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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1934

DRAINAGE

* * * * *

For the year 1934 there was available for the construction of main sewers \$251,647.54 increased to \$269,647.54 through the cancellation of one contract and for branch sewers \$40,037.59 increased to \$42,137.59 through the cancellation of one contract. No new contracts were entered into for main or branch sewers although the completion of one private sewer contract made an increase of 0.14 miles to the drainage system of the City. At the end of 1934, there was a total of 1,782 miles of sewers completed within the limits of the City of Philadelphia. \$260,731.47 was available for new sewers in place of old sewers from which one new contract was entered into and 0.4 miles of sewers completed.

CLEARFIELD STREET FROM EAST OF FIFTH STREET TO WEST OF SIXTH ST. A contract was entered into to replace a portion of this sewer between these limits due to a break occurring in 1933. 193 feet of 10'3" diameter brick sewer was reconstructed.

WALNUT STREET SEWER BETWEEN POINTS WEST OF FRONT STREET AND EAST OF SECOND STREET. A small section of this sewer collapsed in August of this year and was repaired as emergency work. The wewer was 8'3" in diameter.

FROM PHILIP STREET WESTWARD. No physical work was done this year, final payment awaiting settlement of claims. This is an 18'0" x 17'0" reinforced concrete sewer.

BRIDGE CONTRACT WORK - 1934

HENRY AVENUE BRIDGE OVER WISSAHICKON CREEK - This Bridge was begun in 1930 and at the end of that year was approximately 44% completed. At the end of 1931, the structure was 91% completed with paving of the bridge floor and the sidewalks remaining to be done. The physical work was completed on March 1,1932, the total cost of the project being approximately \$1,770,000. Final estimate has not been paid.

ABOLITION OF GRADE CROSSINGS - 1934

GERMANTOWN AND CHESTNUT HILL ELEVATED - The physical work contracted for to date on this project was completed on June 1, 1933. The agreement is still active.

PENNSYLVANIA TERMINAL IMPROVEMENT - The contract entered into on January 19,1933 to close up the gap on the north shoulder of Market Street with a viaduct between the Schuylkill River Bridge and 30th St. was completed. The contract involved an expenditure by the City of \$99,569.15

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS BUREAU OF ENGINEERING, SURVEYS AND ZONING CITY HALL ANNEX

FRANK H. CAVEN, DIRECTOR JOHN H. NEESON, CHIEF OF BUREAU

January 3, 1935.

REPLY AND REFER TO: BES:TT:C

From

: Permit Division.

To

: John E. Allen, Principal Assistant

Engineer.

Subject: Sewer Permit Division Annual Report

for year 1935.

Permits -	332
Connections made to Single system .	473
Connections made to double system	366
Repairs made to sewers	421

Total -1,592

Total number of plans filed, transit and C.W.A. lateral & Inspector Diaries 53

General Routine of the office

Information daily to Architects, builders, Title men, Plumbers and assignments to our inspectors

Total receipts -

\$5,636.56

THOMAS J. TAGUE, Permit Division Room 203.

DESIGN:

Construction plans for the bridges on line of City Avenue at Overbrook Station and at Bala Station;

Surveys and construction plans for 23 miles of City highways, under the program of Emergency Highway Construction Mational Recovery Amicipal Highway Projects:

Construction plans for 5 private sever contracts and 2 reconstruction sever contracts:

Construction plans for 25 mechanical intercepting gates for removing sewage pollution from watercourses;

Continued design work on 7 items, included in the sewage treatment program.

CONSTRUCTION:

Completed work under Contracts #15 and #14 of the Pennsylvania ferminal Improvement, comprising the viaduets in SOth Street and Schuylkill Avenue Nest and the South Side of Market Street between Schuylkill Avenue and SOth Street;

Supervised the construction of a branch sever at private cost and carried out the reconstruction of the main severs at Front and Walnut Streets and at 5th and Clearfield Streets;

Purnished lines and grades for 16% miles of highway construction, and for various departments and bureaus carrying out CWA and LMD projects.

