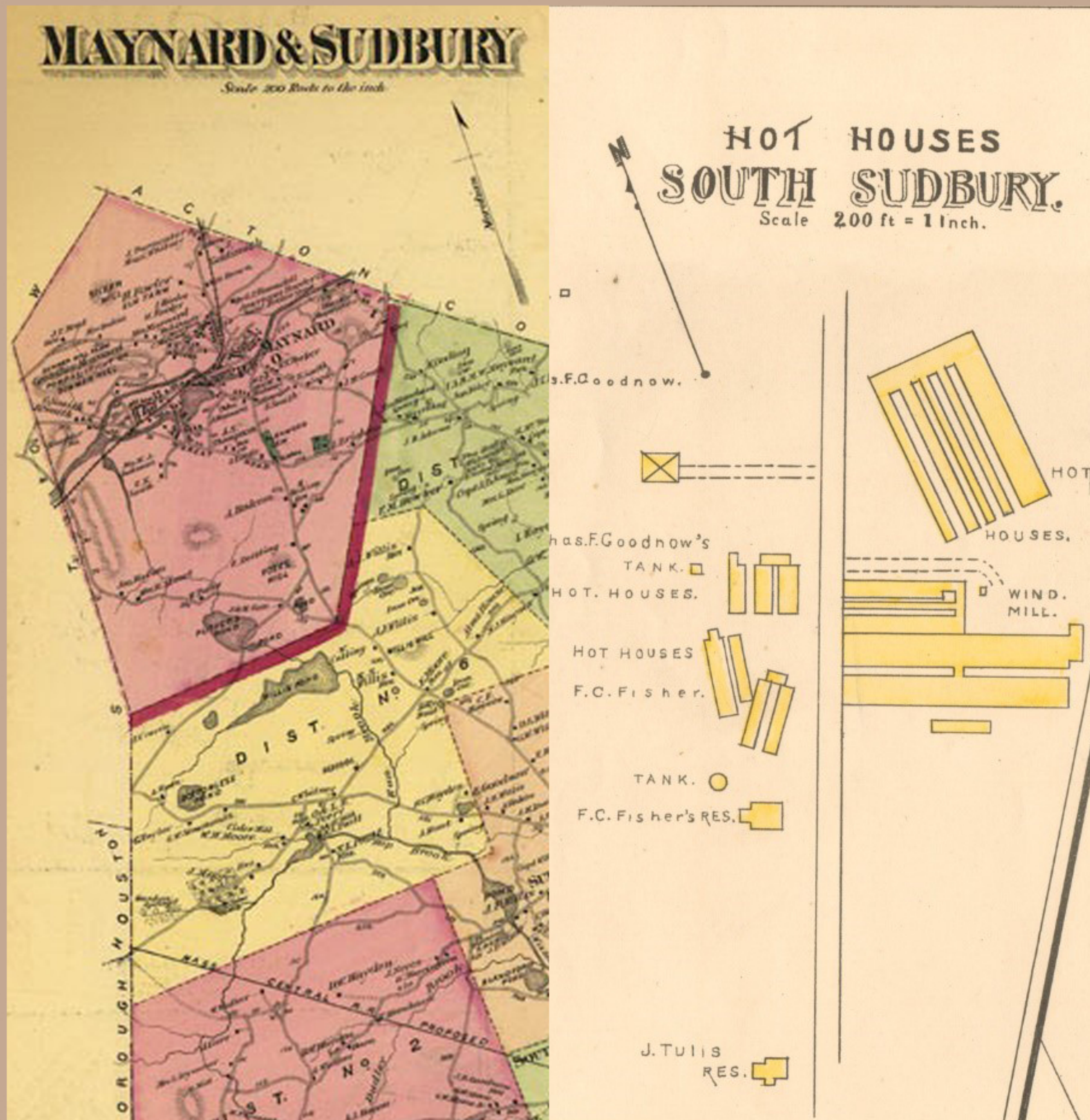


# 1870-1920

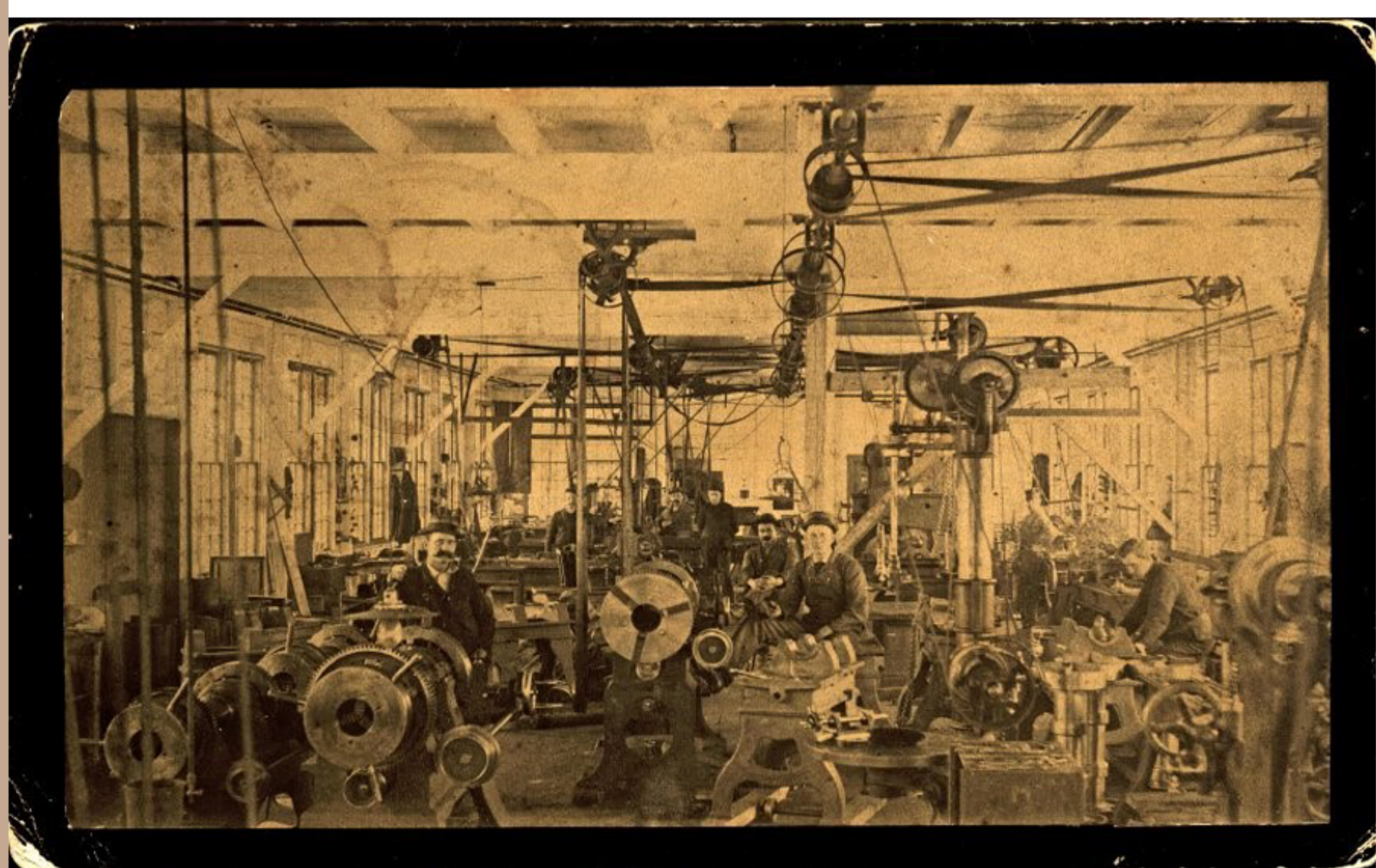
Population: 1200-1400



Maps showing Maynard split off from Sudbury and some of the many hothouses in South Sudbury



Postcard showing the main train station in South Sudbury



Hurlbert and Rogers Machine Company



WW I Gas Mask worn by a Sudbury Soldier

In 1891 Assabet Village seceded from the Town of Sudbury. Sudbury lost almost half its population (2,100 to 1,200). The new town of Maynard paid Sudbury \$23,000 compensation for shares in the railroad that passed through Assabet and land that was lost.

Railroads did not arrive in Sudbury until the last part of the 19th century. Surrounding towns such as Framingham, Maynard and Weston had rail service but Sudbury depended upon the stagecoach from South Sudbury to the Weston rail station, a two hour trip.

To secure rail service in Sudbury the Town Treasurer in 1870 was authorized to subscribe and hold \$30,000 in capital stock of Framingham-Lowell Railroad, "provided the Railroad shall not be located in any place more than a half mile from the last survey of the Town of Sudbury." In 1871 a north-south railroad service passed through Sudbury with a station built in both North Sudbury and South Sudbury.

In 1880, east-west rail service was provided by the Massachusetts Central Railroad and by 1885 Sudbury finally had good rail service going both north-south and east-west including service to Boston. The crossing point of the two railroads can be seen today along Union Avenue. A train station was built on Union Avenue in 1889 and was the pride of the town.

There was always some industry and manufacturing in Sudbury and with the arrival of the Industrial Revolution Sudbury was not left behind. Today's Mill Village became a center of manufacturing with many machine shops. Rufus Hurlbert invented and patented the "first cutting off lathe" and in 1881 went into business with Samuel Rogers from Wayland manufacturing cutting off lathes, engine governors and lathe chucks which were sold across the country. Hurlbert and Rogers Machine Company operated in Mill Village for over 40 years until the factory was destroyed by fire in 1923.

Rail service provided an expanded market for Sudbury farmers and growers as well as a source of coal needed to heat greenhouses. Towards the end of the 19th century Sudbury saw an increase in crops grown under glass and by 1890 there were 30 greenhouses growing flowers and vegetables. The first green house was built in 1879 for growing cucumbers. By 1889 there was 100,000 square feet of Sudbury covered in glass, burning more than 700 tons of coal each year. Carnations became the most popular flower to grow and for a while Sudbury was known as the "Carnation Capital of The World."

In 1917 the United States declared war on Germany abandoning its neutral position on the war in Europe. For the first time men of Sudbury were sent off to a foreign land to fight where they faced trench warfare and gas attacks. 32 Sudbury men fought in the war, and all but one returned home safely.