



HISTORY OF SPRINGFIELD'S DRINKING WATER SYSTEM

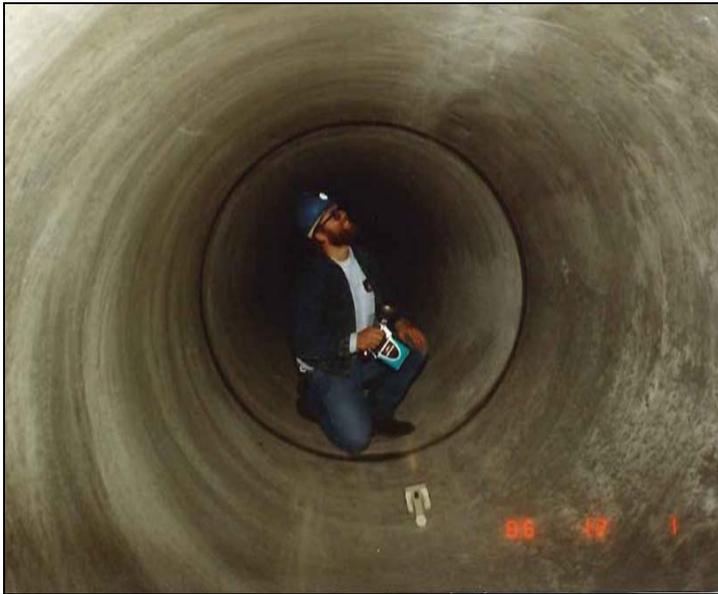
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THE MAN BEHIND SUB'S WATER SYSTEM HISTORY RESEARCH

- 1988 State Hwy (Main St) needs to be rebuilt
- State reimbursed facilities that were installed before 1929.
- 1906 10" wrought iron pipe (threaded 10 foot sections) ...No Leaks



Bart inspecting 60" main



Electric streetcar in downtown
Springfield c.1910

(Photo courtesy of Springfield Museum)



CITY NAMED AFTER ITS FIRST DRINKING WATER SUPPLY

1848

- Springfield literally named after a spring in a field.
- Served as city's water source until **1913**.
- Now flows under apartments just west of downtown
- Population in Springfield in **1890** was 391
- In **1910** Springfield populations was 1,838



Spring in a field
(location unknown)

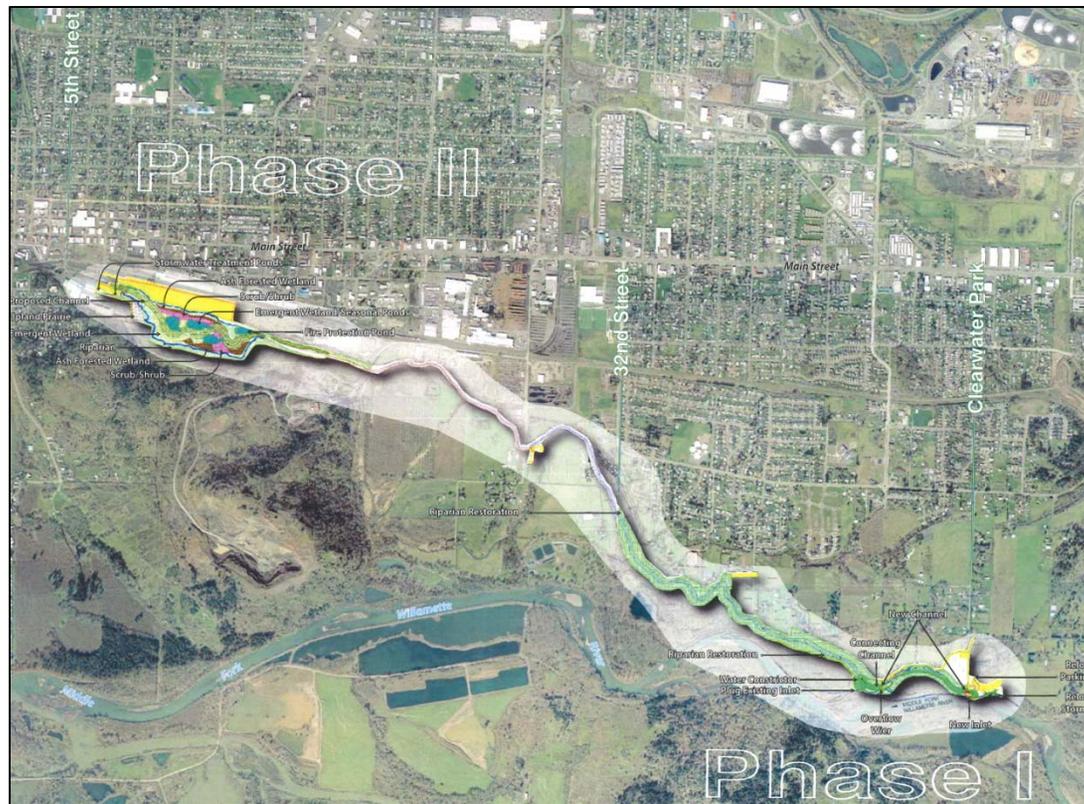


B St & Pioneer Parkway (2nd St)

