



**CHRISTA**  
Interreg Europe



European Union  
European Regional  
Development Fund

# Industrial Heritage of Naoussa

**Nikolaos Koutsogiannis**  
Mayor of Heroic City Naoussa



*CHRISTA Project*

## INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

Industrial Heritage refers to the physical remains of the history of technology and industry.

The term is often also used in connection with museums or historic places related to industry, including worker housing and warehouses.

The city of Naoussa, or “Manchester of the Balkan” as people used to call it, was the first city of northern Greece with industry.

The transition from hand production methods to machines took here place earlier than elsewhere in the country.



Naoussa today



The industrial evolution took place after the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Naoussa has a rich history of developed handcrafts and small industry, like gunsmiths, silversmiths, knife-makers, dyers etc.

But the most significant of all were the cotton, spinning and weaving mills, that contributed to the economical evolution of the region.

Local products were sold by merchants not only within the Ottoman Empire, but also abroad.



Air transportation of timber with cables in “Gournosovo” area, beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

# LOGGOS-KIRTSIS-TOURPALIS INDUSTRY

CHRISTA  
Interreg Europe



ΒΑΜΒΑΚΟΚΛΩΣΤΗΡΙΟΝ

ΛΟΓΓΟΥ, ΚΥΡΤΣΗ ΚΑΙ ΤΟΥΡΠΑΛΗ  
ΝΑΟΥΣΑ.

ΣΗΜΑ ΕΡΓΟΣΤΑΣΙΟΥ.

YEAR OF FOUNDING: 1875

HORSEPOWER: 270 HP

SPINDLES: 700

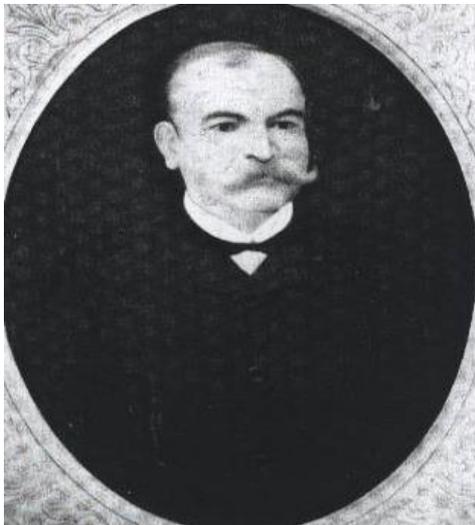
WORKERS: 270

ANNUAL PRODUCTION: 90.000-100.000 PACKETS OF YARN

PRODUCTION VALUE: 50.000 LIRA



The first cotton mill was founded in 1874-1875. It was the “Loggos-Kirtsis-Tourpalis” factory, which was the first modern industry of Macedonia, if not of all Balkan region.





ΡΓΟΣΤΑΣΙΑ  
ΦΑΝΤΟΥΡΓΕΙΑ  
ΗΜΑΤΟΥΡΓΕΙΑ

ΛΟΓΓΟΥ & ΤΟΥΡΠΑΛΗ

ΝΑΟΥΣΑ

“Loggos-Kirtsis & Tourpalis” cotton spinning mills (memory postcard of 1900)



Established in 1875, "Loggos-Kirtsis-Tourpalis" Company was considered Macedonia's most important industry at that time. For the first time Arapitsa River's water was used to put the engines into operation.

The main part of the factory was the spinning mill and later (1900) a weaving mill and storage facilities were constructed. The industry was in business until 1936, when a fire destroyed a big part of it. In 1986 it was declared as a building of cultural importance by the Ministry of Culture.





The building of the mill before restoration

By 1912 two more cotton spinning mills were founded:

