

*Written by (Ret) Captain Scott A. Holst on the fire department history, this book documents the evolution of the village, town, and city firefighting from the earliest bucket brigades through the post 911 department.*

## **HISTORY of THE WATERVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT: 215 Years of Dedicated Service 1809-2024**

By Scott A. Holst

**Order the book from the publisher Booklocker.com**

**<https://booklocker.com/books/13841.html?s=pdf>**

**or from your favorite neighborhood  
or online bookstore.**



CAPTAIN SCOTT A. HOLST

# HISTORY OF THE WATERVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

215 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE 1809-2024



Copyright © 2025 Scott A. Holst

Print ISBN: 978-1-959622-86-4

Ebook ISBN: 979-8-88531-985-0

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, recording or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the author.

Published by BookLocker.com, Inc., Trenton, Georgia.

BookLocker.com, Inc.

2025

First Edition

# CHAPTERS

Introduction.....	1
History of Central Fire Station.....	3
New Central Fire Station .....	3
New Addition And Renovation .....	18
Regionalization .....	30
Motorized Apparatus .....	34
New Modern Equipment.....	35
Repairs And Maintenance.....	38
Life of The Central Fire Firemen.....	40
Special Drills And Trainings .....	44
Central Comes To Government Aid .....	46
Firefighters Help Children .....	48
New Career Bosses .....	50
Career Firefighters .....	53
Call Firefighters .....	55
Secretary/Administrative Assistant.....	55
Regional Hazmat Team .....	56
Substation Closings.....	57
Computers .....	60
Open House.....	61
Interesting Rules Within Central Fire .....	62
Other Interesting Stories .....	63
History Of The Waterville Fire Companies.....	67
Ticonic Village Corporation .....	68
Bloomer Company .....	72
Engine 1 Company.....	73
1836 Ticonic Engine Co. No. 1 .....	73
1888 F. C. Thayer Hose Company No. 1.....	77
1891 Hose Company No. 1 .....	77
1915 Hose Chemical Company No. 1.....	86
1927 Engine Company No. 1.....	87
Engine 2 Company.....	91
1878 Veteran Engine Co. No. 2.....	91
1891 Hose 2 Company.....	92
1928 Walter E. Reid Engine No.1 .....	95
Engine 3 Company.....	98
1854 Waterville 3 Company .....	98
1888 Water Street Hose Company No. 3.....	106

1893 Hose Company No. 3 .....	106
1901 Hose Company No. 3 .....	107
1944 Engine Company No. 3 .....	109
Engine 3 Company And The Pine Tree Camp.....	112
Engine 4 Company.....	114
1891 Hose Company No. 4.....	114
1957 Engine Company No. 4.....	121
Engine 5 Station.....	122
Ladder Company.....	129
1855 Hook & Ladder .....	129
1875 Appleton Hook & Ladder Company 2.....	129
1893 Waterville Hook & Ladder Company No. 1 .....	130
Steam Engine Company.....	137
1884 F.C. Thayer Steam Engine No. 1 .....	137
1891 Waterville Steam Engine Company No. 1 .....	140
1882 Neptune Hose Co. 6 .....	144
Lockwood Mill Hose Company (Private).....	145
Chemical Hose Company.....	145
1914 Combination Chemical Hose Wagon.....	145
Union Street Station.....	146
History of Fire Horses.....	147
History of Waterville Fire House Pets .....	159
History of The Fire (Special) Train.....	167
History of Street Sprinklers.....	169
History of The Motorized Fire Apparatus.....	173
History of Water Supply .....	217
History of The Fire Alarm .....	233
History of Rescue/Ambulance Service .....	253
First Calls Made By A City Owned Ambulance.....	279
History Of Emergency Dispatching.....	281
Geater Waterville Area Communication Center .....	283
History of Fire Codes And Prevention.....	291
History of Career Professional Union .....	303
History of Muster Events .....	315
History of Fire Personnel .....	349
Ticonic Village Corporation .....	349
Fire Engineer.....	349
1 <sup>st</sup> Assistant Fire Engineer .....	353
2 <sup>nd</sup> Assistance Fire Engineer .....	357

