

Abitibi Pulp and Paper c 1900 -

75 Huron Street

Sault Ste. Marie

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*This is an edited copy of the original document, originals included in the Municipal Heritage Committee Binder – Titled: “Abitibi Head Office”

Before the 1890's, Sault Ste. Marie had never achieved important status as a community. The presence of the Northwest and Hudson's Bay Co., the fact that this city was the centre of the judicial district, and the Anglican Diocese lent some importance to the city, but for the most part the town was a poor place.

The town grew in the 1880's and local businessmen formed a syndicate to develop the water power potential of the St. Marys River but the town took this over in 1889.¹ A power canal and small power house were built but no industry was attracted and the town fell into debt. In 1894 the canal banks gave way causing great damage and threatened financial ruin of the city.

In 1894 Francis Hector Clergue, who passed through the city and became excited by its potential, took over control of the power company.² He enlarged the power capacity to 20,000 horsepower, and then utilizing the power available, began to build a pulp mill.³ The mill was constructed of local red sandstone excavated from the recently completed Canadian Locks and Ship Canal.⁴ The pulp mill began operation in 1896 with a daily production of 150 tons of ground wood pulp.³ To improve the quality of the pulp, the Company decided to build a sulphite pulp mill. This was under construction by 1899 and in full operation by 1902.³ In The Canadian Magazine (October, 1900) a Principal Grant writes that he learned the sulphite mill had been completed recently.⁵ He describes some of the buildings as he had witnessed them earlier.

"Now near at hand one foundry and a blacksmith's shop, an admirably furnished machine shop in process of enlargement, the stately sulphite mill, smelting and reduction works, offices, all built of the same kind of stone, a native sandstone streaked in irregular bands with a warm red colouring which is very effective. Every building is planned to be capable of enlargement, and the group harmonizes in a way that shows artistic taste, as well as, business capacity, presided over the design. A new 40,000 horsepower canal is being excavated, parallel to the first one and from it as a quarry all needed building stone is obtained."⁶

This description fits the map published by the Consolidated Lake Superior Company in 1901. On the map are listed 20 buildings of various types including the ground wood mill, the sulphite mill, a ferro-nickel reduction works, and a machine shop.⁷

To supply the sulphur needed for the sulphite mill, Clergue bought the Gertrude and Elsie nickel deposits in the Sudbury area and thereby became involved in mineral production. He built the ferro-nickel reduction works that was designed and built under the supervision of E. A. Gjostedt.⁸ Nearby, another plant was erected to supply the alkali needed in the production of nickel steel. The by-product of this process, chlorine, was used to bleach the sulphite pulp.⁹ The industrial boom appeared as a great chain of developments as one industry led to the founding of another. The end result was an almost self-sufficient group of integrated industries.¹⁰

In 1903 the economy of the industry collapsed and on September 28, 1903, a riot occurred when the workers found out they would not be paid.¹¹ Troops were called in from Toronto to quell the riot but most of the windows in the main office and many windows on the main street had been smashed. Late in 1903, the Ontario Government stepped in and loaned Abitibi money. Clergue remained as a director but had nothing to do with the management.¹² In 1911, the Lake Superior

Paper Company was established thus separating the pulp and paper industry from the other numerous developments Clergue started. In 1927, the company merged with the Spanish River Company and became the Abitibi Pulp and Paper Company.¹³

There have been many alterations to the paper plant due to the need for continual modernization. The greatest periods of enlargement and expansion were immediately before and after World War I and in the decade following 1950. In 1932, Abitibi went bankrupt but by reorganizing the company in 1934, the plant again became profitable. Fire has also resulted in some changes, but these, for the most part, occurred in the early years of operation. Not all the alterations and changes can be listed, as these are all part of an expanding company. In 1907, the number one pulp mill burned but it was soon rebuilt.¹⁴ The next year (1908) both the paper mill and powerhouse caught fire but they were only out of order for a short time. In 1911, the ground wood mill was completely rebuilt and the sulphite mill was modernized.¹⁵ In 1917, a new modern acid plant was installed, and the sulphite mill again doubled its capacity by the construction of an addition to the digester building.¹⁶ In May 1918, a fire completely destroyed the power station of the Great Lakes Power Company.¹⁷ The building was rebuilt in brick by July of that year and was soon in operation.¹⁸ By 1939, the Power Company had expanded its hydro-capacity 15 times since 1916.¹⁹ The ground wood mill was expanded in 1918 and 1926 as well.²⁰

The 1950's brought another period of expansion and growth as the 1953 Annual Report records.

"The present day Sault Ste. Marie Division of Abitibi is the culmination of expansion and improvements that have continued at a rapid rate starting about 1950. These include a new wood preparing department and a new grinder room."²¹

A new wood preparing building was also built; the paper machines were modernized; and a new ground wood mill was under construction.²⁰

Such changes and rebuilding have altered the complex a great deal since 1900, but in many ways the essential look of the buildings have remained. Much of the early construction was done in stone so that a general cohesion was maintained. It has only been in the past few decades, when stone became too expensive that brick or other materials have been used. This, of course, has altered but not destroyed the harmony that exists among these buildings.

Architectural Description

The approach to the industrial area is dictated by Huron Street which is the only road to the complex. The Algoma Central Railway line crosses Huron Street and leads into the plant. On both sides of the road are the main employee parking lots. The complex of buildings stands on the west side of Huron Street, north of the Power Canal. The buildings are asymmetrically arranged and extend in a westward direction, parallel to the canal.

The complex also surrounds a tail race or small branch of the power canal separated from the main canal by a small point of land. On this land was built a pulp mill while the Power House crosses the power canal.

The physical arrangement of the buildings, as well as, the geographical shape of the land can be seen in the accompanying maps. The first was printed by the Consolidated Lake Superior Company and shows a plan of the Company's works in 1901.⁷ On the site are approximately nineteen buildings including a power house, a pulp mill, the machine shop, and the sulphite mill. The buildings were arranged in no apparent order but, in fact, contained a great number of highly integrated industries. The lack of unity represented by the map is not borne out by photographs of the complex taken during the same year.²¹ The panoramic view of the site reveals a large complex of separate buildings, just as the map indicated, but a visual unity is created between each building. The stone power house, pulp mill, company offices, the machine shop, blacksmith shop, foundry, and sulphite mill are all designed in a variety of gothic/romanesque styles and no building is the same; but the red sandstone of each structure draws them all together to create a unified visual impact. This effect is heightened by the architectural design where various gothic/romanesque features are repeated in different ways throughout the complex. The rounded arched windows on the first storey of the company offices are repeated on the main doorway of the machine shop and on the first storey of the sulphite mill. The large corner turrets on the power house and the crenolated parapets are repeated in the pulp mill, the machine shop, and the upper level of the sulphite mill. As a result, each building is uniquely designed for its different purpose, but is united with the others by common decorative motifs.

Other maps of the site reveal the growth of the pulp and paper plant during the first two decades of this century. A map printed by Public Works Canada in July 1914²² reveals the construction of a large new paper mill that was built in 1911/12 for the production of newsprint.²³ This was constructed immediately behind the machine shop and stretched from as far out as the Block House almost to the edge of the power canal. The smaller buildings that were there were probably torn down or absorbed by the larger building. The map also indicates some expansion of the sulphite mill and the removal of some of the smaller buildings surrounding it. A map dated 1943²⁴ is less detailed but shows that the plant has undergone little change; a fact that is confirmed by a 1974 map.²⁵ The basic configuration of the plant has remained the same although there have been many internal changes. Some of the walls have been torn down and replaced by brick and/or aluminium siding (as my own photographs indicate). In a building complex that has undergone such numerous changes, it is essential that the remaining sections are preserved.

The buildings were all constructed of red sandstone that was excavated from the Canadian Lock during its construction. The main company office is the one building that has undergone the least external change, although the interior and most of the windows have been renovated and replaced. The main office stands at the edge of Huron Street with its front steps descending onto the sidewalls. To the north of the building is a small tree filled park where the 1797 Northwest Company Lock is restored. To the west are a few stone maintenance sheds. The office building is a two-and-a-half storey structure with a full basement and a hipped roof. It is built of squared rubble sandstone comprising a variety of architectural styles. The main façade has a three window bay arrangement on the first and second storeys. Projecting from the roof on the east

and west is a large gable-end dormer. The west facade is decorated in the same way as the east except that there is no main doorway and the first floor is partially obscured by store maintenance sheds. The north and south walls each have multi-storey projecting bays comprising a single bay. These bays flank a central four-bay section. Above each of the projecting bays is a single hipped dormer with large projecting eaves. Above each of the four central bays are four peaked hipped dormers with large projecting eaves but these are taller and not as wide as those on either side.²⁶ The base of the building projects slightly out from the wall plane which is carried out around the entire building. There is a stone band of large stones at the top of this base that forms the sill of all the first storey windows. The main door is double-leaved and has six wooden panels per door. Above the door is a half-round fan light window that consists of a single sheet of glass. The stone surrounds consist of two small round pilasters resting on the stone band of the base. These support two stone blocks that form the spring of the arch. Atop the door head are arched radiating voussoirs topped by a thin stone hood mount. The inner edge of the arch is cut so that a recessed edge is on the same plain as the door itself.

On each side of the main doorway are two large stone pilasters “supported” by rounded stone corbels that project out of the stone band. These pilasters extend up to the level of the sills on the second storey windows and are topped by rounded stones.

The main storey window heads are decorated in the same manner as the door except there are no small pilasters. Under the arch is a single paned half-round window. Below the spring of the arch is a bay window element with a central pane and two smaller side elements angling in towards the inner wall. These are recent replacements but are based on the original window sash design.²⁶

The second storey windows are arranged symmetrically but are entirely different. Each large square window is divided into three rectangular elements by two stone mullion. There is a transom bar creating small square windows above each rectangular one. Each of these spaces is filled with a single sheet of glass. The stone sills are plain, and each window head is decorated by a plain stone lintel. The large dormer stands above the central bay and has a stone pedimented decoration on the gable face. This is topped by a stone finial. There are four rectangular window elements in the face of the dormer. The centre two are topped by a small blind half-round window.