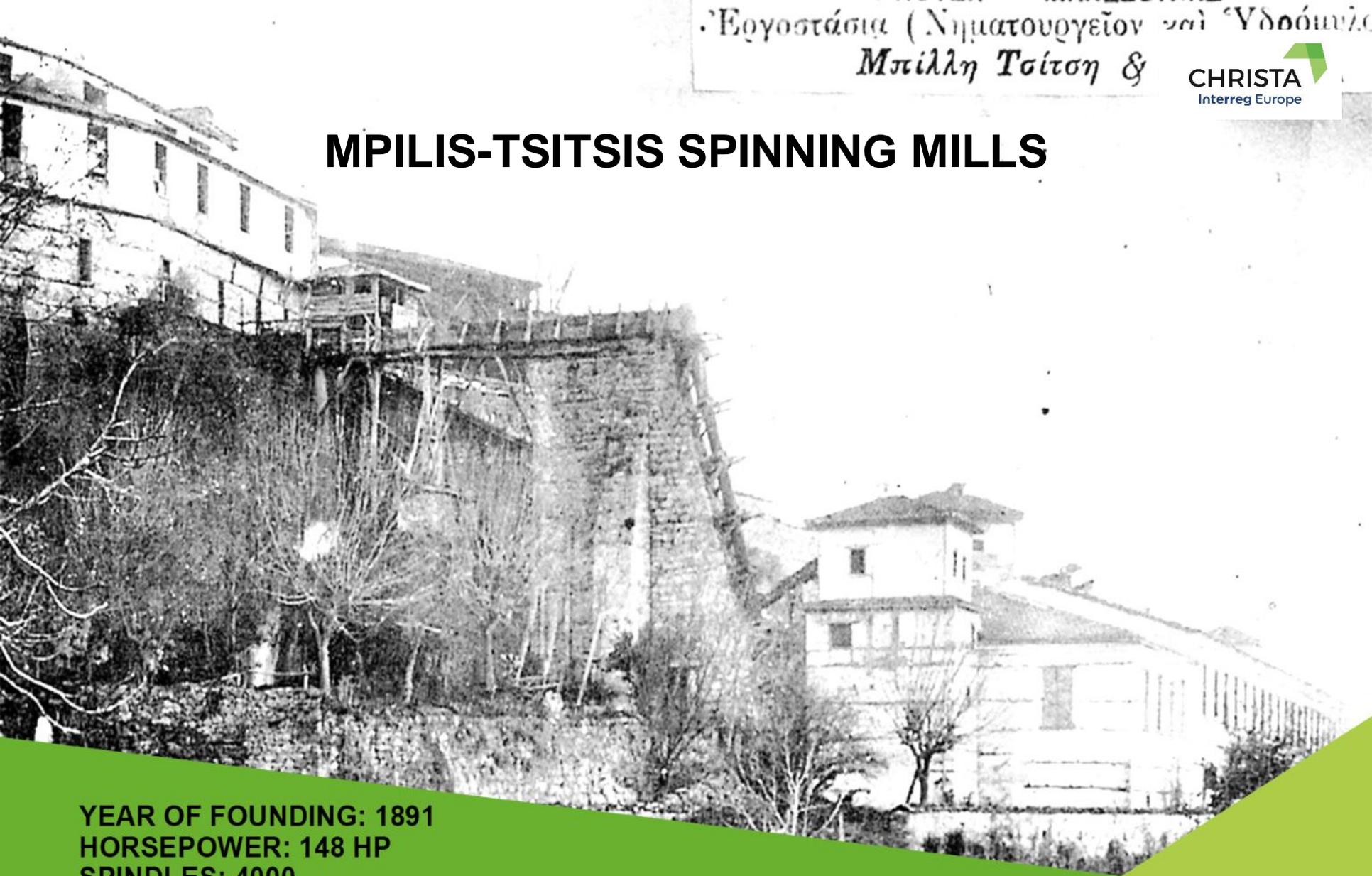
- Mpilis-Tsitsis Spinning Mills (1881)
- Goutas-Karatzias Cotton Spinning Mills (1890)



Εργοστάσια (Νηματουργείον επί Υδρομύλου)  
Μπίλλη Τσίτση &

CHRISTA  
Interreg Europe

## MPILIS-TSITSIS SPINNING MILLS



**YEAR OF FOUNDING: 1891**

**HORSEPOWER: 148 HP**

**SPINDLES: 4000**

**WORKERS: 160**

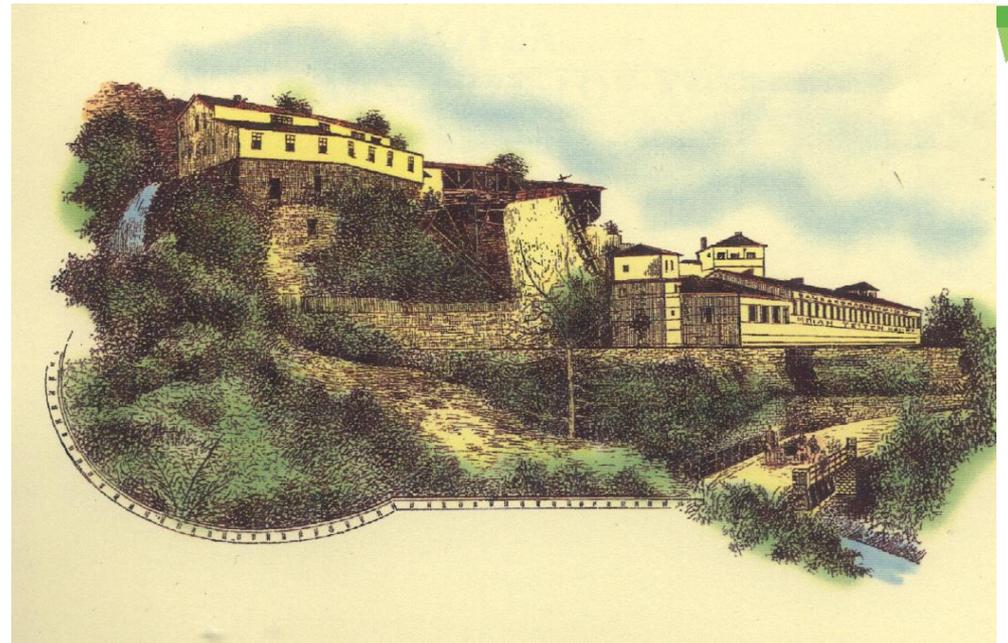
**ANNUAL PRODUCTION: 50.000-70.000 PACKETS OF YARN**

**PRODUCTION VALUE: 30-35.000 LIRA**



Mpilis & Tsitsis families, owners of the Cotton Spinning Mills of the same name.

