

Ron Rittenhouse, Collector, Monongah Mine Photographs and Oral History A&M 4520

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1907, 1991



Title Statement

Ron Rittenhouse, Collector, Monongah Mine Photographs and Oral History A&M 4520

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

A&M 4520

Unit ID

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Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/6868

Unit Date

1907, 1991

Language

English .

Creator

Rittenhouse, Ron

Extent

2.94 Gigabytes 69 .tif files, 1 .wav file

Physical Location

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Repository

West Virginia and Regional History Center

Administrative Information

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Biographical / Historical

Ronald Richard Rittenhouse is Chief Photographer for The Dominion Post. He has been employed at The Dominion Post since 1969 and is an avid local historian and collector.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of 69 .tif files and 1 .wav file created by digitizing 40 postcards documenting the aftermath of the 1907 Monongah Mines Disaster and 1 microcassette containing an oral history of George Earl Vincent conducted by Ron Rittenhouse documenting Vincent's experience during and after the disaster.

The original materials were loaned for digitization and returned. Only the digitized materials are part of this collection. The loaned materials originally consisted of two framed collages of photographic postcards, with each framed item containing twenty postcards, and one microcassette tape.

Keywords

Monongah Mines Disaster, Monongah, W. Va., 1907

Description of Subordinate Components

Postcard Assemblage 1

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182680

Unit Date 1907

Remains of Monongah Mine No.18 after Disaster

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182683

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Front: "Fan after the Explosion Monongah, W.Va" Back: "See if you can find grandpa on this card. To Fred from Aunt Lessie." Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item001.tif and 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item001a.tif

Onlookers looking at a Mine Disaster

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182684

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

People gathering to look at where the only living man was found from the 1907 Monongah Mine Disaster. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item002.tif and 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item002a.tif

Rescue Efforts at Monongah Mine #8

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182685

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Rescue parties clearing a cave-in at Monongah Mine #8. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item003.tif and 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item003a.tif

Monongah Mining Station

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182686

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Fairmont Coal Company, Monongah Mine No. 6. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item004.tif and 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item004a.tif

Monongah Mining Station No.6

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182687

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Front: "No.6 Tip[p]le, Monongah, WVA". Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item005.tif and 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item005a.tif

Monongah Mine No.8 Fan House after Explosion

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182688

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Fan house at Monongah Mine No.8 after the explosion. Back: "This is the most terrible explosion of its kind that ever happened in the U.S. We were up yesterday. Will write in a few days. It shook here considerably. [illegible]" To Mr. Okey May in Terra Haute, Indiana. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item006.tif and 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item006a.tif

The Ruins of Monongah Mine No.10

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182689

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

People look upon the remains of Monongah Mine collapse. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item007.tif and 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item007a.tif

Destroyed Coal Carts from Monongah Mine No.8

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182690

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Remains of a decimated coal cart recovered from the No. 8 Monongah Mine. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item008.tif

Monongah Mine No.8

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182691

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Postcard of Monongah Mine No.8. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item009.tif and 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item009a.tif

Monongah Mining Station

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182692

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Postcard of homes in Monongah, WV. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item010.tif

Main Street in Monongah, West Virginia

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182693

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

A picture of Main Street in Monongah, West Virginia. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item011.tif and 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item011a.tif

Entrance to Monongah Mine No.6

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182694

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Postcard of the entrance to Monongah Mine No.6. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item012.tif

Crowds visiting the site of the Monongah Mine Disaster

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182695

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Citizens of neighboring towns coming to see the scene of the Monongah Mine Disaster. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item013.tif

Crowd leaving Fairmont for the Mine Explosions at Monongah

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182696

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Crowds at Fairmont making their way to Monongah to see the remains of the recent mine explosions. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item014.tif and 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item014a.tif

Monongah Mine No.8 after the Explosion

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182697

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

A postcard of Monongah Mine No.8 after the recent explosion. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item015.tif and 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item015a.tif

The Fan at Monongah Mine No.8 after the Explosion

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182698

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

A postcard of the fan from Monongah Mine No.8 after the recent explosion. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item016.tif

Monongah Mine No.8 after the Explosion

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182699

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

A postcard of workers at the remains of Monongah Mine No.8 after the explosion. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item017.tif and 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item017a.tif

Monongah Mine No.8 after the Explosion

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182700

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

A postcard showing the extent of the destruction inflicted by the explosion of Monongah Mine No.8. Back: "The worst damage was done at this mine, over 225 bodies have been taken out to date and about twice that amount in there yet, exact number [illegible] never be known [illegible] reach near 700." Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item018.tif and 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item018a.tif

A view of Monongah after the Mine Explosion

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182701

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

A postcard showing the scene at Monongah after the mine explosion. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item019.tif

Mine Inspectors at Monongah Mine No.8

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182702

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

A postcard showing mine inspectors at Mine No.6 at Monongah. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 1/4520_item020.tif

Postcard Assemblage 2

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182681

Unit Date 1907

Identifying the Dead at the Monongah Mine No.6 Disaster

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182703

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

People trying to identify the dead of the disaster at Monongah Mine No.6. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item001.tif and 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item001a.tif

The Dead of the Disaster at Monongah Mine No.6.

