



September 8, 2023

# **St Marys Cement Plant**

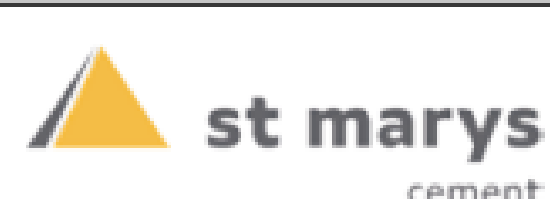

## **Community Liaison Committee Meeting**



# Agenda

- ❖ **Welcome and Introductions**
- ❖ **Complaints 2023 Year to Date**
- ❖ **Odour Complaints**
- ❖ **Dust Complaints**
- ❖ **ALCF Update**
- ❖ **111 Years of St Marys Cement**
- ❖ **Questions Brought Forward in Advance of Today's Meeting**
- ❖ **Round Table**
- ❖ **Closing Remarks**

# Welcome and Introductions



## Community Liaison Committee

The next Community Liaison Committee Meeting will be held on Friday September 8th at 10am at the St Marys Municipal Operations Center. Members of the public who wish to observe are welcome to attend.

Residents who wish to speak in front of the Committee may submit a detailed request in writing at least 3 days prior to the meeting in writing to the Committee. The request will be considered by the Committee and approved prior to the meeting. Please submit all requests, questions, and concerns for the meeting to [kara.terpstra@vcimentos.com](mailto:kara.terpstra@vcimentos.com) by September 6th, 2023.

- ❖ **Thank you to the Town of St Marys for allowing us to use their Youtube Channel and the Municipal Operations Center**
- ❖ **Welcome back everyone!**
- ❖ **Round Table Introductions**
- ❖ **Did anyone have questions/concerns about the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting?**
- ❖ **You will note that the notice of meeting in the St Marys Independent Newspaper now highlights the procedure for residents who wish to speak in front of the Committee.**



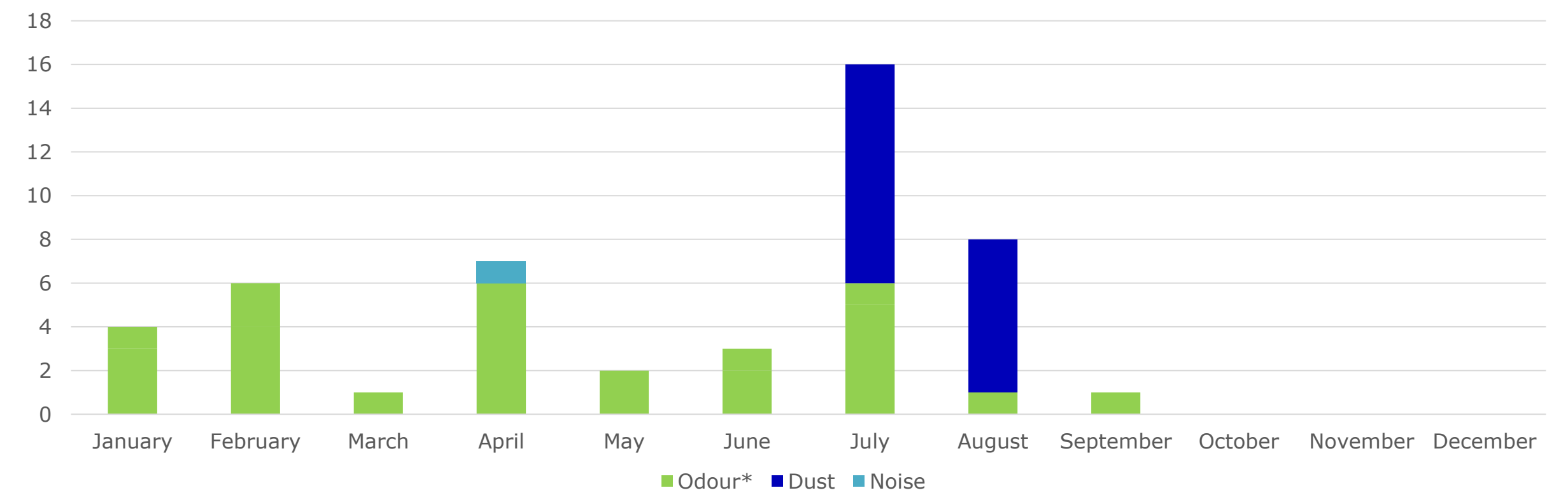
# Complaints Received 2023 Year To Date

		Odour*	Mention Health**	Dust	Noise
2023	<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>January</b>	3	1	0	0
	<b>February</b>	4	2	0	0
	<b>March</b>	1	0	0	0
	<b>April</b>	6	0	0	1
	<b>May</b>	2	0	0	0
	<b>June</b>	2	1	0	0
	<b>July</b>	5	1	10	0
	<b>August</b>	1	0	7	0
	<b>September</b>	1	0	0	0
	<b>October</b>				
	<b>November</b>				
	<b>December</b>				

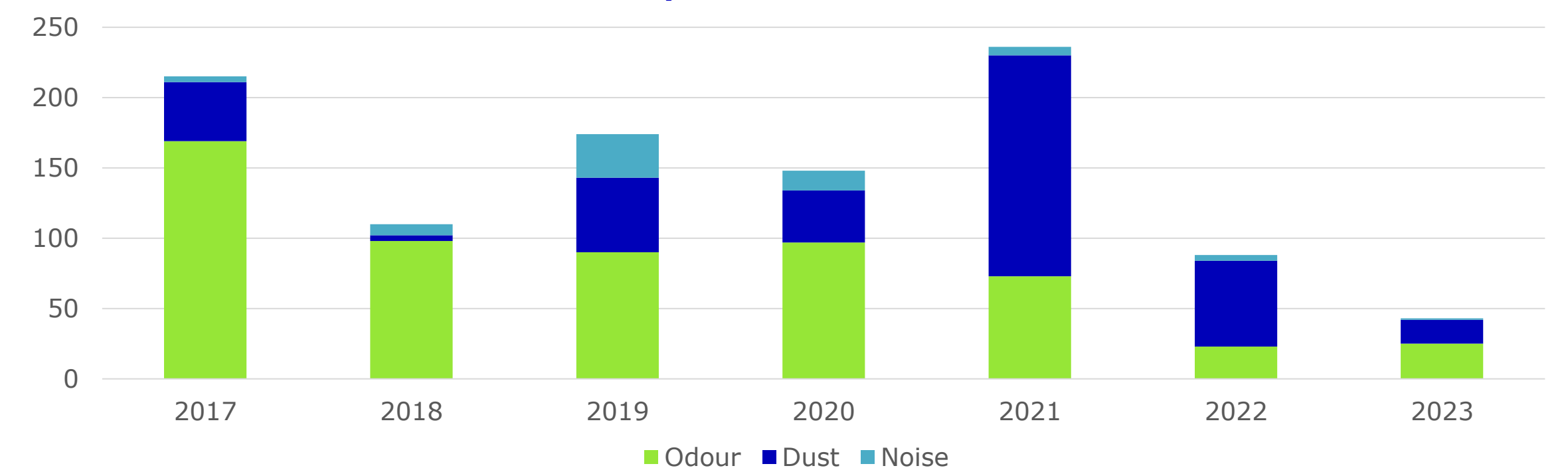
\* Odour complaints reviewed on the next slides

