

ORIGINS OF THE INDIANA LIMESTONE COMPANY



BY

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Preface to the Revised Edition

A reader would naturally expect that the revised edition of a work would contain new information. Alas, with a few exceptions, this is not the case. A glance at the old typewriter font will reveal that with the miracle of a modern computer, scanner, and Power Point, I have been able to reproduce the now twenty-six year old work by merely copying it. The revision consists of including dozens of pictures to illustrate many of the mills that in 1926 became a part of the Indiana Limestone Company (ILCO). These photographs are in many collections here in the stone district and on the internet but so often pictures in those collections are not identified or not identified correctly. Even when they are, people looking at them can not help wondering where the quarry or mill scene was located. In a small way this work helps correct that problem by giving identity and context to lots of pictures without merely being a catalog by adopting the theme of illustrating the original mills of ILCO. Of course the story of the merger is interesting in its own right.

After each chapter there are ground plans for the mills that were in the original work, and newly added maps that are designed to leave the reader in absolutely no doubt about just where these mills were located. To insure that the mills in each chapter have maps identifying their location, there has been a certain amount of duplication. That avoids having to flip several pages to find the suitable map for the mills of that chapter.

The main source for those maps is a wonderful map made in 1931 by the Building Association of Indiana, Inc. that measures thirty-three inches wide and 91 inches long. It shows the ownership of all quarries and mills of the "Indiana Oolitic Limestone District, Monroe County, Lawrence County, and Owen County, Indiana." For our purposes that year 1931 is five years after the merger and some mills that ILCO acquired no longer exist. In that case I have added maps of my own and sometimes have even done so when I thought they provided more clarity. Thus I have shown mills that ILCO once owned but are no longer there in 1931. Sometimes I have shown mills that were owned by some of the merging companies that were no longer present at the time of the merger. Occasionally I have provided photographs that are relevant to the mills but aren't of the mills themselves. For most of those maps I have added red markings to highlight the mill or mills dealt with in that chapter.

The bulk of those photographs are from a series of aerial pictures taken about 1923 that covered most of the district. They are supplemented from my collection. I have tried to credit everyone who has supplied those images, but on occasion I haven't a clue where I got the picture. I apologize to those donors.

We must never forget that those twenty-four limestone companies that formed the Indiana Limestone Company actually represented over seventy companies that eventually came together as one. Those companies were a lot more than little boxes on a flow chart. They were filled with the hopes and dreams of entrepreneurs and the toil and sweat of countless laborers who in a very literal way contributed a great deal to the building of this great nation. This little paper highlights a small part of their story.

January, 2016

Acknowledgment

Years ago I was a babe in the woods when it came to computers and scanners. Today I am no longer a babe but I am still in the woods. Pete Pedigo spent a great deal of his valuable time way back then scanning my considerable collection of limestone related photographs. I am forever in his debt and want, as always, to acknowledge his help in allowing me to create this, and other, stone related articles. He is also a whiz at identifying old pictures. Ron Marquardt guided me toward the purchase of just the right scanner and thus my collection of slides can now be a source for works like this. Neither Ron nor Pete ever met a photograph they didn't like. They both have a love of history and a tolerant disposition that allows them to put up with my questions and requests. I thank them both.

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PREFACE

The overall purpose of my research in the history of the Indiana limestone industry is to fill in some of the gaps left by other authors. It is not my intention to write a history of the business but to complement what has already been done. In the first part of this series I attempted to identify and locate as many as possible of the sites of limestone mills in the district that existed up to 1950.¹ I was able to locate one hundred and six mills: two in Owen County, sixty-five in Monroe County, and thirty-nine in Lawrence County. No effort in the earlier work was made to give anything but the most perfunctory history of those mills or the companies that built and operated them.

By far the largest company in the history of the Indiana limestone business was and is the Indiana Limestone Company. This firm was formed in 1926 by the merger of twenty-four other companies in Monroe and Lawrence Counties.² This work is not a history of that company nor is it, as the title would indicate, a complete account of its formation. What I have done is to start with the merger and trace backward

¹Clay W. Stuckey, Gazetteer of Limestone Mills of Owen, Monroe, and Lawrence Counties to 1950, (Unpublished, 1989).

²The obvious attractiveness of the name Indiana Limestone Company did not go unnoticed by earlier entrepreneurs. Companies with that name were organized in Lawrence County in 1890 and 1911. It is not clear if these companies ever actually did anything or if men were simply trying to preclude the use of the name by others. Lawrence County, Misc. Record 4, p 332, 11, p 1.

the corporate histories of those twenty-four companies to see where each of them originated. Many of those were themselves products of mergers, by-outs, and reorganizations. The result of my research indicates that another way of looking at the merger in 1926 would be to say that the Indiana Limestone Company was not the product of a merger of twenty-four companies but that it was the end result of the coming together of over seventy companies.

After a brief introduction about the formation of the Indiana Limestone Company (often referred to herein as ILCO) there follows twenty-four chapters, each dedicated to one of the companies of the final merger. The chapters are arranged alphabetically. At the beginning of each is a flow chart which gives the corporate history of that company. Often the chart is an over-simplification because it does not distinguish the circumstances surrounding the end of one company and the beginning of another. Some companies bought others that were operating at the time. In other cases the companies were facing hard times and were either operating intermittently or not at all. Sometimes a company had gone completely out of business and its assets were bought by more than one company and it is not obvious which of the latter would be considered the successor company. After the flow chart is a brief history of the company.

The names of the men on the articles of association or incorporation are listed for each company. I have also given the names of all other companies that each man organ-

ized. This makes for some boring and repetitive passages for which I can only plead the indulgence of the reader. Brief biographical information is given when it is known. A list of men who organized a stone company is itself often misleading because rarely do we know the relative contributions that each man made toward the success of the business. Some provided more money than others, some probably provided legal expertise, and others brought to the company the necessary experience in the stone business. The courthouse records are silent on all of this except for a rare indication of the financial commitment of each of the organizers.

I wish to express my gratitude to Mr. John Tucker, the president of the Indiana Limestone Company. He has always been gracious and cooperative with any of my requests and has been generous in giving me complete access to the archives of the company. Without his help this work would have been much more difficult. Above all, however, he has shown a genuine interest in things historical that is always appreciated by those who labor in the service of Clio.

NOTES ON SOURCES

There are four main sources of information that are the start of any research about the history of the local stone belt. The first is a section on "The Bedford Oolitic Limestone of Indiana" by T. C. Hopkins and C. E. Siebenthal contained in the 21st Annual Report of the Department of Geology and Natural Resources by W. S. Blatchley who was

the state geologist.³ This was published in 1896. The second is a section on "The Indiana Oolitic Limestone Industry in 1907," written by Raymond S. Blatchley and contained in the Thirty-Second Annual Report of the Indiana Department of Geology and Natural Resources by W. S. Blatchley.⁴ Raymond was the son of W. S. Blatchley. The third source is An Economic History of the Indiana Oolitic Limestone Industry written in 1944 by Joseph Batchelor.⁵ This work is truly masterful. The final source is the two county histories of Lawrence County written by James Guthrie.⁶ In the section on the stone industry in each of these books he has done an excellent job giving a detailed history of the business up to 1941. The residents of the county are fortunate that Guthrie has written two histories that are far superior to what usually passes for county histories. Monroe County has been neglected by the historical talent associated with Indiana University in not having an adequate treatment of

³T. C. Hopkins and C. E. Siebenthal, "The Beford Oolitic Limestone of Indiana," in the 21st Annual Report of the Department of Geology and Natural Resources, ed. by W. S. Blatchley (Indianapolis, 1896).

⁴Raymond S. Blatchley, "The Indiana Oolitic Limestone Industry," in Indiana Department of Geology and Natural Resources Thirty-Second Annual Report, ed. by W. S. Blatchley (Indianapolis, 1908).

⁵Joseph Batchelor, An Economic History of the Indiana Oolitic Limestone Industry (Bloomington, 1944).

⁶James M. Guthrie, Thirty Three Years in the History of Lawrence County, Indiana: 1884-1917 (Bedford, 1958), hereafter cited as Thirty Three Years; and A Quarter Century in Lawrence County, Indiana: 1917-1941 (Bedford, 1984), hereafter cited as Quarter Century.

its history. Local history is not the stuff of academic laurels.

The remaining sources are listed in the bibliography but one final source needs mention because it is so significant to the theme of this work. I combed the indices of all the Miscellaneous Records at the Office of the Recorder in Monroe and Lawrence Counties for the articles of association or incorporation of all the stone companies that I could find. For each of these companies I have listed only those names which were given as organizers.

The maps showing the outline drawings of the mills themselves comes from the "Property Survey of the Quarry and Mills Properties of the Indiana Limestone Company, Bedford, Indiana, in Lawrence and Monroe Counties 1928-1929." This document was in the archives of the Indiana Limestone Co. Wherever sections of that map have been used, I have placed an arrow indicating the NAME of the mill or mills under consideration and not the mill itself. There is no explanatory information that I have given to indicate just what territory is covered by these sections of the overall map. It is assumed that there are enough place names on the maps to let the reader figure out where he is.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The Indiana limestone industry suffered during the years of World War I but afterward it rebounded and continued the expansion that had characterized its history since the middle of the previous century. During the 1920's new production peaks were achieved that would never be equalled. During the years of 1925 and 1926 the total employment of men at the quarries and mills in the district was about five thousand.¹ In 1929 there were twenty-two sawmills and forty-eight cut stone mills in the district for a total of seventy operating limestone mills in Lawrence and Monroe Counties.² Of course with modern machinery and less labor intensive methods as much or more stone could be produced by fewer mills and laborers. But even the amount of stone produced in some of the years of the 1920's has not been duplicated in the district. In 1922 Indiana limestone represented 97.42% of all limestone sold in the United States.³ The peak year of production for sawed and semifinished stone was 1928 when 6,279,435 cubic feet were sold. The maximum for cut stone was 5,289,940 cubic feet that were sold in 1929.⁴ In the 1980's roughly three to four million cubic

¹Batchelor, p 257.

²Ibid., p 261.

³Ibid., p 208.

⁴Ibid., p 207.

feet of both types combined are produced by three to four hundred men in the two counties. There are now fourteen mills.

The 1920's were indeed great years for the limestone business. But for all the drama of these large production figures, the limestone industry was not immune to the same sorts of problems that plagued other major industries. It is not my intention to discuss the price wars or labor difficulties encountered by the stone men. More germane to this work is the inherent capacity for over production that resulted from the expansion since the war. By the period of 1925-1930 the industry was able to quarry and fabricate thirty to forty percent more stone than was sold in the peak year.⁵

These problems were not unknown to the stone men of the 1920's. There had been earlier efforts at mergers and cooperative agreements to help reduce the profit slashing that characterized the cutthroat competition. The largest merger by far was that in 1926 that resulted in the creation of the Indiana Limestone Company.

The idea for the merger that was culminated in 1926 seems to have originated with Simeon Freese of the National Stone Company. Freese had an attorney friend in Chicago named Frederick Bryan. He had lived in Bloomington but was then associated with Lawrence Whiting of Whiting and

⁵ Ibid., p 332.

Company in the promotion of the American Furniture Mart. Bryan and Freese convinced Whiting that a merger of Indiana stone producers would be a profitable investment. Several executives of the major stone companies were interested but especially were Augustus E. Dickinson, president of the Consolidated Stone Company, and C. W. Walters, president of the Indiana Quarries Company.⁶

Whiting obtained a personal loan from the Cleveland Trust Company and used this for the 75% of the purchase price of the twenty-four companies that was in cash. The total price was \$24,950,928.20 of which \$18,526,166.73 was paid in cash, \$283,540 in securities of the new company, and the balance in Whiting's personal notes.⁷

The officers and directors of the old companies then resigned and Whiting and his employees replaced them. They then organized a new company, the Indiana Limestone Company, and Whiting sold the physical assets of the twenty-four companies to the new firm for stocks, debentures, and bonds of the new company. The new Indiana Limestone Company began operations on May 21, 1926, with Dickinson as president, Whiting chairman of the board of directors, and Walters chairman of the executive committee.

At the time of the merger there were forty-two stone companies operating in the district. The twenty-four that merged represented between 85 and 90 percent of the total

⁶Ibid., p 266.

⁷Ibid.

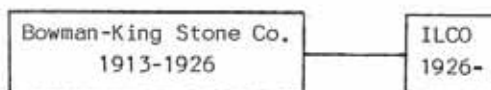
capacity of the district. Within a year after the merger, however, ten new companies had been formed by men who had sold out to the merger. Only four of the twenty-four purchase contracts had clauses whereby the former owner agreed not to re-enter the stone business for five years. Within a few years five new mills were built by cut stone contractors outside the district who felt that because of the increased competitive position of the Indiana Limestone Company they needed mills inside the district.⁸

Shortly after the merger the Indiana Limestone Company built an office building on the southwest corner of 4th and I Streets in Bedford. It was impressively large and reflected the optimism with which the company founders faced the future. They were mercifully unaware that the future would soon bring the Great Depression and World War II. Each was devastating to the limestone industry. But that is another story.

⁸Ibid., p 268.

CHAPTER II

BOWMAN-KING STONE COMPANY



The Bowman-King Stone Company was organized in October, 1913, by Herman S. and Elizabeth Bowman of Bloomington and P. Robert King of Tennessee.¹ A mill was soon built in the middle of the block bounded by 2nd, 1st, Rogers, and Morton Streets. After the merger in 1926 it became known as the Bowman Mill of the Indiana Limestone Company.

Earlier, in April, 1911, the Bowmans, along with others, organized the Oolitic Stone Mills Company² and later, in July, 1934, along with Joseph Schwab and Charles Fraser, Mr. Bowman organized the Bowman-Schwab Stone Company.³ This latter firm ran the mill of the Mutual Oolitic Cut Stone Company from October, 1934, to March, 1941, but was not in operation in 1942.⁴

¹Monroe County, Misc. Record 6, p 554.

²Monroe County, Misc. Record 6, p 274; See chapter on Hoosier Stone Company for more on Oolitic Stone Mills Co.

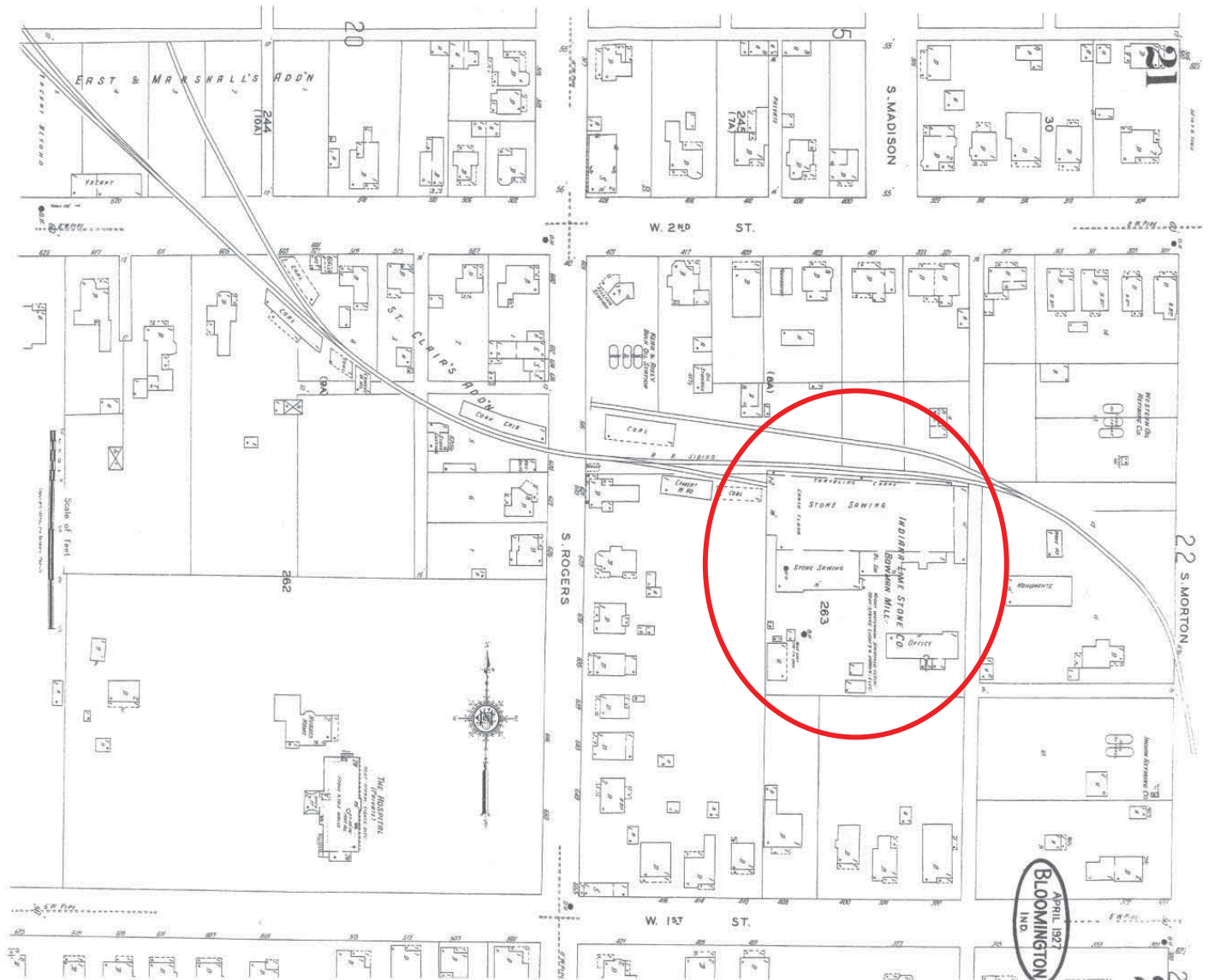
³Monroe County, Misc. Record 16, p 170.

⁴Batchelor, p 347-8.



Map No. 1

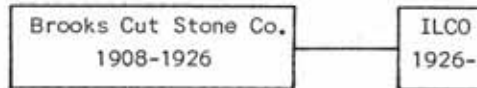
The Bowman Mill of ILCO was originally built by the Bowman-King Stone Company which began business in Bloomington in 1913.



Map No. 2 This is from Sheet No. 21 of the 1922 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Bloomington, Indiana. West 2nd Street is at the top and Rogers Street runs up and down the middle. The ILCO Bowman Mill is circled in red.

CHAPTER III

BROOKS CUT STONE COMPANY



Morton F. Brooks was a Canadian who came to Bedford as the superintendent of one of the stone mills. In March, 1902, he, Henry Curtis, and William N. Matthews organized the Brooks-Curtis Stone Company and bought the old Kann Mill of the Bedford Stone Mill Company that Myer M. Kann of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and others had organized in August, 1895.¹ This mill was located at what would be the junction of 12th and J Streets if only 12th extended to J. At that time J ended about one-half block north of 13th Street and had it extended on north it would have run directly into the Kann Mill. The history of the Brooks-Curtis firm is not clear but by January, 1918, the mill was sold at a sheriff's sale.²

Regardless of how long his experience with the Brooks-Curtis company lasted, in 1908 Brooks bought land and shortly thereafter established his own Brooks Cut Stone Company

¹Lawrence County, Misc. Record 9, p 71; Guthrie, Thirty Three Years, p 52, states that the Brooks-Curtis Stone Company was formed in 1905 but the courthouse records are clear that it was in 1902. He also says it bought the old Kahn [sic] mill; Lawrence County, Misc. Record 6, p 294 puts the organization of the older company in August, 1895.

²Guthrie, Quarter Century, p 124.

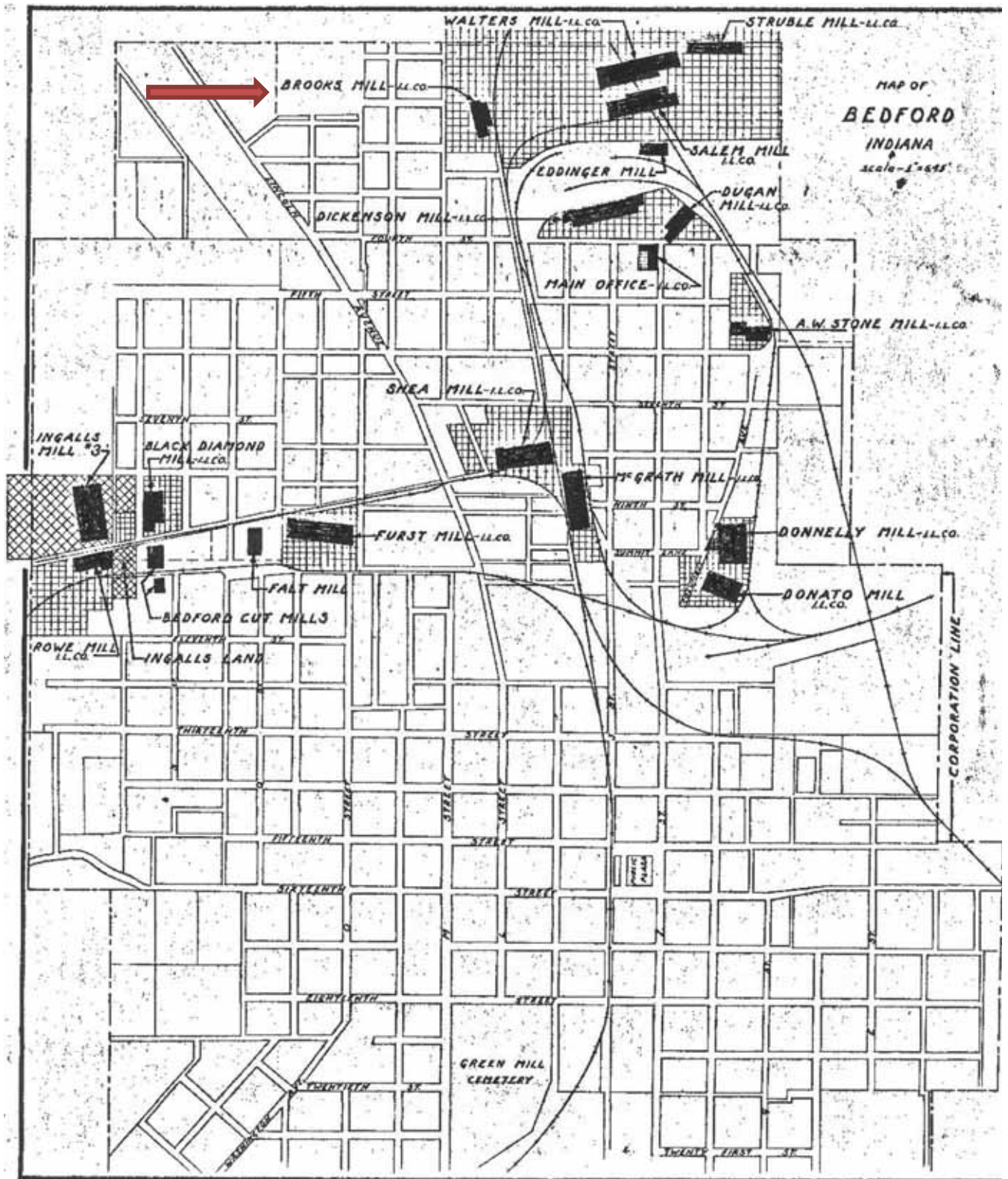
and built a mill.³ It was located midway between the Monon main line tracks and L Street just below the level of 1st Street. If 1st Street extended across L to the east it would have just touched the north end of the mill. After the merger it was still called the Brooks Mill and finally burned on October 9, 1939.⁴



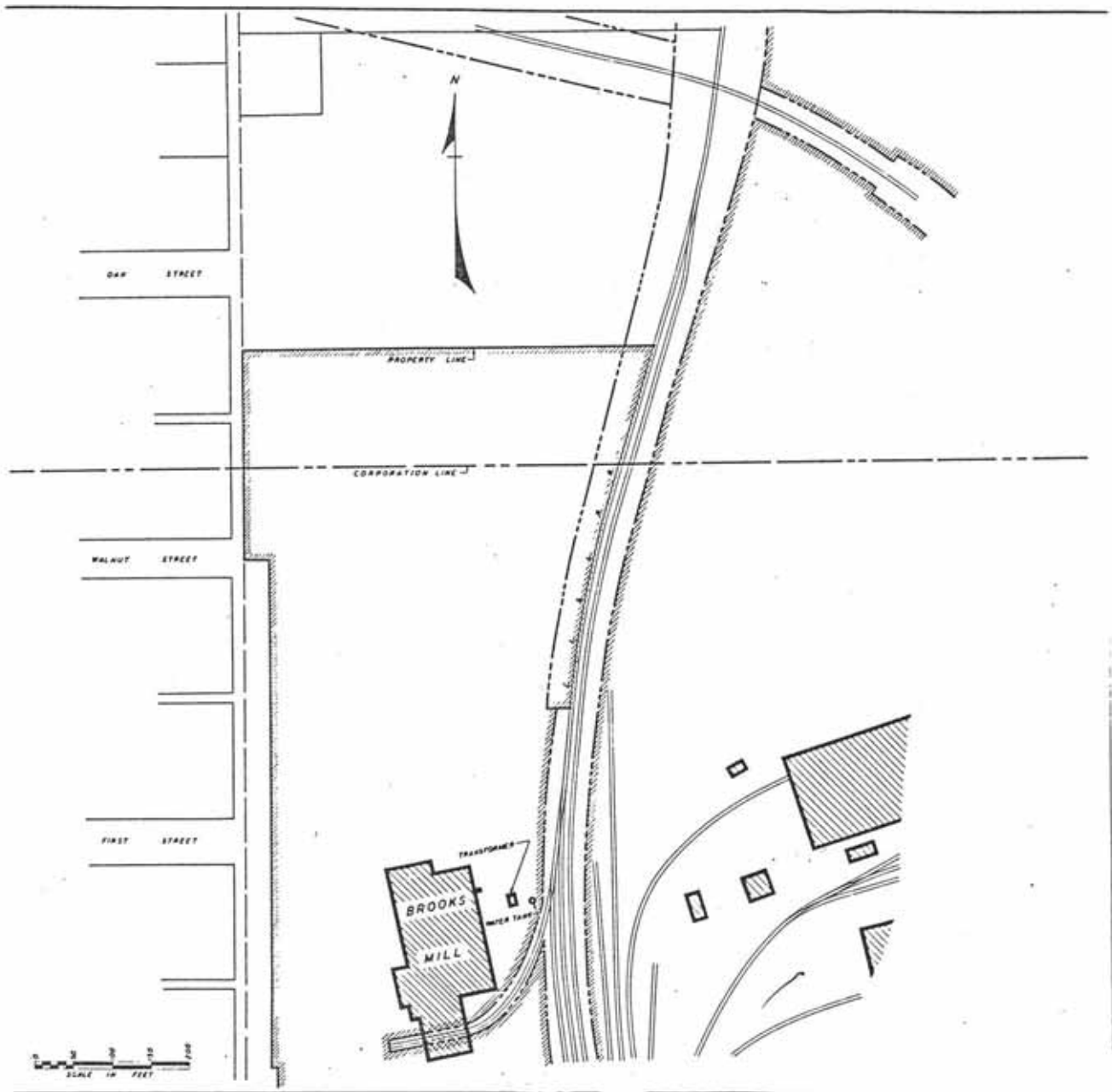
Fig. 1 ILCO Brooks Mill. It was erected by Canadian Morton F. Brooks in 1895 and was being used for machinery storage when it burned in 1939.