*History of The Waterville Fire Department 215 Years of Dedicated Service 1809-2024*

Clerks .....	359
Treasure .....	360
Town (City) Of Waterville.....	362
Fire Chief.....	362
1 <sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief.....	376
2 <sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief.....	380
Career Assistant Chief.....	383
Deputy Chief.....	384
Battalion Chief.....	384
Call Battalion Chief.....	386
Engine, Hose And Ladder Companies.....	387
Bloomer Engine Company (1810-1861).....	387
Foreman (Captain).....	387
Assistant Foreman (Lieutenant).....	387
Clerk.....	388
Steward.....	388
Hose Foreman.....	388
1 <sup>st</sup> Pipeman.....	388
Ticonic Engine Company No. 1 (1836-1888).....	389
Foreman (Captain).....	389
1 <sup>st</sup> Assistant Foreman (Lieutenant).....	391
2 <sup>nd</sup> Assistant Foreman (Lieutenant).....	393
Clerk.....	396
Assistant Clerk.....	397
Hose Foreman.....	400
1 <sup>st</sup> Assistant Hose Foreman.....	401
Steward.....	401
1 <sup>st</sup> Pipeman.....	402
2 <sup>nd</sup> Pipeman.....	403
Waterville 3 Engine Company (1854-1888).....	406
Foreman.....	406
1 <sup>st</sup> Assistant Foreman.....	407
2 <sup>nd</sup> Assistant Foreman.....	408
Clerk.....	410
Assistant Clerk.....	413
Hose Foreman.....	414
1 <sup>st</sup> Assistant Hose Foreman.....	416
2 <sup>nd</sup> Assistant Hose Foreman.....	416
1 <sup>st</sup> Pipeman.....	416
2 <sup>nd</sup> Pipeman.....	417
Veteran No. 2 (1878-1884).....	418
Foreman.....	418
1 <sup>st</sup> Assistant Foreman.....	419
2 <sup>nd</sup> Assistant Foreman.....	419
Clerk.....	419
Steward.....	420

Neptune Hose Co. No. 6 (1882-1891) .....	421
Foreman .....	421
Assistant Foreman.....	421
Clerk.....	421
F. C. Thayer Steam Engine Co. No. 1 (1884-1891) Steam Engine Co. No. 1 (1892-1925).....	423
Foreman .....	423
Assistant Foreman.....	423
Clerk.....	424
Hose Company No. 1 (1892-1969) Chemical Co. No. 1 (1921-1935) Engine Company No. 1 (1970-Present) .....	425
Foreman (1892-1918) Captain (1919-Present) .....	425
Assistant Foreman (1892-1918) Lieutenant (1919-Present).....	428
Clerk.....	431
Hose Company No. 2 (1892-1969) Engine Company No. 2 (1970-Present).....	434
Foreman (1892-1918) Captain (1919-Present) .....	434
Assistant Foreman (1892-1918) Lieutenant (1919-Present).....	436
Clerk.....	439
Water Street Hose Company No. 3 (1888-1892) Hose Company No. 3 (1892-1969) Engine Company No. 3 (1970-2011) .....	442
Foreman (1888-1918) Captain (1919-2011) .....	442
Assistant Foreman (1888-1918) Lieutenant (1919-2011).....	445
Clerk.....	447
Hose Company No. 4 (1892-1969) Engine Company No. 4 (1970-1980) .....	450
Foreman (1892-1918) Captain (1919-1980).....	450
Assistant Foreman (1892-1918) Lieutenant (1919-1980).....	452
Clerk.....	453
Appleton Hook & Ladder No. 2 (1876-1893) Waterville Hook & Ladder No. 1 (1894-1895) Hook & Ladder Company (1896-1970) Ladder Company No. 1 (1970-2003) .....	456
Foreman (Captain) .....	456
Assistant Foreman (Lieutenant) .....	461
Clerk.....	465
Treasure.....	467
Steward .....	467
Career Officers & Firefighters (1884-Present) .....	467
Chaplains.....	502
Notable Firefighters .....	504
Line of Duty Deaths.....	507
Firefighter Memorial.....	511