OPERATIONS:

Investigation of 1250 complaints of traffic hazards and conditions; Complete traffic survey and plan of 475 school locations; Issued 5356 Zoning Permits, out of 4763 applications;

" 1100 drain connection permits;

" 2700 property title elegrances;

Checked 6000 chemical and physical tests of the materials and supplies; Completed a precise survey covering 16 square miles in the northeastern section of the City, which included the determination of the boundary line between Philadelphia and Bucks Counties;

Prepared specifications and proposals, scheduled bids, issued orders and checked bills for materials, tools and equipment used on CMA and LMD projects chargeable against the appropriation of City Council.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Supervised the making of applications for CMA and LMD work for all departments under the Mayor;

Completed the cleaning and widening of Frankford Greeks

The installation of 24,000 linear feet of lateral sewer connections;

OPERATIONS OF THE BURELU OF ENGINEERING, SURVEYS & ZOWING FOR THE THAN 1934.

-2-

MISCELLANEOUS (Cont'd.):

The cleaning of main outlet sewers; The painting of all units of sewage disposal equipment; as CWA and LWD projects.

Now conducting the dredging of the Schuylkill River and reconstruction work on the Arch Street Viaduct, as UTD projects.

The Dureau functioned for the year within the Councilmanic appropriations provided.

During the year 1934, the Bureau operated with practically the same personnel as in 1933, and by not filling the existing vacancies, kept within the appropriation. In the items for purchase of materials and supplies for operating the District Office, Sewage Disposal Plants and Pumping Station, the appropriations were less than in 1933. However, by drastic economies, the Bureau has been able to operate within the appropriations.

The lack of cash in the Loan Fund Items, prevented the Bureau from prosecuting any new construction work during the year. There were however, two contracts completed in 1934, which were carried over from 1933. The work included the completion of a Viaduct on the South Side of Market Street from the Schuylkill River to 30th Street, at a total cost of \$117,320.35, of which the City's share was \$99,569.15; the balance was borne by the Pennsylvania Railroad. The other project consisted of constructing a new sewer in place of old sewers in Clearfield Street at Sixth Street, which cost \$28,762.65. One emergency contract was carried on during the year which consisted of repairing a break in the sewer in Walnut Street at Front Street. The work cost \$1,867.90.

. C.W.A.

Under the direction of J. H. Neeson, Chief Engineer and Surveyor, acting as Secretary of the Mayor's Committee, the work of cooperating with the Local Divil Works Administration (later the Local Works Division of the FERA), was carried on, and projects for various City Bureaus and Departments, were selected and approved. When all of these projects are active, work will have been provided for 14,689 men. Available employees of the Bureau were assigned to purchasing supplies and materials for carrying on this work. The City's commitment for materials and supplies to date, amounts to \$573,907.66. The Government's expenditure for payrolls on these projects will amount to \$2.508,810.00.

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS BUREAU OF ENGINEERING, SURVEYS AND ZONING CITY HALL ANNEX

FRANK H. CAVEN,
DIRECTOR

JOHN H. NEESON,
CHIEF OF BUREAU

REPLY AND REFER TO: TB:E

December 28, 1934.

MR. ALLEN:

Subject: MATERIAL FOR SPECIAL REPORT.

The most noteworthy items covering work accomplished during the past year are, as follows:

During the past year, the Survey Districts made and prepared surveys and plans for the improvement of 23 miles of City highways under the program of the Emergency Highway Construction National Recovery Municipal Highway Projects, approved by the State; and gave the lines and grades required for $16\frac{1}{4}$ miles of these highways, of which about 15 miles have been completed to date and $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles are now under construction.

The furnishing of lines and grades and other official data for various departments, bureaus and other agencies carrying out CWA and LWD projects. Many different classes of work were involved, such as dikes, ditches, sewer laterals, sidewalk construction, grading and surfacing of country roads, amounting in the aggregate to many miles of improvements.

During the same period, the Districts have been engaged in making a complete traffic survey and plan of every public and parochial school in the City, of which there are approximately 475.

Also, personal investigations have been made of 1250 complaints relating to traffic hazards and conditions. The work of investigation has been marked by the endeavor to interview each complainant personally. This procedure has added considerable to the time element involved because, in many instances, three to four visits had to be made before the proper person could be contacted.

A precise survey of the extreme Northeast section of the City, covering an area of sixteen square miles, was completed. This survey included the determination of the location of the physical boundary line between Philadelphia and Bucks County. The area covered was never previously accurately surveyed and the work done will prove a valuable asset in the future expansion and development of the City.

TB:E To Mr. Allen.

-2-

December 28, 1934.

Another feature of the year has been the amount of work accomplished by the small zoning unit of the Bureau. During this period, nearly 11,925 requests for information have been received, or at the rate of 40 per day; 4783 Zoning applications have been filed, or at the rate of about 16 per day; and 3356 Zoning permits were issued, or about 11 per day.

