



Schedule Rating Office of New Jersey
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
NEWARK, N. J.

WHITE HOUSE STATION
Fire District No. 1
Readington Township
Hunterdon County, New Jersey
JULY 15, 1942

July 15, 1942.

WHITE HOUSE STATION, FIRE DISTRICT No. 1, READINGTON TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

Population — Local Estimate 500.

IN GENERAL: Located on the main line of the Central Railroad of New Jersey about 9 miles northeast of Somerville. It is situated in the center of a rich farming district. Area of district about 0.2 square miles. Elevations range from 120 to 200 feet. Main roads macadam, others gravel and dirt in fair to poor condition. Railroad crossing might seriously interfere with the response of fire apparatus.

WATER SUPPLY: Water for fire protection purposes is furnished by the Central Railroad of New Jersey which owns pumping station, elevated tank, and transmission main. Township owns distribution system. System was originally installed to supply boiler feed water to locomotives from one elevated tank at White House Station and two similar ones about one mile southeasterly. Township system installed in 1913. The railroad has agreed to furnish water to the fire district for fire protection purposes without consideration, in whatever quantities are available in excess of their own demands. Railroad owned equipment is under the jurisdiction of a section foreman who is generally in the vicinity and visits pumping station daily. Township distribution system and hydrants are under the supervision of the district board of fire commissioners and are maintained by a laborer appointed by the commissioners. Records consist of a map of the distribution system. **Supply Works:** Supply is pumped from the Rockaway Creek through 1,525 feet of 6-inch pipe to the distribution system and elevated tank in White House Station. A parallel 8-inch line extends from the pumping station and is connected to this tank and extends to the other two tanks. Supply lines are interconnected through a normally closed 6-inch connection at pumping station. Water for fire service is supplied either from elevated tank or by direct pumpage to the distribution system with elevated tank at White House Station shut off. There is a small loose rubble stone dam at pumping station where stream is about 20 feet wide and 2½ feet deep. Daily flow of stream is unknown, but it is stated that water washes over dam at all times. Pumps take suction through a 10-inch cast iron pipe extending to a covered concrete suction tank 8 x 10 x 6½ feet with a capacity of about 2,000 gallons. **Pumping Station:** Located on Rockaway Creek as shown on map. Building is a 1-story metal clad frame structure with electric lights and coal stove. No hand protection. No exposures. Wiring in conduit. Housekeeping excellent. Elevation of pump room floor about 130 feet. Pumps operate automatically between a 4-foot tank level variation. Starting switch in station and a remote control switch at elevated tank where there is also a gate key for shutting tank out of service. **Equipment:** Two 0.36 m.g.d. Worthington centrifugal pumps each driven by a 10-h.p. G. E. electric motor. **Distribution System:** In one service; see map and description above. System consists of unsupported 6-inch dead end lines supplying hydrants. **Elevated Tanks:** Three similar units, one of which is located at White House Station and floats on system. Wood, 22 feet by 15 feet, on a 30-foot steel tower. Elevation of base 180 feet. Elevation of overflow 225 feet. Capacity 47,000 gallons. **Consumption:** The railroad reports that the average daily consumption is about 0.197 m.g.d. **Pipe:** Cast iron, tar coated, bell and spigot joint, laid with a 4-foot cover. No trouble reported from frozen mains or electrolysis. Total length, excluding transmission main owned by railroad, 1,930 feet of 6-inch pipe. **Gate Valves:** There are 5 on system of Wood make set with iron boxes to grade. Direction of operation is uniform. No regular inspection. **Hydrants:** There are 6 of Ludlow and Mathews makes of standard type with two 2½-inch outlets and 4-inch ungated branches. Hose outlet threads are National Standard.

ard. Hydrants are inspected 4 times a year. Those operated during inspection were found to be in good condition. **Pressures:** Readings taken at 3 hydrants showed pressures ranging from 9½ to 25 pounds with an average of 17 pounds. **Fire Flow Tests:** Probable supply available for fire protection purposes was measured on May 29, 1942 by means of Pitot tube. Location of hydrant, discharge in gallons per minute, pressure before flow, and pressure during flow were as follows:

Main and Nelson Streets, 315—25—*.
Main and Railroad Streets, 290—17—5.
Main Street and Skillman Alley, 220—9½—*.

*No reading taken.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: A volunteer organization of one company under the supervision of a board of fire commissioners consisting of 5 members, one or two of whom are elected annually for a 3-year term. Township appropriated \$300 for the support of the department in 1942. Company owns house, apparatus, and equipment. Membership 25, of whom about 10 are available during the day and 20 during the night. The chief, an assistant chief, and 3 foremen are elected annually by the company. **Company—White House Fire Company No. 1:** Located on Main Street between Skillman Alley and Kline Boulevard. Building is a 2-story stuccoed brick structure with a composition roof, concrete apparatus floor, steam heat, electric lights, and siren. **Equipment:** A 1934 Chevrolet double combination pumper carrying a 1939 Hale 500-g.p.m. pump driven by a Ford V8 engine, 1,300 feet of 2½-inch hose, and little minor equipment. **Hose:** All 2½-inch hose is C.R.L. with National Standard screw couplings. It is tested at drills at from 150 to 200 pounds, placed on apparatus wet, and shifted at fires and drills. There is a total supply of 1,300 feet, of which none is held in reserve nor is over 5 years old. **Operations:** Department is governed by company by-laws. Chief has control of apparatus at all times and of men at fires and drills. He can suspend members pending a hearing before the company. Motors are started weekly. There are 4 members of the department who are assigned to drive apparatus. **Drills and Training:** Drills held monthly under supervision of chief officers consist of hose laying, pump operation, and use of equipment. **Fire Methods:** Two and one-half inch engine lines with shut-off nozzles are used where water is available. No gas masks, salvage equipment, nor heavy stream appliances are provided. **Response to Alarms:** Company responds to all alarms in District No. 1 and outside when called. Outside aid may be secured from White House, Lebanon, and Clinton. **Building Inspection:** None by the department. **Records and Reports:** Secretary of company keeps a record of attendance and location of fires. **Fire Alarms:** Alarms of fire may be sounded from any of 8 push buttons distributed throughout the fire district. Push buttons are located in small iron boxes on utility company poles. Alarms of fire may be telephoned to hotel and sounded on siren by means of push button in front of hotel.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: There are 4 special patrolmen.

BUILDING LAWS: No municipal regulations.

EXPLOSIVES AND FLAMMABLES: No municipal regulations. State laws adequately cover the storage and shipment of explosives and the construction of motion picture booths. They also restrict the discharge of fireworks to responsible bonded parties.