The north and south façades are decorated in much the same way, although the arrangement of the various elements differ. On the projecting bays the first storey windows are built of two half-round arched windows decorated with radiating voussoirs and thin head moulds.

The centre bay windows have one window per bay and are decorated in the same way. The second storey projecting bay windows are composed of four rectangular elements divided by three stone mullions crossed by a horizontal transom bar making four square windows above each large window. The central bay windows are the same except that there are only two window elements separated by a single stone mullion. The dominant feature of the south wall is a large wrought-iron fire escape that extends up the full two and a half stories. Above each window bay is a dormer. Above the projecting bays, the dormer is hipped and has projecting eaves. It is low and long with a wide rectangular window. The four central dormers are hipped

as well with projecting eaves but are much taller than those flanking it. The north side of the building has the same window elements and decoration. The only difference is that in the central section on the third bay from the east is a doorway. It is deeply recessed creating umbrage in the romanesque style. There is a small stairway within the wall plane that leads up to a five-panel wood door. Over the door is a half-round transom window. The stone doorhead is arched and decorated in radiating stone voussoirs. The underside of the arch is decorated in smooth, squared stone. There is also an arched metal roof over the doorway supported by iron bars attached to the wall. The windows on the north side are also differently sashed. The first storey windows have an outer storm nine-pane sash. Behind this is a double sashed window with a one-over-one arrangement. The upper windows have a six-pane storm sash covering a double one-over-one sash window. These six-pane windows are in each rectangular window element.

The eaves on the office building itself are the boxed cornice type and are decorated with Italianate brackets. The roof is covered with tar shingles and the edges are trimmed with sheet metal. Above each of the projecting bays is a hipped roof element that is trimmed with sheet metal giving the effect of a pediment.

Machine Shop

On the 1901 map of the Abitibi plant the building immediately behind the company offices is the machine shop and blacksmith's shop. The machine shop had been built in the early months of 1900 and had been completed by June of that year.

"The Machine Shop is a new building completed within the last six months, one hundred and fifty (150) feet long and one hundred (100) feet wide, two storeys, containing a most complete outfit of tools by the best makers of the United States and Canada."²⁷

Each storey of the machine shop has very high ceilings so that it is taller than might first be assumed. It was constructed of red sandstone in a gothic/romanesque style. The main features of the building are the large projecting turrets at each corner, the large round arch windows on the first storey of each turret, and the large round arched truck entrance on the main east façade. The roof is flat. The main east façade consists of five bays of varying sizes. The central bay is very wide while those on each side are smaller and have smaller window elements and less decoration. The projecting bays created by the turrets are slightly smaller than the central bay. The north façade consists of eight bays, for the most part, of equal size.

The first storey windows on each side of each turret have large half-round arches. At the spring line of the arch, a horizontal stone bar extends across the window and continues along the wall, forming a band around each turret. Within the window, the stone bar is supported by two stone mullions that, altogether, divide each window into four lights. Above the spring line the arch has been bricked in, but a 1901 photograph²⁸ reveals that it was once filled with a single sash, multi-paned window. The three rectangular windows below on each turret are double sashed with a sixteen-over-sixteen pane arrangement. The arch is decorated with radiating stone voussoirs. On the second storey, on each side of each turret, is a large square window divided by two stone mullions and two horizontal stone bars in the upper half, separating the window into nine lights.

The upper six windows are small and square, single sashed with a four-pane arrangement. The lower three are large and rectangular, also single sashed with a ten-pane arrangement. The window has a plain stone sill while each window element is topped by plain stone lintel.

The three centre bays of the east façade are dominated by a decorative stone gateway with a large rounded arch. The entire bay on the first floor projects out from the wall plain and is topped by a large projecting crenellated parapet supported on stones, each row of which protrudes out farther than those below it. As a 1901 photograph reveals, this archway once had large swinging gates that allowed wagons and trucks to enter.²⁸ The arch, above the spring line, has since been bricked in and the doorway made into a window like those on the first storey of the turrets. The arch is also decorated with radiating stone voussoirs. Above the arched gateway, on the second storey, is another large square window divided into ten lights by four stone mullions and a horizontal stone bar. The five small square lights are single sashed with four panes. The large rectangular windows are single sashed with ten panes. The window has a plain stone sill and each window is topped by a plain stone lintel.

On each side of the main central bay are two small doors. The southern doorway has been walled in with stone. The north doorway consists of a single door offset to the left, with one sidelight on the right. Above is a multi-paned transom window. The doorhead is decorated with flat radiating voussoirs. Above each doorway is a small circular window surrounded completely by radiating stone voussoirs. Above these, on the second storey are large rectangular windows with plain stone sills and a plain stone lintel. The windows are double sashed with a twenty-over-twenty pane arrangement. Above the stone lintel is a small half-round transom window decorated by radiating stone voussoirs.

The 1901 photograph of the machine shop shows that the walls and turrets were originally topped by battlements, which projected slightly beyond the wall planes and were supported by stone corbels.²⁸ The battlements' crenelation has since been removed and has been replaced by tablets of smooth cut stone. The corbelled stone and projecting base of the retaining battlement still remains on all turrets and walls. The west façade was decorated in the same manner as a 1901 photograph proves²⁹, but it has been altered and its windows and door bricked in as well.

The eight bays of the north façade consist of a projecting turreted bay at each end and six central bays. The turret windows, as previously mentioned, are decorated in the same way on all sides. The six central bays on the first storey are square and are divided into three rectangular lights by two stone mullions. There is a small transom window above each window element. It has six panes, the lower rectangular window is double sashed with a nine-over-nine pane arrangement. These windows have a plain stone sill and are decorated by flat radiating voussoirs. The second storey windows consist of three rectangular windows per bay with a small round arched transom window above each one. The rectangular windows all have a continuous stone sill. These windows are double sashed with a nine-over-nine pane arrangement. The upper transom window is multi-paned and the arch is decorated by radiating stone voussoirs. The only break in this pattern is a small arched window on the second storey beside the east turret. A small rectangular window on the first storey has been filled with stone.

The south wall of the building has been greatly altered and for the most part is now constructed of brick and sheet metal. The turrets and two stone bays have survived, but at the point where the stone has been removed and replaced by brick there is a stone buttress.

The building is now used partially as an office while the rest of the building including the old blacksmith shop is used to house machinery.

The blacksmith shop is attached to the machine shop at the southwest corner. It was probably built at the same time as the machine shop or shortly after, as it is included on the Company map of 1901⁷, and was included in the Company's book of photographs as well.²⁹ It is a red sandstone building with a high single storey and a monitor roof. This consists of a high central roof, on each side of which is another roof at a lower level. The west façade of the shop consists of three bays. The central bay is dominated by a large arched doorway for the movement of trucks and large machinery. The arch is decorated with radiating stone voussoirs. Above the arch, on the gable end of the high roof section, are four rectangular windows decorated by plain stone lintels and a continuous sill. On each side of the central bay is a stone pilaster which extends above the level of the roof. Each pilaster is topped by a stone block and topping the bay itself is a pediment-like parapet.

The bays on each side consist of four rectangular windows, double sashed, with a nine-over-nine pane arrangement. Above each is a small round arched transom window decorated with radiating voussoirs. The windows all have a plain continuous sill. At each corner of the building is a stone pilaster. At the level of the roof a stone string course extends across the whole façade. A parapet wall above each bay slants up to meet the roofline of the high central roof, altogether forming a pediment-like element over the whole façade.

The north and south façades consist of six bays. Each bay is separated from the other by a stone pilaster. Each bay has a large round arched multi-paned window decorated with radiating stone voussoirs. The pilasters extend only up to the height of the windows. The stone wall extends up a few more feet and has a flat roof with plain eaves.

The Blacksmith Shop has been greatly altered and is surrounded by various stone sheds and additions to the building itself. It is now only partially visible from the street.

Sulphite Mill

The "stately sulphite mill" that Grant spoke of in 1900 has been altered a great deal, as have most of the other buildings in the complex. Many smaller buildings have been torn down or absorbed by larger ones and many new sections have been added. A great deal has, however, survived.

A photograph of the sulphite mill³⁰ taken soon after it was built reveals a large sandstone structure towering over the other buildings. The mill building consists of three basic sections: a tall multi-storey section, a three-storey section immediately behind, and then a two-storey section attached onto it. The mill tower itself is about five storeys high, but each level has very high

ceilings and large workrooms which accounts for its height. The mill, when it was first built, was 176 feet by 68 feet by 110 feet high.³¹

The tower is itself is divided into two sections: the north side, consisting of four bays projecting slightly ahead of the south section, comprised also of four bays. Both sections are of equal height but the fenestration and decoration on the southern section is smaller. Each tower has a high sandstone first storey that is pierced by tall, round-arched rectangular windows. The main doorway is also round-arched. The north tower is decorated by two monumental round-headed stone arches that extend up three stories to the fourth level. Each large arch contains two small round-arched windows on the fourth level, and two square-headed windows per arch on the third and second. The fifth level is very tall and consists of three central bays of two blind rectangular windows each. At each corner is a slightly projecting crenelated turret. The top of the building is also crenelated. A row of stone corbels is placed between the fourth and fifth level. There is also decorated stonework above the blind windows.

The same patterns and decorations are continued on all sides. On the north side there are four rectangular windows piercing the first level. There is only one monumental arch within which are two windows per level. On the fifth level the same pattern is continued as on the east side. The three and two-storey sections to the west follow the same design, but of course differ as to size and scale.

As Principal Grant observed, every building in the complex was built “so as to be capable of enlargement”⁶ and the sulphite mill has not escaped change. The crenellated battlements have all been removed and replaced by plain stone trim, thereby destroying much of the mill’s fortress-like appearance. Another level has also been added onto the tower, which is covered with aluminium siding. On this level, a large sign with the company name has been painted. The base of the mill can no longer be seen since the addition of the paper mill in 1912²², and the 1974 map²⁵ also indicates that the buildings have been added onto and have been joined to others, but the sulphite mill is still the most dominant feature of the complex, and therefore, one of the most worthy of preservation.

