

Superseding Map No. 55 of January 31, 1940. Please destroy old issue.



**KEY**  
 PROTECTED FIRE ZONE: Shown in Green.  
 Notes: For description of fire protection, etc., see  
 above table.  
 Elevations range from 0 to 95 feet above mean sea level.  
 Water mains 8 inches and larger in diameter  
 Water mains 6 inches in diameter  
 Water mains 4 inches in diameter  
 Fire hydrants shown thus  
 Gate valves shown thus  
 Fire house shown thus  
 Fire apparatus designated by symbols thus:  
 (P) Pumping engine and hose car  
 (A) Fire car (A) Ambulance, Squad or Auxiliary car  
 (T) Reserve tank or tanks on above  
 (C) Chemical tank or tanks on above

THE FIRE INSURANCE RATING  
 ORGANIZATION OF N. J.  
 ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT  
 NEWARK 2, N. J.

**Pennsauken Township**  
 Including Armon Heights, Delair,  
 Delaware Gardens, East Pennsauken,  
 Fish House, Hillcrest, Jordentown,  
 Merchantville Park, North Merchant-  
 ville and Pennsauken.

Camden County, New Jersey

DECEMBER 31, 1949

December 31, 1949.

## PENNSAUKEN TOWNSHIP, CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

Including Amon Heights, Delair, Delaware Gardens, East Pennsauken, Fish House, Hillcrest, Jordentown, Merchantville Park, North Merchantville, and Pennsauken.

Population — 1940 Census — 17,745.

**IN GENERAL:** Located adjacent to and north of Camden along the Delaware River and served by the Camden and Amboy Division and the Delaware River Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Mainly a residential community with 9 industries employing about 725. Area about 11.25 square miles. Elevations range from 0 to 95 feet. Main roads improved, others gravel and dirt in fair to poor condition. Railroad crossings at grade are said never to have interfered with the response of fire apparatus.

**WATER SUPPLY:** Water for domestic and fire protection purposes is furnished by the New Jersey Water Company, a subsidiary of the Water Works Service Company, which serves the section of the township adjacent to the City of Camden, and by the Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission which serves the remainder of the township. For a detailed report of the New Jersey Water Company's system see report with Map No. 203 and for a detailed report of the Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission's system see report with Map No. 54. **Distribution System:** In two services; see map. The section served by the New Jersey Water Company is supplied as an extension of the City of Camden division. The service supplied by the Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission is served from its pumping stations in Delaware Gardens and in Jordentown. Arterial system is generally fair, but there are numerous dead ends supplying hydrants. **Merchantville-Pennsauken System: Consumption:** The average and maximum daily consumption during 1948 in the entire territory served (6,913 services) was 1.612 and 2.486 million gallons. On December 31, 1948 there were 4,862 services in Pennsauken, all of which were metered. **Pipe:** Cast iron, tar coated, bell and spigot joint, laid with a 4-foot cover. Total length, 360,822 feet; 0.05% 20-inch, 0.35% 16-inch, 6.8% 12-inch, 0.3% 10-inch, 18.9% 8-inch, 53.0% 6-inch, and 20.6% 4-inch. **Gate Valves:** 620 of Rennselaer, Wood and Darling makes set with iron boxes or manholes to grade. All open to right. Systematic inspection is made of the valves about every two years. **Hydrants:** There are 433 of standard type of Corey, Wood, and Darling makes. Majority have two 2½- and one 4½-inch outlets, 4-inch valve openings and 4- or 6-inch hydrant branches. All outlet threads are National Standard. All hydrant branches are gated. Hydrants are inspected twice a year. Those operated during inspection were found to be in good condition. **New Jersey Water Company: Consumption:** The average and maximum daily consumption in the Camden Division was 2.9 and 4.3 million gallons. On August 1, 1949 there were 602 services, of which 92 were metered. **Pipe:** Total, 31,975 feet; 1.1% 10-inch, 31.5% 8-inch, 63.5% 6-inch, and 3.9% 4-inch. No trouble from frozen mains or electrolysis. **Gate Valves:** There are 139 of various makes set in iron boxes to grade. Some open to the right and the remainder to the left. No regular inspection. **Hydrants:** 43 of standard type of Wood and Corey makes with two 2½- and one 4½-inch outlets, 4- or 6-inch branches, the majority of which are gated. Hydrants are flushed 5 or 6 times a year. Those operated during resurvey were found to be in fair condition. All 2½-inch outlets are 3-inch outside diameter with 6 threads per inch and 4½-inch outlets are 5½-inch outside diameter with 7 threads per inch. **Pressures:** Readings taken at 14 hydrants throughout the Merchantville-Pennsauken System showed pressures ranging from 39 to 74, with an average of 52 pounds. Reading taken at one hydrant in the New Jersey Water Company territory showed a pressure of 60. **Fire Flow Tests:** Probable supply available for fire protection purposes was measured by means of Pitot tube. Location of hydrant, discharge in gallons per minute, pressure before flow, and pressure during flow were as follows:

Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Company:

July 21, 1949—

Browning Rd. and Westfield Ave., 810—40—21.  
44th St. and Amon Ave., 370—50—23.  
Gross and Forrest Aves., 250—39—\*.  
New York and Herbert Aves., 410—61—\*.  
Bryn Mawr Rd. and Delaware Ave., 480—62—\*.

September 21, 1949—

Browning Rd. and Westfield Ave., 970—53—31.  
(Note: Delaware Gardens pump operating.)

November 22, 1949—

Herbert and Delaware Aves., 240—66—\*.  
Maryland and Stockton Aves., 240—70—\*.  
Orchard and Delaware Aves., 220—63—\*.  
Derousse Ave. and Delaware River, 320—74—\*.  
Engard and Zimmerman Aves., 310—64—\*.  
Bannard Ave. and Bridgeview Rd., 380—68—\*.  
Balfour and Water Works Rds., 500—65—\*.  
Haines Rd. 1,250 ft. N. E. of Bridgeview Rd., 460—56—\*.  
Lenox and Balfour Rds., 430—68—\*.

New Jersey Water Company:

August 16, 1949—

Chandlers Ave. and Center St., 530—62—18.

\*No reading taken.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** A volunteer organization of six companies under partial control of the township which appropriated \$22,000 for its support in 1949. Companies own houses and township owns most of the apparatus and equipment. Department is under the partial supervision of the township committee who are elected for three-year terms. One of these committeemen is designated as director of public safety and he is directly in charge of the whole department. There are five paid men in the department who are appointed by the committeemen and work 8 hours a day. Each company has a chief, 2 assistant chiefs, and 2 captains who are elected annually by the companies. Bloomfield Park has 2 lieutenants in addition to the above. There is a fire marshal who is elected from the chiefs of the companies to head the township department. Fire marshal's election is confirmed by the township committee. Total membership 212, of whom about 46 are available at all times. **Companies—East Pennsauken Volunteer Fire Company No. 1:** Membership 30 volunteers and 1 paid man. Company is located at Stockton Avenue and Delaware Avenue. Building is a 2½-story concrete block and frame structure with a composition roof, concrete apparatus floor, steam heat, electric lights, telephone, and siren. **Equipment:** A 1925 American LaFrance 600-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying two 35-gallon chemical tanks, 200 feet of chemical hose, 700 feet of 2½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, and meager minor equipment. A 1928 Maxim hose car carrying a 400-gallon booster tank and 100-g.p.m. pump, 150 feet of booster hose, 400 feet of 1½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, and meager minor equipment. A 1947 Pirsch-Diamond "T" 500-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying a 250-gallon booster tank, 250 feet of booster hose, 400 feet of 1½-inch hose, 1,000 feet of 2½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, 1 mechanical foam nozzle, 1 gas mask, 1 1,500-watt generator, 3 floodlights, and fair minor equipment. **North Merchantville Volunteer Fire Company No. 2:** Membership 40 volunteers and 1 paid man. Company is located at Merchantville and Jefferson Avenues. Building is a 2-story frame structure with a composition roof, concrete apparatus floor, steam heat, electric lights, telephone, and 2 sirens. **Equipment:** A 1924 American LaFrance 750-g.p.m. double combination pumping engine carrying 100 feet of 1½-inch hose, 1,000 feet of 2½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, and some minor equipment. A 1922