\*\*Complaints which 'Mention Health' are counted when a resident calls with an odour complaint and highlights that they have health concerns. They are not separate complaints received by the plant.

Complaints 2023



Complaints Year to Year





# Odour Monitoring using Enviro-Suite Software



## Likely Originated from SMC

The trajectory generated by Enviro-Suite aligns with the location of the stack.



## Possibly Originated from SMC

The trajectory generated by Enviro-Suite is close to aligning with the location of the stack.



## Probably did not Originate from SMC

The trajectory generated by Enviro-Suite is not close to the stack but direction of the trajectory is towards SMC.



## Did Not Originate from SMC

The trajectory generated by Enviro-Suite is clearly not in the direction of the stack.





# Odour Complaints Received

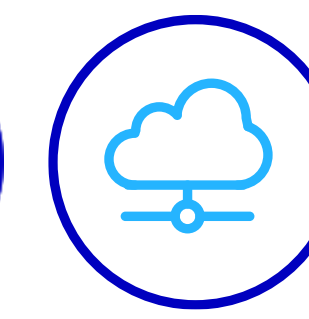
Date	Enviro-Suite Results
Saturday July 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2023	Did not Originate from SMC
Sunday July 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Likely Originated from SMC
Monday July 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Likely Originated from SMC
Wednesday July 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Likely Originated from SMC
Sunday July 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Did not Originate from SMC
Thursday August 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Likely Originated from SMC
Sunday September 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2023	Likely Originated from SMC

Enviro-Suite Results	
	2023 YTD
Likely Originated from SMC	22
Possibly Originated from SMC	0
Did not Originate from SMC	0
Location not Provided	3

\* Out of Enviro-Suite complaints generated using the Enviro-Suite Software

# **Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks**

## **Odour Abatement Plan Review**



## Dust Complaints

Date	Number of Complaints	Sample Results
July 25 to 26	10	Indicated Cementitious Material
July 27	1	Did not indicate cementitious Material
August 27 <sup>th</sup> to 28 <sup>th</sup>	7	Indicated Cementitious Material



# ALCF Updates

- Environmental Compliance Approval **Issued** on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- On site modifications are ongoing for groundwork. We will be doing a groundbreaking Ceremony this fall with members of local parliament and the CLC.
- Estimated timeline for implementation is early 2024 as we are ensuring all requirements are being met and on site modifications are installed as required by the manufacturer.



**Alternative Low Carbon Fuels Building Excavation**



# ALCF Updates

Updates from previous ECA;

- Condition 7: Approved Alternative Low Carbon Fuels

1. The following Alternative Low-Carbon Fuels are approved for use as a fuel in the Cement Kiln at the facility;

- a. Material that is biomass fuel derived from harvested plant and forest sources, end of life agricultural sources, Woodwaste or Agricultural Waste, and includes but is not limited to sawdust, wood chips, wood, miscanthus grass, millet, sorghum, hemp, switch grass, and maize;
- b. Material that is comprised of non-recyclable plastics, including but not limited to manufacturing rejects, material resource recovery facility rejects, plastics bags and packaging;
- c. Material that is comprised of construction, renovation & demolition waste, including but not limited to scrap wood, treated lumber, carpets, textiles, sawdust, floor laminates and asphalt shingles;
- d. Material that is comprised of non-recyclable paper fiber/wood/plastic composites, including but not limited to single-serve coffee pods, printed papers, paper towels, rejects and trimmings from paper recycling facilities such as ragger tails (residue including plastic trimmings, staples, paper fibre and metal wire), end rolls and cores; and
- e. Material that is comprised of rubber (non-tire derived), including but not limited to shredded conveyor belt rubber

2. The combined amount of Alternative Low-Carbon Fuels approved under Condition 7.1 of this Approval, subjected to thermal processing in the Cement Kiln shall not exceed 175 tonnes per day.

# ALCF Updates

Updates from previous ECA;

- Condition 8.4 – Procedures for handling, processing, and combustion of ALCF in the Kiln including maintenance procedures, start up and shut down procedures, emergency measures, inspections, record keeping, etc.
- Condition 8.6 – 8.7 – Operating conditions and monitoring requirements for residual oxygen, temperature, and pressure of the system which must be met for ALCF combustion.
- Condition 8.8 – ALCF Storage Requirements
- Condition 9.1 – ALCF Acceptance and Approval Procedures, Ongoing monitoring requirements
- Condition 10 – Continuous Emissions and Continuous Process Monitoring requirements
- Condition 11 – Stack testing while using ALCF and annually after
- Condition 12 – ALCF Fuel Carbon Dioxide Intensity Monitoring



# ALCF Updates

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Carry Over Conditions from the previous ECA;

- Conditions 1-6; General operational requirements, Limited Operational Flexibility, Modelling, Limits, Documentation, Reporting
- Condition 13 – Dust Control
- Condition 14 – Odour Control
- Condition 15 – Community Engagement

# 111 Years of St Marys Cement

St Marys Cement has grown with the community since the company was founded in 1912.

The community was established before St Marys Cement and was already known for using limestone as a building block of the community.

In 2012, The St Marys Museum and Archive worked with St Marys Cement to develop a booklet called "*St Marys Cement, 1912-2012, A Century of Photographs*". The St Marys Museum and Archives also has documented the Chronology of Development in St Marys. These files have been used for the following slides to document the growth of St Marys Cement alongside the Town of St Marys.