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182704

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Victims of the disaster at Monongah Mine in their caskets. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item002.tif and 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item002a.tif

Caskets form Monongah Mine Disaster being taken to the Cemetery

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182705

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Caskets from the Monongah Mine Disaster being taken to the cemetery by W. S. Thomas. An excerpt of text from the front states, "Between 400 and 600 killed." Back: "Where is that post card picture of your school you were going to send me? How are you? One of my cousins (Becca Clinton) was buried yesterday. 3 of her sisters and her brother Luke are not expected to live. You remember him. You had his knife. They have Spinal Meningitis. I am not teaching this week. [Maurie?] Alice. To Ada Ballentine, Waverly, West Virginia." Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item003.tif and 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item003a.tif

A Mine at Monongah

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182706

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

A view of a mine at Monongah. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item004.tif and 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item004a.tif

Crowds around remains of the Monongah Mines

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182707

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Crowds gathering on train tracks to view the remains of the Monongah mines after the explosion. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item005.tif and 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item005a.tif

A Survivor of the Monongah Mine Horrors

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182708

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

A survivor looking toward the remains of the Monongah Mines. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item006.tif

Caskets of Monongah Mine No.6

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182709

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Hearses taking caskets from the streets of Monongah to Monongah Mine No.6. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item007.tif and 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item007a.tif

Caskets from Monongah Mine Disaster

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182710

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Caskets from the Monongah Mine Disaster being carried off to the cemetery. Back: "Mine explosion at Monongah, W.Va. A Merry Christ and Happy New Year." Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item008.tif and 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item008a.tif

Coal Miner posing for a picture

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182711

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

A Coal Miner posing for a picture. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item009.tif and 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item009a.tif

Orphans at the Monongah Mine Disaster

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182712

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Young orphans awaiting news at Monongah Mine No. 8. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item010.tif

Wives waiting at Monongah Mine No.8

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182713

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Wives waiting for their husbands at Monongah Mine No.8. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item011.tif and 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item011a.tif

Caskets from the Monongah Mine Disaster

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182714

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Mourners view rows of caskets from the mine disaster. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item012.tif

The Italian and Polish Cemetery for the Monongah Mine Disaster

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182715

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

The Italian and Polish Cemetery for the Monongah Mine Disaster. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item013.tif and 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item013a.tif

Viewing the Dead from the Monongah Mine Disaster

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182716

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Viewing the dead from the Monongah Mine Disaster. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item014.tif and 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item014a.tif

Coal Miner posing for a picture

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182717

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

A coal miner stands with his pickaxe, shovel, and canister. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item015.tif

The Monongah Mine Disaster

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182718

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

A crowd standing outside of one of the Monongah Mines. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item016.tif and 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item016a.tif

The Monongah Mine Disaster

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182719

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Men in coats standing outside of one of the Monongah Mines. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item017.tif and 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item017a.tif

The Italian and Polish Cemetery for the Monongah Mine Disaster

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182720

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

The Italian and Polish Cemetery for the Monongah Mine Disaster. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item018.tif

Hauling Victims of the Monongah Mine Disaster to Burial

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182721

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Front: "Hauling Victims of the Monongah Mine Disaster for Burial" The caskets are pulled in a cart with the name "W. S. Thomas" on it, drawn by several horses. Many onlookers stand outside a church in the background. Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item019.tif

Sightseeing after the explosion in South Monongah, South W. Va.

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182722

Unit Date 1907

Scope and Contents

Crowds of men and women, with horse-drawn carriages, stand in the streets of Monongah. A sign for Coliseum Restaurant is visible in the background. Front: "Sightseeing after the explosion in S[outh] Monongah, W.Va." Files include: 4520_Assemblage 2/4520_item020.tif

George Earl Vincent Oral History Interview regarding 1907 Monongah Mine Disaster

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/182682

Unit Date 1991

Scope and Contents

Microcassette containing 39:44 minutes of an oral history interview by Ron Rittenhouse of George Earl Vincent (1893-1991) about the Monongah Mine Disaster of 1907 and its aftermath. The tape states that Vincent was interviewed at age 100 (dating it to 1993), however, Vincent died at age 98. Files include: 4520_Oral History520_EarlVincentInterview.wav