³Guthrie, Quarter Century, p 140, states that the mill dated from 1895 when Brooks came to Bedford as superintendent of the "Salem Mill and Quarries Company," and erected it in that year. He clearly is in error because the Lawrence County General Index Deeds Grantee K lists Morton F. Brooks buying land in January 1908 and the Deed Record 85, p. 143, shows him selling the same land to the Indiana Limestone Company; The mill appears on the Sanborn Map for 1910.

⁴Daily Mail, October 10, 1939.



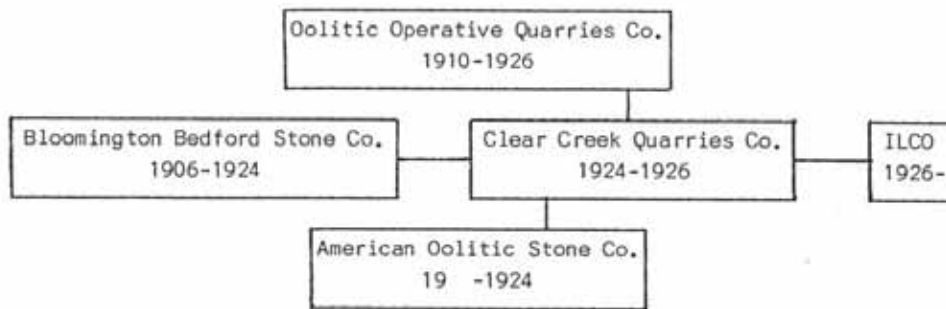
Map No. 4



Map No. 5

The Brooks Mill of ILCO was built in Bedford about 1908 by the Brooks Cut Stone Company. It burned on October 9, 1939.

CHAPTER IV
CLEAR CREEK QUARRIES COMPANY



Of the twenty-four companies that merged to form the Indiana Limestone Company the Clear Creek Quarries Company was the youngest. It was organized in January, 1924, by William V. Pitts of Detroit, William Graham, and Charles E. Henderson.¹ In that year it acquired the property of the Bloomington Bedford Stone Company that had been organized in July, 1906, by William T. Blair of Monroe County, Indiana, David C. Peyton, James M. Marshall, and Elmer M. Frank, all of Clark County, Indiana, and Charles A. L. Reed from Hamilton County, Ohio.² William T. Blair had been an organizer of the Bloomington Cut Stone Company in March, 1906, but none of the other men appear associated with any other stone companies.³

The Bloomington Bedford Stone Company built a mill in Bloomington about sixteen hundred feet west of Rogers Street behind the Public Service Company Substation. This

¹ Monroe County, Misc. Record 9, p 525.

² Monroe County, Deed Record 73, p 216; Misc. Record 5, p 480.

³ Monroe County, Misc. Record 5, p 452.

mill became the Radley Mill of the Indiana Limestone Company and has not survived.

The American Oolitic Stone Company was organized in Huron County, Ohio, and bought land in Bloomington in April, 1923 and quickly built a stone mill.⁴ The company did not prosper and it was soon in the hands of a receiver from which it was bought by the Clear Creek Quarries Company in September, 1924.⁵ This mill on the east side of South Henderson Street between Hillside Drive and Thornton was to become the American Mill of ILCO. It is no longer there.

The Oolitic Operative Quarries Company was organized in November, 1910, by George D. Thornton, John H. Huntington, William Chambers, William Graham, and Nat U. Hill, Jr.⁶

Nathaniel Usher Hill, Jr., (b1881) became president of the First National Bank in Bloomington in 1911. His father had been involved in organizing the Mathers Stone Company in 1892 and the Empire Stone Company in 1891, and his brother Philip Buskirk Hill was assistant superintendent of the Empire Stone Company.⁷

George D. Thornton (b1863) was a real estate and insur-

⁴Monroe County, Deed Record 72, p 157; Daily Mail, February 10, 1923.

⁵Monroe County Deed Record 72, p 2.

⁶Monroe County, Misc. Record 6, p 236.

⁷Monroe County, Misc. Record 3, pp 191,73; B. F. Bowen & Co., pp 463,664.

ance man of Bloomington. He had begun work in the Showers Brothers furniture factory, was elected sheriff in 1896, and after two years in office he began his own business.⁸ Prior to his involvement with the Oolitic Operative Quarries Company he was an organizer of the Reliance Stone Company in August, 1904, and later he was to be involved in forming the United Indiana Stone Company (April, 1913) and the T. H. & T. Oolitic Stone Company (April, 1917).⁹

Mr. Thornton had a partner named Huntington in his insurance, real estate and loan business. It is assumed that this is the same John H. Huntington who was also an organizer of the Oolitic Operative Quarries Company, the Reliance Stone Company and the T. H. & T. Oolitic Stone Company. For some reason he was not involved with Thornton in the United Indiana Stone Company.

Nothing is known about the other two organizers of the Oolitic Operative Quarries Company, William Chambers and William Graham, except that the latter was also an organizer of the Clear Creek Quarries Company in 1924.

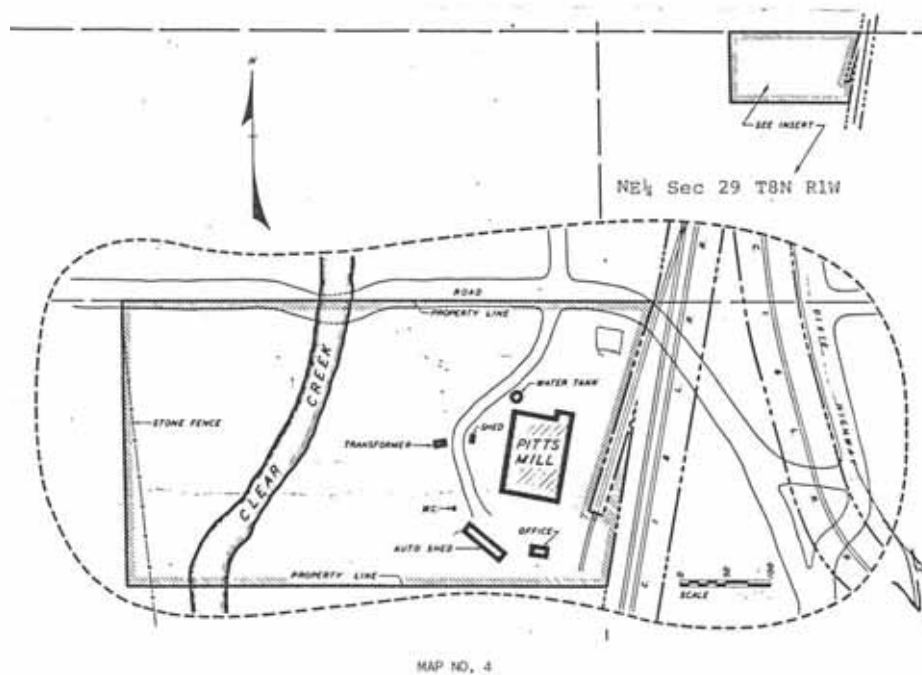
Either the Oolitic Operative Quarries Company or the Clear Creek Quarries Company built a small mill near Clear Creek to the southwest of the intersection of Church Lane

⁸B. F. Bowen & Co., pp 753,4.

⁹Monroe County Misc. Record 5, p 187, 6 p 548, and 8, p 96.

and the Monon tracks.¹⁰ The much larger Wylie Mill of the Bloomington Limestone Company was across the road to the north. This small mill became the Pitts Mill of the Indiana Limestone Company and was removed quite early in its history.

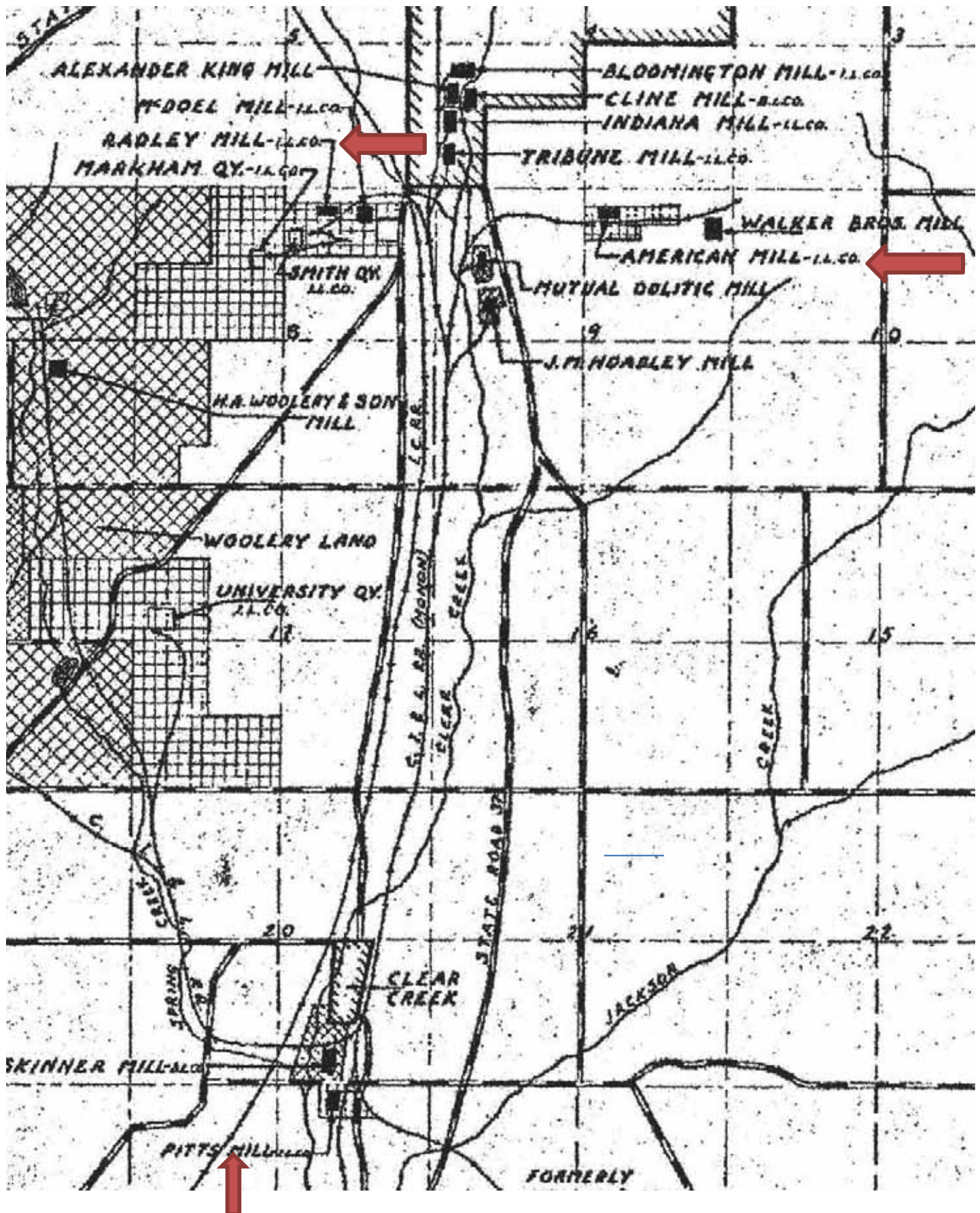
Thus the Clear Creek Quarries Company brought to the merger not only quarry land, but mills that were to become the American, Radley, and Pitts Mills of the Indiana Limestone Company.



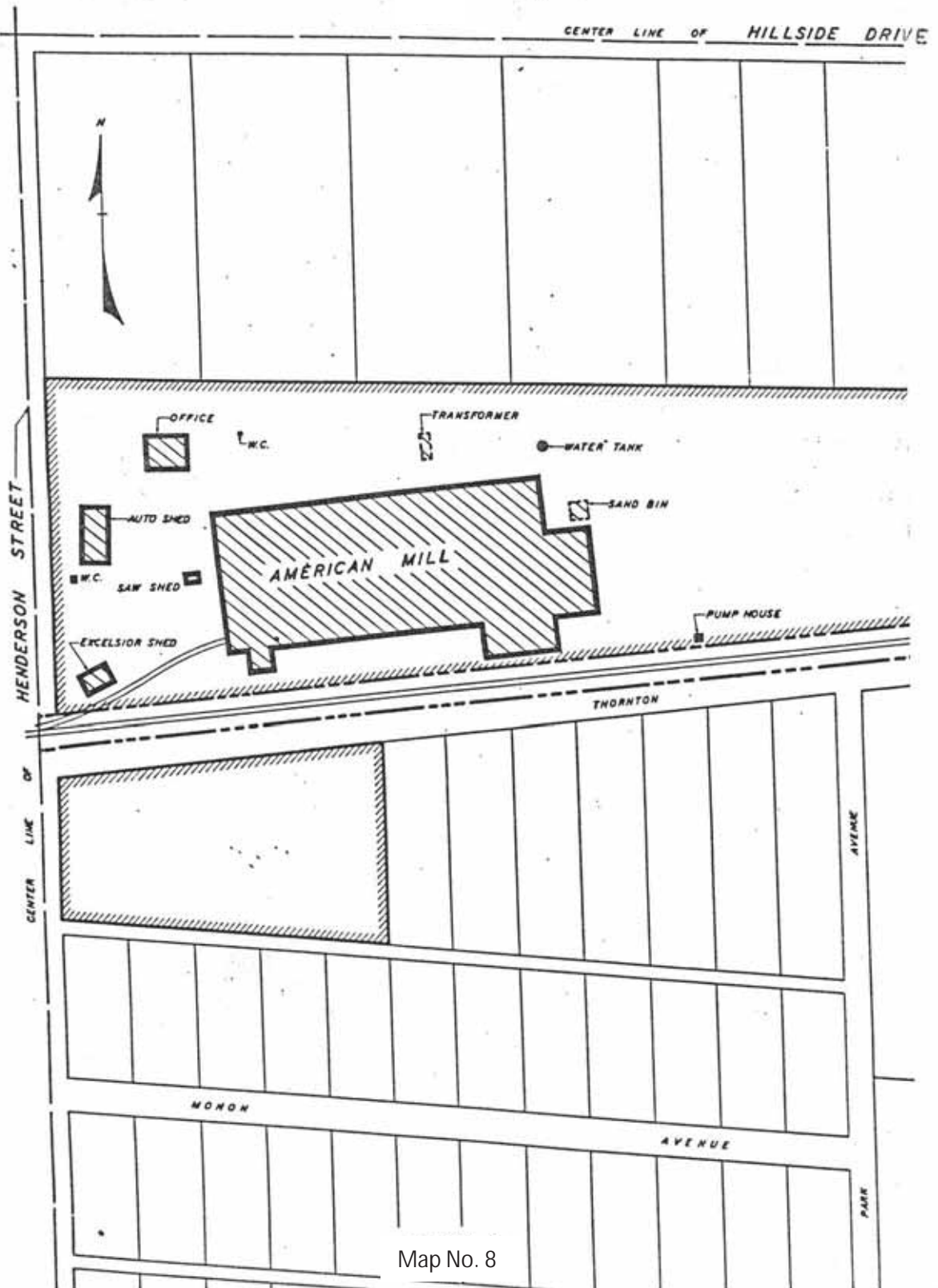
The Pitts Mill of ILCO was built in Clear Creek either by the Colitic Operative Quarries Company or the Clear Creek Quarries Company. The mill was torn down not long after the merger.

Map No. 6

¹⁰ Monroe County, Deed Record 76, p 151, and 73, p 217.



Map No.7



The American Mill of ILCO was built in Bloomington in 1923 by the American Oolitic Stone Company. That company was bought by the Clear Creek Quarries Company through which ILCO obtained it. It is no longer there.





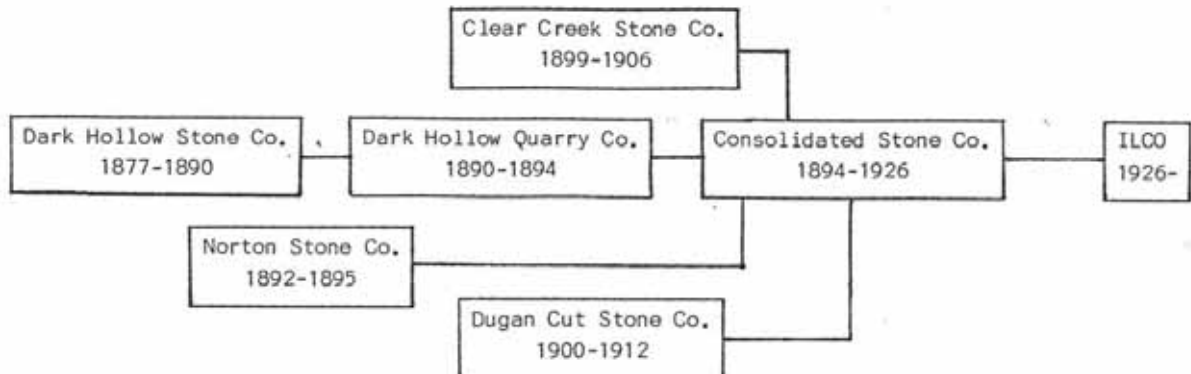
Fig. 2 This is the Radley Mill of ILCO. Formerly it was a mill of the Bloomington-Bedford Stone Company.



Fig. 3 This shows the McDowell Mill of ILCO just above the Public Service Power Station. Above that is the site of the old Radley Mill. It is roughly circled in red.

CHAPTER V

CONSOLIDATED STONE COMPANY



At the turn of the century the Consolidated Stone Company was one of the three largest stone companies in the district.¹ By the period of 1922-1925 it was producing an average of 18.7% of the rough and sawed stone and 10.8% of the planed and cut stone. During that four-year period only the Indiana Quarries Company had higher rough and sawed stone totals and for two of those years (1922 & 1925) it was second only to the Shea and Donnelly Company in the amount of planed and cut stone produced.²

For the origin of the Consolidated Stone Company we must go back to November 24, 1877, when the Dark Hollow Stone Company was organized by Col. Archibald C. Voris, Capt. S. B. Voris, David Harrison, and R. Rogers. The company was originally a partnership of these men and was known

¹Batchelor, p 84.

²Ibid., p 263. For 1922 Consolidated was fourth behind Shea and Donnelly, Hoosier Cut Stone, and Indiana Quarries Company. In 1924 it was third behind Furst-Kerber and Shea and Donnelly.

as Voris, Rogers and Company. Harrison was a civil engineer whose long interest in the Indiana stone field began when he helped construct the Monon Railway. Capt. Salathiel B. Voris was a railway conductor with no previous connection to the stone business.³ A. C. Voris (1829-1911) was a prominent Bedford attorney and banker who came to Bedford in 1855 to teach school after being graduated from Hanover. He was admitted to the bar in 1856 and later attended Harvard University. His success in the stone business allowed him in 1882 to give up the practice of law and in 1891 he founded the Citizens National Bank.⁴ In 1880 Fred Norton bought out R. Rogers and the firm was known as Voris, Norton, and Company. Frederick D. Norton later helped organize the Hinsdale Doyle Stone Company in November, 1881, the Norton Stone Company in September, 1892, the Norton Reed Stone Company in February, 1897, the Bedford Buff Stone Company in January, 1900, and the Independent Limestone Company in January, 1927.⁵

The Dark Hollow Stone Company opened the first quarry in the Bedford Dark Hollow district in May, 1878, and its first large contract, the Indiana State House, was also

³Ibid., pp 29, 48. He is in error when he states that A. C. Voris moved to Bedford at this time from Louisville.

⁴B. F. Bowen & Co., pp 512-14.

⁵Lawrence County, Misc. Record 3, p 201, 6, p 463, 7, p 193; Monroe County, Misc. Record 3, p 195, 11, p 155; Lawrence County, Misc. Record 3, p 382, states that the two Vorises and William H. Martin organized the Dark Hollow Stone Company in March, 1887.

one of the first large contracts calling for oolitic stone. This company was highly profitable but for reasons that are not clear it was succeeded by the Dark Hollow Quarry Company in 1890.⁶ This latter company declined during the depression that began in 1893 and fell into receivership. Several Monon Railway men reorganized it on November 30, 1894, as the Consolidated Stone Company.⁷

In addition to its Dark Hollow property Consolidated in March, 1895, bought the quarry and mill of the Norton Stone Company at Hunter Valley in Bloomington. This latter concern was the third company to operate⁸ in Hunter Valley and had been organized in September, 1892, by Frederick D. Norton, Clinton S. Norton, and William H. Martin.⁹ Frederick Norton's stone interests have been mentioned but Clinton S. Norton's relation to Frederick is not known. He was involved with him in the Norton Stone Company and the Norton-

⁶Stone, X (January, 1895), p 146 states that it was quite successful.

⁷Hopkins and Siebenthal, p 383; Batchelor, pp 94-95.

⁸Hopkins and Siebenthal, p 366. The Norton Stone Company had opened a quarry and built a mill sometime in 1892. They state that "In March, 1895, the Norton quarry was purchased by the Consolidated Stone Company, becoming 'Consolidated No. 1' of their series of quarries." It is assumed that the mill was purchased along with the quarry as there is no record of the Norton Stone Company after that date. The Norton name appears in various company names but never the specific Norton Stone Company. It is also assumed that the old Consolidated Mill No. 1 was the old Norton Mill.

⁹Monroe County, Misc. Record 3, p 195.

Reed Stone Company, and he was involved with others in organizing the Bedford Cut Stone Company (July, 1906), and the C. S. Norton Blue Stone Company (March, 1911).¹⁰

In May, 1908, the Consolidated Stone Company bought land at a tax sale once owned by the Clear Creek Stone Company.¹¹ That concern had been organized in April, 1899, by Joseph E. Henley and James B. Wilson.¹² It is not surprising that the Clear Creek Stone Company would wind up in a tax sale as neither of its organizers had any direct stone experience. Joseph E. Henley (b 1856) was the son of Henry Henley and the brother of George W. Henley, both prominent stone men and considered elsewhere in this work. But Joseph was dedicated to the law having been clerk of the city of Bloomington, prosecuting attorney for the tenth judicial circuit (elected in 1882), twelve years living in Kansas and Chicago, and in the private law practice either alone or with partners.¹³ He was an organizer of the Reliance Stone Company (August, 1904) and the George W. Henley Stone Company (July, 1904) but in both cases his father and brother were also organizers.¹⁴ From 1895 until 1902 his law partner

¹⁰ Lawrence County, Misc. Record 9, p 193, 10, p 439.

¹¹ Monroe County, Tax Title Deed Record 4, p 195.

¹² Monroe County, Misc. Record 4, p 161.

¹³ B. F. Bowen & Co., pp 696-8.

¹⁴ Monroe County, Misc. Record 5, p 187, 5, p 179.

was James B. Wilson. Judge Wilson (b 1859) left the partnership only when he was elected judge of the circuit court where he served at least two terms. It was while the two men were law partners that they organized the Clear Creek Stone Company and while it may not have done well in the stone business, surely it was legally well represented.¹⁵

Thus with the acquisition of the Norton Company, by 1907 Consolidated had two mills at Hunter Valley.¹⁶ Mill No. 2 was the smaller of the two and was not replaced after it burned around 1918. Mill No. 1 was to the east of Mill No. 2 and burned in 1921. It was rebuilt and after the merger it was known as the Vernia Mill of the Indiana Limestone Company. T. J. Vernia, a Monon Railway man since 1888, had begun his career in the limestone business in 1901 as the bookkeeper and cashier for Consolidated. He later became senior vice president of Indiana Quarries Company and after 1926 he was vice president in charge of sales for ILCO.¹⁷

By 1896 Consolidated had one mill (Mill No. 3) at Dark Hollow.¹⁸ Just north of this mill were a machine shop, store room, and office that burned on September 4, 1924.¹⁹ Some

¹⁵B. F. Bowen & Co., pp 594-5.

¹⁶Blatchley, p 381.

¹⁷Guthrie, Thirty Three Years, p 51; ILCO Brief History, p 13.

¹⁸Hopkins and Siebenthal, p 384.

¹⁹Guthrie, Quarter Century, p 22.

of these were rebuilt. Around 1921 Consolidated built a new mill at Bedford that was known simply as the Consolidated Stone Company Bedford Mill. It was 610 feet long, 70 feet wide, and had a leanto 550 feet long and 53 feet wide. It was built of limestone and still stands. It is now (1990) used by Ravenswood, Inc. The mill was quite large and had five travelers. It became the Dickinson Mill of ILCO.²⁰

In 1911 the Consolidated Stone Company was taken over by Augustus E. Dickinson and associates. It has been written that at the time the company's "...equipment and buildings were obsolete and ready for the scrap heap, and financially it was within an inch of bankruptcy."²¹ This does not seem to square with the prominence of the company just a decade earlier.

