

Superseding Map No. 207 of June 30, 1936. Please destroy old issue.



KEY
 PROTECTED FIRE ZONE: Shown in Green.
 NOTE.—For description of fire protection, etc., see other site.
 Elevations range from 0 to 136 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:
 Automobile combination pumper and hose car
 Horse car
 Hooster tank or tanks on above



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

City of Hackensack
 Bergen County, New Jersey

AUGUST 31, 1946

CITY OF HACKENSACK, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

Population—1940 Census—26,279.

IN GENERAL: Located on the New York, Susquehanna and Western and New Jersey and New York Railroads along the west bank of the Hackensack River about 13 miles north of Jersey City. City is principally of a residential character with 72 industries employing a total of about 1,750. Area about 4.0 square miles. Elevations range from 0 to 136 feet. Streets are mainly improved in fair to good condition. In the business area the main street varies from 50 to 60 feet in width and is severely congested by traffic and parking. Numerous railroad crossings at grade could effect delays in response of fire apparatus.

WATER SUPPLY: Water for domestic and fire protection purposes is furnished by the Hackensack Water Company from its New Milford Low Service Supply is through 20-inch and 24-inch transmission mains interconnected at numerous points, supported by a 20-inch connection with a 30-inch transmission main in Teaneck, and leading from the New Milford Pumping Station. In addition there is a closed emergency connection in Little Ferry between the 20-inch transmission main and a 30-inch transmission main from the New Milford Pumping Station on the east side of the Hackensack River. For a detailed description of the Hackensack Water Company see report and map No. 59. **Distribution System:** In one service consisting of 6-inch and 8-inch mains fairly well gridironed. **Consumption:** The average and maximum daily consumption during 1945 in the entire territory served (84,266 live services) were 39,221 and 46,526 million gallons respectively. The maximum daily consumption was 39,526 and 8,65 million gallons respectively on the low and high services. The average daily consumption was 32,914 and 6,307 million gallons respectively on the low and high services. On December 31st, 1945 there were 5,255 services in Hackensack, all of which were metered. It is estimated that 4,909% of the total consumption is used in Hackensack. **Pipe:** All pipe is cast iron, tar coated, bell and spigot joint, laid with a minimum 3-foot cover. Total length, 356,579 feet: 0.10% 30-inch, 4.65% 24-inch, 6.74% 20-inch, 0.38% 16-inch, 8.63% 12-inch, 11.62% 8-inch, 67.32% 6-inch, and 0.56% 4-inch. No trouble has been reported from freezing or electrolysis. **Gate Valves:** There are 888 within the city of various makes set with valve boxes at grade. Direction of operation is uniform. All valves are inspected annually with semi-annual inspections of major control valves. **Hydrants:** There are 398 within the city of Smith and Corey makes of standard type, of which 388 have one 4½-inch and two 2½-inch outlets, and 10 have one 4½-inch and one 2½-inch outlets. All have 6-inch gated branches with the exception of 22 which have 4-inch gated branches. All outlets have National Standard threads. Hydrants are inspected semi-annually, after use, and frequently during winter months. At time of inspection those operated were found to be in good condition. **Pressures:** Readings taken at 13 well distributed hydrants showed pressures ranging from 65 to 118 pounds with an average of 106 pounds. **Fire Flow Tests:** Probable supply available for fire protection purposes was measured on October 23rd, 1945 by means of Pitot tube. Location of hydrant, discharge in gallons per minute, pressure before flow, and pressure during flow were as follows:

