



KEY

PROTECTED FIRE ZONE: Shown in Green.

NOTE.—For description of fire protection, etc., see other side.

Elevations range from 10 to 42 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:

(Y) Pumping engine and hose car

(O) Booster tank or tanks on above

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

City of Absecon
Atlantic County, New Jersey

OCTOBER 15, 1941

ABSECON CITY, ATLANTIC COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

Population—Census of 1940 was 2,084.

IN GENERAL: Located on the Pennsylvania-Reading Seashore Lines R. R. about 5 miles west of Atlantic City. It is a small residential community with a few small industries and some truck farming. Land area about 5.0 square miles. Elevations range from 8 to 55 feet. Main thoroughfares are macadam or concrete in good condition; side streets are partly gravel in fair condition. Other than traffic congestion on Absecon Boulevard there are no unusual features adversely affecting the response and operations of the fire department.

WATER SUPPLY: The Atlantic County Water Company owns and operates the supply works, distribution system and appurtenances, supplying water for domestic and fire protection purposes to Absecon, Pleasantville and other surrounding communities. The supply is delivered through 6- and 8-inch extensions from the Pleasantville distribution system. For a description of the organization, supply works, distribution system and appurtenances see report on Pleasantville with zone map No. 89. **Distribution System:** In one service, supplied as noted above, consisting of 4- and 6-inch incomplete gridiron and dead ends; see map. **Consumption:** The average and maximum daily pumpage during 1940 in the entire territory served was 0.779 and 2.068 million gallons. On December 31, 1940 there were 542 services in Absecon, all of which are metered. **Pipe:** All cast iron, tar coated, bell and spigot joint laid with 2- to 5-foot cover. No serious trouble reported from frozen mains or electrolysis. Total length, 48,700 feet; 11.7% 8-inch, 69.5% 6-inch, 18.8% 4-inch. **Gate Valves:** There are 35 on the system in Absecon of various makes set with iron boxes at grade. Direction of operation is not uniform, but same is indicated. Inspections are limited to those necessitated by routine system operation and maintenance. The fire department is notified when valves affecting hydrant supply are operated. **Hydrants:** There are 53 on the system in Absecon of Mueller, Corey, Darling and Ludlow makes, of standard type with 4- or 6-inch branches and two 2½-inch outlets. About 60% of the hydrants have one additional 4½-inch outlet, in which case the branch is 6-inch. Hose outlet threads and steamer outlet threads are National Standard. Hydrants are inspected twice annually and at time of inspection they were found to be in good condition. **Pressures:** No recording gauge on the system in Absecon, but readings taken at time of previous inspection and verified at time of reinspection showed pressures ranging from 39 to 42 pounds with an average of 41 pounds. **Fire Flow Tests:** Probable supply available for fire protection purposes was measured on November 5, 1936 by means of Pitot tube. Location of hydrant, discharge in gallons per minute, pressure before flow and pressure during flow were as follows:

Station and New Jersey Aves., 500—42—12.

Last hydrant on New York Rd., 170—39—*.

* No reading taken.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: A volunteer organization of one company under the control of the city which owns quarters, apparatus and equipment and appropriated \$300 for the support of the department during 1941. Total active membership 25 including a chief and assistant chief, of whom a minimum of 12 members are available at all times. Officers are elected annually by the company and confirmed

by the governing body. Company located in the city hall on New Jersey Avenue at Mechanic Street as shown on map. Building is a 2-story brick structure with hot water heat, slag covered wood roof, concrete apparatus floor, hose tower, electric lights, siren and telephone. **Equipment:** One 1941 Peter Pirsch-Chevrolet 500-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying one 500-gallon booster tank, 250 feet of booster hose, 200 feet of 2½-inch hose, 300 feet of 1½-inch hose, 2 short ladders and some minor equipment. One 1927 American La France-Brockway 400-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine (maximum delivery at service test during reinspection 230 gallons per minute at 100 pounds) carrying one 100-gallon booster tank, 150 feet of booster hose, 750 feet of 2½-inch hose, 2 short ladders and some minor equipment. **Hose:** All 2½-inch hose is C.R.L. with National Standard screw couplings. The total supply is 950 feet, all of which is carried on the apparatus. Hose is tested twice annually at about 200 pounds pump pressure and about 50% of the supply is more than 5 years old. Hose tower is provided at fire station and hose is repacked in part at drills. **Operations:** Department is governed by by-laws and city ordinance under the supervision of the fire commissioners. The chief has full charge of apparatus at all times and of men at fires and drills. Motors are started twice weekly and there are 6 appointed drivers. Other members can drive and operate the apparatus. **Drills and Training:** Company drills consisting of pump operation, hose and ladder work are held twice monthly under the direction of the chief officers. **Fire Methods:** Booster lines and hand extinguishers are used on incipient fires supported by engine streams with shut-off nozzles. No gas masks, salvage covers or heavy stream appliances provided. **Response to Alarms:** The department responds to all city alarms and substantial aid is available from the nearby volunteer department at Pleasantville and other surrounding towns and from the full paid department at Atlantic City. **Building Inspections:** No regular inspections by the fire department except that complaints are investigated by the chief officers. **Records and Reports:** Records consist primarily of fire reports, including attendance and nature of alarms and monthly reports are made to city council. **Fire Alarms:** Telephoned through the Pleasantville central office to the municipal building or to a janitor's dwelling nearby and sounded on siren by means of pushbutton.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Consists of 2 regular uniformed officers and one special. No municipally owned vehicles are provided.

BUILDING LAWS: Code adopted April 25, 1923 provides for the appointment of a building inspector with the usual duties and requires the filing of plans and specifications and permits for building operations. The code contains some general provisions for heating and general structural features, but does not establish fire limits nor combustible roof restrictions. Requirements are inadequate from a fire protection standpoint.

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