

# Morehead City Fire Department History – Infrastructure

Version 3.2 – December 31, 2014

Research notes by Mike Legeros

## Contents

- Water System
- Alarm System
- Fire Stations

## Water System

From Sanborn Fire Insurance maps:

- 1885 – Water facilities “not good”.
- 1893 – Six “fire wells”
- 1898 – Six “fire wells”
- 1908 – Seven “fire cisterns” of 5,000 gallons, for protection of town “not adjacent to water”
- 1913 – Water system with twenty-nine double hydrants. Fire pressure 125 pounds, “domestic pressure” 54 pounds. System installed 1911.
- 1924 – Forty-two double hydrants. Fire pressure 125 pounds, “domestic pressure” 50 pounds.
- 1941 – Forty-six double hydrants, twenty-five triple. Same pressure amounts.

## Alarm System

From Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps:

- 1908 – Bell alarm at City Hall, 301 Evans Street.
- 1913 – Bell alarm in center of block formed by 8th, 9<sup>th</sup>, Arendall, and Evans.
- 1924 – Gamewell alarm system, twelve stations. Five additional proposed. Alarm by whistle at “Water & Light Depot.”
- 1941 – Gamewell alarm system, nineteen stations. Alarm by whistle at “water and light plant.”

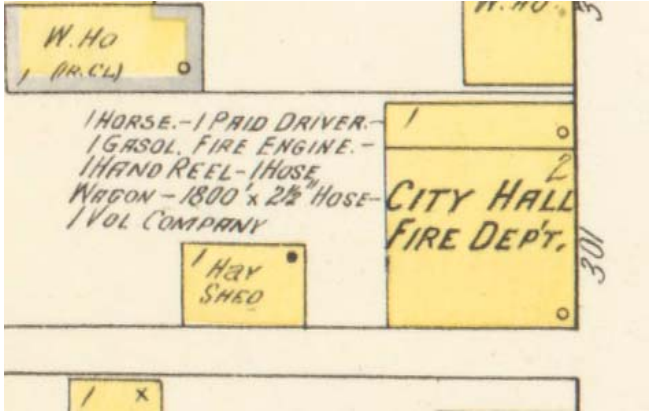
Other milestones, from timeline document:

- 1906 – Bell added at City Hill
- 1908-1910 – Bell replaced with steel tire.
- 1910 – Steel tire replaced with newer bell.
- 1923 – Bell retired and air horns installed, along with fire alarm box system.
- 1950s? – First radios obtained.
- 1972 – First VHF radio monitors and pagers purchased.
- 1974-1975 – Alarm boxes replaced with telephone boxes.
- 1980s, early – Telephone boxes removed with introduction of enhanced 911 system.

## Fire Stations

Built	Opened	Closed	Station	Notes
1893	1906	By 1924	City Hall, 301 Evans Street (today 811 Evans).	Two-story frame with one-story porch. City Hall/Market. <sup>1</sup>  Demolished.
1917	1917	By 1941	N. 13th Street, east side, mid-block south of Bridges Street.	Built to house second fire company, but housed entire fire department by 1924.  Two-story structure. Demolished
1926	1926	2001	Station 1 / City Hall, 801 Evans Street.	Listed National Register of Historic Places. <sup>2</sup> Still standing.
1956	1956	2012	Station 2, 3308 Arendell Street.	Still standing?
2001	2001		Station 1, 1406 Bridges Street.	
	2007		Station 3, 5293 Highway 70 West.	
1960 (tax records) 1960s, late (OH)	2007 or 2008		Station 4, 304 North 25 <sup>th</sup> Street.	Former Morehead City rescue squad building.
1976	2012		Station 2, 4034 Arendell Street.	Former News-Times building.

## Fire Station Images

<p>City Hall 1906 to 1920s</p>	 <p>Sanborn Fire Insurance Map</p>
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<sup>1</sup> See Morehead City Historic District description, [http://www.livingplaces.com/NC/Carteret\\_County/Morehead\\_City\\_Town/Morehead\\_City\\_Historic\\_District.html](http://www.livingplaces.com/NC/Carteret_County/Morehead_City_Town/Morehead_City_Historic_District.html)

<sup>2</sup> See copy of the nomination form, <http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov/nr/CR0845.pdf>.



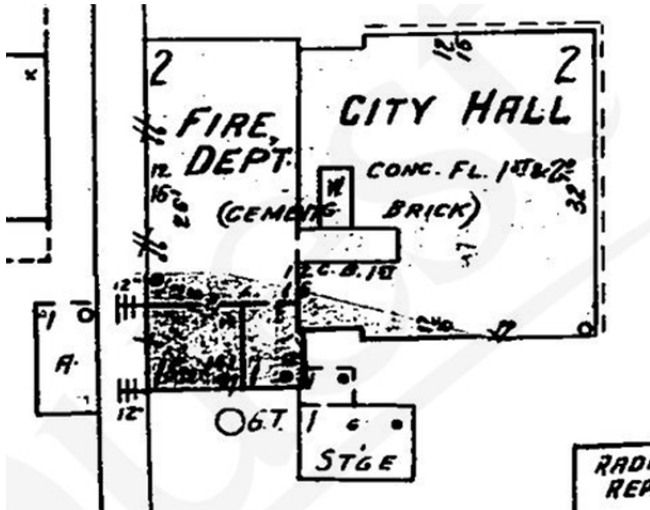
Pictorial History of Morehead City photo



Pictorial History of Morehead City photo

City Hall  
1926 to 2001

Note that the apparatus day doors were originally “accordion style” and later replaced with a single rolling overhead door.



Sanborn Fire Insurance Map



Pictorial History of Morehead City photo



Courtesy Jesse Chaplain

13<sup>th</sup> Street  
1917 to 1926



Pictorial History of Morehead City photo

Station 1  
2001 to present



Google photo

Station 2  
1956 to 2012



Mike Legeros photo

Station 2  
2012 to present



Lee Wilson photo



Mike Legeros photo

Station 3  
2007 to present



MCFD photo

Station 4  
2008 to 2009 to present



Mike Legeros photo