

Georgia State University

a unit of the university system of Georgia

university plaza
atlanta, georgia 30303

college of arts and sciences
department of history

MAR 15 1991
W. E. HAWKINS

March 4, 1991

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4/92*

*Property of
Geo*

Mr. W. E. Hawkins, Jr.
General Shale Products Corporation
P. O. Box 3547 C. R. S.
Johnson City, Tennessee 37602

Mr. Hawkins:

It has now been a little more than one year since I wrote to you concerning research for my Master's Thesis on the use of convict lease labor during the early years of the Chattahoochee Brick Company. In your kind reply you expressed an interest in seeing any background I "dug up" on the subject. My thesis was approved last week and I have enclosed a copy for your use.

Mr. H. English Robinson has seen a copy and accepts its accuracy, but fears that parts of it may portray the company and its founder in a less than favorable manner. I believe that it is important for one to be aware of one's past--be it national, world, or corporate history--in order to understand and appreciate present circumstances, as well as to be better equipped to make decisions which affect the future.

If you would like to have bound copies of this thesis for your corporate records or personal use, I can provide same at my cost for copying and binding. In addition, if there is some area of your enterprise--especially labor related--which you would like to have researched and a history written, I would be happy to try to fit it into my Ph.D. studies.

Sincerely,

David C. Berry
David C. Berry

enclosure