Citation: Chronology of Development in St Marys, 1839-2005; Provided by Amy Cubberly, St Marys Museum and Archive

Citation: St Marys Cement, 1912-2012 a Century of Photographs, Published by the St Marys Museum in cooperation with The St Marys Cement Company, 2012



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

1839 – Blanshard Township in the Huron Tract is surveyed by the Canada Company in preparation for settlement. The surveyors identify a potential site for a town in a valley at the confluence of the Thames River and Trout Creek. The name given to this town is St. Marys.

1845- The first schoolhouse is built at the southwest corner of Queen and James Streets. It also serves as a meeting place for several denominations before they can build churches of their own. Official postal service is established for the new village.



"Stone Schoolhouse" Photo of an old stone schoolhouse - the first schoolhouse to be built in St. Marys. This stone school was located on the southwest corner of James and Queen Streets



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

1846– According to Smith's Canadian Gazetteer, St. Marys has a population of approximately 120 with saw and gristmills, a limestone quarry, two asheries, three stores and one tavern.



"Quarrymen work in the Thames Quarry beside Water St". 1904. They are using centuries old methods to extract blocks of limestone from the sedimentary layers in the quarry.



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

1854- George Tracy, an early settler, builds a large limestone home on Church Street South; this house will become the home of the St. Marys Museum. A member of another early family, William Veal Hutton, purchases and rebuilds the original Ingersoll grist mill, upgrading operations to produce marketable flour. A few years later he also builds several limestone business blocks in the downtown core.



"Queen Street St. Marys": An early photo of Queen Street looking West that was taken while the street was still a dirt road. The buildings were largely made of wood at this time. A sign advertising tickets for the Grand Trunk Railway can be seen on the left.



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

1864- St. Marys becomes an incorporated town and separates from Perth County. The population is approximately 3000.

1860s and 1870s – St. Marys, in the heart of a prosperous agricultural area, is the major market for the buying and selling of grain in this part of southern Ontario. Market Square beside the town hall is the site for a produce and livestock market held year-round, six days a week.



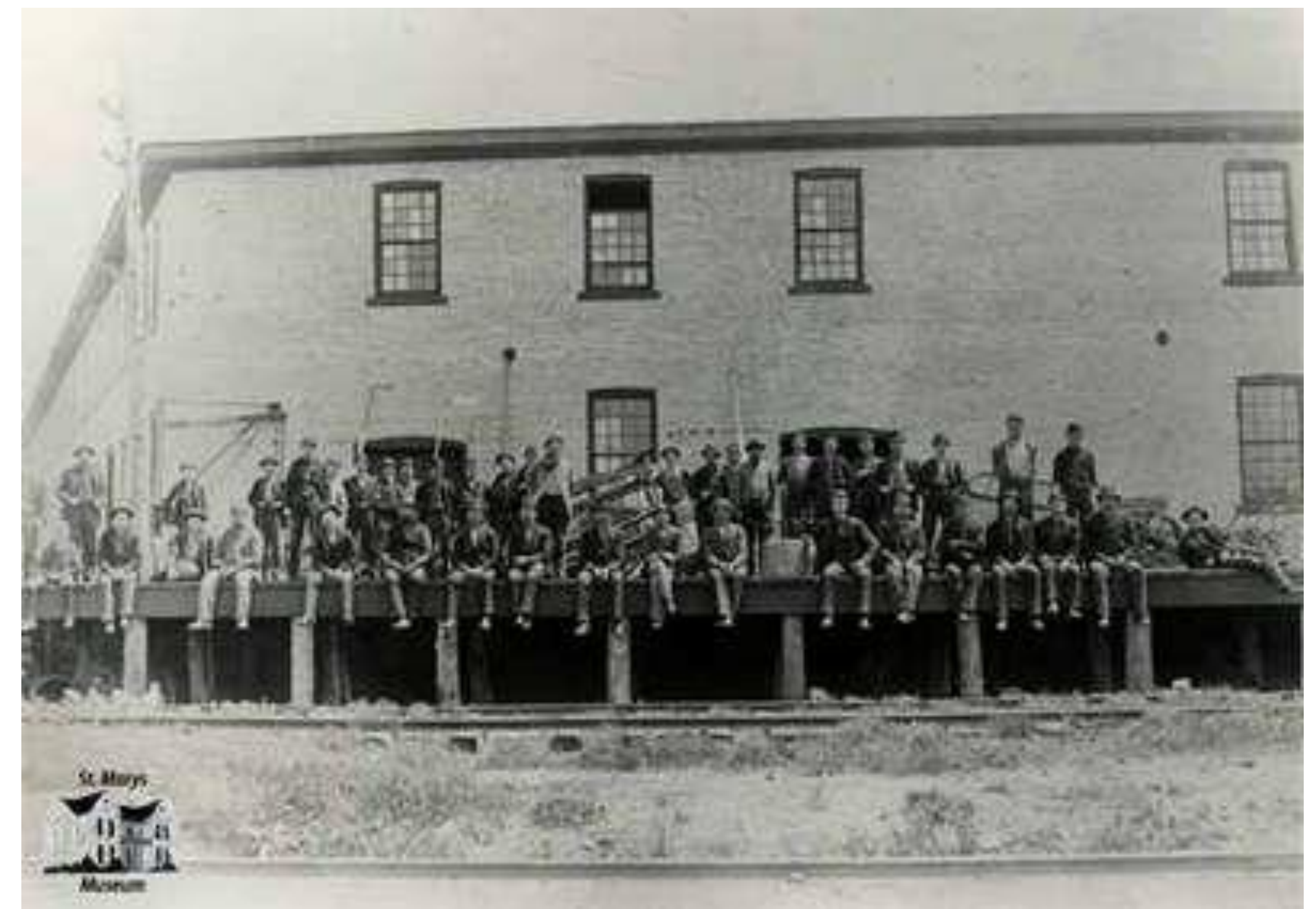
"View of St Marys Looking South" 1864. A mill, the miller's house, the London Bridge, the Old Town Hall, and the Anglican Church can be seen.



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

1888 - David Maxwell moves his implement factory from Paris, Ontario to St. Marys and builds what is at that time the largest factory complex in Perth County, employing more than 100 men.

The telephone arrives in St. Marys, connecting the town to the rest of the province with long distance lines.



"Maxwell Plant" 1890. Copy of a group photo of employees of David Maxwell Company, St. Marys. The photograph is taken on the loading dock of the factory, located on James Street South. The dock was for shipping and receiving goods sent by train (the tracks are visible in the photograph).