As the map of 1914 indicates²² the paper mill of 1912 was one of the largest buildings, in area, ever built into the complex. It stretched from a point almost parallel to the Block House, to within several yards of the power canal. Built of red sandstone it provided the mill with a new and vital industry, and gave the Company the chance to manufacture its own product - pulpwood into newsprint. The addition of this paper mill made it one of the largest producers of newsprint in Canada, and brought added wealth to Sault Ste. Marie.

As the paper mill was, in some sense, an extension of the pulp mill, the paper mill was designed in the same way. As a photograph of the power house and pulp mill, before 1912 shows¹⁶ the red sandstone buildings were two-storeys high with very large workrooms, sometimes requiring two rows of windows per storey. At each corner of the buildings were large, crenelated turrets decorated in the gothic style. The main façade of both buildings was decorated with a series of blind arcades. Large pilasters extended up both levels where a slightly rounded arch tops the second level windows. On the first level, within each bay are three, tall rectangular windows. On the second level, within each bay are three, rectangular arched windows; the centre window

being slightly taller than the other two. On the pulp mill, above each bay created by the arcade is another row of smaller windows. In each bay are three, tall rectangular windows; although they are not as tall as the others.

This section of the mill has been greatly altered. The powerhouse was destroyed by fire in May of 1918 and was quickly rebuilt of brick in the same year. The building that replaced it is the one that you see there today.³² The turret that was built on the northeast corner of the pulp mill was torn down and is now a truck entrance. The only turret to survive is the rounded turret at the northeast corner of the powerhouse. The two-storey turret is pierced by tall rectangular windows and is decorated with vertical and horizontal bands of stone. The top of this tower and the wall to the east of it, is one of the few areas in the complex where the crenelation has not been removed.

As mentioned before, the paper mill of 1912 was designed to compliment the architecture of the pulp mill and powerhouse. The paper mill's main façade is decorated in the same series of blind arcades with large stone pilasters extending up the full two storeys with a slight arch above the second level of windows. Just as the north façade of the pulp mill and powerhouse consisted of approximately twenty bays, the paper mill also has twenty bays on its main east façade; each bay created by each section of the arcade. The window arrangement on the paper mill is different. On the first level of each bay are two, tall rectangular windows, while on the second level each bay consists of two, small square windows. Some sections of this façade have been added on to or altered. At the north end there are several brick additions, while the third and fourth bay from the south end have been removed and a brick building about four-storeys high has been built. The first and second bays at this end also have windows of the same size on each level, which may indicate that this section was rebuilt at one time.

Significance

The history of the Abitibi Pulp and Paper Company is long and varied. The events surrounding its construction and development as an economically viable enterprise have often been tempestuous, and in one instance, violent; but such movements have contributed a great deal to the history of this city. The presence of these stone buildings have helped to shape Sault Ste. Marie into what it is today and are a monument to the man Francis Hector Clergue who had the foresight and energy to bring them about.

Apart from such historical and economic importance, the Abitibi buildings are unique examples of industrial architecture in Ontario, perhaps even in Canada. In an age when most industrial buildings are monotonous and plain walls of brick or aluminium siding, the Abitibi Company buildings are a striking contrast. While most nineteenth century factories of any size, with the exception of local grain or saw mills in Ontario were built decorated of brick, the warm red sandstone of the Abitibi Plant with its conscious gothic/romanesque decoration makes it one of the most attractive industrial sights in the country. Even on their own, the buildings are worthy of preservation because of the carefully cut stone and their precise and rich decoration of all the building elements. As a whole complex, the sheer number of stone buildings; the individual character of each building, as well as, the harmony created between them by the repetition of

decorative motives throughout the complex, gives the Abitibi Plant a unique place in the development of industrial architecture in Ontario.

Although the buildings have for the most part been altered, some superior examples of original stonework and design still exist. The nature of the pulp industry necessitates that the pulp and paper mills are the areas that have undergone the most change and modernization. In this area of the plant it would be in the best interest of all to designate only the public façades of the pulp and paper mills, thus saving the appearance of the building without hampering the growth of the company. The main concern in protecting the architecture of the plant should be for the exterior stone walls of the pulp and paper mills, and the “tower” of the old sulphite mill as there are very few, if any, examples of stone architecture on this scale in the Province.

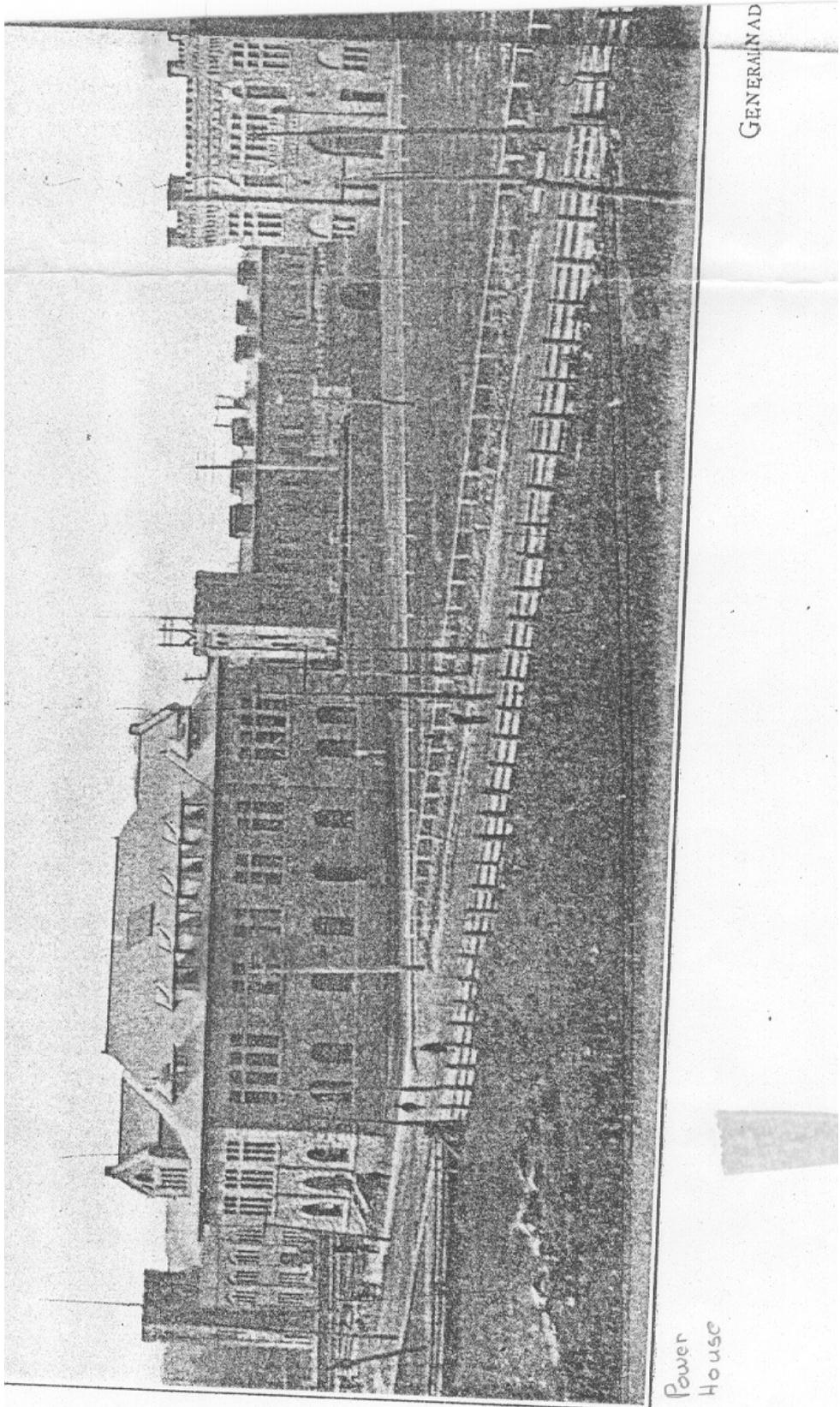
In the less industrial-oriented buildings, protection should be given to all exterior walls. (The interiors of all the buildings in the complex have been greatly altered over the years.) The machine shop building is a superb stone building and its main façade is one of the most highly decorated in the city. The multi-paned windows in this building and the stonework on the four walls are the most important features of this building. The general office building exterior has also remained essentially unaltered except for the windows. Again the four outer walls and the roof are all worthy of protection, as well as, the beautiful wrought-iron fire escape on the south wall. Just behind the general offices and beside the machine shop on the north bank of the number one tail race, are several stone storage and maintenance sheds with wooden roofs. These should be considered as well in designation as they are beautifully decorated with corbelled stone and recessed walls, and are very worthy of consideration. The buildings on the south side of tail race number one should also be saved even if they have been greatly altered. The most important features again are the public façades, as well as, the surviving rounded turret on the north-east corner.

The Abitibi Pulp and Paper Company is the second largest industry in Sault Ste. Marie and the second largest employer. In considering the Company's buildings to be architecturally worthy of protection, it would be in the best interest of the city and the Province to preserve as much of the stone architecture as possible without restricting the growth and progress of the Company that built it.

