Milton Flory (1859–1945)

Industrial Baron and Utility Pioneer of Bangor, Pennsylvania

A Slate Belt Industrialist

Milton Flory was one of the Slate Belt's great industrialists. His father, Solomon, started the Flory Milling Company and the S. Flory Manufacturing Company. Milton took over the mill and grew it into a major regional employer, at times with more than 500 workers. His brother Samuel ran the manufacturing company, which built hoisting engines for slate quarries and shipped them around the world.

Builder of Bangor's Utilities

Milton developed the Bangor Electric Co. and served as its president until its sale to Metropolitan Edison. He organized the Bangor Water Co. and later the Blue Mountain Consolidated Water Co., which served Nazareth, Pen Argyl, Wind Gap, Tatamy and Stockertown. He remained its president until his death. His 1945 obituary called him a Bangor industrialist and civic leader who developed utilities and aided community projects.

The First Car in Town

Local tradition holds that Milton owned the first automobile in Bangor and built a garage to house it.

Dam and Mill

The dam Milton built to power his mill gave Flory Dam Park its name. After a devastating 1913 fire destroyed the Flory plant and mill, the family rebuilt.

The Flory Mansion – 207 Market Street

Milton built this landmark residence in 1920. Fully restored, it offers nine bedrooms, 6.5 bathrooms, approximately 6,600 sq ft of living space and 8,800 sq ft in total.

Life

Born October 31, 1859, in Wind Gap, PA; died December 29, 1945, in Bangor. Buried in St. John's Cemetery, Bangor.

Sources: Slate Belt Heritage Center; Easton Express obituary (Dec. 31, 1945) via Find a Grave; Ancestry; FamilySearch; The Slate Belt (local history site); property listing.