

BRICK INDUSTRY MEANS MUCH TO THIS SECTION

Harnett Brick Firms Well Equipped For Quality Production

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FOUNDED BY FATHER

George M. (Mack) Norwood, Jr., who has made his home in Lillington for the past four years is the general manager of the Norwood Brick Company which his father, George Norwood of Raleigh established and still owns.

Mack Norwood, who is the oldest of the four sons of Mr. and Mrs. Norwood, was born in Goldsboro and attended Mars Hill College, the University of Virginia and was graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1942 with a major in chemistry.

He is married to the former Miss Zabelle Corwin of Charlotte and they have three children, Corky, Mart and Geoffrey.

In Lillington, Norwood is a member of the Rotary Club and president of the Parent-Teacher Association. He is a past member of the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce and formerly served on the board of governors of the Community House. He is a member of the Lillington Methodist Church.

John Aaron Senter, owner of the brick company, which bears his name, is president of the Bank of Lillington and also has extensive farming interests in Western Harnett County.

He was born in Chalybeate Springs, the son of Mrs. David Henry Senter and the late Mr. Senter. He attended Campbell College and was graduated from Wake Forest College in 1935, assuming management of his farming interests in Western Harnett at that time. For two years, 1941-42, he worked in the Bank of Lillington. It was Jan. 1, 1948 that the brick company he operates was opened for business.

FORMER COMMISSIONER

Senter served two years on the Harnett County board of commissioners during which time he was the county purchasing agent. He was elected twice to two-year terms on the Lillington town board, and has served as an officer of the Lillington Girl Scout association and as a member of the board which promoted collection of funds to start the Lillington Community Center. He is a member of the Lillington Baptist Church.

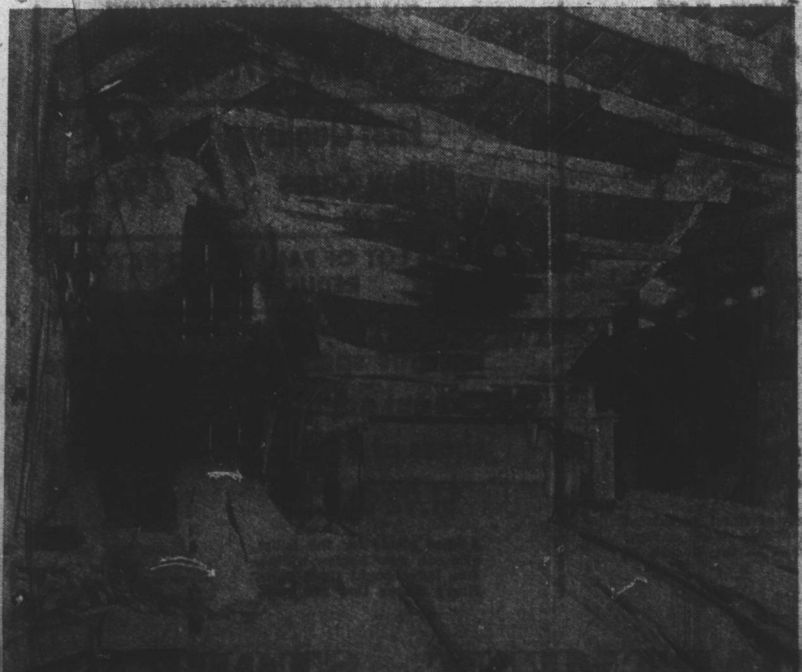
Mrs. Senter is the former Miss Vida Lee Peede of Creedmore and Oxford. They have four daughters, Ida Carroll, Penelope, Mary Frances and Lydia John Senter.



NORWOOD AND HIS FOREMAN — Just as in any other manufacturing plant, the process begins at the drawing board. Foreman Durwood Myrick, veteran employee, is shown here with Plant Manager Mack Norwood as they worked on a problem at the board.



PLANT OWNER SENTER — John Aaron Senter, member of one of Harnett's leading families, is shown here standing beside one of the big kilns at his plant. Mr. Senter, son of Mrs. David Henry Senter and the late Mr. Senter, owns and operates his plant. He is also president of the Bank of Lillington and owns other business enterprises.



CLAY CAR — The bottom-dump clay car shown here, transports clay from storage to mill to begin the production process.

an automatic machine cuts the column of clay into proper brick length by means of piano wires. This is the time, if special textures are decided that attachments are applied which will brush, scratch or otherwise roughen the face of the clay stream as it leaves the die.