THOMAS BUCKLEY,

Assistant Chief Engineer.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1934

DRAINAGE DIVISION

The rainfall for the year 1934, as reported by the Weather Bureau, amounted 38.36 inches, as compared to an annual average of 40.41 inches for the past 62 years.

Mingo Creek Pumping Station

This station is located on the west bank of the Schuylkill River north of Penrose Ferry Road, and was constructed in 1896 to provide surface drainage for the lowlands of the 40th Ward. The surface elevations throughout the lowlands are generally below the high tide level in the surrounding rivers, and this area is therefore protected from flooding by a system of dikes along the water front. The natural creeks traversing this area have been converted into a system of drainage ditches and discharge into the main channel of Mingo Creek, which terminates at the site of the Pumping Station.

The hydraulic fill made by the U. S. Government contractors along the Delaware River front between Hog Island and Fort Mifflin has greatly reduced the hazard of flooding during times of high tides in the river.

Two 150 hersepower oil fired boilers provide steam for driving 2 herizontal centrifugal pumps of a combined capacity to lift 60 million gallons per day and discharge the water into the Schuylkill River against a head of 13 feet.

Amployees of the Water Bureau and this Bureau overhauled both pumping units and engines in service since 1896. The brickwork of both boilers was repaired and a water treatment system installed. Other new equipment installed a fuel oil heater, duplex piston type feed water pump and feed water heater.

The steam pipe lines were overhauled and recovered with magnesia.

The building was painted inside and outside by L.W.D. workmen.

The pumpage for the year is estimated as 2013 million gallons with an oil consumption of 125,000 gallons. The cost of operation and maintenance for the year amounted to \$14,934.98.

Southwest Sewage Pumping Station

This Station is located on a 1000 acre tract near Penrose Ferry Road and Island Avenue, the proposed site of the Southwest Sewage Treatment Works.

The motor-driven pumping equipment now installed consists of four vertical volute pumps designed for a total daily pumpage of 50 million gallons against a 40-ft. head. Future installations will increase the pumping capacity of this station to 160 million gallons daily.

This Station was placed in operation August 23, 1927.

The Collecting Sewer has been constructed from the Pumping Station to a point in 75th Street 30 ft. southeast of Wheeler Street, with a branch from 80th Street near Erwig Avenue to 82nd Street and Bartram Avenue.

The small quantity of sewage now collected requires about 3 hours daily pump operation, and will continue to be discharged into Eagle Creek pending the design and construction of the Sewage Treatment Works to be located adjacent to this Station.

The building was painted inside and outside by L.W.D. workmen.

The total cost of operation and maintenance amounted to \$10,433.96, of which \$3088 was expended for power and light, and \$6581.64 for wages.

Frankford Creek High Level Grit Chamber

This Station is located on a tract bounded by "N" Street, Hunting Park Avenue,
"O" Street and Lycoming Street, and provides coarse screening and preliminary
sedimentation for sewage collected by the Wingohocking and Tacony Creek Intercepting Sewers, so as to remove coarse materials and sand from the sewage before
it enters the pressure conduit constructed in Wheatsheaf Lane, and leading to
the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works.

The Frankford Creek High Level Collector leading to the Grit Chamber is designed for a flow as high as 200% of the average dry weather flow, to afford additional protection to that portion of the Frankford Creek flowing through Juniata Park.

The permit issued by the Pennsylvania State Department of Health provides, and the Grit Chamber and Treatment Works have been designed for, the treatment of sewage flows as high as 141% of the average dry weather flow. Accordingly, a stormwater overflow weir has been constructed at a point in the sewer where it connects with the Grit Chamber, and the excess of stormwater is conveyed directly to Frankford Creek below the park property.

During the year 1934, from a total sewage flow of 12,423 million gallons, 18,745 cubic feet of wet screenings were intercepted, which equals 1.5 cubic feet per million gallons of sewage.

29,915 cubic feet of wet grit, equal to 2.4 cubic feet per million gallons of sewage, were intercepted, washed and hauled to the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works for disposal on low ground. Analysis of the washed grit indicated a volatile matter content of 3.9%.

1250 cubic feet of grease were intercepted and disposed of with the screenings.

The iron fence surrounding the grounds was painted by L.W.D. workmen.

The total expenditure for operation and maintenance for the year 1934

amounted to \$7517.99.

Northeast Low Level Sewage Pumping Station and Grit Chamber

These Stations, together with the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works, are located on the 160 acre tract along Wheatsheaf Lane between Richmond Street and the Delaware River.

