

F is for Fire engine. The Old Stone Fort

Museum has the oldest fire engine in the United States! Deluge No. 1 was built in London, England and brought to New York City in 1731. It was then purchased by Schenectady in 1797. The engine was then sold to the Esperance Fire Department in 1815. Deluge No. 1 was a water tank that was pulled by men to the fire. There, they could use it to form a "bucket brigade." A line of men passed buckets of water from the fire engine to the end of the line, where the last man would empty the buckets on the fire. A nozzle on top and a pump to feed it water was added in the 19th century.