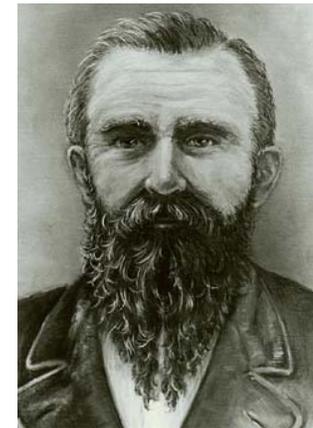


FUTURE DRINKING WATER SUPPLY FOR SPRINGFIELD

- 1851 Flood engulfed all of Springfield
- 1852-1853 Elias Briggs and others constructed the Mill Race



Springfield Millrace



LITTLE DID I KNOW!



Middle Fork Willamette River



Reconstructed Millrace intake



New path along Millrace

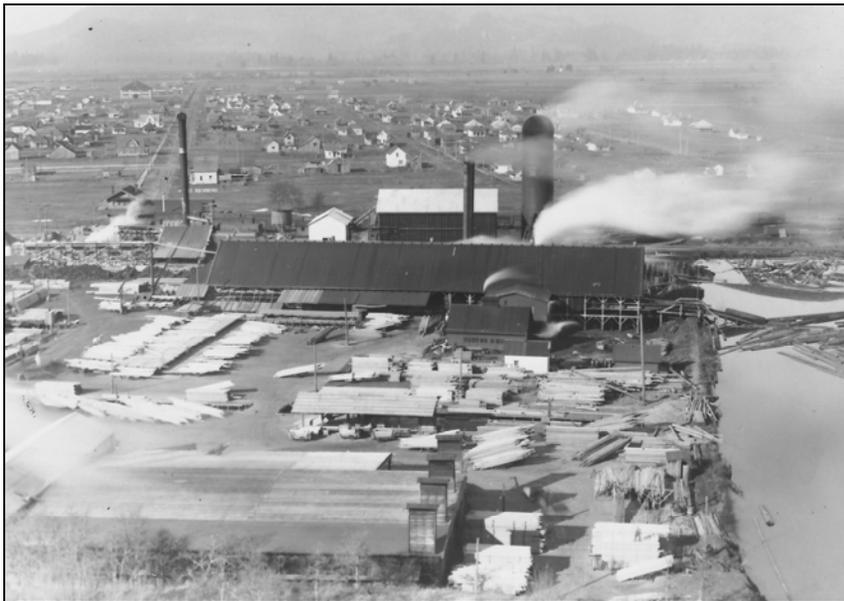


Restored Millrace channel



SPRINGFIELD'S FIRST MUNICIPAL DRINKING WATER SYSTEM

- 1902 Booth-Kelly Lumber Company
- **1906** Willamette Valley Electric Company (water mains still in use)
- Shared 800,000 gal open reservoir



Booth-Kelley Mill

(Photos courtesy of Springfield Museum)