The Low Level Grit Chamber is designed to provide coarse screening and preliminary sedimentation for sewage collected by the Upper Delaware Collecting Sewer, the Pemmypack Creek Intercepting Sewer, the Upper and Lower Frankford Creek Low Level Intercepting Sewers, and the Somerset Low Level Collecting Sewer now under construction, so as to remove coarse material and sand from the sewage before it enters the pumping station, at which point the sewage is pumped to the Imhoff tanks for further sedimentation before discharge into the Delaware River.

1. T 3

In the Low Level Pumping Station, 2 - 36" and 4 - 24" motor driven centrifugal sewage pumps of the vertical volute type have been installed. Two of these 24" pumps are direct connected to variable speed induction motors. The 2 - 36" and 2 of the 24" pumps are direct connected to constant speed synchronous motors.

Electricity service is supplied by the Philadelphia Electric Company at 2300 volts pressure.

These stations were placed in operation July 16, 1930.

For the year 1933 the total sewage flow amounted to 4872 million gallons. 211 cubic feet of wet screenings were intercepted during the year.

671 cubic feet of wet grit were intercepted and conveyed by pneumatic conveyors to the lowland at the site of the work.

The outside metal work and the ceiling of the pumping station were painted by L.W.D. workmen.

Northeast Sewage Treatment Works

The first section of the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works was placed in operation October 29, 1923, and comprises 32 reverse flow Imhoff Tanks and 80 sludge drying beds, and is designed for a sewage flow of 60 million gallons per day at a detention period of 3 hours.

The total estimated volume of sewage treated during the year 1934 amounted to 17,295 million gallons, 12,423 million gallons of which reached the works by gravity from the Frankford Creek High Level Collecting Sewer, and 4872 million gallons pumped from the Upper Delaware Low Level Collecting Sewer and Upper Frankford Creek Low Level Intercepting Sewer.

The character of the sewage varies from a rather heavy concentrated day flow containing trade waste colored with dyes, to a more dilute night flow. The volume of dry weather flow fluctuates between a minimum rate of flow of 30 MGD occurring about 5 A.M., and a maximum rate of about 65 MGD occurring about 5 P.M.

ser B

Determination of settling solids by Imhoff settling glasses indicates a consistent removal of 100% throughout the period.

Samples for suspended solids collected at 3-hour intervals and made into a weekly composite sample for Gooch crucible determination indicate the following average total suspended solid content:

Works influent 120 PPM Works effluent 40 PPM

or a reduction of 67% total suspended solids.

While oxidation processes are not employed at these Works, there is an improvement noted in the effluent, as indicated in the biochemical oxygen demand tests which are reported as follows:

Works influent 243 PPM Works effluent 145 PPM

The total quantity of sludge withdrawn from the Imhoff tanks during the year amounted to 16,000 cu.yds. This sludge was dark in color, well digested, and flowed freely. Offensive odors were not noted at any time in the vicinity of the Lagoon into which the sludge was discharged.

Laboratory analysis of the sludge withdrawn is reported as follows:

Specific gravity 1.018
Moisture 93.4
Dry residue, volatile 55.8
" fats 17.8
Alkalinity (Methol orange) 1150 PPM

Gas ebullition has been active in all gas vents of the tanks during the year, and foaming was in evidence in varying degrees of intensity from April 1st to late in October.

Intercepter Patrol

For intercepting all dry weather flow of sewage and the proper amount of rainwater contaminated with sewage, intercepting devices have been provided at the point of connection between existing main sewers and the collecting or intercepting sewers.

Ser B

For those connections beyond the range of tidal influence of the rivers or creeks, interception has been accomplished by means of a slotted opening built into the invert of the main sewer and provided with an adjustable sliding plate cover. In the larger sewers, adjustment of the flow to the intercepting sewer is accomplished by hand operated sluice gates located in the connection between the main sewer and the intercepting sewer, and behind a dam constructed across the main sewer between this connection and the receiving body of water.

For those connections within the tidal influence of the rivers or creeks, intercepting chambers of concrete construction and with two hydraulically operated sluice gates have been provided; one gate of the vertical type for the interception of the sewage flow and first flush of street wash, and the other of the horizontal type located in and transversely to the main sewer, and between the vertical intercepting gate and the water course. This horizontal gate serves the dual function of passing stormwater to the river or creek when in an open position, and of excluding tidewater from the dry weather intercepter when in a closed position.

