

Raleigh Fire Department Pumping Capacities, Then and Now

10/07/10 207 W - + 12 - 6

For your Friday enjoyment, here's some interesting historical information on the pumping capacities of Raleigh Fire Department pumping engines both old and new. Plus the 1887 water system, which supplied the hose companies for many years.

Capacities of early apparatus:

- 1816, 1843, 1853 hand engines - Unknown.
- 1870 Gould steam engine, second-size – 600 GPM at delivery, 300 GPM estimated in 1878.
- 1875 Rumsey and Company hand engine – 250 GPM estimated in 1878.
- 1887 water system, with hose companies utilizing hydrant pressure – 144-161 GPM at nozzle tip, see below comment.
- 1905 LaFrance Metropolitan steamer, third-size – 600 GPM.
- 1914 LaFrance Type 12 pumper – 750 GPM, 112 HP, 6-cylinder engine. First motorized pumping engine.

Capacities of motor apparatus:

750 GPM	1000 GPM	1250 GPM	1500 GPM
1914 LaFrance	1918 LaFrance	1985 EEI/Pemfab x 2	1990 Pierce x 2
1922 LaFrance	1936 LaFrance	1990 Pierce/1985 EEI/Pemfab	2004 LaFrance x 4
1925 LaFrance	1958 LaFrance	1995 Pierce x 2	2005 Pierce x 2
1926 LaFrance x 2	1968 LaFrance	1997 Pierce x 6	2006 Pierce x 4
1919 LaFrance (used)	1970 Mack x 2	1998 Pierce x 2	2007 Pierce
1950 FWD	1971 Mack	1999 Quality	2008 Pierce
1950 Mack	1973 Mack x 4	2000 Quality x 2	2009 Pierce x 2
1951 LaFrance x 4 (all four?)	1975 Mack x 4	2001 Quality	2010 Pierce x 2
1957 FWD	1978 Mack	2002 Quality x 4	
1961 LaFrance x 2	1981 Mack		1990 Spartan ladder
	1982 Mack x 2		1995 Simon-Duplex tower
	1985 Pirsch		1999 LaFrance tower
	1989 Pierce x 3		2001 Quality ladder
	1992 Pierce/1978 Mack		2004 Pierce ladder
			2005 Pierce ladder x 2
			2006 Pierce ladder
			2007 Pierce ladder
			2009 Pierce tower x 2
			2010 Pierce ladder

Here's a little more from the newspaper accounts of the acceptance tests of September 1887...

Water tower pressure, three hydrants, three streams about 60 feet high, pressure of 40 pounds. Then with eight hydrants and eight streams.

Pumping station pressure, eight hydrants, eight streams through 50 feet of 2 1/2-inch rubber hose, with one-inch ring nozzle, with these pressures:

- 64 pounds, 100 feet vertical/130 feet horizontal streams, 144 GPM at nozzle

- 75 pounds, 111 feet vertical/141 feet horizontal streams, 156 GPM at nozzle

- 80 pounds, 116 feet vertical/148 feet horizontal streams, 161 GPM at nozzle

Legeros - 10/07/10 - 22:48

Just out of curiosity, how many gpm can the 1988 snorkel pump?

charlie - 10/08/10 - 02:10

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