



EAGLE VALLEY LIBRARY DISTRICT

American Zinc Company

Records 1910-1914: Folders 340, 389, 413, 417 from the Walter G. Swart File, ca. 1907-1915 (12 boxes) [photocopies]

Processed by:
Jaci Spuhler January 2009

Description of Collection

Origination: Photocopies of documents from the files of Walter G. Swart maintained by the American Zinc, Lead and Smelting Company, pertaining to the Iron Mask Mine (Eagle County, Colorado). Original documents are in the collection of the Western Historical Manuscript Collection-Rolla, University of Missouri

Title: Records of the American Zinc Company

Physical Description: 31 letters; 17 information sheets; 2 reports/notes; 5 telegrams/night letters; 3 maps; 88 leaves housed in a 2" 3-ring binder.

Repository: Local History Collection, Eagle Library, Eagle Valley Library District, PO Box 240, 600 Broadway, Eagle, CO 81631

Location of Collection: For current location of this collection, please consult the Eagle Library Local History Department staff. A photocopy of the items in this collection is available in the Local History Collection: REF 622.2 A5121.

Collection Identification: RARE 622.2 A5121

Administrative Information

Restriction on Access: The photocopy of the collection may be accessed in the Library.

Restrictions on Use: The collection is used in the presence of Eagle Library Local History Collection staff.

Acquisition Information: Incorporated as part of the Eagle Public Library Local History Collection.

Custodial History (Provenance): The original documents are in the American Zinc, Lead and Smelting Company Records, 1901-1965 [R 10, 154 boxes], Walter G. Swart File, ca. 1907-1915 [12 boxes]. They are part of the Western Historical Manuscript Collection-Rolla, University of Missouri.

Documents in the Swart File [Box 04 Folder 340; Box 05 Folder 389; Box 06 Folders 413 and 417] pertaining to the Iron Mask Mine were photocopied and arranged in chronological order by unknown persons.

The photocopies are part of the Eagle Public Library Local History Collection.

Note (Abstract): The collection contains photocopies of correspondence of Walter G. Swart and others, information sheets, reports and maps. The earliest date is 1910; the latest date is 1914.

Preferred Citation: Records of the American Zinc Company, Walter G. Swart File [Iron Mask Mine], University of Missouri Western Historical Manuscript Collection-Rolla; photocopies in the Eagle Public Library, Eagle, Colorado.

Processing Information: Processed by: Jaci Spuhler; completed January 2009

Arrangement: The items are arranged chronologically, beginning with the oldest and ending with the most recent.

Historical Note: “The American, Lead and Smelting Company (commonly known as “American Zinc”) was a large nonferrous metals firm which mined, processed, smelted, and marketed basic zinc and lead products. It had major mining and milling operations in Missouri, Wisconsin, and Tennessee, smelters in Kansas and Illinois, and interests in ore processing machinery. Founded in 1899, the company became a leader in the zinc industry. By 1965 it controlled the largest zinc ore reserves in the United States, and ranked second in zinc ore production and third in smelting capacity. By that time controlling interest in the firm had passed to Consolidated Gold Fields, Ltd., a mining investment company. James D. Norris’s *AZn: A History of the American Zinc Company* (Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1968), based in large part upon this collection, is an excellent general history of the firm.” (from Western Historical Manuscript Collection-Rolla).

Records secured from the company's administrative offices in St. Louis have been organized into three major sections, one of which being the Walter G. Swart File, ca. 1907-1915. The items pertaining to the Iron Mask Mine, Eagle County, Colorado were photocopied from the following folders in the Swart File:

Folder	Box	Microfilm	State	County	Title
340	04	12	CO	Eagle	Bleakhouse Group, Success Leasing Co. Redcliff, 1912
389	05	12	CO	Eagle	Iron Mask Mine, Redcliff, 1911-1914
413	06	12	CO	Eagle	Little Chief Group, Redcliff, 1910-1912
417	06	13	CO	Eagle	Eagle Bird, et al., Redcliff, 1910-1911

Subordinate Components: 1 1-inch 3-ring binder

Appendix A: Collection Contents

[undated] Information sheet from E. A. Clark: Pittsburg Gold Zinc Company. Iron Mask Property. Sheet no. Y (1 p.); [ore body assays May 9th, 1907]

