

On Her Majesty's Service

WASC 927
WAI 200

1900 11 Photos
donated by Mr H.J. Moore
(including Turahams)
5 Brothers

PHOTOGRAPHS IN AND AROUND THE FORMER ROYAL GUNPOWDER
FACTORY - WALTHAM ABBEY.

1) View from Marsh towards Waltham Abbey. Buildings in middle distance from L to R. (1) Factory Buildings (2) Marsh Wardens Cottage (to right of Photographer) (3) Houses in Highbridge St. and Old Mill * 4) Kings Arms P.H. 5) Bridge Over Lea Navigation 6) Old English Gentleman P.H. Abbey Church Tower in distance on left. This picture was taken during late 1890's or early 1900's as Abbey Tower was restored with battlement ornamentation between 1896 and 1904.

* Destroyed by German V2 in 1944.

927/1.

2) View of Waltham Lock looking southward from Barge River Bridge. This lock was moved to north side of bridge between the two wars (1914 and 1939)

927/2

3) View looking east from Barge river bridge, of Highbridge Street towards the Abbey. Water on left and centre was known as Perry's river. Footbridge over this stream can be seen beyond the figures on pavement. This stream has recently been diverted in connection with road widening and elimination of Refinery bridge (seen in middle distance)

927/3

4) View from inside factory. Believed to be near the Refinery gate, one of these buildings may be the old hospital? Note old powder barge.

927/4

5) Highbridge Street from Refinery bridge. The two blocks of cottages on left were demolished several years ago, and others built, but the County Court (on left) and the Almshouses and " Ordnance Arms P.H." as well as most other buildings in the street were destroyed by a German V2 rocket in 1945. The small portion of wall on left of picture is however still standing at present time (February, 1968)

Photo taken 1896 to 1904.

927/5

6) View inside factory, believed to be near main gate.

927/6

7) View inside factory, location uncertain but shows a second old powder barge.

927/7.

8) Long walk inside factory. It is believed that this was opened to the public to a limited extent at one time, as people now living locally can remember being taken in there as children. 927/8

9) This view is believed to be of the land on which Waltham Abbey Town Hall now stands. Apparently it is the old Waltham Abbey Volunteer Fire Brigade Station and building beside it. It has the words Reading room on the windows' 927/9

10) The Factory Fire Brigade about 1900. 927/10

11) Five members of the "Turnham" family, who were all employed at some time or other at the R.G.P.F. Their names occur frequently in a book of "Historical Notices" of the Royal Gunpowder works".

John Turnham (front row left) was a Principal Foreman between 1887 and later.

He was my wife's grandfather. The earliest mention of the family name of Turnham in the book mentioned above is in the year 1787. It has always been understood that a man of that name was one of the earliest to receive a licence from Queen Elizabeth I for the manufacture of gunpowder at Waltham Abbey. This cannot be confirmed as the earliest pages of the "Historical notices" book are unfortunately missing in the copy in my possession. 927/11.

Dear Mr. Malan

Having seen a newspaper cutting referring to the formation of a Museum at the E.R.P.E., I thought perhaps the enclosed Photographs would be welcome as worthy of inclusion as exhibits. Mr. Taylor has kindly agreed to give them to you, together with a few notes of explanation (above). The Photographs were all taken between 1890 & 1905 by Mr. F.A. Bell who is described as a writer who commenced working at the factory (OVER)

Em'd in 1872. This is mentioned on Page 134.
of the book "Historical Notices of the R.G.P.F."
You may have a copy of this book already
in your possession, but if not I shall be happy
to let you have the book as a loan, to help you in
your investigations.

On Page 135 the name of Herbert H. Turnham is
shown as commencing work at the Factory in 1882. This
gentleman was son of the John Turnham shown in Photograph
No 11. He was of course my wife's Uncle. He died at
Pleumstead during the last war, having been transferred to Woolwich
some years earlier.