MOVED BY CONVEYOR

From the cutting table the newly cut brick are deposited on a continuously moving conveyor belt where the "green bricks" are inspected by "hackers." Hackers are the men who stand beside the moving belt and take off the bricks, one in each hand, and place them on little flat cars. Each car is loaded with 516 bricks each at the Senter plant.

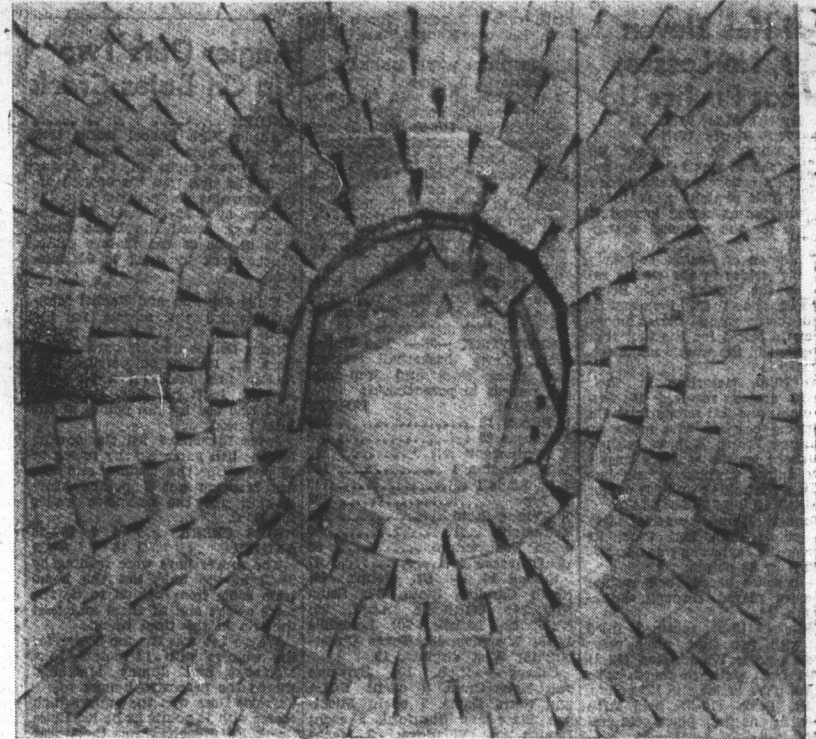
These carloads of "green bricks" moved on small size rail tracks to the 18-track drying shed for the next basic step in manufacturing — the drying process. As they rest on their tracks under the shed they are dried, that is the moisture removed by evaporation, by hot air which is waste heat from the kilns. An eight-foot underground tunnel takes the hot air from the kilns to the drying shed which is just across the walkway from the row of kilns.

At the Senter brick yard, the burning, which is the final process, takes place in eight kilns. Two oil-burners, the others, fired by hand, burn coal. Each kiln is fired at prescribed heat four and half days and left three days to cool before it is opened.

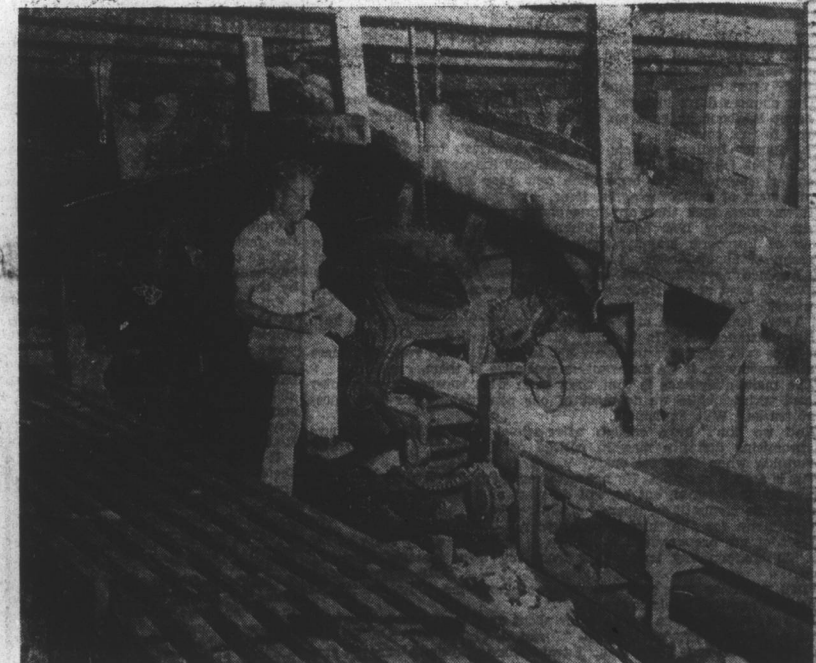
During the burnings process an optical barometer checks the heat. The kilns, all onical in shape are arranged in one long row, flanked by the walk way on one side and space for trucks on the other.

