Information Sheet

One folder, photocopies.

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This is a copy of the autobiography of Frederick Hauenstein, engineering graduate of the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy (now UM-Rolla) in 1903. Hauenstein worked as a surveyor and engineer in the western United States, and was the last president of the Pine Belt Lumber Company in Oklahoma.

Frederick Hauenstein was a native of Tuscumbia, Missouri. He was a graduate of Westminster College at Fulton, where he received the Bachelor of Science degree in 1900, and of the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy at Rolla, where he received a degree in engineering in 1903.

After his graduation Hauenstein took a position in a coal gasification plant at St. Joseph, Missouri. Later he worked as a draftsman, surveyor, and engineer on a number of mining and railroad projects in Arizona, California, Colorado, and Nevada. Hauenstein moved to Fort Towson, Oklahoma, in 1915 to become chief engineer of the Pine Belt Lumber Company operating in the southeast corner of what was then Indian Territory. His association with the Pine Belt lasted several years, and he was the last president of the company.

Hauenstein bought a ranch and began raising grapes in California after the Pine Belt Lumber Company dissolved in 1921. He engaged in viticulture for twenty years before selling the ranch in 1941. He lived in retirement at Kingsburg, California, until his death in 1985.

Hauenstein’s autobiography is an interesting account of his life and career. The most detailed segment of the work describes the operation of the Pine Belt Lumber Company and its log-hauling railroad in Oklahoma. There are also brief accounts of Hauenstein’s boyhood in Tuscumbia, Missouri, his work as a welding inspector in the Bethlehem naval shipyard at San Francisco during World War II, and a visit to Rolla in 1978 on the occasion of the seventy-fifth anniversary of his graduation from the Missouri School of Mines.

Index Cards

Fort Towson (Okla.).
Goodrich, F. A.
Logging—Oklahoma.
Logging railroads—Oklahoma.
Lumber trade—Oklahoma.
Miller County (Mo.).
Mine surveying.
Oklahoma—History.
Pine Belt Lumber Company (Fort Towson, Okla.).
Pushmataha County (Okla.).
Railroads—Surveying.
Saint Joseph (Mo.).
Surveying.
Tuscumbia (Mo.).
United States. Navy.
University of Missouri. School of Mines and Metallurgy.
Viticulture—California.