



Alan Wood Steel Company photographs 2013.209

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Audiovisual Collections

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Summary Information

Repository:	Audiovisual Collections
Creator - col:	Wood, Harleston R., 1913-1995
Creator:	Alan Wood Steel Company
Title:	Alan Wood Steel Company photographs
ID:	2013.209
Date [inclusive]:	circa 1900s-1968
Date:	bulk 1940s-1960s
Physical Description:	2 Linear Feet
General Physical Description:	50 photographic prints: b&w ; 8 x 10 in. 1 album : black leather ; 12.25 x 16.5 in. (closed) containing 62 photographic prints : b&w ; various sizes. 1 album : 10.5 x 16.5 in. (closed) containing 28 photographic prints : b&w ; 8 x 10 in. 4 negatives : b&w ; 8 x 10 in. 1 photographic print : color ; 12 x 14 in. 1 newspaper clipping.
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	The Alan Wood Steel Company was a small, family-controlled integrated steel company, producing primarily steel sheets. This small collection consists primarily of interiors and exteriors of the company's facilities, equipment, and workers. There are also some images from various events related to the company.

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Historical Note

The Alan Wood Steel Company was a small, family-controlled integrated steel company, producing primarily steel sheets. The company was incorporated in Pennsylvania as the Alan Wood Company on January 23, 1929, and was renamed the Alan Wood Steel Company on February 16, 1929. It represented a reorganization and recapitalization of an earlier firm, the Alan Wood Iron and Steel Company. The Upper Merion & Plymouth Railroad, organized in 1907, connected all the elements of the Wood steel-making complex.

As a small producer, Alan Wood Steel was particularly vulnerable to the competitive pressure that hit the American steel industry in the 1970s. The firm went into receivership and steel operations were shut

down on August 1, 1977. The company was reorganized as the Vesper Corporation and continues in the steel shelving business. Part of the rolling mill complex was sold to Lukens Steel of Coatesville, and the rest of the works was razed in late 1990.

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Scope and Content

This small collection consists primarily of interiors and exteriors of the companys' facilities, equipment, and workers. There are two albums, one dating around 1926 and includes images of the Blast Furnace Department, Steel Works Department, the Schuylkill Iron Works and some aerial views. The second album dates from 1940, however, the photographs are not identified. There is a negative of an engraving of Alan Wood and a newspaper clipping about Harleston R. Wood succeeding his father as president of the company.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Steel industry and trade.

- Iron and steel workers
- Blast furnaces.
- Steel-works

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
Alan Wood (1800-1881) portrait engraving, 1955undated	box 1	folder 1
Scope and Contents		
Includes a newspaper clipping about Harleston R. Wood succeeding his father as president of the company, 1955.		
A.W. Military clam bake, circa 1940s	box 1	folder 2
Basic oxygen furnace, 1968	box 2	
Employees in a laboratory, circa 1900s	box 1	folder 3
Governor James H. Duff addressing employees at a dedication ceremony for a stip mill, circa 1950	box 1	folder 4
Groundbreaking, circa 1940s	box 1	folder 5
Scope and Contents		
Unidentified men posing with shovel.		
Group portrait and workers housing, circa 1917	box 1	folder 6
J.E. Mountain portrait, 1917	box 1	folder 7
Scope and Contents		
General Superintendent.		
Mines and miners, circa 1950	box 1	folder 8
Scope and Content		
Scrub Oaks Mine.		
Philadelphia Office Employees during a bond drive, 1917	box 1	folder 9
Scope and Contents		
Group portrait.		
Plants and mills album, 1940	box 2	
Plants and mills exteriors, 1949-1950undated	box 1	folder 10
Plants and mills interiors, 19501960undated	box 1	folder 11

Plants of the Alan Wood Iron & Steel Company album, circa 1926 box 2

Scope and Contents

Includes views of the Blast Furnace Department, Steel Works Department, and Shuylkill Iron Works.