## *A Historical Note*

Like all technologies, the science of traffic control has evolved over the years. Signal controller hardware and vehicle detection methods have progressed from mechanically-driven to video-based technology, where fiber optic communication transmits video from several intersections back to the traffic management center.
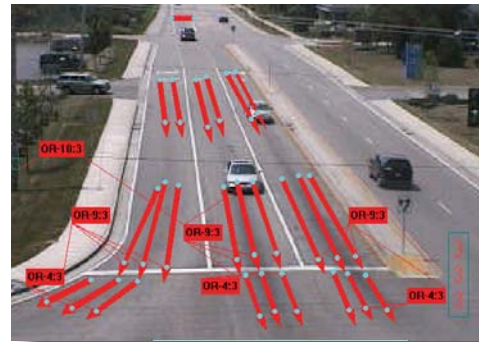
1970s

◄ *1970s-era detector amplifiers sensed approaching or waiting vehicles via wire loops in the pavement. The signal controller is then prompted to serve that movement or extend their green light.*
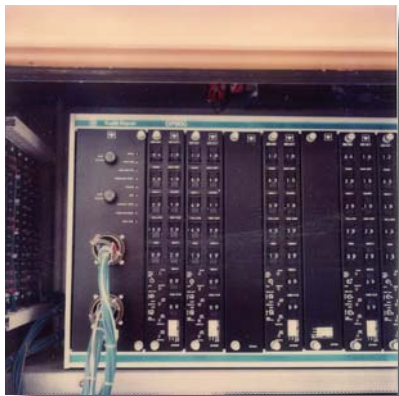

◄ *This traffic signal controller was one of the first solid state controllers, managing up to 8 different movements at a single intersection.*

Today

◄ *Today's vehicle detection methods rely on video to collect information about waiting or approaching vehicles. The "virtual detectors" seen on this display are more reliable and can be adjusted at the traffic management center to immediately correct traffic flow problems with no interruption to traffic.*
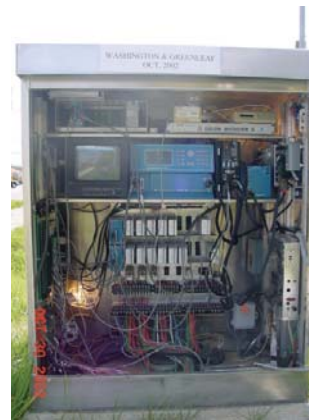
◄ *Newer signal technology is capable of providing unlimited settings any time of the day, any day of the week and any week of the year. This controller also includes an internal software for interconnection with adjacent signals.*