



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

Hamilton Township
Fire District No. 2, Mercerville
Mercer County, New Jersey

DECEMBER 31, 1949

KEY

PROTECTED FIRE ZONE: Shown in Green.

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

Elevations range from 54 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:

(V) Pumping engine and hose car

(H) Hose car

(Q) Booster tank or tanks on above

December 31, 1949.

HAMILTON TOWNSHIP, MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.**FIRE DISTRICT No. 2, MERCERVILLE.**

Estimated District Population—1,500.

IN GENERAL: Located about 3.5 miles east of Trenton on the main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad. A residential and farming community with two industries employing about 900. Area 5.42 square miles. Elevations range from 54 to 95 feet. Main roads concrete and macadam, others gravel in fair to poor condition. No unusual features which might interfere with the response of fire apparatus.

WATER SUPPLY: Water for domestic and fire protection purposes is furnished by the City of Trenton. For details as to supply works, distribution system and appurtenances see National Board report on the City of Trenton, April, 1932 and supplement of July 25, 1944. **Distribution System:** In one service. See map. Supply to this fire district is through a 12-inch to 8-inch transmission main from Booster Station No. 5 in Fire District No. 4. Main extends east on Nottingham Way, south of Grayson Avenue and east on Eaton Avenue, thence north on White Horse Road to principal mercantile district. Arterial system is generally poor with numerous 4-inch and 6-inch dead end lines supplying hydrants. **Consumption:** The average and maximum daily consumption in the entire territory served by the Trenton Water Department during 1948 (39,197 services) was 27.616 and 32.925 m.g. On December 31, 1948 there were 6,431 services in Hamilton Township, all of which were metered. **Pipe:** Cast iron, tar coated, bell and spigot joint, laid with a 4-foot cover. Total length, 62,400 feet; 5.8% 12-inch, 4.8% 10-inch, 9.6% 8-inch, 48.0% 6-inch, and 31.8% 4-inch. No trouble reported from frozen mains of electrolysis. Some trouble from tuberculation. **Gate Valves:** There are 132 of various makes set with iron boxes to grade. Direction of operation is not uniform. No regular inspection. **Hydrants:** There are 51 of Corey, Iowa, and Wood makes of standard type with either one or two 2½-inch and one 4½-inch outlets and 4-inch or 6-inch gated branches. All outlet threads are National Standard. Hydrants are inspected twice a year. Those operated during resurvey were found to be in good condition. **Pressures:** Readings taken at 16 hydrants widely distributed showed pressures ranging from 34 to 52 pounds with an average of 36 pounds. **Fire Flow Tests:** Probable supply available for fire protection purposes was measured on August 24, 1949 by means of Pitot tube. Location of hydrant, discharge in gallons per minute, pressure before flow, and pressure during flow were as follows:

Norcross Circle 200 ft. S. of E. State St. Ext., 120—*—*.
Hamilton Ave. 600 ft. N. of Lexington Pl., 120—*—*.
Hamilton Ave. 200 ft. S. of Lexington Pl., 140—*—*.
Alberta Ave. 350 ft. N. of Lexington Pl., 140—*—*.
Concord Ave. 450 ft. N. of Lexington Pl., 120—*—*.
Concord Ave. 150 ft. S. of Lexington Pl., 200—36—*.
Hillhurst Ave. 700 ft. S. of E. State St. Ext., 150—*—*.
Hillhurst Ave. 400 ft. N. of Nottingham Way, 120—*—*.
Sheridan Ave. 400 ft. W. of Stacy Ave., 50—*—*.
Stacy Ave. and E. State St. Ext., 90—*—*.
Vincent Ave. opposite Stacy Ave., 220—34—*.
Fenwood Ave. 100 ft. E. of Grayson Ave., 510—42—*.
Lowell and Crescent Aves., 310—42—*.
White Horse Rd. and Nottingham Way, 350—39—20.
Quaker Bridge Rd. 100 ft. N. of Holt Ave., 340—47—*.
Klockner and Holt Aves., 230—52—*.