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*Continued.*

Packard chassis carrying a Chrysler-Hale 500-g.p.m. pumping unit, one 300-gallon booster tank, and meager minor equipment. A 1939 Chevrolet utility car carrying a 1,250-watt generator and 3 floodlights. A 1944 U.S.A. Chevrolet-F. M. Barton 300-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying a 300-gallon booster tank, 400 feet of booster hose, 300 feet of 1½-inch hose, 300 feet of 2½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, 1 gas mask, 1 mechanical foam nozzle, and fair minor equipment. A 1946 Pirsch 55-foot junior aerial ladder truck carrying a 150-gallon booster tank, 200 feet of booster hose, 100 feet of 2½-inch hose, 8 ladders ranging from 12 to 40 feet totaling 130 feet, 1 ladder pipe, 1 self-contained oxygen breathing apparatus, 1 salvage cover, forcible entry tools, and fair minor equipment. A 1928 Locomobile auxiliary car carrying poor minor equipment. **Bloomfield Park Volunteer Fire Company No. 3:** Membership 35 volunteers. Company is located on the corner of Lexington Avenue and Mansion Boulevard. Building is a 2-story brick structure with a slag roof, concrete apparatus floor, electric lights, hot water heat, telephone, and siren. **Equipment:** A 1938 Pirsch-Ford 500-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying a 200-gallon booster tank, 150 feet of booster hose, 200 feet of 1½-inch hose, 900 feet of 2½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, 1 salvage cover, 1 gas mask, and meager minor equipment. A 1928 Dodge 300-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying a 250-gallon booster tank, 100 feet of booster hose, 300 feet of 1½-inch hose, 400 feet of 2½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, 1 500-watt portable generator, 3 floodlights, and meager minor equipment. **Delaware Gardens Volunteer Fire Company No. 4:** Membership 45 volunteers and 1 paid man. Company is located on 49th Street near Forrest Avenue. Building is a 1-story concrete block structure with a composition roof, concrete apparatus floor, steam heat, electric lights, telephone, and siren. **Equipment:** A 1939 Pirsch-Diamond "T" 500-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying a 250-gallon booster tank, 200 feet of booster hose, 150 feet of 1½-inch hose, 800 feet of 2½-inch hose, 1 short ladder, 1 gas mask, 1 mechanical foam nozzle, 1 salvage cover, and good minor equipment. A 1941 Pirsch-Diamond "T" booster and hose truck carrying a 200-gallon booster tank with a 100-g.p.m. pump, 250 feet of booster hose, 250 feet of 1½-inch hose, 400 feet of 2½-inch hose, 1 gas mask, 1 salvage cover, 2 short ladders, and fair minor equipment. A 1948 International hose car carrying 2 salvage covers, and poor minor equipment. A 1941 Pontiac Station Wagon carrying 2 stretchers and 7 blankets. **Delaview Volunteer Fire Company No. 5:** Membership 28 volunteers and 1 paid man. Company is located on River Road between June Road and School Lane. Building is a 1½-story concrete block and frame structure with a composition roof, wood apparatus floor, steam heat, electric lights, telephone, and siren. **Equipment:** A 1928 Reo hose car carrying 400 feet of 1½-inch hose, 800 feet of 2½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, and fair minor equipment. A 1942 Pirsch-Diamond "T" 500-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying a 250-gallon booster tank, 250 feet of booster hose, 700 feet of 2½-inch hose, 3 gas masks, 2 short ladders, 1 asbestos suit, and fair minor equipment. A 1942 Mercury Station Wagon carrying 4 stretchers, 7 blankets, and a first-aid kit. **Highland Volunteer Fire Company No. 6:** Membership 34 volunteers and 1 paid man. Company is located on Woodland Avenue between Harris Avenue and the Marlton Pike. Building is a 1-story cement block structure with a composition roof, concrete apparatus floor, steam heat, electric lights, telephone, and siren. **Equipment:** A 1942 U.S.A. Chevrolet 500-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying a 250-gallon booster tank, 200 feet of booster hose, 200 feet of 1½-inch hose, 600 feet of 2½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, 1 mechanical foam nozzle, and some minor equipment. A 1942 Pirsch-Diamond "T" 500-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying a 250-gallon booster tank, 150 feet of booster hose, 250 feet of