Footnotes

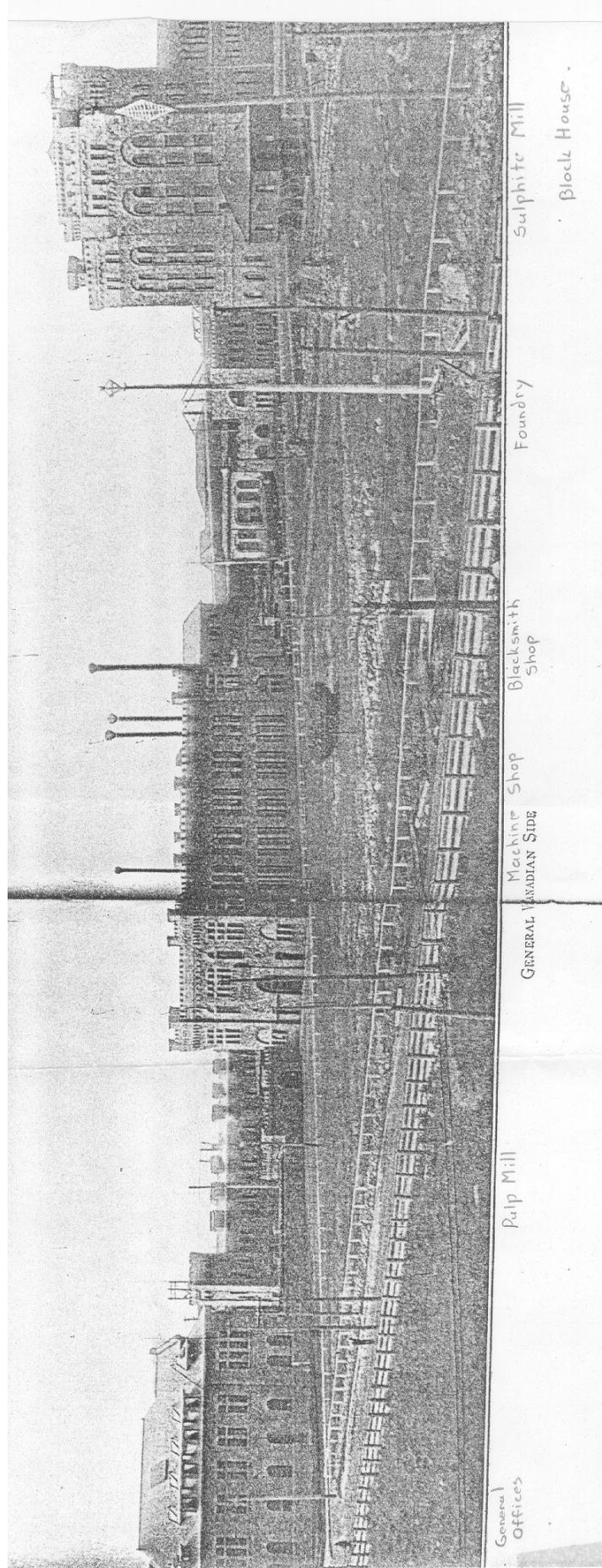
1. (pg 1) “Francis H. Clergue and the rise of Sault Ste. Marie as an Industrial Centre” – Ontario Historical Society - Margaret Van Every. June 1964 (read at Brantford). p. 192.
2. Ibid p. 193
3. Ibid p. 194
4. Ibid p. 194 (quoted from McClure and M’Govern, “Harnessing Lake Superior”. Pearson’s Magazine, August, 1902.
5. Canadian Magazine, Oct. 1900, “The Jason of Algoma” by Principal Grant. p. 489.
6. Ibid (pg 2) p. 489.
7. See map #1 from The Consolidated Lake Superior Company 1901, p. 42 (map) Sault Ste. Marie Library (Reference) R338.76 Con.
8. George Carruthers, Paper Making Part II “First Century of Paper Making in Canada”. “Spanish River Group”, The Garden-City Press Co-Operative, Toronto, 1947. p. 677.
9. “Francis H. Clergue and the rise of Sault Ste. Marie.”, Ontario Historical Society - Margaret Van Every - June 1964, p.195.
10. Ibid, p. 193
11. Ibid, p. 200
12. Ibid, p. 201
13. Sault Daily Star: March 16, 1947 “Sault Paper Mill.”
14. George Carruther: Paper Making Part II The Garden City Press Co-Operative, Toronto, 1947 p. 687.
15. Abitibi Pulp and Paper Co. Ltd. – History - Sault Mill, March 2, 1964.
16. See photograph - Sault Armouries Museum - Filing Cabinet “B”, Category G Item 224. Photo #1.
17. Sault Star April 13, 1920. p. 7
18. Saturday Night January 7, 1939, Toronto, Canada (Scrapbook #19- “Industry” Sault Ste. Marie Library.)
19. Abitibi - 1953 Annual Report.

20. Sault Daily Star, October 10, 1953.
21. See foldout from The Consolidated Lake Superior Company 1901 p.31, 32.
22. Spanish River and Lake Superior Pulp and Paper Company. Public Works Canada, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. Drawn by Alex J. Connan, July 1914 Drawer #18 Sault Ste. Marie Library. See map #2.
23. Abitibi October, 1955 “Soo Mill” pg 26 (See scrapbook #19- “Industry” Sault Ste. Marie Library.
24. See map #3- from City of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario August 1943 (revised to December 31, 1949) - drawn by E. E. Smith - City Engineer.
25. See Map #4 - from Pathfinder - Air Surveys Ltd. - Map and Street Guide from the Air - 1974. “Abitibi Pulp and Paper Company.” Sault Ste. Marie Drawer #18.
26. See Photograph - from The Consolidated Lake Superior Company (1901) p.5 also photograph from Sault Armouries. Photos #2 and #3.
27. From the Second Annual Report for year ending June 30, 1900 of the Consolidated Lake Superior Company. Scrapbook #19 - “Industry”- Sault Ste. Marie Library.
28. See photo #4 - from the Consolidated Lake Superior Company (1901) p. 14.
29. See photo #5 - The Consolidated Lake Superior Company (1901) p. 15.
30. See photo #6 Ibid (1901) p. 10
31. Aileen Collins Our Town “New Sulphite Mill Opened 1901” p. 43.
32. Sault Star - April 13, 1920. “Industrial Issue”.



GENERAL AD

Power
House

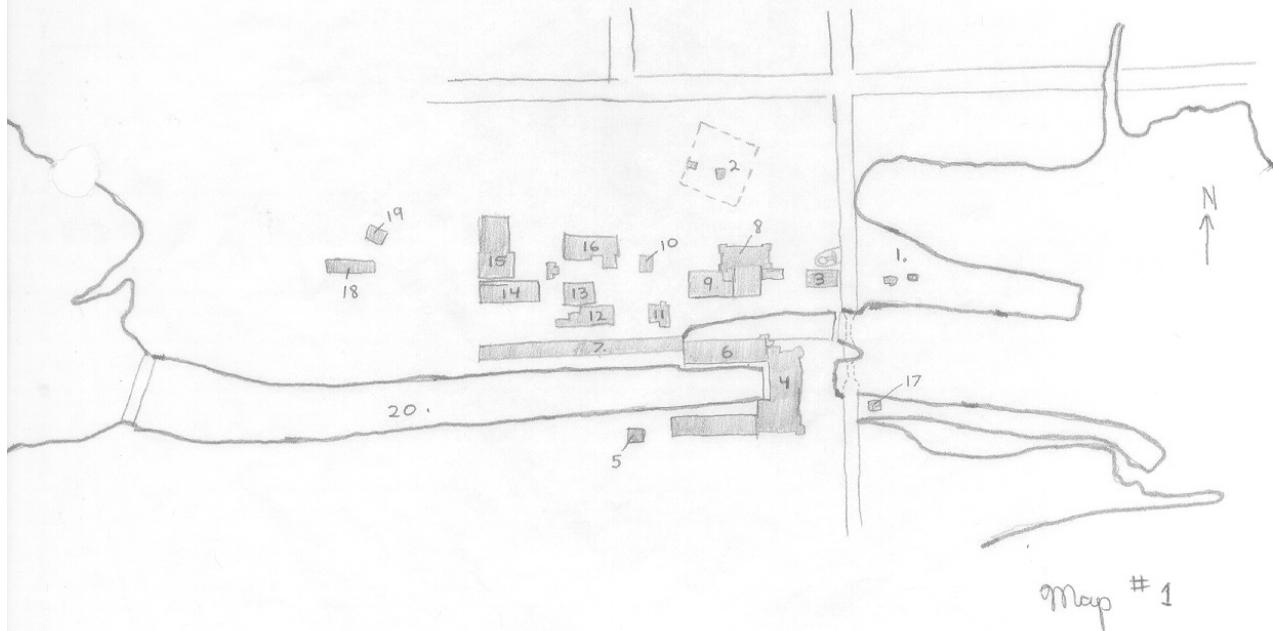


GENERAL OFFICES
GENERAL WADIAN SIDE
Pulp Mill
Machine Shop
GENERAL WADIAN SIDE
Blacksmith Shop
Foundry
Sulphite Mill
Block House.

