

Western Kentucky University

TopSCHOLAR®

MSS Finding Aids

Manuscripts

12-12-2007

McHenry Coal Company - Ohio County, Kentucky (MSS 29)

Manuscripts & Folklife Archives

Western Kentucky University, mssfa@wku.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_mss_fin_aid



Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Folklife Archives, Manuscripts &, "McHenry Coal Company - Ohio County, Kentucky (MSS 29)" (2007). *MSS Finding Aids*. Paper 282.

https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_mss_fin_aid/282

This Finding Aid is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in MSS Finding Aids by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact topscholar@wku.edu.

Manuscripts & Folklife Archives
 Department of Library Special Collections
 Western Kentucky University
 Bowling Green, KY 42101-1092

Descriptive Inventory

MSS 29 McHENRY Coal Company – Ohio County, Kentucky

2 boxes. 6 items. 1886-1905. Originals.

1958.19.1

BIOGRAPHY AND HISTORY

William Graham Duncan (1851-1929), superintendent and co-owner of the McHenry Mines, was called “The Coal King” of Muhlenberg County, Kentucky. Born in Scotland, Duncan came with his parents to Airdrie, Kentucky, in 1855. His father Andrew Duncan, a practical miner, had been invited by Lord R. S. C. Aitcheson Alexander to supervise Lord Alexander’s mines. After the Airdrie furnace was abandoned, Duncan operated coal mines near Paradise and Airdrie, where William grew to manhood. After managing a number of mines in Ohio County and other places, William returned to Muhlenburg County in 1900 and opened two successful mines. Duncan served as president of the W. G. Duncan Coal Company, which was sold to the Peabody Coal Company of Chicago in the 1950s. On 16 May 1878, Duncan married Mary H. Hamilton, and their children were Katie Belle, Andrew W., and W. Graham Duncan, Jr. Andrew served Duncan Coal Company as secretary-treasurer and William G., Jr., was its mining engineer.

Bibliographical Notes

Kentucky State Department of Health.
Directory of Births and Deaths
Registered in Kentucky, Series 4,
 1926-1930.

Perrin, W. H., Battle, J. H., and Kniffen,
 G. C. *Kentucky, History of a State.*

Rothert, Otto A. *A History of*
Muhlenburg County, 1913.

COLLECTION NOTE

This collection consists of account books covering all operational phases of the McHenry Coal Company mines and their company store at McHenry and at the Echols mines in Ohio County, Kentucky. Included in the collection are a ledger of employees’ records, invoices of the company stores, accounts of daily production at the mines, land

lease records, rent rolls, patient lists of Doctors Moore, Koontx, and Bohannon, list of employees' daily wages, employees' accounts at the company stores, and drafts from James Robertson's lumber mill to his employees which were used as cash at the McHenry Coal Company store.

SHELF LIST

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| BOX 1 | Employee ledger | 1886-1892 | 1 item |
| BOX 2 | Company records | 1892-1905 | 5 items |
| Folder 1 | Invoice of company store | 1892-1893 | 1 item; 56p. |
| Folder 2 | Daily production account | 1893-1903 | 2 items; 4-57p. 107-127p. |
| Folder 3 | Accounts of company store | 1895-1898 | 1 item; 248p. |
| Folder 4 | Invoice of company store | 1896 | 1 item; 15-93p. |
| Folder 5 | Daily production account | 1896-1905 | 2 items; 12-105p. 200-209p. |

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----------|
| MSS 29 | McHENRY Coal Company – Ohio County, Kentucky | 1886-1905 |
|-----------|---|-----------|

Production ledgers of the mines, employee records, and invoices and account books of the company stores in Ohio County, Kentucky.

2 boxes. 6 volumes.

1958.19.1

SUBJECT ANALYTICS

Account books, 1886-1905

Coal industry and trade, 1886-1905

Company stores, 1886-1905

Duncan, William Graham, 1851-1929

Echols Mines – Ohio County, 1886-1905
Ohio County – Account books, 1886-1905
Ohio County – Coal industry and trade, 1886-1905

Jeffrey 11/11/2011