Willow and Summit Aves., 1,520—106—39.
Main St and Poplar Ave., 3,150—112—103.
Hackensack and Temple Aves., 1,600—116—38.
Hamilton Pl. and Prospect Ave., 2,780—103—52.
Crestwood Ave. and Maple Hill Dr., 2,370—96—48.
Passaic and First Sts., 2,410—110—96.
James and Second Sts., 2,000—111—54.
Park St. and Conklin Pl., 2,140—112—104.
Main and Berry Sts., 4,640—110—87.
Hudson and Main Sts., 2,930—118—102.
Prospect and Sutton Aves., 2,150—65—35.
West and Lodi Sts., 1,840—114—99.
Moonachie Rd and Hudson St., 3,170—109—84.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: A full paid organization of 6 companies under the supervision of the director of public safety. City owns houses, apparatus, and equipment and appropriated \$143,300 for the support of the department during 1946. Membership includes a chief, deputy chief, battalion chief, 3 captains, 5 lieutenants, and 21 men. The department operates in two shifts working 24-hour periods. Men sleep in houses and no meal hours are permitted. Men are granted 15-day vacations with one man on each shift on vacation at a time. Leaves of absence are granted only for immediate family emergencies and only one-third of off-shift platoon is permitted out of town. Off-shift men are on call basis. **Companies—Truck Company No. 2:** Platoon Manning: Lieutenant and 2 men. Located at fire headquarters on State Street opposite Banta Place. Building is 2-story joisted brick with slate roof, concrete floor, electric lights, steam heat, telephone, punch register, gong, and hose tower. **Equipment:** A 1927 American La France 85-foot aerial truck carrying ground ladders ranging from 12 to 50 feet and totaling 268 feet, a portable deluge set, 2 siamese connections, cellar pipe, distributor nozzle, portable foam generator, ladder pipe, 2 all-service gas masks, and good minor equipment. **Engine Company No. 4:** Platoon Manning: Captain and 4 men. Located at fire headquarters on State Street. **Equipment:** A 1938 Ahrens-Fox 1,000-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying a 100-gallon booster tank, 250 feet of booster hose, 1,600 feet of 2½-inch hose, 500 feet of 1½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, a nozzle holder, and fair minor equipment. **Salvage Company No. 1:** Platoon Manning: 1 man. Located at fire headquarters on State Street. **Equipment:** A 1920 American La France hose and emergency truck carrying 1,000 feet of 2½-inch hose, a mounted deck gun, a 1,500-watt portable electric generator, 4 flood lights, 600 feet of cable, 9 salvage covers, squeegees, inhalator, oxygen tanks, 3 all-service gas masks, and good salvage and emergency equipment. **Truck Company No. 1:** Held in reserve and manned by off-shift men on recall. Located at fire headquarters on State Street. **Equipment:** A 1919 American La France 65-foot aerial ladder truck carrying ground ladders ranging from 12 to 40 feet and totaling 168 feet, 600 feet of 2½-inch hose, 500 feet of 1½-inch hose, a 1,500-watt portable electric generator, 4 flood lights, 400 feet of cable, and good minor equipment. **Engine Company No. 3:** Platoon Manning 1 lieutenant and 2 men. Located on Hudson Street near Lafayette Street in a 2-story joisted brick building with metal roof, concrete apparatus floor, electric lights, steam heat, telephone, punch register, gong, and hose tower. **Equipment:** A 1925 American La France 750-g.p.m. triple combination pumping

