



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

Montvale Borough
Bergen County, New Jersey

MAY 15, 1947

KEY
 PROTECTED FIRE ZONE: Shown in Green.
 NOTE.—For description of fire protection, etc., see other side.
 Elevations range from 140 to 490 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
 Ⓞ Chemical tank or tanks on above



MONTVALE BOROUGH, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

Population — 1940 Census — 1,342.

IN GENERAL: Located on the New Jersey and New York Railroad adjoining the New York State line. It is a scattered residential and farming community with three small industries normally employing about 40. Area is 4.0 square miles. Elevations range from 140 to 490 feet. Main roads are improved, with others being dirt or gravel in fair to poor condition. Two railroad grade crossings are said not to interfere with the response of fire apparatus.

WATER SUPPLY: Water for domestic and fire protection purposes is supplied to all but the westerly portion of the borough. Borough owns the distribution system and purchases water under contract from Park Ridge Distribution system is under the supervision of the water superintendent who reads meters and maintains records. Superintendent is not under Civil Service, but has held office for the past 16 years. When needed, help for repairs may be obtained from the Park Ridge Public Works Department. Major repairs and extensions are handled by outside contractors. **Distribution System:** In one service consisting of 6-inch and 8-inch lines with numerous long dead end branches. Three long metered dead end branches serve part of the borough to the west of Pasack Brook and a portion of the borough east of Pasack Brook is supplied through two 6-inch meters from the Park Ridge system. See map. **Consumption:** The average consumption during 1945 in Montvale was 0.047 million gallons per day. It is estimated that the maximum daily consumption is 0.07 million gallons per day. On December 31, 1945 there were 223 services in Montvale, all of which were metered. **Pipe:** All pipe is cast iron, tar coated, bell and spigot joint, laid with about a 4-foot cover. Total length 30,194 feet; 31.3% 8-inch and 68.7% 6-inch. No trouble has been reported from freezing or electrolysis. **Gate Valves:** There are 32 in the borough of Mathews make set with valve boxes at grade. Direction of operation is uniform and valves are said to be inspected between three and four times each year. **Hydrants:** There are 64 in the borough of Mathews make of standard type with 6-inch gated branches, two 2½-inch and one 4½-inch outlets. Outlets have National Standard threads. Hydrants are inspected semi-annually and at time of tests those operated were found to be in good condition. **Pressures:** Readings taken at two well distributed locations showed pressures ranging from 85 to 112 pounds with an average of 98½ pounds. **Fire Flow Tests:** Probable supply available for fire protection purposes was measured on October 22, 1946 by means of Pitot tube. Location of hydrant, discharge in gallons per minute, pressure before flow, and pressure during flow were as follows:

Woodland Rd. 550 ft. S. of New York State Line, 460—85—7.

Grand Ave and New Jersey & New York Railroad, 1,460—112—45.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: A volunteer organization of one company under the control of the borough which owns apparatus and equipment and makes an annual appropriation for the support of the department. Borough rents the building in which apparatus is housed. Total active membership 35, of whom a minimum of about 8 are available at all times. Officers include a chief, assistant chief, 1 captain, and 1 lieutenant who are elected annually by the company subject to the approval of the mayor and council. **Company:** Located in a section of a gasoline service station at Magnolia and Pearl Avenues. Building is one-story stone with composition on wood roof, concrete apparatus floor, steam heat, electric lights, telephone, and air horn on roof. Apparatus room is cut off from the rest of the service station by a wooden partition. **Equipment:** A 1935 Seagrave 600-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying a 100-gallon booster tank, 300 feet of booster hose, 1,400 feet of 2½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, a 650-watt portable electric generator,

3 lights, 2 all-service gas masks, 1 salvage cover, and good minor equipment. A 1924 Brockway-American La France 350-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying a 60-gallon booster tank, 200 feet of booster hose, 800 feet of 2½-inch hose, 600 feet of 1½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, a distributor nozzle, 1 all-service gas mask, 1 salvage cover, and good minor equipment. **Hose:** All 2½-inch hose is C.R.L. with National Standard screw couplings. At time of inspection it was customary for hose to be repacked wet, but a hot air drying cabinet was on order. Hose is shifted bi-monthly and tested semi-annually at 150 pounds pressure. About 50% of the total supply is over 5 years old and there is 1,000 feet of reserve hose. **Operations:** Department is governed by borough ordinance and company by-laws. Chief has control of apparatus at all times and of men at fires and drills. Motors are started weekly and there are 8 drivers in addition to the officers, who are permitted to drive apparatus. **Drills and Training:** Semi-monthly drills are held under the supervision of the chief officers. They consist of hose laying, pump operation, and use of minor equipment. **Fire Methods:** Booster lines are used on incipient fires reinforced by hydrant and engine lines with shut-off nozzles. Department is provided with 3 gas masks and 3 salvage covers, but heavy stream appliances are limited to one distributor nozzle. **Response to Alarms:** Both pieces of apparatus respond to all alarms within the borough. Outside aid may be secured from the volunteer departments of the adjoining municipalities. **Building Inspection:** Chief officers make semi-annual inspections of schools and mercantile establishments. No inspection reports are maintained. **Records and Reports:** Fairly complete records are kept of all fires and drills and chief makes a monthly report to the mayor and council. **Fire Alarms:** Alarms of fire are telephoned through the Park Ridge Telephone Exchange to the gasoline service station. Extensions to this telephone are located in the apparatus room and in the adjacent residence of the service station owner. Twenty-four hour duty is maintained either at the service station or in the adjacent residence. Borough is divided into six districts and code calls signifying the district in which fire is located are sounded on the air horn at the fire house. Switches controlling the air horn are located on the exterior of the gasoline service station, in the service station, and in the adjacent residence.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Consists of a chief, 1 patrolman, and 8 special officers. Department does not maintain 24-hour duty at any one location. It is provided with a patrol car with short wave radio receiver. Headquarters is in police booth at Grand and Magnolia Avenues. Telephone is installed in booth with extensions at police chief's and patrolman's residences. Police respond to alarms of fire when possible and report unauthorized building construction to the building inspector.

BUILDING LAWS: Code adopted September 26, 1926 has some good provisions covering building inspector, plans and specifications, and permits for building construction. Code has some good features covering chimney construction and requirements for party walls between adjoining frame buildings. However, code is not available in printed form and is not sufficiently comprehensive from a fire protection standpoint. Code does not outline any fire limits nor restrict the use of flammable roof coverings.

FIRE PREVENTION LAWS: No municipal regulations. 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.

ZONING ORDINANCE: Adopted November 8, 1944.