

MARRERO PLANT HISTORY

Johns-Manville started operations in Louisiana in 1924 in Gretna, La. by leasing a warehouse 100' x 500' at Second and Derbigny Streets. Improvements were made to the building in February 1925 and the first shingles were produced on March 1, 1925. At that time we had Three Shingle Machines, Four Hand Punch Presses, and one Ridge Roll Machine. We had a Storeroom 25' x 25', Machine Shop 50' x 25', consisting of One 16"x8" Lathe, Two Drill Presses, One Sharpener, One Power Saw and One Grinder.

In 1925 the Plant personnel consisted of 90 people - 4 on the Salaried Payroll and 86 on the Hourly Payroll. The first Plant Manager was C. R. Wikel who was replaced by R. B. Murphy in 1929. The first Traffic Manager was Nester Coffee who was replaced by E. Belsom in 1925. The first Office Manager was J. G. Vincent and the first Stenographer was Ethel Tutwiler, who was replaced by S. E. Stumpf in 1928.

We were producing two types of Asbestos Roofing Shingles at that time. #70's and #35's. Our output was 500 squares on a 10-hour per day operation using the Plate Method. On the Ridge Roll Operation, our output was 2500 feet per day.

In 1935 we purchased 60.7 acres of land in Marrero and had our first manufacturing building under construction in 1936. The first building to be completed included the Paint Shop and Boiler House and it measured 150' x 800'. We transferred the Shingle Equipment and installed the Roofing Machine in August 1936. Both operations started in September 1936. In 1942 we completed an addition of 300' x 150' for storage of raw materials. In 1951 we completed an addition of 260' x 150' for finished goods storage. At that time the building contained 204,000 square feet.

In 1936 the Plant Personnel consisted of 200 people - 18 salaried employees and 182 hourly employees.

In 1946 the Company expanded its facilities to include the manufacturing of Transite Pipe. This building was completed in 1947 and measured 840' x 150'. At the same time the present Office Building and Parking Area were completed.

In 1957 Floor Tile Production facilities were added to the Marrero location. Approximately 30MM sq. ft. of Vinyl Asbestos and Asphalt Floor Tile was produced annually. Employment complement in this operation amounted to 110 hourly and salary personnel.

In 1957 total Plant Personnel consisted of 773 people. One Hundred and Twenty-three Salaried Employees and Six Hundred and Fifty Hourly Employees.

In April 1970 the Floor Tile Plant was shutdown and in that same year, October the Transite Pipe Plant was shutdown. In 1975 our hourly and salary work force consisted of 29 salary and 156 hourly personnel.

On February 1, 1976, the Asbestos Shingle operation was discontinued and this left us with only the Asphalt Roofing and Water Proof and Paint Production Department. Our present work force consists of 27 salaried personnel and 144 hourly personnel.