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

John Grieve Lind

The person most closely associated locally with the new St. Marys Cement Company and the main spokesman during negotiations with the town was John Grieve Lind. While the other directors were based in Toronto, he and his family moved to St. Marys and became part of the community.

Born in 1867 on a farm in nearby Pond Mills, Lind left Ontario when he was a very young man to seek his fortune. He crossed the continent, working at a variety of jobs including bridge and railway construction until he reached Seattle. From there in the early 1890s, he went north to look for gold in Yukon Territory.

In 1903, he was among the few to leave the north as a wealthy man. He returned to Ontario and when he decided to go into the cement business, he put all his energy and creative drive into this endeavor.



"John G. Lind"



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

Lind began by investing in a cement plant in Owen Sound. As this company's fortunes were in decline, he decided to take an active role in its management. He purchased and closed several smaller, unprofitable cement companies in the area and then decided to find to a new location that would work well for the production of Portland cement.

He and his partners chose St. Marys, a place that had abundant limestone, clay and water, was on two national railway lines and would have access to hydro-electric power from Niagara Falls. Construction of an entirely new plant began in 1911.



Laying Railroad Tracks into the Cement Plant



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

The establishment of a cement plant in St. Marys was an undertaking of great magnitude. First, it required space – not just for the buildings to produce cement (enormous in themselves) but also for quarries and clay beds to provide raw ingredients. Most of an entire farm inside the southwest boundary was acquired and from there the company's land holdings began almost immediately to expand.

The logistics of site preparation were complex. The new plant required electricity at a quantity at that time unparalleled in this region. The lines bringing hydro-electric power from Niagara Falls had just reached St. Marys but a special contract was negotiated to guarantee an adequate supply for the plant's operations.



Erecting Hydro poles into the Cement Plant

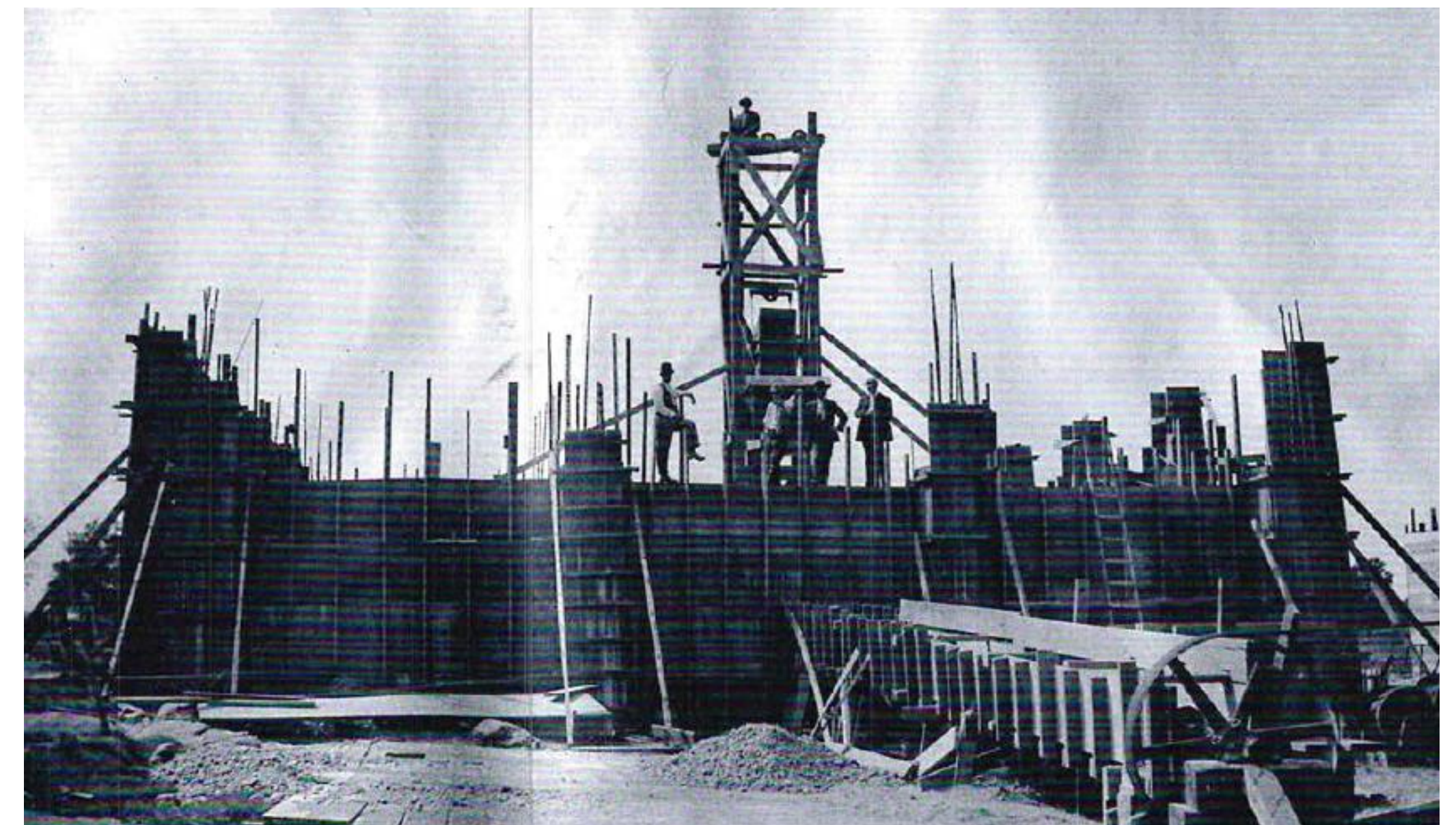


# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

The Hunt Engineering Company, Kansas City, Missouri, was in charge of erecting the buildings. This company exclusively built cement plants, and in 1911 had constructed more mills than any other firm in the world. The St. Marys plant was one of the smaller projects but still required the full-time attention of a supervising engineer and administrative staff as well as construction labourers.

A number of these men stayed on to work for St. Marys Cement when Hunt Engineering turned over the completed plant in the fall of 1912.

1912 – St. Marys Cement Company begins the production of Portland cement. The first shifts at the new plant start up in October.



The Main Buildings were made of Cement. This photograph shows the grinding mill taking form.



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

In 1912 the Town of St Marys held an event to celebrate the prosperous start to the new century. They sent invites to former residents listing 18 facts about St Marys including highlighting that St Marys 'has the most modern Portland Cement Plant in Canada, manufacturing cement from limestone, capacity 1400 barrels per day and using twelve hundred Hydro Electric Horsepower'. As part of the celebration the St Marys Cement Company had a parade float drawn by four horses while the St Marys Cement Company Band marched and played along.

