

Sewage plant facts, figures



HALTON REGION CHAIRMAN Ric Morrow, left, receives the key to the expanded Acton water treatment plant from R. V. Anderson last Wednesday.

The original water pollution control plant for the town of Acton first began operation in October 1951 and was subsequently extended in 1969. Further growth in the town resulted in a further extension in 1978 to increase treatment capacity to 4,542 cubic meters (m³/d) per day (1,000,000 imperial gallons per day).

The plant comprises an "activated sludge" process for secondary treatment preceded by inlet screening, grit removal and primary settling tanks. In addition, tertiary treatment, effluent chlorination, phosphorus removal and two-stage sludge digestion are provided.

To minimize the effluent loading on Black Creek during the summer period, a unique form of tertiary treatment consisting of a lengthy settling period followed by sprayed sand filtration is incorporated.

Incoming raw sewage passes first through a shredding device. After this screening, the raw sewage enters an aerated grit tank where grit and sand particles are removed.

Then the waste flow is hydraulically divided into streams to the original plant or the extension.

Next stage is the primary settling tank where dense sludge is transferred to a raw sludge hopper to a primary digester.

The effluent from the primary settling tank proceeds into aeration tanks for about seven hours.

Now the effluent enters the final settling tanks for another seven hours. The final tank effluent is metered through flumes and enters the tertiary settling lagoon for about 28 hours. This lagoon is about nine feet deep and covers two-thirds of an acre. This effluent is then pumped and sprayed over sand and gravel filter beds through 184 spray nozzles.

The final effluent enters the chlorine tank for disinfecting which destroys any disease-producing bacteria, prior to discharge into the Black Creek.

Construction cost is \$997,000. General contractor is Varamae Construction Co. Ltd., Toronto; mechanical contractor Wood-Townrow Ltd., Burlington; electrical contractor, Standard Electric Ltd., Toronto. Consulting engineers are R. V. Anderson Associates Ltd., Toronto.

Extension opened . . .

(Continued from page 1) the province. The plant will be monitored and a study will be made to see about a further addition and further growth.

MPP Julian Reed also spoke of the best quality effluent required. He asked Mr. McCague if he recalled that his predecessor George Kerr had gone for a swim in Hamilton Bay, and wondered if Mr. McCague would con-

sider wading in the final stage?

"You go first," suggested Mr. McCague.

Reed also showed a joking concern for the section in the leaflet about the plant called "Grit Removal."

"That's why the Minister says you go first," quipped the mayor.

Seriously, Reed said none would begrudge the money for such a facility; we are faced with a challenge to make sure our environment is clean and we pass it on to our children. It will allow Acton to grow in the future.

R. V. Anderson of R. V. Anderson Associates recalled when the plant was built in 1951, replacing septic tanks. We didn't think the town would grow out this far. Now in retirement, he said it is good to see how Acton has progressed since then. Mr. Anderson contributed the plaque which lists contractors and councillors.

Introduced to the crowd were Paul Coburn, regional director for the Ministry of the Environment; Alex Giffin, district officer, municipal and private abatement systems; Art Thomas, manager of utility operations; regional councillors Jim Watson, Jim Kerr, Russ Miller, Roy Booth, Tom Sutherland, Jack Rafis and Laurie Mannell.

Two Halton Hills councillors were present, Les Dudy and Walter Biehn.

The regional councillors and staff arrived in a huge rented bus, a few minutes late. They were on a regional works tour, and came here after lunch at Harrop House in Milton. There were about 25 on the bus.

The general public had been invited to the opening.

Farmers host agriculturists

Four Halton farmers — two from Milton, one from Georgetown and one from Burlington — have applied to host junior agriculturists this summer.

The Junior Agriculture program, sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, gives 16 and 17-year-olds from non-farm homes the opportunity to learn about farming.

Although no young people from North Halton applied for the program, there were 53 applications from Burlington.

Overall, 150 young people and 45 farmers applied. The teenagers will be interviewed over the next few weeks to pick the 45 participants.

During the nine-week period beginning June 19, the students, under the direction of the farmer, will take part in the daily activities of the farm. Hours of work can be long and irregular, depending on the farm activities and the weather.

Host farmers pay the students five dollars daily and provide room and board. The Ministry provides a further six dollars daily.

Sales

It was a popular weekend for garage sales.

