**Historical Perspective *Deepvale***

Two new granite dams supplied the waterpower of the Limerick mill in the early 1900’s and a cement dam and a power plant were built on Little Ossipee River, about five miles from the mill, which supplied an amount of electric power.

The original water system supplying Limerick was constructed in 1907 by the Limerick Water and Electric Co. The company was founded on August 24, 1907, under the General Laws of the State of Maine.

Since the owners of the mill on Washington Street controlled all the old mill tenements (located on Emery Corner Road) they renovated and refitted them. Six new tenements with modern improvements, including cement cellars and electric lights were soon added and eight more houses were in the process of construction by 1910.

*A black and white photo of a street

Description automatically generatedPhoto of Central Avenue on Left*

The Limerick Water and Electric Company installed a town water and sewerage collection system in 1914 including hydrants.

Mill Management envisioned a housing development of hundreds of houses called ***Deepvale*** during this time. The field where the present Limerick Ballfield and airfield are, were to contain many homes and a park. The Great Depression of 1929 brought that development plan to a halt. However, the Limerick Water and Electric Company lived on and would soon be named the Western Maine Power Company.

In 1913 the Upper Village was system was installed. In 1925 a 300,000-gallon reservoir was built on Swasey Hill. On March 12, 1928, the Town of Limerick voted to pay annual charges for thirty fire hydrants and subsequently large size mains were extended on all the streets in the built-up portion of the Town. At this time Central Maine Power Company purchased all the assets of the water district then named the Western Maine Power Company.

In 1950 negotiations were started, leading to the eventual sale by Central Maine Power Company of its water properties in Limerick. Central Maine management felt it desirable to sell the property to local interests, and as a result, an organizational meeting was held on December 6, 1950, by a group of residents of the Town, who voted to incorporate under the name “Limerick Water Company”.

The Limerick Water Company was incorporated February 1, 1951, and on May 1, 1951, it purchased from the Central Maine Power Company all the water property franchises, and rights in the Town of Limerick. On September 20, 1958, the Town of Limerick voted to accept the Act to incorporate the Limerick Water District enacted by the 98th Legislature. At that time three trustees were appointed to manage the district and negotiate the transfer from the private Company, this transfer was completed October 1, 1960. This management model is still in place in 2023.

And the over 100-year-old water & sewer lines, located from Watson Hill/Emery Corner to the last mill house on Central Avenue, are still in production in 2023. Present W&S trustees have prioritized this distribution area for replacement of the infrastructure.