https://www.record-eagle.com/news/local_news/wooden-water-main-uncovered-in-eighth-streetconstruction/article_768db39c-3b09-5eac-a0c9-fa66d6ef8116.html

Wooden water main uncovered in Eighth Street construction

BY NICK WESTENDORP May 26, 2019



A wooden water main from the 1800s excavated in the Eighth Street reconstruction, next to a modern pipe. Special to the Record-Eagle



TRAVERSE CITY — An artifact from the past was uncovered in Traverse City last week.

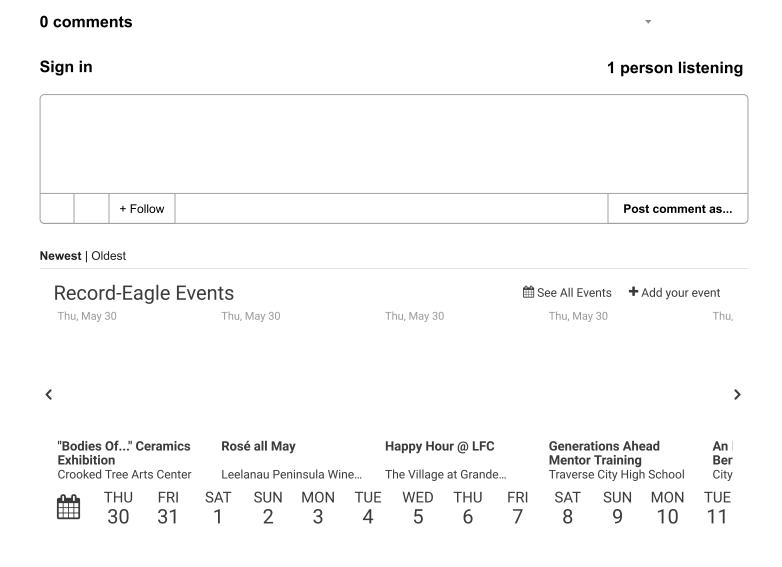
It wasn't buried treasure or a legendary sword — it was a water main.

The water main, likely from the late 1800s is very different from what we have today.

"We did find an old wood water main, they actually take old tree logs and drill them out, or they actually take wood lath and put that together to make a pipe structure, and then band it with steel," said Tonya Wildfong, the communications director for Team Elmers — the company tasked with the full reconstruction of Eighth Street in Traverse City.

The main was out-of-use, Wildfong said, and while the team previously found other pipes while doing work on other streets in the city, this one is said to be uniquely large.

"It's pretty amazing when you find it! We found some on Park Street when we did that reconstruction, and then Eighth Street larger-diameter one," said Wildfong.



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