Other industries boasted about on the postcard include a pin factory, a hockey stick and baseball bat factory, dairy machinery factory, agricultural machinery and household equipment factory, box factory, and planing mill.



"St Marys Cement Company Band" 1912. Photo of the St. Marys Cement Company band, taken around 1912. The men are in their kilted band uniforms each holding onto their instruments. The St Marys Cement Company Logo can be seen on the drum.



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

In 1914 Great Britain (and Canada as a member of the British Empire) declared war on Germany and the Axis powers. A number of Cement Plant employees enlisted to help.

During the course of World War I, 65 men from St Marys and area die while on active service.

Business slowed during the war, but when it was over the company erected a new office building of reinforced concrete on the plant grounds. This was done as a declaration of confidence in the value of cement, and its place in post-war growth and development in the area.



Office Building at the St Marys Cement Company, designed in 1919 and opened in 1920.



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

1930- Some crushing machinery is removed from the Thames Quarry, marking the end of the traditional quarry stone business in St Marys. The company's two quarries along water street are allowed to fill with spring water. Soon they are used as informal swimming areas.



Photo of the St. Marys Quarry taken sometime in the 1940s. A group of people are standing near the water , many in bathing suits. There is a man in uniform at the left, suggesting this is a hot summer day during World War II or shortly after.



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

The Great Depression of the 1930s followed the Great War, bringing an economic downturn around the globe. The St Marys Cement Company was able to maintain at least limited production for most of the 1930s and provide some level of employment for their workers. Shifts were organized so that as many men as possible could work at least part time and have some wages to bring home to their families. Alternate jobs were created involving maintenance and upkeep- including the cultivation of vegetable gardens on the property. Cement plant employees also supplied the labour to create a new town park – Lind Park.



This is an image of Lind Park, looking south towards Jones St. from the northern side of the park. Lind Park is located on the corner of Church and Jones Streets.



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

When World War II was declared in September 1939, many cement plant employees enlisted including John Lind. Jr. who was planned to be succeeding manager of the Cement Plant.

John Lind Sr. continued to run the cement plant in the same manner he had run it during the first war and the great depression, despite having a stroke shortly after the war started. Employees were fiercely protective of him and he was able to continue managing the facility until the end of the war in 1945.

Employees spoke fondly of their manager noting 'He was tough but he was fair' and 'I went to the plant to apply for a job in the 1950s. I had been in the navy and Mr. Lind asked 'Were you in the service?'. I told him I had and he said 'Start work on Monday!'.

In the course of World War II, 52 men from St Marys and area die while on active service.



The Bulletin board at the St Marys Journal Argus office on Queen Street kept townspeople up to date on the most recent war news.



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

The years following World War II were boom times for Canada. A growth in population meant expanding urban areas with new homes and new commercial centers. New buildings required building materials, and upgrades in the infrastructure were completed to support the economic expansion.

St Marys Cement, now under the direction of John Lind Jr. and Guy Rogers, entered the market aggressively and began to update the St Marys Cement plant, expanding the quarries and investigating in new machinery.



Electric shovel with truck and side-dump trailer in the stone quarry, 1940s.



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

The years following World War II also brought in a new era in employer/employee relations. In 1947 the first union at the cement plant was formed. The early union was not a result of dissatisfaction with current management but more that the workers felt they should seek avenues to protect and speak for themselves in a changing world.

With the encouragement of John Lind Jr, better health coverage not only for workers but also for their families was instituted in the plant as well as an excellent pension plan.



Refueling the Plymouth locomotive used on site for material transfer



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

In the years following World War II, the cement company expanded well beyond the boundaries of St Marys. Ready-mix, building materials, transportation, precast and aggregate companies were established in other locations and became part of the corporation bringing more jobs and economic growth.

The St Marys Cement Bowmanville plant opened in 1969 with improved access to Great Lakes Shipping.

