

COPY

November 21, 1947

Dr. Ralph T. Richards
115 E. South Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Dr. Richards:

As per your request a few days ago in regard to the names of streets on the North Bench east of City Creek, I am enclosing a small map giving this information. The City Creek water was the principal water supply for both culinary and irrigation purposes for a very large part of the city from the first settlement to about 1890.

Also will give you a few notes in regard to the two principal ditches supplying water to the lower part of the North Bench and the lower part of the Capitol Hill area. Shallow wells and springs were used by a large number of residents in that part of the city below the avenues and the Capitol Hill area. These wells and springs became very seriously contaminated from surface drainage, especially in the 6th and 7th Wards. Two main ditches were diverted from City Creek to supply both culinary and irrigation water above the City Creek channel. The 20th Ward ditch served the northeastern section of the city crossing "B" Street at about 4th Avenue, continuing easterly to the vicinity of "K" Street and South Temple, with branches extending south and easterly. The 19th Ward ditch furnished water on the west side of City Creek crossing State Street at about 1st North Street, continuing westerly to Center Street, furnishing water for the high sections of the 19th Ward. Residents of the 20th and 21st Ward living above the 20th Ward ditch had to carry or haul water for culinary purposes from one to three blocks.

Where water was hauled, unless the individuals had their own conveyances, parties were charging from 15 to 25 cents per barrel for the delivery of water. I have not been able to find any maps giving the location of these two main ditches. Through parties who wished to make connections with these said ditches we get an idea of their approximate location.

On April 25, 1873, Chas. H. Hempstead petitioned for the privilege of laying a 1-1/2 or 2 inch pipe from the 19th Ward ditch to furnish water for domestic use for his home.

May 13, 1873, H. P. Kimball petitioned for the privilege of laying pipe from the 19th Ward ditch at the head of East Temple Street to his residence for household purposes.

On April 10, 1877, David O. Calder, John T. Cain and other residents of the 18th Ward petitioned for the privilege of conducting a small amount of water through pipes from the 20th Ward ditch at the intersection of Chesnut and Bluff Streets for household purposes.

On April 25, 1882, Dr. J. M. Benedict made verbal petition for water to supply the new Catholic hospital on East 1st South. It would be necessary to extend the water mains east on 1st South from 7th East. On May 9, 1882 the committee on waterworks of the City Council reported the location of the hospital too high in elevation for water to reach it.

On June 6, 1882, Dr. Benedict in behalf of the hospital asked permission to

lay a 2" pipe from the west limits of the U. S. military reservation along South Temple. "Permission has been secured from the Commandant to locate a tank on the reservation. Immediate action is requested as the hospital building is ready for occupancy, but cannot be used until water is obtained. Request granted."

The first diversion of City Creek water in pipes, winter of 1875-1876 was located approximately in the upper part of Memory Grove. The cast iron pipes extend down Canyon Road through Eagle Gate to South Temple, thence on South Temple west to Main, south on Main to 2nd South. Studies were being made to divert water from City Creek at a higher elevation than the original diversion. There were certain mill rights in lower City Creek which with the adjoining land had to be acquired before water could be diverted at a higher elevation. Three of these mill rights with 278 acres of land were owned by Mr. J. C. Kingsbury (the father of Professor Kingsbury, at the University of Deseret). Two of these power rights were the Empire Flour mill at the upper end of the present Memory Grove and the marble works (the present brick tank).

In October 1885, the land and power rights were purchased from Kingsbury for \$50,000.00. With the purchase of these power rights and land the city was in a position to divert water from City Creek at an elevation sufficient to deliver water under pressure as high as 6th Avenue. In November 1886, water mains were completed on 6th Street from "A" to "N" Street, thence south on "N" Street to 4th Avenue.

In the summer of 1888, exchange agreements with the majority of the primary owners of Parley's Creek water were completed. Purchase of the land and power rights of the Deseret Woolen Mills and the Wasatch Woolen Mills with their water rights enabled the city to divert water from the mouth of Parley's Canyon.

In the summer of 1888-1889, a canal known as the Parley's Creek Canal was constructed to bring Parley's water from the mouth of the Canyon to the eastern part of the city. At 1st South and Military Reservation, a connection was made from the canal to supply water to a proposed small reservoir at 1st South and 13th East. The main Parley's Creek Canal extended northwesterly at a higher elevation, through the city cemetery to a point at the eastern end of 9th Avenue.

On November 27, 1888, the waterworks committee recommended that the Parley's Creek Canal be extended westerly from Lindsay Gardens on 9th Street as far as "K" Street.

I doubt if any large volume of water was ever delivered through this Parley's Creek Canal. In late summer water available to the city would be so small through evaporation and loss, and during the winter months the water would freeze.

In August 1874, Septimus Sears represented 1184 residents of the 20th Ward above the ditch line who petitioned for relief in regard to water as they were carrying or hauling water from one to three blocks.

In 1880, certain water rights to springs in the mouth of Emigration Canyon were acquired by the city. In July 1890, a contract was let to construct a steel pipe line from a location about one half mile above Wagner's Brewery at the mouth of Emigration, crossing the military reservation in a northwesterly direction, delivering Emigration water to elevations as high as 13th East and as high on the Avenues as 9th Avenue.

On January 15, 1891 the city engineer reports the Emigration pipe line completed.

In March 1892, contracts were let for the construction of the Parley's conduit for the delivery of Parley's Creek water to the eastern part of the city and to supply the 13th East Reservoir. Contract completed during the year 1892.

Very truly yours,

H. K. Burton, Con'slt. Eng'nr.
WATER SUPPLY & WATERWORKS