1½-inch hose, 600 feet of 2½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, 1 gas mask, 1 salvage cover, and fair minor equipment. **Hose:** All 2½-inch hose is C.R.L. with Jones snap couplings. It is tested at pressures ranging from 120 to 200 pounds, two to four times a year and dried on apparatus floor. There is little reserve hose and all of the hose is over five years old. **Operations:** Department is governed by township ordinance. It is under the supervision of a fire marshal who is a chief of one of the various companies comprising the department of the township. The marshal has control of the apparatus at all times and of men at fires and drills. He has no power to suspend, but may prefer charges to the various companies. The five paid men and from six to twelve members in each company drive the apparatus. Motors are started on an average of twice a week. **Drills and Training:** Drills, held monthly under the supervision of the chiefs of the various companies and the marshal, consist of hose laying, pump operation, and use of equipment. **Fire Methods:** Booster and chemical streams used on incipient fires reinforced by engine and hydrant lines with shut-off nozzles. Gas masks and salvage covers are carried, but no heavy stream appliances are provided. **Response to Alarms:** Two companies respond to alarms in territory assigned. Outside aid may be secured from other companies in Pennsauken Township, Camden, and Merchantville. **Building Inspection:** Fire marshal makes an inspection on complaint of the various chiefs of the companies and an annual inspection of all mercantile and industrial buildings. **Records and Reports:** The chief of each company makes a monthly report to the Chief Engineer of Equipment who submits an annual report to the township committee. These records consist of the time, location, equipment used, and loss. **Fire Alarms:** Alarms of fire are telephoned to the township police station and are sounded from there on the sirens of the various fire houses. The firemen then are informed of the location of the fire over telephones located in fire houses.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Consists of a chief, 2 captains, 1 sergeant and 16 men, working in 10-hour shifts. Four cars are provided. Patrolmen report unauthorized building construction to building inspector and respond to alarms of fire.

**BUILDING LAWS:** Code adopted April 7, 1930 provides for the appointment of a building inspector and requires that plans be filed before permits are granted. Code closely follows the recommended National Building Code. Flammable roof coverings are prohibited throughout the township, but no fire limits are established. State laws provide some good regulations for construction of factories, tenement houses, and public schools, and fire protection and safety features for hotels.

**FIRE PREVENTION LAWS:** Building code has some regulations with regard to construction of garages, the storage of gasoline, the construction of motion picture theatres and booths and the installment of oil burners. An ordinance adopted December 8, 1947 provides for the storage of flammable or combustible materials. State laws adequately cover the manufacture, storage, and handling of explosives, and provide for regulations governing their intrastate transportation. They also restrict the discharge of fireworks to responsible bonded parties and embody good requirements for motion picture booths and the hazard incident to the display of motion pictures except that flammable film and portable booths are permitted for temporary exhibitions and enclosures for projection equipment are not required in schools. The State Tenement House Act restricts keeping and handling of certain combustible materials in tenements.

**ZONING ORDINANCE:** Adopted June 8, 1942.