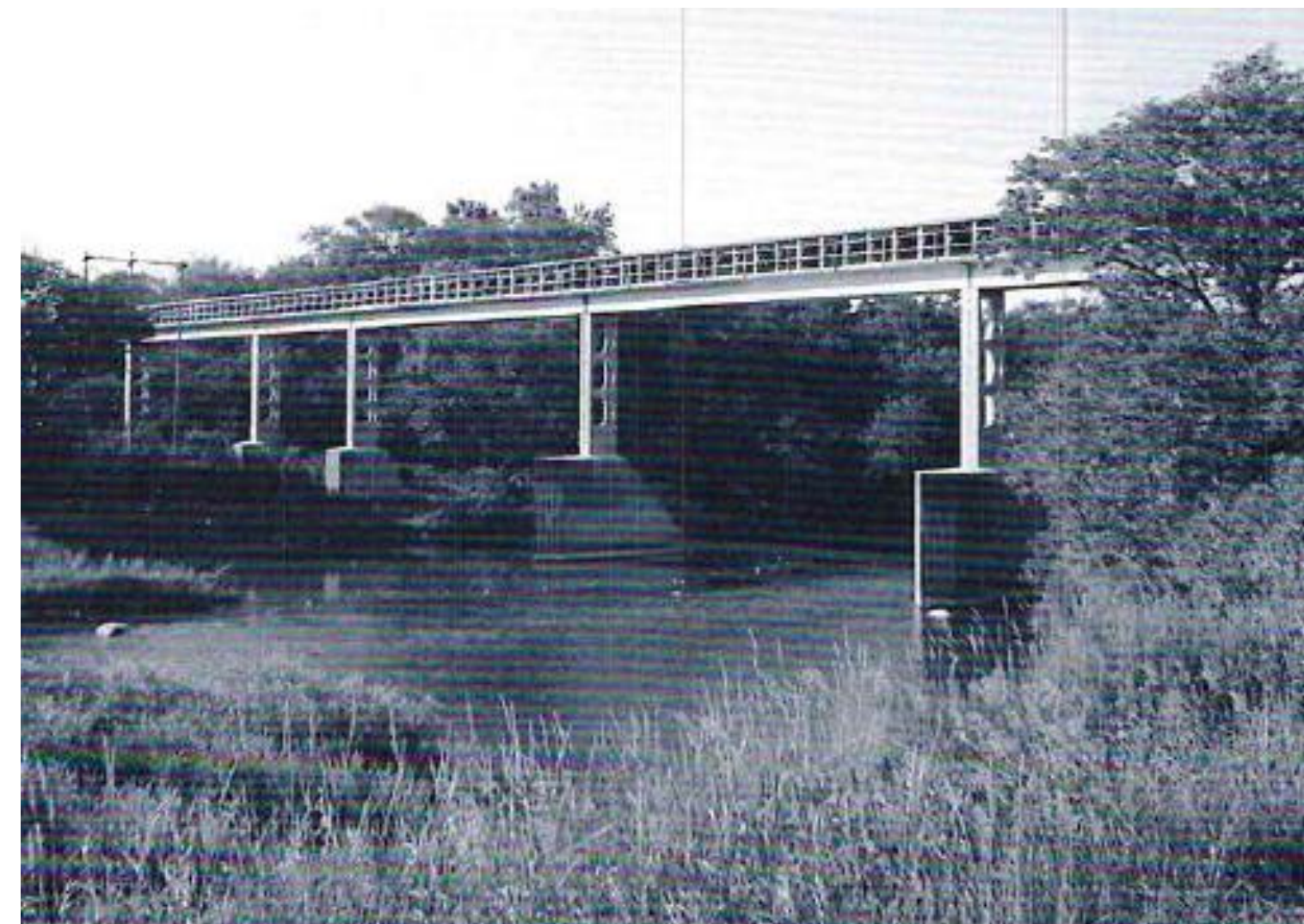


New products are developed in St Marys



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

Locally in the late 1960s, a new stone quarry was opened off Thomas St. on the west side of the Thames River and a giant conveyor was built crossing both the river and Water St. to carry crushed stone to the plant.



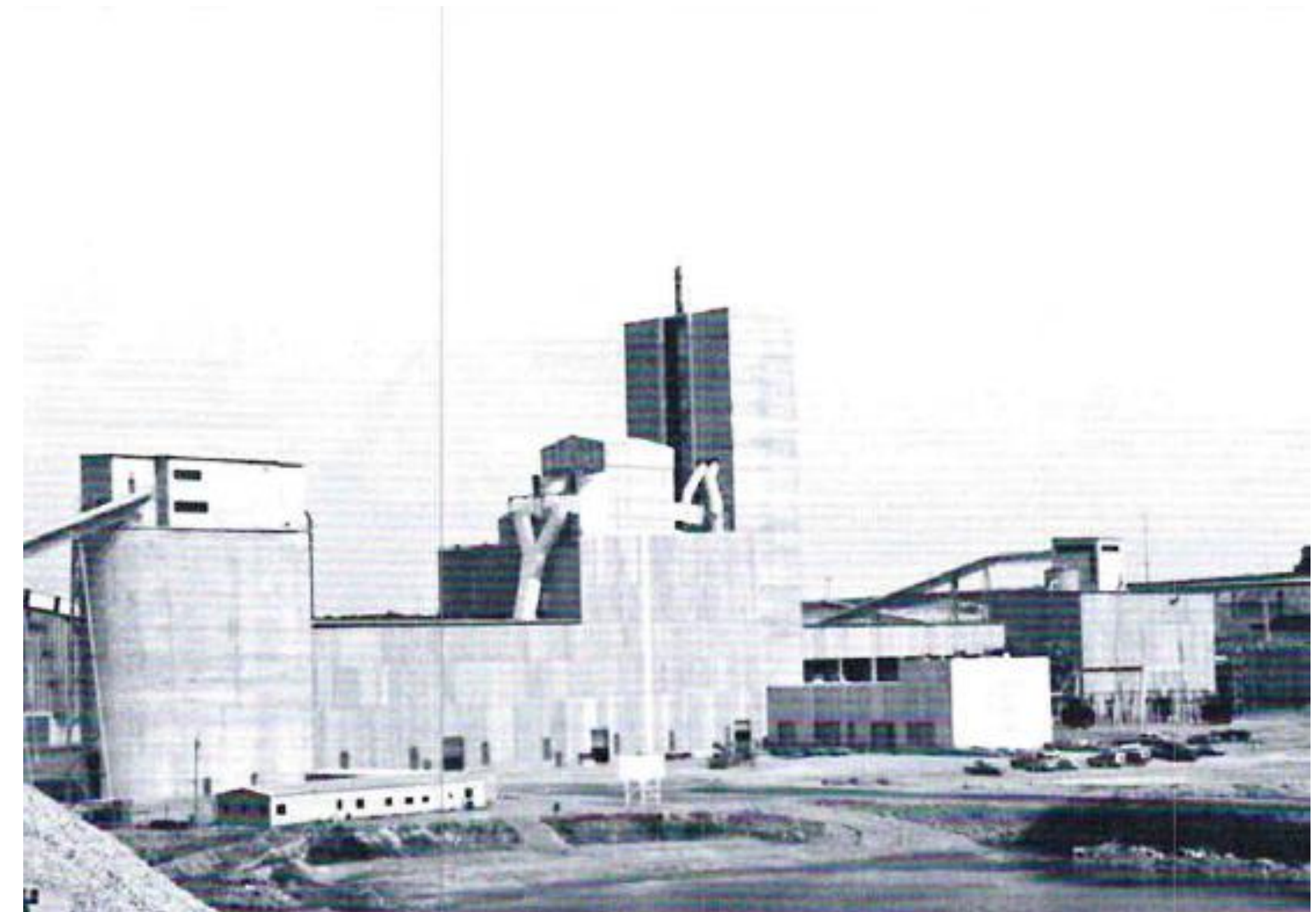
Conveyor crossing the Thames River from the Thomas Street Quarry



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

Modernizing the plant was an ongoing effort with various improvements made on site.

In the 1970s a new dry-process cement plant was built in the base of the original quarry.



