

ALBANY BRICK AND TILE COMPANY
(brick and tile)

Linn County

Operator and owner:

Mr. L. R. Harrison, Albany.

Location:

East Albany, just south of Highway 99 E., in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 5, T. 11 S.,
R. 3 W.

History and production:

The plant was originally built around 1880 by J. S. Morgan, and the Albany Brick and Tile Company was incorporated in 1912 by Wentworth. Mr. Harrison has been manager and part owner since 1920. Production during the past two years has been approximately as follows:

	<u>1945</u>	<u>1946</u>
Brick	70,000	794,000
Drain tile	32,000	46,000
Building tile	27,000	48,000

Twenty kilns of brick and ten kilns of tile were burned in 1946.

Development and geology:

The clay pits cover about 4 acres and have been mined to a depth varying from 6 to 15 feet deep. The plant lies at an elevation of 220 feet on the wide alluvial fan of the Santiam River which slopes gently northwest about 12 feet to the mile from Lebanon toward Albany on the banks of the Willamette River. The clays were probably deposited originally by floodwaters from the Santiam, or they may have resulted from an early flood stage of the Willamette River.

Equipment and process:

Clay is mined with a caterpillar tractor and fresno scraper, and either stored in an open shed or delivered to a feed belt which feeds the clay machine, which consists of a pug mill above an extruder. Both are run by an electric motor and line shafting. Brick and tile are loaded on pallets and on steel cars to be moved to the drying sheds. The main dry shed is 80 x 100 feet, one-half of which (12 tracks) has recently been closed in and blowers installed for waste heat drying.

There are three rectangular down-draft kilns, two of which are fired by 8 ports and one by six ports. The two large kilns hold 45,000 brick, the center kiln holds 40,000 brick. The kilns are "water smoked" with gas burners to 200° F. and then burned with slab wood; about 20 cords being required per kiln. There are 7 men employed.

Report by: John Eliot Allen
March 10, 1947

ALBANY DISTRICT
ALBANY, N.Y.