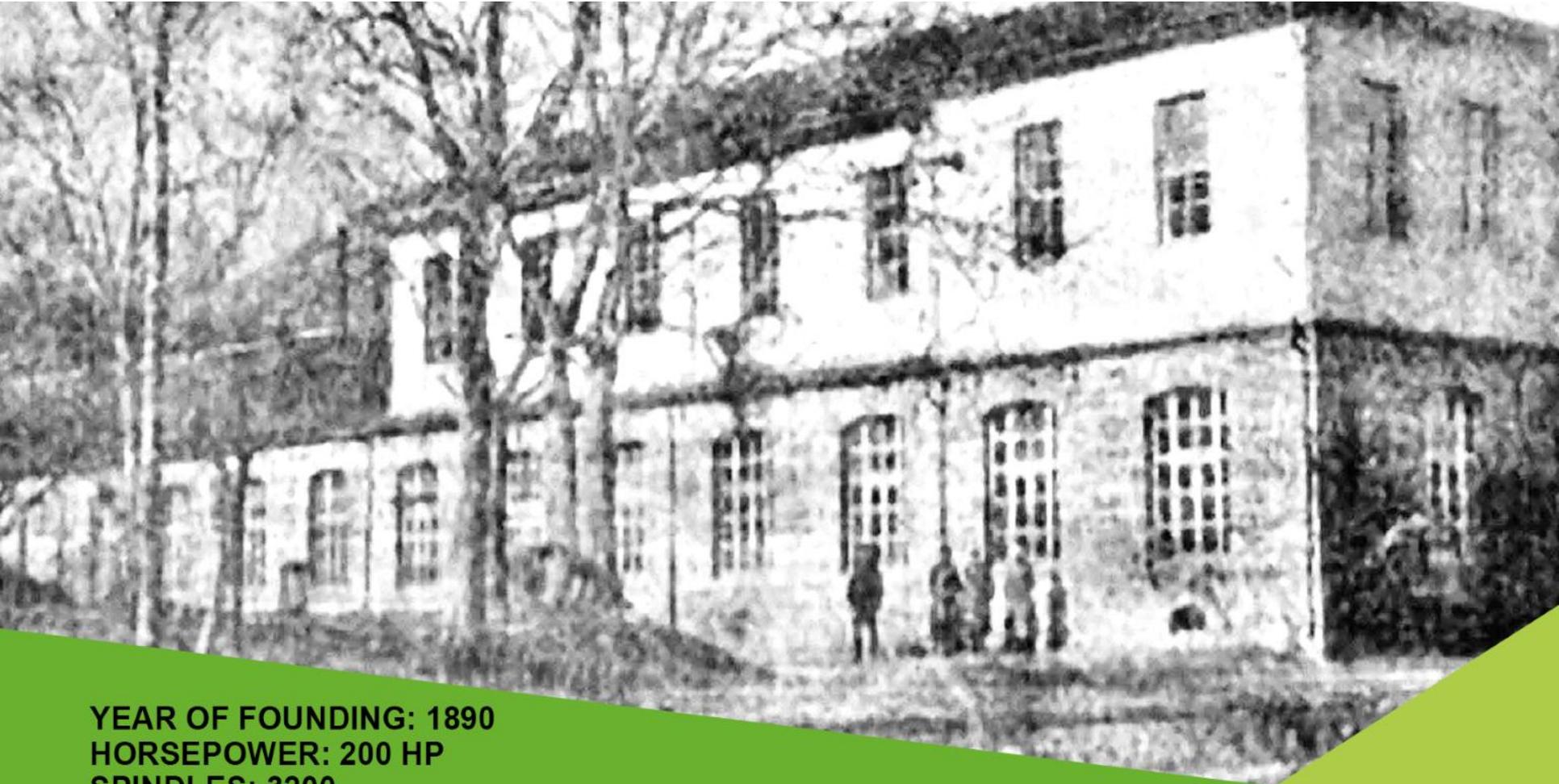
Established in 1891, it was one of Naoussa's two large factories. It had a complete cotton spinning mill with 4000 spindles.



The building was burnt in 1949, during the civil war. However, by 1952 a new factory with new equipment was constructed on the same spot. Nowadays, the factory is abandoned.

*The factory today*

# GOUTAS, KARATZIAS COTTON SPINNING MILLS



**YEAR OF FOUNDING: 1890**  
**HORSEPOWER: 200 HP**  
**SPINDLES: 3200**  
**WORKERS: 160**  
**ANNUAL PRODUCTION: 50.000 PACKETS OF YARN**  
**PRODUCTION VALUE: 25.000 LIRA**