A major change in the company that Dickinson made was to acquire the Dugan Cut Stone Company on July 24, 1912.²² That firm had been established about 1900.²³ Its mill was

²⁰Stone, XLIII (December, 1922), pp 635-6.

²¹Quarries and Mills, I (May, 1929), p 12. At the time of this article Dickinson was president of ILCO and the writer may have over-emphasized the poor condition of Consolidated when Dickinson took over in order to make his managerial skills appear all that much better. Maybe the article is accurate.

²²Lawrence County, Deed Record 62, pp 393-4.

²³Blatchley, p 450 states that the Dugan Mill was established in 1900 but does not specifically state that the company began in that year. The Sanborn Map of 1904 shows a George Dugan Stone Cutting Shed on the site of the later larger mill. Guthrie, Thirty Three Years, p 53 states that

located slightly northeast of the intersection of 4th and I Streets and the large Bedford Mill of Consolidated was built just to the northwest of it. After 1934 the Dugan Mill ceased to be used as a stone mill and on January 10, 1940, it burned to the ground.²⁴ While it was a mill for Dugan it had produced stone for the Fine Arts Building of the St. Louis World's Fair and the Mississippi State Capitol among many others.²⁵

The organizers of the Dugan Cut Stone Company had been George Dugan, Maurice F. McGrath, and Thomas J. Brooks.²⁶ Dugan was not involved in the organization of any other companies. McGrath was later to form the Inter-State Cut Stone Company and will be discussed in that chapter. Thomas J. Brooks was a prominent Bedford attorney and politician who, with his brother William F. Brooks, formed the firm of Brooks

"New firms that year [1908] were Dugan Cut Stone Company, formed by Geo. Dugan..." The Deed Record 57, p 177, states that on October 22, 1908, the Dugan Cut Stone Company of Missouri became the Dugan Cut Stone Company of Indiana. There is no explanation about where the previous company operated. It is this corporate change that no doubt led Guthrie to assume the company was new in 1908;

²⁴Guthrie, Quarter Century, p 24.

²⁵Batchelor, p 127; Guthrie, Quarter Century, p 24.

²⁶Lawrence County, Misc. Record 8, p 479, lists these three organizers. It is assumed that they were the same men that organized it originally in 1900 or at least started it in Bedford. See note 23.

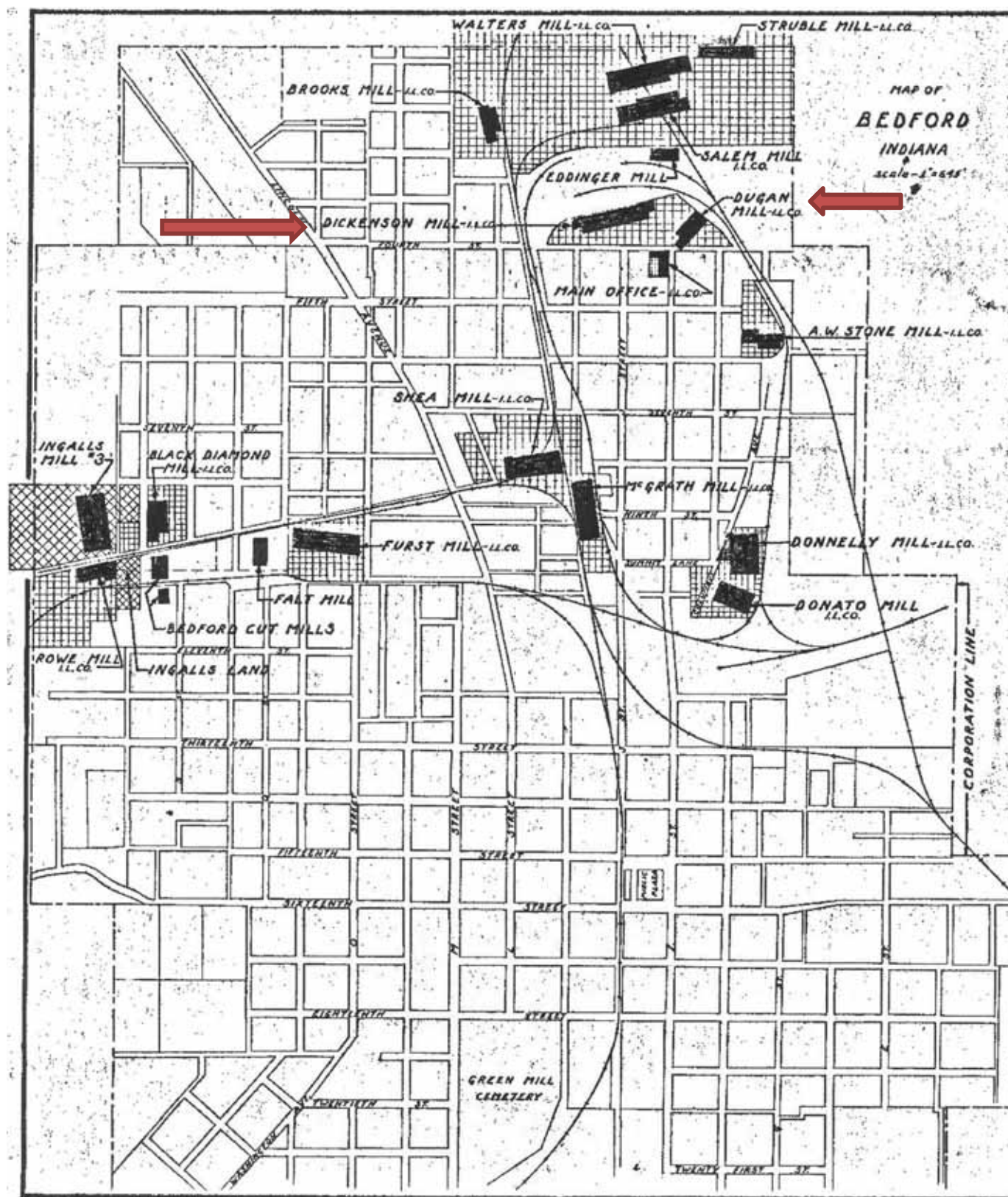
and Brooks that lasted from 1894 to 1921. He was state senator, president of the Bedford National Bank, and one-half owner of the Bedford Mail. He began his partnership with Fred Otis in the newspaper in 1896 and he wrote most of its editorials. He was an organizer of the E. F. Giberson and Company stone firm in April, 1909, but was involved in forming no other stone companies.²⁷

The office building for the Consolidated Company stood between the Dugan and Bedford Mills and in later years it was used by the Little Theater of Bedford. It was destroyed by fire on June 4, 1972.²⁸

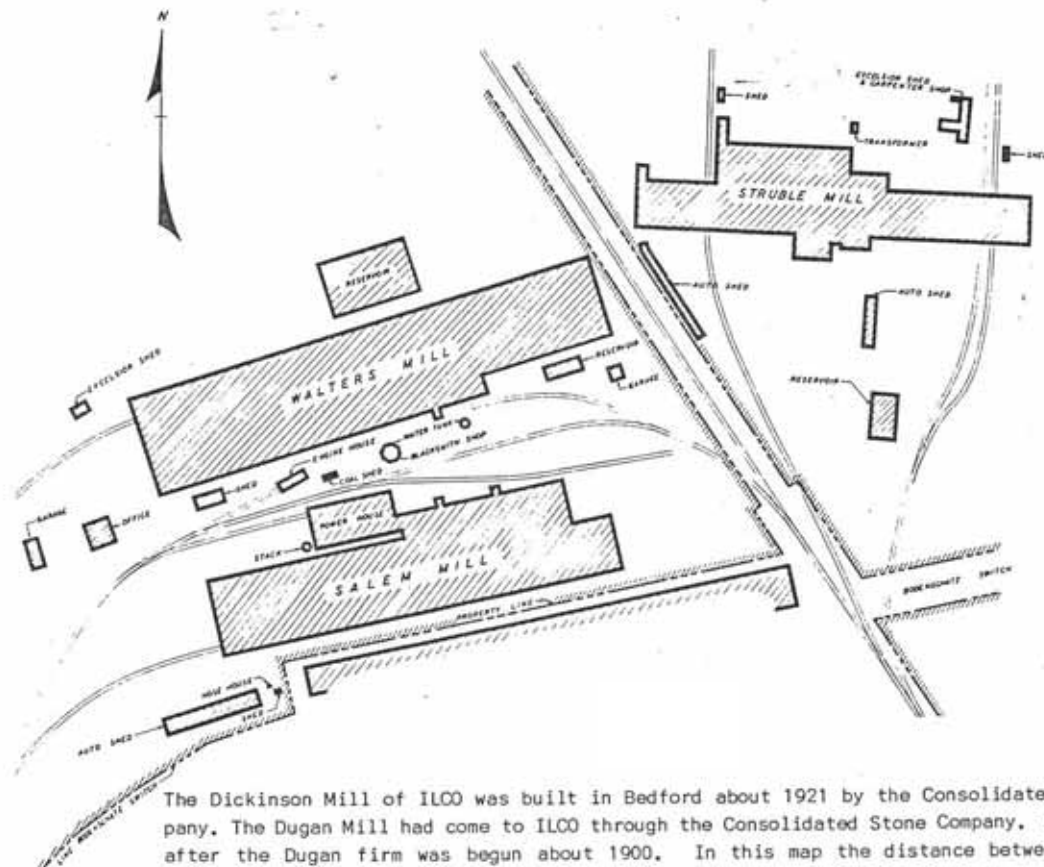
After the merger the Consolidated Bedford Mill became the Dickinson Mill, the old Consolidated Mill No. 3 at Dark Hollow became the Wilson Mill, the Consolidated No. 1 at Hunter Valley became the Vernia Mill, and the Dugan Mill in Bedford was then the Dugan Mill of ILCO. It has been mentioned that the Dugan and Wilson Mills burned and the Dickinson Mill is now owned by Ravenswood, Inc. but the Vernia Mill still stands as a rusting, unused stone mill visible to motorists as they look slightly south of west as they travel on new Highway 37 at its junction with the north Highway 46 bypass at Hunter Valley in Bloomington.

²⁷B. F. Bowen & Co., pp 482-3; Lawrence County, Misc. Record 10, p 33.

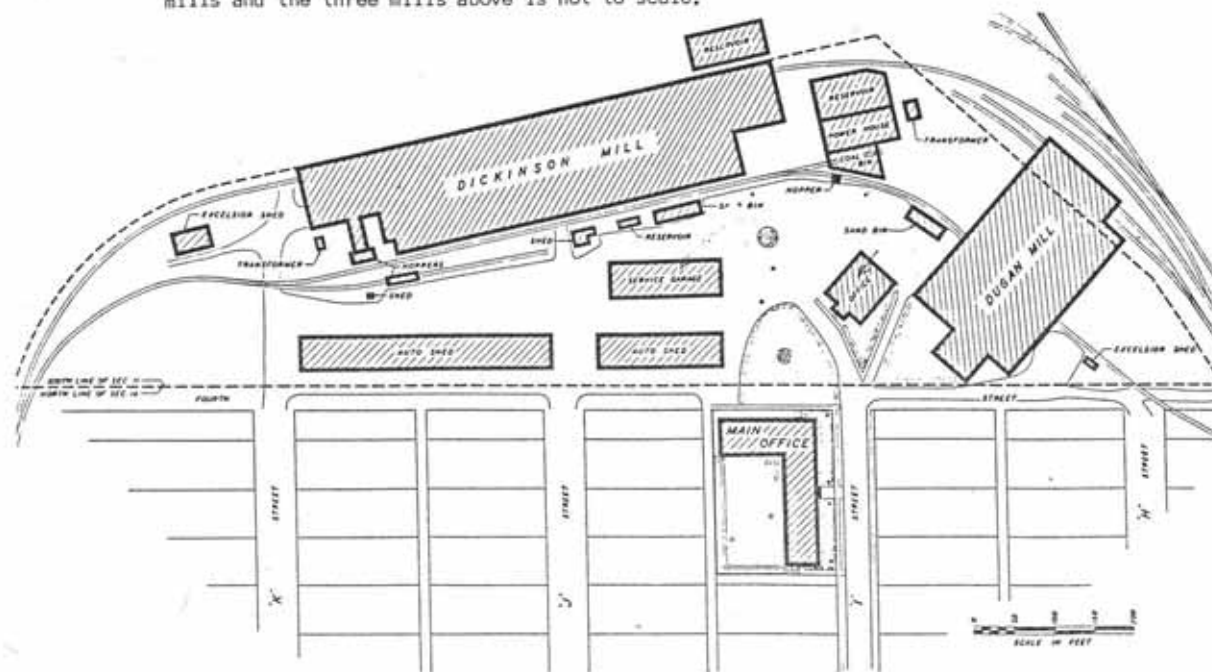
²⁸Daily Times Mail, June 5, 1972, p 1.



Map No. 9



The Dickinson Mill of ILOO was built in Bedford about 1921 by the Consolidated Stone Company. The Dugan Mill had come to ILOO through the Consolidated Stone Company. It was built after the Dugan firm was begun about 1900. In this map the distance between these two mills and the three mills above is not to scale.



Map No.10



Fig. 4 This is looking west at the ILCO Dickinson Mill. Just to the right of the right most eve of the mill can be seen the ILCO Brooks Mill in the distance. It was this picture that allowed the correct identification of Fig. 1 as the Brooks Mill.



Fig. 5 This is looking slightly northeast at the south side of the Dickinson Mill.



Fig. 6 This picture is looking northwest at the construction of the Consolidated Stone Company's Bedford Mill.



Fig. 7 The 1923 picture shows the Dickinson Mill when it was the Consolidated Stone Co. Bedford Mill. The Dugan Mill is to the right. The Southern Indiana Railroad shops and roundhouse are to the left.



Fig 8 This shows the Consolidated Stone Co. Bedford Mill on the left and the Dugan Stone Co. Mill on the right.



Fig. 9 The Consolidated Stone Co. Bedford Mill, later the ILCO Dickinson Mill, is in the middle and the Dugan Stone Co. Mill is in the upper right. The view is looking east.



Fig. 10 This is the original office building for the Consolidated Stone Co. Around 1922 this building was replaced (either it burned or was torn down or simply remodeled, by the larger office building shown just to the left of the west end of the Dugan Mill. Remember that the Dugan Mill had become part of the Consolidated Stone Co.



Fig. 11 Here the Dickinson Mill is above, the old Dugan Mill is gone, the office building for the old Consolidated Stone Co. is to the right and the L-shaped office building for ILCO is to the left. The Consolidated office building shown to the right for many years was the home of the Bedford Little Theater. It burned in 1972.



Fig. 12 Here is the south side of the ILCO Dickinson Mill.

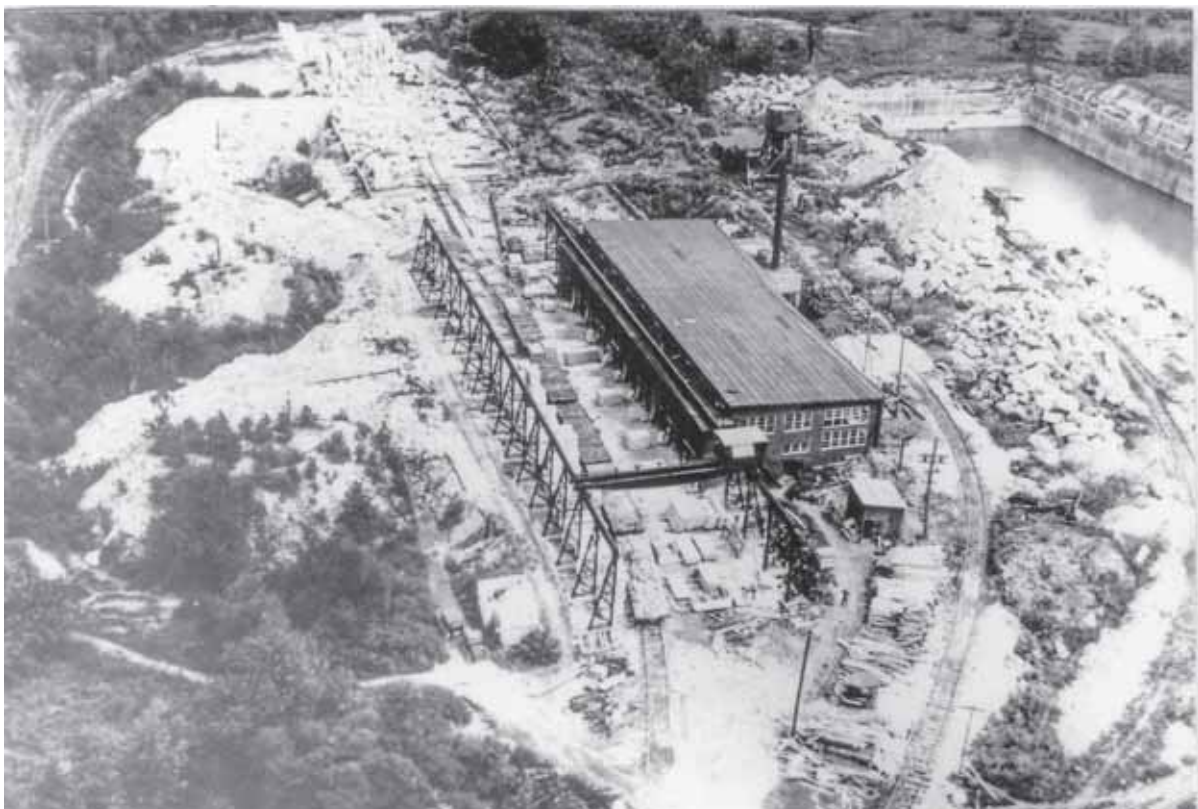
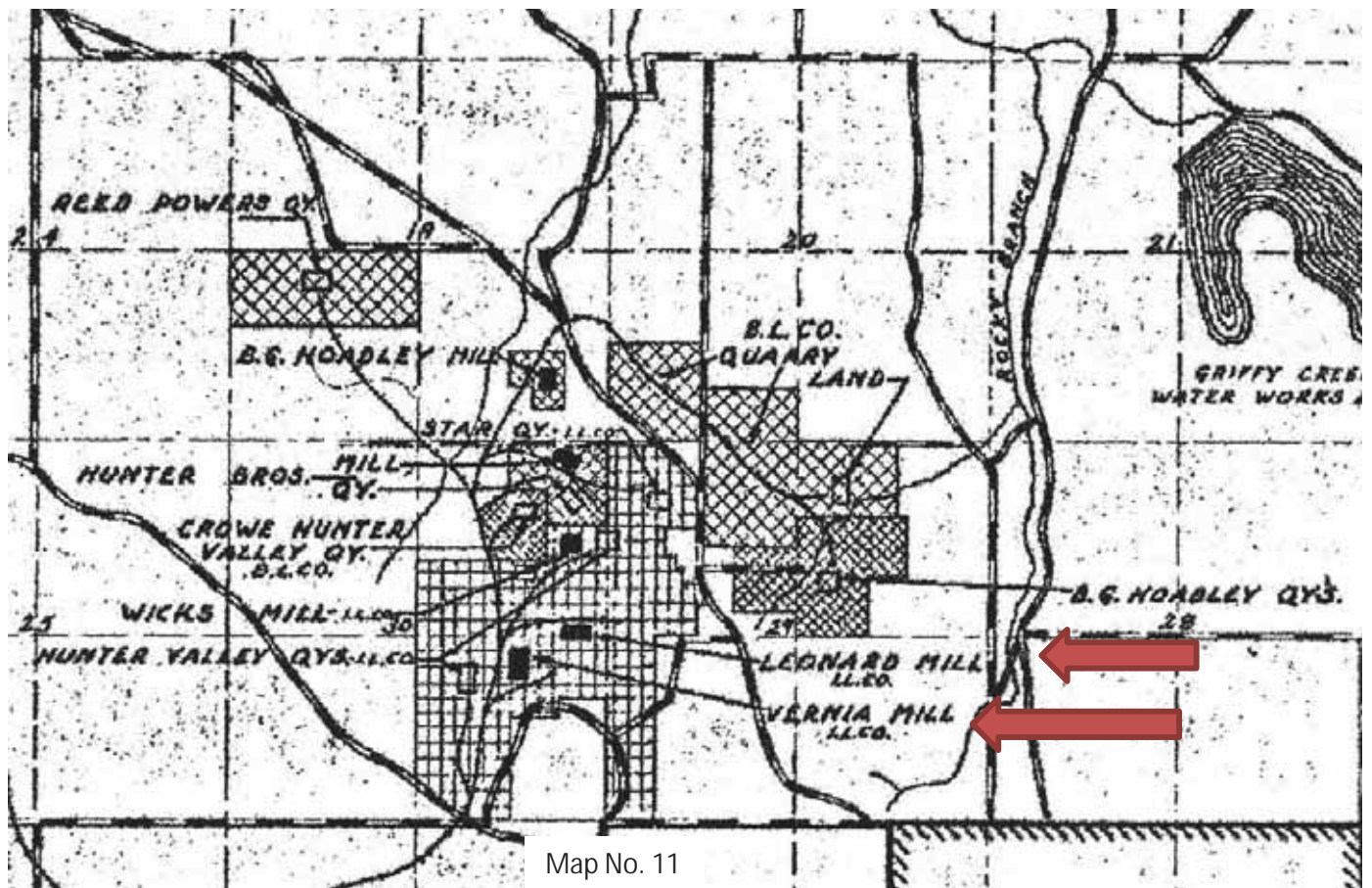


Fig 13 This is the ILCO Vernia Mill at Hunter Valley in Bloomington. It is the old Consolidated Stone Co. Mill No. 1.



Fig. 14 The Consolidated Stone Co. Mill No. 1 at Hunter Valley in Bloomington.



Fig. 15 The Vernia Mill (old Consolidated No. 1) is in the background and in the foreground a workman is removing earth overburden with high powered water.



Fig. 16 The Vernia Mill can be seen in the upper left of this picture.



Fig. 17 The Vernia Mill is just to the left of the quarry hole that is just below the center of the picture.



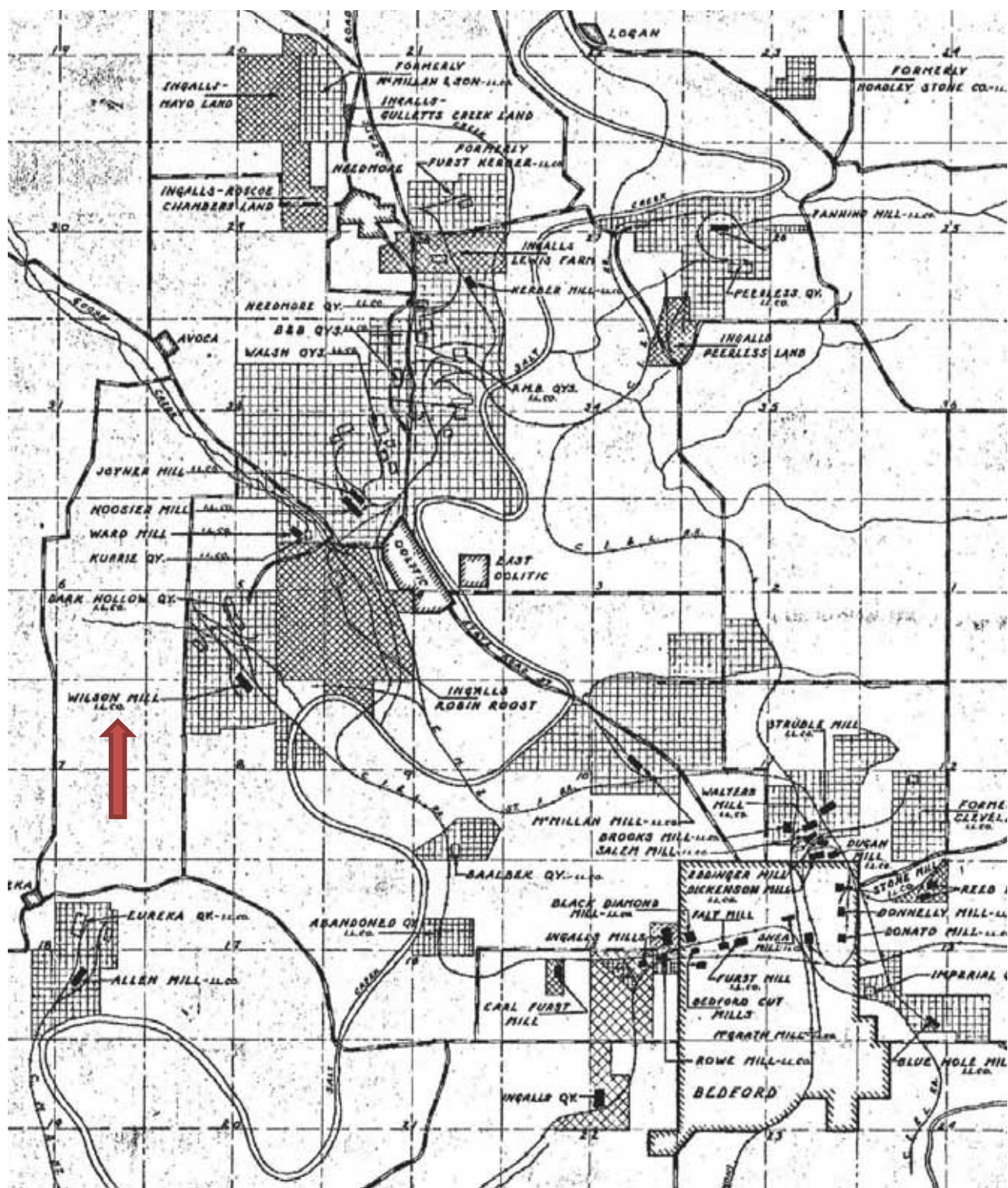
Fig. 18 The Vernia Mill is at the top and the ILCO Leonard Mill is to the right. This view is looking west.



