

MIDDLETON RURAL FIRE DISTRICT

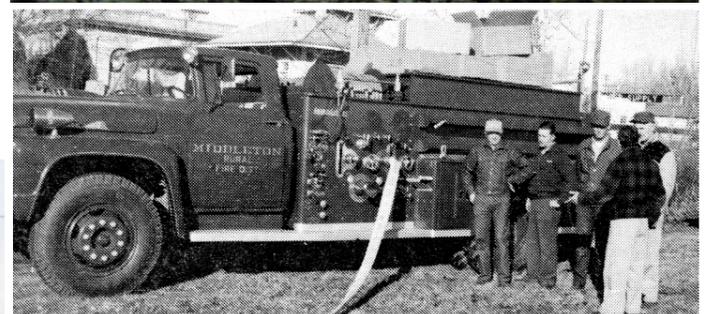


Fire Station built in 1968

Middleton Volunteer Fire Department became the Middleton Rural Fire District in 1958. MRFD was an all volunteer department until 2008. They now have 9 full-time firefighters and around 50 volunteer firefighters.



Fire truck that was used to carry the chemical engine.



MRFD new fire truck delivered in 1960. Pictured are the first Fire Commissioners: Ed Payne, Eldon Whiteley, Dan Blattner and Dallas Uehlen, with Vance Cornell the first Fire Chief.



This siren on the top of the fire station could be heard all over town. it was used to alert the volunteer firemen of a fire.

1985



Former Fire Chief Johnnie Dickinson



New Fire Station built in 2002



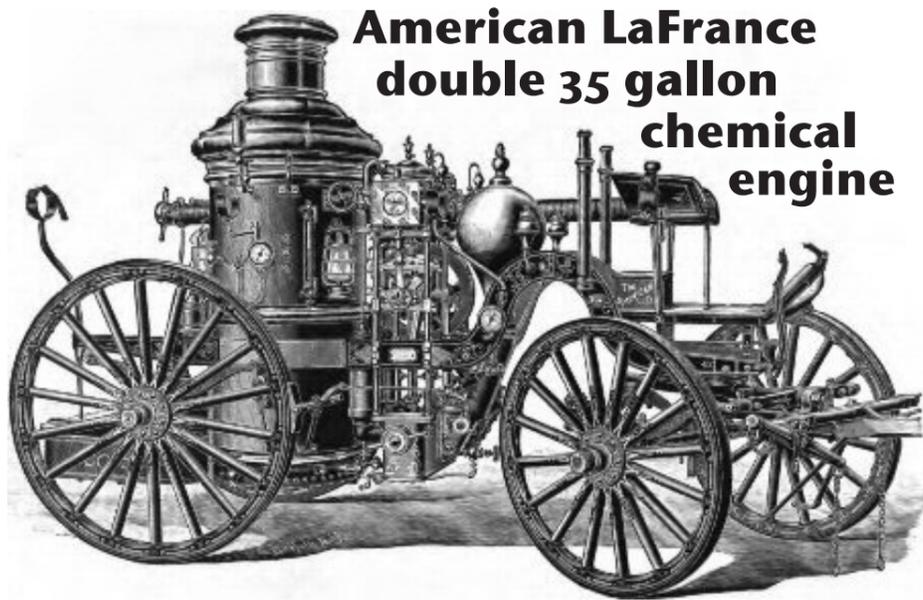
Station #1



Station #2

2000

Middleton jail building was converted into a receptacle for the new fire engine in 1921. The building was then known as the first fire station housing the American LaFrance chemical engine which cost \$1,125.00. The engine



was mounted on a cart, it was either pulled by volunteers or towed behind a dray truck with the tongue of the cart held by the volunteer firemen sitting in the back of the truck. Care had to be taken not to take the corners too fast, as the cart was hard to hold. An accident did occur due to excessive speed and considerable damage was done to the cart. About 1925, the chemical engine was adapted for use on a Model T Ford truck, the truck never ran well and often had to be pushed to fires. In 1935 it was re-mounted on a Model A Ford truck. The building was used as the fire station from 1921-1937, when the Village of Middleton purchased the old blacksmith shop across from the State Bank on Dewey Avenue for a fire station. The fire station was later moved into City Hall and remained there until a new fire station was built in 1968 at the corner of Main Street and South Dewey Avenue.

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Blacksmith shop on Dewey Avenue in 1913 owner Emmett Church. "Come to Church to Get Your Horse Shod" was painted on the side of the building. In 1937 was used as a fire station. This building was next to what is now Silver Wings Rental and was torn down many years ago after the fire department moved into City Hall.