Booth-Kelley Mill and City



Booth-Kelley Mill Site Today



STEAM PLANT PROVIDED DRINKING WATER AND POWER



1911 Steam Plant
(Photo courtesy of Springfield Museum)



Steam Plant and Millrace



2014 Steam Plant / SUB pump station

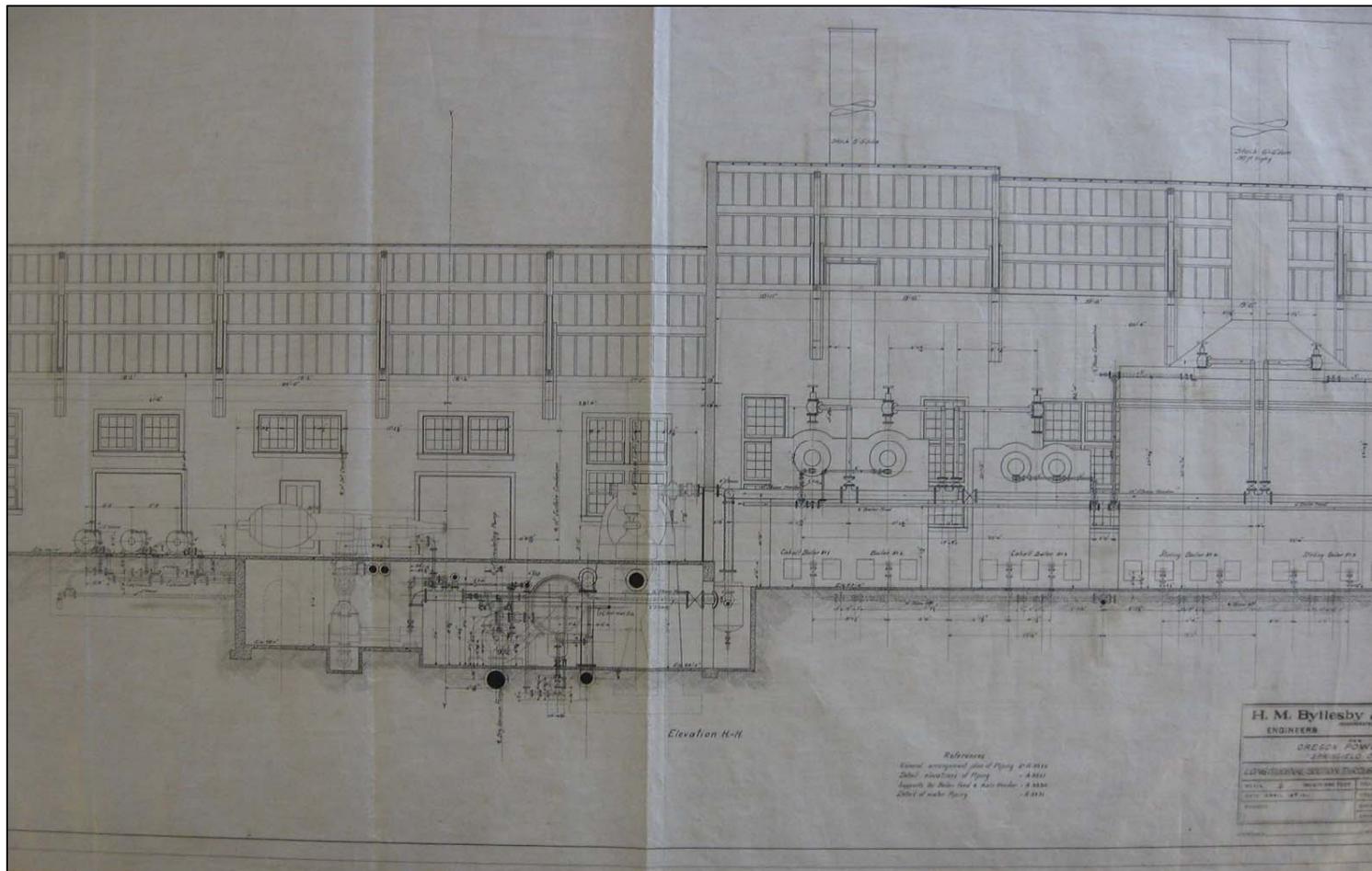


1906 pump and motor



“INK ON LINEN” AS-BUILT

- 1911 Booth –Kelly built and leased a steam plant to the Oregon Power Company .
- Later that year, the entire Booth-Kelly site was destroyed by fire.



CLEANER WATER SOURCE IS NEEDED

- 1915 Mountain States Power
- 1936 Water Quality Degrades (last year for log drive)
- New Intake upstream 3 miles
- Chlorine Disinfection
- Send water to Steam Plant through 16” wood stave pipe.



Wood stave pipe
(location unknown)



1920 -1.4 MG Oval Reservoir
(Abandon in 1981)



Mountain States Power facility
(Photos courtesy of Springfield Museum)



TWO POWER UTILITIES SERVE SPRINGFIELD

- 1940 Pacific Power and Light – Water Utility Too
- 1950 Springfield Utility Board – Power Only



1908 Construction of power facility
(Photos courtesy of Springfield Museum)



2014 Springfield Museum



1918 water tower torn down in Seattle and rebuilt in Springfield in 1944



THREE MAJOR DRINKING WATER PROVIDERS SERVE SPRINGFIELD

1950

- **Pacific Power and Light**
Digs Deep for Drinking Water
- **McKenzie Highway Water District**
Taps Eugene Water and Electric Board's (EWEB)
McKenzie River Drinking Water
- **Rainbow Water District (RWD)**
Taps EWEB's McKenzie River Drinking Water