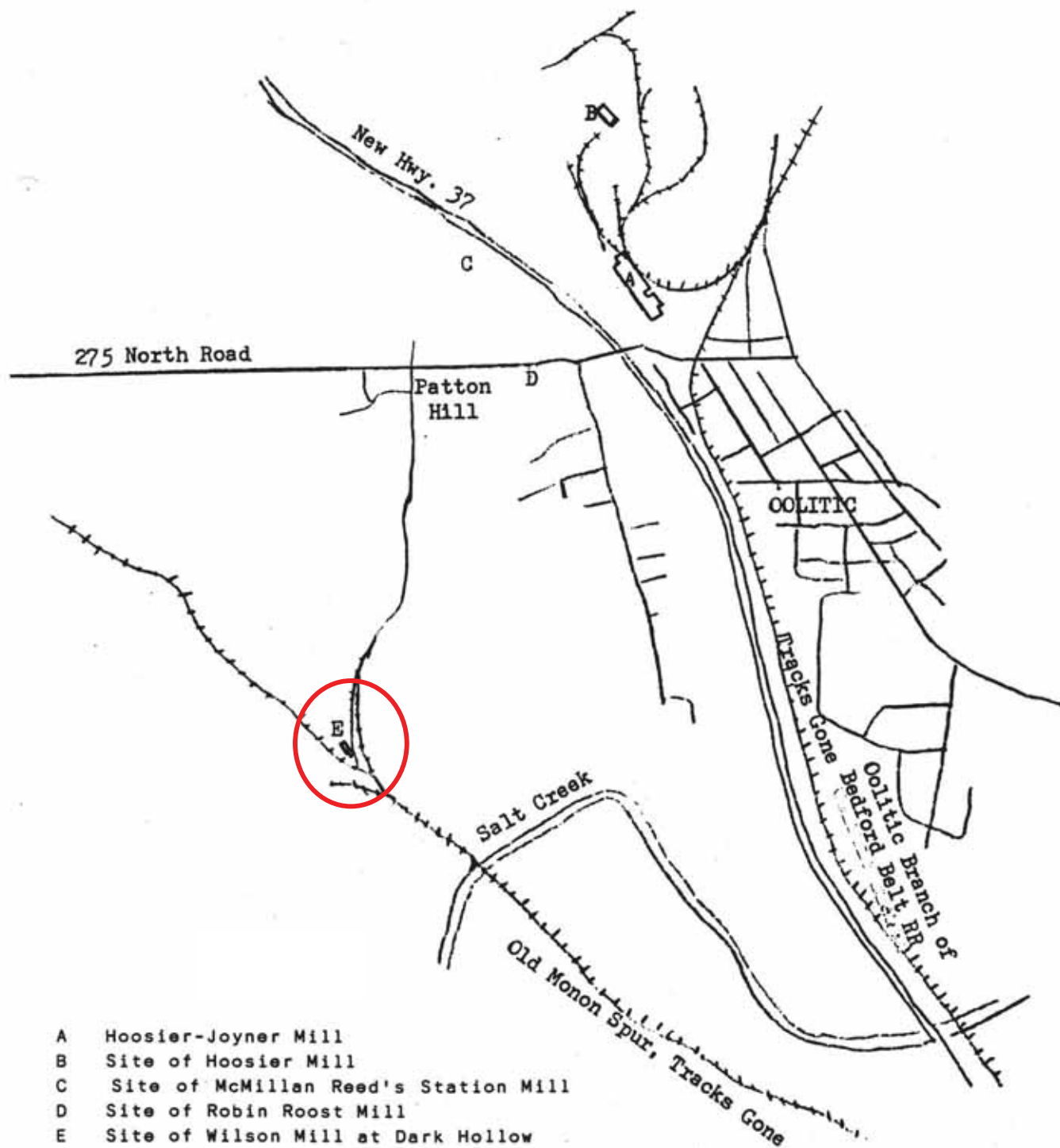
Fig. 19 This is looking southwest at the Vernia Mill in the late 1980s. The picture was taken by the author. Motorists just west of the cloverleaf on I69 and Highway 46 can look off to the south and still (2016) see this mill.



Fig. 20 Another view by the author of the Vernia Mill taken in the late 1980s.



Map. No. 13



Map No. 14

Maps by the author were taken from the unpublished manuscript "Gazetteer of Limestone Mills of Owen, Monroe, and Lawrence Counties to 1950," written in 1989. Thus the legends that identify other mills that we are not concerned with in this article. Wilson Mill is circled in red.



Fig. 21 The Wilson Mill can be seen in the middle of the picture. This is in the Dark Hollow Quarry area northwest of Bedford. The view is looking slightly northwest.

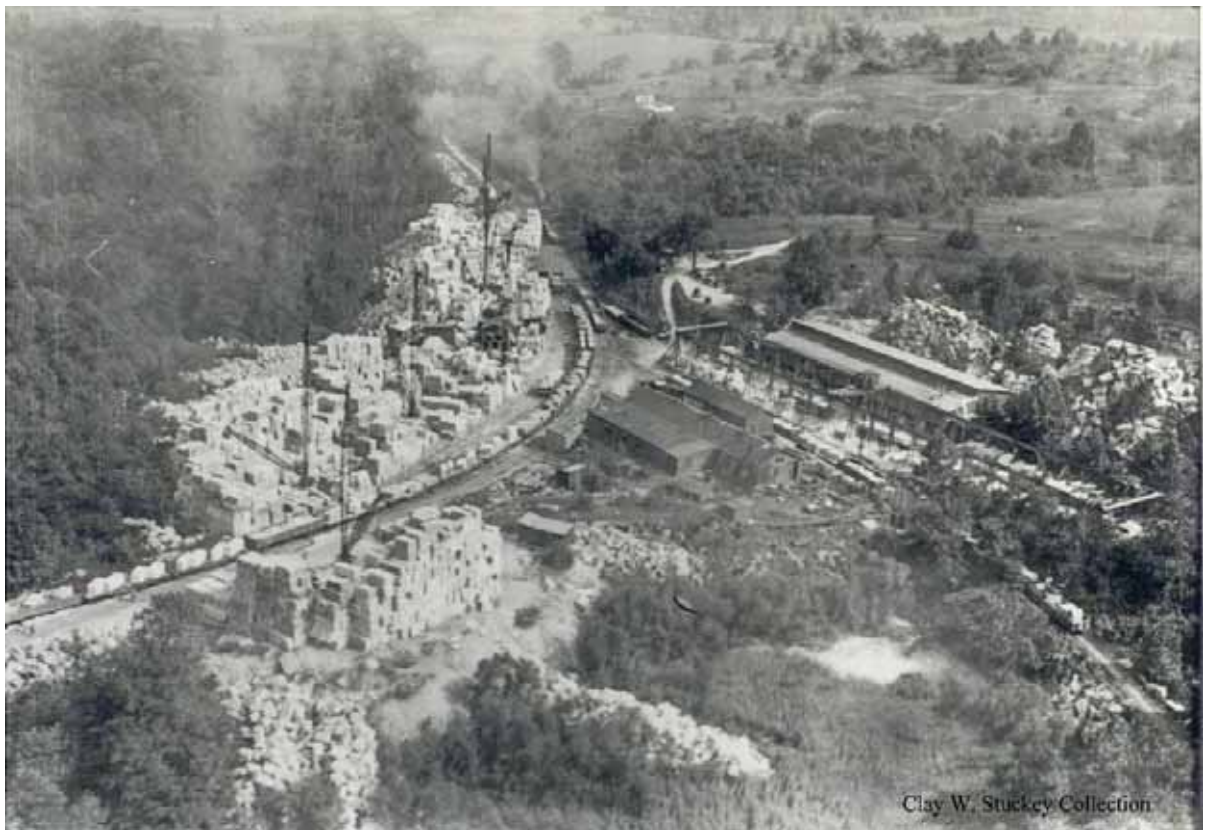


Fig. 22 This view is looking slightly southeast at the Wilson Mill in Dark Hollow.



Fig. 23 The Wilson Mill at Dark Hollow can be seen in the upper left. The view is looking slightly north of west.



Fig. 24 This view is looking southeast and the Wilson Mill can just be seen between the two derricks.



Fig. 25 This picture was taken by the author in the late 1980s and shows the same view as the previous picture.



Fig. 26 This picture by the author was taken in 2014 and shows the same view as the two previous pictures. Here I am slightly closer to the tipped limestone block than can be seen in Fig. 25.



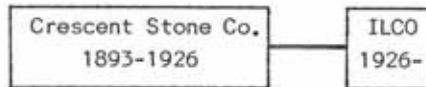
Fig. 27 This picture by the author shows the foundation for Wilson Mill in the late 1980s.



Fig. 28 This view is looking north over the top of Wilson Mill at Dark Hollow.

CHAPTER VI

CRESCENT STONE COMPANY

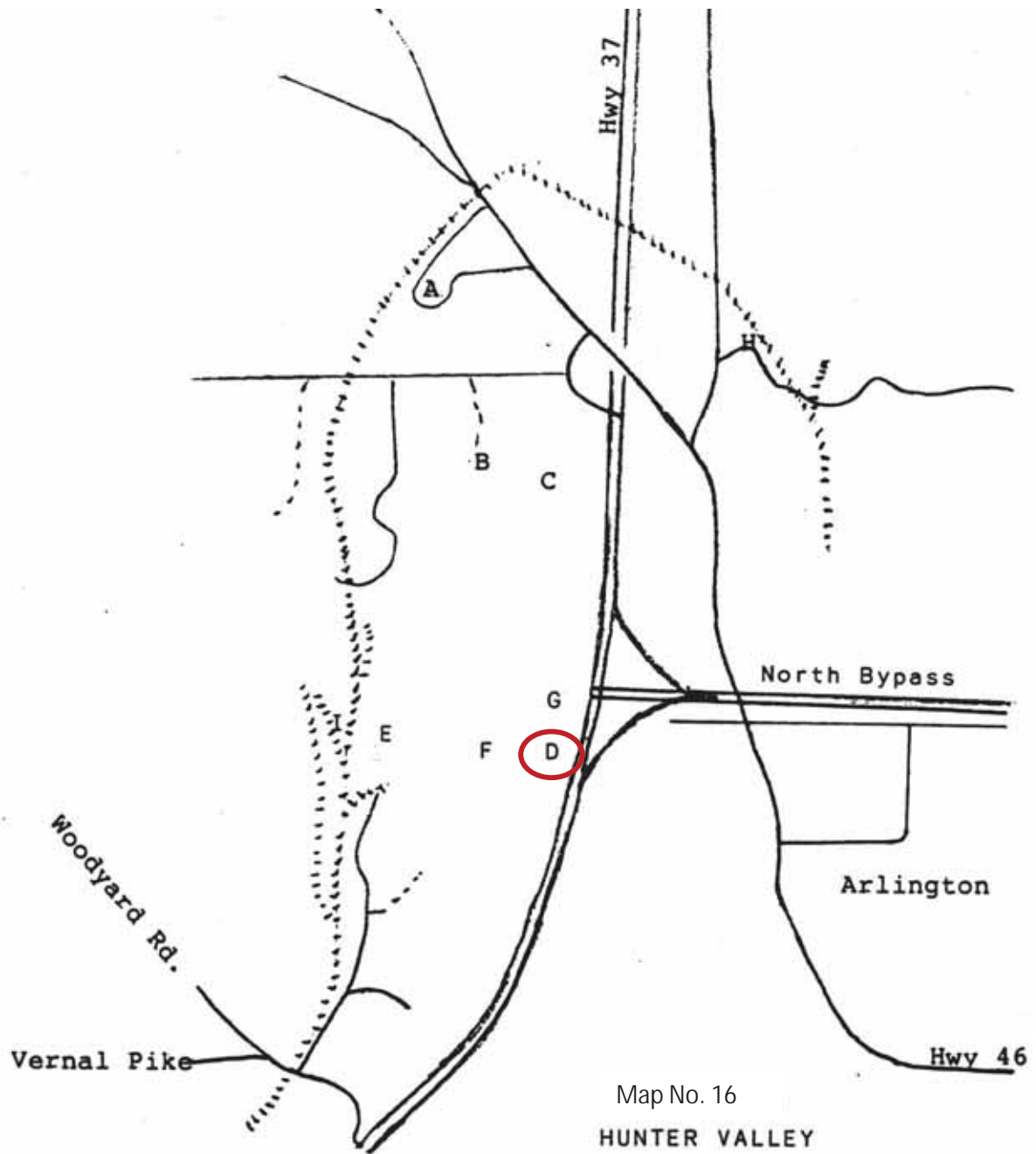


The Crescent Stone Company was organized around 1893 by Fred Matthews, William N. Matthews, Gilbert K. Perry, Henry F. Perry, and Thomas Carter Perring.¹ The Matthews and Perrys will be discussed in the chapter on the Indiana Quarries Company. Thomas Carter Perring does not appear as an organizer in any other stone company.

The company worked in the Hunter Valley area in Bloomington and at some point built a mill. It was gone shortly after the merger.²

¹Monroe County, Misc. Record 11, p 22, gives the above organizers of the Crescent Stone Company and gives a date for its formation of May, 1900. This no doubt is the date when the company was formally organized but it clearly was present much earlier as a partnership or some other form. Blatchley (p 383) writing in 1906 states, "In 1893, soon after the opening up of the Johnson quarry, Perry, Matthews & Perring opened up the Crescent quarry, a half mile east of the Consolidated No. 2. This was operated until 1902, when a new opening was made to the west...The company owns about 65 acres of workable land." Lest we conclude that Blatchley made an error, Hopkins and Siebenthal were writing in 1895 and they mention (p 368) the Crescent quarry at Hunter Valley, although they do not give any names of those working it.

²Stuckey, pp 18-19, 110.

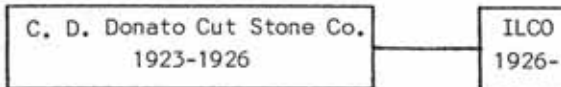


The Vernia Mill covered earlier is shown at E above. Of course the Hwy 37 is becoming Interstate 69. The site of the Crescent Mill is circled in red.

- A B. G. Hoadley Quarries Co. Mill
- B Hunter Brothers Stone Co. Mill
- C Star Stone Co. Mill
- D Crescent Stone Co. Mill
- E Vernia Mill of ILCO
- F Leonard Mill of ILCO
- G Wicks Mill of ILCO
- H Reed Stone Co. Mill
- I Consolidated Mill No. 2

CHAPTER VII

C. D. DONATO CUT STONE COMPANY



The C. D. Donato Cut Stone Company was organized in April of 1923 by Crescenzo D. Donato, Mary Donato, and John A. Petro.¹ Mr. Petro was from New York and was not involved in the formation of any other local companies. Mr. Donato was a talented stone carver with an Italian accent but whose earlier history is not known. All references in secondary sources and in the courthouse records for the later Heltonville Limestone Company give his name as Chris D. Donato and the only place where Crescenzo is used is the notice of organization of the original company. It is assumed that it is the same man.

A mill was built just south of the Shea & Donnelly Mill B. If 10th Street extended east it would have run directly into the mill about one block east of I Street.

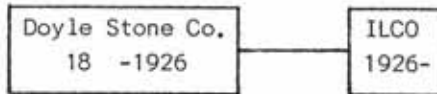
After the merger the mill was called the Donato Mill of ILCO but in June, 1926, hardly before the ink was dry on the merger agreement, he and Mary along with A. Russell Wallis organized the Heltonville Limestone Company and built a mill at that place.² The Donato Mill of ILCO then became the Purdue Mill of ILCO. It has not survived.

¹Lawrence County, Misc. Record 17, p 521.

²Lawrence County, Misc. Record 18, p 287.

CHAPTER VIII

DOYLE STONE COMPANY



The Doyle Stone Company was no doubt started by George Doyle of New York (see the chapter on the Shea & Donnelly Company) and continued to be run after his death in 1909 by his son Alexander Doyle. At the time of the merger the Doyle Stone Company brought to ILCO quarry land at Dark Hollow that it leased. It appears that most of the time over the years this company dealt with leased land.¹

There is a reference in the literature to the "George Doyle Corporation's mill at Dark Hollow...in November '21, turning the largest one-piece stone columns ever produced on lathes."² An advertisement in Stone magazine writes about these columns produced by one of the biggest lathes in existence, "now at the Doyle Quarry."³ This lathe and other scabbling equipment were probably all that the Doyle Stone Company had at Dark Hollow. It did not own a mill, as such.

¹Lawrence County, Misc. Record 11, p 443, 18, p 128.

²Guthrie, Quarter Century, p 128.

³Stone, (March, 1922), p 115.



Fig. 29 Whenever large orders of columns were to be delivered it was always a big deal to the stone company's publicity departments. These columns in 1922 are on their way to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania for an addition to the state capitol complex. This was such a big deal that the train would have had to back onto the square to get this picture.



Fig. 30 Here the columns are still in Dark Hollow.



Fig. 31 The columns are still at Dark Hollow and the photographers are madly at work.



Fig. 32 This is looking southeast at Horseshoe Bend on the Monon Railroad.

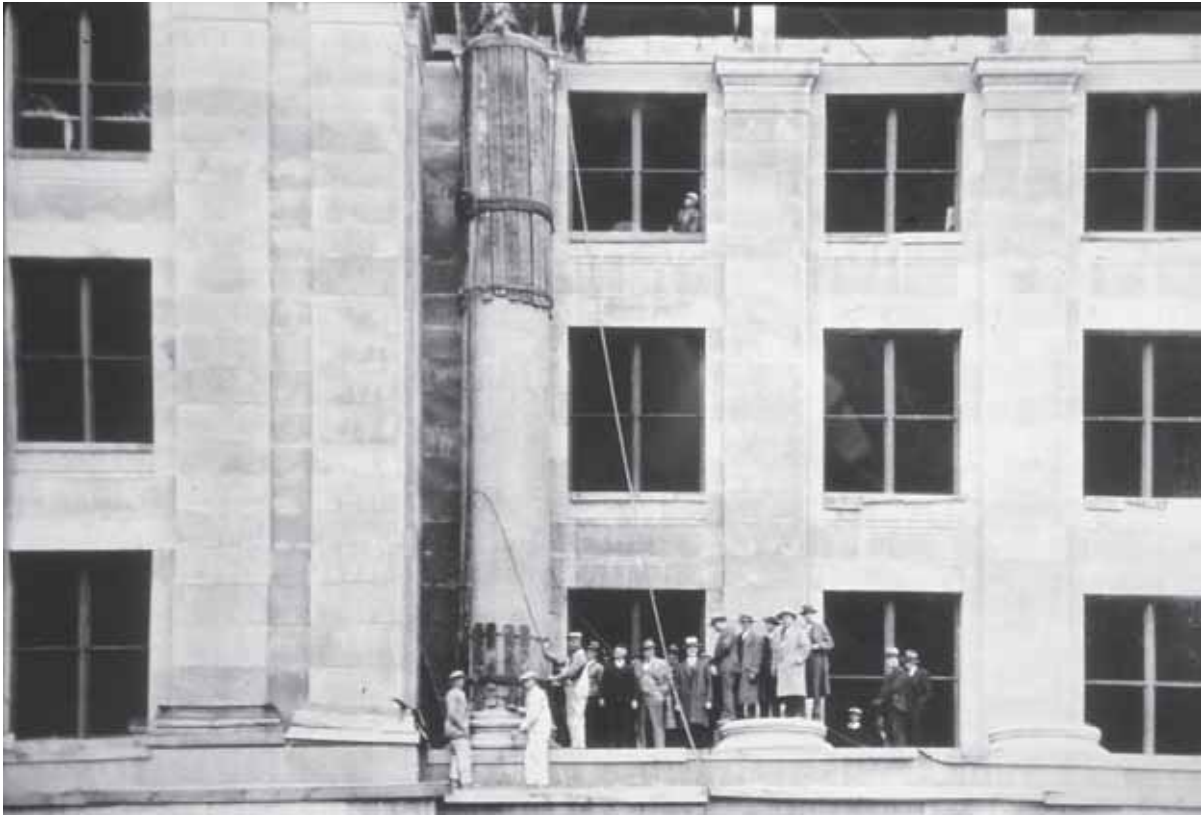


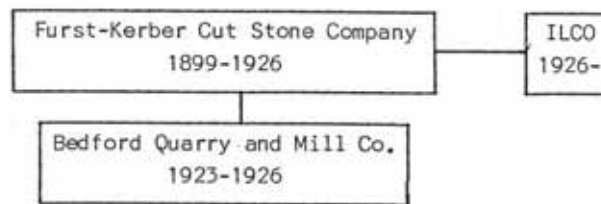
Fig. 33 Here the columns are being installed at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.



Fig. 34 This is the final destination of the Dark Hollow columns at Harrisburg.

CHAPTER IX

FURST-KERBER CUT STONE COMPANY



The Furst-Kerber Cut Stone Company was organized in April of 1899 by Carl Furst, his uncle Henry Furst, Jr., and William Kerber.¹ Carl was a German who had come to Bedford in 1898 and Henry Furst and William Kerber were both of Chicago. Henry Furst was not involved in organizing any other stone mills but William Kerber helped start the Chicago and Bloomington Stone Company in July, 1892.²

The company owned land in the Dark Hollow area and in 1904 built a large mill on the northwest corner of 10th and O Streets.³ A second mill was built in 1911 at Needmore on the south side of North Road about thirteen hundred feet east of old Highway 37. They were called Mill No. 1 and Mill No. 2 in the order in which they were built.

After the merger Mill No. 1 was called the Furst Mill of ILCO and Mill No. 2 was called the Kerber Mill of ILCO. Carl Furst was another of the stone men who started a new stone company immediately after merging the old one into

¹Lawrence County, Misc. Record 7, p 111.

²Monroe County, Misc. Record 3, p 172.

³Blatchley, p 436, states that the company opened its quarry in 1904.

the new Indiana Limestone Company. He, his son Philip, and Glen C. Frank organized the Carl Furst Company in May, 1927, and built a new stone mill.⁴ That mill continues in operation as a mill for the Summitt and Evans Stone Company.

After Carl Furst started his new business the Indiana Limestone Company changed the name of the Furst Mill to the Whiting Mill, named for Lawrence Whiting, the chairman of the board of directors of ILCO. It was damaged by fire in 1939 and torn down shortly after.⁵ The Mill No. 2 or Kerber Mill still exists (1990) but is not used as a stone mill.

In 1922 the company finished construction of a new office building that was located about one hundred feet south of the Mill No. 1. It had two stories and was built entirely of buff Bedford limestone and had a tiled roof.⁶ The building is still there.

The Bedford Quarry and Mill Company was organized in October, 1923, by Ralph Reed, Albert H. Dunihue, and Robert N. Palmer.⁷ Dunihue helped organize the Reed Stone Company in March, 1910, but no others.⁸ Robert N. Palmer (1849-1936)

⁴Lawrence County, Misc. Record 18, p 362.

⁵Guthrie, Quarter Century, p 140.

⁶Stone, XLIII (July, 1922), p 363.

⁷Lawrence County, Misc. Record 15, p 289.

⁸Lawrence County, Misc. Record 10, p 250.

was a prominent attorney in Bedford and was involved in organizing no other mills. Ralph Reed was involved in the organization of the W. McMillan and Son Company but this was when it finally incorporated in October, 1919, not when the company was originally formed.⁹

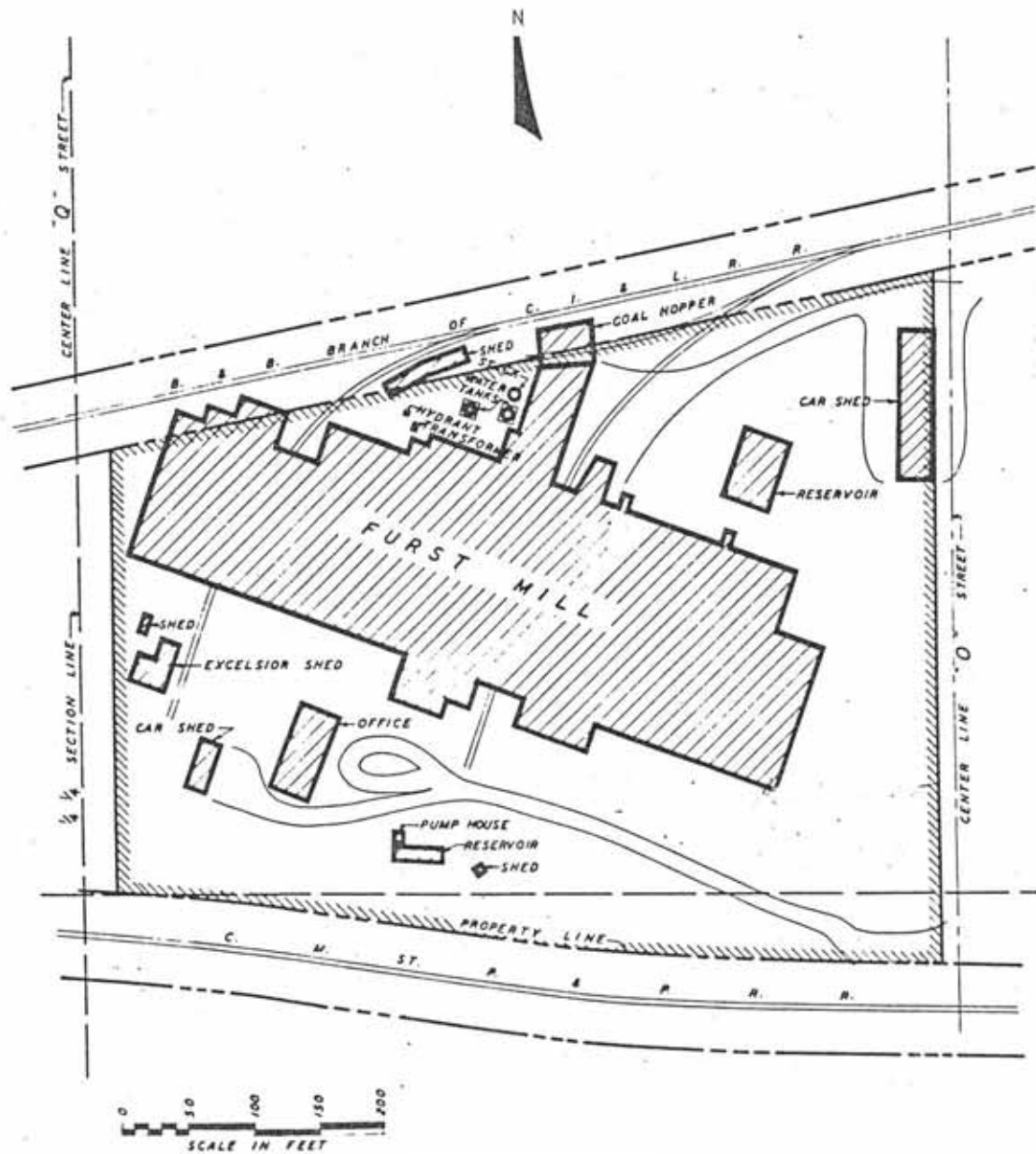
On May 18, 1926, the Bedford Quarry and Mill Company sold 79 acres of land to the Furst-Kerber Company. This land does not appear to have been quarried nor is it certain what else, if anything, the former company owned.¹⁰ At the time of the merger it was listed as a subsidiary of the Furst-Kerber Company.¹¹

Thus the Furst-Kerber Cut Stone Company brought to the merger two large mills and quarry land.

