

THE SQUANTUM MILLS

Squantum Village in the southeast corner of Jaffrey has had a mill or two from the very earliest times. For a detailed account of these mills see Volume I, pages 354 to 360. Today the village is proud of its new modern factory which replaced the former mill after the disastrous fire of July, 1966. For many years the Squantum mills engaged in the manufacture of round veneer boxes, nest boxes, and spice boxes but with the changing conditions the demand for these items diminished and the attention was focused on lumber products.

In 1918 a group of local men purchased the mill. James B. Perry (see biographical sketch) became its president and manager until 1942. In 1942 the stock was sold to a Gardner, Massachusetts, firm. Mr. Perry continued with the new owners until 1947. Carl Wilen, formerly of Gardner then became manager. Meanwhile the old lines of manufacture had been discontinued, with increasing emphasis on lumber and lumber products. The name of Annett Box Company was no longer applicable and was changed to Annett Lumber Company, Inc. For many years the plant was a purchaser of local timber which was sawed into boards and plank at its adjacent sawmill. The sawmill was eventually sold and the lumber used was bought ready sawed.

In February, 1965, the plant and business was purchased by C. Stanton Gallop and his son, Richard T. Gallop, of Plainfield, Connecticut, who are continuing the business under the Annett Lumber Company name. Following the fire of July 22, 1966, which destroyed the building, the new owners erected a one hundred by fifty-foot concrete one story building on the site. Today their product is solely pine paneling, although some thought has been given to possible added lines. Since the sale of the sawmill, all the boards used for pine paneling are purchased ready sawed into seven and eight foot lengths. At present the plant employs about ten persons, and in terms of output is believed to be the largest manufacturer of pine paneling in the country.

C. Stanton Gallop is president of the company and Richard T. Gallop is vice president.

Source: Lehtinen. History of Jaffrey, vol III, pp 44-45