

Water may be considered good when it is fresh, limpid, inodorous, not inclined to become turbid when boiled; leaves but little sediment after evaporation; when its taste is sweet and pleasant, and neither salty nor insipid; when it holds air in solution; when it melts soap easily without forming clots, and when it boils vegetables well

THE WONDERS OF WATER
--- Gaston Tissander (1872)

The science of water quality has come a long way since 1872. Today's sophisticated laboratory equipment can measure water purity in levels as low as one part per trillion.

Since the organization of Passaic Valley Water Commission in 1930, providing safe, dependable water to our customers has been our principal objective. Passaic Valley scientists are in frequent contact with water purification experts around the globe to stay constantly informed of the latest developments in our industry. In addition, Passaic Valley continuously monitors the Passaic River to identify and expose polluters who may threaten the quality of life on the river's watershed.

Thank you for allowing us to be of service to you for the past 50 years. In the future, we of Passaic Valley Water Commission will continue to provide pure, abundant water for all our consumers' needs at rates that have always been the lowest in the area.

WENDELL R. INHOFFER
General Superintendent and Chief Engineer
NEWTON M. ROEMER
Counsel and General Attorney

Of all the world's natural resources, none is more indispensable than water. Without this precious commodity, life as we know it would disappear. When the average person opens his faucet and a surge of cool clean water gushes forth, he is not likely to be thinking of how important that water is. However, it is a fact that we at Passaic Valley never forget.

For 50 years, Passaic Valley Water Commission has been dedicated to providing an adequate supply of pure water to the citizens and industries of the 18 communities we serve. During this period, Passaic Valley has developed one of the most innovative water treatment facilities in the Northeast. Our new sludge disposal plant is proof of our determination to control pollution on the Passaic River, and our new laboratory is one of the most modern anywhere.

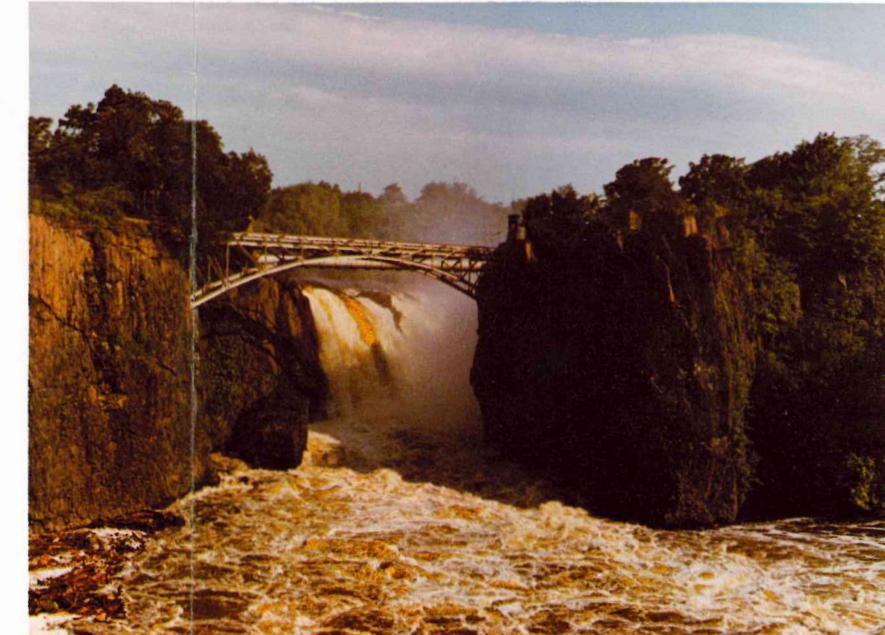
Passaic Valley Water Commission has always striven to apply sound financial practices in the maintenance of our facilities, and we will continue to do so. The Commission pledges to protect the quality of your water and to assure that the supply of this essential resource will be adequate to meet our customers' needs over the next 50 years.

Commissioners, Passaic Valley Water Commission

AGNES PARMELLI, Paterson
ANTHONY PASQUARIELLO, Paterson
RAYMOND LUCHKO, Clifton



Right: The Passaic River as it drops 72 feet over the Great Falls in Paterson. The first water supply for Paterson was taken from below the falls in 1857 by the Passaic Water Company. Without the benefit of treatment, it was distributed to consumers through 10 miles of cement pipe. **Above:** The Little Falls water purification plant and pumping station was constructed in Totowa, N.J. in 1899. The plant can divert and purify 75 million gallons of Passaic River water and also treat 38 million gallons of Wanapeque Reservoir water each day.



