

May 31, 1945

RANDOLPH TOWNSHIP, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

Including Ironia, Mill Brook, Mount Fern, Mount Freedom, Shongum, and Youngstown.

Population-1940 Census-2,160.

IN GENERAL: Located in the central portion of Morris County adjoining the southerly limits of Dover. It is a residential and agricultural community with a seasonal hotel resort at Mount Freedom, a government housing development adjoining Dover, and other scattered residential developments. Area 21.2 square miles. Elevations range from 550 to 1,122 feet. Of about 70 miles of road two-thirds are macadam or oiled surface in fair to good condition, and streets in developed areas are improved. Grades are severe in some sections, but except for the topography and condition of the roads there are no features which should effect serious delays in the response and operations of the fire department.

WATER SUPPLY: No extensive township water supply system except that the housing development is supplied with water for domestic and fire protection purposes through a 6-inch meter as an extension of the Dover municipal water system. One small housing development is similarly supplied from the Denville municipal system. The former area has 27 hydrants supplied from about 13,125 feet of 8-inch and 6-inch main. The latter area has 4 hydrants on 3,250 feet of pipe with 4 additional hydrants along 7,500 feet of supply line to this section. Water for fire protection purposes in other areas is obtained from numerous streams and ponds from which fire department pumping engines take suction.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: A volunteer organization of two companies under the partial control of the township which owns the apparatus and equipment and Company No. 3 quarters, and rents the Company No. 2 quarters from the fire company. The township appropriated \$1,200 for the support of the fire department during 1945. Total active membership about 80 divided evenly between the two companies, of whom a minimum of 8 men are available in Company No. 2 and 10 in Company No. 3. Officers include a department chief appointed annually by the township committee alternately from the 2 companies. In addition each company has a company chief, 2 assistant chiefs, 1 foreman, and 2 assistant foremen who are elected for 2-year terms by the companies, subject to the approval of the township committee. Companies-Randolph Chemical Engine Company No. 2: Located in the Mill Brook Section on Church Road about 1,000 feet east of Mill Brook Road as shown on map. Building is a 2-story asbestos shingle frame structure with concrete apparatus floor, composition covered wood roof, electric lights, oil fired steam heat, pay telephone, and siren on roof. A cabinet type hose drier was being installed at the time of inspection. Equipment: One 1941 Pirsch-International 500-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying one 300-gallon booster tank, 350 feet of booster hose, 1,000 feet of 2½-inch hose, 400 feet of 1½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, and some minor equipment. Randolph Chemical Engine Company No. 3: Located in the Mount Freedom Section on Fire House Road south of Sussex Turnpike as shown on map. Building is a 12-story frame former school house with apparatus room with concrete floor in basement, electric lights, hot air heater, a pay telephone, hose rack, and siren on roof. Equipment: One 1941 Pirsch-International 500-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying one 300-gallon booster tank, 200 feet of booster hose, 800 feet of 2½-inch hose, 400 feet of 1½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, and some minor equipment. One 1927 Cadillac hose and booster car carrying two 40-gallon CO2 operated booster tanks, 200 feet of booster hose, 350 feet of 2½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, and some minor equipment. One 1930 Packard ambulance. Hose: All 2½-inch hose is C.R.L. with National Standard screw couplings. In addition to that carried on the apparatus there is 250 feet of 21-inch hose in reserve at Company No. 2 and 50 feet at Company No. 3. All hose is less than 5 years old and is tested annually at 150 pounds. Drying rack and cabinet drier are provided. Operations: Companies operate under a township chief officer and are governed by municipal ordinance and company by-laws. Motors are started weekly and there are 4 appointed drivers for each apparatus. Drills and Training: Company drills are held monthly under the direction of the company chief officers. They consist of pump operation, hose and ladder work, and use of equipment. No combined drills were being held at time of inspection. Fire Methods: Hand extinguishers and booster streams are used on incipient fires supported by engine streams with shut-off nozzles where water supply is available. Four all-service gas masks are provided but heavy stream appliances, flood light equipment, and salvage appliances are lacking. Response to Alarms: Companies normally respond to alarms within their own districts except on special call, when both companies respond throughout the entire township. Outside aid may be secured from the part-paid department at Dover and from the surrounding volunteer departments at Denville Township, Rockaway Township, Morris Township, Mendham Township, Mendham Borough, Chester Borough, Roxbury Township, and Mine Hill Township. Building Inspection: No routine inspection by the fire department except that complaints are investigated by the chief officers. Records and Reports: Company records consist of attendance tabulations, nature of alarms, and equipment used. Annual reports are made to the township committee. Fire Alarms: Fire alarms are telephoned through an automatic central office located in Mount Freedom to four locations near each fire station and are sounded on the respective sirens by means of controls on fire station.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: The township department consists of 6 volunteer officers and 8 special officers subject to call and receiving pay for hours served. No vehicles are provided and officers use their own cars.

BUILDING LAWS: Township regulations are limited to a small incomplete building code adopted in 1938 providing for the appointment of a building inspector. The code is of little value from a fire protection standpoint, with primary restrictions consisting of building location requirements.

EXPLOSIVES AND FLAMMABLES: No local 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.