Halton workshop to chart rural development



THE TRIO WHO make the water treatment plant work. In the centre is chief operator Ted Curtis, who is flanked on the left by operator Gord Williams, and on the right by operator trainee Doug Andrews.

How has life in rural Halton County changed? How is it likely to change in the years ahead? These questions will be central to discussions on Saturday, June 10 at a workshop meeting to be held in Halton Centennial Manor at Milton.

The meeting will give people from rural Halton an opportunity to tell the University of Guelph's Rural Development Outreach Project what they think of the changes taking place in Halton, and what they would like for the future in rural development.

The workshop will include videotape presentations and small discussion groups. The whole program will be planned to afford the people of Halton opportunity to identify, and comment on, Halton's unique development concerns.

The Rural Development Outreach Project of the University of Guelph first established contacts in Huron County, an area relatively unchanged by recent urban

expansion. Several projects have already begun in that area, including a drainage survey, a study of the planning process as it affects a rural community, and other cultural and social programs.

The RDOP is now interested in the changes taking place in an area such as Halton which is feeling the pressure of urban expansion from several sides. The challenges facing the people of Halton, and which the RDOP may assist in meeting, will likely be quite different from those in Huron.

The rural development Outreach Project of the University of Guelph is supported by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation which puts emphasis on projects intended to "help people help themselves."

Anyone interested in attending the workshop, or who would like more information, should call collect to Valerie Gilmor at the University of Guelph, (519) 824-4120, ext. 3654.

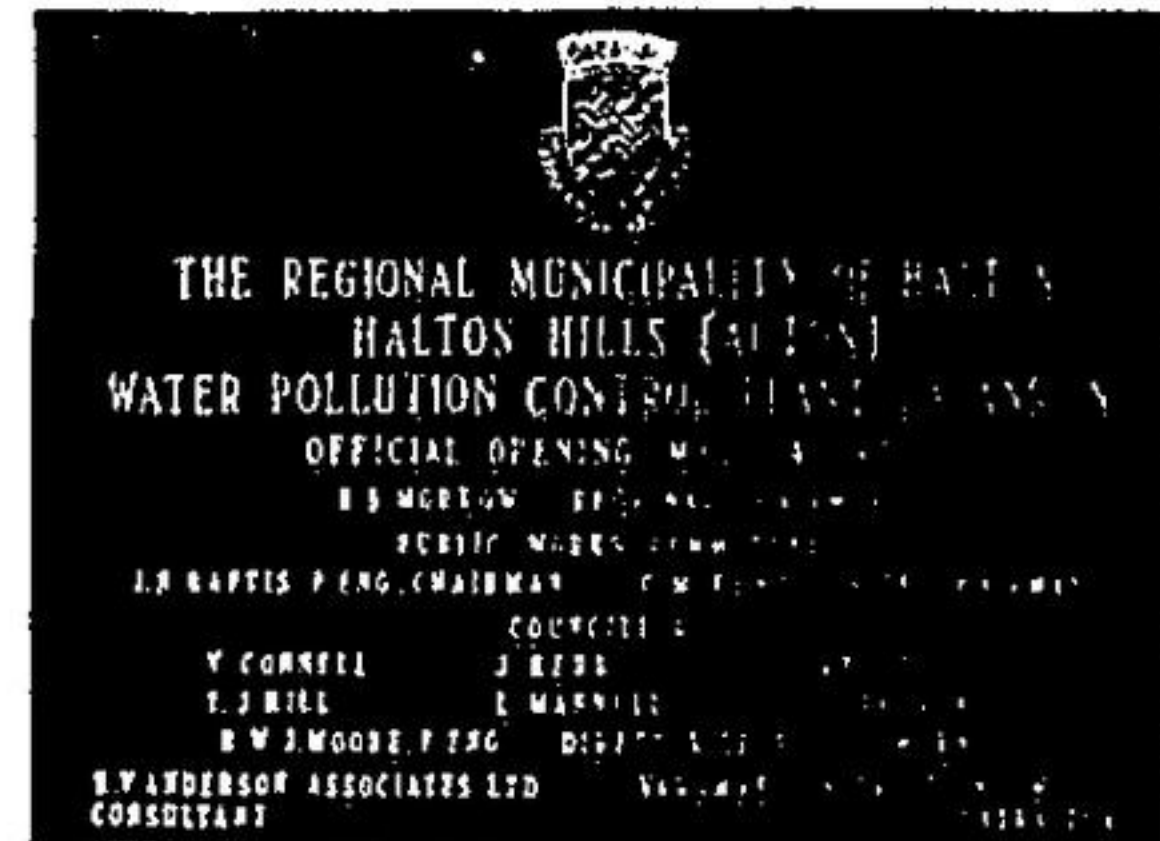
CVCA names room builder

Regis Investment Ltd. received the green light ahead of two other contenders to build a portable room beside the Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) headquarters at Meadowvale.

