

Browning Family involved in Harpers Ferry – Part 5

Just as J. Lyle Browning was involved in several organizations, he was also employed in several different occupations. From 1943- 1949, he worked as a Production Manager at S.K.D. Tool Company in Windsor, which relocated to Amherstburg as S.K.D. Manufacturing Company Ltd. in 1946. In 1950, he was the factory manager at Williams Norman Company of Canada Ltd. and the following year, the vice-president of the Coronet Television Company, which was one of Canada's first manufacturers of television sets. A few years later, in 1953, he was the president of the Car Steel Corporation of Canada, located in LaSalle and by 1956 it had 150 employees, one of Canada's largest automotive stamping plants. Very impressive! He also formed Monitor Industries and Techno Tool & Die Company in 1963, located in Windsor, for the production of wiring outlet boxes and devices for the construction of home and commercial buildings. Because of poor health, J. Lyle had to close these companies, but in 1972, he formed J.L. Browning & Co. Ltd., but also Browning Engineering & Manufacturing Co. The latter company was started with his eldest son Joseph Jr. and manufactured resistance welding machines and components for the automotive industry. By 1982, Browning Engineering became one of the three principal suppliers to automotive manufacturers in Canada of resistance welding products.

The Browning family has lived in Essex County for almost 150 years and each of their contributions, whether loyally serving the City of Windsor for 45 years or helping to fund a Black history museum, has impacted the community for the better. Thanks for joining us for the Browning Family history. Make sure to come back next week to learn more about a new family that will be highlighted in the family history series.