



## Mountain Street Standpipe

Camden, Maine

*Maine Historic Engineering Record (MHBR No. 56)*

The Mountain Street Standpipe was constructed in 1901 as part of the development of the Camden & Rockland Water Company's efforts to supply Camden with water for public use and fire suppression. The use of standpipes in the late-19th and early-20th centuries rose in the United States with the establishment of private and municipal water companies.

In 1900, the town of Camden petitioned the Legislature for approval to create their own water district. The matter quickly became heated, resulting in the "Camden Water Fight," with opposition from the established Rockland Water Company and various individuals in the community.

Following the denial of a water district, the town of Camden insisted that the water company make improvements to the existing system; the new standpipe was proposed.

The Mountain Street Standpipe was constructed at a time when specifications for such structures were limited. Publications in engineering journals offered general calculations for materials and construction methods, most of which are evident in the design and construction of the standpipe at Camden. The Mountain Street Standpipe was demolished in 2014.