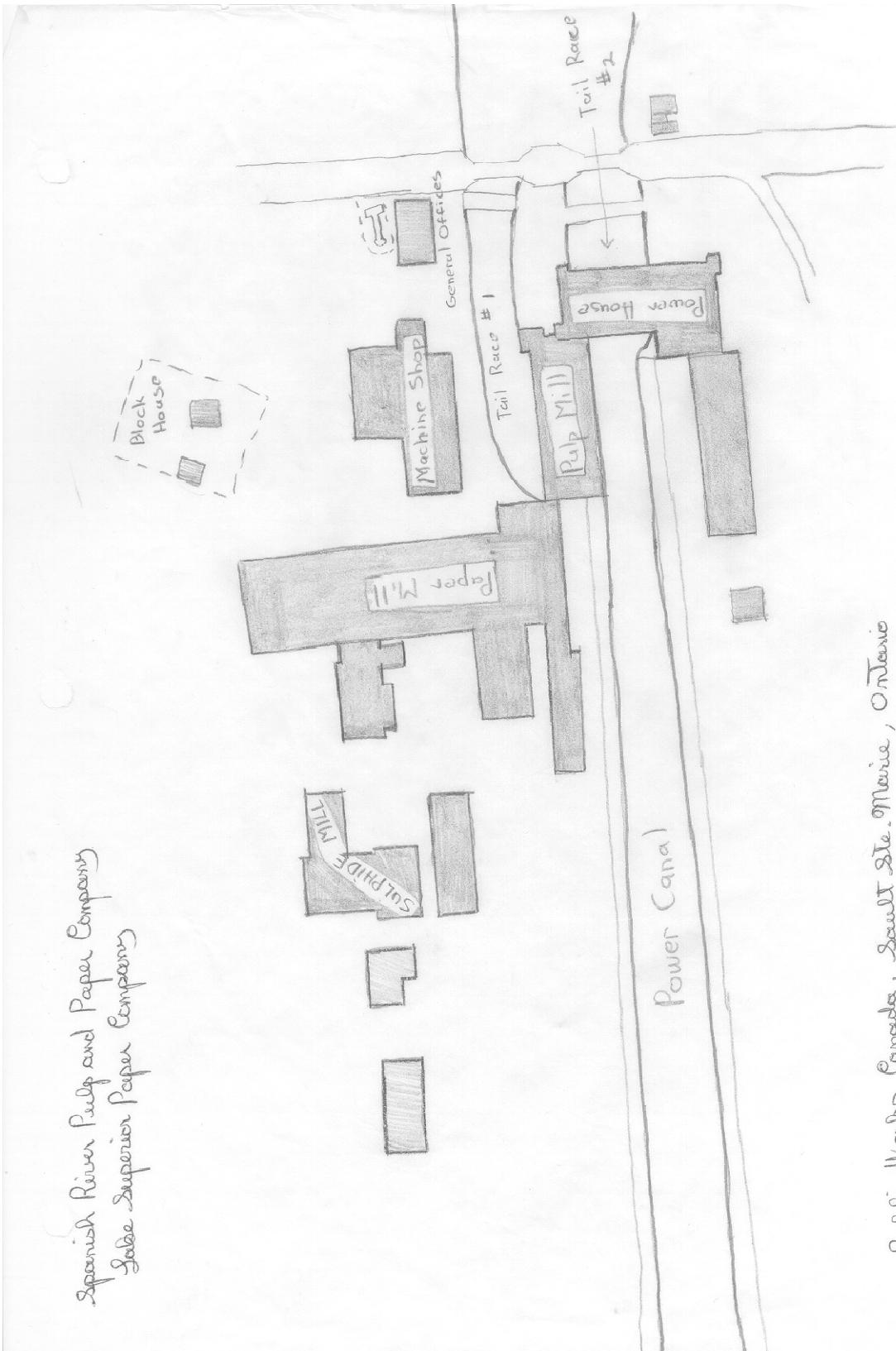
The Consolidated Lake Superior Company

"Plan Company's Works, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Exclusive of Steel
Plant" (1901)

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. A.C.R. Station | 6. Mill #1, Wood Pulp |
| 2. Block House | 7. Pulp Store House |
| 3. General Offices | 8. Machine Shop |
| 4. Power Building | 9. Blacksmith Shop |
| 5. Lime House | 10. Laboratory |



- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 11. Boiler House | 12. Foundry |
| 13. Pattern Shop | 14. Foundry |
| 15. Ferro-Nickel Reduction Works | 16. Sulphite Pulp Mill |
| 17. A.C.R. Offices | 18. Car Shed (A.C.R.) |
| 19. Engine House (A.C.R.) | 20. Power Canal |

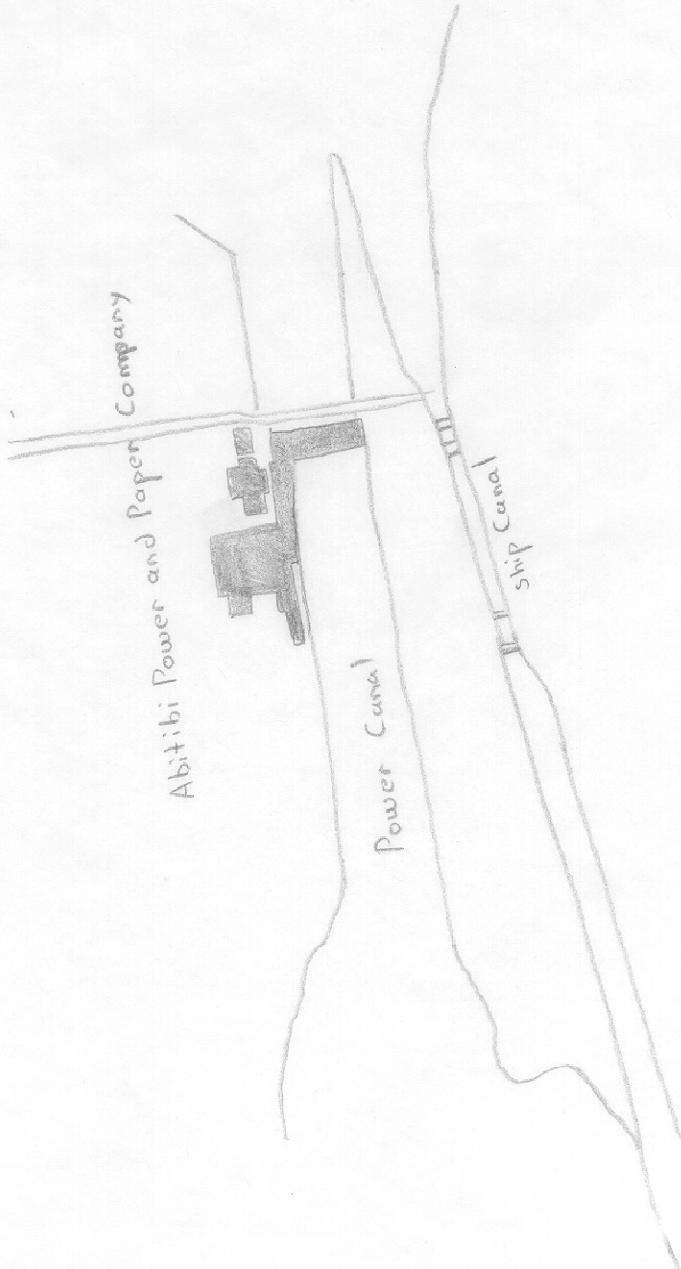


Spanish River Pulp and Paper Company
Lake Superior Paper Company

Map # 2

Public Works Canada, South Ste. Marie, Ontario
Drawn by Alex J. Connor, July 1914.

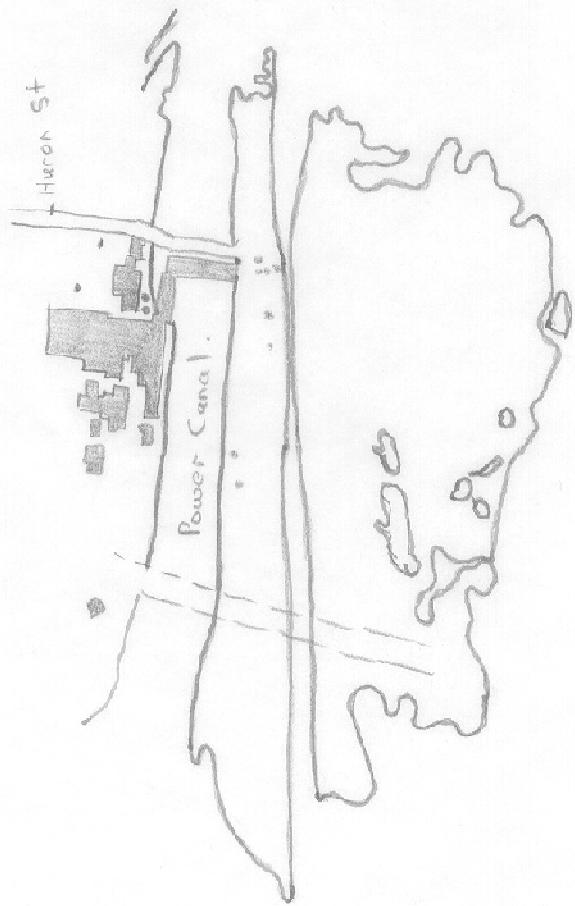
City of Sault Ste Marie, Ontario
August, 1943 (revised to December 31st, 1949)
E.E. Smith - City Engineer.



D-18
Drawn # 18
SSM Public Library

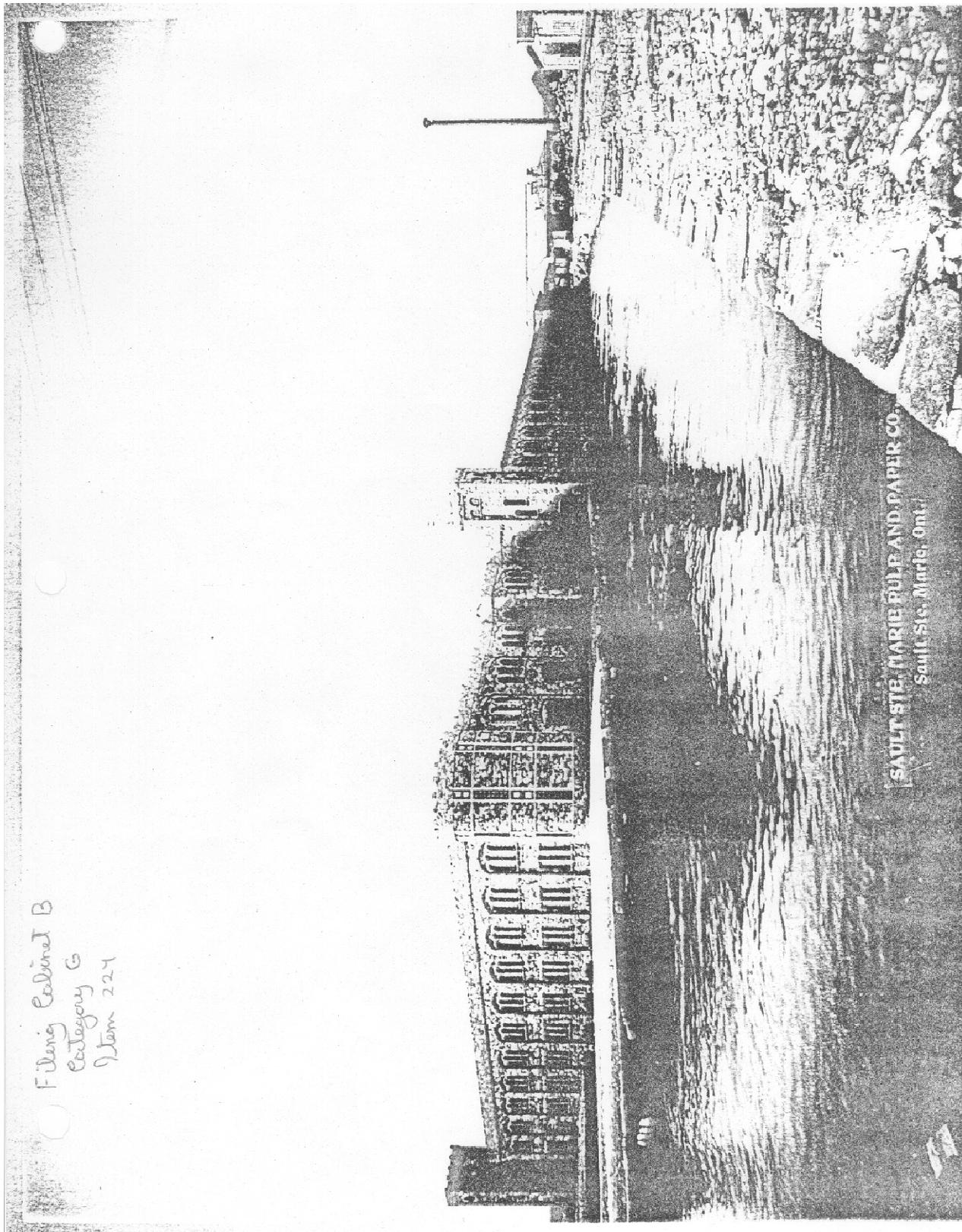
Map # 3.

