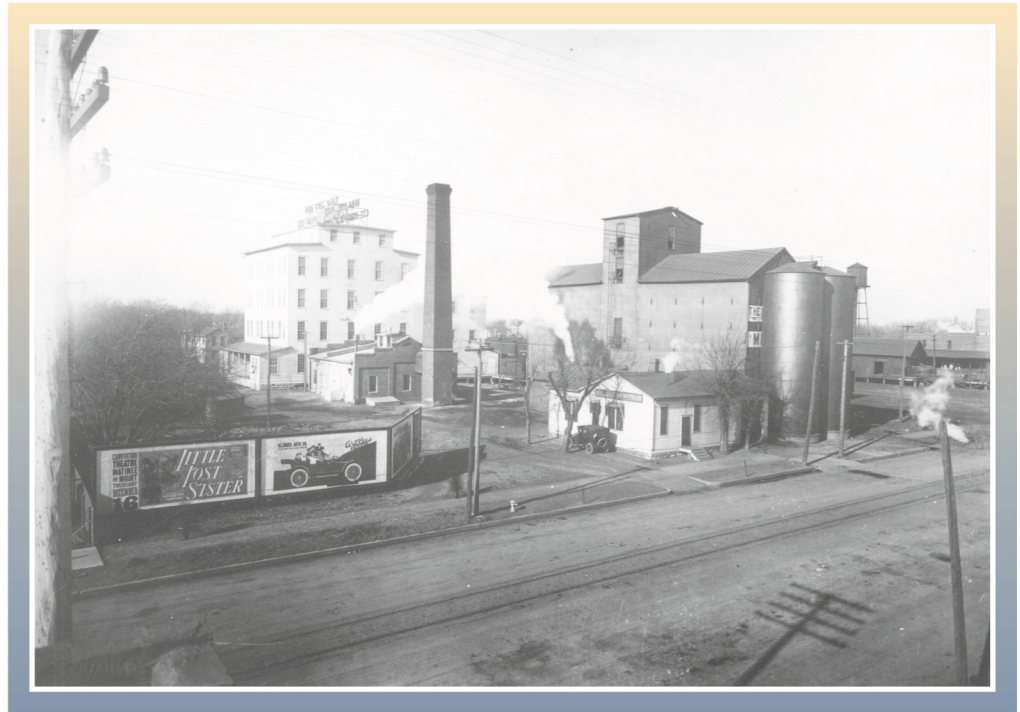


Salina Milling

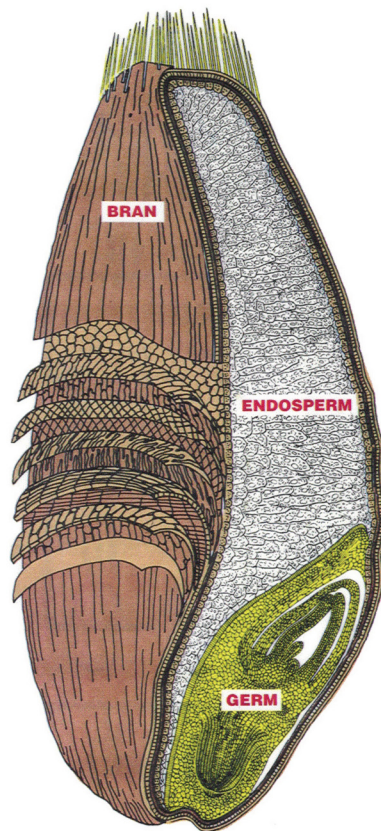
Flour milling has been crucial to the Salina's economy throughout most of its history. From William Phillips' first mill in 1861 to today's Western Star untold millions of barrels of flour have been produced by Salina's mills. With its built-in advantages of available rail transport, location in the middle of wheat country, and reliable power in the form of water, steam and now electricity, Salina was a natural site for flour milling. In fact, at one time Salina was the third largest flour producing city in the United States.

Flour production in Salina peaked in the 1920s and 1930s when production reached as much as 1.5 million pounds or around 8,000 barrels of flour a day. By the 1970s the amount of flour produced in Salina had been decreasing for over 20 years, mostly because it became less expensive to move wheat than flour. As a result, much of the milling industry moved to more populated parts of the country.

The Western Star continues to produce flour but the Lee-Warren Mill, Gooch Mill, Robinson Mill and all the rest have fallen silent. Their contributions to Salina's growth and maturity, however, remain alive and well.



Lee-Warren Milling Company, 349 N. Santa Fe, c1920.



A Kernel of Wheat: Endosperm, Bran, and Germ

Kernels of wheat are made up of *endosperm*, *bran*, and *germ*.

- The *endosperm* or soft inside of the wheat kernel makes up 83 % of the kernel and is separated from the rest of the kernel to make flour.
- *Bran*, the hard outer shell, makes up about 14 % of the kernel.
- *Germ* makes up the remaining 2-3 % of the kernel.

Bran and germ are used mostly for animal feed although they are both sometimes used in the human diet because of their high vitamin B content.

