

Scope & Contents Note

The Coxe Family Mining Papers document the Coxe family and its ownership of coal lands in northeastern Pennsylvania, as well as the various mining enterprises that were formed by by the Coxes. This collection is very significant, because it documents the history of one of the largest independent anthracite coal mining interests in the nation. There are a handful of collections that contain materials relative to independent anthracite coal producers, with the Coxe Family Mining Papers being the largest of this kind. The files date from 1774 to 1968, with the bulk of the materials dating from 1905-1968.

There are a wide variety of items contained in the collection, including land records, financial papers, mining and engineering files, corporate administrative materials, labor and employee papers, family records, bound volumes and photographs. Nearly all the materials are in English, with a few items in either German or Austrian.

As a whole, these papers document the acquisition of the Coxe anthracite coal lands. They depict the breadth of operations of the Estate of Tench Coxe, which administered the lands for the Heirs of Tench Coxe. Mining companies that were founded by the Coxe family, as well as other operators who mined coal on the Coxe lands, are also discussed. Items that relate to the Coxe family and some of its more prominent members are contained in the collection as well.

The Coxe Family Mining Papers are broken up into three record groups, namely, the Estate of Tench Coxe, Coxe Mining Company Operations and Coxe Family Files. Record Group I contains the papers of the *Estate of Tench Coxe*. The Estate Agents managed the Coxe coal lands for the heirs, which involved negotiating mining leases, distributing royalty payments to the heirs, and ensuring the lands were mined in an appropriate and cost-effective manner. The record group contains estate administrative files from its offices in Drifton and Philadelphia, land and real estate files, mining and engineering files, financial records and bound volumes.

Record Group II consists of the *Coxe Mining Company Files*. The Coxe family was directly involved in the anthracite coal trade until 1905, when Coxe Brothers & Company, Inc., the Delaware, Susquehanna & Schuylkill Railroad and four water companies were sold to the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company. The records of Coxe Brothers & Company, Inc. make up the bulk of this record group, which also contains files from earlier Coxe mining enterprises, such as Coxe Brothers and Company and the Cross Creek Coal Company. Administrative files, employee files, land files, engineering files, coal operations files, financial records and bound volumes are included in Record Group II.

Record Group III comprises the *Coxe Family Files*. It contains records relative to various Coxe family members, as well as their private estates. The papers of Charles S. Coxe, Eckley B. Coxe and Eckley B. Coxe, Jr. are included in the record group, as well as Coxe family general files and bound volumes.