Peterfiner - Old Sawmills Site



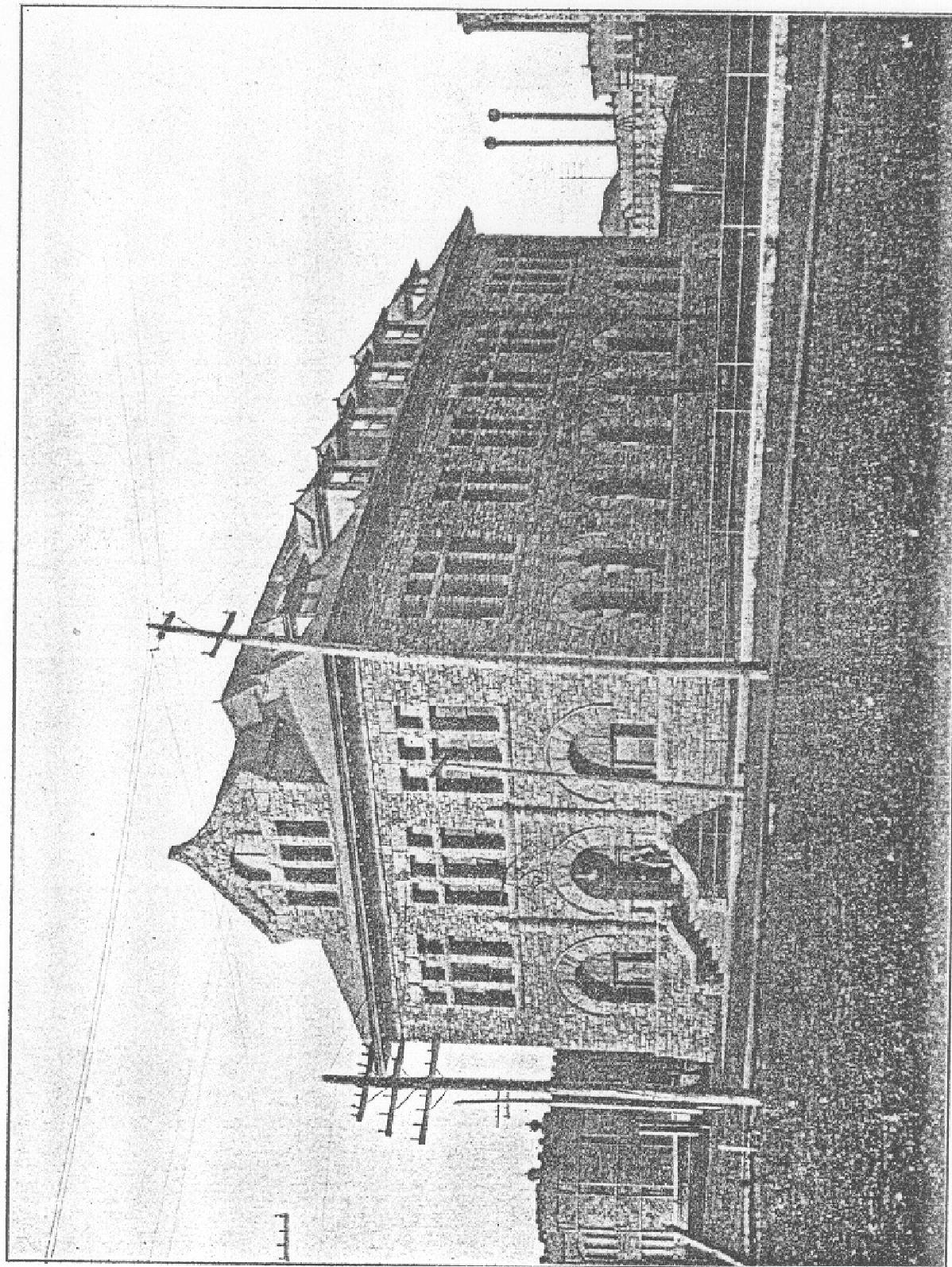
Map and Street Guide from the air - 1974
"Oldtim Pulp and Paper Company
South Ste. Marie
Drawing #18 - SSMI Drawing -

Map #4.

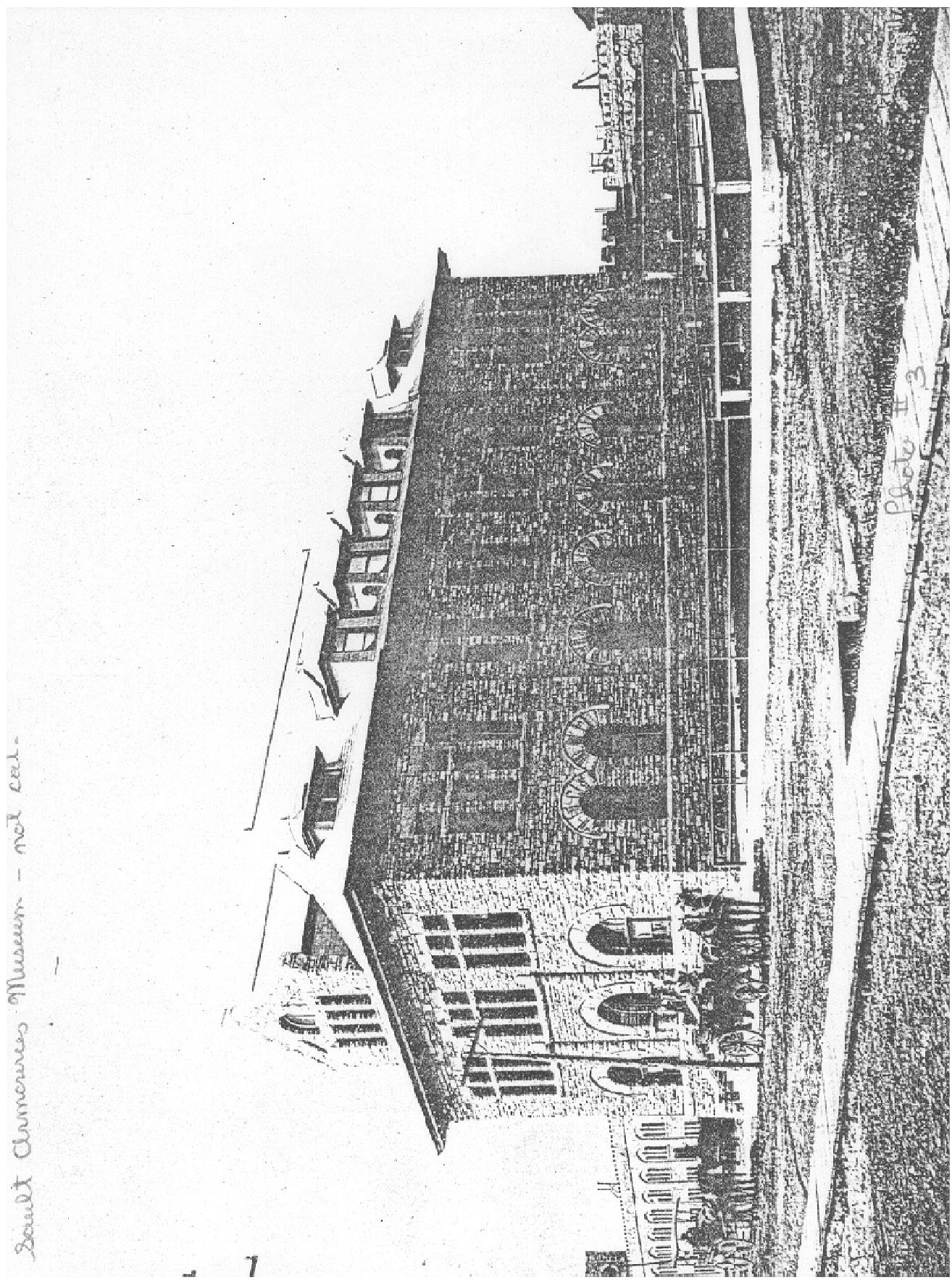


PAGE F 2

GENERAL OFFICE BUILDING



Baudt Chimoires Museum - not ext.



Pacte # 4.

