

Leatherhead & District Local History Society

Potted Histories No 97

Neil & Spencer Ltd, Station Road, Leatherhead

Laundry & Dry Cleaning Machine Manufacturers

Neil & Spencer factory, late 1940s



This factory (left) was opened in 1947 at Station Road Leatherhead, on the land which Philip Spencer had bought during the Second World War. Neil & Spencer had been operating in Clapham and when their premises were bombed they moved to The



White House (now Crosslands) at Effingham. Here they continued to make aircraft components and war equipment, but Mr. Spencer had bought the land with the intention of continuing to make dry cleaning machinery once the war was over. He designed a totally enclosed dry cleaning machine known as the Spencer 'Junior' which had unique features. Soon the new factory was too small and they opened a second building, Argosy Works, in Kingston Road. By the late 1980s demand for their products had declined, so they

closed the factories at Kingston Road and Raynes Park as well Station Road and all their production was moved to their Horsham factory. The Station Road works was demolished and an office for Atkins now stands on the site (pic left).

Extracted from Leatherhead & District Then & Now by Linda Heath & Peter Tarplee ISBN 0752436805 (2005)

For a more comprehensive history see Past Industries of Ashted, Leatherhead and Bookham by Peter Tarplee ISBN 0955278556 (2010)

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