engine carrying a 100-gallon booster tank, 250 feet of booster hose, 1,000 feet of 2½-inch hose, 200 feet of 1½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, 1 all-service gas mask, and fair minor equipment. **Engine Company No. 2:** Platoon Manning: A captain or lieutenant and 2 men. Located on Main Street near Spring Valley Avenue in a 1-story stucco on concrete block building with tile roof, concrete apparatus floor, steam heat, electric lights, telephone, punch register, and gong. **Equipment:** A 1924 American La France 750-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying a 100-gallon booster tank, 250 feet of booster hose, 1,000 feet of 2½-inch hose, 200 feet of 1½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, 1 all-service gas mask, and good minor equipment. **Hose:** All 2½-inch hose is C.R.L. with National Standard screw couplings. It is shifted monthly, washed, and dried in hose tower at headquarters. All hose is over 5 years old with the average age being about 7 years. Two thousand feet of hose is on order and, although there are no regular tests made at present, hose will be tested regularly on testing machine as new hose is received. Reserve supply consists of 2,300 feet at headquarters. Excellent card records are kept of each length of hose, records being maintained at headquarters showing the number, make, size, age, and use of each length of hose. **Operations:** Department is governed by city ordinance and is under the supervision of the fire chief who is responsible to the city manager who in turn is responsible to the mayor and council. Motors are started daily and there is at least one driver for each piece of apparatus. **Drills and Training:** Two-hour weekly company drills are held by company officers in each company quarters. Department drills are held semi-annually at headquarters. Drills consist of basic evolutions with ladder companies doing ladder work and engine companies operating pumps at draft. **Fire Methods:** Booster lines and 1½-inch lines are used on incipient fires reinforced by engine and hydrant lines with shut-off nozzles. Department is provided with 8 all-service gas masks and good salvage and heavy stream equipment. **Response to Alarms:** For all box alarms Truck Company No. 2, Engine Company No. 4 and Salvage Company No. 1 respond to all first alarms, and in addition Engine Company No. 2 responds to all alarms north of the N. Y. S. & W. R. R. and Engine Company No. 3 responds south of that railroad. The same response applies for all still alarm building fires. One engine responds to grass or automobile fires. **Building Inspection:** At present time chief officers make inspections of only suspected hazards in mercantile establishments. It is proposed that in the near future annual inspections will be made in all but private residences. At the present time daily inspections are made of all public assemblages and excellent records are kept of all inspections of properties. **Records and Reports:** Company records are kept of all fires and drills with each company reporting daily to the fire chief. Chief makes daily and monthly reports to the city manager. **Fire Alarms:** Fire alarm system is part of the fire department and is under the supervision of the director of public safety and maintained by an electrician assisted by the police department electrician. Headquarters is located between River Street and the Hackensack River, near Camden Street in a small 1-story fire resistive building. System is of the Gamewell automatic type in 8 circuits with a 6-circuit repeater. The break wheel transmitter is located at the watch desk in the apparatus room of fire headquarters. Current is provided by oxide film rectifiers with batteries floating. Each of the three fire houses is equipped with a punch register and gong on both alarm and box circuits. An air horn at headquarters is manually cut in on the local transmitter circuit by a switch at the watch desk. Gongs are installed at police headquarters and fire chief's home. Two operators working in 24-hour shifts maintain constant duty at desk. Overhead circuits are of No. 10 hard drawn copper wire, triple braided, weatherproof, totaling about 26 miles, with about 3 miles of underground circuit of No. 14 or No. 16 hard drawn copper wire. There are 4 box circuits, 1 spare box circuit, 1 transmitter circuit, and 2 alarm circuits. There are 64 fire alarm boxes of Gamewell succession type of which 15 are mounted on pedestals, 1 is located in a hospital, and the balance are located on utility company poles with red and white bands. There are no indicating lights. Alarm circuit is tested daily and boxes are tested every three months. Records are kept, except that maps are lacking. Telephone alarms are received at fire department headquarters and transmitted to other houses by private telephone from the police department switchboard. Second or general alarms are sent over the system by the transmitter which also operates the horn to call in off-shift members. All alarms are broadcast over the police radio system to patrol cars.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Consists of a chief, 2 captains, 4 lieutenants, 11 sergeants, and 23 patrolmen who work in 8-hour shifts and maintain 24-hour duty at the police desk. Department is provided with 5 patrol cars and 3 motorcycles. All patrol cars, 2 of the motorcycles, 2 chief's cars, and a city manager car are provided with two-way radio equipment, and telegraph repair truck is provided with radio receiver. Police department has 9 street telephone boxes, a switchboard with 3 trunk telephone lines, and a state police teletype. A gong is installed in police headquarters and police respond to all alarms of fire. Police report all unauthorized building construction to the building inspector.

BUILDING LAWS: Code adopted May 21st, 1921, revised January 1st, 1930, and subsequently amended, has some good features regarding fire protection of buildings. However, provisions for building heights and areas, parapets, private fire protection and heavy timber construction are lacking. Fire limits are established within which frame buildings and wood shingled roofs are prohibited. A new amendment to the code requires fire resistive exteriors for all buildings but private residences within the city.

FIRE PREVENTION LAWS: A fire code adopted March 21st, 1921 has some good provisions regarding the storage of explosives and flammables, the accumulation of rubbish and trash, and requires regular inspections by the fire department, but code leaves a great deal to the discretion of the fire chief. 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.

ZONING ORDINANCE: Adopted February 4th, 1929 and subsequently amended.