Passaic Valley Water Commission

Fiftieth Anniversary
1930-1980

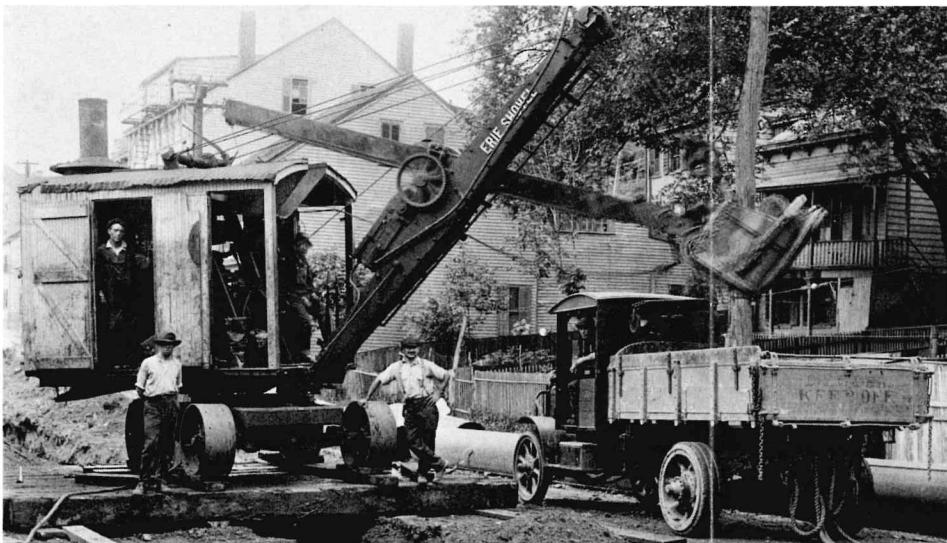
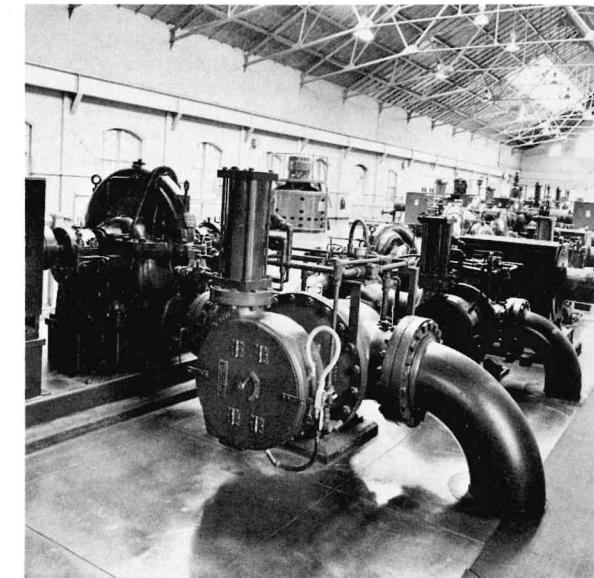
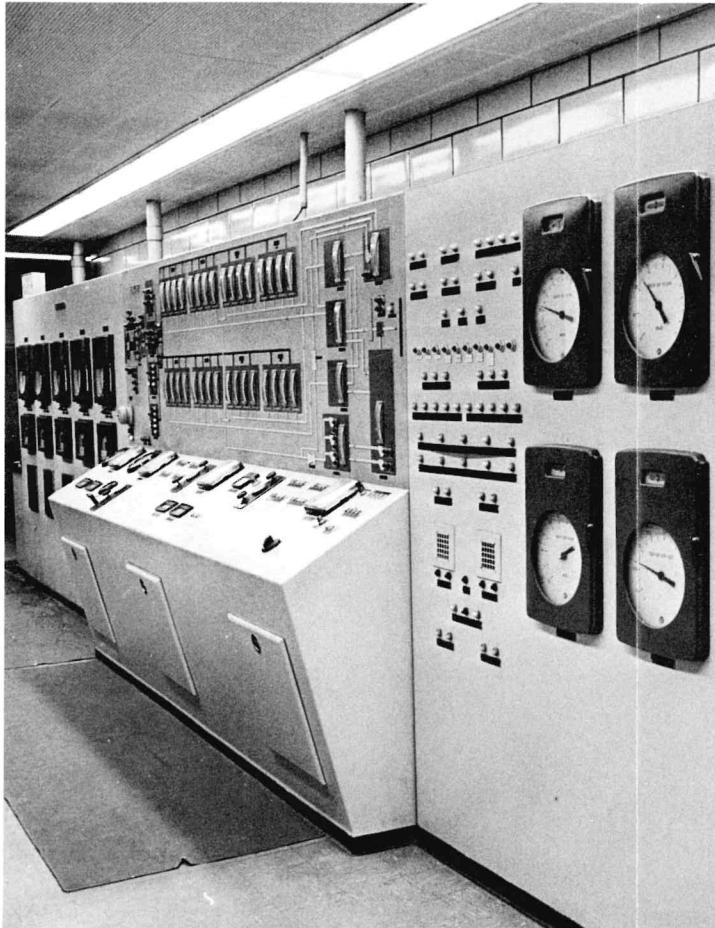
Quality and innovation mark 50 years of service.

From its earliest roots in the Society for Useful Manufactures founded by Alexander Hamilton in the late 1700's, and continuing through the present, Passaic Valley Water Commission has maintained a proud record of providing its customers with a safe and dependable supply of potable water.

Over the years, the Commission's ability to meet the increased demands of our customers has kept pace with the growing needs of those we serve. With that growth has come a hard-earned reputation for quality and innovative service. In 1898, Little Falls became the site of the first rapid sand filtration plant in the United States. This plant aroused the interest of waterworks engineers throughout the world and it was considered by many purification consultants to be the finest water treatment facility in existence.

The latest additions to Passaic Valley's facilities are a new sludge disposal plant in which sludge is pressed into solid cakes and transported to disposal sites, and a modern laboratory which controls specific plant processes and performs highly sensitive analyses of both source and finished water.

In its earliest years, Passaic Valley earned a reputation for pioneering in water treatment technology. Throughout its history, the Commission has proudly maintained that reputation. With the completion of its new facilities, Passaic Valley Water Commission will confidently carry this tradition into its second half century of service.



Above left: The purification process at Little Falls is continuously monitored by the control center to insure a safe supply of water. *Above right:* These pumps at Little Falls operate 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to supply 90 million gallons of water daily to 700,000 people and industry. *Below left:* Although aided by modern equipment, Passaic Valley construction forces continue to install water mains much as their predecessors pictured here did in 1920. *Below right:* The Little Falls laboratory contains modern instrumentation including gas chromatography, mass spectrometry, and atomic absorption for organic and heavy metal analyses.