MACHINE SHOP

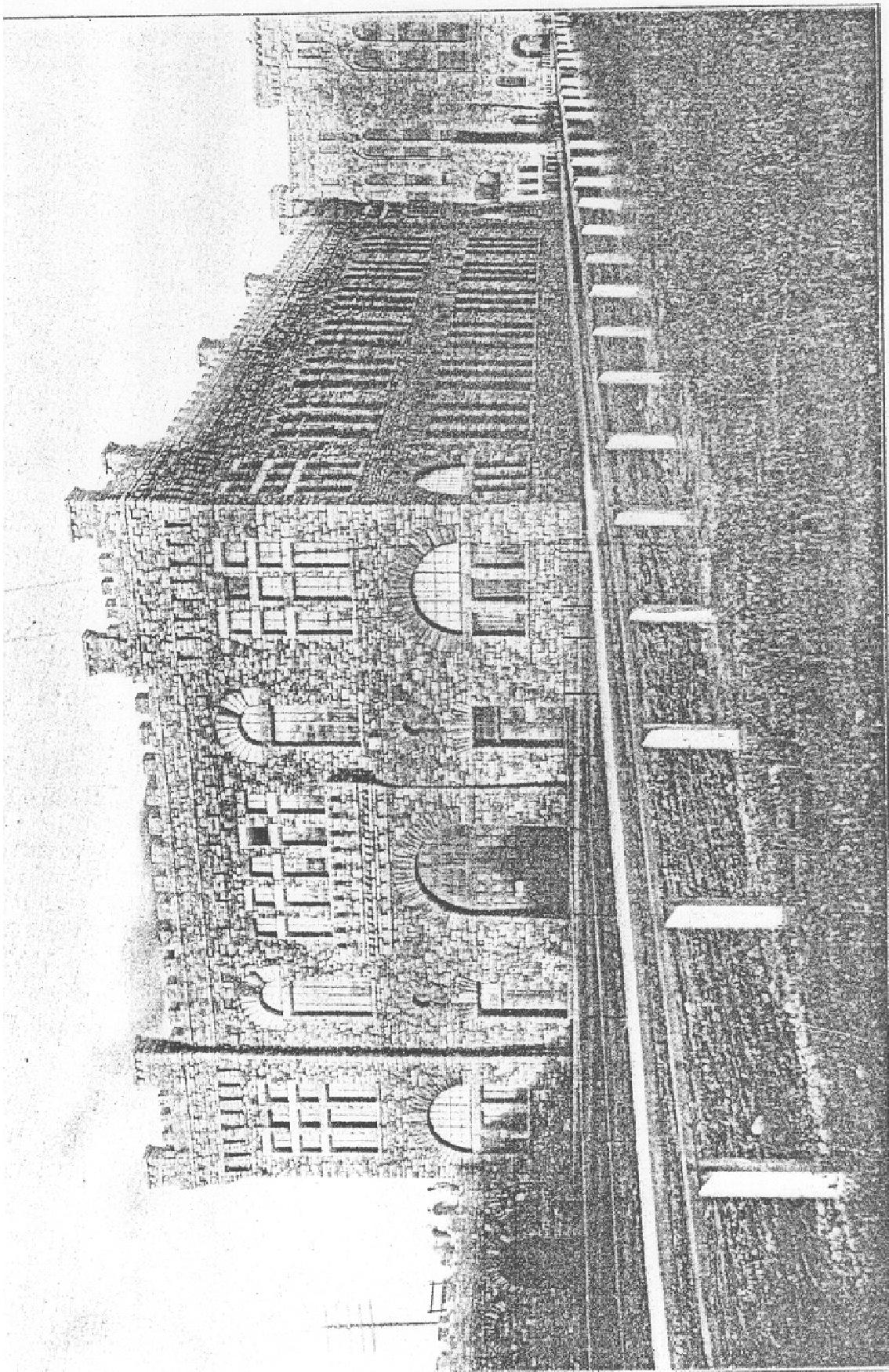


Photo # 5

REAR VIEW MACHINE SHOP—BLACKSMITH SHOP

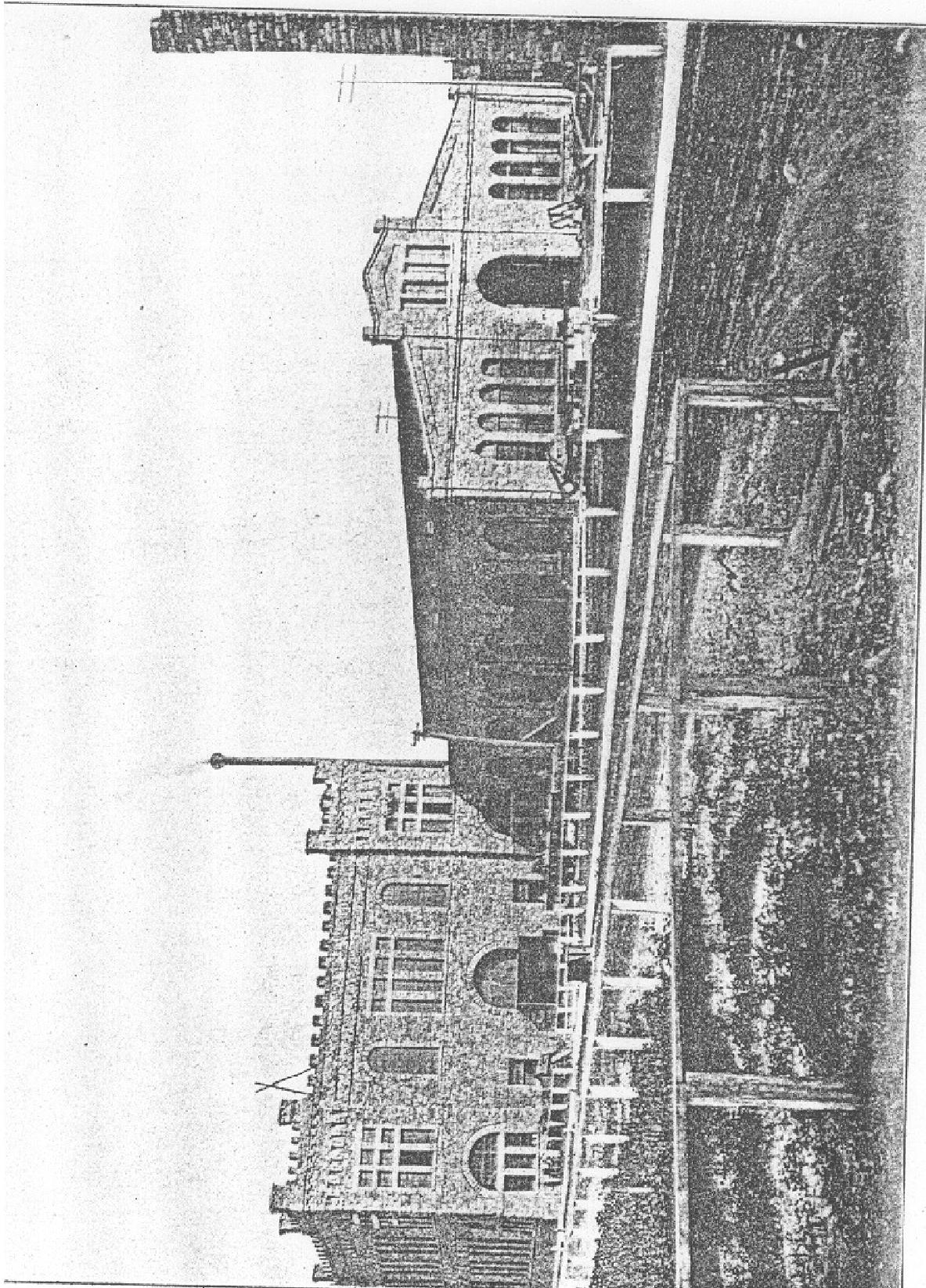
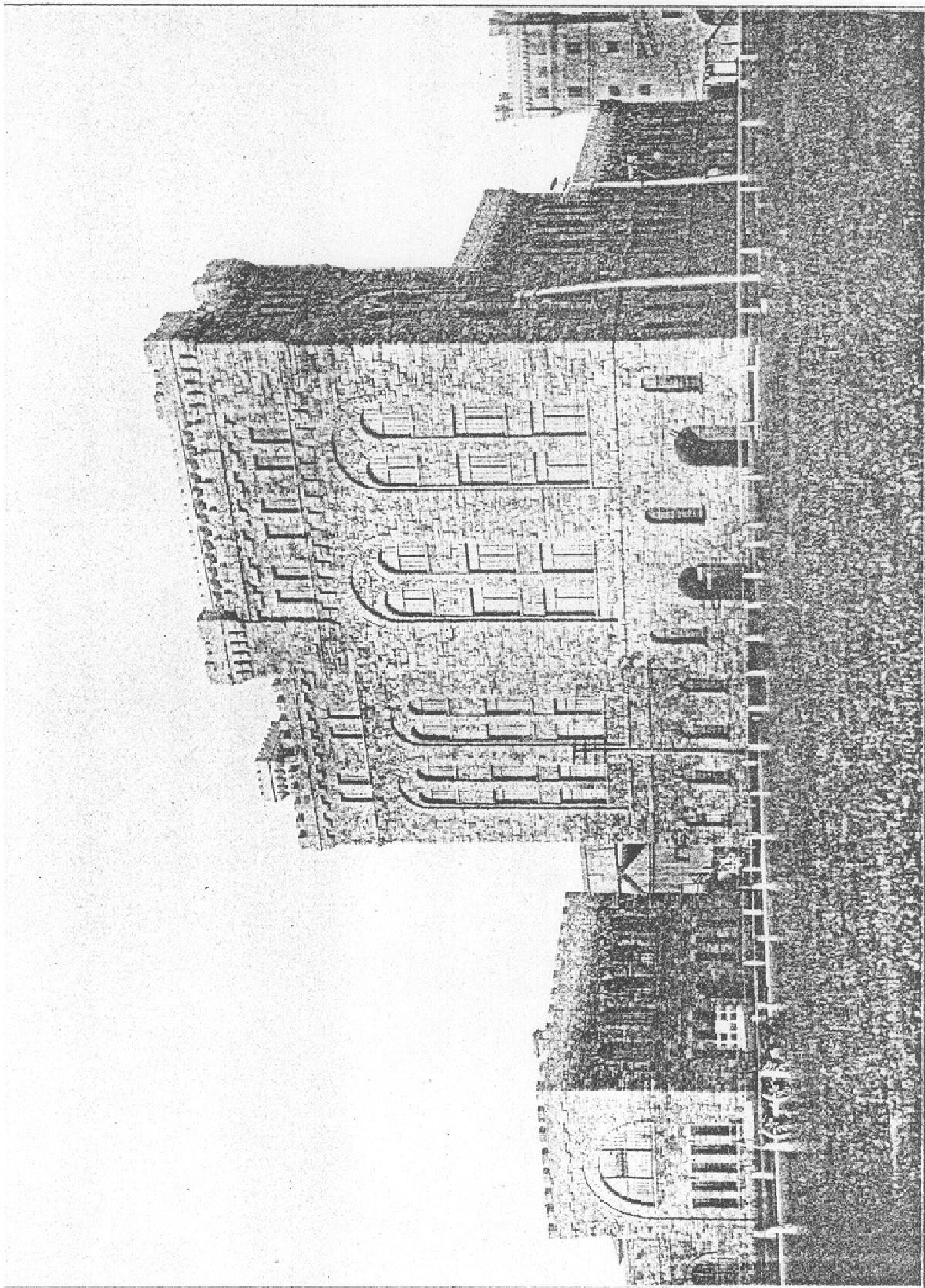