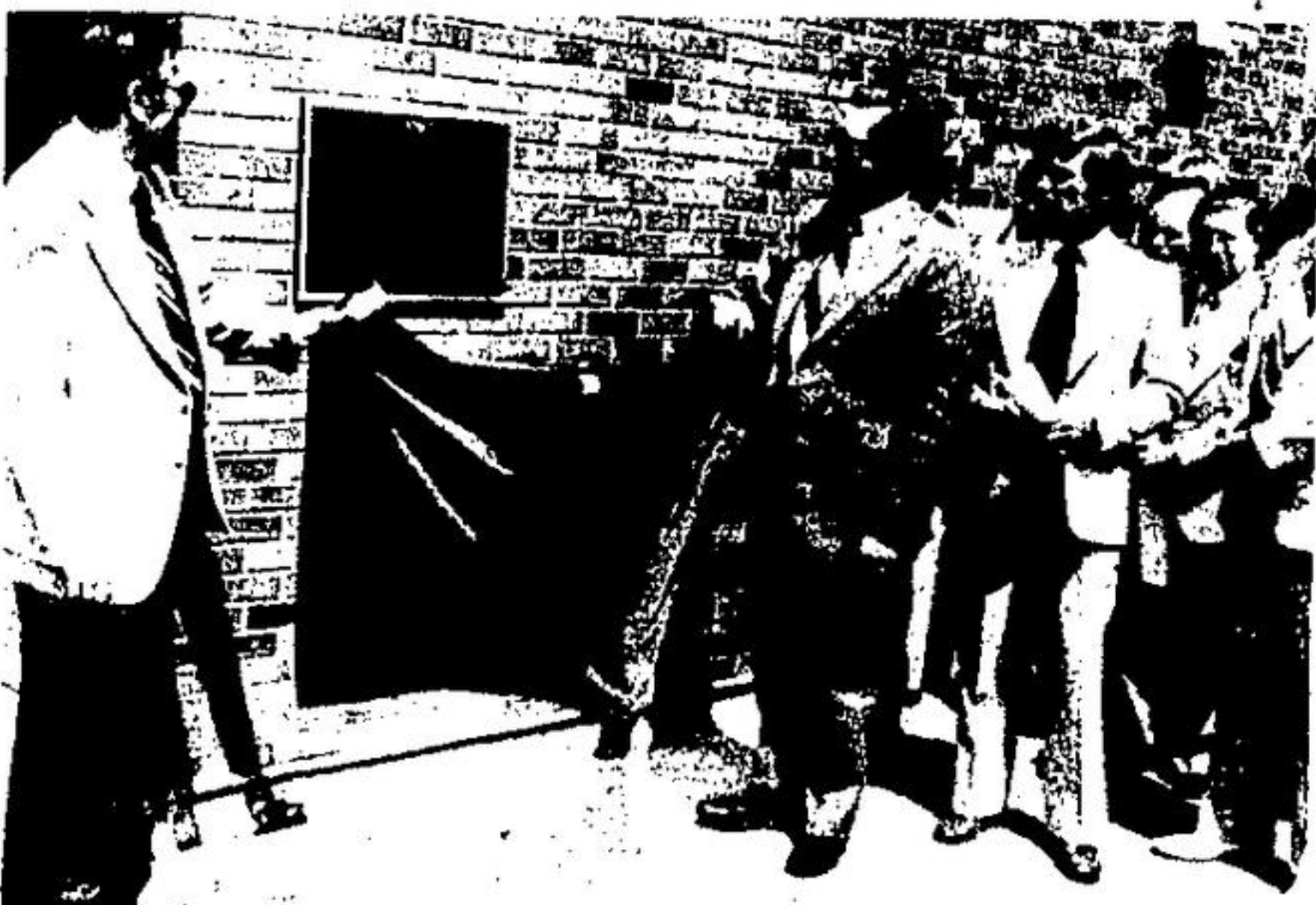
The bid was awarded during the CVCA executive meeting Friday at Meadowvale. Regis had the middle bid at \$21,353, but it also took into account a skirt for the building. Bids were also received by

the authority from Canadian Portable Structures and Danar Development Co.

