

**All They Do Is Sit Around And Play Cards - Vintage Image of Station 3**

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Found in my files, here's an old, blurry photo from the original Station 3 on East Hargett Street. Circa 1940 or abouts. Firemen playing cards in what looks like a small, ancient kitchen. [See this page for a diagram](#) of the old building, which was built in 1898. Maybe not as bad as the original Station 4 on Jefferson Street. As the story goes, the bathroom also served as the kitchen (!) for the first few decades. Why such seemingly crappy conditions? Remember that Raleigh was a comparatively small city in the early days, and only a couple decades into a career fire department with only a handful of fire stations. The facilities, apparatus, equipment, and even clothing (no fire helmets until about 1950) were adequate, or abouts. Click to enlarge:



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