



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

Stratford Borough
Camden County, New Jersey

FEBRUARY 28, 1950

KEY

PROTECTED FIRE ZONE: Shown in Green.
NOTE.— For description of fire protection, etc., see other side.
Elevations range from 80 to 114 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:
⊙ Pumping engine and hose car
⊕ Booster tank or tanks on above



STRATFORD BOROUGH, CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

Population — 1940 Census — 980.

IN GENERAL: Located along the west side of the White Horse Pike on the Atlantic City Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad about 9 miles southeast of Camden. Mainly a residential community without manufacturing. Area of mapped portion about 0.8 square mile. Elevations range from 80 to 114 feet. Main thoroughfares are concrete and macadam in good condition, other roads dirt and cinders in poor condition. Grade crossings are such that they should not interfere with the response of fire apparatus, but traffic congestion on the White Horse Pike can effect delays.

WATER SUPPLY: The Laurel Springs Water Company, a subsidiary of the Water Utilities Company, owns and operates supply works and distribution system and supplies water for domestic and fire protection purposes to Stratford, and all or part of eight other nearby communities. For details as to organization, supply works, pumping station, and storage facilities see report on Laurel Springs with map No. 100. **Distribution System:** In one service of very incomplete 4- and 6-inch gridiron supplied from the Laurel Springs system through two 6-inch feeders; see map. **Consumption:** The average and maximum daily consumption in the entire territory served (2,479 live services) during 1948 was 0.463 m.g. and 0.725 m.g. On December 31, 1948 there were 375 services in Stratford, all of which were metered. **Pipe:** All cast iron, tar coated, bell and spigot joint, laid with 2- to 4-foot cover. No trouble from electrolysis. Some freezing has been experienced during severe winters. Total length, 26,950 feet; 90% 6-inch and 10% 4-inch. **Gate Valves:** There are 25 in Stratford of R. D. Wood make. Direction of operation is uniform. Valves are inspected and operated semi-annually. **Hydrants:** There are 27 of Wood make. All have one 4½-inch outlet with 7 threads per inch and 5½-inch outside diameter and two 2½-inch outlets with Jones snap couplings, 4-inch barrels, and 4-inch ungated branches. Hydrants are subject to semi-annual inspection and were in good condition at time of inspection. **Pressures:** Recording gauge in office at about elevation 80 shows pressures to be maintained between 80 and 100 feet. Readings taken at 6 widely distributed hydrants showed pressures ranging from 33 to 38 pounds with an average of 35 pounds. **Fire Flow Tests:** Probable supply available for fire protection purposes was measured on March 10, 1949, by means of Pitot tube. Location of hydrant, discharge in gallons per minute, pressure before flow, and pressure during flow were as follows:

White Horse Pike and Union Ave., 610—38—14.
 White Horse Pike and Harvard Avenue, 610—33—19.
 Union and Central Aves., 170—35—*.
 Jefferson and Grand Aves., 290—36—*.
 Atlantic and Union Aves., 540—36—20.
 Webster Ave. 550 feet west of Central Ave., 390—33—*.

*No reading taken.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: A volunteer organization of one company under partial control of the borough which owns quarters, apparatus, and equipment and appropriated \$1,500 for the support of the department in 1949. Total active membership 104, of whom a minimum of 8 are available at all times. Officers include a chief, assistant chief, a captain, and one lieutenant who are elected annually by the company subject to confirmation by the mayor and council. **Company—Stratford Fire Company:** Located on Laurel Avenue west of the White Horse Pike. Building is a two-story frame structure with concrete apparatus floor, composition shingle

roof, telephone, electric lights, steam heat, and a 5-h p. electric siren on roof. **Equipment:** One 1942 Buffalo-G.M C.-Hale 500-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying a 200-gallon booster tank, 200 feet of booster hose, 400 feet of 1½-inch hose, 800 feet of 2½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, 2 gas masks, 2 salvage covers, and fair minor equipment. One 1924 Reo-Hale 300-g.p.m. double combination pumping engine carrying 550 feet of 2½-inch hose, 100 feet of 1½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, 1 salvage cover, and fair minor equipment. One 40-foot extension ladder is held in reserve at fire house. **Hose:** All 2½-inch hose is C.R.L. equipped with Jones snap couplings. There is no hose over 5 years old and no reserve supply. Hose is shifted and tested at normal pump operating pressures during drills. Adequate provisions for drying hose are not provided. **Operations:** Department is governed by company by-laws and is under the jurisdiction of the mayor and council. Chief has full control of equipment at all times and of men at fires and drills. Chief has no power to suspend members, but may prefer charges to company. Twelve members are appointed drivers and motors are started once a week. **Drills and Training:** Company drills are held weekly under the supervision of the chief. They consist of pump operation, hose laying, and some ladder work. **Fire Methods:** Booster streams and small lines are used on incipient fires reinforced by engine streams with shut-off nozzles. Gas masks and salvage equipment provided. **Response to Alarms:** All apparatus responds to all borough alarms. Aid may be secured from Laurel Springs, Kirkwood, and Somerdale, 1 to 3 miles distant. **Building Inspection:** No complete periodic inspections, but the County Fire Marshal inspects new buildings and investigates complaints. No records available. **Records and Reports:** Records are kept and consist of attendance, nature of fire, damage, and operation of the company. Annual reports are made to the mayor and council. **Fire Alarms:** Telephoned through the Laurel Springs exchange to a nearby garage and sounded on electric siren at fire station by means of push button.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: There is no municipal police department. Two special fire police, subject to call, are appointed by the mayor. No municipal vehicles provided.

BUILDING LAWS: The National Building Code recommended by the National Board of Fire Underwriters was adopted on June 14, 1949. Fire limits were established and combustible roofs are prohibited. 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: The Fire Prevention Ordinance and the Ordinance governing the installation and operation of oil burning equipment as recommended by the National Board of Fire Underwriters were adopted on June 14, 1949. State Laws adequately cover the manufacture, storage and handling of explosives, and provide for regulations governing the intrastate transportation of explosives and flammable liquids. 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.