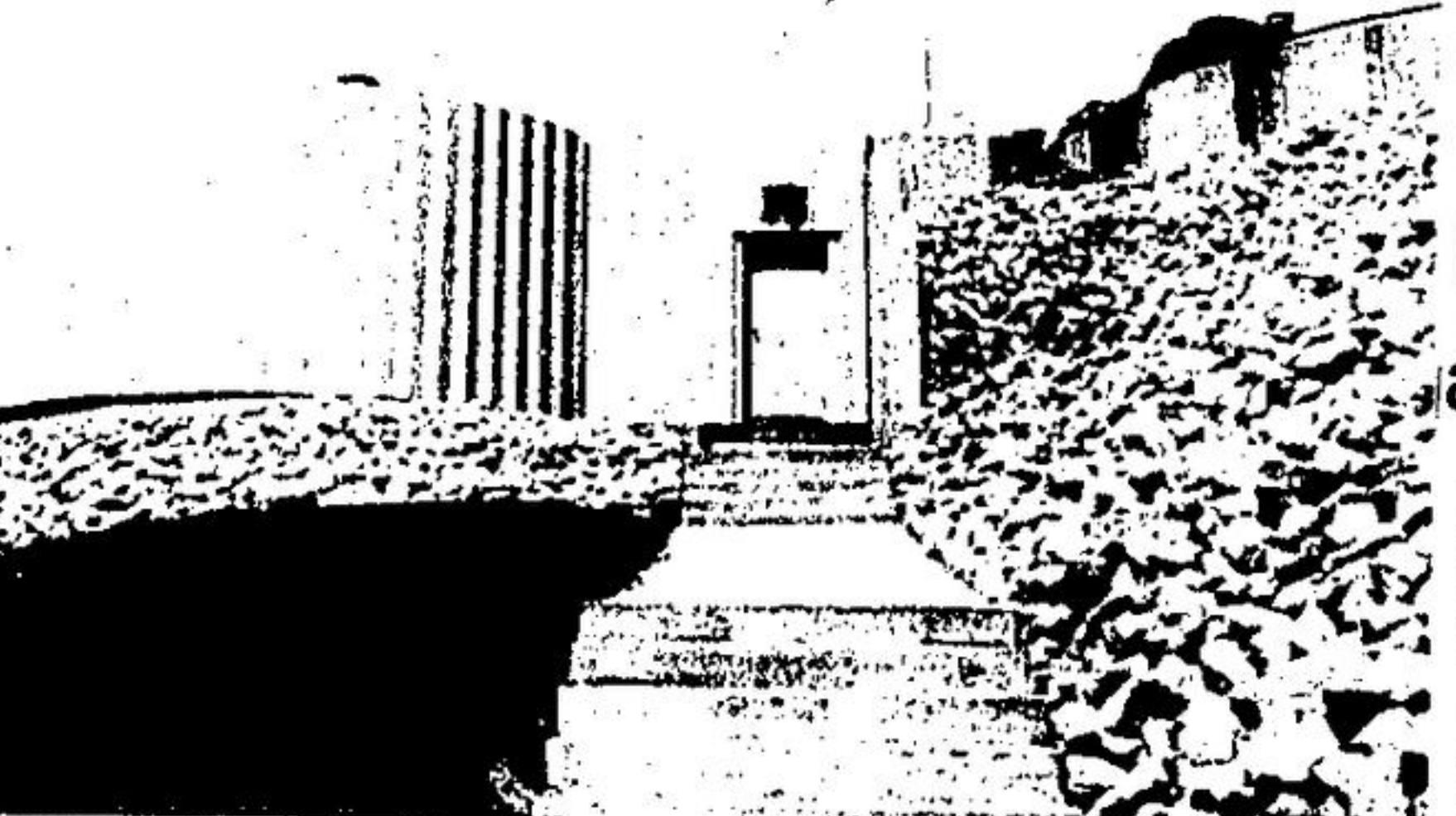
According to CVCA chairman the single storey structure will house the authority's staff for five years.