⁹Lawrence County, Misc. Record 13, p 370.

¹⁰Lawrence County, Deed Record 85, p 113.

¹¹In the archives of the Indiana Limestone Company is a single page headed "List of Old Companies." The Bedford Quarry and Mill Company is listed and after it in parentheses is the note "Sub. Furst-Kerber."

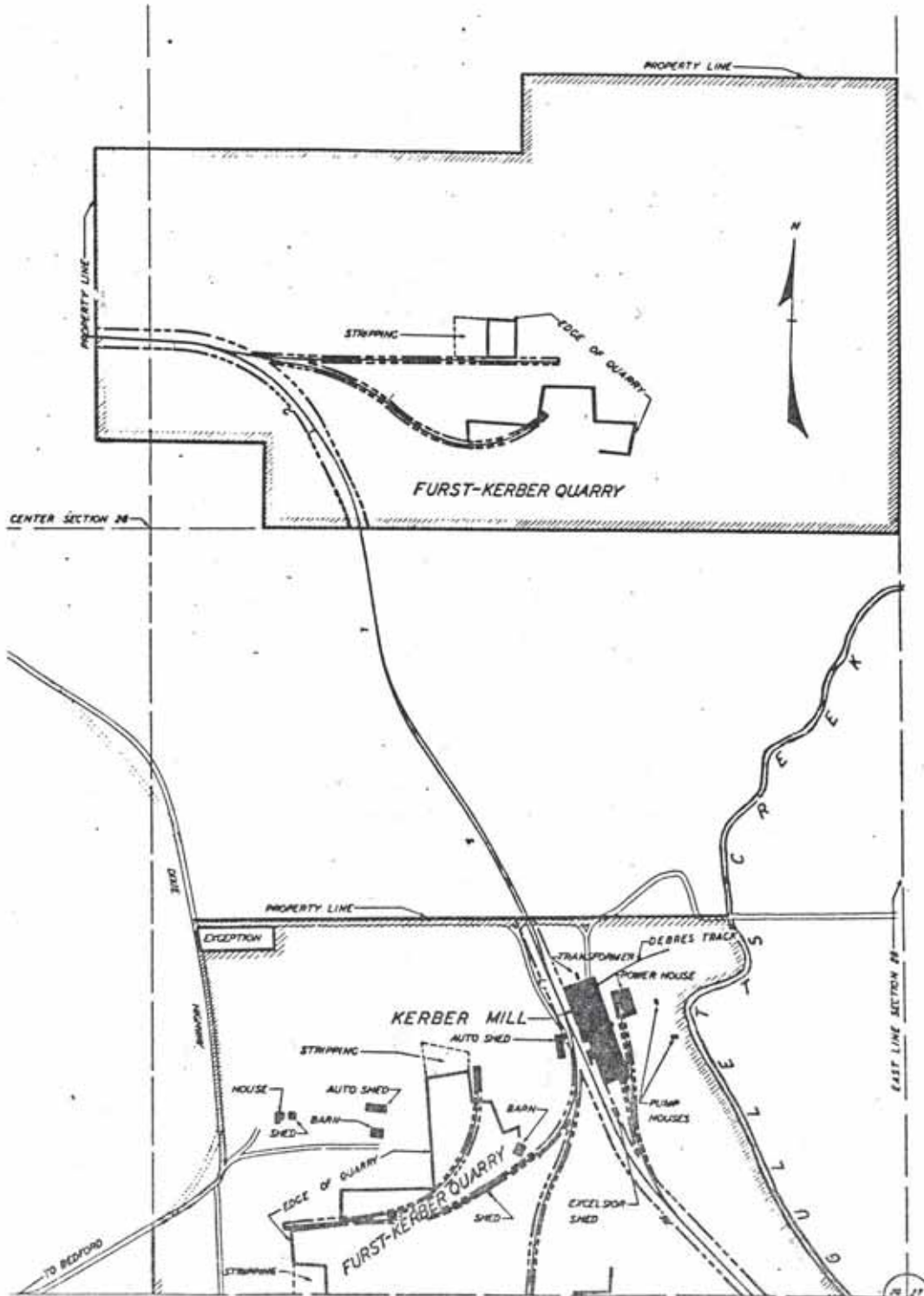


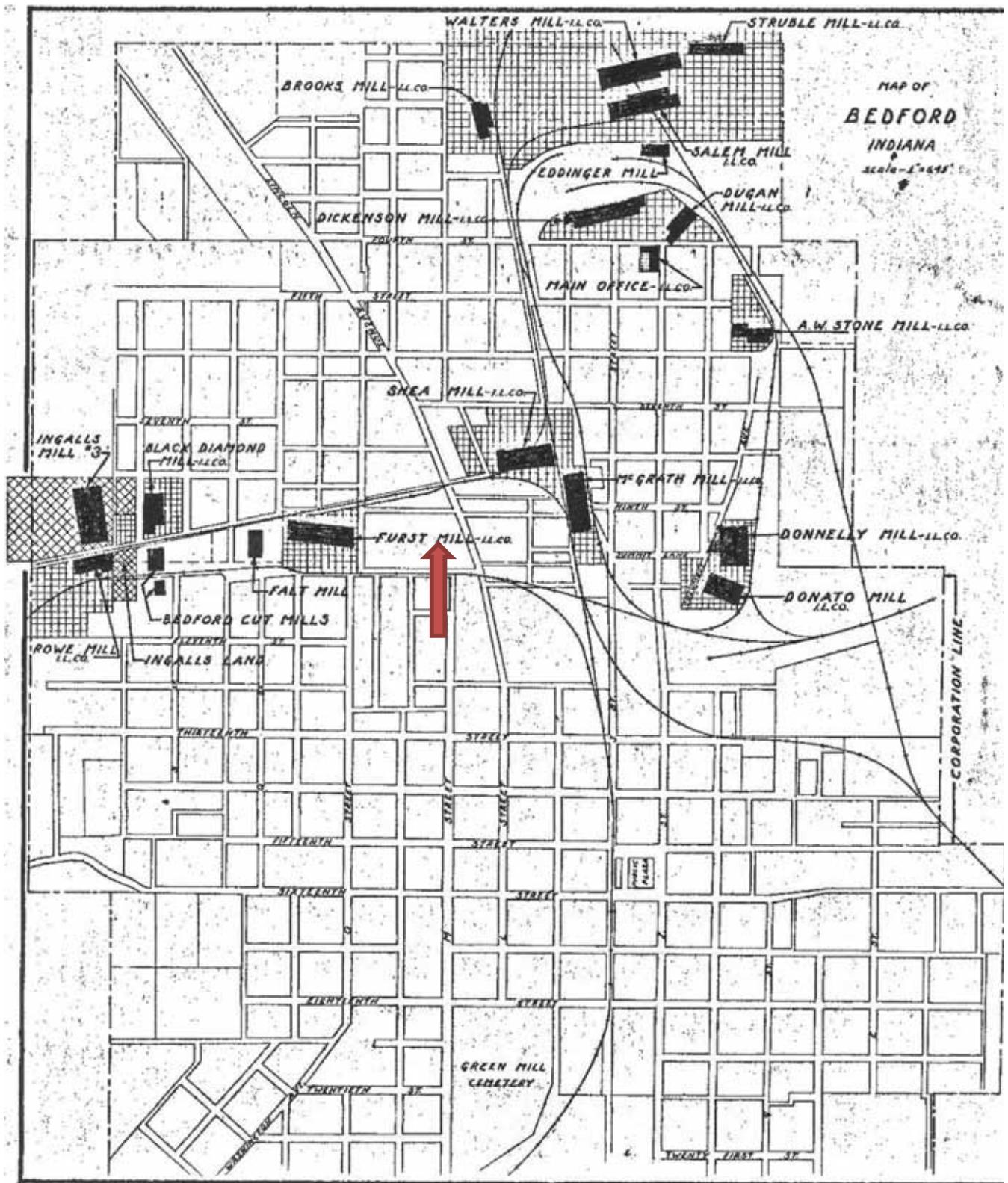
Map No. 18

The ILCO Furst Mill (later Whiting Mill) was built in Bedford by the Furst-Kerber Cut Stone Company in 1904. The latter firm called it simply Mill No. 1. It was torn down in 1939 after being damaged in a fire.

Map No. 19

The ILCO Kerber Mill was the old Furst-Kerber Cut Stone Company Mill No. 2 and was built southeast of Needmore in 1911. It is still there but is not owned by ILCO nor is it used for milling stone.





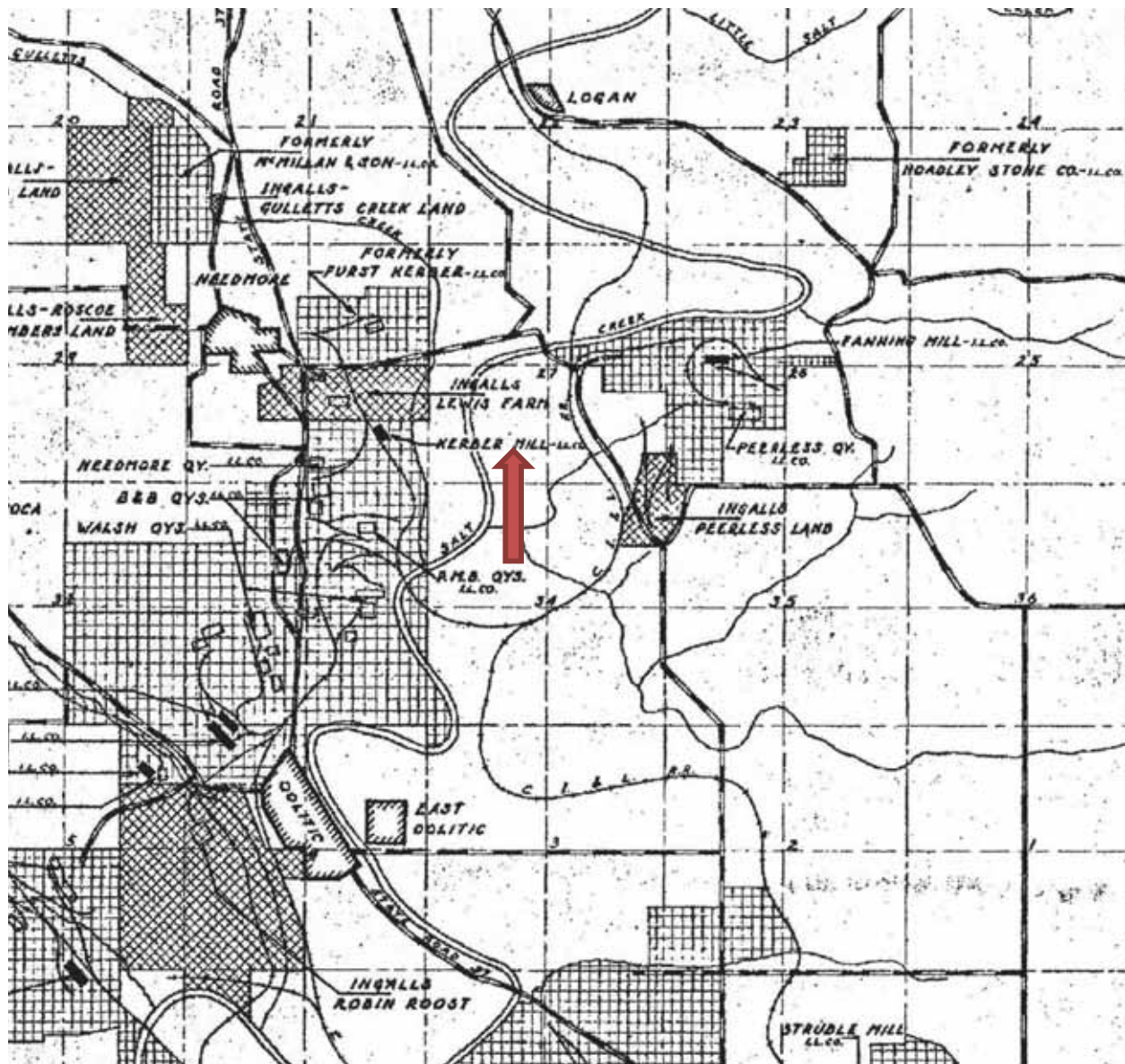
Map No. 20



Fig. 35 Here we are looking northeast at the Furst-Kerber Mill No. 1 and its office building in the foreground. Stalker School is in the far upper left and O Street runs across diagonally from right to left heading north and south on the east end of the mill.



Fig. 36 This is looking west at the office building for the Furst-Kerber Cut Stone Co. This is in the late 1980s and Fig. 35 shows it in the early 1920s.



Map No. 21

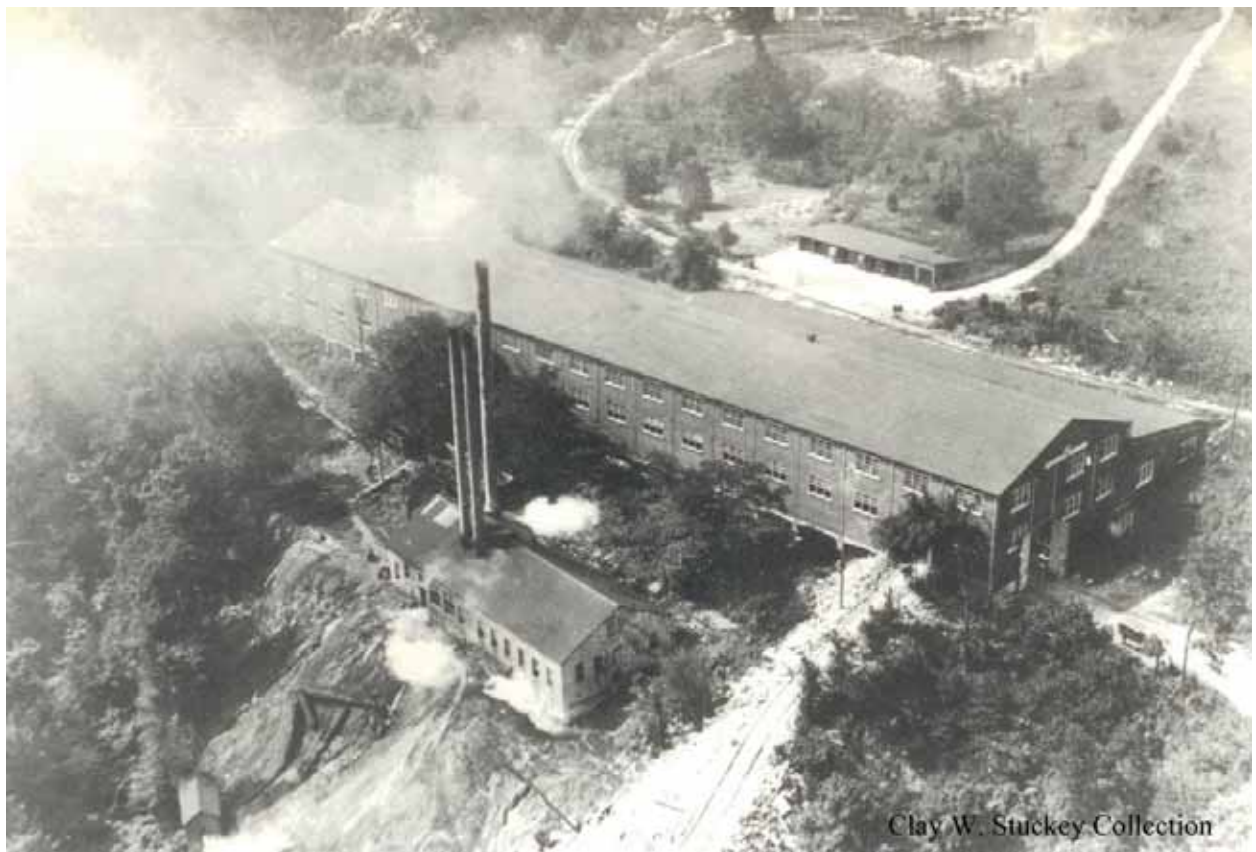


Fig. 37 This is looking southwest at the Furst-Kerber Mill No. 2 north east of Oolitic.



Fig. 38 This late 1980s picture shows the building no longer a mill. It still (2016) is being utilized but not in the limestone business.



Fig. 39 It is nice when buildings are labeled.

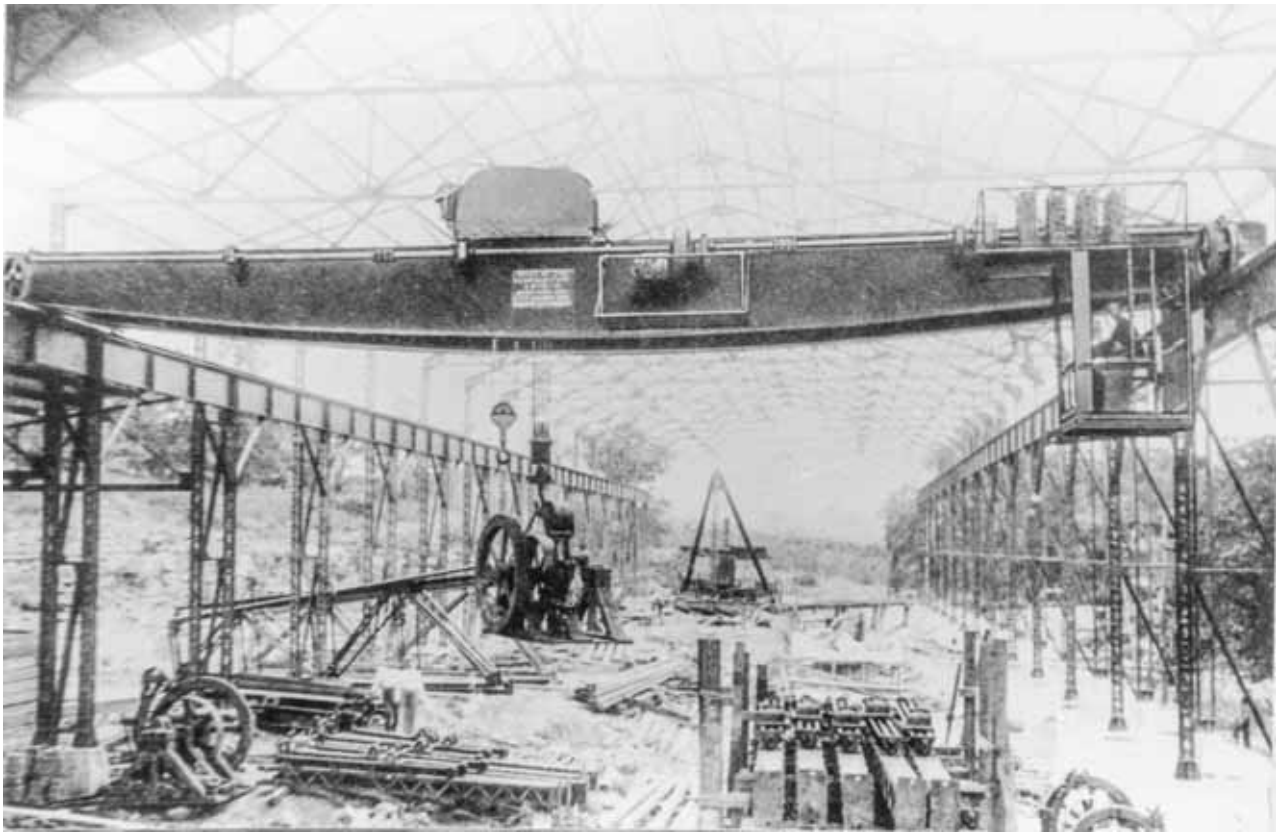


Fig. 40 The label on the picture from the archives of the successor company to the one that manufactured the traveling crane shown is "Furst-Kerber Cut Stone Company, Bedford, Indiana, using a twenty-five-ton four-motor Bedford Electric Traveling Crane." There were, of course, two Furst-Kerber Mills, but this looks more like it would have been the No. 2 Mill.

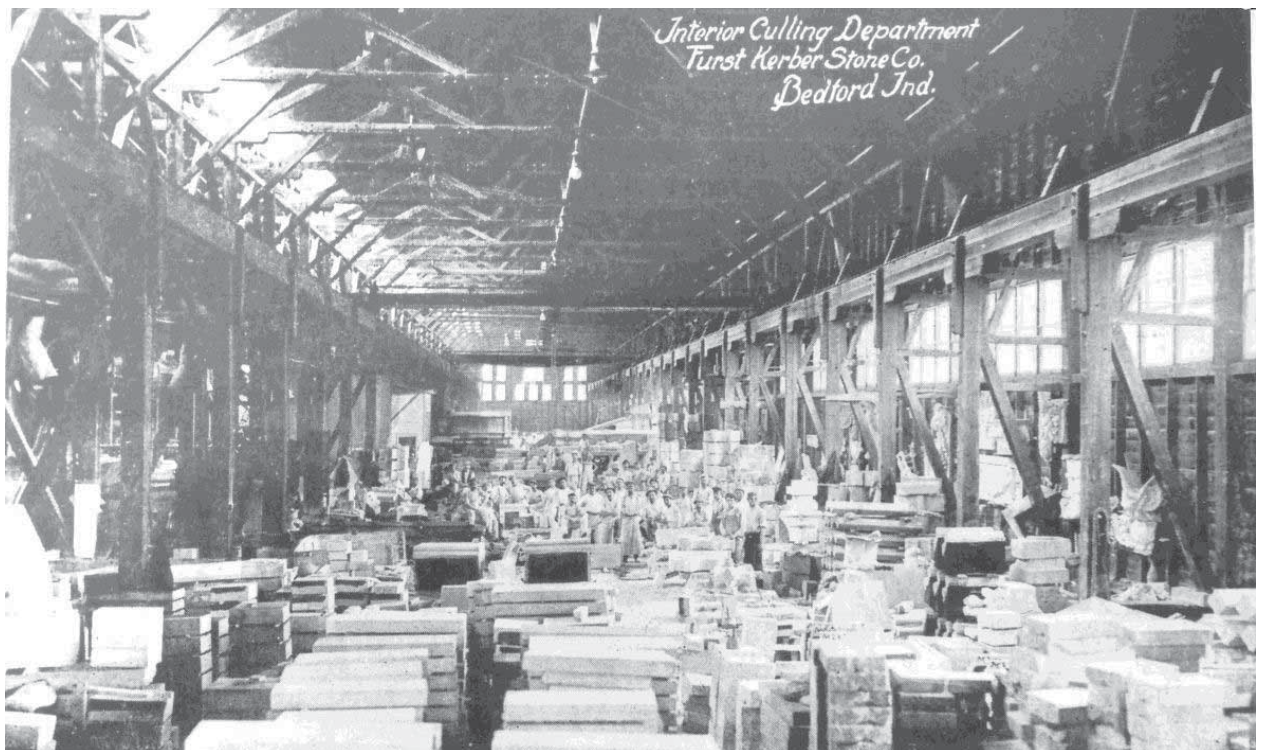


Fig. 41 This picture is clearly labeled Furst Kerber Stone Co. but we don't know which mill it was in.