January 24th, 1910; Information sheet from W. G. Swart: Belden, Tiptop, Eagle Bird Combination, Red Cliff, Colorado. Sheet no. 50 (2 p.); [ownership of properties and assays of ores]

1910; Information sheet from W. G. Swart: Owners of the properties, Development, Ore bodies, Assays. Sheet no. -- (3 p.); [owners, development, assays]

Jan. 26th, 1910; Letter from W. G. Swart to P. A. Phillips (1 p.); [request for a meeting]

[undated] Eagle Bird & Belden, Redcliffe, Ore Reserves & Value [manuscript]. (4 p.); [assays, valuation, freight and treatment charges]

[undated] Map, Iron Mask area [draft]. (1 p.); [showing Iron Mask, Chief Group, Wilkesbarre and Bleakhouse Mines]

[undated] Map, Iron Mask area [final]. (1 p.); [same as above]

[undated] Letter from P. A. Phillips to Mr. Swart (1 p.); [Meyers request to use tunnel]

1910; Information sheet from W. G. Swart: Products, net value and costs per ton of crude ore. Sheet no. – (1 p.)

Feb. 14, 1910; Information sheet from W. G. Swart: Eagle Bird, Belden, Red Cliff, Colorado. Sheet no. – (3 p.): Tests on Eagle Bird and Belden Ore, H. E. Wood Lot. No 2450; Summary of weights; Notes on separation of Eagle Bird Ore.

April 25, 1910; Letter from P. A. Phillips to W. G. Swart [manuscript]. (2 p.); [Little Chief property and payment for services]

April 30, 1910; Letter from W. G. Swart to P. A. Phillips. (1 p.); [response to Little Chief property and payment for services]

June 14, 1910; Letter from Charles F. Coburn to P. A. Phillips. (1 p.); [joint properties and mill ownership]

June 17th, 1910; Letter from W. G. Swart to F.E. Young. (2 p.); [Coburn and zinc ore]

June 18th, 1910; Letter from W. G. Swart to F. E. Young. (1 p.); [meeting with Coburn]

June 20, 1910; Information sheet from W. G. Swart: Eagle Bird, Tiptop, Belden, Red Cliff, Colorado. Sheet no. 73 (1 p.); [Letter from A. M. Plumb, dated June 3, 1910, re: Red Cliff ore]

July 13th, 1910; Letter from Francis E. Young to W. G. Swart. (1 p.); [conversation with Clark regarding Coburn]

July 21st, 1910; Letter from W. G. Swart to Francis E. Young. (1 p.); [Red Cliff not feasible]

1910; Information sheet from W. G. Swart: Eagle Bird, Belden, Tiptop, Red Cliff, Colorado. Sheet no. – (1 p.); [Electrostatic test Red Cliff ore, July 1910 by F. S. MacGregor]

Sept. 19th, 1910; Letter from C. H. Hanington to W. G. Swart. (1 p.); [bids for zinc concentrates]

Oct. 10th, 1910; Letter from W. G. Swart to C. H. Hanington. (1 p.); [acknowledge receipt of Sept. 19th letter]

Dec. 9th, 1910; Letter from G. H. F. Meyer to O. Q. Beckwith. (4 p.): “Short history of the Gilman Mining Company property.”

Feb. 11th, 1911; Letter from ---- to W. G. Swart. (2 p.); [sales terms of mine sites and use of Newhouse Tunnel]

Feb. 14th, 1911; Letter from [RHM] to W. G. Swart. (1 p.); [Newhouse Tunnel use]

Feb. 15, 1911; Letter from G. H. H. Meyer to P. A. Phillips [typescript of manuscript following; dates conflict]. (2 p.); [Newhouse Tunnel, Little Chief incline, sale offer]

Feb. 25, 1911; Letter from G, H, H, Meyer to P. A. Phillips [manuscript]. (3 p.)

