



VANISHED HOSE COMPANY: Members of Thompson Hose Company, No. 1, pose with their apparatus in front of their station on Webb Avenue just off Park Street. They shared space with Citizen's Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1 and Chemical Engine Company, No. 2. Alameda citizens organized the first fire company, West End Engine Company on January 6, 1877. The city purchased a lot on Webster Street near Railroad (Lincoln) Avenue for the engine house. Two years later, the town ordered a fire bell and organized its first three companies into a fire department, which admitted its first three companies: Citizen's Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1, Thompson Hose Company, No. 1 and West End Engine Company, No. 2. West End's name was later changed to Whidden Engine Company, No. 2.