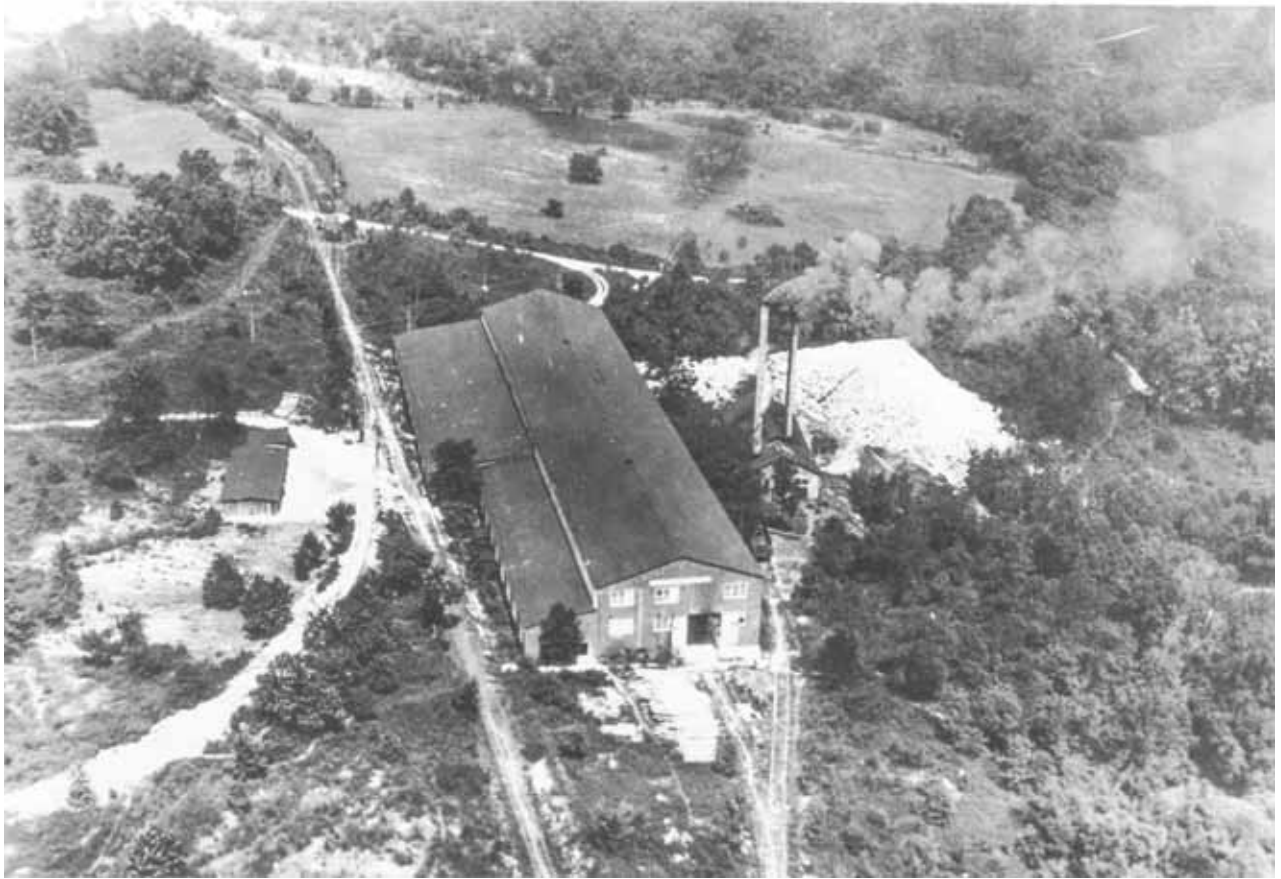
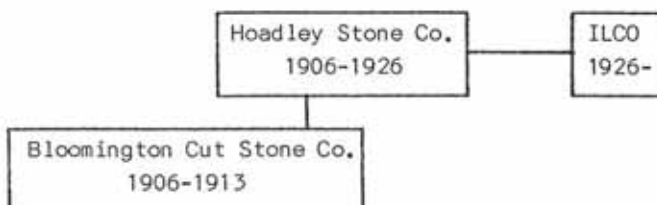


Fig. 42 Here is another picture of the Furst-Kerber Mill No. 2. It was often called the Furst-Kerber Needmore Mill. This view is looking north.

CHAPTER X

HOADLEY STONE COMPANY



In March, 1906, John W. Hoadley, Jr., his brother Elmer Ellsworth Hoadley, and Minter Cline organized the Hoadley Stone Company. They built a mill along the east side of the Monon tracks just north of McDoel Yard. Grimes Lane would later cross the tracks just south of the mill and later another Hoadley brother, Bird Grange Hoadley, would build the Tribune Mill of the J. Hoadley and Sons Company on the south side of Grimes Lane. These two mills should not be confused because while they were both owned by Hoadleys, they were different Hoadleys who owned different companies and engaged in much sibling rivalry.¹

John W. Hoadley, Jr. (1873-1932) later would be one of the founders of the Hoadley-Sare Stone Company (July, 1927) and J. M. Hoadley, Inc. (March, 1930).² Elmer Ellsworth Hoadley (1863-1906) was involved in organizing no other companies. Minter Cline would later help form the Hoadley

¹"B. G. Hoadley Quarries, Inc.---John Hoadley & Sons," Quarries and Mills, I (May, 1929), pp 22,70; Albert Hoadley interview; Monroe County, Misc. Record 5, p 456.

²Monroe County, Misc. Record 11, p 274, 14, p 91.

Cline Company in August, 1926.³

The Bloomington Cut Stone Company was organized in March, 1906, by William T. Blair, Julia A. Blair, Charles Franzman, Walter T. Bradfute, Henry B. Gentry, Mary T. Batman and Ira C. Batman.⁴ William T. Blair would shortly be an organizer of the Bloomington Bedford Stone Company in July, 1906. Franzman, Bradfute, and Gentry do not seem to have been involved in any other companies. Ira C. Batman (b 1862) was a prominent Bloomington attorney. In 1905 he was elected to the legislature and in 1911 elected a trustee of Indiana University. He was vice president and director of the First National Bank of Bloomington and a founder and director of the Citizens Loan and Trust Company of Bloomington. Mary T. Batman was his wife and they were involved in organizing no other stone companies.⁵

In 1906 the newly organized Bloomington Cut Stone Company built a mill east of the Monon tracks and midway between 1st and Dodds Streets. In December, 1913, John W. Hoadley, Jr., bought the Bloomington Cut Stone Company and expanded its mill.⁶ After this the mill was known as the Hoadley

³Monroe County, Misc. Record 11, p 73.

⁴Monroe County, Misc. Record 5, p 452.

⁵B. F. Bowen & Co., pp 592-4.

⁶Blatchley, p 385; Monroe County, Deed Record 61, p 185. At the time of the sale Simeon Freese was president of the Bloomington Cut Stone Company.

Stone Company Mill B and its original mill to the south was Mill A.

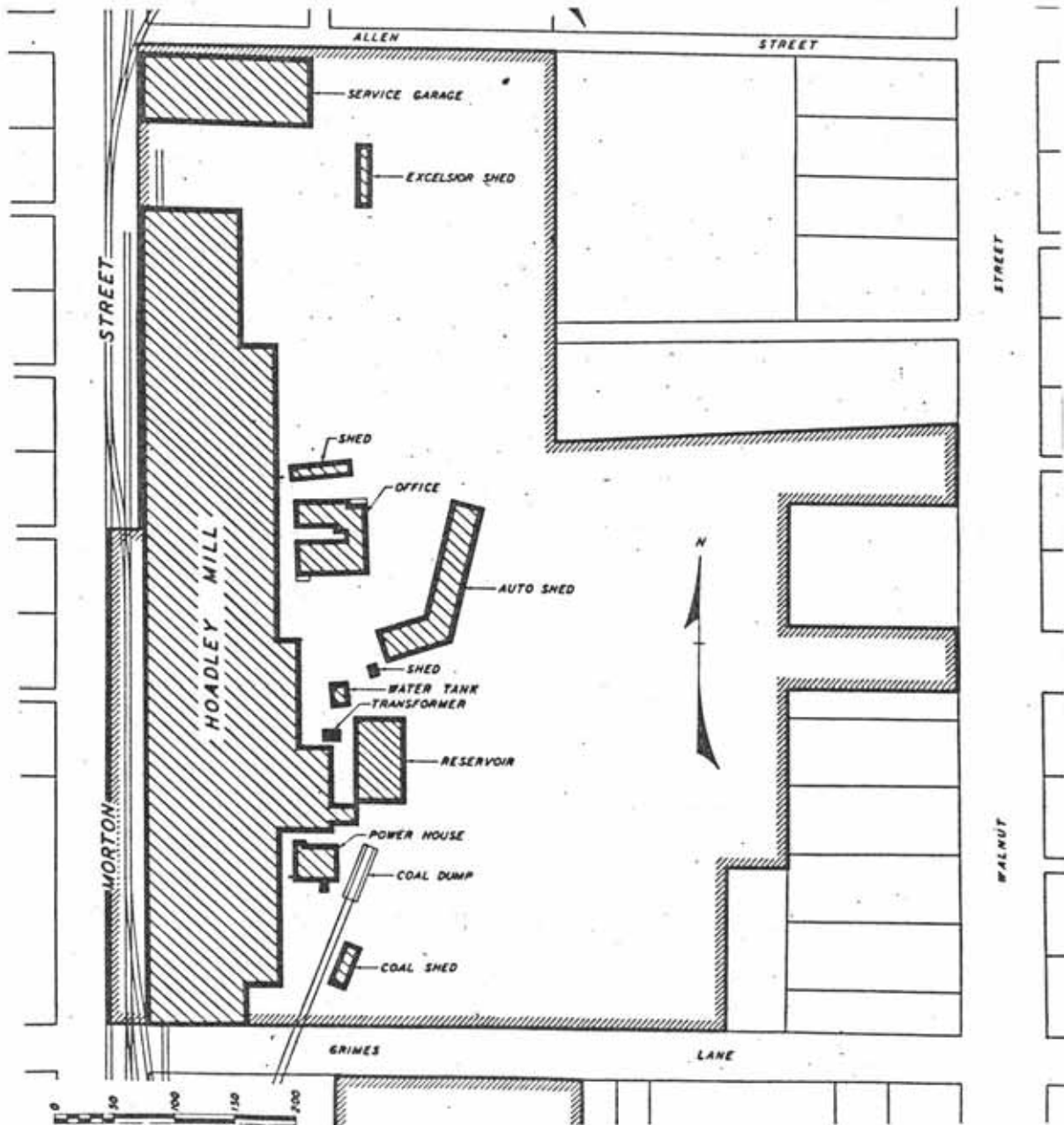
After the merger Mill A became the Hoadley Mill of ILCO and in 1929 its name was changed to the Indiana Mill of ILCO.⁷ Mill B became the Bloomington Mill of ILCO. Neither mill has survived.

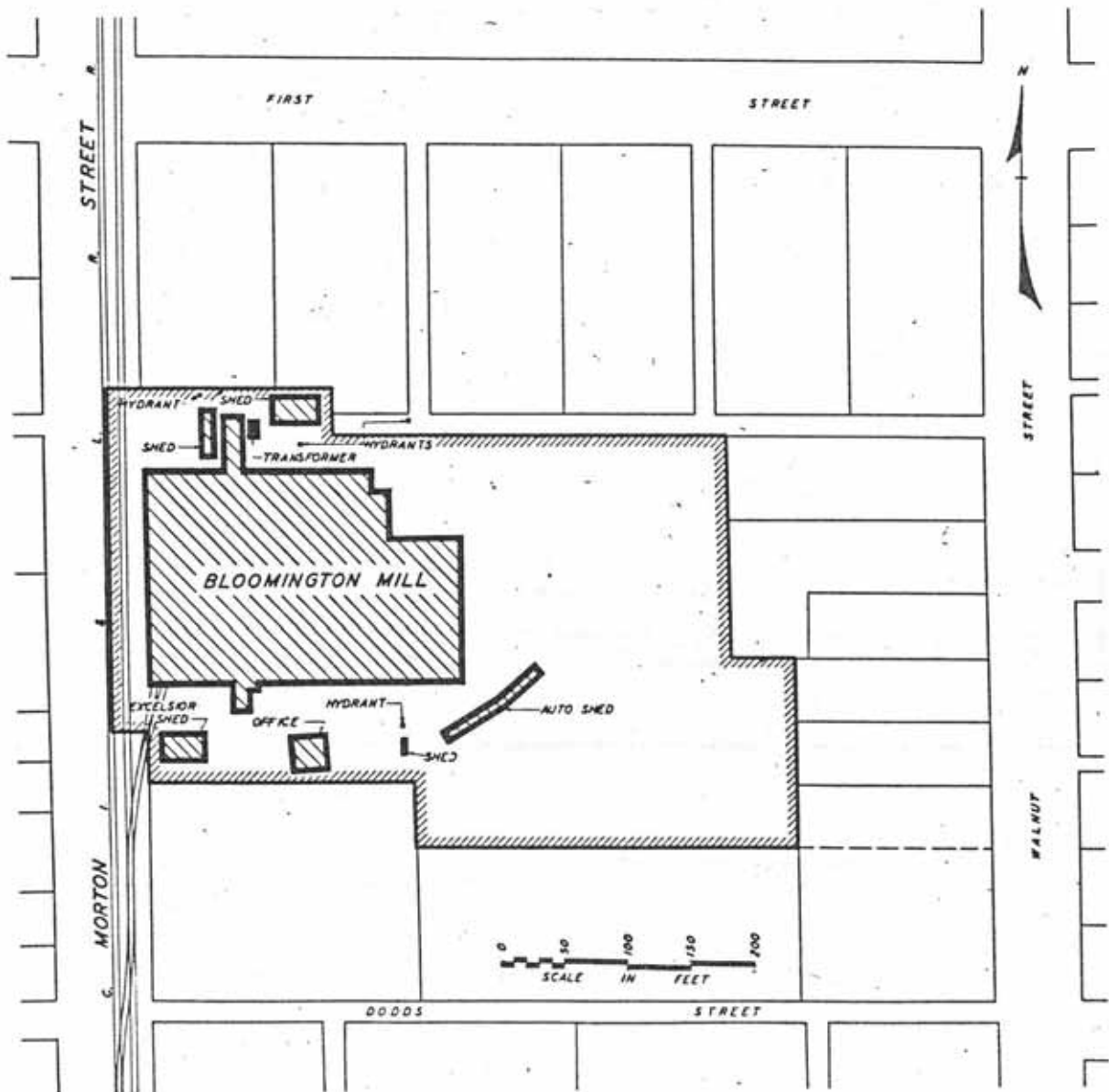
John Hoadley, Jr., also owned land at Hunter Valley and in 1923 he built a small mill there. After the merger this mill was called the Wicks Mill of ILCO but it was shut down about 1930.⁸ It was due north of the Crescent Mill and some foundations can be seen about forty yards due west of the junction of new Highway 37 and the Highway 46 bypass around Bloomington.

Thus the Hoadley Stone Company brought to the merger quarry land and three mills, the Bloomington, Hoadley (later Indiana), and Wicks Mills.

⁷Quarries and Mills, I (December, 1929), p 47.

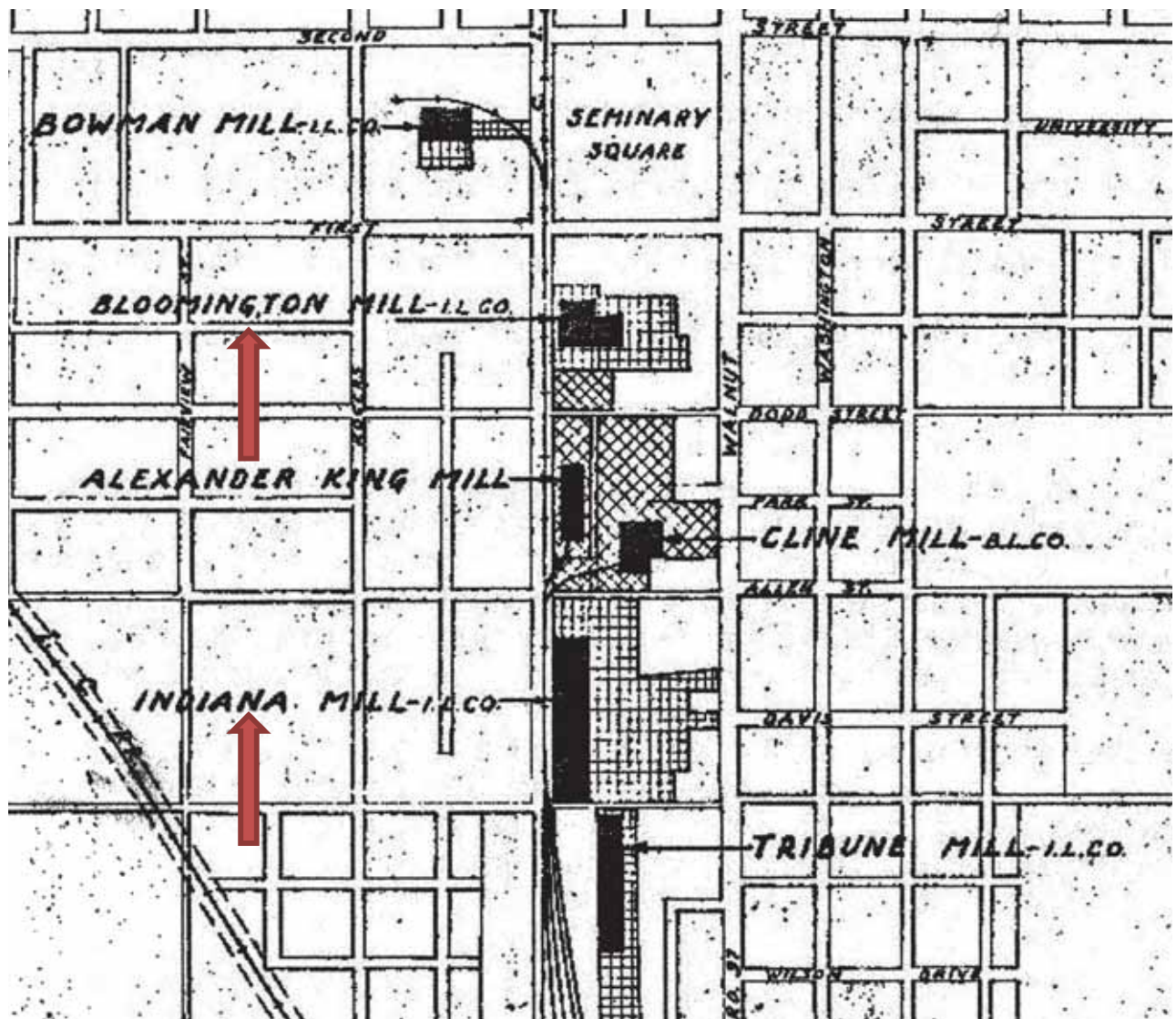
⁸Albert Hoadley interview.





Map No. 23

The ILCO Bloomington Mill was built in 1906 by the Bloomington Cut Stone Company. ILCO obtained it through its acquisition of the Hoadley Stone Company which had bought the Bloomington company in 1913. The mill is no longer there.



Map No. 24



Fig. 43 This is looking southwest at the Hoadley Stone Co. Mill A in Bloomington. It became the ILCO Indiana Mill.



Fig. 44 The Hoadley Stone Co. Mill A, later ILCO Indiana Mill) is in the upper right corner. The main mill shown is the ILCO Tribune Mill to be discussed later.

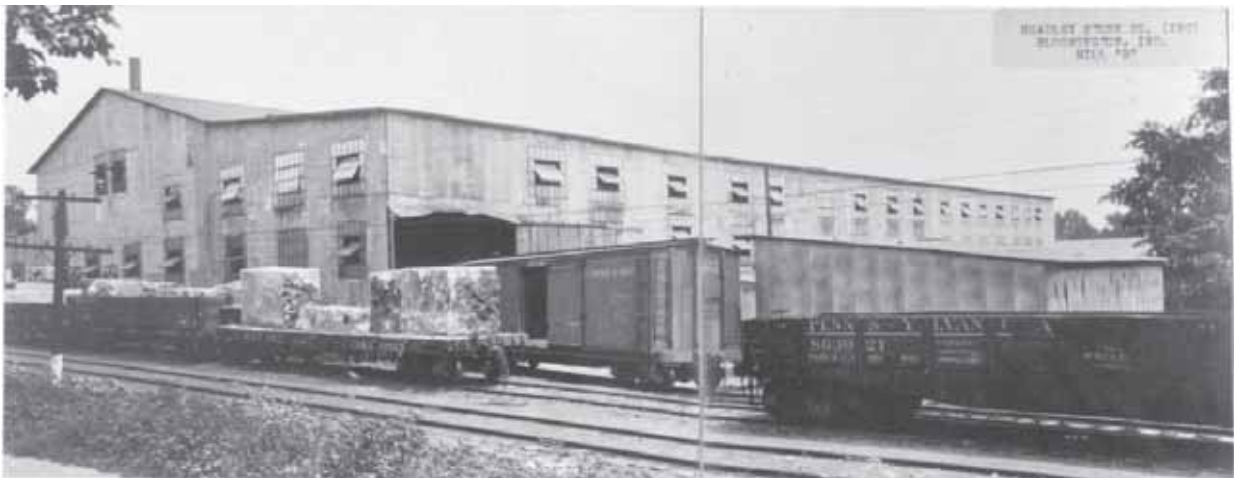
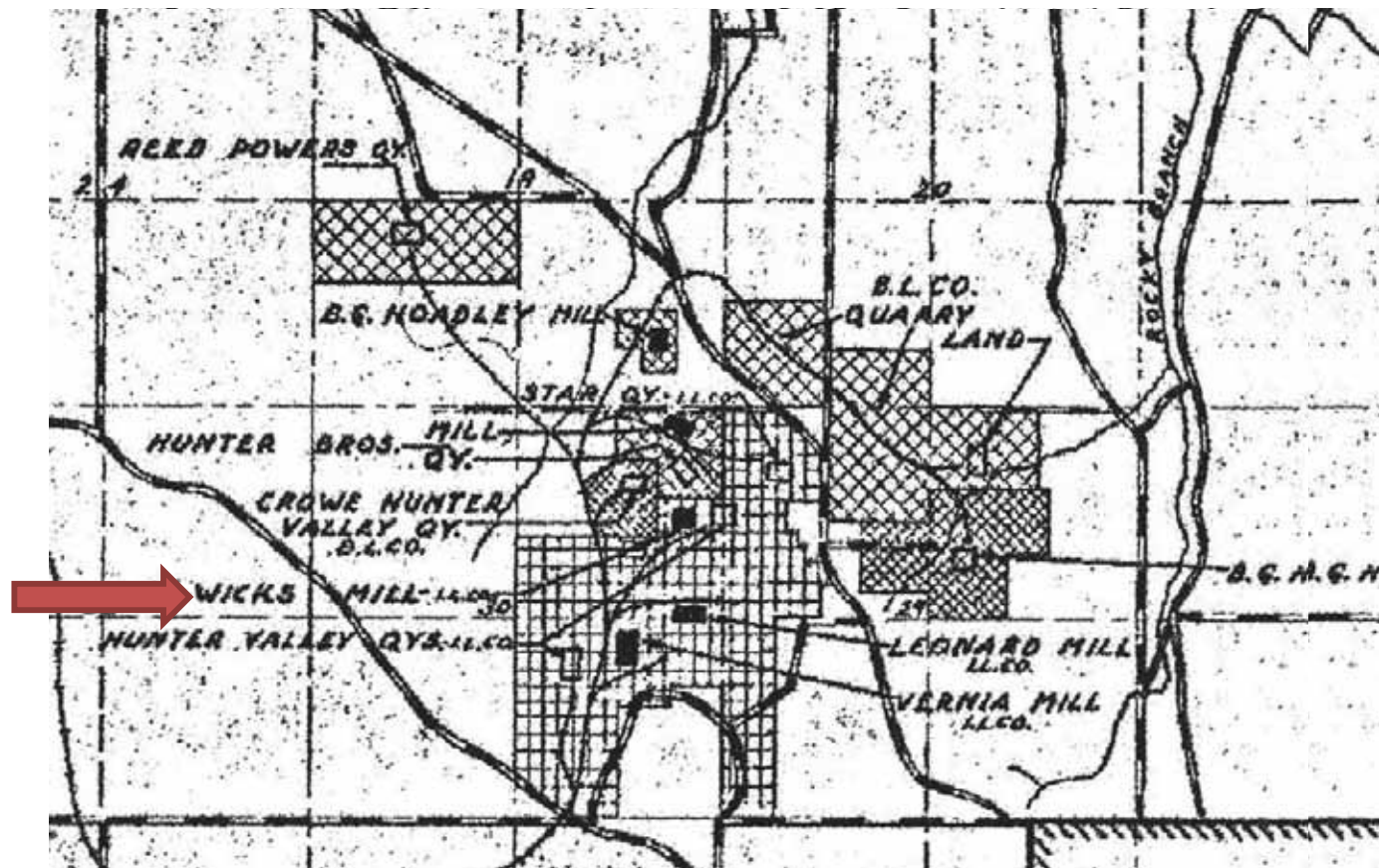


Fig. 45 This is the Hoadley Stone Co. Mill B. Later it became the ILCO Bloomington Mill. This view is looking northeast at the south side of the mill.



Fig. 46 Here we are looking due south at the Hoadley Stone Co. Mill B

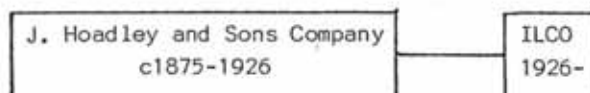


Map No. 25

The Wicks Mill mentioned in the text lasted only from 1923 to 1930 and was not very big. The site for it is now buried under the cloverleaf for the junction of I69 and Hwy 46.

CHAPTER XI

J. HOADLEY AND SONS COMPANY



John Hoadley, Sr., (1828-1918) was a native of England who came to America in the 1840's and to Monroe County in the 1870's. About 1875 he began a monumental carving business and in 1880 it became a cut stone mill as well. Although his company had a long and successful life, Mr. Hoadley's influence of the stone business was more from the children he begat than from the company he began. John and Mary Hoadley had four sons and three daughters. All four sons were involved in the stone business and two of the daughters married men who were so involved. Sarah Isabella (1856-1899) was the eldest child and she did not marry a stone man, probably because she married when the industry was in its infancy. The other children were Albert Thomas (1860-1912), Elmer Ellsworth (1863-1906), Minnie Mae (1866-1939), Rose Elizabeth (1869-1930), John William, Jr. (1873-1932) and Bird Grange (1875-1937).¹

The J. Hoadley and Sons Company did business for a long time before formally organizing in January, 1907. At

¹Quarries and Mills, I (May, 1930), p 3; Monroe County Indiana Family Heritage, 1987, Monroe County Historical Society, Bloomington, Indiana, p 159.

that time the records indicate that the company was formed by John Hoadley, Sr., and his sons Albert Thomas and Bird Grange.² Albert T. Hoadley was not to be involved in the formation of any further companies. The Albert T. Hoadley that does often show up in later records was his nephew, the son of John W. Hoadley, Jr. In September, 1927, Bird Grange Hoadley and his son and daughter, John Albert and Kathryn K., organized the B. G. Hoadley Quarries Company, and with several others in July, 1932, he organized the Hoosier Limestone Corporation.³

The J. Hoadley and Sons Company had two mills in Stinesville on the south edge of town. The larger one was on the west side of the railroad tracks and burned about 1916. In that year the firm moved to Bloomington and built a mill on the east side of the north end of the Monon McDoel Yard.⁴ Grimes Lane became the street running between the J. Hoadley and Sons Mill on the south and the Hoadley Stone Company Mill on the north. The mill was known as the Tribune Mill because the stone for the Chicago Tribune Building came from it. It was razed during the 1930's.