March 20, 1911; Letter from O. Q. Beckwith to Henry Eggers. (2 p.); [Gilman property assays]

March 28, 1911; Letter from O. H. Fairchild to O. Q. Beckworth. (2 p.); [current state of Gilman properties]

March 29th, 1911; Letter from O. Q. Beckworth to Henry Eggers. (2 p.); [Gilman, Little Chief and Iron Mask zinc ores]

[undated]; Note to “Dick” (1 p.); [response to proposition]

April 3, 1911; Western Union Night Letter from W. G. Swart to E. A. Clark. (1 p.); [request for Parker’s report on Red Cliff lead-zinc properties]

April 5th, 1911; Letter from M. A. Donovan to W. G. Swart. (1 p.); [Parker’s report unavailable]

April 8, 1911; Letter from W. G. Swart to M. A. Donovan. (1 p.); [request for Bourdette’s report]

April 11, 1911; Letter from M. A. Donovan to W. G. Swart. (1 p.); [zinc-ore prices, no report by Bourdette]

July 29, 1912; Letter from W. G. Swart to H. S. Kimball. (1 p.); [reply to his letter of July 26th]

Sept. 18, 1912; Information sheet from W. G. Swart: Little Chief Group, Redcliff, Colorado. Sheet no. 350 (2 p.); [Little Chief Group and Iron Mask holders, includes map]

Sept. 18, 1912; Information sheet from W. G. Swart: Iron Mask Mine, Redcliff, Eagle County, Colorado. Sheet no. 367 (1 p.); [Ore assay and holding options, signed by G. L. Felt]

Sept. 18, 1912; Information sheet from W. G. Swart: Success Leasing Company, Redcliff, Eagle County, Colorado. Sheet no. 365 (2 p.); [Bleakhouse Mine assays, signed by G. L. Felt]

Oct. 21, 1912; Information sheet from W. G. Swart: Iron Mask, Red Cliff, Colorado. Sheet no. 402 (1 p.); [holding options Bleakhouse Group]

Nov. 9, 1912; Letter from “F” [G. L. Felt] to J. M. Dismant. (1 p.); [Bleakhouse Mine sample]

Nov. 25, 1912; Information sheet from W. G. Swart: Iron Mask, Red Cliff, Eagle County, Colorado. Sheet no. 426 (1 p.); [Iron Mask sale]

Jan. 15, 1913; Information sheet from W. G. Swart: Iron Mask, Redcliff, Eagle County, Colorado. Sheet no. 559 (1 p.); [Iron Mask owners not willing to sell]

Jan. 15, 1913; Information sheet from W. G. Swart: Iron Mask, Redcliff, Eagle County, Colorado. Sheet no. 562 (1 p.); [quoting *Leadville Herald-Democrat*: Iron Mask acquired Belden property; signed by G. L. Felt]

Jan. 29, 1913; Letter from Francis E. Young to W. G. Swart. (1 p.); [still interested in Iron Mask]

Feb. 13, 1913; Letter from Francis E. Young to W. G. Swart. (1 p.); [W. F. Lay, former owner, feels Iron Mask for sale]

Feb. 6, 1913; Letter from W. G. Swart to Francis E. Young. (2 p.); [competition from New Jersey Zinc Co.]

March 7, 1913; Information sheet from W. G. Swart: Conversation with H. C. Lay, February 24, 1913. Sheet no. 589 (1 p.); [owner of Iron Mask is Capt. A Hicks, Pittsburg]

March 20, 1913; Postal Telegram from W. G. Swart to F. E. Young. (1 p.); [possible meeting with Hicks]

March 20, 1913; Confirmation of Telegram from C. T. Kennan to S. N. Hicks. (1 p.); [Iron Mask sale possible]

March 20, 1913; Night Lettergram from W. G. Swart to Francis E. Young. (1 p.); [please telephone Hicks]

March 21, 1913; Letter from Francis E. Young to W. G. Swart. (1 p.); [called Hicks, left message]

March 24, 1913; Night Lettergram from W. G. Swart to F. E. Young. (1 p.); [no information on Iron Mask]

Nov. 14, 1913; Letter from George L. Felt. (1 p.); [Iron Mask contract extended with American Metal Co. until Nov. 15, 1915]

Dec. 22, 1913; Information sheet from W. G. Swart: Iron Mask, Red Cliff, Eagle County, Colorado. Sheet no. 746 (1 p.); [returns from Iron Mask to County Assessor for the year were about \$264,000]

Dec. 29, 1913; Letter from H. S. Kimball to W. G. Swart. (1 p.); [3rd party involvement in negotiation of sale]

Jan. 3, 1914; Letter from W. G. Swart to H. S. Kimball. (3 p.); [competition from New Jersey Zinc]

Oct. 7, 1914; Information sheet from W. G. Swart: Iron Mask, Red Cliff, Colorado.
Sheet no 862 (1 p.); ["New Jersey will eventually get it"]