



Category: 3g Saskatchewan was First

Name: Hamjea Plywood Plant

Location: Hudson Bay

Species: N/A

Link 1: http://www.townofhudsonbay.com/local_history/first_plywood_plant.html

History/Description:

In 1948, the Hamjea Plywood Company of Hudson Bay built the first plywood plant in Saskatchewan.

The name was derived from a combination of the initials of the first owners: H. J. England, A.E. England and M.A. Rogers. It was a successful enterprise supplying the needs of builders across the country.

The Hamjea Plywood Company produced 40,000,000 square feet of unsanded poplar plywood annually. At least 30 men were employed in the plant in addition to the bush contractors.

Within a year, fire devastated the plant. The plant was rebuilt in 3 months. In 1955, lightning caused another fire which also levelled the plant. Again it was immediately rebuilt.

In 1956, the Hamjea plant was purchased by a Toronto syndicate who were distributors for the local product. The name was retained, but on December 22, 1958 - fire once again levelled the Hamjea Plywood Plant. It was never rebuilt.

Nominated By: Murray Little

Comments or additional information can be sent to: info@whitebirch.ca