The two sluice gates are actuated through a common hydraulic cylinder, direct connected to the horizontal sluice gate and to the vertical sluice gate by means of flexible cable over sheaves.

The rise and fall in elevation of the sewage level in the main sewer transmits metion, through a float located in the water, to a 4-way valve which in turn, by City water pressure, actuates the hydraulic cylinder.

Intercepting gates and slots are examined immediately after each storm, and during dry weather periods at least once a week.

Little difficulty is encountered in maintaining the intercepting slets in service except from falling leaves in the autumn season, and occasionally from grit and sticks reaching the sewers during times of heavy rains from undeveloped areas with unpaved streets.

The operation of the hydraulically controlled intercepting sluice gates is likewise satisfactory, but greater expenditure of time for maintenance is required.

the discharge from the sewers into tidal streams during times of sterm carries considerable sand and grit which tends to shal in front of the sewer outlet.

The sand backs up into the sewer in some instances to the vicinity of the gates, and until removed interferes with the satisfactory operation of the gates.

Northeast Sewage Laboratory

The total number of samples on which chemical, bacteriological and physical determinations were made, totalled 3812. Of this total, 2706 samples were in connection with the operation of the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works, 641 samples from the Experimental Station, 126 trade waste samples, 24 samples from Frankford Grit Chamber, 150 samples from Byberry Sewage Treatment Works, and 111 samples from the River Patrol Work.

The outside metal and woodwork of all buildings, the pipe railing around the Imhoff tanks, and the metal fence enclosing the works, were painted by C.W.A. workmen with material furnished by the City.

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' Dewage Disposal Project

1934

West Dentral Schuylkille Low Level Gentercept.

Sewer from Mantua Breek Gewer outlet north. I
of Frairmount Dam to the Central Schuylkille

Pemping Station near 34th St. and University ave.

Plans 80% Completed

2.25 Miles

to connect to West Gentral Schuylkill Low Level Genteres Obewer

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Plans 60 % Completed

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0.5 mile Plans 25% Completed

Extension of Force Mains and granty connection from n of mill Greek Gewer to 47 th St. and Paschall avenue Paschall avenue

of mile Plan 10% confloted started

OM. Main Granty Intercepting Sewer from 43 rd and Locust Ot to Of W. Olewage Treatment Works Plans 15 % Completed

Gobbs Oreck stigh Level Out-off clewer in 60 th other from Oobly Oreck Boulevard to Thays Ove Plane 15% Completea D8 mile

18-1934

East Dentral Schuylkell. Low Level Intercepting Sewer from the Flairmount Dam to a point on the east side of the Schuylkell River south of 31 st of treet. 25% Completed 2.6 miles 19-1934

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CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS BUREAU OF ENGINEERING, SURVEYS AND ZONING CITY HALL ANNEX

FRANK H. CAVEN. DIRECTOR JOHN H. NEESON, CHIEF OF BUREAU

November 19, 1934.

REPLY AND REFER TO: BES : TT : C

From : Permit Division

To

: P. S. Fisher, Chief Clerk.

Subject : Sewer Permit Division.

January 1, 1934 to November 17, 1934.

Permits -296 Connections made to single systems 298 Connectionsmade to double systems 375 Repairs to Sewers 382 1,055

Total number of plans files, Transit and CWA - laterals 39 Phone Calls, Daily -25 Title information, Daily -100 and general information to architects, builders and plumbers and giving assignments to inspectors.

Inspectors - Wm. Kilpatrick and William Atack -

Total Receipts -

\$5,123.56. \$ 5,184,56

Permila istered 1055 Plans filed 39 Information grien 1300 Little clearances 2700

Receipte \$5,184,56

THOMAS J. TAGUE, Permit Division.

assistant Engineer - Drainage	Dirision
Drainage information to Public	- 5 perday
Drainage information to Engineers, Surveyors and	other Bureaux - 5 per day
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Ordinance data prepared for 40 introduced ordin	aces and
estimation of drainage costs.	
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Contract payment estimates checked 20 estimat	es
Examination of all highway paving plans in conn	ection with drainage releases 25
Examination of all highway paving plans in conn Scheduling all bids for CWA and LWD city mater	rials and assisting in
preparation of contracts for same.	
maintenance of drainage ordinance records and	records of contract status.
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Data to public + City Departments	2700,-
Special sewer connections ruled whom	100,
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Reports on proposed ordinances	40
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5. Phile agreement 10 Visit & Reports

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