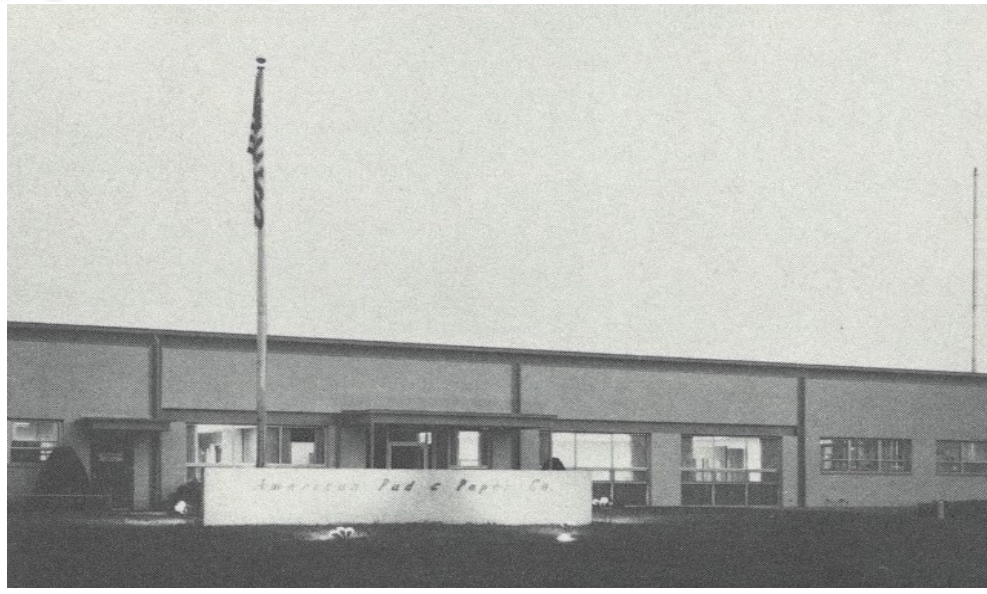


AMERICAN PAD & PAPER CO.



American Pad & Paper Company was founded in Holyoke, Massachusetts in 1888 by Thomas W. Holley, who is credited with inventing the legal pad.

In 1965, Ampad announced the acquisition of 10 acres on West Route 121, and the intention to build a 55,000 square foot production warehouse and distribution center. Initial employment would be 35-50 persons.

In 1973, a 40,000 square foot addition was added, bringing employment close to 70.

In 1986, the Mead Paper Products Company of Dayton, Ohio, acquired the American Pad and Paper Company. At that time the Mattoon plant had about 175 employees.



In 1998, Ampad built a 172,000 square foot warehouse and distribution center in the business park directly across from the Kal Kan plant north of town. This facility freed up floor space in the manufacturing area and Ampad brought in 80 additional pieces of production equipment. Total employment at that time was 325.

In 2000, the American Tissue Company acquired the Ampad brand which was in Chapter 11 bankruptcy. In 2003, the American Tissue Company filed for bankruptcy protection.

Ampad hosts visitors
Plant dedicates addition



In 1988, Ampad purchased the adjacent Yellow Freight Transit terminal and a 90,000 square foot addition was constructed. This brought total square footage of the plant to 274,000 square feet. The acquisition of the Yellow Freight property also gave Ampad access to a railroad siding.



The distribution warehouse was closed in 2005, as the company determined it was more cost effective to outsource that function. During that time the company also eliminated 125 jobs.

On June 8, 2010, the Esselte Group, an office products company based in Stamford, Connecticut, acquired the assets of Ampad and on December 2, of that year, announced the closing of the Mattoon plant.