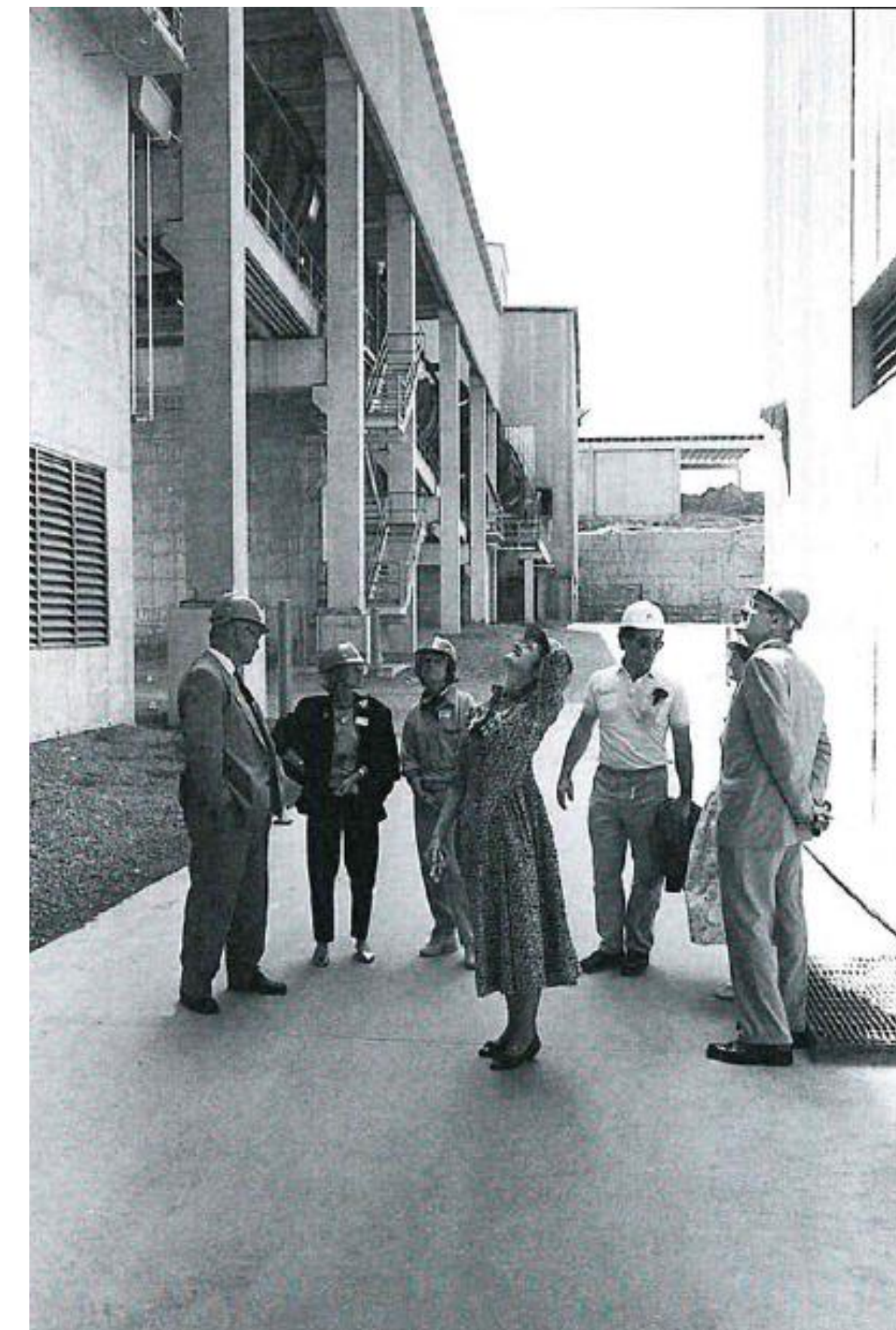
New buildings, St Marys Cement Plant, June 1977



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

In 1987 the facility held an open house to celebrate 75 years of operation. John M Lind (the fourth) said;

*The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St Marys Cement Corporation marks a very important milestone for our company as well as the Town of St Marys. Over these 75 years we have seen growth and change in our operation to what we hope is a good corporate citizen. St Marys Cement is proud to be part of the Town of St Marys and to take an active part in its development... On this our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, I would like to thank our dedicated employees and the Town of St Marys for your support and cooperation.*



