The Elgin Butler Story

Over a century of craftsmanship, pride and accomplishment.

In 1866, Michael Butler arrived in New York with aspirations of discovering great opportunity in the United States. Like many Irish immigrants, he traveled west from New York to Wisconsin and Missouri seeking opportunity and acquiring different skills along the way. With time, Mr. Butler honed his craft as a brick mason as he continued to move westward—and eventually south—to Dallas, Texas.

Mr. Butler built his first brick manufacturing plant in 1870, then sold it to his brother Patrick only three years later. In 1873, Mr. Butler moved to Austin where he founded Butler Brick Works, one of the first great mercantile establishments in the area and the predecessor to Elgin-Butler Brick Company. After being passed down with pride and care through four generations of Butler family members, Elgin-Butler Brick Company remained family-owned until it was sold in December 2005.

Michael Butler built a successful brick business, but also established a heritage of civic involvement and accomplishment, which is still followed by Elgin Butler Company management today.

After being passed down with pride and care through many generations, Elgin Butler Company remains loyal to the principles on which it was founded.

The Elgin Butler tradition of employee dedication continues. Our employees are experts in product knowledge and general industry information. Rely on the Elgin Butler team for information about the variety of custom products and services available.

Timeline

1873 - Butler Brick Works is founded by Michael Butler in downtown Austin, Texas.
1888 - Rich deposits of premium fireclay are found 30 miles east near Elgin, Texas; Butler Brick Company is founded manufacturing quality dry-press firebrick and facebrick.
1903 - Elgin-Butler Brick Company is classified as an “Essential Activity” under the WWII War Manpower Program.
1943 - Elgin-Butler Brick Company introduces high quality Structural Glazed Brick and Tile using natural gas-fired tunnel kilns.
1949 - Austin yard (non-manufacturing) operations are consolidated at the Elgin, Texas plant. The remaining land is donated to the City, which is now an Austin landmark.
1950 - Elgin-Butler Brick Company becomes Elgin Butler Company under new management.
2005 - Elgin Butler Company acquires McIntyre Tile in Healdsburg, California and Lone Star Ceramics in Dallas, Texas.
2007 - Elgin Butler Company acquires McIntyre Tile in Healdsburg, California and Lone Star Ceramics in Dallas, Texas.