



FRANKLIN LAKES BOROUGH, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

Including Bakers Pond, Blauvelt Lakes, Campgaw, Crystal Lakes,
Ferdinands Mills, Hopper Lake, and Shadow Lake.

Population—1940 Census—1,203. 1946 Local Estimate—1,500.

IN GENERAL: Located on the N. Y. S. & W. R. R. about 6 miles north of Paterson. It is principally a residential and farming district with a few mercantile occupancies and a small industrial plant and a dairy products distributing depot. Area about 9.4 square miles. Elevations range from 360 to 800 feet. Principal roads are paved and in good condition. Railroad crossings at grade could interfere with the response of fire apparatus, but other conditions are such that there should be no unusual delays in the response and operations of the fire department.

WATER SUPPLY: Water supplies for fire protection purposes are limited to natural sources of supply, including ponds and streams, which have been developed in some instances to provide satisfactory supply to fire department pumping engines. A small water system on Colonial Road in the Campgaw Section has such limited storage and pumping capacity as to be inadequate from a fire protection standpoint. At the time of inspection the extension of the Oakland Borough system to a new development on Franklin Avenue adjoining that community was contemplated.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: A volunteer organization of one company under the control of the borough which owns quarters, apparatus, and equipment and makes an annual appropriation of \$1,400 for the support of the department. Total active membership 50 including a chief and 2 assistant chiefs, of whom a minimum of 10 men are available at all times and an average of 20 men attend fires. Officers are elected annually subject to confirmation by the mayor and council. **Franklin Lakes Fire Company No. 1:** Located on Pulis Avenue north of Franklin Lakes Road as shown on map. It is a 2-story stuccoed stone structure with composition covered wood roof, electric lights, steam heat, siren and telephone. Building also serves as borough hall. **Equipment:** One 1946 Seagrave 600-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying one 300-gallon booster tank, 300 feet of booster hose, 1,200 feet of 2½-inch hose, 300 feet of 1½-inch hose, one 35-foot extension ladder, one 14-foot roof ladder, and standard minor equipment. One 1926 Seagrave 350-g.p.m. double combination pumping engine carrying 400 feet of 2½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, and standard minor equipment. One 1942 Oren-Chevrolet-Barton-U. S. A. 300-g.p.m. front end type triple combination pumping engine carrying one 275-gallon booster tank, 250 feet of booster hose, 200 feet of 2½-inch hose, one 26-foot extension ladder, one 12-foot roof ladder, and miscellaneous minor equipment. **Hose:** All 2½-inch hose is C.R.L. with National Standard screw couplings. There is a total

supply of 1,800 feet, all of which is carried on the apparatus. At time of inspection the purchase of 400 feet additional was contemplated. Hose is repacked in part at drills and is dried on driveway outside of fire station. Of the total supply about 50% is more than 5 years old. All hose is tested semi-annually at 200 pounds pressure. **Operations:** Department is governed by borough ordinance and company by-laws, under the supervision of the fire committee of the governing body. **Drills and Training:** Company drills are held monthly in good weather under the direction of the chief officer. They consist of pump operation from draft and the use of booster tanks and appliances. **Fire Methods:** Booster lines and hand extinguishers are used on incipient fires supported by engine streams with shut-off nozzles where water supplies are available. Two gas masks are provided, but salvage and flood lighting equipment and heavy stream appliances are lacking. **Response to Alarms:** The entire department responds to all borough alarms except that for small fires of known cause and extent one piece of apparatus is assigned. Aid may be secured from the surrounding volunteer departments at Oakland, Wayne Township, Wyckoff Township, Mahwah Township, and North Haledon. **Building Inspection:** No routine building inspections by the fire department. **Records and Reports:** Records consist primarily of fire reports including nature and location of alarms, attendance, equipment used, and estimated loss. **Fire Alarms:** Alarms of fire are telephoned to the railroad station during the day and to home of member nearby at night, and sounded on siren at fire station from push button controls. Alarms may also be transmitted through a police radio system.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Consists of a part-time chief who serves as a relief patrolman and one sergeant with private two-way radio patrol car who is on duty 6 days per week.

BUILDING LAWS: Building code adopted May 11, 1942 provides for the appointment and duties of a building inspector and includes general construction regulations and requirements for the construction of chimneys and fireplaces and the installation of heating equipment. In general the regulations are not sufficiently comprehensive from a fire protection standpoint. Flammable roof covering is allowed throughout the borough.

FIRE PREVENTION LAWS: No local 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.