

Flower Hill Hose Getting \$750,000 Facelift

By Christina Cronin Southard

The unobtrusive brick firehouse on Haven Avenue is implementing a five-year plan to improve traffic flow and make room for pumper trucks. The improvement will cost \$750,000.

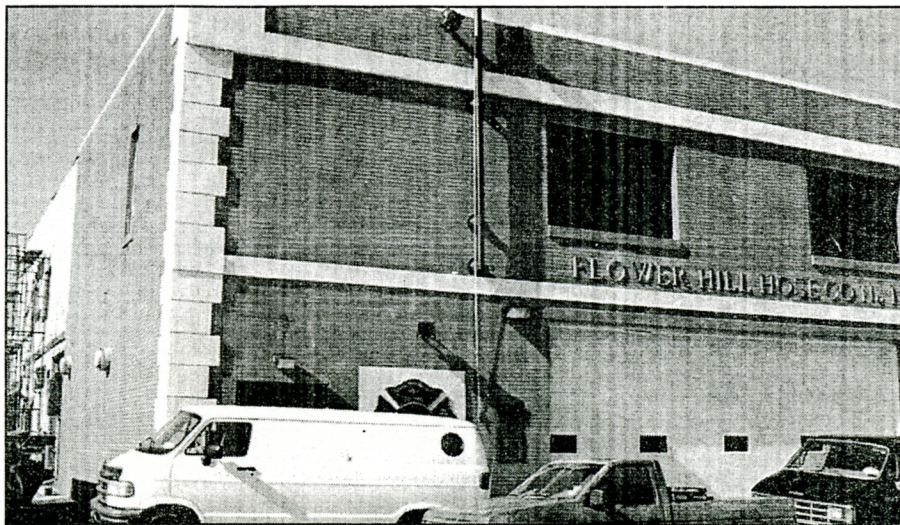
According to Flower Hill Hose Company President Jim Duncan, the building is being squared-off by adding a second floor on top of the kitchen that was constructed in 1969. The 3200 square foot improvement will also include a addition to the back of the building and a half-basement. A private home at 13 Evergreen Avenue will also be demolished to allow an ingress and egress for firefighters coming from points south of the Haven Avenue station. "Firemen will be able to enter from Evergreen and Haven, said Duncan.

Haven Avenue is a one-way street. The fire company has

owned the house for 14 years and has used it for storage. According to Duncan, Town of North Hempstead Supervisor agreed to knock down the structure at no cost to the fire company.

In 1995, the hose company building installed a new door that replace two doors so that the pumper trucks had enough room to enter and leave the garage area more safely. The fire station houses three pumpers, each 34 feet long and a about 10 feet high. Two Chevy Suburban trucks are also housed in the garage area. The trucks are currently parked outdoors. "Air-Paks cannot be kept in the trucks in winter since they freeze up and fog up face masks," said Duncan. "Now we can store the proper equipment in the trucks."

Duncan said the loan will be repaid in ten years. The work is expected to be completed by April 15.



Flower Hill Hose Company on Haven Avenue is adding onto the south end and rear of the building, adding about 3200 square feet to the building that was originally constructed in 1931. The improvements will cost about \$750,000.