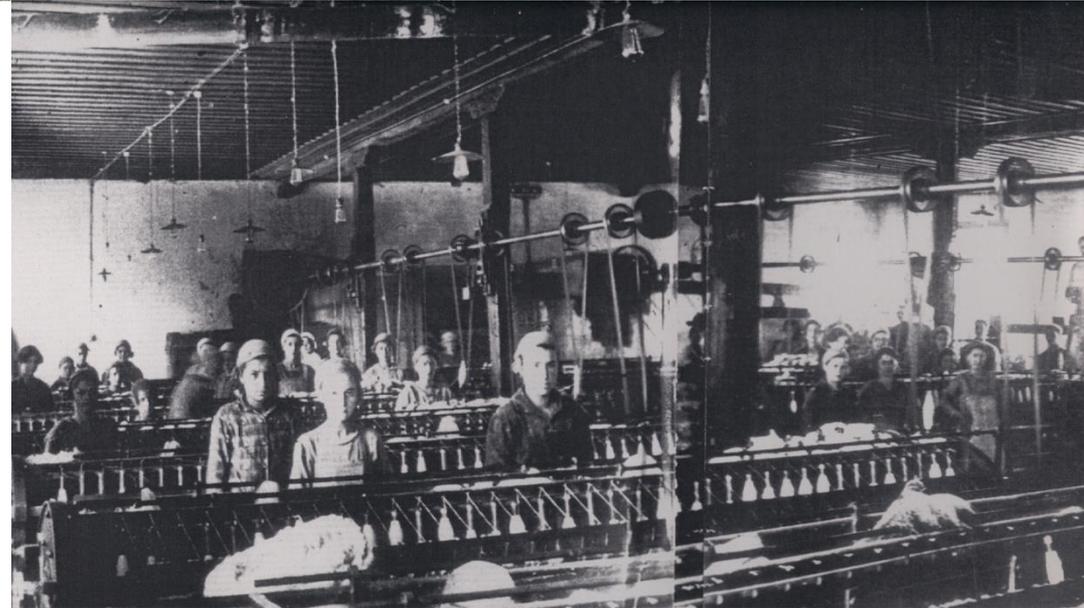
It was established in 1890 by Naousan members of the Greek community of Egypt. Its 3200 spindles reached 5000 after 1903 and its annual production was about 50.000 packets of thread per year.

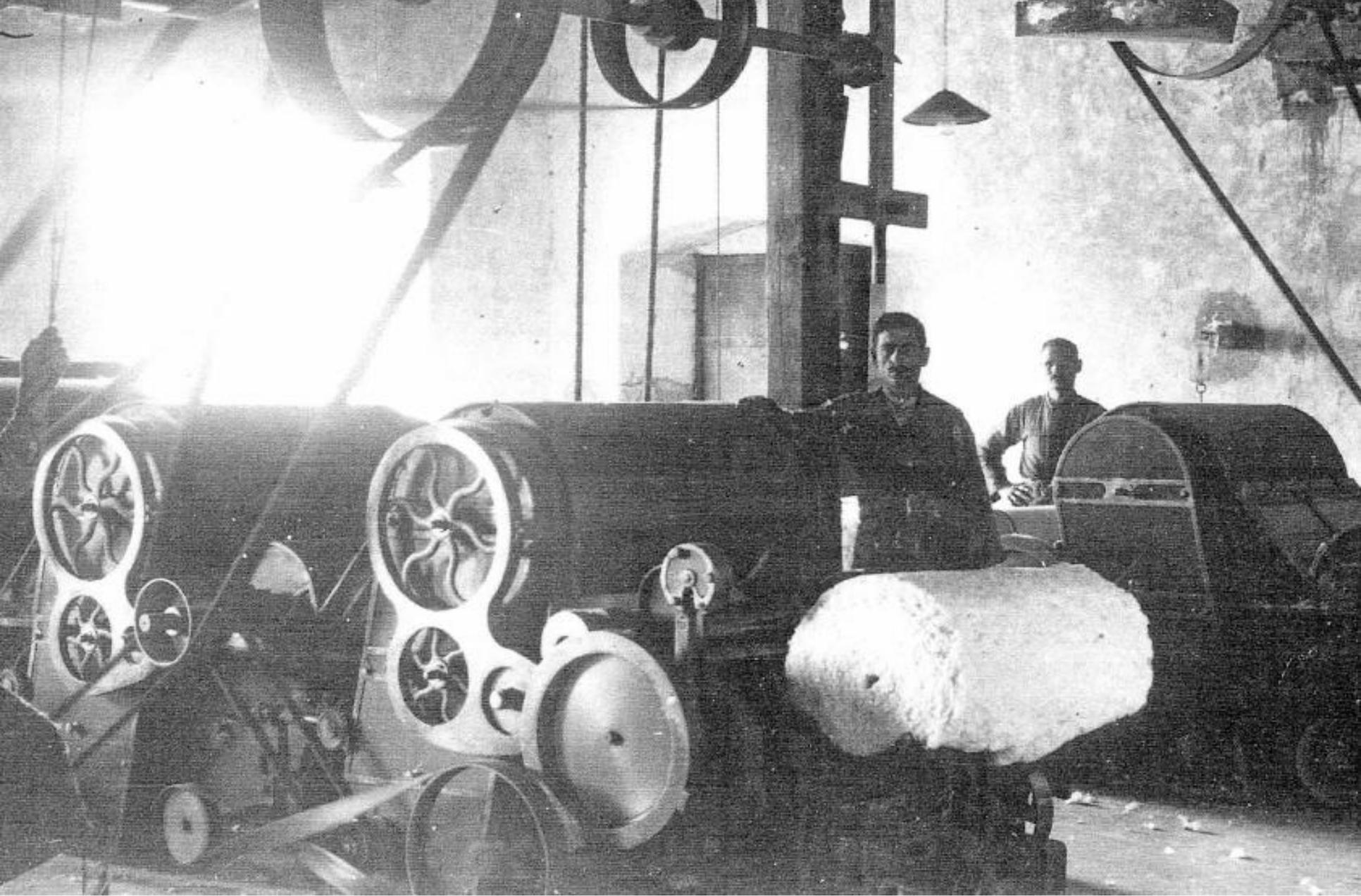
*The mill in 1914*



The company was sold to new owners and eventually renamed to ESTIA S.A. first and to IFEN later. In 1973 a new water turbine was installed; however in 1985 the company went bankrupt and the factory ceased operations.

