

# NEW HAVEN COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## LIBRARY

### Manuscripts

No. 75

Date processed: April, 1978  
& July

- I. Title New Haven Fire Department Records, 1803 - 1953
- II. The papers of New Haven Fire Department, New Haven Veteran Volunteer deposited in the Library on \_\_\_\_\_, by Firemen's Association, New Haven In \_\_\_\_\_ converted the deposit to a gift. Powder House Company.
- III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: ~~1/2~~ ~~foot~~ 9 inches  
Approximate number of items: ~~0~~ (4 docs & 5 vols.)  
16
- IV. Restrictions: None
- V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of \_\_\_\_\_ in these papers, and in other collections of papers in the custody of the New Haven Colony Historical Society Library, have been dedicated to the New Haven Colony Historical Society.
- VI. Press release was issued on ----
- VII. Biographical note:

See page 2

VIII. Analysis: The Fire Department records are but a fragmentary sampling of material on the New Haven Fire Department. There is much more complete historical information in the Dana collection, volume 114A, and in the printed material on the library shelves.

The New Haven Veteran Volunteer Firemen's Association records are complete for the period 1879-1888, a nine year span of time.

The New Haven Powder House Company records span the years 1813-1843, a 30 year period of time.

Folder arrangement is: Fire Department in order of importance of material, New Haven Veteran Volunteer Firemen's Association, and the New Haven Powder House Company.

New Haven Fire Department  
New Haven Veteran Volunteer Firemen's Association  
New Haven Powder House Company

VII Biographical Note:

New Haven Fire Department  
New Haven Veteran Volunteer Firemen's Association

At the direction of Mayor Roger Sherman, the New Haven Fire Department was created in 1789. Two companies of volunteer firemen were organized and two crude fire engines were purchased. Five Fire Wardens were appointed, one of whom was James Hillhouse. Each W arden was to take charge when a fire broke out in the portion of the city assigned to him.

In 1803 Engine Company No. 3 composed of 45 volunteers, 20 of whom were exempt from military service, was formed to handle the third fire engine purchased by the city. Stephen Alling was elected Company Foreman.

Ultimately there were 10 engine companies, 3 hook and ladder companies, 1 hose, and 1 sack and bucket company manned by volunteers. However, in April 1862 paid firemen were hired by the city and the volunteer fire companies disbanded.

In 1879 the Veteran Volunteer Firemen's Association of New Haven composed of former volunteer firemen was founded for social and welfare purposes. Its members met periodically, at least until 1914. The Association's first president was Hiram Camp, former Chief Engineer of the New Haven Fire Department.

For a complete history of the early days of the New Haven Fire Department see the Dana Collection, volume 114A, and the souvenir program of the eighth annual reception and ball of the Veteran Volunteer Firemen's Association in 1888, in the Society's library.

For a complete history of Engine Company No. 3 see, "Notes Historical of Engine Co. No. 3," dated October 27, 1842, in the Society's library.

New Haven Powder House Company:

The New Haven Powder House Company was a private stock company with 22 stockholders, founded on May 21 1813. It is not to be confused with the New Haven Powder House of revolutionary war fame.

The Company built a stone powder magazine on College Street opposite the Grove Street Cemetery (New Burial Ground). One half of the structure was leased for the storage of publicly owned and one half for privately owned gunpowder and ammunition. The date of the closing of the Powder House and termination of the Company's affairs is unknown.

MSS #75 - CONTENTS

<u>Box/ Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>No. of Items</u>
1/A	Fire Warden's records, 1825-1830	1
1/B	Records of Engine Co., No. 3, 1830-1832	1
1/C	Records of Engine Co., No. 3, 1832-1842	1
1/D	Fire bucket by-law, 1834	1
1/E	(1) Letter regarding Frederick A. Camp, fireman in New Haven, 1857-1861, from his son Raymond S. Camp, undated  (2) Letter from Horace Day to Albert C. Hendrick, Chief Engineer of the New Haven Fire Department, dated 1879.  (3) List of items in the Fire Department historical collection prepared by Albert C. Hendrick.	3
1/F	International Association of Fire Engineers Convention, New Haven, August 1897 Program Banquet Menu Banquet Ticket Trolley Ticket to Savin Rock	4
1/G	Records of the Veterans Volunteer Fireman's Association, 1879-1888	1
1/H	Records of the New Haven Powder House Co., 1813-1843	1
1/I	Croton Engine Co. (founded 1853), anniversary memorabilia, 1878 and 1903	4
1/J	Phoenix Fire Engine Co., by-laws, 1857.	1
1/K	Great Boston fire, 1872. New Haven participation and assistance, article in <u>Boston Globe</u> , November 12, 1872	1
1/L	Fire Marshal Reports, 1950-1953, Budget Hearing, 1932	
1/M	Photographs	
1/N	By-Laws, Fair Haven Engine Co., #4, 1850	1

NEW HAVEN FIRE DEPARTMENT, RECORDS  
MSS #75

<u>Box/Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1/O	Drawing of Firemen's Celebration, 1856
1/P	1. Notice of Meeting to appoint a Committee to supply the City with water to extinguish fires, 1804.  2. Sale of right in Fire Engine Co., #2, from Isaac Parsons to John Jacocks, and transfer of certificate from John Jacocks to Isaae Darling, 1804
2/A	Testimonial book presented to Albert C. Hendrick, Chief Engineer of the New Haven Fire Department, 1865 – 1892.
2/B	Rededication Ceremony – Firemen's Monument, Evergreen Cemetery, 1993
2/C	Ledger, Quinnipiac Engine Co., No. 2, Fair Haven, 1852
2/D	Ledger, Steam Engine Co., No. 4
2/E	Letter by James Hasbrouck Wallace, Yale, regarding fire in the Rialto Theatre, November 27, 1921
2/F	Photographs of the New Haven Fire Boat, early 1940's. (Inscription on cover, from Capt. Weber to Bill Doerrer)
2/G	<i>Annual Benefit show Souvenir Book, 1943</i>
2/H	<i>PHOTOS: JAIL FIRE, VARIOUS ENGINE CO WITH HORSE WAGONS, WESTVILLE WAGON</i>
Oversize Item #1	Testimonial presented to Albert C. Hendrick, upon his retirement
Oversize Item #2	"100 Years of Service"
Oversize Item #3	Fire Marshall's Orders, 1892, including newspaper articles about fires