

On Her Majesty's Service

WASC 1545

WAI 405

RFF

STEAM POWERED

SUNPOWER INC.

MILLS - GROW FIBRE

L45





Les Tucker

From: Info [info@royalgunpowdermills.com]
Sent: 09 February 2009 10:18
To: Les Tucker; Ian MacFarlane
Subject: Fw: Archive / historical help

Anna Saczek
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----- Original Message -----
From: [Stephen Walker](mailto:Stephen.Walker@royalgunpowdermills.com)
To: info@royalgunpowdermills.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 7:49 PM
Subject: Archive / historical help

Hi there

I wondered if you may be able to offer any assistance with this photo. I have been going through photos from my mothers collection. She is unwell at present, but I do know that this was taken at the Royal Gunpowder Mills where my grandfather, Percy Smith worked from before WW2 until his retirement approximately 1960?

I think the man in the centre of the group is Percy Smith.

They appear to be clearing concrete rubble from the front of one of the buildings. Any information would be appreciated. Many thanks.

Steve

15/02/2009

Ian MacFarlane

From: Les Tucker <les10tucker@btinternet.com>
Sent: 16 February 2009 06:55
To: imacfarlane@royalgunpowdermills.com
Subject: Missing copy e mail

Ian

Further to Friday's conversation, in case this can get through to you, the reply to the Stephen Walker enquiry went like this :

'Thank you for your enquiry.

This is an interesting image.

The Mills ceased production in 1944 and became a research centre in 1945. Most of the buildings were converted to laboratories. Many buildings were protected by what were called traverses, designed to deflect blast in the event of accidental explosion and became superfluous when production ceased. Around 1946 most were taken down to half level or were completely demolished. The image almost certainly shows this work going on. I hope they had something more than sledgehammers and pickaxes !

The building would have originally been a gunpowder incorporating mill and was one of the group which can still be seen at the Mills.'

I said I had taken a copy of the image for entry in the Archive but as I mentioned this didn't work. I followed the print instructions but still no copy. When we revert to WAI entries after the present transfer work has been completed I will allocate a WAI number to this and either if you can provide a photo copy put this in then or failing that put a note in the envelope that it is in your system.

Regarding this, in case this crops up again, under the arrangement with Lynne would you be able to pop in sometime to correct, hopefully fairly straightforwardly, what is wrong with the printing. My best morning is Tuesday but failing whatever suits you.

Stephen has acknowledged my reply.

Regards

Les