S.O.P. #: 400-13

SUBJECT: FIRE SURVEY PLANNING

DIVISION: EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

Objective: To provide guidelines for the selection, scheduling, and fire survey planning of target hazards.

Section 1: Fire Survey Planning is the advance tactical planning of a site for positive and effective fire control operations.

## A. Purpose of Fire Survey Plans:

- 1. For use as a basis to assist the Officer-in-Charge in making fireground decisions.
- 2. To assist in refreshing the Company Officer's memory while enroute to an emergency.
- 3. For use as a basis for simulation drills.
- 4. To enable companies to become more aware of hazards in their districts.

### Section 2: Target Hazards

- A. Target hazards include conditions which could produce:
  - 1. A large loss of life.
  - 2. A large property loss.
  - 3. A large concentration of rapid burning materials of high monetary value.

# B. Considerations for target hazards:

- 1. Building construction.
- 2. Occupancy type.
- 3. Spacing between buildings.
- 4. Lack of fire protection devices.
- 5. Water supply and distribution.
- 6. Large life hazard.

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C. Examples of target hazards:

Lumber yardsAuditoriumsDistilleriesWharf propertiesColiseumsNursing homesLarge marinasHospitalsBulk oil storageGrain elevatorsChurchesHigh rise buildingsMotels/hotelsAsylums

Institutional (jails) Educational (schools, old dorms) Warehouses (300,000 sq.ft. +) Amusement areas (large parks)

Conflagration areas Large areas of hazardous materials storage

### Section 3: Fire Survey Plan Preparation

- A. Prior to the actual survey, it is imperative that the owner, or persons responsible for the operation of the plant or building, be interviewed by the planning officer and/or Fire Specialist. At the interview, the reasons for the survey should be explained in detail.
- B. A Fire Survey Plan should contain only that information that does not change readily. The inclusion of too much information can complicate a Fire Survey Plan, rendering it less effective for the user. Form #41, in computer library, shall be used for this purpose.
- C. To maintain a uniform method for preparing Fire Survey Plans, use symbols located in Appendix "A".
- D. The Fire Survey Plan shall consist of a Fire Survey Plan Data Sheet and a drawing.
  - 1. The Data Sheet shall be filled out completely. Any section which is "not applicable" will be designated as such by placing an "N/A" in the space available.
  - 2. The drawing will contain the following information:
    - a. Height, width, depth and shape of the building.
    - b. Exposures and occupancy type.
    - c. Stairways and egresses.
    - d. Fire protection shafts.
    - e. Below grade information.
    - f. The drawing does not have to be to scale, "just close."
    - g. If a high rise building: show the floor plan of the second, or above floor(s).
    - h. Its proportions must fit on standard size paper.
    - i. Use an aerial view only, unless it is felt that an additional drawing would be more helpful.
    - j. For buildings, use letters to represent its: Front is A, Alpha; then go clockwise: left side B; Bravo; rear C; Charlie; right side D, Delta.

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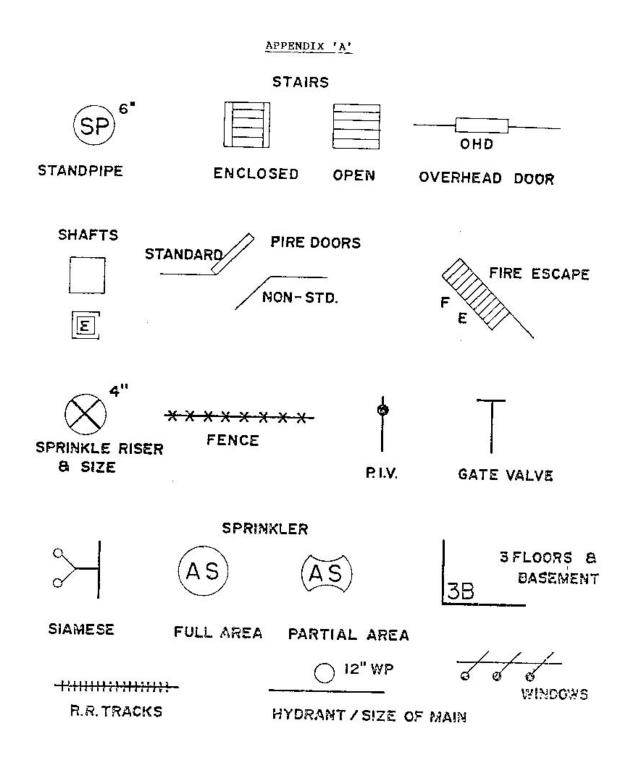
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- k. Show location of utility shutoffs.
- 1. Show all outside door openings.
- m. Show North compass heading.
- n. Show all exposure sides to the building.
- o. Show water pipe sizes on all hydrants.
- p. Do not show location of fire apparatus on the drawings.
- q. Should there be a major change in a building's construction or layout for which a plan is already in effect, submit a new drawing with a note of explanation.
- r. If one of the sides of the building is inaccessible to apparatus, that should be noted.

#### E. Battalion Chiefs shall:

- 1. Coordinate the development of Fire Survey Plans.
- 2. Station and Battalion Commanders will review and sign Fire Survey Plans before submitting them to the appropriate Division Chief.
- 3. If a Fire Prevention follow-up is necessary, forward a completed Complaint/Special Request Form to the Fire Marshal's office.
- F. Fire Surveys are to be developed on a monthly basis.
  - 1. Battalion and Station Commanders will coordinate building selection for survey completion.
  - 2. It will be the responsibility of the Battalion/Division Chief and Station Commander to see that all Fire Survey Plans remain current.
  - 3. The Battalion Chief shall forward a copy of each survey to the Safety Office, on a monthly basis.

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