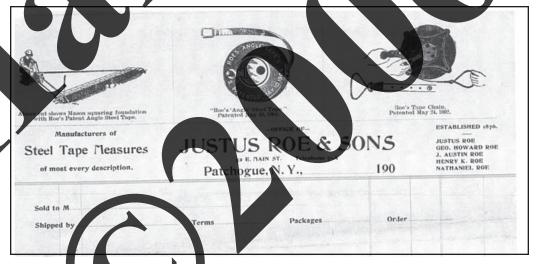


These are 2 pages from an 1898 Roe catalogue. The standard measuring tool for surveyors before the tape was the surveyor's chain, which consisted of one hundred links, each 7.91 inches in length. This equaled 4 rods length or 66 feet. This chain was very cumbersome, especially in heavy under-

brush. Mr. Roe was a surveyor himself and came up with a better idea, the aluminum-alloy coated, non-rusting, steel tape measure. He received a patent for his invention on May 24, 1892, and his tapes were shipped worldwide.



After Mr. Roe received a patent for his steel tape, he started his firm on the upper floor of McBride's Drugstore. After moving from there to the second floor of another Main Street building, he built his own factory on Roe Court, which was located behind the buildings on the southeast corner of East Main Street and Ocean Avenue. This is a Justus Roe and Sons bill head from 1902.