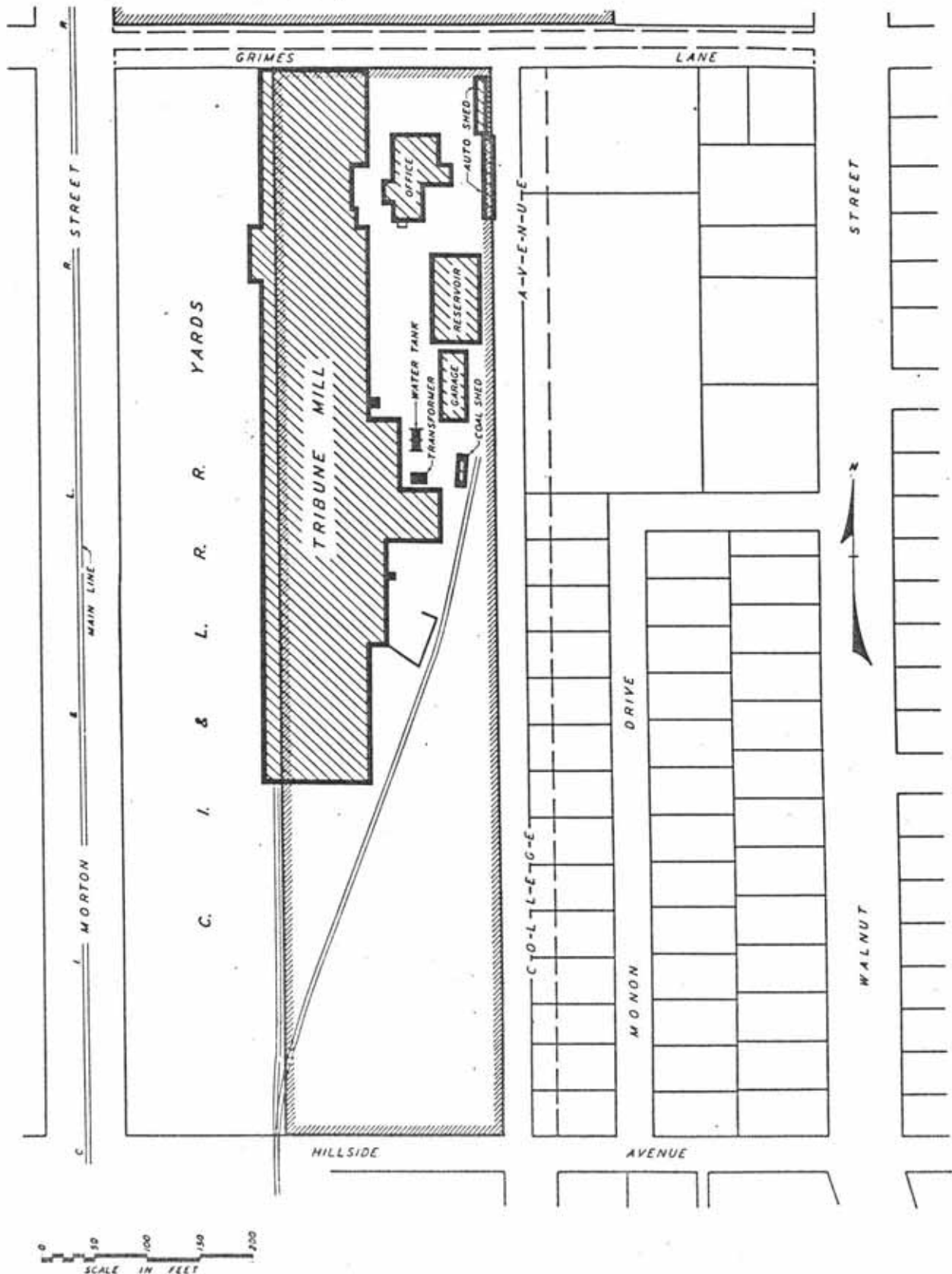
²Monroe County, Misc. Record 5, p 510.

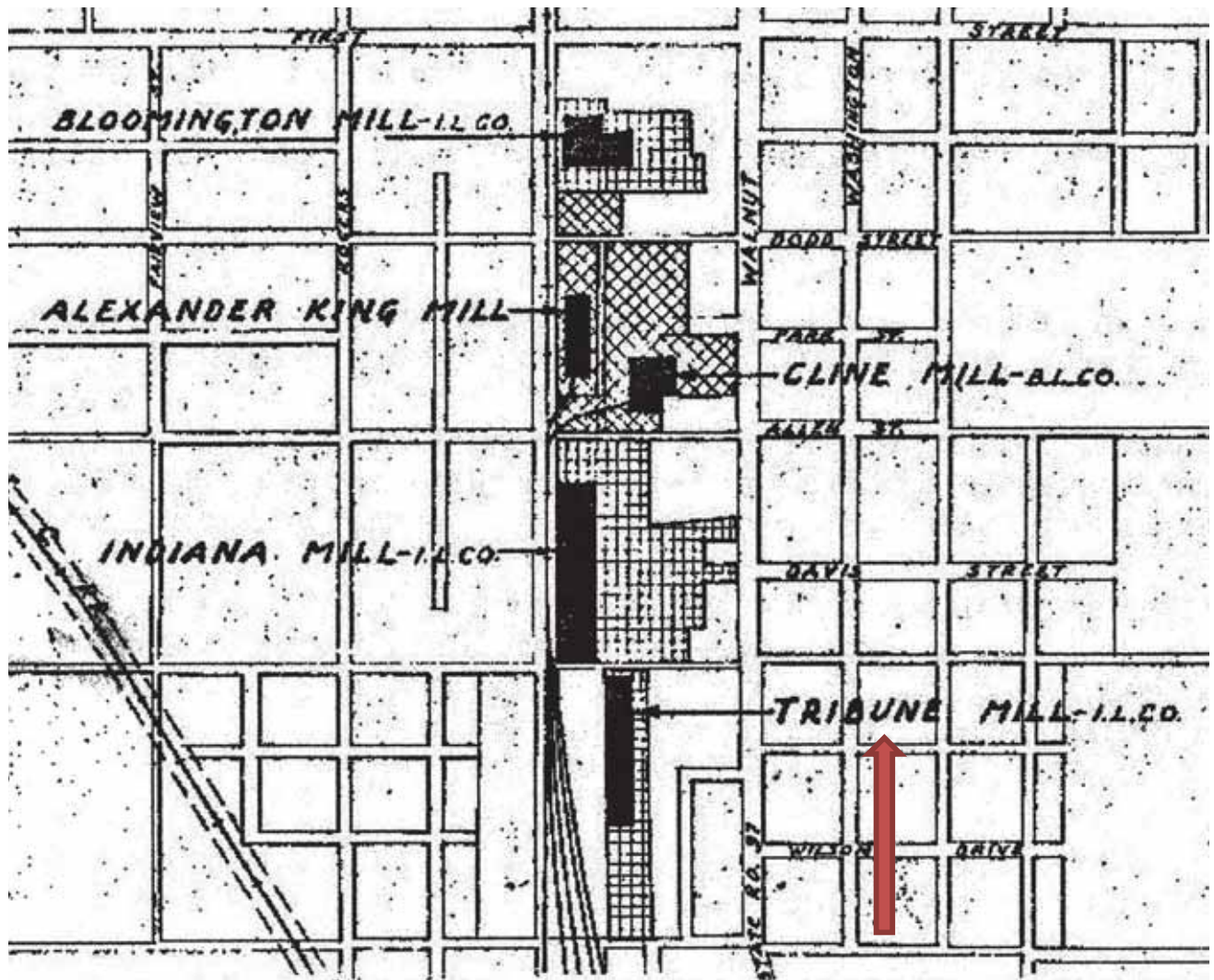
³Monroe County, Misc. Record 11, p 274, 15, p 360.

⁴Monroe County, Deed Record 63, p 545, shows the land for the mill in Bloomington being purchased in March, 1916, and the Misc. Record 7, p 296, shows a change in location for the place where the company was doing business from Stinesville to Bloomington. The date for this change was July, 1916.

Map No. 26

The ILCO Tribune Mill was built in 1916 in Bloomington by the J. Hoadley and Sons Company. It was called the Tribune Mill because it furnished the stone for the Chicago Tribune Building. It is no longer there.





Map No. 27



Fig. 47 The is looking southwest at the J. Hoadley & Sons Co. Mill in Bloomington. Garvey lane is diagonally across the bottom. It later became the ILCO Tribune Mill.



Fig. 48 The Tribune Mill is in foreground, the Hoadley Stone. Co. Mill A is across Garvey Lane to the north and Walnut street is running along the right edge north and south. McDoel Yards is to the left.



Fig. 49 The Tribune Tower in Chicago.

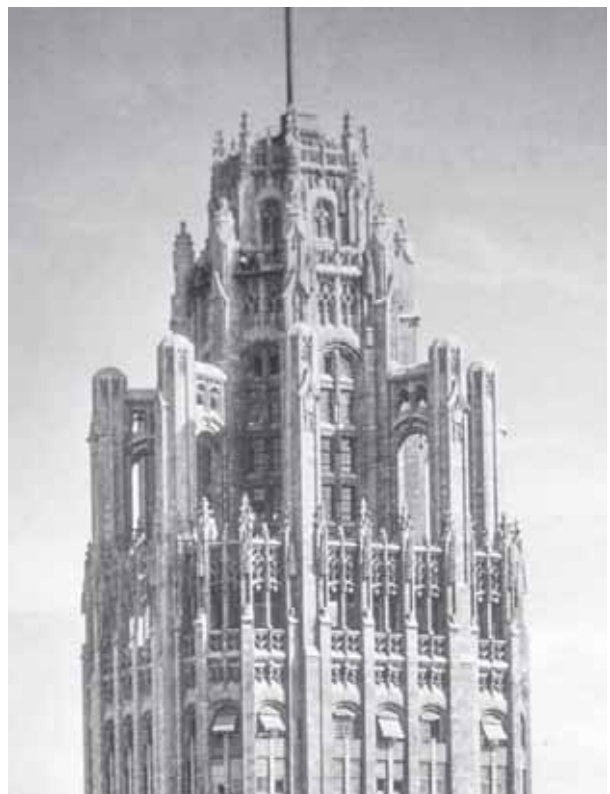
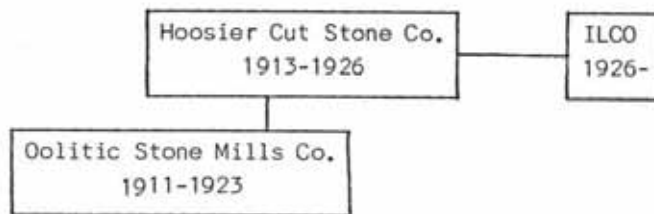


Fig. 50 The Tribune Tower in Chicago. Stone for this came from the Tribune Mill in Bloomington.

CHAPTER XII

HOOSIER CUT STONE COMPANY



The Hoosier Cut Stone Company was organized in May, 1913, by Fred C. Greve and Martin T. Morgan of New York and Henry P. Pearson and John McMillan of Bedford.¹ Nothing is known about Greve or Morgan and their names do not appear associated with any other company. Prominent attorney Henry P. Pearson (b1870) was the youngest mayor Bedford ever had. He served from 1894 to 1898 and in 1906 he was elected to the state senate. In 1920 he was the secretary-treasurer of the Citizens Trust Company.² Neither Henry Pearson nor John McMillan appear as organizers of any other company and it is most likely that the latter was not related to the family of W. McMillan and Sons Stone Company.

The Hoosier Cut Stone Company built a mill in Bedford to the northwest of the intersection of 6th Street and the Bedford Belt Railway. After the merger the mill became the A. W. Stone Mill of ILCO but now (1990) it is a vacant lot. A. W. Stone was the man for whom the mill was named.

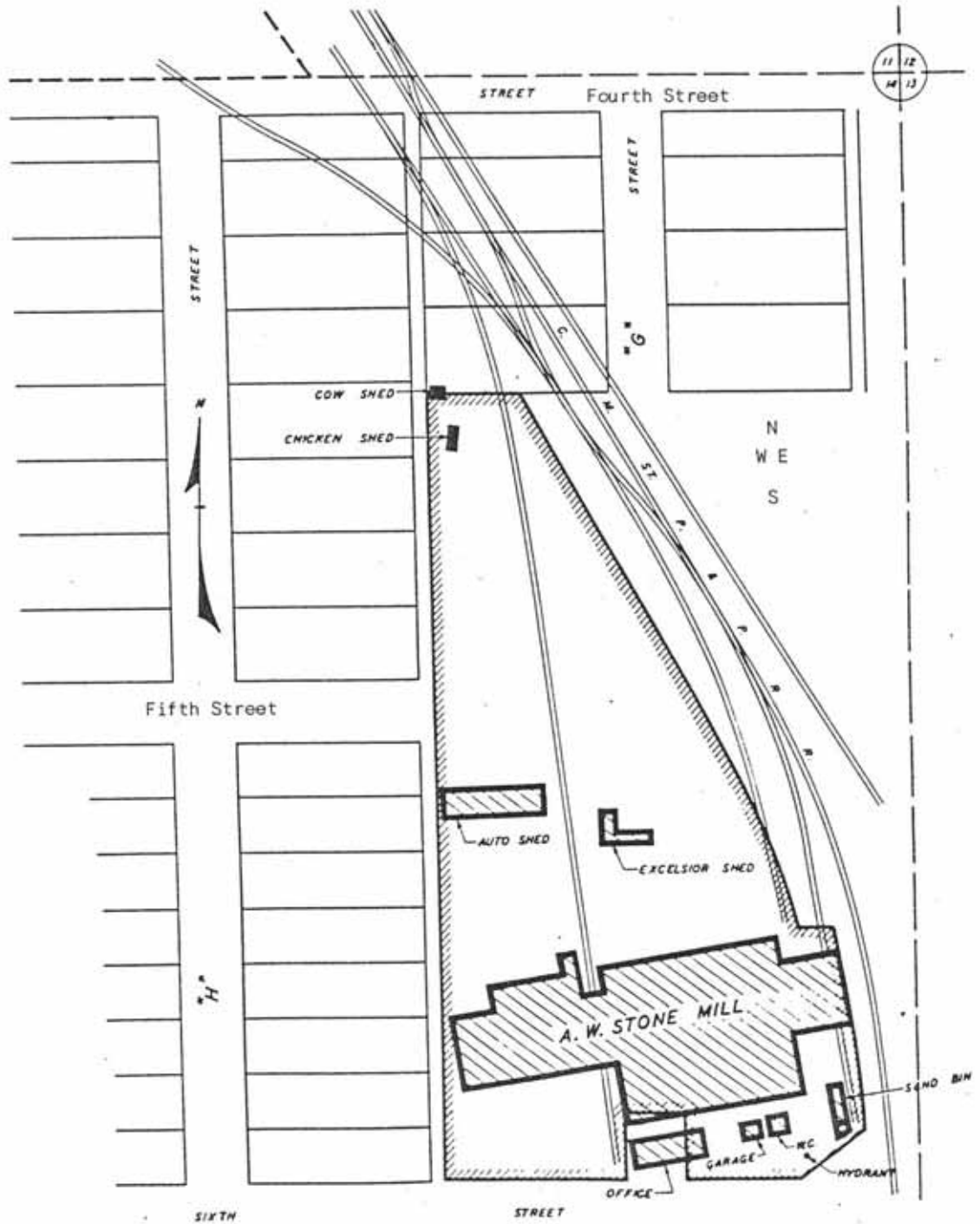
¹Lawrence County, Misc. Record 11, p 307.

²Guthrie, Thirty Three Years, p 176; Guthrie, Quarter Century, p 205; B. F. Bowen & Co., pp 715-6.

In 1923 the Hoosier Cut Stone Company of Bedford bought the Oolitic Stone Mills Company of Bloomington. The latter company had been organized in April, 1911, by William J. Greene, August Greene, Harry M. Bower (or Bowan), Herman S. Bowman, and Elizabeth K. Bowman.³ The Bowmans have been discussed in the chapter on the Bowman-King Stone Company. Neither of the Greenes nor Mr. Bower appear associated with any other company.

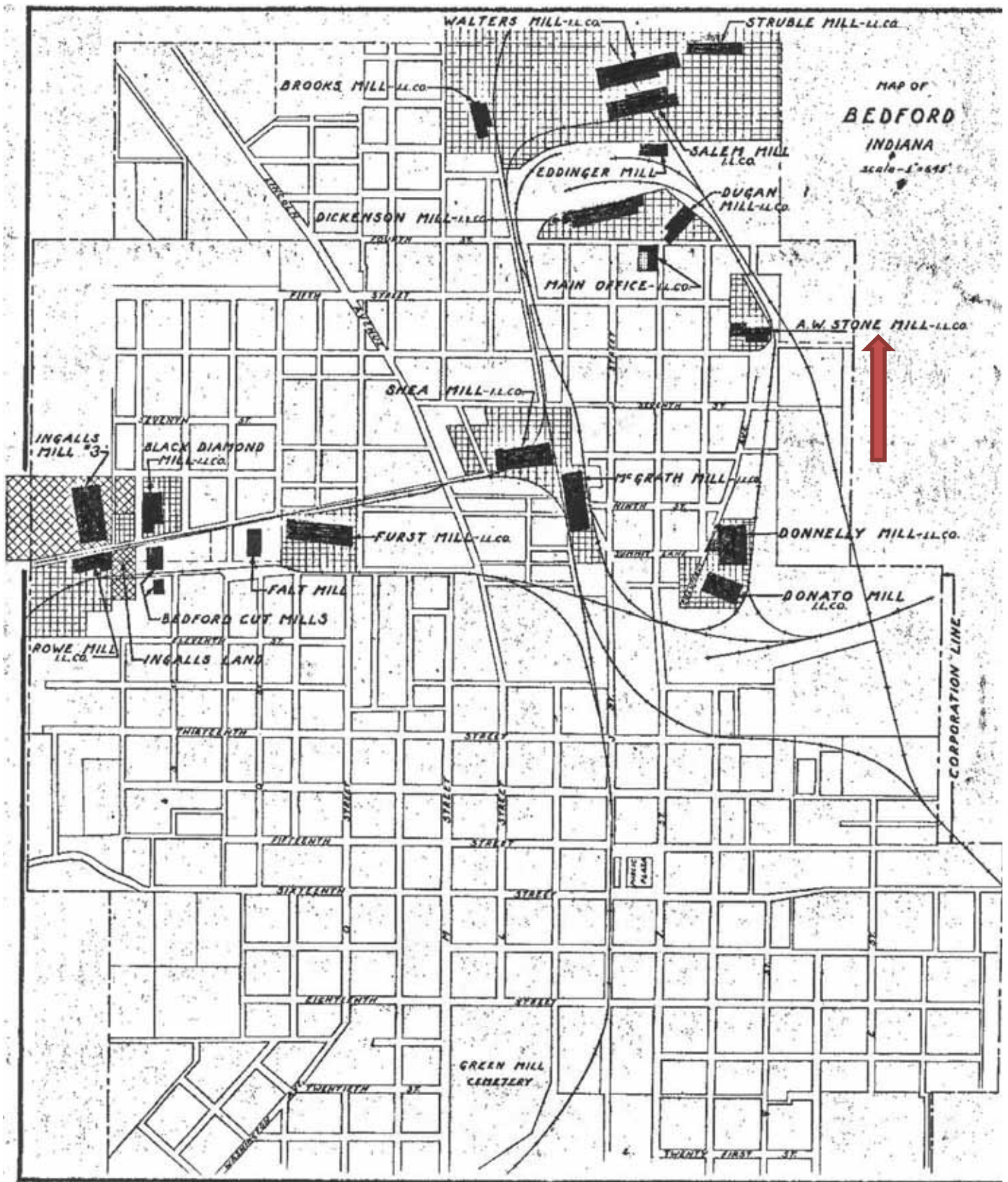
The Oolitic Stone Mills Company built a mill in Bloomington directly behind the Public Service Substation and about six hundred feet west of Rogers Street. After the merger this mill became the Mc Doel Mill of ILCO. Much later it was sold to the Hoosier Stone Company (no relation to the Hoosier Cut Stone Company) and survived until quite late. It is no longer there.

³Monroe County, Misc. Record 6, p 274.



Map No. 28

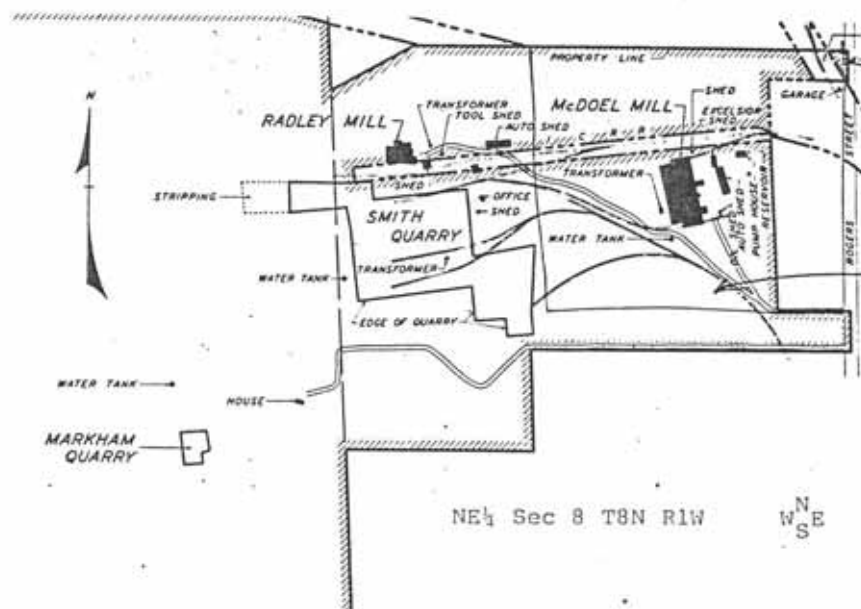
The ILCO A. W. Stone Mill was built in Bedford by the Hoosier Cut Stone Company. It is no longer there.



Map No. 29

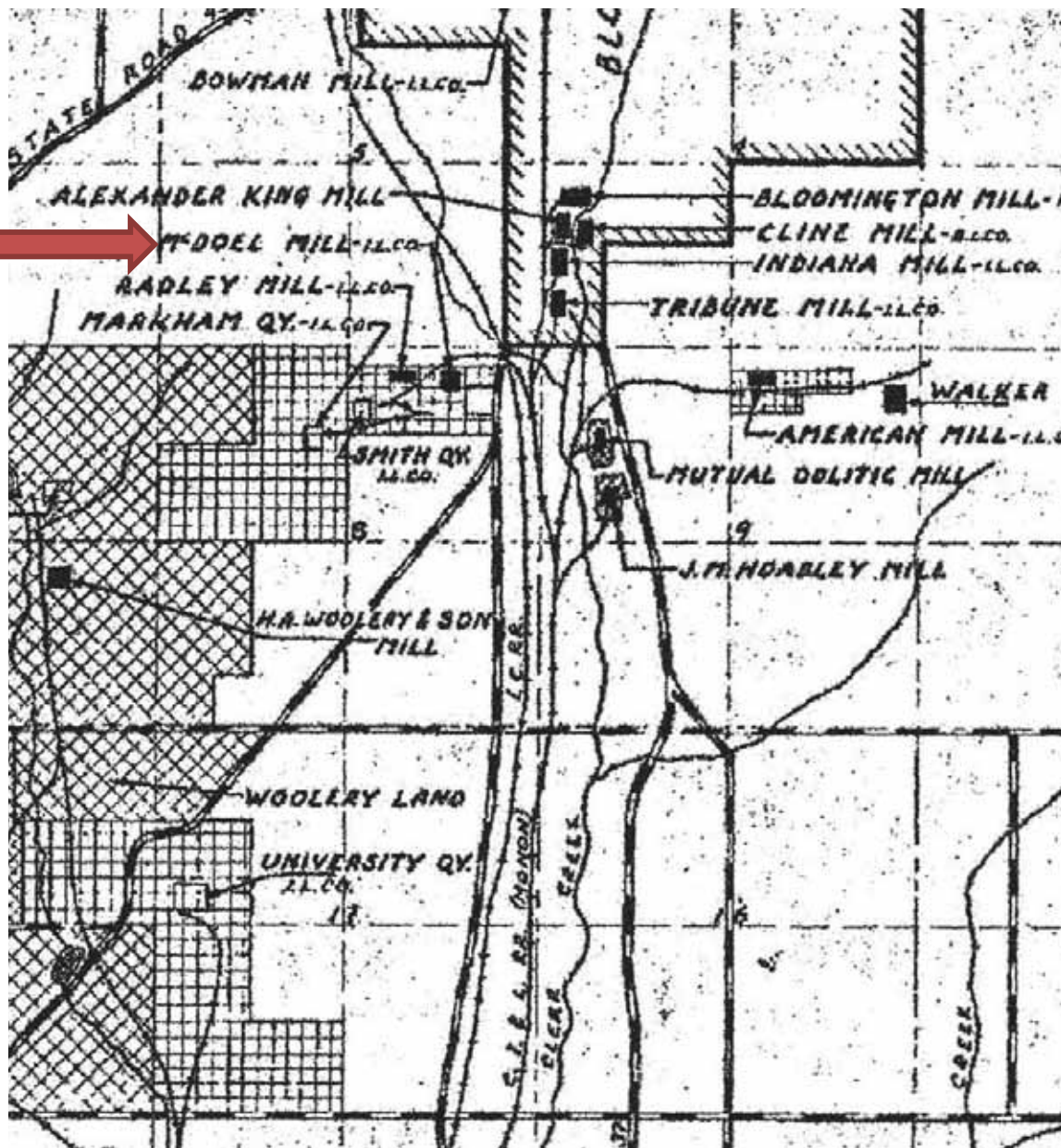


Fig. 51 This is looking northwest at the Hoosier Cut Stone Co. Mill which became the ILCO A. W. Stone Mill.