*No reading taken.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: A volunteer organization of one company under full control of district board of fire commissioners. Board consists of five men, one or two of whom are elected annually for a three-year term. The chief, 2 assistant chiefs, and 3 foremen are elected annually by the company subject to the approval of the fire commissioners. District owns apparatus and equipment and appropriated \$5,083 for the support of the department in 1949. Company owns house. There are 35 active members, of whom about 12 are available at all times. **Company—Mercerville Volunteer Fire Company:** Located on Nottingham Way near White Horse Road. Building is a 1-story cinder block structure with an asbestos shingle roof, concrete apparatus floor, steam heat, electric lights, and telephone. **Equipment:** A 1942 U.S.A.-GMC 500-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying a 500-gallon booster tank, 150 feet of booster hose, 1,100 feet of 2½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, four 50-pound CO₂ cylinders, 200 feet of high-pressure hose, one 1,250-watt generator, 3 flood lights, 2 gas masks, 1 Bresnan

distributor, and fair minor equipment. A 1937 Diamond "T" booster car carrying a 500-gallon booster tank, a 250-gallon booster pump, 200 feet of booster hose, 800 feet of 1½-inch hose, a 48-foot extension ladder, 2 short ladders, 3 gas masks, 2 salvage covers, and some minor equipment. **Hose:** All 2½-inch hose is C.R.L. with National Standard screw couplings. It is tested at 200 pounds pressure 6 times a year, shifted at fires and drills, and dried on apparatus floor. There is a total supply of 2,100 feet of 2½-inch hose, of which 1,000 feet is held in reserve and 1,200 feet is over 5 years old. **Operations:** Department governed by own by-laws. Chief has control of apparatus at all times and of men at fires and drills. He can not suspend members, but may prefer charges to company. There are 15 members of the department who are assigned to drive apparatus. Motors are started twice a week. A county fire marshal, who is appointed annually by the County Board of Chosen Freeholders on recommendation of County Firemen's Association, keeps a record of all fires in county and investigates incendiary fires. **Drills and Training:** Drills held monthly consist of hose laying, pump operation, and use of equipment. They are under the supervision of members of the department who attend Mercer County Fire School. **Fire Methods:** Booster and 1½-inch hose lines are used on incipient fires reinforced with engine and hydrant streams where water is available. Five gas masks and one salvage cover are provided, but no heavy stream appliances are carried. **Response to Alarms:** Entire department responds to all alarms in fire district. Outside aid may be secured from the surrounding fire districts in Hamilton Township and Trenton. **Building Inspection:** Chief and fire marshal make inspections of all schools and factories twice a year. **Records and Reports:** Fairly complete records are kept of all fires. Monthly reports are submitted to fire marshal and annual reports are submitted to board of fire commissioners. **Fire Alarms:** Alarms of fire are telephoned to fire house and are received on an extension at a nearby garage during the day and at fire house during night. An attendant is always on duty during night. They are sounded on a diaphone at fire station. Fire house telephone carries a relay which operates a Klaxon horn at fire station.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Township department consists of a chief, 3 captains, 4 lieutenants, 1 traffic superintendent, 1 technician, 1 clerk, 26 patrolmen, and 12 special officers. Eight cars, five equipped with two-way radio, ambulance and three motorcycles equipped with one-way radio are provided. Men work in eight-hour shifts. Deskman on duty at all times. Police on duty respond to alarms of fire and report building operations in violation of township ordinance. There are 5 members of the fire company who are designated as fire police and who have attended county fire police school conducted by State Police at Wilburtha. They form fire lines and assist township police in patrolling at fires.

BUILDING LAWS: Code adopted August 6, 1935 provides for the appointment of a building inspector who is township engineer and establishes fire limits in the principal mercantile districts in township. Flammable roof coverings are allowed throughout the township. Code closely follows the Code of Suggested Ordinances for Small Municipalities as recommended by the National Board of Fire Underwriters. 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: Ordinance adopted August 6, 1935 closely follows the Ordinance providing for Fire Prevention and Protection as recommended by the National Board of Fire Underwriters. 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 Map 6, 1947.