*The interior of the factory*





Working on a “scutching” in “Goutas-Karatzias” factory, 1920.



*The factory today*





At the same time we have the establishment of two woolen industries, namely:

- ERIA factory (1907)
- Lanaras-Pechlivanou Woolen Industry (1909)



# **CHATZILAZAROU, AGGELAKI SPINNING AND WEAVING MILLS (ERIA)**

**YEAR OF FOUNDING: 1907**  
**HORSEPOWER: 300 HP**  
**SPINDLES: 1080**  
**WORKERS: 150**  
**ANNUAL PRODUCTION: 180.000m. OF TEXTILE**  
**PRODUCTION VALUE: 35-45.000 LIRA**



Established in 1907, it had 1080 spindles for the processing of wool into textile that was mainly used for the needs of the army. The industry was in business until 1938 and the facilities were destroyed in 1949, during the civil war. The new factory was constructed on the same spot at the end of the 60's.

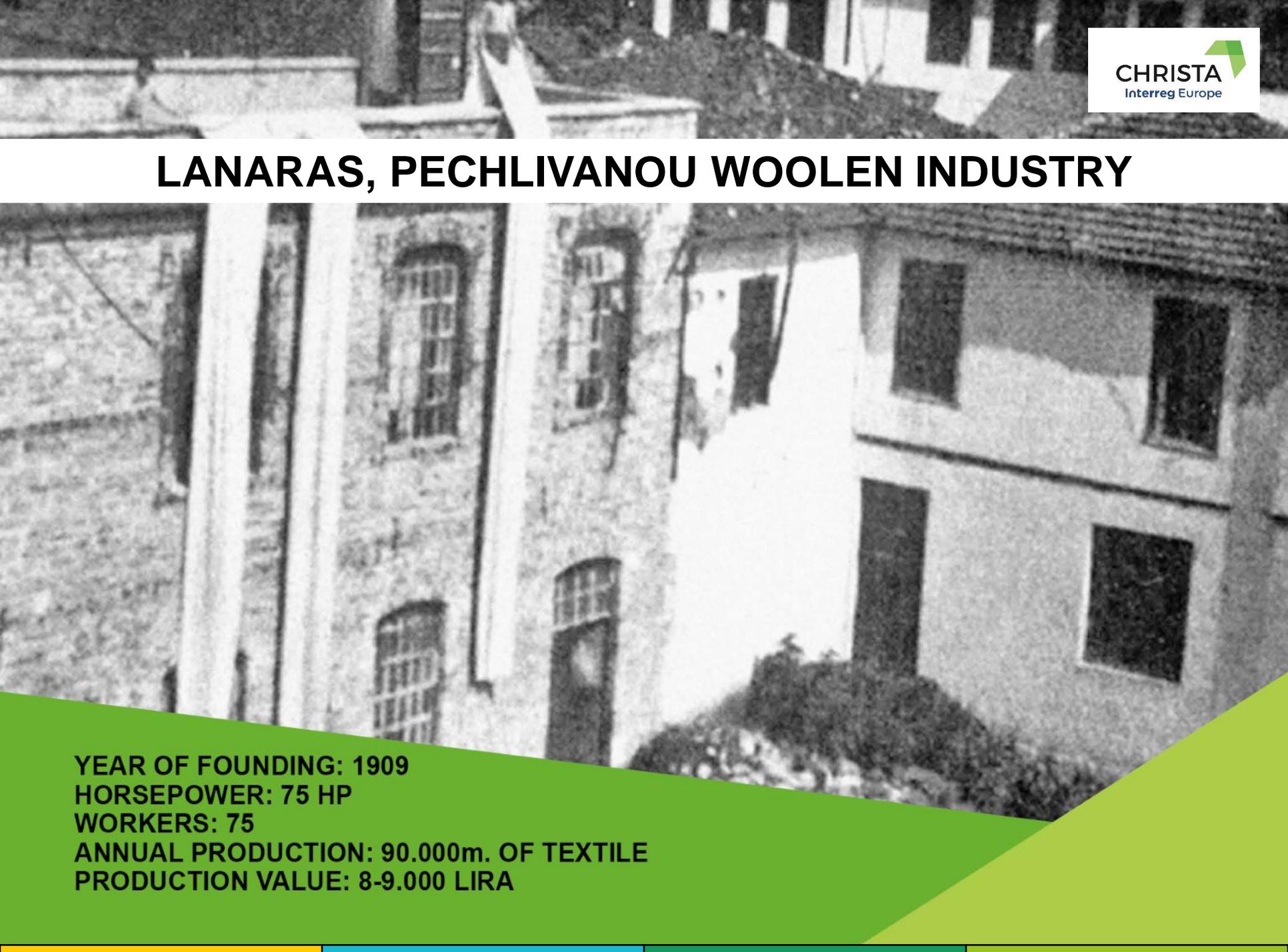
The building was abandoned for many years. In 2000 it was donated by Christos Lanaras to the Municipality of Naoussa and was fully restored in 2013. Today ERIA houses the Industrial Heritage Centre of Naoussa.





