

Bleachery Was Borden's Idea

Although mills for the manufacture of cotton cloth were springing up everywhere in the early 1870's, they all lacked one important thing, a nearby bleachery to process their goods.

It was Spencer Borden, a man well versed in the technical aspects of cloth production, who advanced the idea for such a facility.

With his prodding, committees were established to review the merits of every major stream in the area.

Sucker Brook, just off Stafford Road, was chosen for bleachery construction, primarily because 1,250 cubic feet of water per minute ran down its course.

That supply headed for North Watuppa Pond, came from Stafford Pond, source of the purest water around.

The site for the Fall River Bleachery's main building was excavated 13 feet below pond level to allow for a grand cascade of water into its washing machines.