## History of Central Fire Station



### New Central Fire Station

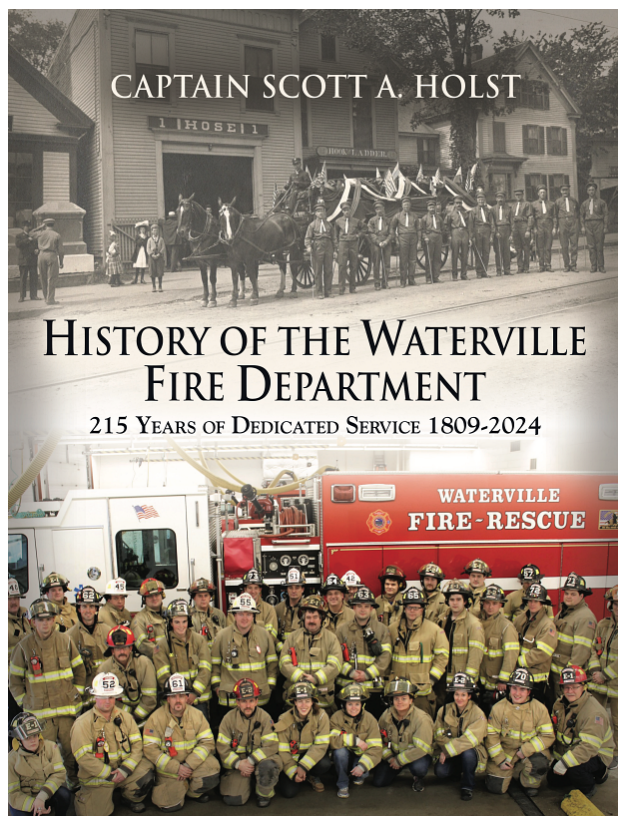
Firehouses are truly an American tradition. Firehouses could be found in almost every community across the country. Firehouses intrigue both young and old, whether it was the anticipation of an alarm, the glistening fire trucks, or the buildings architectural style. The older houses, even ones that are no longer in service, have a special mystique about them. One could imagine the history of fires fought and the accompanying stories from each particular house.

Waterville has had many fire houses throughout its boundaries since the inception of the town and at that time, firehouses were just big tool sheds which held all the new equipment. The first firehouses were owned by the corporations that started them. The south end of Waterville known as the "Plains" was the first to grow and along with it came the "Ticonic Village Corporation." Their engine purchased to fight fire was known as "Bloomer" and it was housed in a building centrally located on Water Street to respond anywhere in Waterville that it needed to.

As Waterville's downtown grew, with its many wooden buildings and an ever-growing college, so did its fire department. The Ticonic Village Corporation would purchase three "Hand Tubs," the first Ticonic (renamed Veteran 2), a new Ticonic and Waterville 3, and a new station was needed to be near the growing center of the town. Two buildings on the upper portion of Main Street were purchased in around 1860 and would be known as the Central Fire Station, which would make responding to any fires downtown or north to the college a quick response. These fire houses would store a hand tub, hose reel, hose cart and the hook & ladder truck. The fire houses on the Plains, and Silver Street, would contain a hand tub and hose reel. Ticonic Street station would house a hose cart and hose reel.

When the fire hydrant became a source of getting greater water to a fire, the hand tubs were sold to other fire departments throughout the state and beyond and "Hose Wagons" were purchased. Hose 1 and the Appleton Hook & Ladder would become a fixture in the "Central Fire Station."





*Written by (Ret) Captain Scott A. Holst on the fire department history, this book documents the evolution of the village, town, and city firefighting from the earliest bucket brigades through the post 911 department.*

## **HISTORY of THE WATERVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT: 215 Years of Dedicated Service 1809-2024**

By Scott A. Holst

**Order the book from the publisher Booklocker.com**

**<https://booklocker.com/books/13841.html?s=pdf>**

**or from your favorite neighborhood  
or online bookstore.**