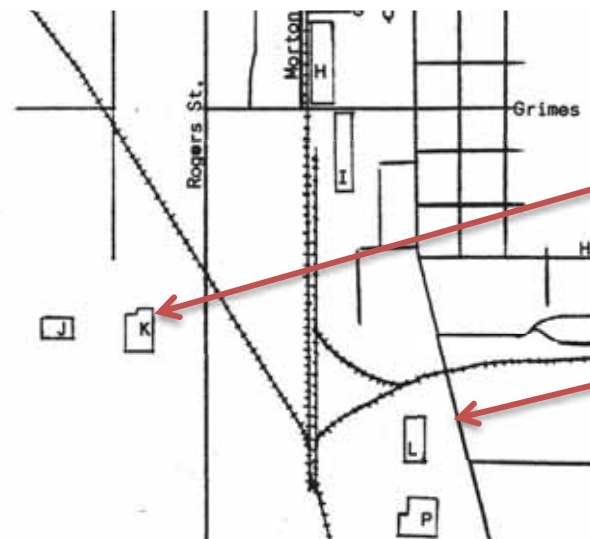


Map No. 30

The ILCO McDowell Mill in Bloomington was originally built by the Oolitic Stone Mills Company. The ILCO Radley Mill had been built by the Bloomington Bedford Stone Company which became part of Clear Creek Quarries Company. Neither mill has survived.



Map No. 31



Map No. 32



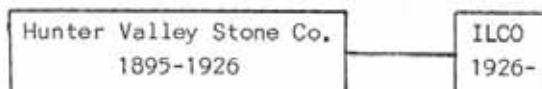
Fig. 52 Rogers Street is running across the bottom of the picture and the RCA plant is to the right. The Public Service substation is in the lower middle and directly in the middle is the ILCO McDoel Mill.



Fig. 53 The Hoosier Stone Co. used the site later. It should not be confused with the Hoosier Cut Stone Co. in Bedford. That was a much earlier company.

CHAPTER XIII

HUNTER VALLEY STONE COMPANY



The Hunter Valley Stone Company was organized in Bloomington in January, 1895, by Wyatt W. Wicks, Adelbert W. Sterrett, Franklin L. Brodix, James D. Showers, William N. Showers, Henry Henley, William A. Gabr(?), and William P. Rogers.¹ Sterrett and Brodix were from Chicago and nothing is known about them. Sterrett appears as an organizer of no other company. There is an Edward S. Brodix, also of Chicago, who helped organize the Morton C. Hunter Stone Company in January, 1890,² and much later there is a Franklin Brodix who helped form the Monon Stone Company in July, 1926.³

The Showers brothers, William N. (b1846) and James D. (b1841) were wealthy owners of the Showers Furniture Factory. They had come to Bloomington in the middle 1850's and along with their father began the furniture manufacturing business in 1862. In 1866 they bought their father's interest and in 1904 William bought his brother's interest. James helped organize the Citizens Loan and Trust Company and served as its president. William was involved in several

¹Monroe County, Misc. Record 3, p 517.

²Monroe County, Misc. Record 2, p 570.

³Monroe County, Misc. Record 11, p 54.

financial institutions including the First National Bank of Bloomington, the Citizens Loan and Trust Company of Bloomington, and the Sterling Fire Insurance Company and the American Mortgage, Loan and Guarantee Company, both of Indianapolis.⁴ In addition to the Hunter Valley Stone Company these brothers were involved in organizing the Morton C. Hunter Stone Company in January, 1890, the Central Oolitic Stone Company in November, 1890, and the Star Stone Company in March, 1893.⁵

Henry Henley was a member of a prominent stone family and he will be discussed in the chapter on the United Indiana Stone Company.

William A. Gabr helped organize the Morton C. Hunter Stone Company in January, 1890, and the Star Stone Company in March, 1893.⁶

William P. Rogers helped form the Morton C. Hunter Stone Company in January, 1890, the National Stone Company in September, 1901, the Bloomington Quarries Company in April, 1903, and the Ohio Oolitic Stone Company in May, 1910.⁷

Wyatt W. Wicks was a prominent Bloomington merchant

⁴B. F. Bowen & Co., pp 480-2, 608-10.

⁵Monroe County, Misc. Record 2, p 570, 3, pp 37, 247.

⁶Monroe County, Misc. Record 2, p 570, 3, p 247.

⁷Monroe County, Misc. Record 2, p 570, 4, pp 292, 476, and 6, p 182. There is difficulty in reading the middle initial of the William Rogers on the last two companies. One appears to be an "H" and the other an "A".

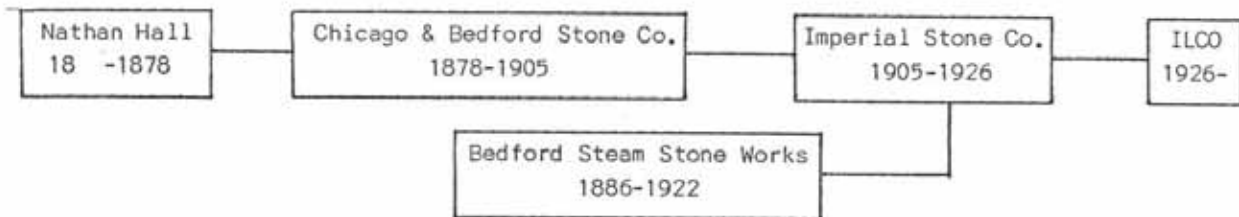
who founded the Wicks Department Store. He was a prolific organizer of stone companies helping start the Chicago and Stinesville Stone and Marble Company in February, 1887, the Stinesville and Bloomington Stone Company in March, 1889, the Bloomington Oolitic Stone Company in August, 1889, the Morton C. Hunter Stone Company in January, 1890, the Central Oolitic Stone Company in November, 1890, the Star Stone Company in March, 1893, the Carmichael, Reeves and Wicks Stone Company in January, 1900, and the Wicks Stone Company in September, 1906.⁸

At the time of the merger in 1926 it appears that the Hunter Valley Stone Company brought to the new Indiana Limestone Company only quarry land at Hunter Valley.

⁸Monroe County, Misc. Record 2, pp 381, 535, 544, 570, 3, pp 37, 247, 4, p 484; Lawrence County, Misc. Record 7, p 181.

CHAPTER XIV

IMPERIAL STONE COMPANY



Nathan Hall opened the Blue Hole quarry east of Bedford prior to the Civil War. In 1878 he sold the land to the Chicago and Bedford Stone Company which was organized in February, 1878.¹ This company built a mill near the quarry sometime prior to 1898 and eventually fell on hard times. In 1905 the mill and quarry were purchased by the Imperial Stone Company which was organized in May, 1905, by E. B. Thornton, Benjamin Wykoff, John A. Hartman, and John T. Freeland.²

¹Blatchley, p 440, states that "The Blue Hole quarry was first opened by Nathan Hall...In 1878 the property was purchased by the Hinsdale Doyle Granite Company...Later the company was reorganized as the Chicago and Bedford Stone Company, who operated it until 1905, when it became known as the Imperial Stone Company;" Lawrence County, Deed Record 10, p 187, shows that Nathan Hall sold the land directly to the Chicago and Bedford Stone Company in March, 1878; Stone, X (January, 1895), p 132, states that it was organized in February, 1878.

²B. F. Bowen & Co., pp 194-5; Guthrie, Thirty Three Years, p 45; Lawrence County, Misc. Record 9, p 88, Deed Record 34, p 119, shows that Henry L. Thornton of Ohio was assigned a certificate of purchase originally granted to Benjamin Wykoff by the sheriff. It was the result of a court action wherein Thornton was the plaintiff and the Chicago and Bedford Stone Company and others were the defendants. It would appear that the company was not doing well in the late 1890's.

E. B. Thornton will be discussed below. Neither Wykoff nor Hartman appear as organizers of any other stone companies. Dr. John T. Freeland, Jr., (1860-1929) was a prominent Bedford physician who was graduated from the Kentucky School of Medicine at Louisville in 1886 and from the New York Polyclinic in 1888. He was chief surgeon of the Chicago, Terre Haute & Southeastern Railroad Company and the Indiana Quarries Company. He at one time was the president of the Stone City Bank but was not an organizer of any other stone companies.³

The Bedford Steam Stone Works was formed in the fall of 1886 as a co-partnership but was organized as a corporation in March, 1888, by William Winstandley, Edmund B. Thornton, Thomas V. Thornton, and David Y. Johnson. William C. Winstandley (1841-1917) was president of the Bedford Bank and a director of several out-of-town corporations. He helped organize the Hoosier Stone Company in October, 1883, the Peerless Stone Company in April, 1890, and the Bedford Stone Mill Company in August, 1895.⁴

Edmund B. Thornton (1856-1929) was born in Bedford and trained as an educator. He served eight years as superintendent of schools. After a period in the lumber business in Kentucky he became general superintendent of all the

³B. F. Bowen & Co., pp 550-1; Guthrie, Thirty Three Years, p 203.

⁴Stone, X (January, 1895), p 134; Guthrie, Quarter Century, p 199; Lawrence County, Misc. Record 3, p 249, 4, p 234, 6, p 294.

Hoosier Stone Company's quarries and in 1900 he organized the Ottawa Silica Company of Ottawa, Illinois. He followed Joseph Voris as president of the Citizens National Bank and was one of the founders of the Bedford Gas Company and the Bedford Savings and Loan Association. In addition to the aforementioned Imperial Stone Company of which in 1914 he was president and largest stockholder, and the Bedford Steam Stone Works of which in the same year he was president, he helped organize the Dark Hollow Oolitic Stone Company in February, 1891.⁵

Thomas V. Thornton was E. B. Thornton's brother and with others he helped form the Bedford Electric Light and Power Company in 1890 and the Indiana Land Improvement Company in 1889. He helped organize the Hoosier Stone Company in October, 1883, and the Union Stone Company in December, 1890.⁶ David Y. Johnson in 1898 had followed Henry P. Pearson as mayor of Bedford and helped organize the Dark Hollow Oolitic Stone Company in February, 1891, and the Bedford Rustic Stone Company in November, 1900.⁷

At some time prior to 1895 the Bedford Steam Stone Works built a mill on the southeast corner of the inter-

⁵B. F. Bowen & Co., pp 502-3; Guthrie, Thirty Three Years, p 64, Quarter Century, pp 135, 204; Lawrence County, Misc. Record 4, p 395.

⁶Guthrie, Thirty Three Years, pp 62, 118; Lawrence County, Misc. Record 3, p 249, 4, p 350.

⁷Guthrie, Thirty Three Years, p 176; Lawrence County, Misc. Record 4, p 395, 7, p 252.

section of 7th Street and the Monon tracks in Bedford. In January, 1922, this company was bought by the new Imperial Stone Company that was organized the year before and is described below.⁸

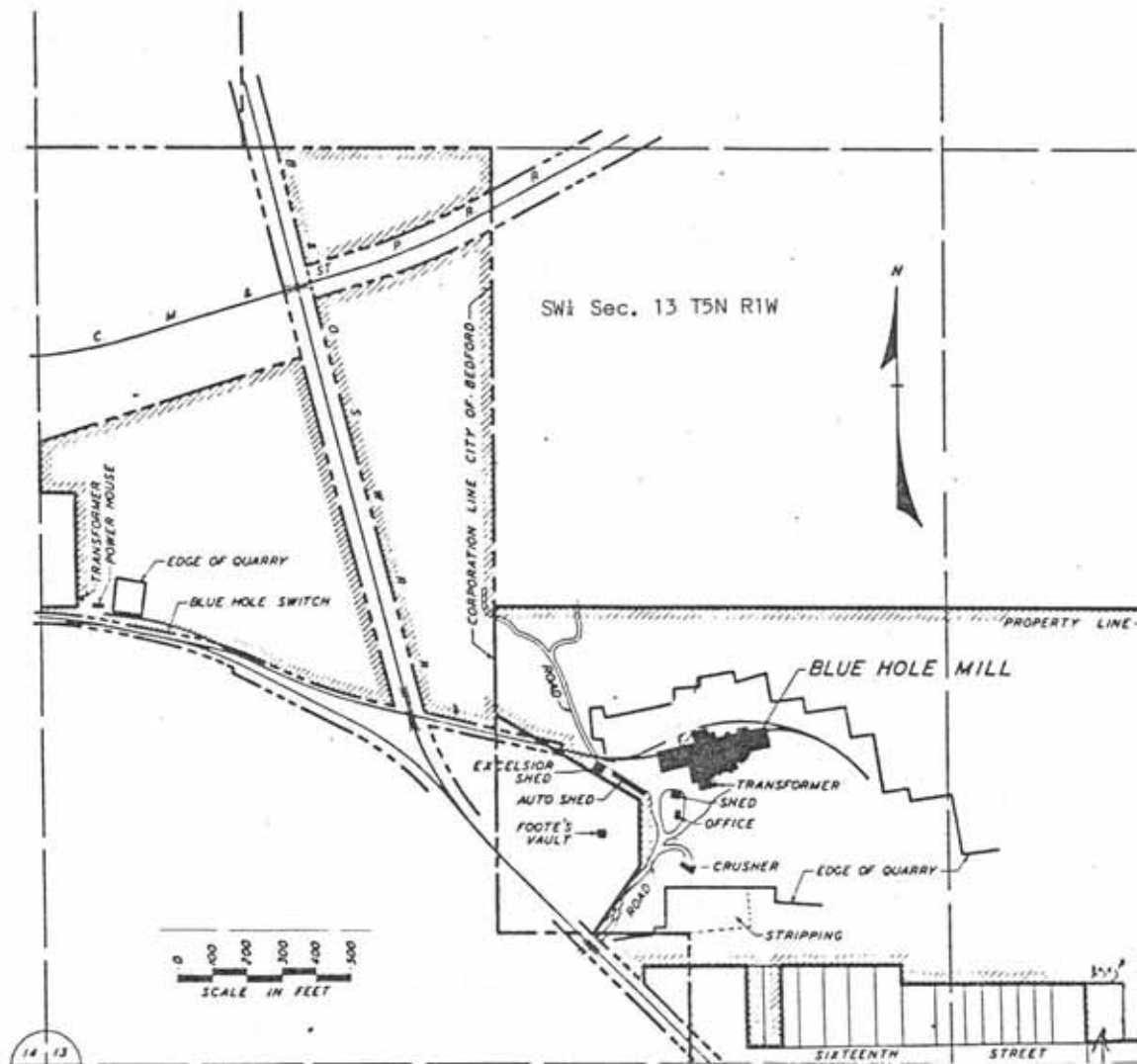
Presumably by the late teens the old Imperial Stone Company was not doing well.⁹ For whatever reason, in October, 1921, a new Imperial Stone Company was organized by Augustus E. Dickinson, John A. Rowe, and William R. Martin.¹⁰ Dickinson has already been discussed (see chapter on the Indiana Quarries Company) and John A. Rowe will be dealt with in the chapter on the John A. Rowe Cut Stone Company. William R. Martin does not appear to have helped organize any other stone company.

The new Imperial Stone Company brought to the merger in 1926 quarry land and two mills. The Blue Hole Mill continued to be called that under ILCO and the old mill of the Bedford Steam Stone Works on 7th Street became the Thornton Mill of ILCO. Neither mill has survived.

⁸Lawrence County, Deed Record 77, p 69.

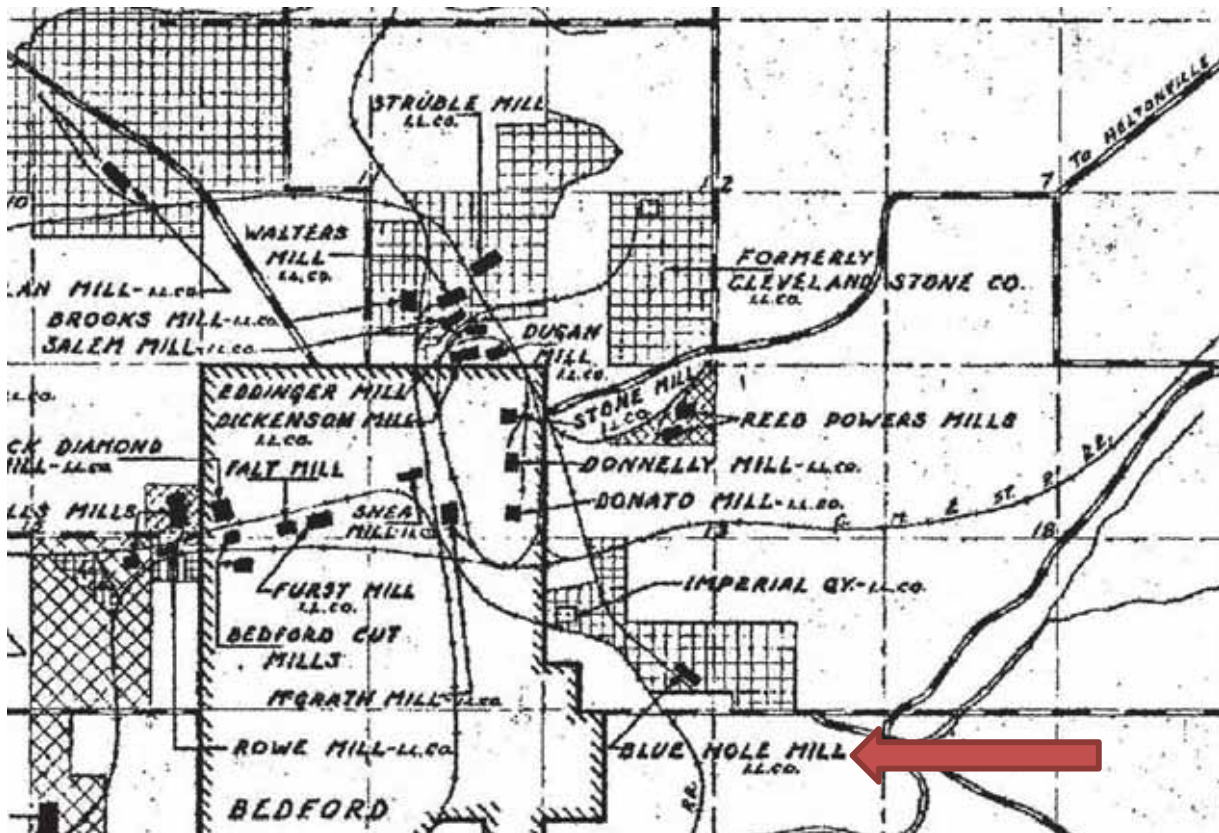
⁹It is interesting that in the biographical section of the 1914 B. F. Bowen & Co. history Edmund B. Thornton is described as being "...the largest stockholder and president of the Imperial Stone Company of Bedford," (p 503). Yet in the chapter on the Bedford Stone Industry the Imperial Stone Company does not appear on a list (p 202-3) of companies. Being the president and largest stockholder may not have been much of a deal.

¹⁰Lawrence County, Misc. Record 14, p 532.



Map No. 33

The ILCO Blue Hole Mill in Bedford was built by the Chicago and Bedford Stone Company and came to ILCO through the Imperial Stone Company. It is no longer there.



Map No. 34



Map No. 35



Fig. 54 This is the "Blue Hole Mill" of the Chicago and Bedford Stone Co. The site for that mill is shown in the next two pictures.



Fig. 55 This picture by the author is looking east at the site of the old mill. It was taken in 2015.



Fig. 56 This picture of the site of the mill at the Blue Hole Quarry was taken by the author in the late 1980s. The view is looking slightly east of north.

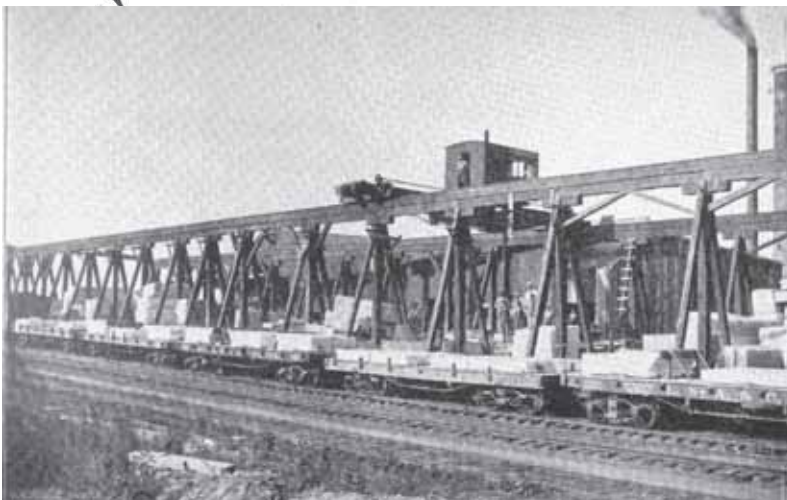
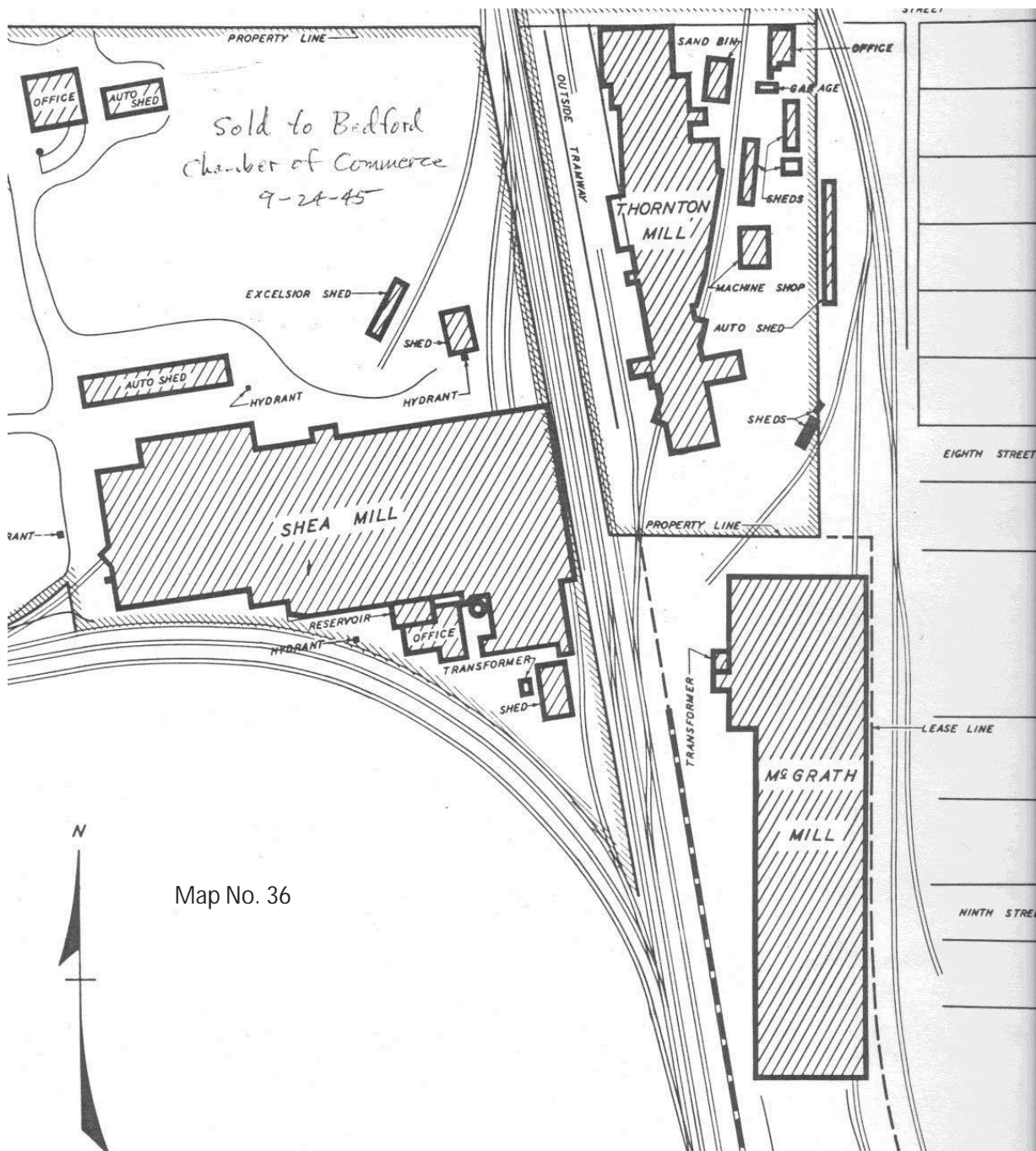


Fig. 36 This mill is that of the Bedford Steam Stone Works. It became ILCO Thornton Mill.



Fig. 58 The ILCO Thornton Mill which had been the old Bedford Steam Stone Works Mill is shown as the topmost of the three main structures in this picture. The bottom one is the round house for the Monon Railroad. The middle is the Shea & Donnelly Mill A and at its right or east end is the Thornton Mill. The vacant lot to the north of the Shea & Donnelly Mill A would be where the company built its office building and which is now (2016) Stone City Products.



Fig. 59 This view is looking east at the ILCO Thornton mill but the picture was surely taken back in the days when it was the Bedford Steam Stone Works Mill.