

Dairy Delights

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The A.W. Nicodemus and Sons creamery in Buckeystown leveraged emerging technology and the county's robust agricultural industry.

processing up to 2,000 gallons of milk and 400 gallons of cream every day and up to 600 gallons of ice cream weekly.

In 1921, Nicodemus and Sons relocated their operation to Frederick, selling the Buckeystown plant to Chapin-Sacks Manufacturing Company. The new plant was built on East Patrick Street near Carroll Creek. Two years later, the Nicodemus company constructed 10 bungalow style houses for workers and their families along Pennsylvania Avenue.

Three generations of Nicodemus family management of the creamery came to a conclusion in 1961 when the business was sold to Karlin Inc. Today, the site of the Nicodemus creamery continues to serve as a dairy processing facility, now under management of Saputo. 

Augustus Nicodemus Sr. established a creamery in Buckeystown in 1887. The introduction of centrifugal separators by manufacturers like Gustaf de Laval expedited the processing of milk and cream, enabling the mechanization of a task that was traditionally done by hand in the home. Local farmers harnessed this technology to make dairy a leading agricultural industry in Frederick County, shipping products to markets in growing cities like Baltimore, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., via railroad.

A.W. Nicodemus and Sons processed milk and cream and produced ice cream in their Buckeystown plant, expanding the business by establishing branch factories in Hyattstown and Urbana, as well as Woodstock, Va. When this photograph of the Buckeystown plant was taken in 1904, Nicodemus and Sons were