Willamette Well



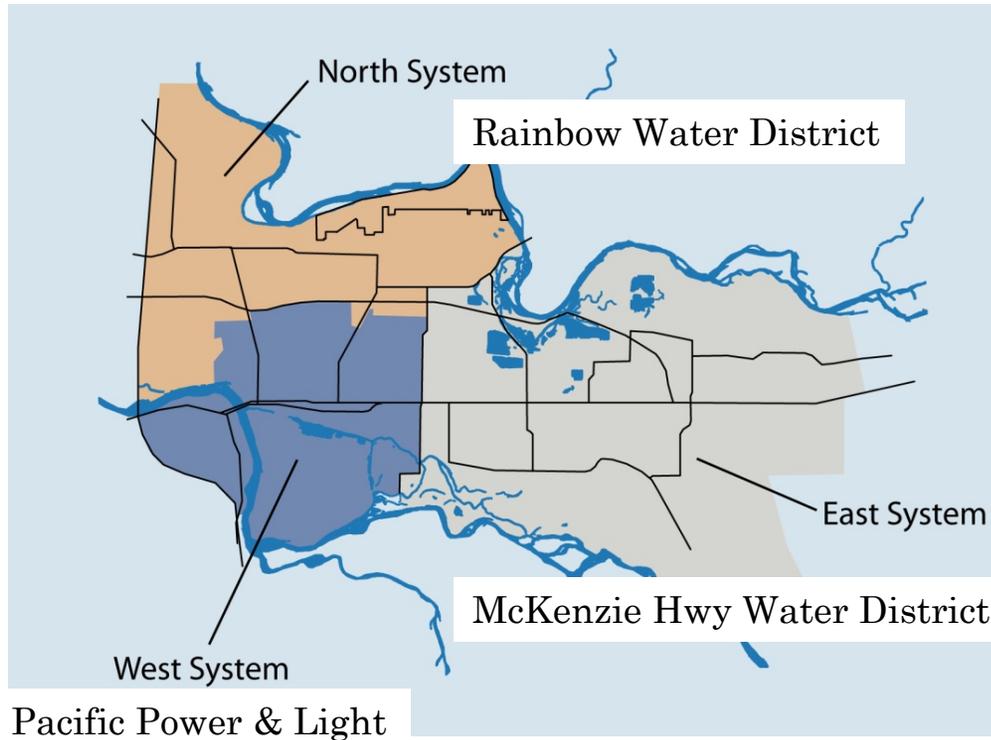
1950 square reservoir
(Abandon in 1981)



1950 60,000 gal yellow cedar tank,
replaced with 150,000 gallon steel tank

NEW GROUND WATER SOURCE IN SPRINGFIELD

- **1956** McKenzie Highway Water District and Rainbow Water District teamed up to drill wells.
- These wells feed East and North Springfield



Shared well supplies East and North Springfield



Rehab of shared well



SPRINGFIELD UTILITY BOARD (SUB) ENTERS INTO WATER BUSINESS

1960

- City annexes East Springfield
- Assets of McKenzie Highway Water Districts go to City and then to SUB.
- **1966** Well driller comes to SUB with an offer.



East Springfield well construction



East Springfield Well
Construction



East Springfield
50,000 cedar tank construction



RIVER DRIES UP FOR PACIFIC POWER & LIGHT

- 1963 Flood diverts Willamette River away from water intakes.



Middle Fork Willamette River
(at intake location)



Gravel mining ponds



Middle Fork Willamette River (dry river bed)



Dredged channel to intake



SUB EXPANDS WATER SYSTEM

- **1975** SUB buys Pacific Power & Light's West Springfield water system
- Distribution system had 52% unaccounted for water.
- 1982 two new wells for East System
- 1995 one new well for North System
- 1995 elevated tower is removed



Elevated tower **1944-1995**



2014 Elevated tower removed



WERE ARE WE TODAY

- Recently constructed two new Corrosion Control facilities.
- Recently constructed UV Disinfection System for a Groundwater Under the Direct Influence of Surface Water Well
- Evaluating new source options through an extensive source water planning effort.
- Evaluating the seismic integrity of our water system/reservoirs.

WHAT ARE SOME CHALLENGES IN OUR FUTURE

- The biggest challenge for us is “not what we know but what we do not know.” Regulation changes affecting water quality, material use and other standards make it hard to predict the future budgets and rate increases. Regulation changes affecting water quality, material use and other standards make it hard to
- Generational changes in employee attitudes towards work responsibilities.
- Although SUB is progressive with our infrastructure replacement and maintenance this will continue to be a challenge.





**Thank you
Questions??**