Stock certificate of “ERIA Company” in Greek and French, 1922

# LANARAS, PECHLIVANOU WOOLEN INDUSTRY



**YEAR OF FOUNDING: 1909**  
**HORSEPOWER: 75 HP**  
**WORKERS: 75**  
**ANNUAL PRODUCTION: 90.000m. OF TEXTILE**  
**PRODUCTION VALUE: 8-9.000 LIRA**

Established in 1909, it was the smallest woolen factory of the town, with an annual production of 90.000m. of narrow width, wool fabric (*sagiaki* in Greek).



*The factory today*

# LANARAS, KIRTISIS & CO WOOLEN INDUSTRY





The factory was equipped with German machinery and had spinning mills for woolen yarn, a weaving section and a textile finishing section. It produced all kinds of textile and was the main supplier of the army. The equipment was renewed after the war. During the 80's the factory was sold to new owners who bought new equipment and renamed it to PELLA-OLYMPOS S.A. It ceased production in 1991.



*The factory today*



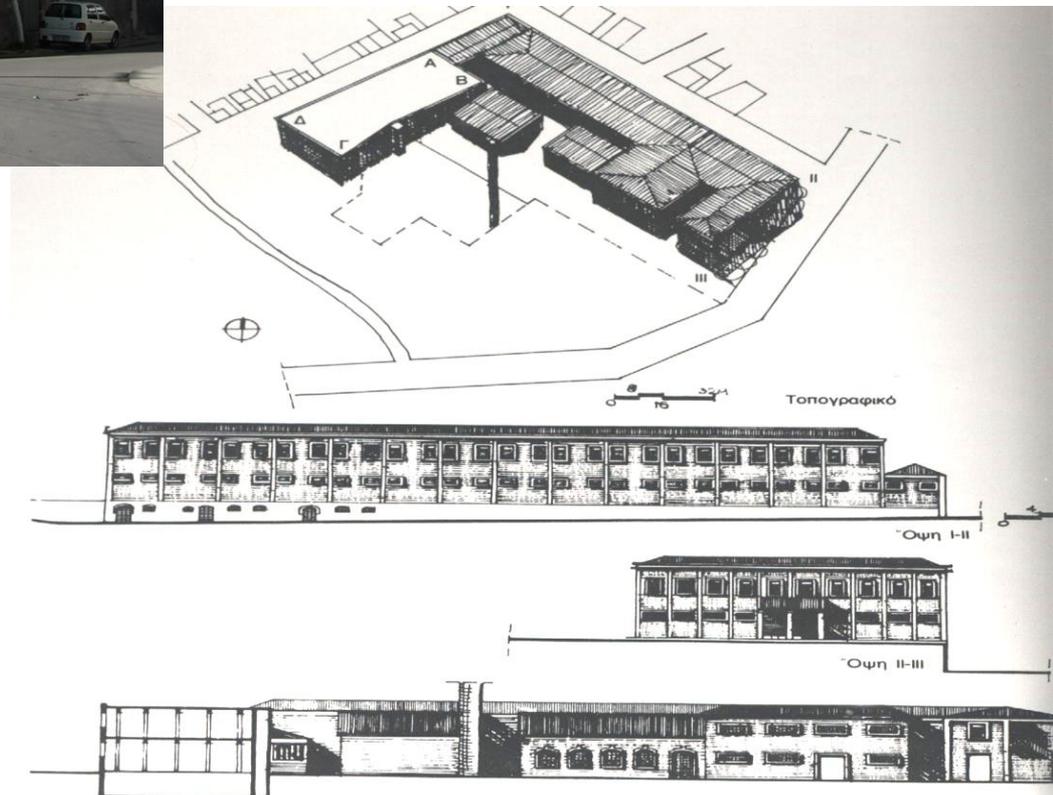
# LANARAS, KIRTSIS & CO WOOLEN INDUSTRY





Established in 1928. English and Australian wool was used here for the production of high quality textile of worsted-yarn that would reach 600.000 kilos per year.

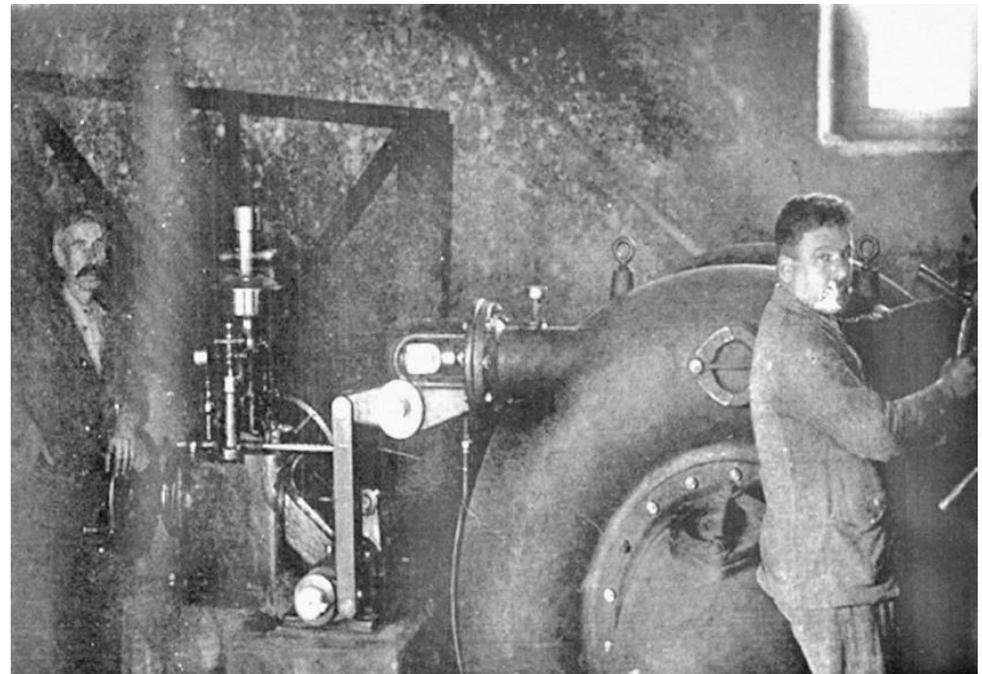
For a few years the factory operated as a knitting mill with modern mechanical equipment ("Tricolan", a subsidiary of "Naoussa Spinning Mills"). It ceased production in 2004.