Hoping the pictures & notes will be of
assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

N. J. Moore

Please see Page 47 for note re supply of
2 Guns, for the Refinery Bridge

These have only just been removed
during the road widening

Yours

~~WASC NOS 928-939 to photographs which are nos 1-11. (all at 927/1 etc.)~~

① - W 91 - 0200-17-61 - W 91 - 927-12-01
② " " " 02 " " " 02
③ " " " 63 " " " 03

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- (1) Factory Buildings
- (2) Marsh Wardens Cottage (to right of Photographer)
- (3) Houses in Highbridge St. and Old Mill*
- (4) Kings Arms P.H.
- (5) Bridge Over Lea Navigation
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[Carr's Steam Flour Mill]

-01
F - wai - 0200 - 01 - wai - 0927 - 01 - 01
B - wai - 0200 - 01 - 02 - wai - 0927 - 01 - 02



927/2.

View of Waltham Lock looking
southward from Barge River
Bridge. This lock was moved to
north side of bridge between the
two wars (1914 and 1939)

in 1922

-01
P- Mai - 0200 - 027 wasc - 027 - 02 - 01
8 - u u 11 - 02 - u u u - 02



WAT 144

92713

View looking east from Barge
river bridge, of Highbridge St.
towards the Abbey. Water on
left and centre was known as
Perry's river. Footbridge over
this stream can be seen beyond
the figures on pavement. This
stream has recently been
diverted in connection with road
widening and elimination of
Refinery bridge (seen in middle
distance).

157
-01
F-401-0200-037 W-401-027-03-0
B-4 - 4 - 0-02-11-11-11-11



927/4

View looking North down Mill
Head Stream showing land to
R of picture on which the
canteen is now situated and in
the centre where the New Library
now is. Note old powder barge
and flagstaff on Flagstaff
bridge. (Date of Entry 1970)

-01
F- wai-6200-04k wai-0927-04-01
B - u u u - 02 - u u - 02



92715.

Highbridge Street from Refinery bridge. The two blocks of cottages on left were demolished several years ago, and others built, but the County Court (on left) and the Almshouses and "Ordnance Arms P.H." as well as most other buildings in the street were destroyed by a German V2 rocket in 1945. The small portion of wall on left of picture is however still standing at present time (February, 1968). Photo taken 1896 to 1904.

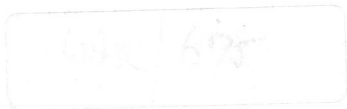


F - wai. 0260-05-01- was 6922-05-01
B - " " " " " " " " " " " "



927/6

View inside factory showing
John Walton's Sundial
surrounded by 'Woolwich
Infants Shot'.



circa 1903-1905

wai-0200-06⁽¹⁾ wasc-0927-06⁽¹⁾

Neg No: HN212 -



927/7.

927/7

View inside factory, location
uncertain but shows a second
old powder barge.

21930

negative No:
HN 260.

Wai-0200-07⁽¹⁾ Wasc-0927-07^(e)



WANN 147

927/8.

Long walk inside factory.
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there as children.

Neg No: HN147.

101(1)
F-wei-0200-08 f wasc-0227-08-01(1)
B - u u u - 02 - u u u - 02



927/9.

This view is believed to be
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Abbey Town Hall now stands.
Apparently it is the old
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Brigate Station and building
beside it. It has the words
Reading room on the windows.

-01
F. W. A. 0200-09/1000-0927-0901
0- u u u-02 u u u-02

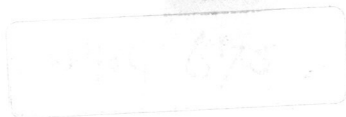


10

WASC 927/10

927/10

The Factory Fire Brigade
about 1900



W1-611
W1-620-10 WASC-927-10

Negative No.
HN 240.

GREENHORN, JACKSON,
& MARCHANT



ESTABLISHMENT FIRE BRIGADE

RGPF Waltham Abbey
circa 1890





WAMN 145.

WAI 321/11

Wase 927/11.

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Mr. Gaylor.

H. J. Moore

Wai-6200-11-War-927-011(11)