



A project to restore a free-flowing  
river Vantaa in the city of Helsinki, Finland

Vesa Lindqvist

Chairman of the Helsinginkoski Association



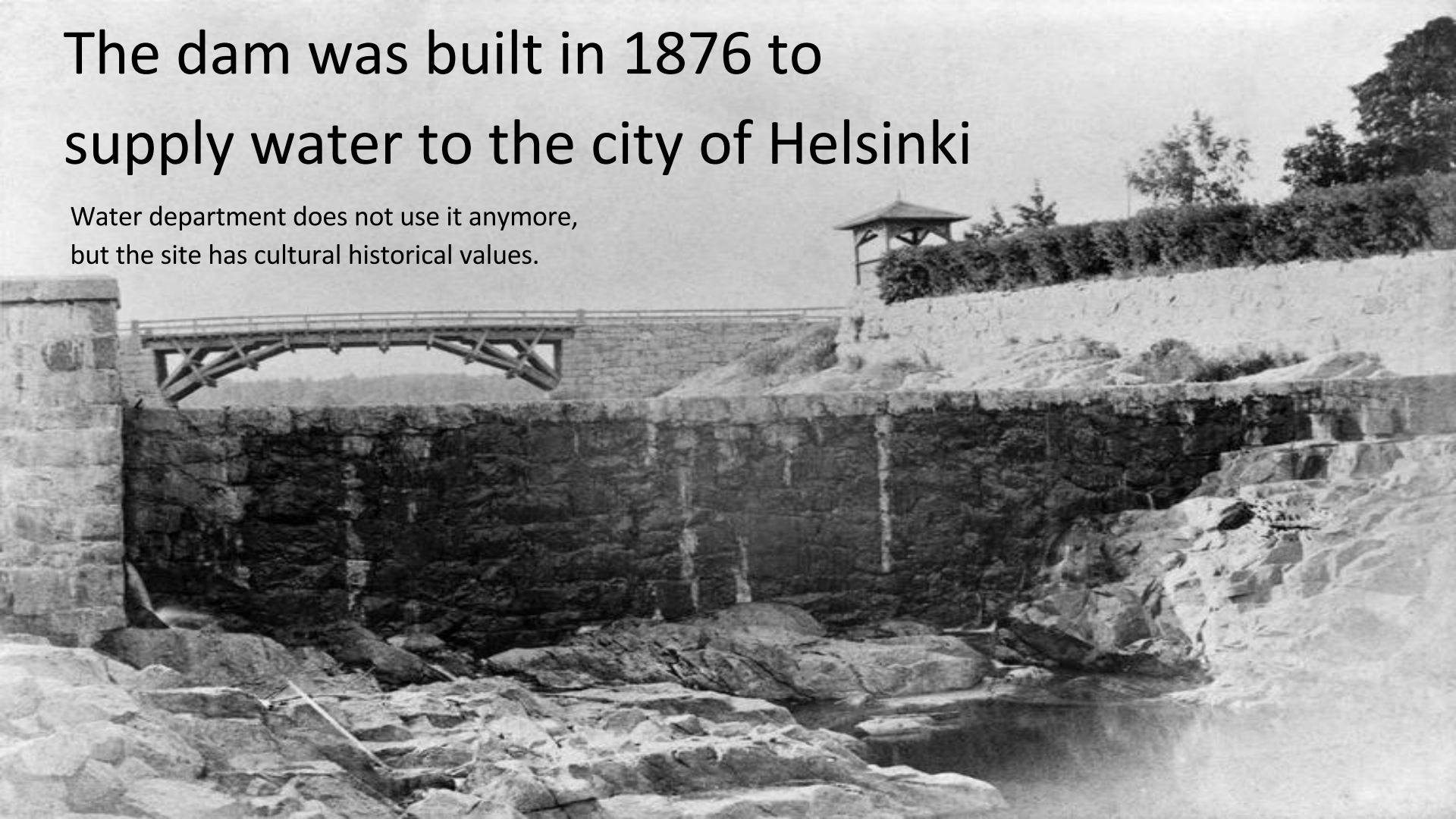


The dam is located in center of the city of  
Helsinki, capital of Finland.

It's located only 7 km from the parliament house.

# The dam was built in 1876 to supply water to the city of Helsinki

Water department does not use it anymore,  
but the site has cultural historical values.





Dr. af K. Prof. Hovr. Helsingfors den 13 apr. 1848

8/1

## Geometrisk Charta

Öfver

Situation af Färjen vid Helsingin Tammelstaden.  
 Samt den af Durchfarth Commissionen utsedd Tracht,  
 till den projecterande Durchfarthens Inrättning belägen i  
 Helsingin socken samt Nylands Län afslutad den 14 October.  
 1848 af Händ. Otto Brinck

## Kännetecknens Uttydning.

N<sup>o</sup> 1. Tammelstads-färjen är en starkt stridande Ström,  
 hvilken föreläggas sig att trenne Grenar och är den  
 på ömse Sidor med höga Berg omgifwen, ämnades  
 i den västra twenne Möhlyguarna, och i den östra  
 Grenen en Säggaurn anlagde, Öfver dessa Färjor  
 framsträcker sig Landvägen emellan Näsarna  
 Helsingfors och Berge.

N<sup>o</sup> 2. Är den trachten som durchfarth Commissionen  
 utsedd till den projecterande durchfarthens Inrätt-  
 ning, består det nästredhden som denne Charta  
 utvisar, af en flått i ögonmärket beskrifven  
 och sedan en något diup däl, iuden deruti  
 rinnande Bäck sträcker sig ned till Saltfjäd  
 Sjölen.



Originally the river had two  
 free-flowing rapids in the area.

The dam is in the main branch of the river.





The dam is partially blocking access to river  
Vantaa, which is a 101 kilometers long river.

For example critically endangered whitefish (*Coregonus lavaretus* L.)  
is not able to migrate at all.

© Miikka Pulliainen





Also critically endangered trouts  
jump against the dam

Construction of the dam fools trouts (Salmon trutta) to jump.

© Miikka Pulliainen



# This is our vision

Decision about the fate of the dam is due before the end of the year 2016 from the city council.

Objections for removing the dam are mainly based on resistance to change and a sense of place.



Lauri Tervo, Vapaa Vanhankaupunginkoski (2014)



A close-up photograph of a salmon leaping over a small, man-made dam in a river. The fish is captured mid-air, its body arched over the crest of the dam. Water is splashing around the base of the dam, and the background shows a blurred riverbank with green grass and trees. The overall scene is dynamic and naturalistic.

It's been there for 140 years, why  
remove it now? The time has come.

The capital of Finland needs to show leadership in  
removing harmful useless dams.

© Minkka Pulliainen





Lokakuu 2016

# And we have good news!

Our neighbour, City of Vantaa has just decided to remove one dam upstream in the same river.







A photograph of a brown trout swimming in a stream. The water is turbulent, creating white foam. In the foreground, a dark wooden bridge railing is visible on the right side. The background shows a rocky riverbed.

Thank you! Follow our progress  
at [Facebook.com/Helsinginkoski](https://www.facebook.com/Helsinginkoski)

Vesa Lindqvist, @VesaLindqvist, +358401262064,  
[vesa.lindqvist@helsinginkoski.fi](mailto:vesa.lindqvist@helsinginkoski.fi)