Photo # 6

SULPHITE PULP MILL



History - Sault Mill

Addendum

St. Mary's Paper Inc. Company Ltd. at Sault Ste. Marie occupies the earliest commercially and industrially developed site in Northern Ontario at the confluence of Lake Superior and Lake Huron. The French explorers visited this area as early as 1622 when Champlain sent Etienne Brule to live among the Huron Indians. In 1634 Jean Nicolet, another of Champlain's young explorers, visited the Sault and recorded his visit. A trading post was established by the Northwest Company after the war between 1782 and 1783, located immediately north of the paper machine room building. The post consisted of the Chief Factor's house, a powder magazine, a men's house or barrack and a number of warehouses for the storage of merchandise going west and north to interior trading posts and also for storage of furs bound for Montreal.

First Lock & Canal Between Lakes Superior and Huron – 1798

To expedite this traffic, the first canal between Lakes Superior and Huron was dug across this mill-site by the Northwest Company. The canal was completed by 1798, in the form of a bateau lock 38 feet long by 9 feet wide, situated north of the main office building. A towpath 2,580 ft. long for oxen tracking the boats up around the rapids extended from the lock west along the canal bank to the upper river.

A water-powered sawmill with two saws was constructed about this time right on the south side of the lock. Government records show that 14 men were employed directly by the Northwest Company in 1802, in addition to the voyageurs living at the Sault, who supplied the crews for bateau and freight canoes.

War of 1812 and Destruction at Sault Ste. Marie

All buildings and structures, including the locks, were destroyed by an armed force of 150 United States Soldiers under Major Holmes in July, 1814. Only the stone walls of the magazine remained - now the present Block House. A particularly serious loss was the destruction of the saw mill, the only one in the entire Great West.

Hudson Bay Company

A temporary post was rebuilt, one-quarter mile east of the old site by the Northwest Company at the mouth of the Fort Creek. This was occupied until 1840-42 by which time more permanent post buildings had been rebuilt on the old site by the Hudson Bay Company on the north side of the present buildings. Early great leaders in the fur trading business stopped here repeatedly from 1782 onward including Peter Pond, the Frobisher Brothers, Lord Selkirk and Sir George Simpson.

The only Post Office in this great area continued here at this Hudson Bay post until May 9, 1858. Also for the lack of other accommodation, church services were conducted regularly by the Hudson's Bay Factor. He likewise officiated at marriages herein owing to there being no clergyman here for many years. Wemyss Simpson, the last Hudson Bay Company Factor here, closed the post in 1867.

Francis Hector Clergue and the First Wood Pulp Mill

Industrial development in a major way did not start at Sault Ste. Marie until the period just prior to 1890. Due to the efforts of the local Municipal authorities, a group of Philadelphia financiers under the leadership of Francis Hector Clergue of Bangor Maine, became interested in the water power development possibilities here in the St. Marys rapids at the outlet of Lake Superior.

The Lake Superior Corporation was organized by F. H Clergue and construction was undertaken to build the initial pulp mill and iron works. This early pulp plant was known as the Sault Ste. Marie Pulp and Sulphite Company.

The building of the ground wood pulp mill started prior to 1894 and actual operation started in 1896. The early grinders were the mill's three-pocket type being driven directly through mortise gears from vertical water wheels. The pulp was dried on single-cylinder, steam-heated drying machines on the upper floor level of the ground wood mill and shipped in rolls, mostly by steamer, directly from the docks at the tailrace below the grinder room.

The sulphite mill was under construction in 1899 and two 17 ft. diameter by 54 ft. high Mandioc Iron Works Steel, lead-lined vertical digesters went into operation between 1901 and 1902 under the direction of a Mr. Michelis, Sulphite Superintendent. These digesters operated until September 1903, when this part of the operation was discontinued owing to financial difficulties and unfavourable market conditions.

A major strike of employees took place in September 1903; stopping all operations of the Lake Superior Corporation here in the steel, pulp, woods and mining departments for several weeks. Troops of the 48th Highland Regiment were sent from Toronto to keep the peace.

Lake Superior Paper Company

Operation of the ground wood mill continued steadily otherwise until 1910 when it was shut down for reconstruction of the first newsprint paper mill here by a new organization known as the Lake Superior Paper Company.

Prior to this, a machine for production of roofing felt had been installed in 1905.

Starting in the summer of 1911 construction of a new paper machine room commenced and by the summer of the following year, No. 1 and No. 2 paper machines were started up. In December of 1912, No. 4 machine started operating and early in 1913 No. 3 started.

Spanish River Pulp & Paper Mills Ltd.

The sulphite pulp mill was doubled in capacity in 1915-1917 by the construction of an addition to the digester building and installation of two additional 17ft. diameter by 54 ft. high digesters. About this time, Lake Superior Paper Company amalgamated with the Spanish River Pulp and Paper Mills.

The ground wood Pulp Mill was further expanded in 1918 and 1926 to meet requirements for increased paper production from the improved machines.

Abitibi Power & Paper Company Takes Over

On August 1, 1928, the ownership of this mill was transferred from the Spanish River Pulp & Paper Mills Ltd. to Abitibi Power & Paper Company Limited. In 1929 and 1930 major alterations were made to all four paper machines. These machines operated almost continuously until the war in 1939 when one machine was shut down for short periods due to lack of pulpwood.

Since 1946 considerable changes have occurred to the equipment. They included the installation of three 12 ft. by 45 ft. barking drums; a new wood room, new grinder room with six Waterouse Great Northern Grinders driven in pairs by 5000 hp and 8000 hp motors, modernized ground wood screening systems, new boiler house equipment, and many paper machine changes to produce newsprint and ground wood speciality paper such as directory and catalogue. Capacity increased to 435 tons per day.

In 1947 the Central Research Division of Abitibi was located on the mill site and many notable developments have been made possible throughout the company due to its efforts. In 1965-1966 the research people moved to a new research centre at Sheridan Park, Ontario.

Abitibi-Price Takes Over

In 1974, Abitibi Paper obtained controlling interest in the Price Company of Quebec, bringing the number of employees in the group to more than 18,000 in Canada and nearly 2,000 in the United States. The combined organizations within the group include 40 manufacturing locations across Canada and the United States.

In 1979, the name of the company became Abitibi Price Inc.

Abitibi-Price Inc. is the largest manufacturing and marketing organization of the newsprint in the world, with annual sales exceeding one billion dollars. Ten mills in Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and Newfoundland produce the equivalent of 20% of Canada's output. The Abitibi-Price group includes Abitibi Fine Papers - the second largest fine paper producer in Canada; manufacturing plants for envelopes; stationary and other converted paper products; other forest-based mill producing ground wood papers, kraft paper and paperboard; corrugated containers and corrugating medium; decorative hardboard panelling; exterior siding; sheathing and lumber.

Ground wood papers manufactured at Sault Ste. Marie and Kenogami Mills were used in catalogues, paperbacks, telephone and airline directories, advertising supplements, magazines, T.V. Guide, etc.

The Abitibi-Price Group has substantial timber and energy resources, and has broadened its interests into mineral exploration and development in recent years.

Olympia & York Takes Over

In March of 1981, Olympia & York Investments Limited became majority owners of Abitibi-Price Inc., with Mr. Albert Reichman, President.

In April 1982, No. 2 paper machine was permanently shut down.

It can be said that tremendous changes had taken place, to modernize the facilities to ensure a competitive position in North America and internationally.

Production averaged 300 tons per day.

Mill built - 1800's

First paper made at Sault Mill about 1912.

St. Mary's Paper Inc.

St. Marys Paper came into existence on June 1, 1984, with the purchase of the Sault Ste. Marie mill from Abitibi-Price by Dan Alexander, a Chicago businessman. In partnership with Dan Alexander, is Shieldings Investments Ltd., of Toronto (28.5% interest) and Nordic American Banking Corp., of New York (18% interest). In April 1985, Rauma-Repola was added as a 25% partner.

A \$19M (Canadian) project that included two new supercalenders, a new bleaching system, process controls and automatic roll wrapping was completed in April 1985.

After the completion of this project, St. Marys has a capacity of 80,000 tons per year of supercalender paper and 35, 000 tons of machine finished, clay filled heatset off-set paper.

This Addendum Prepared August 1986.

Photos Taken: July 2005

