

## WEST COLLINGSWOOD HEIGHTS, HADDON TOWNSHIP, CAMDEN COUNTY, N. J. Fire District No. 4.

Population - Township Census of 1930 was 9,198.

IN GENERAL: A residential community located southeast of Camden and adjacent to the City of Gloucester, between Crescent Boulevard and the Black Horse Pike. Area 0.4 square miles. Elevations range from 0 to 20. Main roads concrete, others gravel in fair to good condition. Traffic on main highway might seriously impede the response of fire apparatus.

WATER SUPPLY: Water for domestic and fire protection purposes is furnished by the New Jersey Water Company, a subsidiary of the American Water Works & Electric Company which owns supply works and distribution system. For details as to organization, supply works, pumping stations and storage facilities see report on Haddon Heights with Map No. 203. Consumption: The average daily pumpage from the Main and Egbert Stations on the Haddon Division during 1939 (7,522 live services) was 1,269 and 0.150 million gallons, totaling 1.419 million gallons. It is estimated that the maximum daily pumpage is 1.90 million gallons on this division. On August 1, 1940, there were 104 services in West Collingswood Heights, all of which were metered. Distribution System: In one service; see map. West Collingswood Heights is supplied as an extension of the Oaklyn distribution system with a few dead end 6-inch mains supplying hydrants. Pipe: Cast iron, tar coated, bell and spigot joint, laid with a 3½-foot cover. Total length, 23,500 feet; 14.5% 8-inch, 43.4% 6-inch, 42.1% 4-inch. No trouble from frozen mains or electrolysis. Gate Valves: There are 45 on the system in West Collingswood Heights of Darling manufacture set in iron boxes to grade. Direction of operation is uniform. Complete inspection and survey was made during 1936 and all valves are inspected and operated annually. Hydrants: There are 16 in West Collingswood Heights of Darling manufacture of standard type with two 2½- and one 4½-inch outlets and 6-inch gated branches. Hose outlets have National Standard thread. Hydrants are inspected twice annually and were in good condition at time of inspection. **Pressures:** Readings taken at 2 hydrants widely distributed showed pressures ranging from 65 to 67 pounds with an average of 66 pounds. Fire Flow Tests: Probable supply available for fire protection purposes was measured on September 6, 1940, and March 23, 1937, by means of Pitot tube. Location of hydrant, discharge in gallons per minute, pressure before flow and pressure during flow were as follows:

September 6, 1940-

Nicholson Rd., W. of New York Ave., 410-65-91.

March 23, 1937-

Black Horse Pike and Berwick Ave., 460-67-11.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: A volunteer organization of one company under control of fire district. Department is under supervision of a board of five fire commissioners who are elected for three-year terms. Company owns house and fire district owns apparatus and equipment, and appropriated \$900 for the support of the department in 1940. Total active membership 25, of whom about 4 are available during the day and 18 during the night. There are a chief, a captain and a lieutenant who are elected annually by the company and confirmed by the fire commissioners. Company—West Collingswood Heights Incorporated Fire Company No. 1, District No. 4: Located on Nicholson Road near Pennsylvania Avenue. Building is a 1-story concrete block structure

with a slag roof, concrete apparatus floor, oil stove, electric lights, and siren. Equipment: A 1929 American La France G.M.C. 500-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying a 150-gallon booster tank, 150 feet of booster hose, 500 feet of 2½-inch hose, 100 feet of 1½-inch hose, 2 short ladders and fair minor equipment. Hose: All  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch hose is C.R.L. with Jones snap couplings. Hose is tested annually at 150 pounds, shifted at fires and drills and dried on apparatus floor. There is no reserve hose and all the  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch hose is over five years old. Operations: Company governed by own by-laws. Chief has control of apparatus at all times and of men at fires and drills. He can suspend members pending a hearing before district fire commissioners. There are 4 members who are appointed drivers. Motors are started weekly. Drills and Training: Drills held weekly under supervision of chief officers consist of hose laying, pump operation and use of equipment. Fire Methods: Booster streams used on incipient fires reinforced by engine and hydrant lines with shut-off nozzles. Engine usually hooks up. No gas masks, salvage equipment or heavy stream appliances provided. Response to Alarms: Entire department responds to all alarms in Fire District No. 4. Outside aid may be secured from Oaklyn, Audubon, Mount Ephraim, Gloucester and the City of Camden. Building Inspection: Chief makes an occasional inspection of stores and dance halls. Records and Reports: Records consist mostly of records of attendance Reports: Records consist mostly of records of attendance, time and location of fire. A monthly report is submitted to the Camden County Firemen's Association. Annual reports are submitted to the district fire commissioners. Fire Alarms: Fire alarm system is under the supervision of a local electrician. Headquarters equipment is located on apparatus floor in fire house. It consists of a transformer and a relay for siren. Current is supplied by Public Service with no standby equipment. There are 4 Harrington-Seaburg interfering type boxes mounted on utility company poles with red and white indicating bands, and a siren at fire house. System consists of a single closed circuit of No. 10 hard drawn triple braided weatherproof wire mounted on utility company poles below power wire. No circuit protection. No regular tests or records. Alarms of fire may be telephoned to home of commissioner and are sounded on siren by means of push-button in front of fire house.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Consists of a chief and 7 men working in 8-hour shifts. Deskman always on duty. Two radio cars are provided. Patrolmen respond to alarms of fire and attempt to form fire lines. They also report unauthorized construction to building inspector.

BUILDING LAWS: Code adopted April 22, 1930, provides for the appointment of a building inspector and requires that a permit be secured before building operations may begin. Code has little value from a fire protection standpoint. Fire limits are not established and flammable roof coverings are allowed throughout the township.

**EXPLOSIVES AND FLAMMABLES:** An ordinance adopted October 20, 1925, requires that a permit be secured to construct, operate or maintain a public garage or motor vehicle storage building or gasoline or oil filling station. 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.