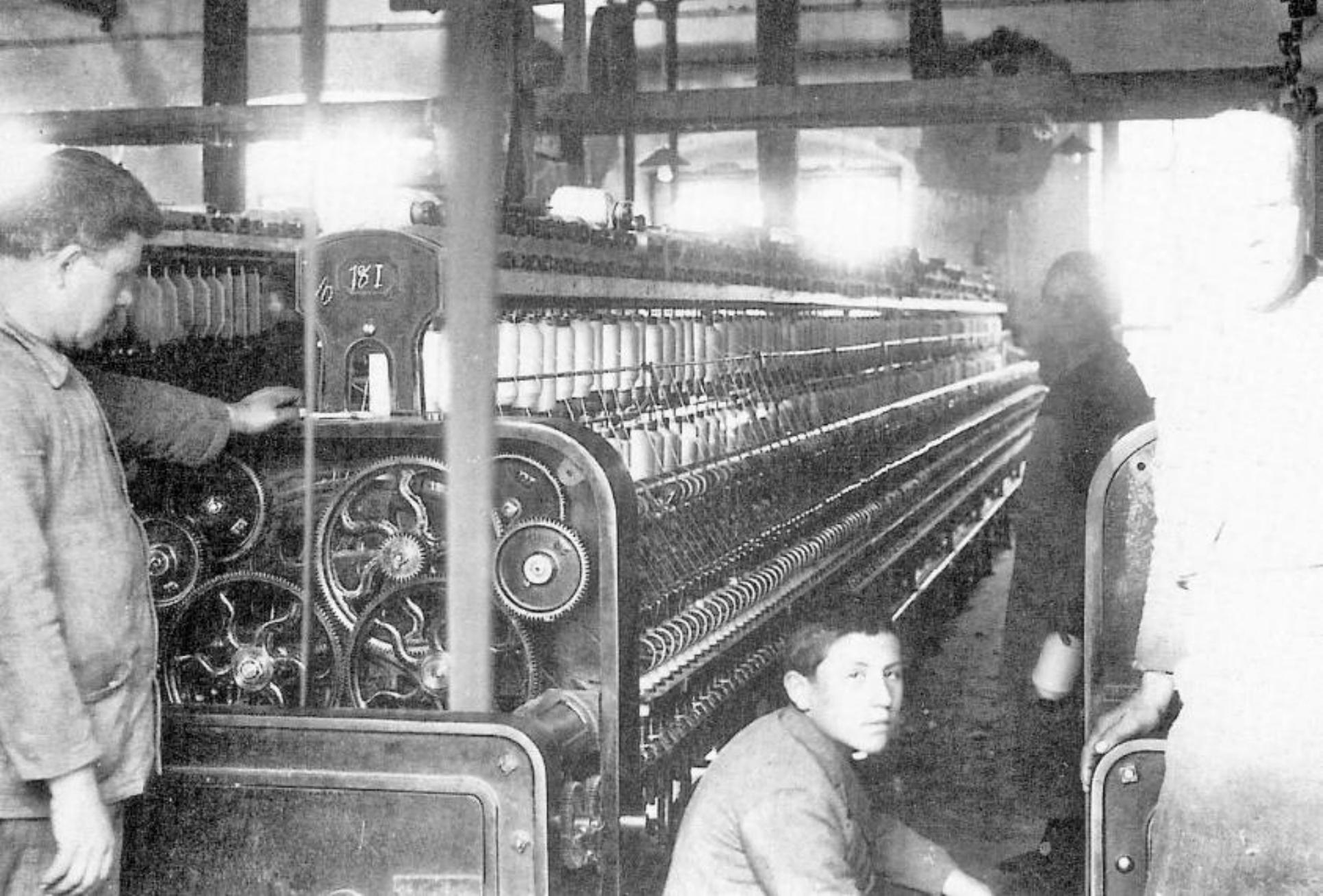
# **GRIGORIOS TSITSIS SPINNING MILLS ("VARVARESSOS")**



The factory was established in 1910 but did not operate until the end of WWI. Gr. Tsitsis bought the business, equipped it and started its running. The old water turbine, which was manufactured in Switzerland, is by today in an excellent condition. Since 1974 a new turbine, manufactured in Austria, operates as well. During the 80's the "Varvaressos" Company constructed new facilities on the same spot as the old ones. The business runs until today.