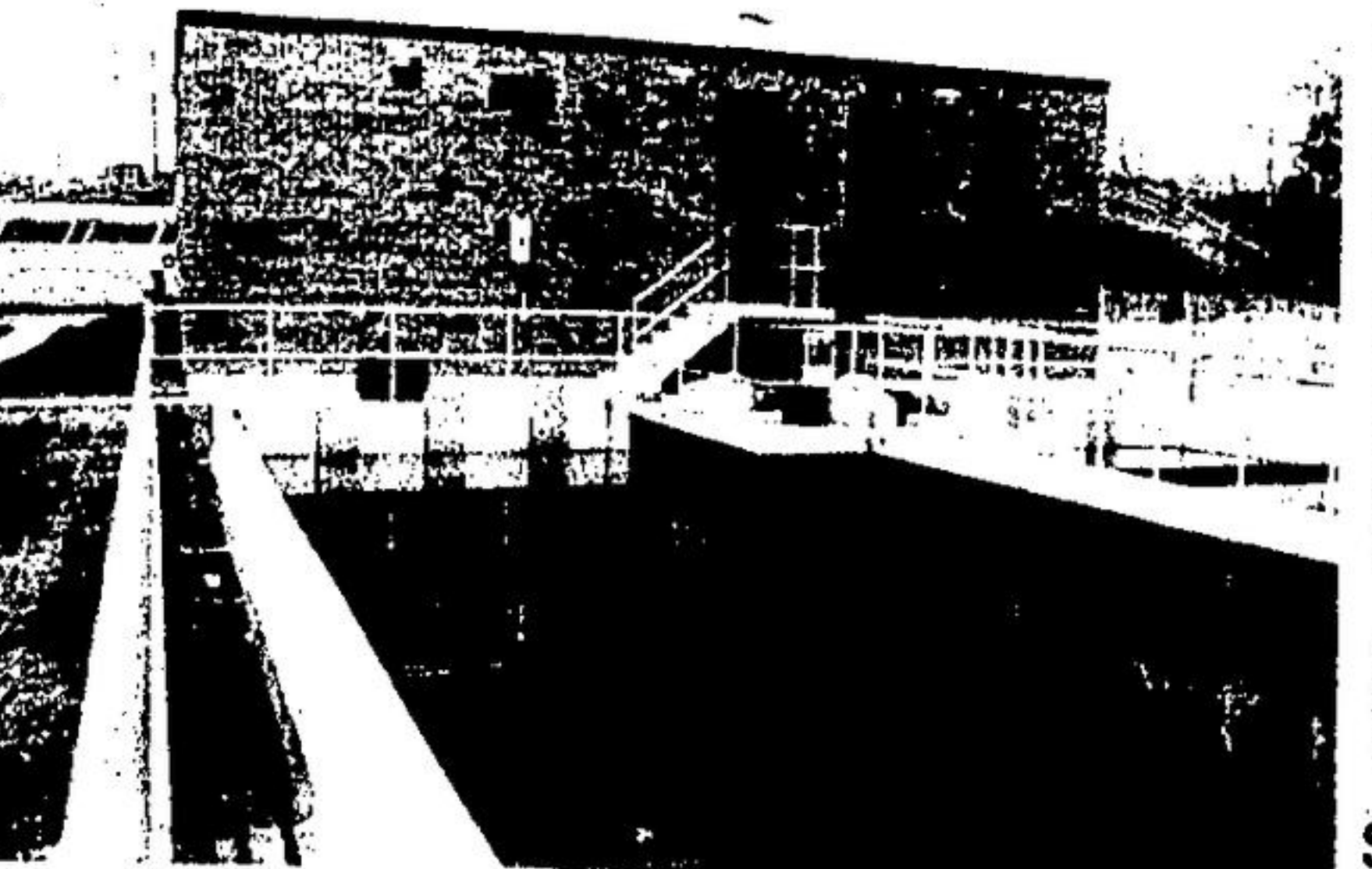
THE PLAQUE which was unveiled by Ontario Environment Minister George McCague and Mayor Tom Hill at the opening of the Acton water treatment plant.



ONTARIO ENVIRONMENT MINISTER George McCague and Halton Hills Mayor Tom Hill (left) unveil a plaque marking the addition to the Acton water pollution control plant Wednesday. Halton Regional chairman Ric Morrow stands beside the Minister. The ceremony was part of the regional works tour.



PERCHED HIGH IN A HILL are the two digesters and control building which handle the raw sludge at the water treatment plant on Churchill Road South.



VIEW OF service building and final tanks of the expanded water treatment plant.

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