Open House for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

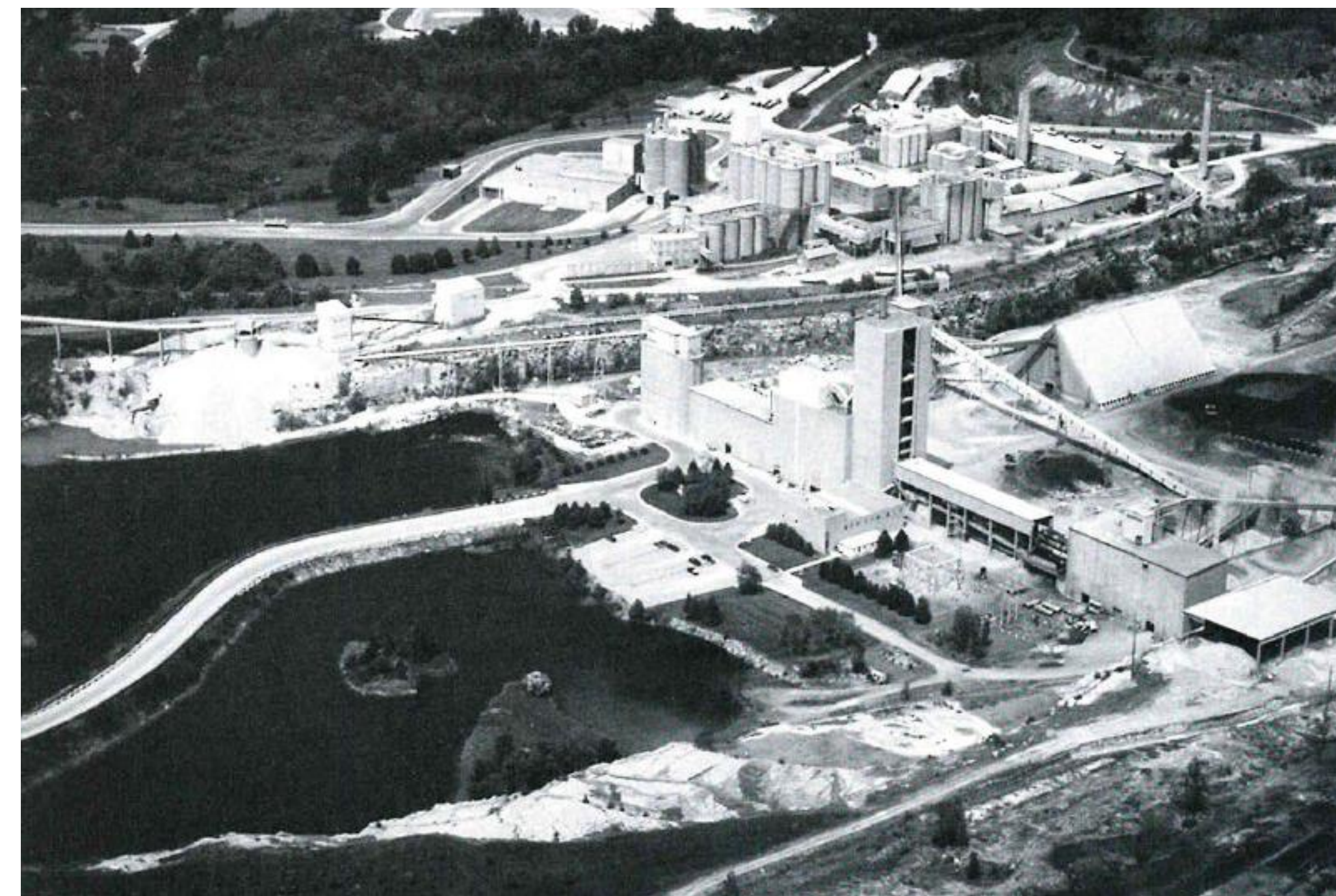


# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

In 1999, the St Marys Cement Company was sold to Blue Circle America Inc. After the management of the Lind Family the transition was an adjustment to replace local connections with new, multi-national global realities.

However, the plant was still located in St Marys. During this time Blue Circle continued the company tradition of supporting community endeavors, including a contribution towards a new pool at the Quarry –the Lind Complex.

The final agreement to transfer the cement plant property to the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame was also announced during this time.



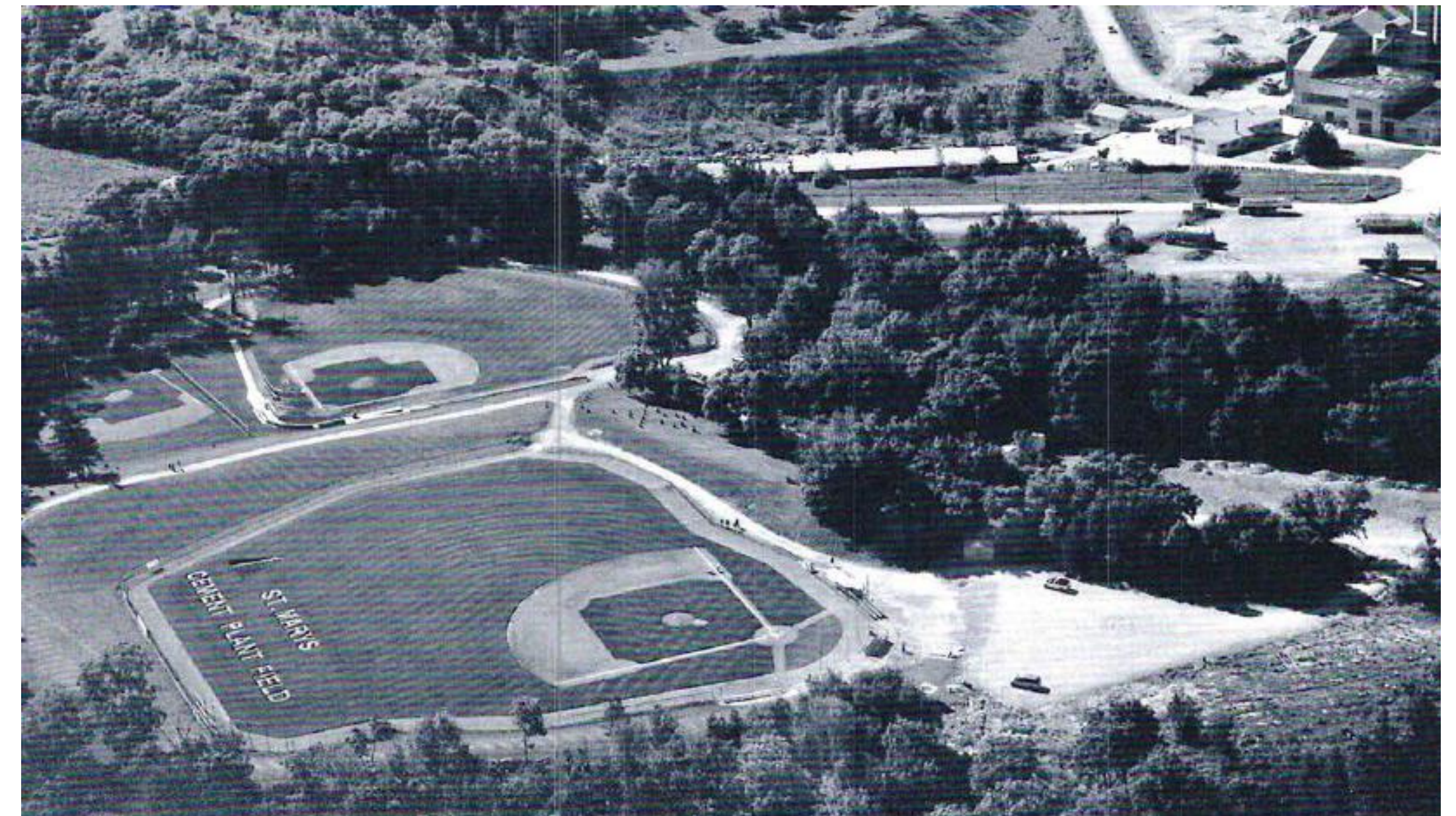
Aerial View of the Cement Plant, 1999



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

In 2001 the Votorantim Cimentos Group purchased St Marys Cement.

The Cement Plant continued to make donations to various community facilities including the St Marys Memorial Hospital, the Lind Sportsplex, the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame, and the Pyramid Center.



Aerial View of the Cement Plant Field



# History of the Town of St Marys and St Marys Cement

A Century is a really long time, and 111 years is even longer. Certainly, there have been changes in the industry, the ownership of the company, the nature of the workplace, in the skills and trades of those working there, and in the town that the plant operates within.

However, there is still limestone. And the cement company remains, playing a significant role in St Marys and beyond.

The legacy of St Marys Cement also lives on its employees, some of which are **fifth** generation employees. St Marys Cement will continue to be a community member alongside the residents of the Town of St Marys.





# Questions Brought Forward in Advance

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None



# Round Table



For any Questions or Concerns related to St Marys  
Cement Plant Operations please contact

**Kara Terpstra – Environmental Manager**  
at 519-284-1020 x 235

or at

[kara.terpstra@vcimentos.com](mailto:kara.terpstra@vcimentos.com)

