several times.  
Replacement windows. Replaced foundation.

**Condition** Good  
**Moved**  no  yes **Date**  
**Acreage** 0.023  
**Setting**

**Recorded by** Johnette Davies  
**Organization** Kise Straw & Kolodner  
**Date** (month/year) November 2003  
**Form Status**  new  update

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

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### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

see continuation sheet

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings in the community.*

514 Commercial St. is a 2-story, 2-bay firehouse converted to residential use; gable-front roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles, partial cornice returns; exterior is clad in wood shingles; fenestration includes single 6/6 replacement DHS windows with storms; primary entrance is a modern overhead garage door with a cornice on the front facade; cupola at rear roof ridge with paired brackets under eaves; rear façade contains exterior brick chimney that interrupts cornice and a secondary entry.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

see continuation sheet

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

As per Tom Boland (1994): On March 7, 1835 the Fire Department was created through a vote of town meeting. In 1850, another engine was purchased and established in the former firehouse at 351 Commercial Street. In May of 1859, A Board of Engineers was formed to expand the Department and oversee the acquisition of more equipment and the construction of five new stations. The first fire chief was E.G. Loring. The dates of these equipment purchases were:

No. 1 (117 Commercial) 1868

No. 4 (189 Commercial) 1868

No. 5 (514 Commercial) 1869

No. 2 (252 Commercial) 1871

All of these firehouses were built in the same style and are quite similar. Number 514 Commercial Street, then called Engine #1, was the repository for the Ulysses Engine, a 5 ½ cylinder 16 stroke engine, built by the Messrs. Hunneman & Co. of Boston Highlands. The house was erected at a cost of \$1200. The house is currently called Engine 5.

In 1993 The Fire Department suspended operation in all the stations (except #3, a slightly later station which houses an ambulance, and #5 which houses an antique engine) and centralized equipment at the new Shank Painter Fire House.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

see continuation sheet

Barnstable County Atlas., 1880.

Barnstable County Atlas., 1907.

Cape Cod Directory, 1901.

The Extremity of Cape Cod. Map, 1836.

H.F. Wallings Co. Map of Provincetown Village. Atlas, 1858.

Provincetown Advocate. November 11, 1984.

Resident Directory. W.F. Richardson & Co., 1886.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company. Map, 1889.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company. Map, 1902.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*