

The Chapman Water Works produced a flow of 10,000 gallons a day from a tunnel Edgar Chapman had dug in the hills behind his home on Corte Madera Ridge. William Bradbury also built a large reservoir that was fed by a spring coming off the hill.

The purity and quality of Marin's water was so cherished by San Franciscans that they transported it across the bay in waterboats.

Eventually the Marin Municipal Water District took over all the smaller companies, extending pipelines throughout the region.

A vigorous volunteer fire department was formed in 1908 and provided fire protection with a chemical engine and two hosecarts. One of the hosecarts was stationed adjacent to Mahood's Store, in a station erected for \$214, and the other one was kept at Roberts' Garage on Redwood Avenue at Morningside.

Corte Madera's first fire truck was a small Chevrolet Pope Hartford acquired in 1916. Twelve years later, voters approved a bond issue to purchase an American LaFrance pumper. At 500 gallons per minute, it was the pride and glory of the volunteer fire department in 1928.

The volunteers incorporated in 1930 and raised funds to build a new fire station to house the truck on the corner of Willow and

*Members of the Corte Madera Volunteer Fire Department in front of Station No. 1, between Mahood's and Holy Innocents church, about 1916.*

