

Chilhowie Milling Company Correspondence

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1902-1917, n.d.



Title Statement

Chilhowie Milling Company CorrespondenceChilhowie Milling Company Correspondence, 1902-1917, n.d.
Ms.1989.086

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.1989.086

Unit Date

1902-1917, n.d.

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The collection contains correspondence and business papers from 1916-1917, including orders, sample contracts, bills, receipts, and marketing papers between Chilhowie Milling Company and Virginia Iron, Coal and Coke Company, Nordyke and Marmon Company, Millers National Insurance Co., and the Norfolk and Western Railway Company.

Creator

Chilhowie Milling Company

Extent

0.5 Cubic Feet 1 box

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

The Chilhowie Milling Company Correspondence was purchased by Special Collections in 1989.

Processing Information

Initial processing and description of the Chilhowie Milling Company Correspondence was completed prior to 2009. Additional processing, arrangement, and description of the collection was completed in September 2015.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Chilhowie Milling Company Correspondence, 1902-1917, n.d., Ms1989-086, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Administrative History

The Chilhowie Milling Company was founded by Major Michael Tate in 1882 in Chilhowie, Smyth County, Virginia. Upon his death, James D. Tate inherited the company from his father. According to Chilhowie Town records the mill underwent renovations in 1897. According to materials in the collection, the Mill underwent renovation again in 1917. During the 1917 renovation, the company transitioned from coal powered machinery to steam powered machinery. In 1993, Chilhowie Mill burned in a fire and did not reopen.

Sources:

Byrd, Kimberly Barr; Williams, Debra J. *Smyth County*. Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2005. Call number: F232.S6 B97 2005 SCUA Large.

"Town of Chilhowie." Website

<https://web.archive.org/web/20150618091308/www.chilhowie.org/sitecontent/index/page/Town%20History>. 2015.

Scope and Content

This collection includes correspondence between Chilhowie Milling Company and business partners over a two year period from 1916 and 1917, though there are limited papers in the year of 1916. Additionally, the collection includes business transaction papers that contain form orders, bills, receipts, and marketing aids.

At the beginning of 1917, between February-March 1917, Chilhowie Milling Company communicated with banks, Nordyke and Marmon (Flour Mill Engineers), Norfolk and Western Railway Company, and Millers National Insurance Company to try and move their company to a new building. In addition, the company communicates with Virginia Portland Cement Company about quotes per barrel of cement. At the beginning of March, cement costs 2.22 per barrel, but by March 17th the price raises 10 cents. By March 20th, cement is 2.42 per barrel in cloth sacks vs. 2.17 in paper sacks.

The primary negotiation between Chilhowie Milling Company, Nordyke and Marmon Engineering Company is concluded by the end of July. From April 1917 to June 1917, Chilhowie worked with Nordyke and Marmon Company to create a blueprint of the new mill building. At that Point Chilhowie Milling Company planned to transition from coal powered machinery to steam powered machinery. There were miscommunications between the companies with regards to machinery, build, and shipments primarily in the months of May and June. Though the companies still struggle with communication over shipment orders in July.

In late August and early September 1917, local businesses and livestock farmers contacted Chilhowie Milling Company about business transactions. Over the month of September, final machinery and siding were shipped to the company. Chilhowie Milling Company did not reopen until October first when all of the steam machinery was in place.

October, November, and December correspondence include price estimates and business proposals between Chilhowie, business clients, and colleagues.

- Bank of Glade Springs
- B. D. Smith and Brothers Printers
- Bristol Door and Lumber Company
- C. A. King and Company
- C. A. Shultz Manufacturing Company Incorporated
- Crystal Springs Bleachery Company
- Douglas Land Company
- First National Bank of Roanoke
- Ferger Grain Company
- Fulton Bag and Cotton Mills
- Grayson Supply Company
- G. E. Little
- Gruendler Crusher and Pulverizing Company
- Gulf Bag Company
- H. F. Lewis and Company
- Hassinger Lumber Company
- Invincible Grain Cleaners Company
- Louisville Milling Company
- Millers National Insurance Company
- Mitchell Powers Hardware Company
- Morgan and Hamilton Company
- Mountain City Mill Company
- Nordyke and Marmon Flour Mill Engineers
- Norfolk and Western Railway Company
- North Western Railroad
- Owen and Barker
- Phillips and Dillard
- Portfield and Company
- Rector, Braham and Taylor Incorporated
- Rockwood Manufacturing Company
- Rosenbaum Brothers
- State of Virginia Dairy and Food Division
- Troutdale Supply Company
- Valley View Farm Corporation
- Virginia Iron, Coal, and Coke Company
- Virginia Leather Company
- Virginia Portland Cement Company
- Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company
- W. J. Savage Company

Keywords

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South

Smyth County (Va.)

Tate, Michael, Major

Tate, James D.

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged in two series.

Series I: Correspondence, 1916-1917, n.d., includes letters to and from various business partners of the Chilhowie Milling Company, written between 1916 and 1917. Letters in this series are arranged in chronological order, with the undated materials at the end.

Series II: Business Papers, 1902-1917, n.d., consists of administrative and official records from the company, including notes, bills, receipts, vouchers, sample contracts, and other items. This series is arranged by material type.

Description of Subordinate Components

Series I: Correspondence

Unit Date 1916-1917, n.d.

Unit Date 1916

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Unit Date February 1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Unit Date March 1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Unit Date April 1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Unit Date May 1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Unit Date June 1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Unit Date July 1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Unit Date August 1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Unit Date September 1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Unit Date October 1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Unit Date November 1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Unit Date December 1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Series II: Business Papers

Unit Date 1902-1917, n.d.

Credits, Checks, Vouchers

Unit Date 1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Freight Bills, Receipts, Records of Print

Unit Date 1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

Marketing Documents and Sketches

Unit Date 1916-1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 16 (folder)

Notes and Estimates

Unit Date 1916-1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 17 (folder)

Orders

Unit Date August 1917- November 1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 18 (folder)

Sample Contracts

Unit Date 1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 19 (folder)

Straight Bills of Landing

Unit Date June 1917-November 1917

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 20 (folder)

Documents (pre-1916)

Unit Date 1902, 1906

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 21 (folder)

Scope and Content

These two items were discovered integrated into the collection in December 2016 while the collection was being digitized. To maintain the chronological organization of the collection and to incorporate them under their correct dates, they were removed to a separate folder.