

BRIEF HISTORY OF CITY DITCH

Sara Dusenberry, Senior Planner

JUNE 16, 2025



CITY DITCH

- 26 mile irrigation canal
- Capitol Hydraulic Company constructed the ditch
- Began in 1861 in a location about 4 miles upstream
- Construction restarted in 1864 and was completed in 1867



CITY DITCH

- Richard Little hired to survey the ditch
 - Resurveying found that the original start of the ditch was ineffective
- City Ditch allowed for greater development in the region
- Little opened the Rough and Ready Mill and founded Littleton
 - The mill utilized the abandoned 1861 ditch



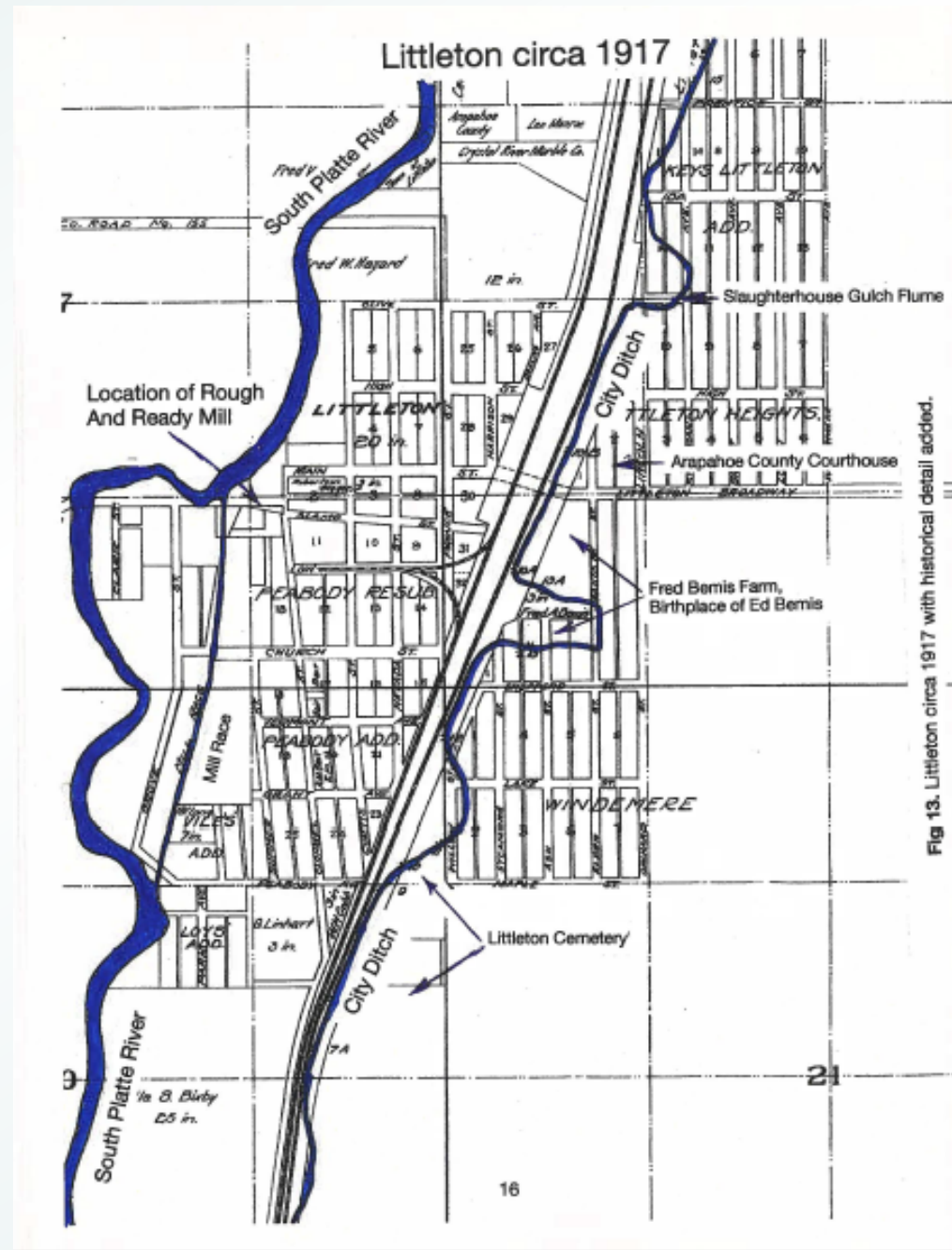


Fig 13. Littleton circa 1917 with historical detail added.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE GULCH FLUME

- Flumes were used to “bridge” features like gulches or side streams
- Originally constructed from wood
- Current steel structure was likely built in the 1940s
- Located in Slaughterhouse Gulch Park – north of Powers Ave and North School

