

**Washington Former Fire Stations**

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In addition to the town's old steam engine, we found two former fire stations in Washington on Thursday. Left is the old Town Hall and fire station, built 1884. Right, the right side of the pictured building, was the fire station by 1924. Click to enlarge either. More information later.



Here's some history on Washington's former fire stations, from still more vacation research. Hey, it's relaxing!

In 1884, a Town Hall was constructed on Market Street. The two-story structure included a fire station on the first floor, with two apparatus bays. Sanborn Maps from the 1880s to the 1940s chart the expansion of the Washington Fire Department, as it added and changed facilities:

1885 – Sanborn Maps show Town Hall at 612 Market Street. Presence of fire station not indicated.

1891 – Sanborn Maps show Town Hall at 612 Market Street, with fire station indicated on first-floor. Building also has single-story addition in rear.

1896 – Same as above.

1901 – Same as above, plus fire bell indicated atop building. Houses 1 steamer, 3 hand engines, 1 hose wagon, and hook & ladder truck.

1904 – Sanborn Maps show changes to Town Hall, with one-story addition in rear removed, and fire station expanded with one-story addition on north side of structure. Hose tower also added behind buildings. Houses 1 steamer, 3 hand engines, 1 hose wagon, 2 hose carts, 1 hook & ladder truck, 3 horses. This photo shows both the Town Hall and fire station addition: <http://legeros.com/history/then-now/1-do..>

1911 – Sanborn Maps show three fire stations:

Town Hall at 122 & 126 N. Market Street. Houses 2 horses, 1 hose wagon, 1 supply wagon, 1 steam engine, 1 hand engine, 2 hose carts, and 1 hook & ladder truck.

500 block of W. 3rd Street. One-story building with hose cart.

Behind 114 E. 7th Street. One-story building with hose cart.

1916 – Sanborn Maps show four fire stations:

Town Hall at 122 & 126 N. Market Street. Houses 4 horses, 1 auto truck, 1 steamer, 1 hook & ladder truck, 1 hose wagon.

300 block of N. Pearce Street. One-story (?) building with horse hose wagon.

100 block of W. 5th Street. One-story (?) building with two hose reels.

Behind 114 E. 7th Street. One-story building with auto hose wagon.

1924 – Sanborn Maps show fire station moved to 223 N. Market Street. The two-story building adjoins a two-story shirt factory. This photo shows that location, <http://legeros.com/history/nc/images/was..>

1943 – Sanborn Maps show one-story addition beside fire station. Adjoining structure now occupied by automobile sales and service.

1965 – Fire department moves to current location, at corner of Market and Fifth streets. Building is dedicated on March 25, 1965.

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**Legeros** - 05/03/09 - 07:34

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