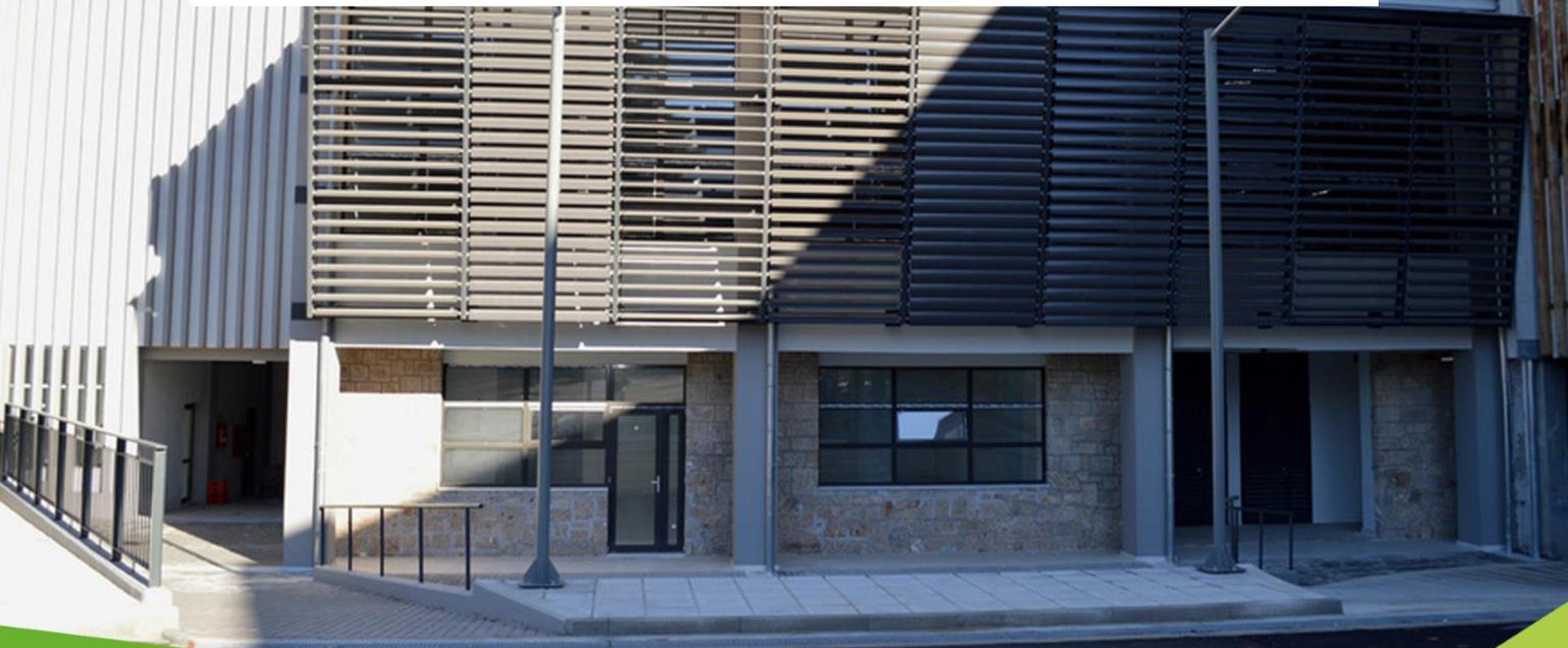


*Chief engineer Gr. Varvaressos in front of the turbine of "Grigorios Tsitsis Spinning Mills".*



Konstantinos Varvaressos and son at the spinning frames.

# LANARAS, GOUTAS FACTORY (VETLANS)



Established in 1921, it was electrically powered by a turbine of the Gouta-Karatzia factory. Wool yarn and cotton thread were processed here. The company dissolved in 1941, the factory was sold to new owners and reopened under the name “VETLANS-NAOUSSA” in the early 50's.

Today it houses the municipal library of Naoussa.





The municipal library of Naoussa

# NAOUSA SPINNING MILLS



“Naoussa Spinning Mills S.A.” was founded in 1963 (60% belonged to the OBA and 40% to the Woolen Spinning Factory) and in 1969 the Woolen Spinning Factory got total control of the new company. In 1973 the business invested in the stock market. It consisted of 4 factories and created the following subsidiaries: Tricolan S.A. (knitting), Verlan S.A. (cotton spinning), Olympiaki S.A. (special yarn), Kolblan S.A., which later merged with “Naoussa Spinning Mills”.



In 1990 the firm was renamed to Klonatex and later to Spinning Mills Corporation. The company also controlled the following industries: “Naoussa Spinning Mills”, “Doudos”, “Giannousis”, and acquired the “Rhodopes Spinning Mills”, “Gallop” and “Otto Evros”. Its market capitalization reached almost 3 billion euro. Since 2000 the company got on a declining path and finally shut down in 2011.



Questions welcome

**CHRISTA**  
Interreg Europe



European Union  
European Regional  
Development Fund



ΔΗΜΟΣ  
ΗΡΩΙΚΗΣ ΠΟΛΗΣ  
ΝΑΟΥΣΑΣ  
MUNICIPALITY OF NAOUSSA

**Thank you!**  
**Nikolaos Koutsogiannis**  
**Mayor of Heroic City Naoussa**



*CHRISTA Project*