To the brick maker, the process of unloading the kiln after the cooling is an important as the burning. This operation is known as "drawing." From the kilns at the Senter yard the brick are graded and loaded directly into trucks.

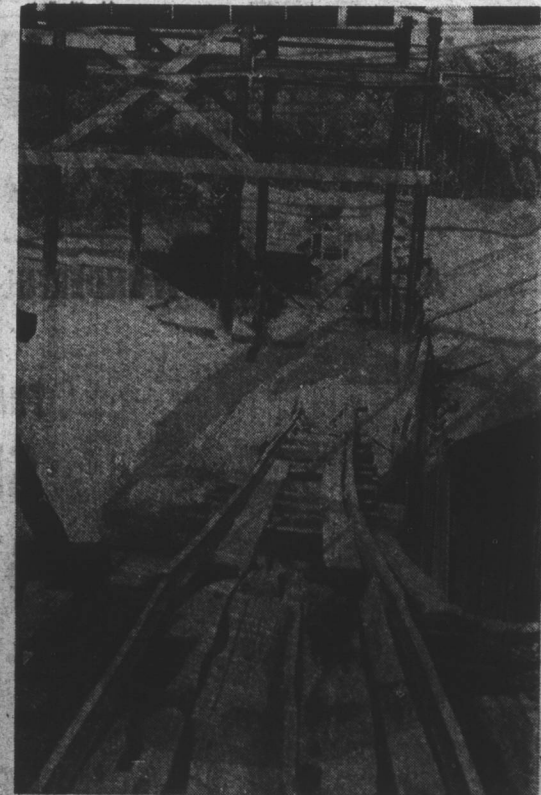
J. A. Senter, plant owner, reported that his plant can turn out a daily average of 40,000 bricks a day and usually employs around 30 workers. In each of the cone shaped kilns can go around 85,000 bricks. Preston Matthews is the general foreman of the Senter plant.



BURNING PROCESS — After thorough drying, brick are ready for burning. They move into a kiln designed for the burning process. The kiln is built entirely of brick and has a hemispherical crown. Here is the top of that crown from inside.



GREEN BRICK — An auger machine forces the soft clay mass through a die into a steam known as a column. As this column, or ribbon of clay, passes over a cutting table, piano wires cut the clay ribbon into brick lengths. Foreman Preston Matthews holds a green brick in hand. At front is a roller that can scratch or otherwise decorate the plain brick. To the right is the conveyor belt on which the bricks are sent to the "hackers." Beside the belt, the hacker or inspector picks up a brick in each hand and transfers them to the carts waiting to the far left. Each flat car can hold 516 bricks.



TRACKS USEFUL — Down narrow gauge tracks like this go the transfer cars with the green brick headed for the burning kilns. These tracks are at both plants.

Chamber To

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A special portion of the program during the dinner will be selections by Miss Catherine Stephenson, popular Dunn singer.

SMITH TO PRESIDE

The guests and members will be made welcome by retiring president E. W. Smith. He will also make a report of the progress of the organization during the year he has been in office.

The man selected as citizen of the year will be presented with an award by J. Shepard Bryan, and the woman, selected as the citizen

of the year among her sex by Lincoln Faulk.

Manager Suttles will introduce the special guests just prior to the address by the former NAM president, who will be introduced by attorney I. B. Williams.

New officers will be installed to serve during the coming year at the conclusion of the address. The closing ceremony will be in charge of Rev. R. E. Gammon, pastor of the Dunn Presbyterian Church.

"We feel highly honored by the fact that Mr. Ruffin has consented to be our speaker for this event," Manager Suttles said. "We feel that his acceptance of our invitation has contributed in a large measure to the success of this banquet."



ROW OF KILNS — Here is the long row of pointed dome-shaped kilns at the Senter brick plant. The kilns are fired by hand and they are constructed of brick. Behind are tracks that park in this road area here. This operation, which is the last, is done by a visitor to the plant.